

DISCOVERING

HUMBOLDT PARK



SENIOR PARK RANGER PROGRAM

AGES 8, 9 AND 10 YEARS OLD

NAME

DATE

BROUGHT TO YOU BY HUMBOLDT PARK FRIENDS

Have fun....Explore your park....Earn a patch!!

ACTIVITY



MARKER

As you tour your park this booklet has 17 exciting things you can do to learn about Humboldt Park. As you complete the activities check them off.

WHEN YOU HAVE COMPLETED 13 OF THE 17 YOU CAN EARN A SPECIAL SENIOR PARK RANGER PATCH.



Park Map - Learn about history of park and boundaries.



Baseball Field - Learn about America's sport.



Chalet - Discover music on Tuesday nights at our chalet.



Lagoon - Home to many plants and animals.



Lily Pond - Look for Frogs and Turtles.



Playground - Build your muscles and have fun.



Pavilion - The headquarters of the Park.



Tennis Courts- Can you play Tennis?



Multi-Gym - Have fun as you build your muscles.



War Memorial - Honoring those who died during WWI



Squirrels - How many can you see in the park?



Trees - Your Park has many types of trees.



Insects - Track down some of Nature's smallest creatures.



Birds - Discover our feathered friends who live in the park. Shapes



Texture Hike - Find things in the park.



Try a two foot hike - Learn about a small part of our park



4TH of July Celebration - Celebrate our nation's birthday in our park.

To complete this booklet you will need to bring a pencil, crayons every time you and your parent visit Humboldt Park. Take as much time as you need to do the activities.

Look on the last page on how to get your SENIOR PARK RANGER PATCH!



A SHORT HISTORY OF OUR PARK

Humboldt Park is one of six parks created when the city of Milwaukee established a Parks Commission in 1890. The park was originally named South Park and opened to the public in 1891. Its original 45 acres were completely fenced in. In 1900, the park was renamed Humboldt Park in honor of Friedrich **Wilhelm Heinrich Alexander Von Humboldt**, a Prussian geographer and naturalist who did extensive work on botanical geography.

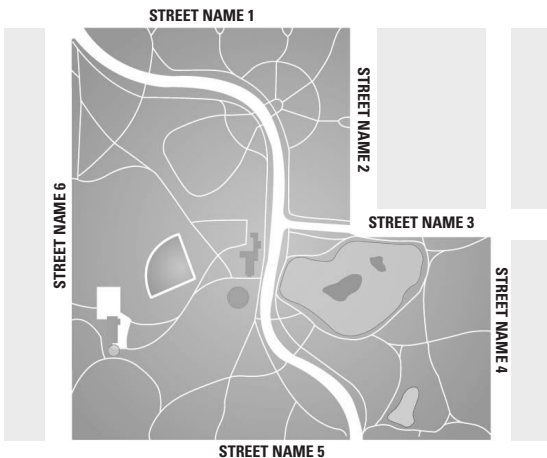
The World War One memorial, located just west of the lily pond, was dedicated in 1921 honoring soldiers of Bay View who died in the war between 1917 and 1918. Additional land was acquired in 1922 bringing the park to its current size of roughly 71 acres.

Two landmarks were constructed by the WPD during the Great Depression: the current farmhouse style pavilion and the original Art Deco style band shell.

Unfortunately in 1975 the original band shell fell victim to arson and was destroyed by fire. As result, the current Swiss chalet band shell was built and dedicated in 1977.



NAME THE STREETS THAT FORM THE BOUNDARIES OF YOUR PARK



1.
2.
3.
4.
5.

Be careful when you cross the streets to come to the park. *Look both ways and cross at intersections.*



KEN KELTNER BASEBALL FIELD

Humboldt Park has a baseball field that is used during the spring and summer. It is a regulation fast pitch hard ball field. The bases are 90 feet apart. The field is named for Ken Keltner (October 31, 1916 – December 12, 1991) an American professional baseball player. He played almost his entire Major League Baseball career as a third baseman with the Cleveland Indians, until his final season when he played 13 games for the Boston Red Sox. He batted and threw right-handed. Keltner is remembered for being one of the best fielding third basemen in the 1940s and for helping to end Joe DiMaggio's 56-game hitting streak on July 17, 1941. Born in Milwaukee, Wisconsin, Keltner began his professional baseball career in 1936 playing for his hometown team, the Milwaukee Brewers, then a minor league team.



