

Brooklyn Park Risk Management Plan for Nature Playscapes



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Prepared on Behalf of

City of Brooklyn Park
Recreation and Parks Department

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Resilient Communities Project

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Brooklyn Park Risk Management Plan

Nature Playscapes

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Overview

The following document was prepared by students in HPER 3100: Risk Management at the University of Minnesota Duluth for Brooklyn Park Recreation and Parks Department. The first section of the document contains a template and resources for creating a comprehensive risk management plan for a nature based recreation area within the Parks system, along with questions to guide the development of the plan. Subsequent sections provide a narrative summary and Risk Assessment information for each of six sites examined by students.

Risk Management Plan (Template and Resources)

The following 16 step model is adopted from Peterson & Rhonek (2011) and provides necessary steps for the planning and implementation of a comprehensive risk management plan. The faculty and students of HPER 3100: Risk Management recognize that the Brooklyn Park Recreation and Parks Department is a well-established organization with existing internal policies and procedures for managing existing sites. Therefore, we felt it would be most beneficial to construct this section as a guide for Parks managers, rather than creating a detailed plan that may or may not align with existing practice. Additionally, we recognize there has been significant short- and long-range planning work done by students in UMD's ENED 4315: Operations & Management class. For this reason, the scope of our work is limited to risk management strategies, which will be most effectively implemented as an integrated piece of the work done by students in ENED 4315.

1. Philosophy/Policy Statements
 - a. What is Brooklyn Park's philosophy about risk and risk management?
 - i. Consider promoting a [*Culture of Safety*](#) Watters (2002), that emphasizes a collective community investment in managing risk.
 - b. What is the purpose of this plan?
 - i. Who will use it and how will it be used?
 - ii. Who are all the stakeholders who may benefit from or be impacted by the plan?
 - iii. What types of risk are addressed (physical, financial, community, etc.)
 - c. What is included in this plan?
 - i. What does it cover and what does it not cover?
2. Needs Assessment
 - a. What is needed in order to effectively manage risk at the selected site?
 - i. Are there human, financial, and/or material resources needed in order to effectively manage risk?
3. Goals and Objectives
 - a. What are the **specific** goals of the risk management plan? For example, consider:
 - i. Keeping community members physically safe while in the Nature Based Recreation area
 - ii. Encouraging proper use of the Nature Based Recreation area
 - iii. Other goals?
4. Site and Facility Development
 - a. What is needed in order to develop a **safe** nature playscape at the site?
 - i. This will overlap with the Long-Range Plan.
 - ii. Consider human, financial, and human resources.
 - iii. How can the site be developed to minimize risk and maximize public safety?

5. Program Development
 - a. Will there be any organized programming based here? If so, what will it be and how will it be developed and managed? Make sure to address risks associated with programming. Consider using the Risk Assessment template used by students later in this document.
6. Supervision
 - a. Who will supervise risk management at the site?
 - b. Who is responsible for oversight and making sure policies and procedures are carried out appropriately?
 - c. Who is accountable for making sure this plan is carried out?
7. Establishment of Rules, Regulations, and Procedures
 - a. What rules, policies and procedures exist to ensure proper safety and management of risk at the site?
 - i. Who is responsible for overseeing these rules, policies and procedures?
 - ii. Who is responsible for carrying out these rules, policies and procedures?
 - b. What signage needs to be posted in order to inform the public of Rules, Regulations, and Procedures?
 - i. Consider community literacy and language factors. Should the signs be pictorial and/or multi-lingual?
8. Safety Inspections and Investigations
 - a. What are the standards for inspecting and maintaining safe conditions at the site?
 - i. Who will oversee inspections and necessary maintenance?
 - ii. How often will inspections and maintenance occur?
 - iii. NOTE: Specific protocols do not presently exist for Nature Based Recreation Area inspection and maintenance, but please consider these resources as references for emerging best practices:
 1. <http://www.playengland.org.uk/media/172644/managing-risk-in-play-provision.pdf>
 2. https://natureplayandlearningplaces.org/wp-content/uploads/2014/09/Nature-Play-Learning-Places_v1.2_Sept22.pdf
9. Accident Reporting and Analysis
 - a. What documentation will be used to record, report, and analyze incidents that occur?
 - b. Who is responsible for reporting and analyzing incidents?
 - i. We recommend making this consistent with other Parks processes.
 - ii. Since Nature Based Recreation Areas are a relatively new concept in parks development, we also recommend reviewing any critical incidents frequently and using these to inform future development and/or modifications of these areas.

