

Mandan Parks & Recreation

2011 Annual Report



Board of Park Commissioners

Tracy Porter, President
Jason Arenz, Vice President
Bruce Brucker
Wanda Knoll
Ann Keller

www.mandanparks.com



Park District Staff, Mission & Vision

Our Mission

To provide recreational opportunities to all ages and abilities while improving the quality of life for the citizens of Mandan and its visitors.

Park District Departments & Staff

Administration

Cole Higlin - Director of Parks and Recreation
Darla Roggenbuck - Accounting Manager
Gaye Niemiller - Human Resource Generalist
Pauline Thompson - Accounts Payable
Technician
Roz Barth - District Administrative Assistant

Park Shop

Mike Zerr Park - Superintendent
Roger Erhardt - Softball/Baseball/ASA
Dustin Fleck - Parks & Mechanic
Marv Boehm - Park Maintenance
Doug Beehler - Park Maintenance
Chad Haff - Softball/Baseball/ASA

Recreation

Dave Frueh - Recreation Manager
Kelly Benzinger - Recreation Specialist
Kara Haff - Recreation Specialist

Raging Rivers

Reid Katzung Operations Manager
Dean Bauer Raging Rivers Maintenance

Golf

Brad Olson - Golf Operations Manager
Jamie Buck - Golf Superintendent
Al Morris - Irrigation Specialist
Tony Kalvoda - Mechanic

Our Vision

The Mandan Park District vision is to respect our participants and users of our fine facilities and programs. To understand their needs and value our needs; but eliminating tension and frustration. In the end we need to enjoy life and celebrate our accomplishments.

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Directors Report

Submitted by Cole Higlin, CPRP

As Director of Parks and Recreation I hope that you enjoy the 2011 Mandan Park District annual report. The purpose of the report is to go beyond the athletic programs and give you a better understanding of what the park district does for your community.

Like many of you, the Mandan Park District also battled the flood. The full time staff were relocated throughout the district, closed Raging Fitness and Raging Rivers for three weeks. During that time surveyor's informed us that we were at 1636 elevation and needed to be at 1642 elevation. This figure increased the need to build a dike around our main building that remained throughout the summer. We were however able to reopen all facilities the last week of June. Prairie West Golf Course had a different type of fight, groundwater. The dead heart oxbow provided us with unlimited groundwater that required around the clock supervision of six pumps for three months to allow play.

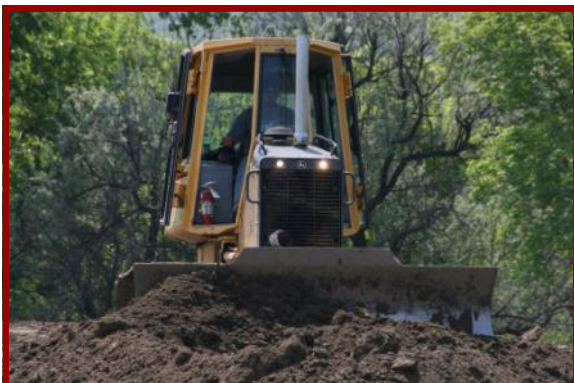
The positives from the flood allowed our facilities to see drastic increases in participation and attendance. The addition of Papa's Pumpkin Patch this fall, more youth rodeo events, larger attendance for stock car and 4th of July rodeo allowed Dacotah Centennial Park to have its best year of usage and attendance.

The highlight of the year was the announcement of the partnership of the YMCA and the Mandan Park District studying the need for a Recreation Center located at Raging Rivers. The opportunity will allow the park district to construct a facility without increasing tax dollars that meets the needs of our community. Members of the current YMCA will be able to have access to both facilities, preliminary discussion will include cardio, wellness classes, drop in day care, gymnasiums, and walking track. Stay tuned as we will aggressively start the planning in 2012.

2011 started the year with no capital projects and ended the year completing two. New outdoor lights were added to the soccer complex sharing the costs of the projects among the Mandan Athletic Department, Mandan Soccer Club, and the park district. The Mandan Hockey Club purchased new seamless dasher boards with the park district. Partnering with our user groups allows us to extend our budgets making our facilities top notch.

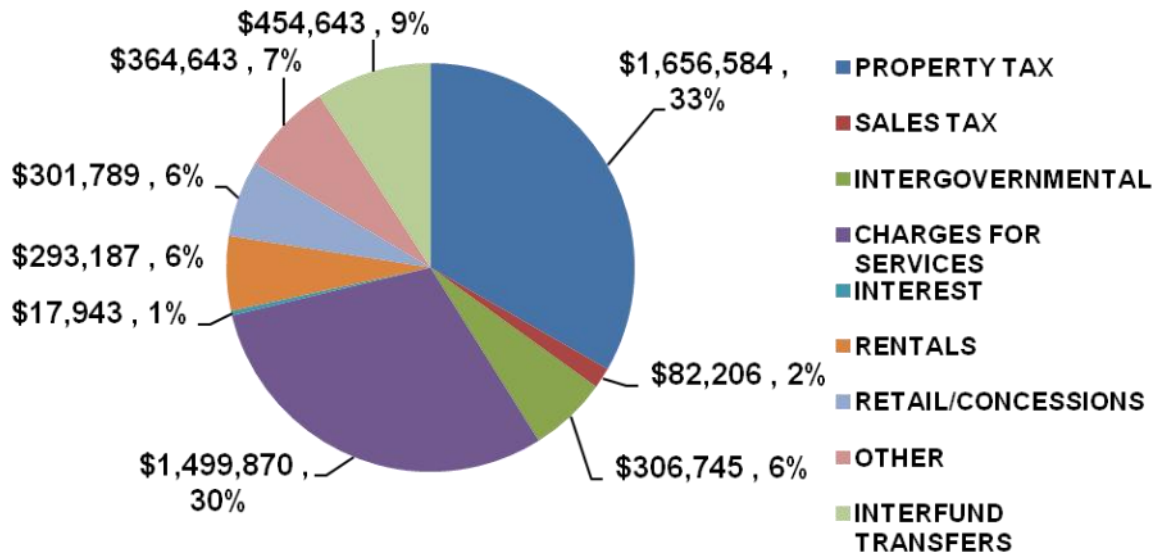
Planning has begun with design of a multi-purpose/concession building at the south softball complex. The building will be used year round for rentals and will also address concession needs during the softball season. The Mandan Softball Association is contributing 50% of the cost of construction.

