Edinborough Celebrates 30 Years of Perfect Weather Anniversary Celebration Set for Oct. 6

Since its grand opening in 1987, Edinborough Park has never experienced a day of bad weather. At this park, it is always 70 degrees and sunny. The premier indoor park will reach an incredible milestone this Friday, Oct. 6, when its 30th anniversary is celebrated.

To celebrate the achievement, Edinborough will host an all-day event at the park, complete with $3 children’s admission, treats and various forms of entertainment. The party is for all ages and planners hope guests who have seen the park’s evolution come back to relive old memories.

Special deals will also be a part of the celebration. The park will have $30 discounts on Adventure Peak memberships as well as $30 off annual pool and track memberships. Both deals are limited to one per family and are only available on Oct. 6.

Dawn Reile, Assistant Manager, is excited to celebrate the impressive milestone. “We’re going to have a ton of fun activities and entertainment.” she said. “I hope to see families with kids, but also see some people who come for the memories and nostalgia. Edinborough brings them. It would be cool to see someone who was married here come back to visit.”

With all the changes Edinborough has undergone since its opening, visitors who have not been to the park in a while may not recognize it.

“One of the biggest changes we made was when we took out the small indoor skating rink,” said Parks & Recreation Director Ann Kattreh, who worked at Edinborough from 1992 until 2011. “We took out the skating rink and put in Adventure Peak and it completely changed the dynamics of the park.”

Those changes took place in 2003. Though Kattreh has seen many changes, the one constant feature of the park is the indoor, climate-controlled aspect. “The park provides a year-round recreation opportunity for families. We always say it’s 70 and sunny here. Families and kids can come in and run and play all year round,” Kattreh said.

For more information on the anniversary celebration, visit EdinboroughPark.com.

Help Eradicate Invasive Buckthorn

City Offers Dump Site in Late October

The City is asking residents to help remove buckthorn in residential and public areas. There will be a buckthorn-only dump site open 8 a.m. to 4 p.m. Saturdays Oct. 21 and 28 and noon to 4 p.m. Sundays Oct. 22 and 29, at 7420 Braemar Blvd., across from the Braemar Golf Dome.

A non-native shrub originating in northern Eurasia, buckthorn has been distributed by nurseries in this country since at least the 19th century. For many years, buckthorn was used as a hedge plant, most often in residential lots. However, due to its extreme invasiveness, all species of buckthorn have been banned from sales and placed on the Minnesota State Restricted Noxious Weed List. Although sales are prohibited, removal is not mandatory. In addition to displacing other more desirable plants, buckthorn reduces beneficial and healthy biodiversity of flora and fauna, adds stress to trees through over-competition for nutrients, light and water, and grows in such thorny thickets that make passage difficult.

At the buckthorn-only dump site, residents must show a picture ID with a current Edina address. Commercial haulers are not allowed to leave buckthorn brush at the dump unless they are accompanied by the residents for whom they are working. Buckthorn brush cannot be bagged, bailed or bundled. If it is, it must be removed from the container before being left at the dump.

Edina Takes on Bloomberg Mayors Challenge

Group Develops Innovative Ideas for the Competition

The City of Edina is preparing its entry into the Bloomberg Philanthropies Mayors Challenge, a competition among 555 U.S. cities with millions of dollars in prizes, including a $5 million grand prize.

The challenge’s goal is to inspire cities to develop breakthrough solutions to their most urgent concerns and provide funding to address those. Bloomberg also looks for solutions that can be replicated at other cities, spreading these successes.

The workshop was more to learn the tools of how to prepare for the Mayor’s Challenge. The City’s application may not end up being about that issue, however, as the attendees had to pick an issue in Edina, drill down to the causes and brainstorm possible solutions.

“Once they have a good understanding of the causes, they can pick one solution that is ambitious, but can be tackled in a one- to three-year process,” consultant Xiaohui Lin said.

For more information on the competition, visit BloombergMayorsChallenge.com.
Plan to Improve Arden Park Advances

Longer, Healthier Creek, New Playground
Among Changes

A plan to improve Arden Park and the section of Minnehaha Creek that flows through it will move forward after unanimous City Council approval.

Next up is designing the details from the plan once it’s approved and start the Minnehaha Creek Watershed District, which is partnering with the City on the project. The changes will improve the health of the creek and the fish habitat in it, and expand recreational opportunities in the park.

“If we improve the creek, the benefits to our town will be priceless,” Mayor Jim Hovland said before voting for the plan during the Sept. 19 City Council meeting.

The creek will be re-meandered through the park, adding a mile of newly connected stream. The benefits include better storm water management, reduced flooding risk and, for recreation, new tubing/kayaking loops and fishing spots.

Arden Park will get a new playground, hockey rink and shelter building as part of the upgrades. Trails will be added to make it easier for nearby residents to immerse themselves in the park’s natural beauty.

Some Edina residents objected to the Watershed District’s part of the plan because it includes removing an old dam. While the dam creates a scenic waterfall, it also harms the creek’s health. After much debate and public input, the City Council agreed that the benefits to the creek and park outweighed the loss of the waterfall. The plan still includes sections of rapids and other water features that benefit the creek and recreation.

Construction could begin in 2019. Grants are expected to offset some of the estimated $4 million cost to be split by the City and Watershed District.

“We look forward to working with the Watershed District on environmental and recreational improvements to the park that the neighborhood and City are going to be very proud of,” Parks & Recreation Director Ann Katteln said.

For updates on the project, visit EdinaMN.gov/ArdenParkConceptPlan.

Upcoming Events

Thursday, Oct. 5, 5-8 p.m.
33rd-Annual Members’ Juried Exhibition Opening Reception, Edina Art Center

Friday, Oct. 6, 9 a.m.-9 p.m.
30th Anniversary Celebration, Edinborough Park

Saturday, Oct. 7, 9 a.m.
Construction Walking Tour, Braemar Golf Course

Saturday, Oct. 7, 9 a.m.-1 p.m.
Edina Home Energy Fair, Braemar Golf Course

Sunday, Oct. 8, 11 a.m.-4 p.m.
Chíl Open, Braemar Golf Course

Monday, Oct. 9 6:30-8:30 p.m.
Community Health Commission Meeting, Edina City Hall

Tuesday, Oct. 10, 7 p.m.
Parks & Recreation Commission Meeting, Edina City Hall

Tuesday, Oct. 10, 7 p.m.
Heritage Preservation Commission, Edina City Hall

Wednesday, Oct. 11, 7 p.m.
Planning Commission Meeting, Edina City Hall

Thursday, Oct. 12, 7 p.m.
Energy & Environment Commission Meeting, Edina City Hall

Friday, Oct. 13, 8 a.m.-4 p.m.
2017 Edina Urban Vision Symposium, Braemar Golf Course

Monday, Oct. 16, 7 p.m.
44th & France Small Area Plan Community Meeting, Minneapolis Park and Recreation Board

Tuesday, Oct. 17, 7 p.m.
City Council and Housing & Redevelopment Authority Meeting, Edina City Hall

Wednesday, Oct. 18, 7 p.m.
Wine and Canvas, Braemar Golf Course

Saturday, Oct. 21, 10-11 a.m.
The Author’s Studio, “Cooked to Death II: Cooks and Crooks Returns,” Edina Art Center