

Tree Planting Marks the Arrival of New Victoria Park Bird Zone

Friends of Victoria Park have received just over £2200 from Greening Greater Manchester to create an educational bird feeding area in Victoria Park.

The first phase of this project was a tree planting organised with students from St. Ann's Roman Catholic Infant School. The eight students were from the schools gardening club and were keen horticulturists and got straight to green fingered grips with planting mountain ash, wild service, blackthorn and hawthorn trees. Some of the trees were donated from the Parks and Countryside Service, with the remainder coming from

Partington tree nursery. The children thoroughly enjoyed the day and planted well over thirty trees and even took some away to plant within their school garden.

Further stages of this project will see children take part in bird box making workshops in the park. A new path will link up a wheelchair friendly picnic table and new tactile interpretation panels as well as the addition of owl boxes a bird bath and bird feeders and tables. There will be birdlife inspiration days held in the park with children and visually impaired visitors to mark the launch of this exciting facility.



● Tree planting at Victoria Park

Busy Summer Ahead for Parks Playgrounds

A major programme of play improvement has been planned for Trafford's Parks this summer. These are some of the projects:-

Sale West Estate
'Transforming Your Space'
the Sale West area has been allocated funding through the Lottery New Opportunities Fund with match funding from Irwell Valley Housing Association.

The key themes being

addressed by the funding are improvements to public open space and improved links between open spaces and the housing areas.

In consultation with the residents, construction started early this year with completion scheduled for June.

The Sale West Wood Play Area will be transformed to provide an enclosed play area for 1-8 year olds, with an adventure trail for older

children. The paths are to be improved throughout, together with the construction of grass terraces, and climbing walls. There will be an entrance feature, Community Art Project.

At Manor Avenue Park facilities for teenagers will be upgraded with the provision of new floodlights for the existing 'kick about area'. Grass terracing and contemporary youth activity play units are planned. A play area for younger children will also be provided, together with improved links with the Trans-Pennine Trail.

Section 106 residential development and funding Trafford Capital Disabled Discrimination Act funding will enable complete revamps to be undertaken at the following play areas:-

- Harley Road/Symons Road
- Worthington Park
- Victoria Park
- Halecroft Park

- Gorse Park
- Pickering Lodge
- Bankhall Lane

The schemes will introduce inclusive disabled play equipment and improve overall access. Bark safety surfacing will be replaced with coloured wetpour rubber surfaces to allow easier passage for wheelchair users. A range of stimulating, contemporary equipment will be provided to meet current health and safety standards in consultation with the residents.

At Lostock Park, in consultation with the local community and schools, a new play area will be constructed with funding aid from Fair-Share, the Community Foundation for Greater Manchester.

The design will be exciting and modern, providing a flagship facility for the park and the Lostock residents.



● Plenty of play in Traffords Playgrounds

Widening the M60's Appeal

As works to widen the M60 motorway between junctions 5 and 8 draw to a close in Summer 2006, the results of negotiations between Trafford Council and the Highways Agency can now be seen clearly along the route of the motorway in the form of thousands of newly planted trees, new hedgerows, new ponds and improved recreational links.

The full visual impact of this programme of landscape

works will not be experienced for a number of years. However, once the trees and hedgerows are mature, they will provide effective screening of the motorway, assist with noise attenuation and enhance the ecology and habitat value of the Mersey Valley. These new trees will also contribute to the reduction of pollutants in the atmosphere, whilst bringing further benefits in terms of hydrology and storm management.

Environmental mitigation

and enhancement works have also included the establishment of new ponds at Priory Gardens in Sale, as well as the scheduled improvements to the adjacent Bethell's tip (a former landfill site), which will become a new public open space with a network of footpaths and new trees.

A further scheme carried out in connection with the M60 widening has taken place at Danefield Road pond in Sale, which has benefited from tree thinning works,



new boardwalks and new woodland plants. This site is now being proposed as a Local Nature Reserve.

Recreational links have been improved through the erection of two new bridges and the creation of new links to the Trans Pennine Trail, improving facilities for walkers, cyclists and horse riders.