I would like to thank you for the opportunity to lead the Mandan Park District and provide quality recreational opportunities' for our citizens and visitor's.



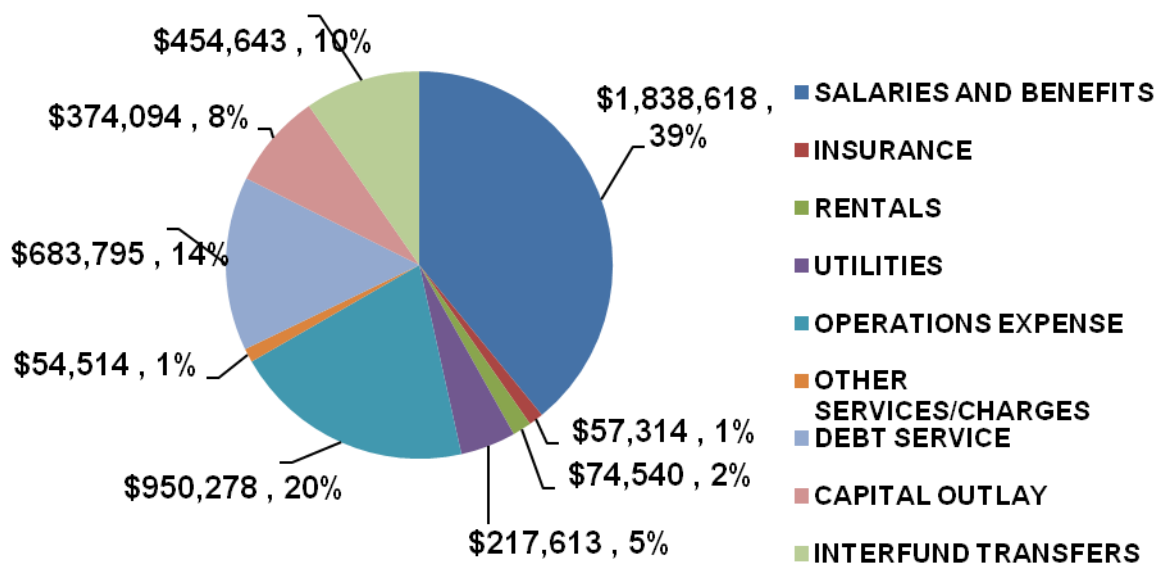
District Budget Statistics

District Wide Revenue



Total Revenue: \$4,977,610

District Wide Expenditure



Total Expenditure: \$4,705,408

2011 District Projects & Upgrades

Raging Rivers

Pump Refurbishment/Replacement, Pipe Relining & Flow Pump Repair \$111,076

All Seasons Arena

Dasher Boards \$111,429
New Carpet in Lobby \$7,898

Soccer Complex

Field Lighting \$180,122

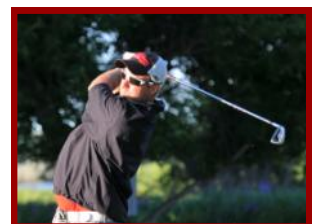
Baseball/Softball

Fence on Youth Baseball Fields 11& 12 \$9,383

Prairie West Golf Course

Deck on Southside of Club House \$31,972

Total Investment \$451,880



Raging Fitness Overview

Submitted by Reid Katzung

Membership/Attendance

With one complete year of operation now behind us, I believe we have a better idea of who we are, and more importantly, who are members/prospective members are. In a very competitive fitness center market, Raging Fitness is best described as :

- A neighborhood-type facility (i.e., our members are not likely to drive across town to be a member)
- A "no frills" facility. We do not offer classes, tanning, etc, AND we don't charge for those amenities, therefore . . .
- Raging Fitness is very competitively priced. No complicated up front membership fees or confusing contractual commitments.

These are just a few of the selling points of Raging Fitness that should be continually emphasized.

We did lose some members as a result of the flood situation and the need to be closed for 20 days. However, I believe we regained the momentum we had pre-flood as the summer went on.

Membership at the end of 2010 was 253. 2011 saw membership increase nearly 36% to 344 members. I am optimistic that a current promotion running thru the end of February, 2012 will see membership increase another 7+%.

Operations/Maintenance

The day to day operations continued to function fine. The unfortunate 20-day closure of facility because of the flood situation required us to temporarily relocate all the equipment. Gave us an opportunity prior to re-opening to thoroughly clean the carpet. Weekend cleaning coverage continues to be done by PT employee.

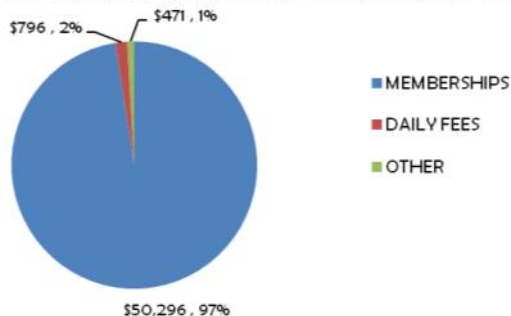
Have to report that I am not impressed with the dependability of the "audio/visual" components of 16-station cardio equipment. Neither the manufacturer or service technicians can determine any solution to these continual issues.

"After Hours" safety and security response for our members will continue to be a concern that needs to be addressed. I have ordered/received a lock box recommended by Mandan Fire Dept/Emergency Response that provides responders 24-hour access to our entire facility if needed.