10. Emergency Procedures
 - a. Who will manage emergency response in the park?
 - b. What is the Emergency Action Plan for the site? Consider using a template such as <https://www.cdc.gov/niosh/docs/2004-101/emrgact/emrgact.pdf>
 - c. What protocols will be followed in case of an emergency?
 - d. What roles will be taken and by whom in case of an emergency?
 - e. How will communication occur during emergency response?
11. Releases, Waivers, and Agreements to Participate
 - a. Will there be any forms associated with use of the Nature Based Recreation Area?
 - b. Consider posting a sign that by using the site, people are consenting to rules, etc. and are waiving liability on the part of the parks
12. Methods of Insuring Against Risk
 - a. What insurance considerations exist with the development of a Nature Based Recreation Area?
 - i. Consult with your insurance team?
 - ii. What additional human, financial, or material resources can help to ensure against harm at the site?
13. In-service Training
 - a. Inform all personnel of the information contained in this plan.
 - b. Establish roles and accountability for implementation of the plan and its specific parts.
 - c. Consider what other training Parks personnel might need in order to ensure proper risk management at the site.
14. Public Relations
 - a. How will information about park safety, rules, procedures, etc. be communicated to the public?
 - b. How will Brooklyn Park interact with the public and media in the case of a serious incident? It is best to have a plan for this in advance.
15. Outside Specialists, Legal/Insurance
 - a. Has legal counsel been consulted?
 - i. Are there any special considerations pertaining to liability with a new play area?
 - b. Are there any outside agencies i.e. public safety, accreditation, etc that need to be consulted and/or appealed? Again, there is not a current accreditation process for Nature Based Recreation Areas, but using the resources provided above will help to meet the developing best practices in the field.
16. Periodic Review
 - a. How often will the Risk Management Plan be reviewed?
 - i. Who will do the review?
 - ii. How will changes be implemented and by whom?

Oak Grove

Narrative

Brooklyn Park is a large suburb of Minneapolis and the 6th largest city in Minnesota. Brooklyn Park is comprised of a diverse population, which prides itself in having over 60 parks and 1527 acres of parkland. One of their many parks is Oak Grove park, which is located on the North-West side of the suburb.

The North end of Brooklyn Park is demographically the more privileged side of town, so therefore the population which uses this park will tend to be more of the white population. The park is surrounded by large businesses and corporations, which promotes a safe environment for the park. The park is often used by those who work in the surrounding companies on their lunch breaks or as an escape from the industrial world by local homeowners.

Oak Grove is a well established park with many amenities and features. Some of those amenities include established play places, like a playground, sand volleyball courts, a horseshoe court, a nature area, and a couple of trails running through the park. Oak Grove also is home to two rentable picnic shelters, along with several fire grates and picnic tables, and an indoor public restroom.

The terrain in Oak Grove is very flat and wooded area. One of the great aspects of this park in particular is that two trails run through this park. One of the trails being Rush Creek Regional Trail, which is a paved trail that runs almost 10 miles across Brooklyn Park. The second trail is a paved bike path running through the community. These aspects allow the park to be

more accessible to even those who do not live in the immediate area of the park. Unlike many of the other parks in Brooklyn Park, Oak Grove a vast amount of wooded areas. There are trees all throughout the park creating an environment full of shade and a friendly home for small critters. Oak Grove also contains a small pond with an even smaller creek running from it, this also promotes biodiversity within the park.

