



**Pittsburgh
Parks
Conservancy**
PittsburghParks.org

Donor Newsletter
September - October 2018
PittsburghParks.org

State grant for Allegheny Commons

\$1 million completes Northeast Fountain Project

Thanks to you, the Pittsburgh Parks Conservancy was recently awarded a \$1 million state grant.

Park supporters were asked to complete an emergency action alert to voice their support of Allegheny Commons Park. In just two weeks' time, 854 letters flooded in from park pals and regional organizations. These letters were included in the Parks Conservancy's grant application for the Redevelopment Assistance Capital Program (RACP) and clearly made an impact to the decision makers at the Pennsylvania Department of Community and Economic Development.

The funds will be used to help defray construction costs related to the Northeast Fountain and North Promenade renovation projects. The reconstruction of

the historic fountain at the intersection of North and Cedar Avenues will include improved lighting and walkways, newly planted trees and flower beds, and an infiltration bed that will aid in stormwater management. This project is scheduled for completion late fall 2018 with a grand re-opening celebration in spring 2019.

This showcase fountain project is one of many planned for the full renovation of Allegheny

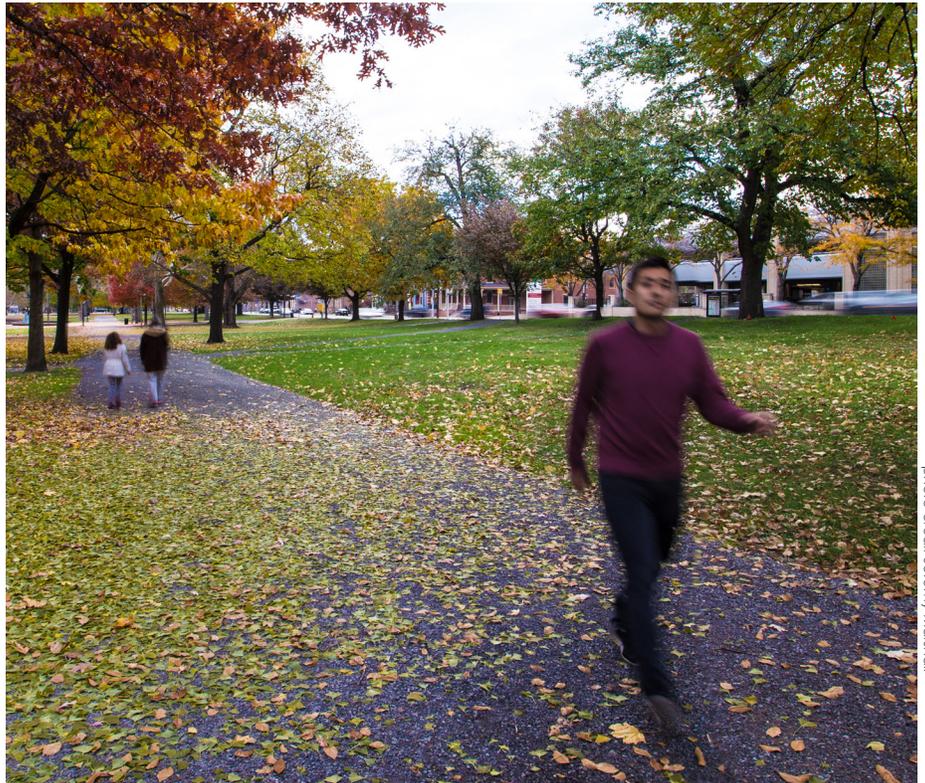


photo credit: Jeremy Marshall

This grant funds the Northeast Fountain and Promenade projects

Commons Park. Next on the list is the North Promenade, picking up where the fountain project ends, and continuing westward along the

walkway paralleling North Avenue. The project will address Northside residents' request for increased lighting and restored pathways. 🌿

*"The joy of a public park, rather than a private yard, is that you share it with everyone. It's a place where we meet people we might not otherwise get to know, a place where the community connects, unwinds, and celebrates together." -
1 of 854 letters received in support of Allegheny Commons*



ENGAGE

contact Harmony Hodges at
hhodges@pittsburghparks.org
or 412.682.7275 x240





Park champions like you

Golfing for the Commons

North Side/Shore Chamber of Commerce raises funds

This year a portion of the proceeds from the North Side/Shore Chamber of Commerce Charity Golf Outing, held on September 21st, benefits the Northeast Fountain project.