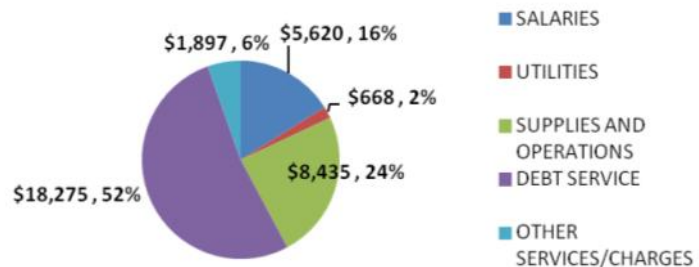
Miscellaneous

- Started bi-monthly e-newsletter this fall to keep members updated, including a fitness tip or two
- Like any other fitness center, we do have people who terminate their membership. Although not many, starting this past fall, I emailed these members asking for feedback on their reason(s) for leaving, how we can improve, etc. I have completed a "Survey Monkey" document to use beginning in 2012 that hopefully will provide consistent feedback.

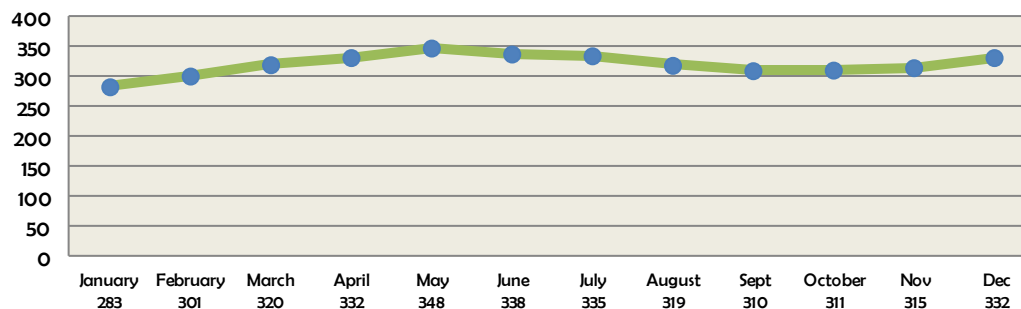
2011 RAGING FITNESS REVENUE BY TYPE



2011 RAGING FITNESS EXPENDITURES



2011 Raging Fitness Membership Trend



Parks Overview

Submitted by Mike Zerr, CPRP

Snow was the main topic starting off 2011 followed by wet conditions with flooding then wind.

Learning came for us as new experiences and continuing education.

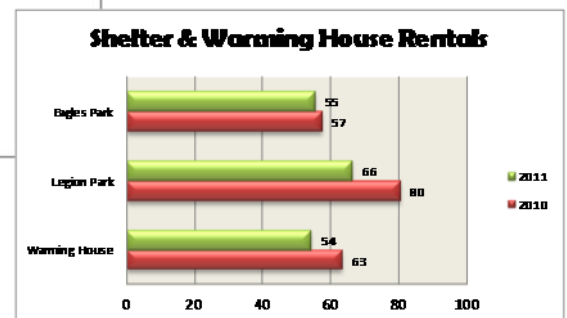
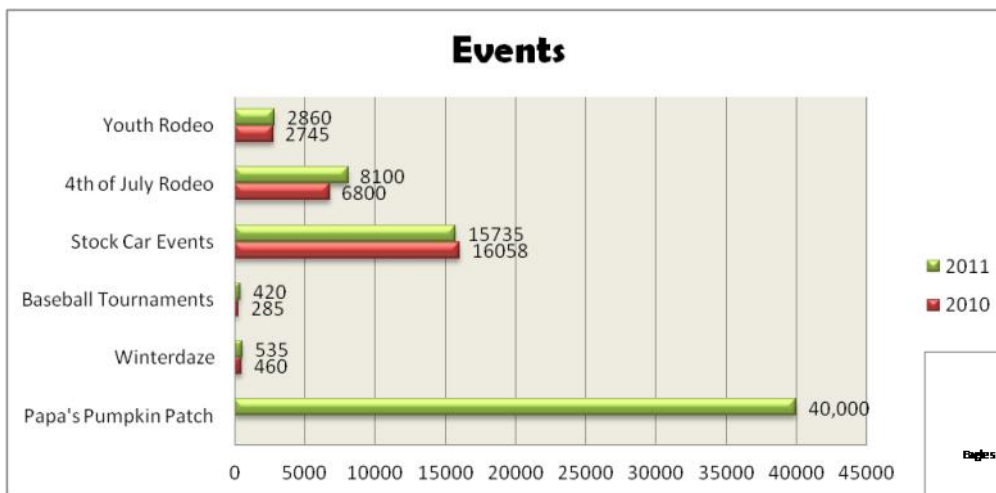
- Playground safety - we have four certified playground inspectors.
- Herbicide/pesticide application – recertification for Doug, we continue to have three certified applicators on staff .
- Toro service school was attended by Dustin.
- North Dakota State conference attended by Dustin, Roger and Mike

Flooding: The Park Distract was not immune to this summers flooding problems.

- Relocating all of the Raging fitness equipment up to ASA area for storage.
- ASA was used as the main head quarters for Morton County divers and rescue.
- Sandbagging and diking the main offices.
- Plugging all drains and fixtures in all buildings.
- After the flood threat was removed every thing was put back better then it was.

The improvements provided by park district staff have far exceeded all expectations.

- **All Season Arena :** Replacing of the compressor motors, updated the dehumidifiers, hallways' and locker rooms were re painted and lobby was recarpeted. The biggest improvement was the replacement of the hockey boards and glass.
- **Raging River:** Bathrooms were remodeled, the partitions were updated and counter tops refinished. The pump motors were worked over or replaced.
- **Soccer:** The largest project of the year for us was the installation of the soccer lights and the rehabilitation of the soccer fields and the surrounding areas. The Mandan Park District logo was updated on the score board.
- **DCP:** One of the highlights for the park district was the opening of the Papa's Pumpkin Patch. It was a great attraction for many families and very well attended. The catch fences was expanded, more guard rail was added, another light pole was installed for the drivers, and the car scale was updated. This was done by the stock car association and partially funded by the Mandan Park District. The annual 4th of July rodeo had a new look with the purchasing of a new arena and bucking chutes.
- **Baseball:** The legion batting cage was updated with new concrete and frame, work and funds provided by the Baseball Club. The youth fields saw some changes with the addition of a shorter fences on two fields. Diamond t 10 infield was totally reworked and grass planted. Diamonds 11 and 12 pitching mounds were expanded and reelayed.
- **Softball:** Due to flooding, Mandan had the opportunity to host the Sam McQuade Softball Tournament opening ceremonies , home run derby and trophy presentation ,along with many more games then usual. We started replacing the road gravel with crushed asphalt around the back stands and bleacher areas ,work will continue in the spring.



