

Juilfs Park will get a water play area in 2016

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(Photo: Thanks to Anderson Township Park District)

Juilfs Park playground is about to become even bigger and better with the addition of a water play area.

Anderson Township Park District was selected for a NatureWorks grant for \$63,520 which will help cover the total \$123,058 playground expansion cost. The grant is still pending State of Ohio Controlling Board approval of the NatureWorks grants. Additional funding is being provided by Juilfs Foundation and the Anderson Foundation for Parks and Recreation, said Parks Executive Director Ken Kushner. Work on the water play area will not begin until 2016

The popular Juilfs Park playground first opened in 2013, Kushner said. The playground area has always been a phased project with the last phase being the water play area. The location for the water play is currently in a green grass area surrounded by concrete sidewalk.

When finished the water play area will be similar to the sprayground in Beech Acres, Kushner said. "It sprays just enough water to get wet," he said.

While construction on the water play area won't happen for another year, the park district has plenty of other projects planned for 2015 to keep the staff busy.

Kushner said that the playground for Kellogg Park will be finished this year. A matching grant of about \$35,000 received in late 2013 is helping to cover the cost of this project. With the completion of Kellogg Park playground, that will leave Johnson Hills and Clear Creek Parks as the only remaining Anderson Parks without playgrounds, noted Assistant Parks Director Emily Armstrong.

"Our goal is to have playgrounds in all Anderson Parks," she said.

The pickleball courts are going in this year at Clear Creek Park, Armstrong said. A NatureWorks grant is helping to fund this project.

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