“For the thousands of Northside residents

and employees that pass by that corner of the park each day,” says Executive Director Gina Grone, “the beautifully restored fountain will welcome them into the park. It is such an important asset to the community.”



\$1,500 raised for fountain restoration



Programs you make possible

You support Lake Elizabeth

Parks Conservancy volunteers tackle big job

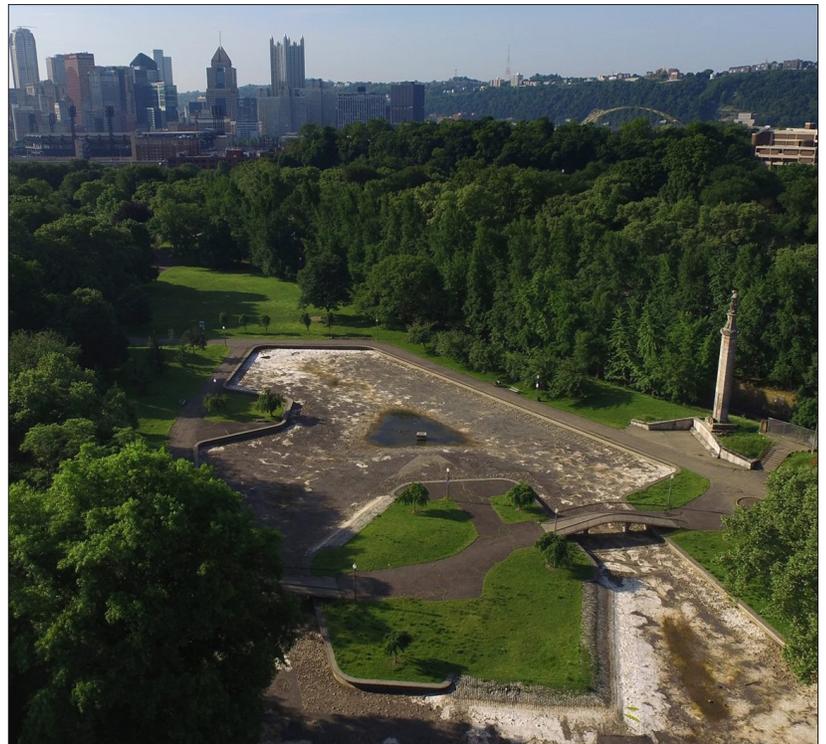
Last spring the City of Pittsburgh asked the Pittsburgh Parks Conservancy to take on a big, dirty project: cleaning out Lake Elizabeth in the Northside. As usual, our dedicated supporters and volunteers were up for the challenge. 54 people came out to clean the lake from 9am-12pm. This was no pleasant task; they had to remove dangerous algae, dead fish, debris, and leaves.

Lake Elizabeth is a favorite place for

Northsiders and Allegheny Commons park visitors. It's home to ducks and other wildlife, it's a popular spot to sit and relax, and it serves as a beautiful background for wedding and other photos. Thanks to your hard work the lake is clean and healthy.

Pittsburgh Parks Conservancy Community Engagement

Manager Erin Tobin appreciates the community's dedication to the park. "We were concerned about a family of ducks with ducklings that lived at the Lake. A big priority of ours was



Lake Elizabeth completely drained



Volunteers got dirty cleaning algae, debris, and leaves

making sure they stayed safe and their home was healthy. Everyone was so proud to make a difference in the lives of not only park visitors, but local wildlife too." Thank you to event sponsors Councilwoman Harris, Councilman Lavelle and

Savage Visual Effects.

