

# PARK IMPROVEMENTS

## Walking Trails

### Fairmount Trail Final Phase:

The Fairmount trail is just over one mile in length connecting Fairmount Park to the Fairmount shopping district. The final phase will fill in the last ½ mile gap between the park and the shopping district. Design work is nearly complete and the project is planned to be complete in the summer of 2009. The trail will provide a place to walk in an area of the city that has few sidewalks.

## Rock Creek Trail

Work is continuing on the Rock Creek Trail! Rain slowed the progress of the trail this past spring. However contractors are working hard to make up for lost time. The four prefabricated bridges will soon be installed, followed by the installation of the trail material. This first phase of the Rock Creek Trail runs from Rotary Park to Country Club Park and will be ready for use by next spring.

## Little Blue Trace Trail

The City of Independence Parks & Recreation Department, in partnership with Jackson County Parks & Recreation, has been working on extending the Little Blue Trace Trail three miles to the south of Interstate 70. This project will connect the Hartman Heritage Center with The Eastland Center and on south to Lee's Summit Road where a new parking area will be constructed. Construction has been moved to the spring of 2009.

## Independence Athletic Complex

The new Independence Athletic Complex opened its gates to the public on July 18th. The new shelter and playground is complete with a ¼ mile loop trail and parking. The ball fields will be open for play in the spring of 2009.

## Waterfall Park

Take a drive out to I-470 and 40 Highway to Independence's newest park. Waterfall Park opened this spring complete with two play areas a large event shelter, ¼ mile loop trail, lake pier, picnic grove, restrooms and parking area. The park includes an 18 acre lake and two water falls. The park is located south of the Bass Pro Shops. The park's natural areas and walking trail extends west to a trail head located at Lee's Summit Road and Bass Pro Drive.

## Santa Fe Park

This summer the Santa Fe Tennis Courts received a complete overlay. The nets were repaired, expansion joints were cleaned and filled, new surface was applied on all 12 courts and new lines were painted. Thanks to all the tennis players that were patient while the courts were closed.

The Parks and Recreation Sales Tax, which began in January, 2004, provides funding for a variety of program initiatives and park improvements throughout the community.

## Adopt a Park Program

An opportunity for families, schools, neighborhoods, and organizations to serve their community. Contact Helen Matson at the Independence Volunteer Services Department at 325-7860.



## Independence Park Matching Grant Program

In an attempt to assist those groups and individuals interested in improving facilities throughout our park system, the City of Independence has developed a Matching Grant Program for Park-related improvements. Since the programs inception, a total of 16 different projects have been funded. Contact Parks Administration at 325-7360 for further information concerning this program. We welcome your ideas on how to further improve your Independence Park System.