Although Oak Park is overall a great place to play, it is important when assessing risk to look at the downfalls as well. One con to the park is the poor drainage through-out, when it rains the park pools with water after only 30 minutes. Another issue the park contains is the ban on amplified music during quiet hours. Being as Oak Grove is a popular place for receptions and weddings this can be a problem. In addition, the park is has been a victim to vandalism during the after hours of the park.

Overall Oak Grove is a great place to bring your kids to play or simple escape the work day for a little while. It is a well trafficked area, with many unique features and amenities, which with the addition of a nature playscape will be made even more exclusive.

Risk Assessment

Activity and Site Specific Policies

No Smoking/tobacco use on park property
Children under the age of 12 must be accompanied by an adult
There is no use of the park after 10:00 p.m. or before 6:00 a.m.
Citywide curfew policy: under 12 home by 9pm Sunday - Thursday and by 10pm F - Sat, age 12 - 14 home by 10pm Sun-Thurs and by 11pm Fri-Sat, age 15-17 home by 11pm Sun-Thurs and by midnight Fri-Sat

No use of motorized vehicles in park or on park paths
Permits may be required for special events at the park with entertainment, food, or loud music.
Since the park is able to be rented out, there may be times when it is not open to the public if otherwise reserved

Specific Risks and Preventative Strategies for this Program

Potential Risks from	Cause of Risk	Strategies for Managing Risk
<i>People (oneself or others)</i>		
Physical injury	Horse play	Adult supervision/park supervisor
Personal medical issues	Medical issues	Awareness of abilities
Poor nutrition or water	Lack of food or water	Eat before, bring a snack, and water bottle.
<i>Equipment</i>		
Physical injury	Broken/unmaintained	Replacement of old equipment
unsanitary	illnesses/diseases	Sanitize playing equipment
Improper use	injury/death	Supervision and rules posted close by
<i>Environment</i>		
Flooding	Unstable ground	Proper drainage
Down trees	Storms	Proper tree trimming and maintenance
Ice/snow caused falls	Un-shoveled sidewalks	Park maintenance

Nearest Hospital

Name	Fairview Urgent Care
Phone Number	(763) 572-5700
Address	10000 Zane Ave N, Brooklyn Park, MN 55443

Emergency Communication

<i>Is there cell-phone service in the area? What carriers?</i>	Yes, all major carriers
<i>Where is the nearest land-line phone to your location?</i>	Nearby home

Eiden Historical Farm

Narrative

This historical place in the Brooklyn Park area brings together many diverse forms of activities to create a welcoming environment for many who are looking for a quick travel back in time to the beginning of the 20th century. At this specific park in Brooklyn Park there are many events and programs happening. The farm accommodates weddings, markets, concerts, tours, and private groups. Which makes it an interesting choice for a potential place for a nature playscape.

The layout of the land seems to be a bit cumbersome with where the playscape would be placed, but there is a lot of potential with the area beyond the lines of trees across from the compost bins. The farm area, including the compost area is an attractive nuisance (something that is inherently dangerous, but looks appealing to play on) for the future participants of the nature playscape. The compost is very close to the proposed area, and may distract from the playscape. The open field has many holes and uneven terrain, which may cause injury without proper supervision.

There were many homes right on the border of the farm, which mostly looked as though they belonged to families with younger children because there are play swings found within their backyards. There are a few things that for sure need to be taken care of before a play scape should be open to the public. The barbed wire fence remains, cement parking spot logs need to be removed, random metal poles in the ground should be removed. There was a grass

driveway of some sort that looked like it still might be in use, so something should be done about keeping people out of the way of that. The natural barriers or borders of the proposed areas are just enough that it keeps the area contained but not limiting to imagination.

