

HVL Committee Needs YOU!

Who: This committee is continually working to upgrade and develop HVL parks and recreation areas to further enhance residents' quality of life and increase property values.

What: HVL Parks & Recreation Committee

When: Third Monday of every month at 7 PM

Where: Community Center Conference Room

Why: More volunteers are needed to help us continue serving the community

Here are some of the Parks & Recreation Committee's current projects:

New playgrounds – Thanks to the energetic volunteers on the Playground Task Force, a community playground at Lightner Fields is due to be completed by the end of October. Three more safe and exciting play areas are to be built next April at the beach, the pool and Paradise Lake for our children's enjoyment.

Deer Study Task Force – This dedicated group of volunteers has been meeting for many months, diligently researching the issue of deer overpopulation in HVL. A panel of experts was recently assembled at a town hall meeting to answer residents' questions and suggest solutions. There is much more work to be done in this area in the coming year.

Emerald Ash Borer – We are keeping tabs on latest news concerning this destructive insect as it slowly advances across the country, killing all ash trees in its path. A plan to deal with the effects of this pest when it reaches our community is being developed.

Woodland Management – Excessive deer browsing has led to extensive destruction of undergrowth in our woodlands, resulting in a dearth of saplings, increased erosion, and the spread of invasive plant species replacing native plants. These issues, coupled with the threat of losing hundreds of trees to the Emerald Ash Borer, has made the need for a woodland management program in HVL imperative.

Entrance improvements – Although the front entrance redesign project is on hold until economic conditions improve, we continue to work with the Community Manager to make improvements in the appearance and functionality of all community entrances.

77-acre Park development – Since it was proposed, presented and approved in 2004, steady progress has been made on the 77-acre development plan. To meet the growing recreational needs of the community, ball fields have been built, walking paths paved and hiking trails developed. Future plans include additional paved walking paths (including one across the top of the dam to

connect the marina with the Community Center), additional parking, and eventually an earth and grass amphitheater encircling the new T-ball field.

These are some of the major projects your P&R Committee is working on, but there are others that involve task forces, sub-committees, the garden club and cooperative work with the POA Community Manager and his staff on the pool, fitness center, shelters and beach areas.

For much more information on all of the above-mentioned projects, please see the Parks & Recreation web page at:
<http://www.hiddenvalley-lake.com/ASP/Parks.asp>

If you are interested in safeguarding HVL's woodlands and excited about enhancing community recreation areas and entrances, please join us. Call or email Community Manager Bruce Keller at: 812-537-3091, brucekeller1@comcast.net.