PLAY BALL!

Pretend you are batting and hit the ball. See how fast you can run from home plate to first base.

Then see if you can run around all the bases for a HOME RUN!

Run from home to first base.

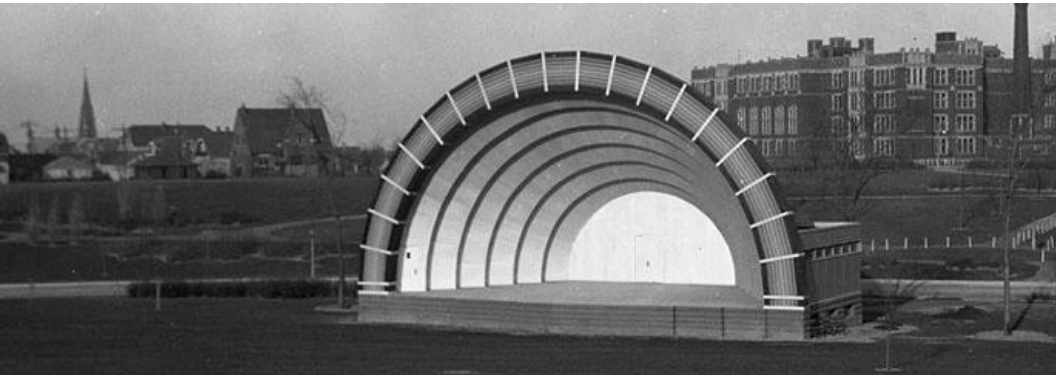
Run around the bases for a home run.

Play catch by throwing a ball from the pitcher's mound to home plate. Pretend you are pitching in a game.





HUMBOLDT PARK CHALET



Originally your park had a band shell which was built in the 1930's. Unfortunately in 1975 the original band shell fell victim to arson and was destroyed by fire. As result, the current Swiss chalet was built and dedicated in 1977.

The Humboldt Park Chalet is the place to be on Tuesday nights during the summer when the Bay View Neighborhood Association sponsors CHILL ON THE HILL. Featured is different music every Tuesday.



CHILL AND DRAW

Have you ever attended a CHILL ON THE HILL?

What type of music was played on the night you attended?

Can you draw a picture of the current Chalet below?



HUMBOLDT PARK LAGOON

The main lagoon provides a natural center point to Humboldt Park. There are two islands in the lagoon. The lagoon is stocked with fish each year. Fishing licenses are required for adults. In our lagoon you can watch many birds and animals. Take a hike around the lagoon and note what birds, animals and plants you see in and near the lagoon. Be careful, don't venture too near the edge otherwise you might slip in. Have you ever fished in the lagoon? If not maybe you and your parents could see if you can catch a fish.

Did you notice all the cattails growing around the lagoon? Some of them are an invasive species which Humboldt Park Friends will be trying to eliminate in the near future.



DRAW A PICTURE OF A CATTAIL

The lagoon is used all year round. In the winter have you ever skated on the ice of the lagoon? If you do be sure to wait until the light tells you that the ice is deep enough for skating.

Have you fallen down while ice skating? Don't feel bad, everyone does once in a while. Also in the winter there is a day when you can learn about ice fishing on the lagoon. Watch the paper for the day this takes place.



LILY OR LOTUS POND

Between the lagoon and Oklahoma, east of the War Memorial is our park's Lily Pond. Sometimes it is referred to as the Lotus Pond. There are many plants and animals which live in and around this small pond.

Turtles and frogs are quite often seen in this pond. Dragonflies are seen flying over the pond looking for mosquitoes which they eat. So remember never kill a dragonfly, they are our friends as they eat mosquitoes.



Draw a picture of the animals and insects you see in the pond.



PLAYGROUNDS

Humboldt Park has two playgrounds for children to play on. Near the wading pool is a smaller playground designed for younger children. South of the Pavilion is the larger one for older children. Both feature many different activities to keep children busy.

Playgrounds help to build muscles in children and are designed for fun. Take some time to have fun on one of these playgrounds and then draw a picture below of your favorite piece of playground equipment.



Take some time to have fun on one of these playgrounds and then draw a picture below of your favorite piece of playground equipment.



