



BUFFALO
GROVE
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DISTRICT



News Release

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Buffalo Grove Park District Awarded Level I Accreditation By Arbnet Accreditation Program

(Buffalo Grove Park District, Buffalo Grove, IL) - The Buffalo Grove Park District's Native Tree and Shrub Arboretum at Green Lake Park has been awarded a Level I Accreditation by The ArbNet Arboretum Accreditation Program and The Morton Arboretum, for achieving particular standards of professional practices deemed important for arboreta and botanic gardens. The ArbNet Arboretum Accreditation Program is the only global initiative to officially recognize arboreta at various levels of development, capacity, and professionalism. The Native Tree and Shrub Arboretum at Green Lake Park is also now recognized as an accredited arboretum in the Morton Register of Arboreta, a database of the world's arboreta and gardens dedicated to woody plants.

The Arboretum was designed by Jeff Weiss, founder of the Buffalo Grove Environmental Action Team. More than sixty species of native trees and shrubs native plants are on display for their beauty, low maintenance, and habitat value for birds and other beneficial wildlife. Plantings were installed by Buffalo Grove Park District staff, with funding provided by a ComEd Green Region Grant, the Buffalo Grove Rotary Club, the Buffalo Grove Garden Club, and Lake County Stormwater Management Commission. Volunteers assisted with planting at two public events. Plant labels have QR codes that link to information about how these plants can be used in the suburban landscape. A dedication of the arboretum and additional educational programming is being planned for later this year.

Tim Howe, Direct of Parks and Planning for the Buffalo Grove Park District said, "This project completes a multi-year redevelopment effort at one of our most popular community parks. The Native Tree and Shrub Arboretum at Green Lake Park will promote our values of stewardship and building green infrastructure in our parks and across our community."

ArbNet is an interactive, collaborative, international community of arboreta. ArbNet facilitates the sharing of knowledge, experience, and other resources to help arboreta meet their institutional goals, and works to raise professional standards through the ArbNet Arboretum Accreditation Program. The accreditation program, sponsored and coordinated by The Morton Arboretum in Lisle, Illinois in cooperation with

American Public Gardens Association and Botanic Gardens Conservation International, is the only global initiative to officially recognize arboreta based on a set of professional standards. The program offers four levels of accreditation, recognizing arboreta of various degrees of development, capacity and professionalism. Standards include planning, governance, public access, programming and tree science, planting, and conservation. More information is available at arbnet.org.

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Photos: A variety of photographs are available for download by clicking on the Dropbox Link below.

<https://www.dropbox.com/sh/odc973vz9wwpn9/AABq1sKBrTu-CXk8oN5CM9pNa?dl=0>