Parks Statistics

- **Archery Range:** Another casualty of the summers flooding was the use of the range. The dirt berm was used for diking of homes and will be rearranged in the spring.
- **Parks:** Wind and wet weather along with disease took its toll on many of the trees throughout the parks.
- **Park Shop:** The cement apron in front of the shop doors was replaced, to cure our water problems in front of doors.

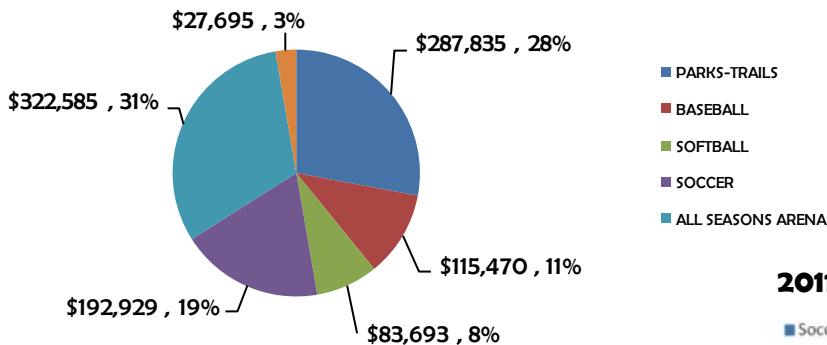
The maintenance and upkeep of our facilities, parks, complexes and equipment is our number one goal.

- With the upgrades and improvements to our facilities, parks and complexes usage has continued to grow.
 1. Shelters at Legion Park and Eagles Park are down from 2010 at 200 to 2011 at 175
 2. Legion Ball Park games. BSC-12, High School -22 plus the State B tournament, Chiefs/A's-40 plus west region tournament and practices 5 days a week during season. State Junior Legion Tournament.
 3. Little League complex games. Babe Ruth-30 plus a tournament plus practices during season. State 11 Year Cal Ripken Tournament.
 4. Softball complex games. Men 15 weeks – 1,194 games, plus McQuades, 4 state tournaments, and 3 regular tournaments. Women 14 weeks – 168 games plus one state tournament. Fall softball – 8 weeks 96 games, fall kickball -9 weeks, 234 games.
 5. Sand Volleyball – 12 weeks – 168 games
 6. Horse and Saddle – 12 events
 7. DCP – 15 events – plus Monster truck, 2 demolition derbies, tractor pulls, rodeo and 6 events were back to back.
 8. Rodeo set up and tear down- 2 weeks plus
 9. The above events are run mid May through mid September.
- Routine grounds maintenance involves.
 1. Mowing and weeding 485 acres.
 2. Snow removal and sweeping of 30 miles of trails plus city sidewalks and parking lots.
 3. Removal of diseased and dead trees.
 4. Maintenance and clean up of 2 softball complexes, 2 baseball complexes, 2 soccer complexes, DCP park, trails and 20 city parks.
 5. Vandalism still is a major issue from spray painting to running over fences and trees. It seems to be getting more frequent.



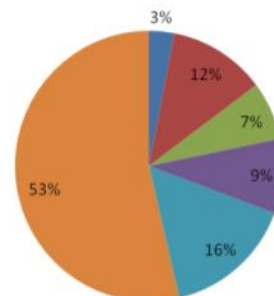
Our park shop belief is to maintain our parks and recreation areas to ensure a safe and enjoyable experience for the citizens of Mandan and its visitors.

2011 Parks Department Expenditures by Facility



2011 Allocation of Maintenance Staff

Legend: Soccer (Blue), ASA (Red), Baseball (Green), DCP (Purple), Softball (Light Blue), Parks & Trails (Orange)

