



Urbana Park District

Shutterbugs!

Remember to enter the Best In Show Photographic Print Competition by February 2 for the early registration fee. To learn more, call 367-1544, ext, 207. Or download an entry form from the home page. Photos will be on exhibit in Lincoln Square Village February 16-24.

Well-used Parks

A summer 2007 count led by the Regional Plan Commission found that 2,000 people came to Crystal Lake Park on an average summer weekday; 1,000 visited Meadowbrook.

UPD e-news

January 2008

The Urbana Park District is the proud recipient of a **1st Place 2007 Governor's Home Town Award** in the Parks and Recreation Category for the re-development work being done in Victory Park.



Victory Park, which sits between Green Street and Main Street west of Cottage Grove, dates to the 1920s. Prior to the re-development effort, the park had not undergone any major changes or received new amenities since 1980. The park district was approached by neighbors requesting upgrades in 2005. A Victory Park Master Plan was created as monthly meetings took place with the neighbors. The plan includes more internal pathways in the park, a new playground (already constructed), and a new shelter.

The district received an OSRAD (Open Space Land Acquisition and Development) Grant to fund most of the project. Much of the rest is from a City of Urbana Community Block Development Grant. Residents have been directly involved from the start. Volunteers have worked to plan and even to build the new playground!

The park re-development will be complete in 2008. As a result of this effort, there is evidence of a renewed sense of pride in the Historic East Urbana Neighborhood. Already park use has increased, making it more fun and easier for residents to meet their neighbors in a revitalized gathering spot.