

# Outdoor Aquatic Center at Crystal Lake Park



## **2010-2011**

The district worked with the community to create a concept plan for an outdoor aquatic center that meets citizens' needs. Important needs and wants identified included high-energy spaces for youth, competition/lap swimming, fitness, shallow water/zero depth entry, plenty of shade, diving board, using the topography of the park, water slides and sprays among others.

## **April 2011**

Urbana voters pass a referendum that increases Urbana Park District property taxes by 11 cents for the purpose of constructing and operating an outdoor aquatic center in Crystal Lake Park that is based on the concept plan. The new facility will replace the closed Crystal Lake Pool.

## **May-June 2011**

To construct the facility, the Urbana Park District sold bonds in the amount of \$7,000,000. These will be repaid over 25 years. The initial concept plan had an estimated cost of \$7,725,000 for all the proposed features. The district will work to include as many of these features as possible in the final design.

The district is looking into opportunities for grants in the area of "green" technology, as well as for other grants and donations. An application for a \$400,000 Illinois Open Space Land Acquisition and Development (OSLAD) Grant was submitted to assist with the cost of pool construction. Grantees will be named in 2012.

The Board of Commissioners increased the project budget by \$300,000 with money that had been set aside previously to demolish the old pool. These additional funds will be used for infrastructure improvements needed in the northeast corner of Crystal Lake Park, including water, sewer, storm water, electric, safety lighting, parking and entry drives.

These improvements will make the aquatic center as efficient as possible and will serve the nature center and Busey Woods, as well as other activities in this part of the park.

## **July 2011-October 2011**

Pool designers and architects are creating the final pool design. This includes details such as placement of slides, the size of the deck, number of restroom stalls, building materials to be used and other very specific details. The Board of Commissioners is interested in creating a natural look for the new facility in keeping with the surrounding park, the Anita Purves Nature Center and Busey Woods. Once the design and engineering plans are ready, they will be submitted to the Illinois Department of Public Health for review and approval. Look for opportunities in fall 2011 to see the final plan.

## **October 2011**

Opportunities for the public to select themes and colors. Times/locations TBA.

## **February 2012**

Expected time to send the project out for bid.

## **Spring 2012**

Construction begins.

## **2013 – OPEN!**