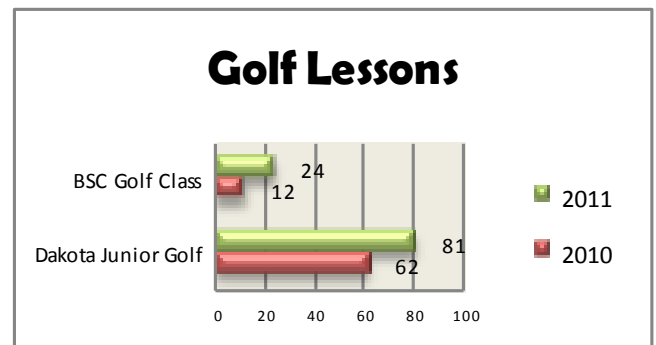


Golf Overview

Submitted by Brad Olson

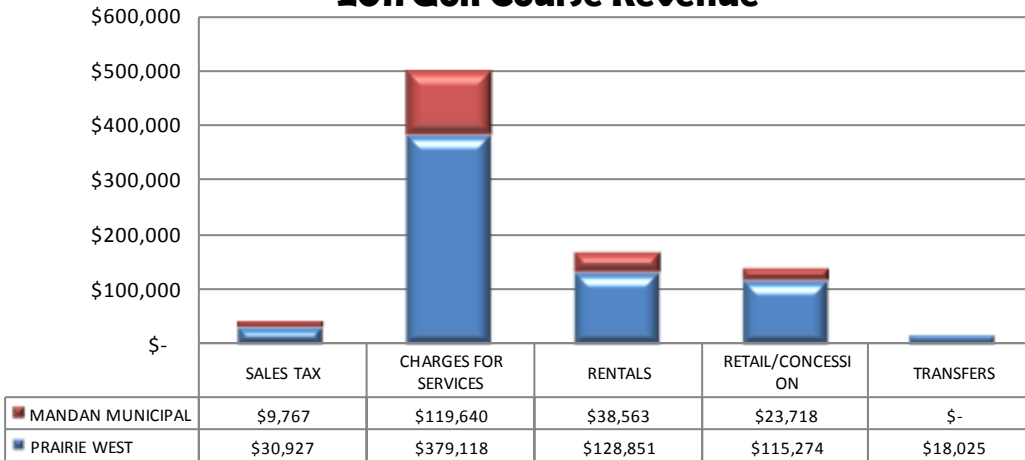
Prairie West opened up the 2011 season on April 19th and the Mandan Municipal course opened up on April 28. The courses ended their seasons November 13th at Prairie West and October 16th at Mandan Municipal. I'd say that they stayed open all season because of the flood issues Bismarck/Mandan area had. One of the Bismarck courses closed all season and we battled water issues all summer long too. The ground water was the problem we had. We pumped water to where that was already water and from there to where there was more water to finally up and over the dike. This was continuous as the water just came back up and we had to keep the water moving. Just when we thought that we had it under control it would rain 2 inches. It did this for 3 weekends in a row. A secondary dike was constructed right out in our Prairie West parking lot. It was an inconvenience all summer but we were still able to get the golfers in. Only problem was that big delivery trucks couldn't make it up and over the dike and the product had to be carted to the clubhouse. The water problems finally started to subside at the end of August when the river level went down and the dike was taken down early November. Some of the projects that we are planning in 2012 will be to fix some of the damaged areas caused by the excess water. We did fix some of the hardpan areas but some of the seed kept getting washed away. We had enough work just keeping the course playable and hope to get some of the projects done next year that we had reschedule for 2012. We learned a lot about the drainage of the course and the old river beds but I hope we never have to go through that again.

Play was very slow in the spring due to the bad weather we had and the play didn't really pick up until Memorial Day Weekend. The Mandan Municipal was especially hurt by the slow start and even with more play in the core season it wasn't enough to beat previous season's sales. This is why I've always said that you have to have a good spring and a good fall this far north to make a golf course profitable. Prairie West on the other hand made up the slow start during the core season and we had a good fall. Players were very happy that we stayed open and anytime you make it into November that means it was a good fall. We were able to get some projects done with the nice weather while letting players play. Greens were covered in time for the cold temperatures. Two reasons why courses close is cold temperatures and snow. This year it was cold temperatures. We had our share of events at both courses and actually had a couple more than last year. This is because of the rescheduling of the events that were supposed to be at the Bismarck course. Revenue was up and our rounds of play were up but remember that golf courses only have so many tee times and those were filled up by just different players this year. We saw many new faces that normally played at Riverwood and they fit in with all of our players. This year we registered 147 new season pass holders, many of which came from Riverwood. We had a great time and we were happy to have them be a part of our golf course. We had many nice comments about our course and how they were treated. The staff was treated to breakfast many times throughout the season as this was a way for the golfers to show their appreciation. This was a big step in showcasing our course to the area golfers as we were the main event this past golf season. It sounds like they will be back again for 2012 so we are start preparing for another great season.

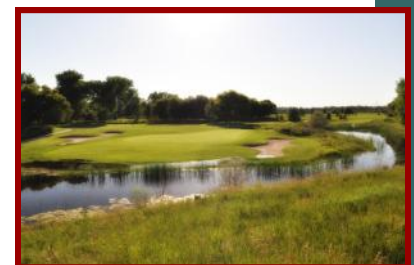
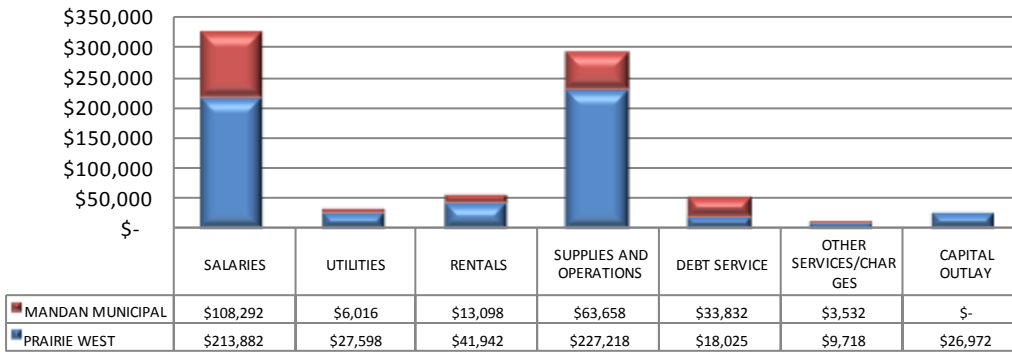


Golf Statistics

2011 Golf Course Revenue

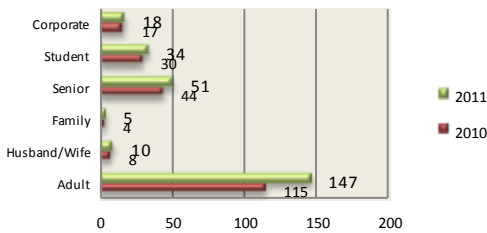


2011 Golf Course Expenditures



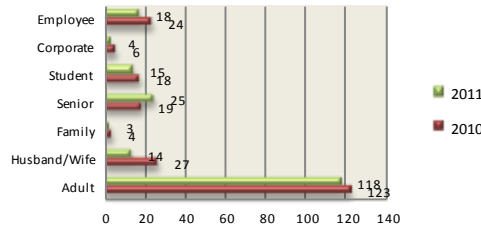
Prairie West Season Tickets

Total Ticket Holders: 265 (218)



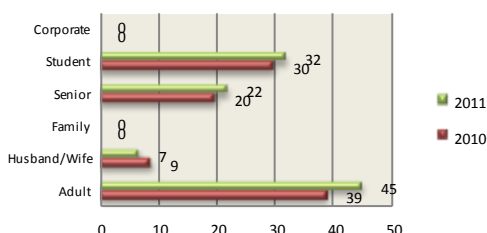
Combination Season Tickets

Total Ticket Holders: 197 (221)

