



## ANCHORAGE PARK FOUNDATION MEDIA RELEASE

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### **VOLUNTEERS TO CLEAN UP CREEKSIDE PARK THIS SATURDAY** ***Volunteers to Remove Graffiti, Improve Playground & Trim Trees in Creekside Park***

The Anchorage Park Foundation (APF) and the Anchorage Parks & Recreation Department (APRD) will continue their summer **Neighborhood Park Fix-Its** with a volunteer park clean-up on Saturday, July 10. Volunteers in northeast Anchorage will improve tennis courts, re-paint equipment and pick up trash in Creekside Park ([7122 E. 6<sup>th</sup> Avenue](#)) from 9 am – 12 pm, followed by a fix-it celebration from 12 – 2 pm.

Since this winter, park neighbors and community council volunteers have partnered with staff from the Parks & Recreation Department to identify priority repairs and recruit volunteers to accomplish park improvements. This volunteer event is part of the Anchorage Park Foundation and Parks & Recreation Department's summer efforts to rehabilitate, restore and revitalize Anchorage neighborhood parks with community and volunteer support.

"We are thrilled to collaborate as volunteers with the Park Foundation and Parks & Recreation Department to clean up our neighborhood park," said Creekside's Very Important Park Committee Chair Kevin Smestad. "This park is especially important to our neighborhood because it provides additional playspace for students at Creekside Elementary School."

With funding from the Parks & Recreation Department, the Anchorage Park Foundation and the Alaska State Legislature, volunteers at Creekside Park will maintain trails, work on park equipment, remove graffiti and clean up the park. In addition, project partners will complete other improvements, including installing new picnic tables and benches and replacing play equipment. Furthermore, sturdy new tennis nets will be installed to restore the tennis courts for playable use.

"Neighborhood parks are a vital community resource where kids come to play and families spend quality time together," said Anchorage Park Foundation board member Vic Mollozzi. "We are proud to support volunteers working to build healthier parks and healthier communities."

The APF and APRD partner to accomplish neighborhood park fix-its using volunteer and professional labor to accomplish park projects that are immediate, doable, supported, needed, and produced visible results. "Volunteer support enables private and public dollars to stretch farther and make significant improvements to parks," said Senior Parks Planner Suzanne Little. "We appreciate the opportunity to partner with park users to make the improvements that matter most to them."

The APF Clean & Green campaign is made possible by generous funding from the

Rasmuson Foundation. For more information on summer park improvements, please visit [www.AnchorageParkFoundation.org](http://www.AnchorageParkFoundation.org). For more information about Creekside Park, please visit the Anchorage Park Foundation park directory: <http://www.anchorageparkfoundation.org/directory/creekside.htm>

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