



“keep an **eagle eye** on your parks”



IAPD

Illinois Association of Park Districts

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www.ilparks.org

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The Illinois Association of Park Districts' Eagle Eye Neighborhood Park Watch Program is a cooperative effort among park districts, forest preserves, recreation agencies, schools, local police and community residents.

The program encourages community residents to assume more responsibility for the activities taking place in their own neighborhood. Residents keep watch over neighborhood parks to help make them a safe haven for youth.

Implementation of this program effectively prevents crime and vandalism in our parks. And the tremendous value of connecting people to their parks through Eagle Eye is nearly impossible to measure.



www.eagleeye.org

eagle eye

mission statement

The Eagle Eye Neighborhood Park Watch Program is an effort to prevent crime and vandalism to playground and park equipment, to alleviate suspicious activities in parks, and to promote public awareness for parks, recreation and conservation agencies.

www.eagleeye.org





benefits

- Create awareness of activities in parks.
- Instill strong park, recreation and conservation values in our children and encourage them to be responsible park patrons.
- Develop a sense of ownership for neighborhood parks, recreation areas and facilities.
- Empower citizens who use parks and park facilities thereby making them feel comfortable, safe and proud.
- Decrease incidents of vandalism, crime, misuse of park properties and related costs.
- Increase public awareness, cooperation and communication among law enforcement, citizens, community organizations, park districts, forest preserves, recreation and conservation agencies.

www.eagleeye.org

benefits

program outline

The success of the Eagle Eye Neighborhood Park Watch Program is dependent upon four major implementation areas:

Internal Implementation

- staff training
- program management
- data collection and statistical analysis
- promotion and media relations

Community Involvement

- establish Park Advisory Committees
- build neighborhood support

Education and Public Awareness

- educate children through school and/or park activities
- bring awareness to the community with Seemore the Eagle

Partnership Building

- cooperation with law enforcement and other community organizations
- generate sponsorships and donations through community businesses

www.eagleye.org



community resources

Assistance can be obtained to help fund and support your program from various sources including:

- Local service organizations (Jaycees,Knights of Columbus etc.)
- Local Law Enforcement
- Community Groups
- Foundations
- Chamber of Commerce

Don't just take our word for it, here are a few true success stories:

In a joint venture, the Addison Park District split the cost of the program with the **Addison Police Department**.

St. Charles, Missouri Parks and Recreation Department secured funds for the program through the **St. Charles Parks and Recreation Foundation**.

The Lions Club donated \$1,500 to the Park District of Highland Park to purchase the Eagle Eye program.

www.eagleeye.org





Seemore the Eagle

Seemore the Eagle is the mascot who represents the Eagle Eye Neighborhood Park Watch Program. With Seemore's assistance, children are taught about the importance of proper behavior in parks and how to take care of park property and equipment.

Seemore's "Eagle Eyes"

Seemore visits schools and recreation sites to encourage children to be observant and responsible park patrons and to tell their parents if they witness wrongful activities.

With Seemore's help, children learn to "see" the value of parks, recreation facilities and programs in their lives.

They learn their parks are worthy of preserving and protecting as safe places to enjoy and have fun.

www.eagleeye.org



Seemore

cost benefits

Vandalism is an issue in every community. No community or park is immune to this violating and costly behavior. Agencies spend a lot of money cleaning up graffiti, repairing buildings, replacing vandalized equipment, even paying insurance claims to injured patrons. Check out some of these costs:

Sandblasting graffiti	\$1,000 or more
Replacing a picnic table	\$300
Replacing a stolen gas power trimmer	\$350
Replacing a drinking fountain	\$2,400
Replacing a picnic grill	\$365
New playground equipment	\$50,000-\$70,000
Riding lawn mower	\$30,000-\$50,000
Replacing <u>one</u> swing	\$80

Vandalism adds up. Remember, these figures do not include labor costs or claims to an insurance company. You may be thinking that an insurance policy will cover the costs of replacing vandalized equipment. You're right. However, your insurance premiums will surely increase, taking a bigger slice of the budgetary pie for years to come.

For program and pricing options, call the Illinois Association of Park Districts at 217-523-4554.

