



## Parks & Public Lands

# Newsletter

## Parks, Natural Lands, Urban Forestry, and Trails

---

### Trails & Natural Lands Hires a Botanist



Earlier this year, the Trails & Natural Lands Division hired a part-time botanist, Blake Wellard, to create a native plant propagation program and to provide general botanical assistance for the management of the Division's open space properties. Wellard is a local botanist who has dedicated twelve years of research to studying Utah plant species and ecosystems. Wellard was responsible for the discovery of a new species of claret cup cactus (*Echinocereus relictus*) and a new species of wire lettuce (*Stephanomeria occultata*) while pursuing a master's degree at the University of Utah in Plant Geography. While his expertise is extensive, Wellard admits to a special affinity for wetland plants and their ecosystems.

[Read More...](#)

---

### Salt Lake City Regional Athletic Complex and Cemetery Recognized as Best of State Awardees

**WINNER**  
BEST OF STATE



**UTAH 2019**

Two Salt Lake City Public Lands programs recently received recognition from Utah's annual Best of State Awards program.

The Salt Lake City Regional Athletic Complex (RAC) was named the best sports complex in Utah by Best of State. The RAC offers sixteen all-natural, state-of-the-art athletic fields spanning 120 acres in the northwest corner of the city.

Best of State also named the Salt Lake City Cemetery the best historic site in Utah in 2019. The Salt Lake City Cemetery began operations in 1849 and is currently the largest municipal cemetery in the United States.

[Read More...](#)

---

## Living Traditions Festival

The Living Traditions Festival is coming soon, May 17th to 19th! All the festivities will be held at Library Square this year, unlike previous years, where the festival was held on Washington Square.



Also, this year's FREE festival will feature over 90 performing groups on 4 stages, 22 food vendors with delightful cuisines from around the world, craft artists, cooking demonstrations, hands on workshops and an expanded Kids Area.

Bring the whole family for 3 days of food, crafts, performances and more at the 34th Annual Living Traditions Festival! For more information and volunteer opportunities, please visit [livingtraditionsfestival.com](http://livingtraditionsfestival.com).

---

## Parks and Public Lands, Project Updates

### Warm Spring Park, New Restroom

Salt Lake City Parks Division will be re-constructing the restroom at Warm Springs Park. The old restroom will be demolished and the new, re-designed restroom will be constructed at the same location. Construction is expected to begin this summer after the appropriate construction permits have been awarded to the contractor.

### Pioneer Park, Multi-Use Field, Pathway, and Lighting Project

Due to a very wet winter and early spring, the installation of sod for the new multi-purpose field has been delayed. The contractor will continue grading and leveling the field area as weather improves, then the sod will be installed. These schedule changes are not expected to impact the grand opening in mid-August, 2019. The Saturday Farmers Market will continue opening June 8<sup>th</sup> 2019.

### Rosewood Park, New Off-Leash Dog Area

Salt Lake City Parks and Public Lands recently selected a contractor to install a new off-leash dog area at Rosewood Park. The dog park will be located at the north end of the park. Construction of the new off-leash area will begin this summer and is expected to be complete in May 2019. New amenities include a new drinking fountain and two shade structures.

### Redwood Meadows Park, New Playground

Salt Lake City Parks Division is adding a second playground at Redwood Meadows Park. This addition of a new playground is supported by the Jordan Meadows Community Council and will help activate the middle section of the park. The final design for the playground is currently being reviewed and construction is expected to begin this summer.

### Regional Athletic Complex, Various Projects

The Regional Athletic Complex (RAC) is in the process of constructing several new amenities including a new maintenance building, restroom & comfort station, and installing athletic lighting on two fields. Construction for each new amenity is underway; completion dates are dependent on supply availability and weather conditions. The restroom & comfort station will provide close by restroom accessibility for eight fields and provide space for food vending machines, and water bottle refill stations. Additionally, funding has been awarded for the installation of new shade structures; the structures are currently being designed and expected to be placed near the existing restroom & comfort station.

### 9Line Bike Park, Upgrades

Salt Lake City Trails and Natural Lands has recently completed a series of upgrades to the 9Line Bike Park to improve riding surfaces after the long winter. The bike park will officially re-open to the public on April 23<sup>rd</sup> following these improvements. In addition the Salt Lake City Arts Council has an open call out for a public art opportunity at the park. For more information please go to their website at <http://saltlakepublicart.org/for-artists/calls-for-artists/>

### Poplar Grove Park, Restroom Remodel

Parks and Public Lands staff recently completed a remodel of the restrooms at Poplar Grove Park. The remodel employs the CPTED (Crime Prevention Through Environmental Design) strategy by increasing visibility to the restrooms, which should discourage camping and illicit activity. We hope these changes will improve the cleanliness and safety of Poplar Grove Park. The restroom is currently open and fully operational.

Photo: Remodeled Poplar Grove Park Restroom

Photo: Old Poplar Grove Park Restroom



---

## Become a Friend of Fairmont Park

The Friends of Fairmont Park Group will hold a general interest meeting on May 2, 2019. Discuss and bring ideas about new ways to improve the park, learn about recent and upcoming projects, and connect with neighbors and the District 7 Park Advisory Board Member.

### Kick-Off Meeting

Date/Time: May 2, 2019 from 6:00pm – 6:45pm

Location: Fairmont Park at the North Pavilion (near the Fairmont Aquatic Center)

---

Follow us on social media @SLCPPL and keep an eye on future newsletters for more project updates.



**Parks and Public Lands is hiring seasonal and part-time employees. To learn about open positions call 801-972-7829 or visit [www.slc.gov/jobs](http://www.slc.gov/jobs)**