

FRIENDS OF MARQUETTE PARK

OF THE MCC SHORELINE COMMITTEE WITH LEGACY FOUNDATION

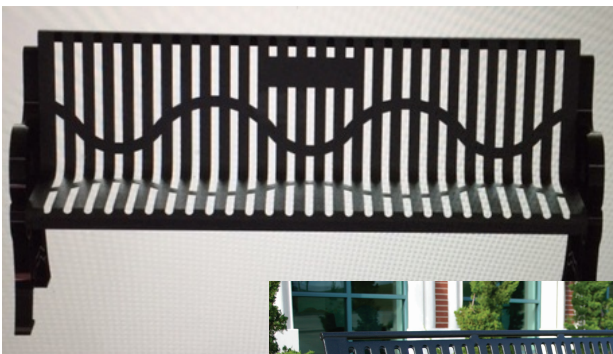
“Friends of Marquette Park”

is now on Facebook, so Like us on Facebook.



See more updates and more photos of our projects by Liking us on FaceBook

Many thanks to Mary Ann Pickford Best creating the Friends of Marquette Park of the MCC Shoreline Committee with Legacy Foundation FB page. Her donation of time and expertise is much appreciated.



Holiday Lights Adorn the Statue Garden

Drive through Marquette Park at night to see our conical junipers decked out in bright lights for the holidays. We couldn't wait for Thanksgiving to turn them on. Think Friends of Marquette Park when you see the lights. Thank you to our faithful volunteers for making this happen - Susan, Joe, Karen, Mary Ann, Alice and Carol.

THANK YOU!

Once again, we thank Charter Members and our new members for supporting Friends of Marquette Park. Our mission is to raise funds for special projects in Marquette Park. Since 2016, our membership has grown to 155 individuals, families and organizations, and our donations have also grown. Your dollars go directly to projects in the park. We are excited about what we have accomplished and what we have planned for 2019.

Our partnership with Legacy Foundation is invaluable. We would not exist without them. We appreciate Legacy Foundation's professionalism, timeliness and reputation as Lake County Indiana's major philanthropic organization.

THANK YOU! THANK YOU!

MEMORIAL BENCH PROJECT - CREATING LASTING MEMORIES IN OUR PARK

Do you have fond memories of spending time in Marquette Park with family and friends? You might consider keeping their memory alive with the donation of a park bench with a commemorative plaque. Due to the requests for memorial benches, we worked with the Park Board of Commissioners to approve the placement of 20 bench locations throughout the park. There is a choice of two styles of metal benches that compliment the current benches in the

park. There will be specially designed benches in the Lagoon Outlook Garden. This fall, we installed 8 concrete pads in preparation for memorial benches. More pads will be poured in the spring of 2019. There is a chance some benches may be installed this year. Many of the bench locations have been reserved. If you are interested in a memorial bench, please contact us for the guidelines and application form. Your donation will also support special projects in the park.

PROJECTS WORKING AND IN THE WORKS

Solar Powered LED Crosswalk Signs

You are now greeted with a flashing crosswalk sign as you drive into Marquette Park at the grand entrance. Just a reminder to slow down and enjoy the holiday lights adorning the junipers at the Statue Garden. Bob, Bob, Big Joe and Russ for making this happen.

Carry-In/Carry-Out Signs

We purchased twenty carry-in/carry-out signs for the easements along the residential area east of Marquette Park to match the signage in the public beach area. These signs will be installed in the spring by the city. Many thanks to all who help keep our beaches, park and dunes clean. Some say the beach is cleaner than it has ever been. Such good news!

Water Safety - A Priority

We are forming a Mayor's Water Safety Advisory Team this winter to prepare for the summer beach season. As always, water safety is a priority. We are looking for interested participants with expertise in water safety to serve on this team. Please contact us, if you or someone you know would like to join us. Meetings will be held from January to April 2019.

"Eternal" Blinking Light Fixed

Virgil Lincoln solved the blinking light

problem along the sidewalk near the beach for the cost of an FMP membership. Terrific!