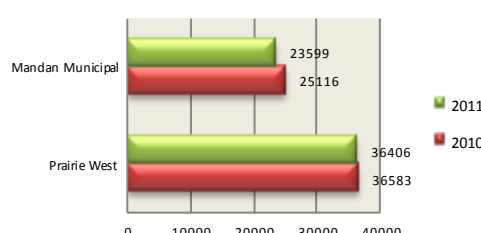


Mandan Municipal Season Tickets

Total Ticket Holders: 106 (98)



Rounds of Golf Played



Raging Rivers Overview

Submitted by Reid Katzung

Resilient was the best way to describe this season. This ability, shown by so many park district FT and seasonal staff allowed the waterpark to open this past summer. A big thanks to all of them! Additionally, we discovered the flexibility of the facility itself to adapt to the necessary changes due to the flood situation. After losing the first 22 days of our season, we managed to get in a 54-day season, or about 75% of last year's 73-day season. As a result, total waterpark attendance was down about 12,000 guests from 2010.

However, it is important point out the comparative successes of our abbreviated 2011 season:

- Attendance averaged approximately 800 daily guests compared to approximately 750 in 2010
- Concessions/retail per capita sales was up \$.50 from 2010 (\$2.25 in 2010 to \$2.75 in 2011)
- Daily seasonal labor expenses decreased from 2010
- "Twi-lite Rate" and "Member Mondays" promotions proved successful

Groups/Special Events

Group activity (defined as pre-booked groups of 20 or more) declined from 2010 (106 groups) to 84 groups this season. With the lost days of operation, I am pleased with this total. Flood situation was the reason given for a couple of our larger groups not able to return in 2011. We were successful in encouraging our group activity to Monday-Thursday visits this season as well. Other special events/programs that worked well in 2011 were:

- "Member Mondays"-season pass members could bring a guest free any Monday during the season
- "Twilight Rate"-\$8.00 admission after 4pm Sunday-Wednesday increased our late afternoon attendance
- "College Pool Party"-second year of this private rental saw better weather and significant attendance increase
- "Furry Freestyle/Family Fun Day"-post season use of facility for Central Dakota Humane Society was successful

Concessions

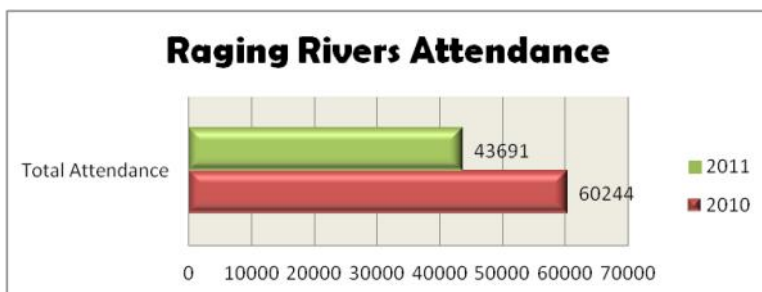
Three years into the operation, I believe we made continued progress in fine tuning our menu, pricing, and staffing/training. However, in our first three years of operation, there is no consistency in our concessions expense to revenue percentage figures. It is my priority to make a bit more sense of this in the coming weeks. Additionally, I will be doing RFP's from local food service vendors for the 2012 season to assure maximum profit margins, menu options, and efficient delivery of product.

Operations/Maintenance

- Staff did a great job of working quite efficiently out of a makeshift operation this season. We will use this experience in transitioning back to our "normal mode of operation" in 2012.
- Facility continues to be operationally more sound since 2009. We did replace the two turbines early in the season that provide the lazy river current.
- Unfortunately, we did have to drain the three pool areas during our flood shutdown, and re-fill them prior to opening on June 21st. This will skew our 2-year comparison of utilities.

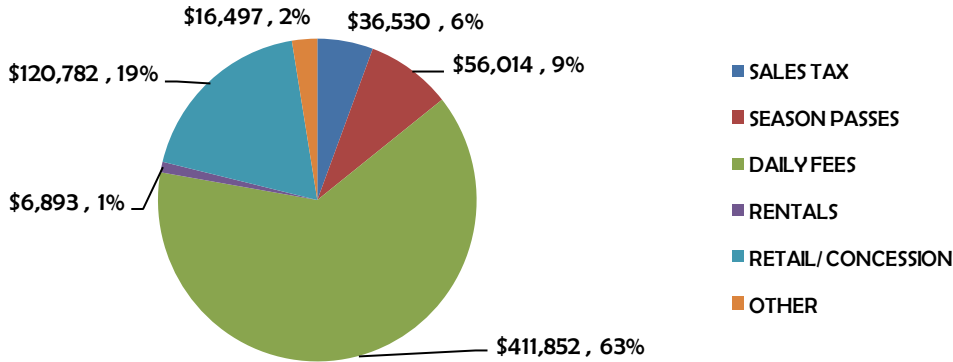
Weather Trends

	2011	2010
Days Open	54 of 90	73 of 92
Average MAX Daily Temp	75.2	77.7
Average LOW Daily Temp	52.0	52.8
Days Under 70 Degrees	6	11
Days Over 80 Degrees	42	49
Days Over 90 Degrees	9	13