Lake Elizabeth is one of the projects identified to be renovated as part of the 2018 Action Plan. Work will include new lighting, plantings, and filling the lake with rainwater instead of drinking water.



You transform our cherished spaces

You convert a flower bed to a Victorian fountain

Allegheny Commons Northeast Fountain Project near completion

If you were familiar with the previous flowerbed, you might be surprised by the large size of the fountain. With its 50-foot circular stone basin, this fountain mirrors its original 19th century design. Old photographs were used in the design process so the new fountain will be as close to the original as

possible. Unexpectedly, construction crews unearthed the original upper basin that was covered over decades ago, making it easier to discern design details for the new fountain.

Designed by Pashek+MTR, the new fountain will feature a

one-foot rim of precast stone, a large Grecian vase in the center, with a tall central jet and 16 smaller jets. A fountain border garden, walkways, benches, lighting, signs and other amenities will also be included.

The Pittsburgh Parks Conservancy is

proud to reconstruct this fountain in partnership with the City of Pittsburgh, Allegheny Commons Initiative, and Northside Leadership Conference. Construction began last spring, and substantial completion is expected for this fall. A grand re-opening celebration is planned for spring 2019.



photo credit: Joe Riesling



photo credit: Joe Riesling

An urban arboretum

Allegheny Commons boasts over 100 species among its 1,000 trees. Some are believed to date back to the original planting when the park was established in 1867.

Here are just some of the majestic trees you'll find in Allegheny Commons:



Bur Oak A coarsely textured crown, wild and wooly acorns and a massive trunk with rough and deeply furrowed bark combine to make one impressive tree.



Japanese Zelkova The peeling bark on mature trees exposes orange patches, which can be quite impressive.



Tulip Poplar This beautiful canopy tree produces tulip-shaped, light greenish-yellow flowers from April to June.



American Elm Before disease ravaged it in the 1950s, this was America's favorite street tree, thanks to its elegant Y shape, sturdy build, and ample shade.

Tree descriptions courtesy of the Arbor Day Foundation



Your parks, your stories

Lynn Glorieux keeps Allegheny Commons glorious

She's been dedicated to your park for 26 years

Lynn Glorieux has been a Northside resident since 1992. You may recognize her if you've visited Allegheny Commons park, she's the one with a broom and dust pan.

After moving into the neighborhood, Lynn immediately began picking up litter around her home and the adjacent alley. After several months of hard work, the alley was clean. Next, she set her sights on the park. Lynn has been tirelessly keeping the park clean for decades since

then. "I clean every day in the evening for an hour or two. It's easy, it doesn't cost anything, you can just do it. Plus its close, just right here."

When asked why she's so dedicated to keeping the park beautiful her answer is simple. "My mother always said (she was our girl scout leader) we should leave the campsite better than we found it."

Lynn loves walking, biking along the river, and paddling. Her park is also important to her. "I love the big, stately old trees. I enjoy living in the Northside because I can walk everywhere.



Lynn (pictured right) picks up park litter daily

I love walking along the grand allée, under the big tree canopy. Each one seems to have its own character." She notices her work is making a difference.

"Park visitors have a better attitude and experience if there's no trash. People will smile and thank me. That's not why I do it, but it's nice to hear." 🌳



Allegheny Commons has over 100 different tree species



Plant a tree

Keep our urban forest diverse and healthy. Donate to have a restoration tree planted by a Pittsburgh Parks Conservancy volunteer.

- \$75
- Other

Name _____ Address _____

Phone _____

e-mail _____

Pittsburgh Parks Conservancy does not solicit contributions from persons or entities in states other than Pennsylvania, New York, or Florida.

photo credit: Nooh Brode/90.5 WESA