PARK PAVILION



The original boathouse was replaced in 1910 with larger, two story pavilion. A bridge extended from the second floor to the lagoon's larger island. When walking around the lagoon, the foundation of the bridge can still be viewed on the south part of the island. Two landmarks were constructed by the WPD during the Great Depression: the current farmhouse style pavilion and the original Art Deco style band shell. The park pavilion is available for rental for parties and weddings. In October Humboldt Park Friends uses it for TREE DAY. In late October the Bay View Neighborhood Association uses it for the PUMPKIN PAVILION. Have you ever attended an event in the pavilion?



MAKE A LIST OF THE EVENTS YOU HAVE ATTENDED AT THE PAVILION.

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TENNIS COURTS

Humboldt Park has several tennis courts for use by people. These are used mainly in the summer but sometimes used in spring and fall as long as the weather is nice.



With your parent pace off the length and width of the courts

to see how large one court is. You can use a tape measure if you want.

Length Height

How high is the net?

Have you ever tried to play tennis?

If your family has a tennis racket and a tennis ball see if you can serve over the net. If your family has two rackets, try to play just hitting the ball back and forth over the net.

Ask you parent or with your parent surf the net to find out how tennis is scored. Write down what you found out below.

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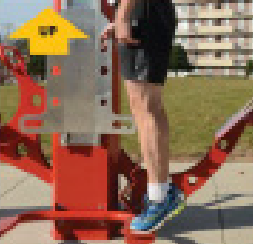



MULTI-GYM

Humboldt Park has a Multigym located between the Pavilion and the baseball field. There are several exercises you and your parent can do on this gym. Below are pictures of several of them. Check off the exercises you have tried to do with your parent.

<p>START POSITION</p> 	<p>Cardio Squat Station</p> <p>Exercises thighs, hamstrings & cardio system.</p> <p>FOR BEST RESULTS</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• 3 sets• 10 reps	<p>FINISH POSITION</p> 
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<p>START POSITION</p> 	<p>Back Extension Station</p> <p>Exercises lower back, buttocks & hamstrings.</p> <p>FOR BEST RESULTS</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• 3 sets• 10 reps	<p>FINISH POSITION</p> 
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<p>START POSITION</p> 	<p>Calf Raise Station</p> <p>Exercises calves.</p> <p>FOR BEST RESULTS</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• 3 sets• 10 reps	<p>FINISH POSITION</p> 
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<p>START POSITION</p> 	<p>Chin Up Assist Station</p> <p>Exercises biceps & upper back.</p> <p>FOR BEST RESULTS</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• 3 sets• 10 reps	<p>FINISH POSITION</p> 
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WORLD WAR 1 MEMORIAL



Located on the south side of the park, just east of Park Road on a small hill is the World War 1 Memorial dedicated to men from the Bay View Area who were killed during the Great War.

The memorial was dedicated in 1921 and lists the names of those who died during that war.

While you are there please take a moment of silence to honor those who died during that war and all the other wars.



Look up to the top of the Memorial; can you identify the bird on the top of the Memorial?

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Either you or your parent can read the plaque located inside the Memorial.

List a few of the names on the plaque.

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.....
.....



LOOK FOR SQUIRRELS

1. Squirrels can find food buried beneath a foot of snow.

Food is important during the cold winter months for squirrels. It makes sense, therefore, that some species are able to smell food under a foot of snow. The squirrel will then dig a tunnel under the snow, following the scent to their (or another squirrel's) buried treasure.

2. A squirrel's front teeth never stop growing.

This is a common characteristic of other rodents, as well. The word "rodent" actually derives from the Latin "rodere," which means to gnaw.

3. Squirrels may lose 25% of their buried food to thieves.

And that's just from members of their own species! Scatter hoarders (squirrels with multiple caches of food) have a difficult time keeping an eye on all of their hidden food. Fellow squirrels or birds often take advantage of this for a free meal.

4. They zigzag to escape predators.

When squirrels feel threatened, they run away in a zigzag pattern. This is an incredibly useful strategy to escape hawks and other predators. Unfortunately, it doesn't work so well on cars. Consider slowing down and giving squirrels a brake!

5. Squirrels may pretend to bury a nut to throw off potential thieves.

Squirrels have been observed engaging in "deceptive caching." This is where a squirrel digs a hole and vigorously covers it up again, but without depositing the nut. It seems this is done to throw off potential food thieves.

6. A newborn squirrel is about an inch long.

If you come across one of these itty-bitty baby squirrels, please consult these resources, which will advise you what to do. That will help give the baby squirrel its best chance at survival.