The area is close to one of the more major roads in the Hennepin county area, but between fencing and an old farm driveway, the area is secure, and far enough away from the traffic. There were many pieces of old fencing and cement blocks left in the fielded area that would need to be removed before a playscape could be operational. The flooding was another concern our team had while viewing the area. In a “homeschooling - field trip” webpage, we found that there are opportunities for students of all ages to explore the area and learn many new things, which would make a nature playscape a great addition to the adventures they would have at the farm land.

It is also important to state a few facts about the demographics of the specific area where the historical farm is located. Located in Hennepin county, the median household income for this area is \$107,868. The top three populations by race is 46.9% white, 16.7% black, and 31% asian. The population in this area is comprised of 81.9% family households, which may mean there are many children in the area that would benefit from a new nature playscape. This information was gathered in the year 2013, from the city data webpage mentioned at the bottom of the document. It is important to consider who would be using to park, and how they would achieve medical care if needed.

Risk Assessment

Activity and Site Specific Policies

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No use of motorized vehicles in park or on park paths
Permits may be required for special events at the park with entertainment, food, or loud music.
Since the park is able to be rented out, there may be times when it is not open to the public if otherwise reserved

Specific Risks and Preventative Strategies for this Program

Potential Risks from	Cause of Risk	Strategies for Managing Risk
<i>People (oneself or others)</i>		
Abductions	Unattended children/unsafe visitors	Have cops periodically monitor the area/video cameras
Collision	Inattention to surroundings and others	Have signs for inherent risk
Overexertion	Inexperience, overconfidence	Monitor and observe participant conditions
Fights	Children running/ playscape use/sharing	Have a variety of play options
Medical emergency	Individual health situations	Action plan in case of emergencies.

Equipment		
Physical Injury (Concussion, broken bones, sprains, cuts, avulsions, knee/ankle injuries)	Misuse or abuse	Have signs for proper use/dangers of equipment
Slipping/Falling	Slippery logs, or leaves on ground, uneven ground.	Sign posted at the Park sign spot with warnings of wet weather and hazards
Spreading decomposing goods	Compost Bin Area	Close off compost area from playscape.
Environment		
Heat/Cold Injury	Lightning & Fire Cold Water and snow Low lands that fill with water	Proper Clothing Icy and slippery in winter.
Physical Injury	Weather Conditions Cuts scrapes from the rose bushes	Pay attention to weather forecasts move the rose bushes to a new area or clearly mark that they have thorns
Dehydration	Distance to clean water source	Proper Hydration Including a water well
Incidents with vehicles	Near by busy road	Put up a barrier by the road
Broken bones/sprains/rolled ankles	Holes and rough terrain	Level the fields ground
Down trees/other natural problems	Bad weather	High level of maintenance of grounds

Nearest Hospital

Name	Fairview Urgent Care
Phone Number	911, Hospital (763) 572-5700
Address	10000 Zane Ave N, Brooklyn Park, MN 55443

Emergency Communication

<i>Eiden Historical Farm Phone number</i>	(763) 493-4604
<i>Where is the nearest land- line phone to your location?</i>	There is a landline phone in the Historical Farm house building.

Bass Creek

Narrative

Bass Creek Park is located off a major road (Boone Ave North). The park is located on a transit line (#721) with a stop at the head of the park. This makes the location more accessible to families who may not have access to personal transportation.

The 2 locations identified are slightly elevated areas with good drainage. The soils appear to be stable and moderately resistant to compaction. The woods that make up both locations for the playscapes have the potential of providing small ($\frac{1}{2}$ "-2") to moderate (2"-5") sized materials for use within the playscape but lacks the trees to supply large materials for durable structures.

There is a small flowing stream that is fed by a wetland adjacent to the park. This stream could provide an attractive nuisance to age groups particularly susceptible to water dangers. The stream has a culvert that is being replaced, due to inadequate flow. This area recently flooded as a result of the culvert failing.