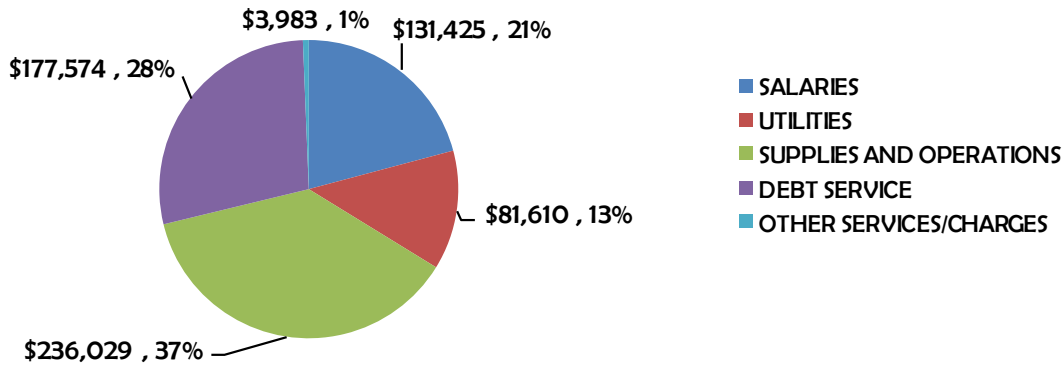


Raging Rivers Statistics

2011 Raging Rivers Revenue By Type



2011 Raging Rivers Expenditures



Raging Rivers



Recreation Overview

Submitted by Dave Frueh

The year 2011 was a very interesting year to say the least. The months of January –April ran pretty normal for the most part. The month of May is where everything had to change due to the flood. The recreation department really didn't have an office space for a couple of weeks. Everyone was working where they could. Programs were delayed due to the flooding. We had a few cancellations due to families being displaced. It was a very strange month.

Some of the highlights of the 2011 year: We hosted the 11 year old Cal Ripken State Tournament. 14 year old West Divisional Babe Ruth Tournament. We increased the Summer MAC program by 25 students.

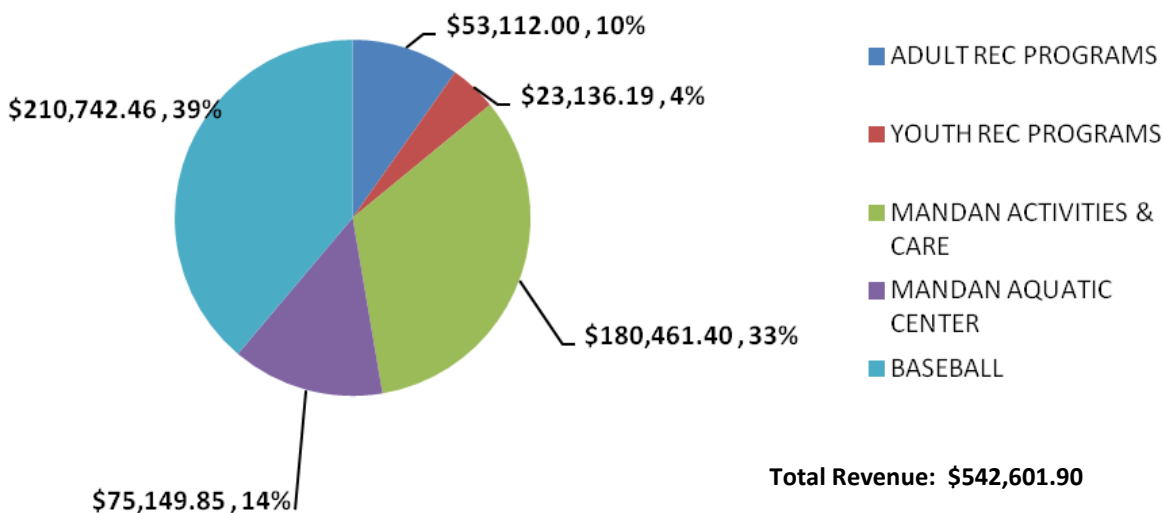
The summer programs went fairly well considering the flooding that took place in May. The programs maintained decent numbers for the most part. Baseball went well. The consolidation between the park district and the baseball club keeps getting stronger every year. Tennis had decent numbers and the program went well. Track has been a challenge this past year. We really didn't have a coordinator so Kelly had to be at track pretty much the whole time. We hope to try and make some changes to make sure the program will run a little easier in the future. The Summer MAC program went very well. We increased our enrollment by 25 to 125 students. The program ran great with the extra 25 students.