7. Humans introduced squirrels to most of our major city parks.

The story about why U.S. parks are full of squirrels is truly fascinating and worth a read.



8. Squirrels are acrobatic, intelligent and adaptable.

If you're not convinced, try to hang a bird feeder without these bandits giving you a challenge.

9. They get bulky to stay warm during the winter.

Putting on some extra weight is one strategy squirrels use to stay warm during the cold winter months.

10. Squirrels don't dig up all of their buried nuts, which results in more trees!

They have accidentally contributed countless trees to our nation's forests. If you ask me, that's a pretty great reason to appreciate squirrels.



How many squirrels did you see in the park?

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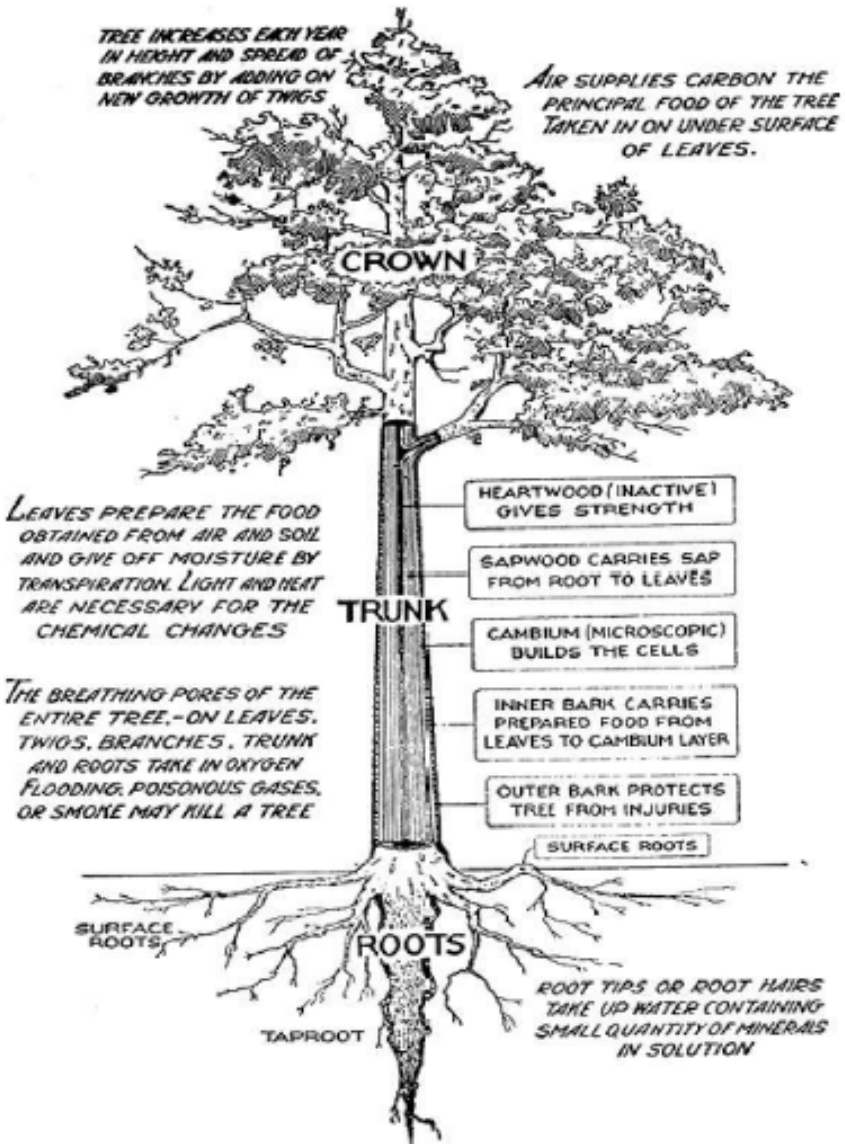
HUMBOLDT PARK TREES

There are many different types of trees in your park. As you tour the park see how many trees you can identify. The easiest way to identify trees is by their leaves.



Did you know that there are many parts to a tree?

Using the diagram below see if you can identify the parts on one of the trees in our park.