The parking provided to the park seems adequate and is provided in multiple locations. There are no public restrooms provided at this time. There is a full commercial playground in service approx. 100 yards. The path that connects the commercial playground and the playscapes is currently in repair due to the flooding incident and requisite culvert repair.

Finally, the park is in close proximity of a residential neighborhood that has fences that separate the park area from the residential backyards. Though these may be effective barriers for small animals and infant children, the fence structures will only serve to become attractive nuisances at the 1st proposed location. The second location is devoid of this potential hazard. There was a rumor of a homeless person who was roaming the park and sleeping in the woods at night recently. If the city is considering the potential of an additional playscape, especially one that is secluded into the natural wooded environment, it would be advisable to have periodic police patrol through the area to discourage the potential of unwanted vagrants.

[Risk Assessment](#)

Activity and Site Specific Policies

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No use of motorized vehicles in park or on park paths
Permits may be required for special events at the park with entertainment, food, or loud music.

Since the park is able to be rented out, there may be times when it is not open to the public if otherwise reserved

Specific Risks and Preventative Strategies for this Program

Potential Risks from	Cause of Risk	Strategies for Managing Risk
People (oneself or others)		
Abrasions, sprains, breaks, dislocations	-horseplay -running -slips and falls	-include a soft walking surface for the playscape design (i.e. bark chips) -regularly check the playscape for hazards that could cause trips and falls -maintain equipment -require supervision for young children
Traumatic brain injury	-slips and falls from tall heights	-do not include very high elements into the design of the playscape
Equipment		
Slick/slippery equipment	-Rainy and/or snowy weather	-maintain playscape in winter months by the removal of snow and ice from climbing structures -post a sign regarding possible hazardous conditions when the playscape is wet
Unstable equipment	-Equipment not being checked on and maintained	-Regularly check and maintain equipment
Broken equipment	-Equipment not being checked on and maintained	-Regularly check, maintain and replace broken equipment
Environment		
Slipping	-uneven terrain	-Clearly mark areas for avoidance if they pose a significant risk -change/modify the terrain within the playscape to be user friendly
Broken bones, severe trauma, and/or death	-falling trees and branches	-remove hazardous dead trees and tree limbs before they fall

		-inspect playscape and surrounding area for hazardous dead trees and tree limbs
Allergic Reaction	-poisonous plants	-Be aware of local flora and post signs about poisonous plants that can be found in the area -Mark poisonous plants for avoidance if they can't be removed right away -Have city maintenance crews remove poisonous plants if found or reported in the playscape
Bites, stings, and other injuries	-bold/angry wildlife	-Be aware of local wildlife -encourage respectful behavior towards wildlife
Hypothermia	-cold ambient air temperature	-Wear proper clothing
Hyperthermia	-hot ambient air temperature	-Wear proper clothing -Make drinking water accessible (i.e. water fountain)

Nearest Hospital

Name	Unity Hospital
Phone Number	763-236-5000
Address	550 Osborne Rd NE #255, Fridley, MN 55432

Emergency Communication

<i>Is there cell-phone service in the area? What carriers?</i>	Yes, all popular carriers
<i>Where is the nearest landline phone to your location?</i>	Home Depot, 6701 Boone Ave North Brooklyn Park, MN 55428

Willow Stone

Narrative

The park is located north eastern of the Twin cities and is just a few blocks away from the Mississippi River. There are many buildings and existing structures that are in between the river and the park itself, so we do not think that the river itself will cause much harm to the park. It is a small park with an existing playscape. It is by a preschool which means that it must get use from very young children. It also has a pavilion with a concession stand. It is locked up during the off season, like the winter, when no one is there. The concession stand also houses the restrooms which in turn are closed when the concessions are shut down. There is also a regular play-ground for your use. There is a power line structure/base that has no fencing around the tower section. This can be an attractive nuisance because of its ease to climb. They should put up a fence or a barrier around the base of the power line structure, along with plenty of clear warning signs. There are some wild geese around, along with some deer. The overall structures of this area create a friendly environment for outdoor play. There are slabs of cement, and some logs, for your use, that may get slippery when they are wet, so use caution and be careful when walking around on them. Along with the slippery surfaces, be careful when the regular play-ground is wet because that can be very slippery as well. Surrounding this park are roads that could pose a threat as kids come and go. Creating a fence to hinder kids from running in and out of the road would be a recommendation for high traffic areas.