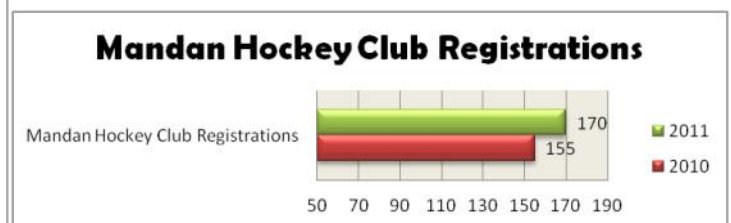
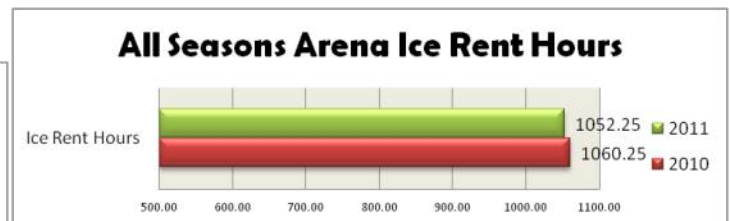
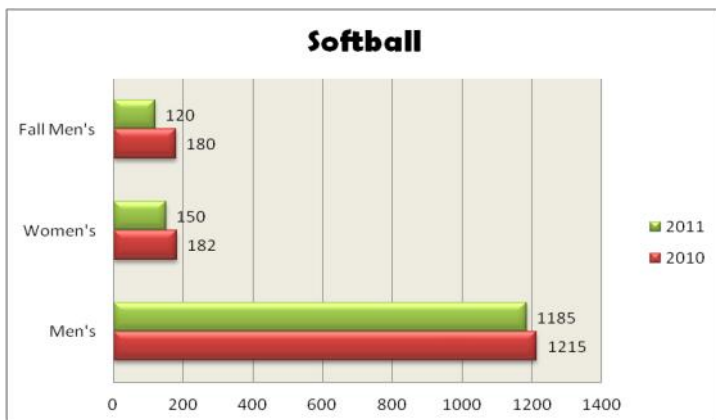
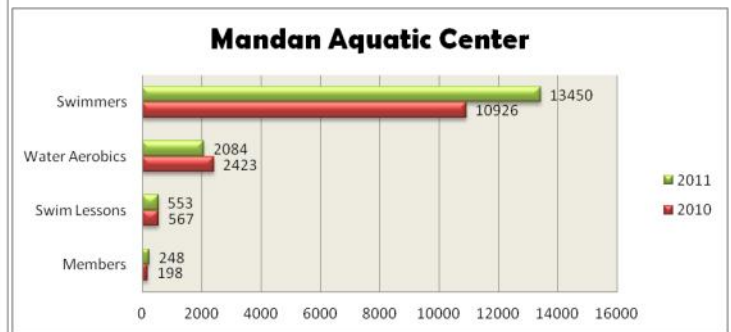
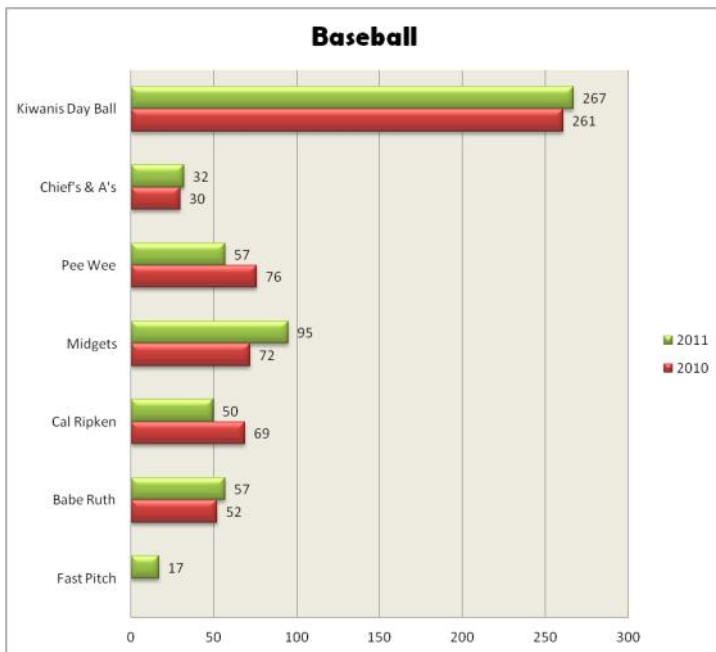
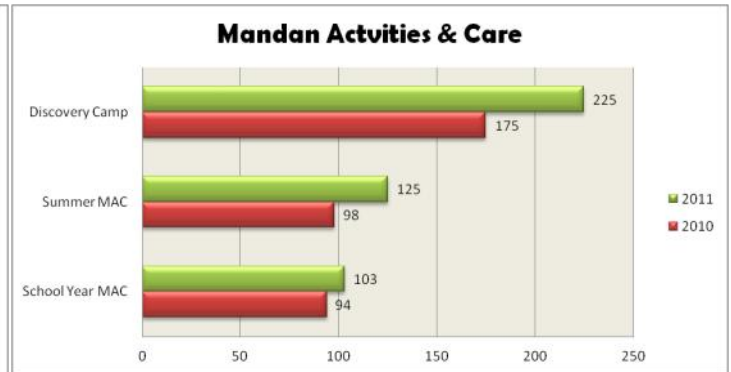
The fall, winter programs have been very consistent with their numbers in 2011 compared to years past. We have increased by 15 students in our school year MAC program. The adult sports have had solid numbers for the year. Kickball has increased a few teams this year. This is a sport that people are very interested in. We had about 26 teams participating this past year.

The Mandan Aquatic Center relationship between the School and the Park District has gotten a lot better in 2011. I think people know their roles and not pointing fingers anymore. We have also added open gym at the Brave Center. This program will run from December through March each year. Last year we had open gym at Lewis & Clark.

Kelly and Kara who also work in the recreation department did a very nice job with their programs and promoting the Mandan Parks & Recreation. We were sad to hear, but Kelly Benzinger, who had been with us for 41/2 years resigned in December. We quickly made some adjustments and hired Dani Schwartz, who will work in the recreation department and assist with accounting. Dani has been around the district for awhile and is not new to many of the recreation programs that we offer. We are excited to have Dani on board with us. It should make for a nice addition in 2012.

2011 Recreation Department Revenue by Program







*What does
Mandan Parks & Recreation
Provide the City of Mandan?*

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485 Acres of Green Space

2011 Tournaments & Events

- State Class B High School Baseball Tournament
- Men's Division I, II, III Adult Softball Tournament
- Men's 40 & 60 State Softball Tournaments
- Women's C-D State Softball Tournament
- McQuades Softball Tournament 170 teams
- 3 Invitational Men's Softball Tournaments
- 13-14 year old Invitational Baseball Tournament
- 14 year old West Divisional Baseball Tournament
- 11 year old state Cal Ripken Baseball Tournament
- Jr. Legion State Baseball Tournament
- West Region Boy's Soccer Tournament
- State High School Boy's Soccer Tournament
- Winter Daze Volleyball Tournament-20 teams
- NDGA State Jr. Golf Event-Prairie West Golf Course
- Class B Regional Qualifier Golf Tournament - PW
- 2 Cross Country Meets at Municipal Golf Course
- Mandan Invite - Prairie West Golf Course
- Dale Barreth Adult Hockey Tournament - ASA
- 12 Mandan Horse and Saddle Club Events
- 15 Races at Dacotah Centennial Park
- 2 Demo Derbys at Dacotah Centennial Park
- 1 Monster Truck Show at Dacotah Centennial Park
- 3 days of Rodeo at Dacotah Centennial Park

**summer & afterschool
mag programs**

**Cross
Country
Skiing**

Sledding at Eagles Park

Adult Recreation Programs including

Basketball, Volleyball & Softball

30+ Miles of Paved Trails

**ANNUAL
WINTER DAZE
EVENTS**

**Youth Sports
to keep our
kids healthy!**

**27 Free Holes
Of Frisbee Golf!**

2 beautiful golf courses

**Indoor Swimming at
Mandan Aquatic Center**

5+ miles of Mountain Bike Trails

**Horseshoe Pits at
Eagles & Legion Parks**