INSECTS OF HUMBOLDT PARK

Insects are all around us, they make up more than half of all living things on the planet. There are more than a million known insect species and there are probably many more waiting to be discovered. True insects are those that are classified in the Class 'Insecta'. They are a major group of arthropods (a type of invertebrate, animals that lack a backbone), and the most diverse group of animals on the Earth. Insects rank among the most successful animals on our planet. The study of insects is called 'entomology'. All insects have a hard exoskeleton (external skeleton) and a 3 part segmented body inclusive of a head, thorax and abdomen. They have 3 pairs of jointed legs, compound eyes and 2 antennae. The legs (and wings, if applicable) are attached to the thorax. Insects breathe through holes called spiracles. Insects are also characterized by the following characteristics:

- They have six legs (the term 'Hexapoda' means: 'hexa'-six and 'poda'-feet).
- Most insects have wings and form the largest part of the subphylum 'hexapoda'.
- Their life cycles generally consists of these stages: egg, larva and adult, known as 'metamorphosis'.

As you tour our park, keep an eye out for insects. Remember there is a difference between insects and other bugs such as spiders and centipedes.



Draw a picture of the most interesting insect you find in the park

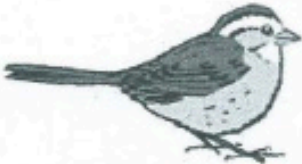
Do you know what the Wisconsin State Insect is? _____

Answer is on last page.

SOME BIRDS YOU MIGHT SEE IN OUR PARK.



Robin



Sparrow



Goose



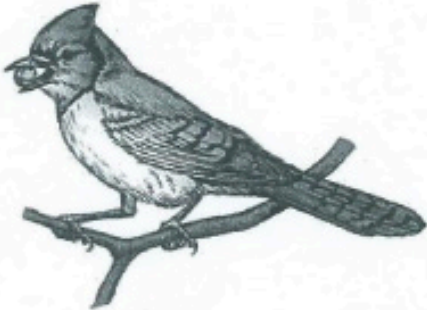
Seagull



Duck



Goldfinch



Blue jay



Cardinal



TEXTURE HIKE

Discover that nature has many textures. Have you ever looked around to see how many different textures are in your park. Take a texture hike in your park and see how many textures you can find.



How it Works: Bring a piece of crayon without the wrapper and some blank sheets of paper.

Feel natural objects along the trail. When you find an interesting texture pattern make a rubbing by placing the paper over the object and rubbing across the paper with the side of the crayon while pressing downward.

Try to fill the paper with as many different textures as possible. Compare your rubbings and share your favorites with your parents at the end of the hike.

Notes: A clipboard, an old cookie sheet, or a magazine can help provide a solid surface for doing rubbings of soft objects such as leaves. Be sure to leave natural objects where you find them



What object had your favorite texture?



TWO FOOT HIKE

Things you will need to bring:

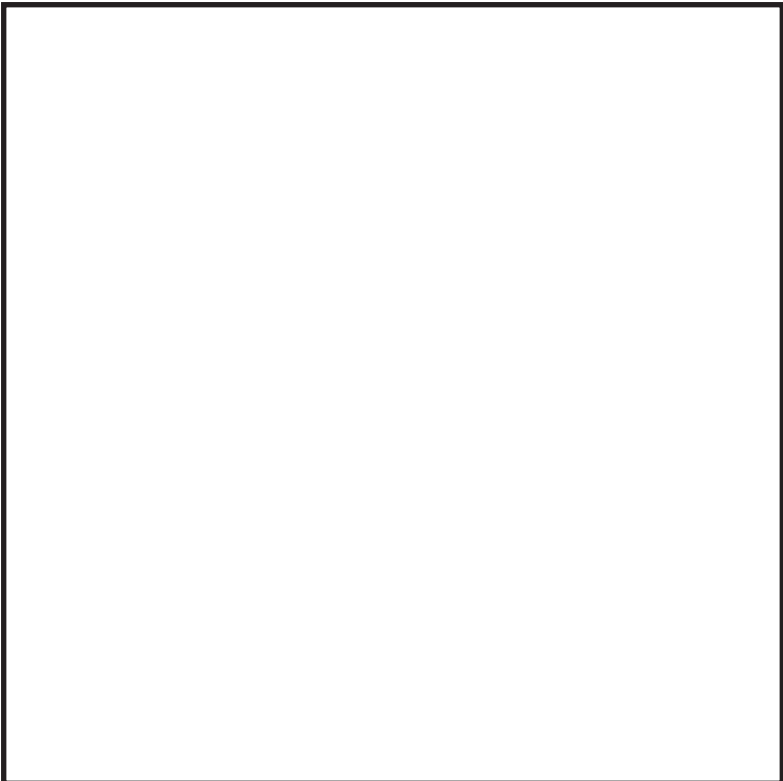
- A Magnifying glass (one your parent is willing to let you use).
- A pen or pencil to write with.
- A magazine/notebook/clipboard to write on.