Risk Assessment

Activity and Site Specific Policies

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Citywide curfew policy: under 12 home by 9pm Sunday - Thursday and by 10pm F - Sat, age 12 - 14 home by 10pm Sun-Thurs and by 11pm Fri-Sat, age 15-17 home by 11pm Sun-Thurs and by midnight Fri-Sat
No use of motorized vehicles in park or on park paths
Permits may be required for special events at the park with entertainment, food, or loud music.
Since the park is able to be rented out, there may be times when it is not open to the public if otherwise reserved

Specific Risks and Preventative Strategies for this Program

Potential Risks from	Cause of Risk	Strategies for Managing Risk
<i>People (oneself or others)</i>		
Twisting an ankle	Misstepping in a hole	Watch where you are going
Colliding with other people	Not paying attention	Watch where you are going
Getting a cut/stab wound	Moving fallen trees or branches around for use	Be careful when you are moving around the playscape
Falling	Slipping on wet pavement or logs	Use caution if on a slippery/wet surface
Having an allergic reaction	Getting stung, or running into some poisonous plants or weeds	Make sure you have an epipen or watch out for questionable plants
Getting sick	Putting something in your mouth or touching your mouth after touching	Be aware of touching your face and the things that may be around your face

	something contaminated	
Equipment		
falling	Slippery plastic equipment when wet	Warning signs near equipment
Twisting an ankle/knee	Improper shoes	Have proper footwear that are grippy and pay attention
Crushing your foot/leg Hand/arm/head	A log or branch might fall or roll off of what you were building	Make sure that your fort is sturdy
Getting stuck on/in a piece of equipment	Using equipment inappropriately or having baggy clothing	Be smart and wear appropriate clothing and use the jungle gym properly
Environment		
Electrocution	Lightning/standing water	Put soils in that soak up more water and have more signage
Electrocution	Power station	Have another fence around the whole tower and station
Hyperthermia/Hypothermia	Too hot or cold of weather	Not dressing properly for the weather conditions
Not seeing someone next to you and injuring them	Not paying attention to your surroundings and accidentally hitting them with a piece of equipment	Be aware of your surroundings at all times
Headaches	Getting dehydrated or the sun hurting your eyes	Stay hydrated and wear sunglasses if necessary
Sunburn	No UV protection	Use sunscreen if there is high UV index

Nearest Hospital

Name	Fairview Urgent Care
Phone Number	763-572-5700
Address	10000 Zane Ave. N Brooklyn Park, MN 55443

Emergency Communication

<i>Is there cell-phone service in the area? What carriers?</i>	Yes, all major carriers have service.
<i>Where is the nearest land-line phone to your location?</i>	Homes surrounding park

Community Activity Center

Narrative

The Community Activity Center playscape in Brooklyn Park consists of two different sites on the grounds. One that already exists, and one that is being proposed. The playscape that already exists was made mostly of logs that have been reshaped in some way to represent different obstacles. One center-piece of the playscape is a table, made from a large stump that is the table, and four logs made into the chairs. The playscape also has a small hut that contains gardening equipment, and there is also an existing playground and an Army National Guard armory near by. There are a few risks in the current playscape that would need to be assessed.

