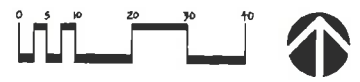


Design for a Nature-based Play Space at Castle Park



CASTLE PARK NATURAL PLAY SPACE
CROOKSTON, MN 56716
MASTER PLAN



Nature-based Play in Northwest MN

What is Nature-based Play?

Nature-based play puts kids in touch with nature by encouraging them to play with rocks, water, sand, leaves, sticks and other materials found outdoors. A nature-based play space looks more like woods, prairie or garden than a playground. Unlike the open woods, though, these spaces usually have a border, so that parents know where their kids are, and so that kids can play freely in the space.



Image: Karen "KB" Bailey

Get Involved

There are lots of ways to get involved in the making the play space. **Everyone is welcome:** kids, adults, people with skills with plants and trees, educators, naturalists, artists, builders... anyone who's excited about making a new space at Castle Park! For more info, contact Kirsten or Sarah (info below), or visit the website below.

www.umcrookston.edu/childrenandnature

Contacts for Crookston:

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(218) 281-3385 sreese@pcphealth.org

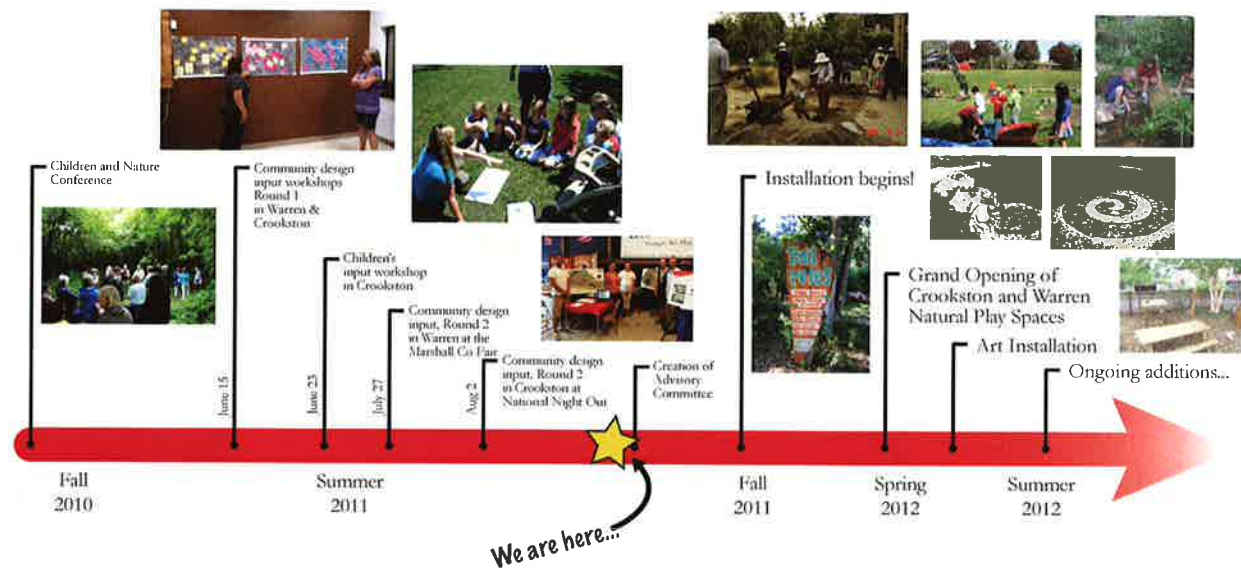
Kirsten Fagerlund
(218) 281-3385 kfagerlund@pcphealth.org

Polk County Public Health
721 S. Minnesota St
PO Box 403
Crookston, MN 56716

Creating a Nature-based Play Space for Crookston

Over the last year, the City of Crookston has been making plans for **Castle Park**, including a campground, dog park and river access. In June, a group of community members (both adults and youth) met to share ideas about how to transform a part of the park into a nature-based play space. Their ideas turned into the **two designs** that were presented at National Night Out on August 2nd. Kids and adults gave feedback, which was used to create a **final design** (on the reverse side). These brainstorming and feedback sessions are part of a **bigger process** to develop plans for the play space, create and install the space in Castle Park, and make it come to life with plants, paths, rocks, logs, art and activity! This timeline describes the process and the groups involved.

Northwest Minnesota Natural Play Spaces Design Timeline



Coordinators, Guides, and Helpers

The City of Crookston
The City of Warren

North Valley Public Health (Warren, MN)
Frances Tougas - North Valley Health Center/SHIP Coordinator
Gail Larson - North Valley Health Center

Polk County Public Health (Crookston, MN)
Sarah Reese - SHIP Coordinator
Kirsten Fagerlund - Interim SHIP Coordinator
Sheri Altepetter - Executive Director

U of M Twin Cities

Eileen Harwood, Ph. D. - Masonic Cancer Center Prevention Researcher
Annie Fedorowicz - Public Health grad student, Evaluation Researcher
Kristen Murray - L. Arch. grad student, CSBR Research Assistant
Virajita Singh - Research Fellow, CSBR Community Design Assistance Coordinator
Dan Handeen - Research Fellow, CSBR Community Design Assistance Coordinator

Children in Nature Network

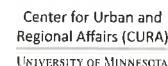
Laura Bell - NW MN Coordinator

NW MN Regional Sustainable Development Partnership
Linda Kingery - Executive Director

U of M Crookston
Eric Castle - L. Arch. professor
Kristine Neu - L. Arch. student

NW MN Arts Council
Mara Wittman - Director

Marshall County Early Childhood Initiative
Crookston Early Childhood Initiative



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