With your adult partner select a two foot square section of the park. You can mark it off with string.

Spend about 5 minutes looking at your square making notes on what you see. Then using the magnifying glass spend another ten minutes looking at things in your square. Do things look different through the magnifying glass?



In the square below draw what you see in your square.





4th of JULY CELEBRATION

Humboldt Park has the oldest and best 4th of July Celebrations in any of the County Parks. Thanks to a group of dedicated volunteers, your park has a parade, children's games, contests, entertainment and the best fireworks display on the 4th in the county.

YES

NO

Have you ever marched in the parade?

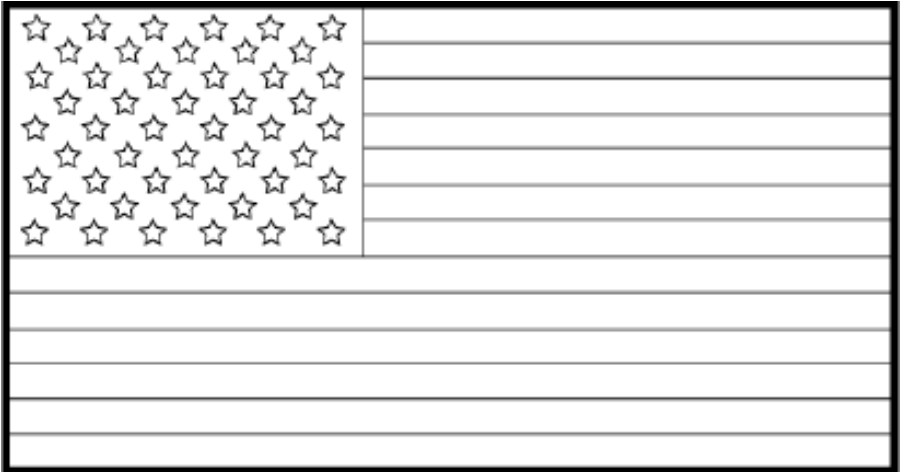
Have you entered one of the contests?

Have you enjoyed the fireworks?

You and your family are invited to enjoy the festivities on the 4th of July with us at Humboldt Park.



Color the United States Flag.



If your family would like to help organize the 4th of July Celebration, please come to a meeting on the committee on the first Wednesday of each month January to July at 7:00 PM in the Park Pavilion.

LAST REQUIREMENT AND PLEDGE

The last requirement to become a Humboldt Park Junior Park Ranger is to help keep our park clean.



**You and your parent must spend some time to clean up our park.
You need to pick up 50 or more pieces of trash from the ground in our park.
When you have completed this project, sign and date below.**

ON _____ I CLEANED UP MY PARK AND PICKED UP 50 PIECES OF TRASH.

SIGN NAME BELOW

Now all you have to do is to bring this booklet and a parent to a meeting of Humboldt Park Friends on the first Thursday of each month at 7:00 PM in the pavilion or at any Humboldt Park Friends event. (See HPF website for a list of events.) After you take the pledge you will receive your patch.

This is the pledge you will take:

**“As a Senior Park Ranger, I promise to explore our park,
help keep it clean and help preserve and protect Humboldt
Park so future generations can enjoy the park. ”**

This program sponsored by Humboldt Park Friends. For more information about HPF visit <http://www.humboldtparkmilwaukee.org/> or email us at info@humboldtparkmilwaukee.com

THANK YOU



State insect for Wisconsin is the Honey Bee



Thank you for participating in the Humboldt Park Ranger Program. This program would not be possible without the generous donations of our board, members and volunteers. A special thank you to Myron Thomsen for gathering all the materials for these books. Please consider becoming a member or donating by visiting [*www.humboldtparkmilwaukee.org/donate*](http://www.humboldtparkmilwaukee.org/donate)

About Humboldt Park Friends

Humboldt Park Friends is a non-profit organization focused on engaging the Bay View neighborhood and greater Milwaukee communities and fostering park stewardship through volunteering, preserving park history, improving park amenities and safety, and sponsoring events and programming for education and enjoyment of Humboldt Park.