The proposed playscape location is next to a small pond that has been stocked with Sunfish and Catfish by the MN DNR for kids to fish. There is a list of rules for the pond (Ex: Adults may fish if they are with a kid who is fishing. Ex: Kids under 16 do not need a fishing license.). It is important to know that this pond was flooded two feet over capacity. During these flooded times the water level can surpass the level of the fishing docks and can be dangerous to play on (attractive nuisance). It is also important to know that this area is under natural shoreline restoration, this will encourage the growth of natural wildflowers and grasses and provide native habitat for wildlife as well as protect water quality by slowing runoff and absorbing nutrients. One problem with this could be the risk of trampling the wildflowers and making restoration efforts more difficult, if a playscape were to be built here. The shoreline also has a fairly steep decline toward the pond, which could cause runoff and erosion of the

playscape, and flooding during particularly wet times. There is also a fire station close to this proposed location which is a huge benefit in terms of risk management and safety. Another structure worthy of mentioning is the skate park that is nearby.

The surrounding neighborhoods are a mixture of low income and high income homes, this could help make the park more accessible to a diverse community. The area that surrounds the park more closely has grass and is very open, with little tree cover. With no woods or forest close by to collect materials for the playscape, materials would have to be brought in from elsewhere. With a lack of tree cover in the area the risk of exposure to weather increases, but this also means there is no risk of falling trees/ branches during periods of high wind.

Risk Assessment

Activity and Site Specific Policies

No Smoking/tobacco use on park property
Children under the age of 12 must be accompanied by an adult
There is no use of the park after 10:00 p.m. or before 6:00 a.m.
Citywide curfew policy: under 12 home by 9pm Sunday - Thursday and by 10pm F - Sat, age 12 - 14 home by 10pm Sun-Thurs and by 11pm Fri-Sat, age 15-17 home by 11pm Sun-Thurs and by midnight Fri-Sat
No use of motorized vehicles in park or on park paths
Permits may be required for special events at the park with entertainment, food, or loud music.
Since the park is able to be rented out, there may be times when it is not open to the public if otherwise reserved
Fishing licenses are required for individuals wanting to fish who are over the age of 16

Specific Risks and Preventative Strategies for this Program

Potential Risks from	Cause of Risk	Strategies for Managing Risk
People (oneself or others)		
Heavy traffic, could result in injury or death.	There is a busy road near by.	Designate street crossing areas, represented by signs.
Tripping or Falling	Logs, stumps, rocks all have potential to be tripped over.	Post warning signs
Overcrowding	Heavily populated area	Capacity sign
Equipment		
Risks in the current playscape- what risks? (Climbing on/falling off of gardening shed)	Very short building with low ceilings and roof that starts near the ground. Easy to climb on.	put a sign on the gardening shed indicating that it is against the rules to climb on the shed.
Existing structures-what risks particularly?	Previous structures built.	Have a team assess the structures and decide if they need to be removed or adapted.
Structure failure	Too many people on a play structure	Strong material, post signs warning about weight capacity. Proper upkeep and maintenance.
Environment		
Flooding	Drainage issues	Install an overflow drain or make banks bigger to hold more water.
Restoration on shoreline (switch these two columns)	Environmental risk for plants.	Don't build a playscape on land restoration sites.
Drowning in pond	Kids fishing and playing near pond.	Signs stating no swimming, and use caution when near the pond.
dehydration	lack of water fountains, over	build water fountain nearby.

	exertion, lack of fluids before visiting park.	
downed trees/ falling trees	weather conditions, old damaged trees	trim and maintain trees often. Check trees after a big storm.
heat stroke, hypothermia	extreme weather, improper clothing for weather.	keep community center open during periods of very hot and very cold times.

Nearest Hospital

Name	Unity Hospital
Phone Number	763-236-5000
Address	550 Osborne Road Fridley, MN, 55432

Emergency Communication

<i>Is there cell-phone service in the area? What carriers?</i>	Yes, all major carriers.
<i>Where is the nearest land-line phone to your location?</i>	Community Center front desk. Fire Station.

