Kids Play Green!

The Campaign for North Pond

ADOPT A NATURAL PLAYSCAPE COMPONENT
Welcome to the new world of playgrounds!

Well, it isn’t really “new,” in fact, our Natural Playscape at the North Pond Nature Sanctuary is all about getting back to basics. Some of my fondest childhood memories that center around play, all seem to be rooted in the freedom of exploring the outside world. In those unsupervised moments of watching a bird build a nest, jumping in a pile of autumn leaves, or chasing fireflies in those precious few minutes before sunset and then taking them home in a jar—these are the play memories we cherish the most. We imagine you have similar memories.

In today’s digital (and sometimes dangerous) world, city kids often don’t get the chance to have those blissful and important moments to connect with the earth and its wild inhabitants. Feeling part of the world starts with the freedom to discover it—in a safe way, of course. So we have created a fenced playground that is like nothing else in Chicago. We’ve designed a playscape that reflects the wonders that can be found at the nearby North Pond Nature Sanctuary. It will blend some traditional equipment with natural play features and be filled with shade trees and plants. Certain features, such as willow tunnels, will be changed every few years, to provide frequent visitors with the opportunity to make fresh discoveries.

We invite you to partner with us on this exciting and much-needed park amenity. Medical research has found that regular exposure to outdoor nature settings can reduce ADHD symptoms, increase standardized test scores, improve critical thinking, and reduce stress, anxiety and depression. It’s not bad for us parents and grandparents either! Flip through these pages and remember the world of outdoor play.

The Board of Directors
Lincoln Park Conservancy

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Donor Recognition

Your donation allows us to purchase or create the unique play components you are about to see. All donors who adopt a playscape component will be recognized on one donor recognition plaque located at the main entrance to the Lincoln Park Conservancy’s new Sunshine Playscape.
An Artist’s Rendering of the new Sunshine Playscape
An Artist’s Rendering of the new Sunshine Playscape
THE HILLSIDE SLIDES & ROCK SCRAMBLE

$100,000

A man-made hill will boast two slides—and big, curvy one for the older kids and a smaller one for the tots. Kids can opt to run up the hill to get to the top of the slides or use ADA accessible stairs. The accessible steps and a handrail at the back of the hill make it easier for parents and grandparents to rescue children from the top.
THE GATHERING SPACE

$40,000

A place to gather, have birthday parties, and educational moments through new Lincoln Park Conservancy kid’s programs. Circular seating with two levels provides integrated seating (example at right) for groups and neighborhood pre-schools. The concrete floor will feature yellow rays of sunshine—an homage to the play-
**THE DRY CREEK BED, BRIDGE, AND FARM PUMP**

$35,000

Kids can pump water into the creek bed to watch how water moves over the smooth river stones, or dip their hands or feet in the clean water on a hot day. This “creek” mimics the real creek that will be a feature in North Pond’s new 7-acre woodland to be added to the park in Phase 3 of the project.
THE MAIN PATH WITH POND ANIMAL TRACKS

$50,000

The main path through the center of the playscape will feature a series of animal tracks representing wildlife that can be seen at the North Pond Nature Sanctuary.—from mammals to herons.
THE SIDEWAYS TREE CLIMBER & LOG STEPPING ROUNDS

$45,000

Chicago has many trees, but few that are fit for kids to climb. This fun feature remedies that. It’s a real tree anchored safely to the ground. Leading up to the sideways tree is a balance feature custom-made from a real tree.
THE HOLLOW LOG

$25,000

Made from a real tree, this is a place for tots to crawl under and older kids to balance on, or jump off, while exploring tree rings, tree knots, and the feel of wood.
THE SUN DIAL

$9,000

Related to our nature and sunshine themes, this simple Analemmatic Sundial uses a child’s own shadow to measure the time in hours, weeks and months. It’s math, science and fun.
TODDLER & ADA SWING SET
$20,000

A traditional swing set that fits the playscape’s nature theme with a wood-covered A-frame that contains four swings including one that is ADA accessible.
BIG KIDS’ SWING SET

$20,000

A traditional swing set that fits the playscape’s nature theme with a wood-covered A-frame that contains two swings.
The “Messy Materials” Area is a flexible space where natural materials (stumps, cut branches, and logs) can be brought in with each season. The space will host programmed education events and includes a sand table.
THE CARVED LOG CHAIR
$7,500

Carved from a real tree, this large chair is part art and part function. We imagine kids sitting and climbing on it, storytellers reading from it, and plenty of beautiful family photo opportunities.

SOLD

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THE IMAGINATION LOG SHELTER

$6,500

Sized perfectly for kids 2-5, this natural shelter can be a cabin, a farmhouse kitchen, a treehouse, or the perfect fort—it’s all about imagination.

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Restoring Lincoln Park’s Art, Architecture and Nature Since 1984
2000 N. Racine, Suite 4800, Chicago, IL  60614
(773) 883-PARK
www.LincolnParkConservancy.org
TEEPEE

$6,000

Made by an artist from real branches, the teepee will be both a play feature and a trellis for climbing plants. Our Kids Garden Club will help choose and plant the teepee. This is a semi-permanent feature expected to last one or two years.
THE WILLOW TUNNELS

$5,000

SOLD
THE MONKEY BARS

$5,000

SOLD
THE ARBOR SWING (for parents with infants)

$3,500

A place where parents with infants can relax in the shade and gently rock their child in the outdoors. Conveniently placed near the tots play areas for unobstructed sight-lines. Arbor can be planted with climbing vines.
THE TREE STUMP TEA PARTY

$6,000

Made from real trees, this natural table and three tree-stump chairs is the perfect place for a tea party or to play games. The fourth place at the table accommodates a child-sized wheelchair.
THE CAVE & GRASSY MOUND

$3,500

This special place, sized just for kids, is nestled into a grassy mound—a perfect hide-out for playing hide n’ seek. Kids can also climb across or jump off the top of the cave, or run up and roll down the grassy mound behind it.
NEW NATIVE TREES (28 AVAILABLE)

$600 EACH

BUR OAK
CHINKAPIN OAK
QUAKING ASPEN
HACKBERRY
REDBUD TREE
WHITE OAK
SHUMARD OAK
NEW NATIVE PLANTS

$100 for Four Quart-Size Plants
(Plant species shown are only examples)
Thank You

Expense Land

Name on Card (Print)

Account Number

Credit Card

Please call for assistance (720) 833-7775

Payment Information

Date

Name

Donor Signature(s) for Pledges

My name is Doug Widener.

Donors who adopt a prairie landscape will be recognized on our donor recognition page located at the main entrance to the prairie. Please let us know you would like your name(s) to be included.

Recognition

$1,000 Donation

$5,000 Donation

$10,000 Donation

$25,000 Donation

$50,000 Donation

Plaque(s) Considered

Donor Gifts

Phone

Email Address

City

Zip

Donor Information

Prairie Landscape Donation Form

Douglas Widener