Hartkopf

Narrative

Hartkopf Park, located at 7300 Florida Avenue North in Brooklyn Park, is a park with medium tree cover. The trees were medium growth, with probably well shaded. The drainage was good, even though for the most part the land was flat. There were several manmade sledding/biking hills for kids to play on. According to the website, the amenities are Softball/Baseball Fields, Playground, Skating Rink, Tennis Courts, Picnic Area, Picnic Pavilion, Trails, Nature Area, and Restrooms. Based on our visit, there were no restrooms visible or accessible. There are paved trails throughout the park which are probably ADA accessible which really opens up the area to everyone. The location and size of the park is good: the surrounding neighborhoods are middle-class families, there is an elementary school nearby, and it is near enough to major roadways to be accessible but still in a residential neighborhood. The school is separated by a road from the park, so that could pose a potential risk of increased foot traffic near an area with lots of cars and buses.

Even though this isn't a wooded site and a lot of natural materials would have to be brought in, I think this would be a good place for a naturescape. There are a ton of similarities between this site and where the existing naturescape is which is both a good and bad thing because it proves the feasibility but isn't unique. This site would work, it would reach a lot of people, and it would add a new dimension to this popular park by introducing the idea of nature play to an area where the park is more traditional recreation. There aren't any natural

features to make the park and the playscape stand out. Also, it wouldn't be immersive in the nature experience, but more of a haven from the normal which is both good and bad. As far as the city officials go, I think they would like this site because it is well visited, open to a large amount of kids, safe, and has infrastructure already available. Some attractive nuisances are the small sledding hill, the surrounding fences and roads.

Risk Assessment

Activity and Site Specific Policies

No Smoking/tobacco use on park property
Children under the age of 12 must be accompanied by an adult
There is no use of the park after 10:00 p.m. or before 6:00 a.m.
Citywide curfew policy: under 12 home by 9pm Sunday - Thursday and by 10pm F - Sat, age 12 - 14 home by 10pm Sun-Thurs and by 11pm Fri-Sat, age 15-17 home by 11pm Sun-Thurs and by midnight Fri-Sat
No use of motorized vehicles in park or on park paths
Permits may be required for special events at the park with entertainment, food, or loud music.
Since the park is able to be rented out, there may be times when it is not open to the public if otherwise reserved
Fishing licenses are required for individuals wanting to fish who are over the age of 16

Specific Risks and Preventative Strategies for this Program

Potential Risks from	Cause of Risk	Strategies for Managing Risk
<i>People (oneself or others)</i>		
Physical injuries; broken bones, TBI	Improper use of equipment; climbing on fences or	Kids follow common sense for proper use of equipment or

	inappropriate structures	post signage on proper usage
Health/medical emergency ie: diabetic shock, anaphylaxis	Pre-existing medical issues, improper behavior around bees	Manage medical issues, remain calm around bees
Harassment from people in cars driving by	Traffic from road separating school and park	Have crosswalk lines or cones on pavement to ensure safer crossings
Equipment		
Physical injuries; broken bones, TBI, sprains	Equipment designed to attract improper use	Kids follow common sense for proper use of equipment or post signage on proper use
Wind exposure	Lack of underbrush covering large fields	Manage exposure
Abrasions	Lose sticks and logs in playscape	Use caution and respect when occupying playscape
Environment		
Consumption of earthworms	Attractive nuisance for toddlers	Toddlers be under adult supervision
Physical injuries; broken bones, TBI, sprains	Precipitation causing slippery equipment	Use caution when wet. Play at own risk
Allergic reaction, anaphylaxis	Bees or plants in the surrounding area	Avoid unknown plants, stay calm around bees

Nearest Hospital

Name	Crown Medical Center
Phone Number	(763)566-4535
Address	7001 78th Ave N #500, Minneapolis, MN 55445

Emergency Communication

<i>Is there cell-phone service in the area? What carriers?</i>	Yes, al major carriers
<i>Where is the nearest land-line phone to your location?</i>	Park Brook Elementary School 7400 Hampshire Ave N, Minneapolis, MN 55428 (763) 561-6870