Think Spring! Painting Lifeguard Stands

We will be getting out the paint brushes when temperatures are above 60 degrees in the spring to paint each lifeguard stand a different color. The distinctive stands will make finding your family on the beach much easier. Adopt a stand and come join the fun. Watch for more details in our next newsletter.

Father Marquette Statue Spring Cleaning

It's time to clean our favorite statue and give him a protective coating and polishing. This is a job for the pros due to the height of the Father Marquette statue. They can do it without falling. Estimates are coming in at \$4,000 even with us arranging for scaffolding. Well worth the price.



HURRAY!

Volunteers make dreams for the park a reality. In 2018, we celebrated the efforts of over 200 volunteers who gave 5,340 total hours to improve our park. That translates to \$106,800 at \$20.00 per hour. Amazing!!



Lagoon and Statue Garden Landscaping

The final trimming of grasses and wildflowers, planting of bulbs, plus edging of lawns for the winter months are finished. We left many seed heads on our native plants for wildlife to enjoy. Kabob Landscaping Service helped along with our faithful volunteers. Brian and John will be removing some camouflaged critters from our large trees.



Save the Date
**3rd Annual Meeting
& Celebration**

May 16, 2019
6:00-8:00 pm

Join Friends of Marquette
Park (FMP) Members
for an enjoyable
outdoor event in the park.



FRIENDS OF MARQUETTE PARK LEVELS OF GIVING

___ \$25+	Flower Garden & Trails Mulch for trails & landscaping
___ \$50+	Shoreline Concrete walkways & stairs
___ \$100+	Pavilion Area Native landscaping for the lagoon
___ \$200+	Fr. Marquette Garden Seasonal displays & gardens
___ \$250+	Boulder Project (cost of one boulder)
___ \$300+	Mighty Oaks Major projects to preserve Marquette Park
___ \$2,000	Memorial Bench in Marquette Park with commemorative plaque
___ Major	Marquette Park Preservation Long-term major projects
___ Other	Shoreline Safety

Please write checks to: Friends of Marquette Park/Legacy Foundation and
Mail to: Friends of Marquette Park, PO Box 2645, Gary, IN 46403

or
Donate online to Legacy Foundation:
www.legacyfdn.org, click on DONATE NOW and search for Friends of Marquette Park
or call Legacy Foundation at 219-736-1880

Legacy Foundation is a 501(c)3 nor-for-profit organization

FMP MEMBERSHIP

You are a supporting member of Friends of Marquette Park through your donation. All members at every level of giving are valuable to us. Your membership entitles you to:

- our seasonal FMP Newsletter
- invitations to our special events
- notification of our Annual Meeting

We send our FMP Newsletters and notifications by email. Please let us know if you need a hard copy sent to you.

We encourage FMP Charter Members to renew their annual membership at the \$100+ level of giving. Thank you for believing in us during our first year of existence and beyond.

Friends of Marquette Park Leaders

Tom Cera	Joe Petras
Susan Cohen	George Rogge
Mary Ann Best	Carol Smith
Linda Halas	

Contact Friends of Marquette Park
at
friendsofmarquettepark@gmail.com

2018 is the Deadliest Year for Great Lakes Drownings

By Audra Gamble Holland (Mich.) Sentinel Nov 10, 2018

This year has been the deadliest on record on the Great Lakes, according to a nonprofit organization that tracks Great Lakes drowning deaths.

The Great Lakes Surf Rescue Project has tracked drowning deaths since 2010, but 2018 is the first year to record more than 100 drownings. A particularly hot summer may have contributed to that record-setting number of tragedies.

So far, 110 people have died in the Great Lakes, including 39 in Lake Michigan and 35 in Lake Erie. Five of the Lake Michigan drownings were in Indiana.

Great Lakes Surf Rescue Project Executive Director Dave Benjamin told The Sentinel in August the summer had multiple weekends with "the perfect storm of conditions" for increased drownings.

Benjamin said warm weekend summer days with high wind and wave conditions make for a dangerous mixture, especially when swimmers ignore red flag warnings at state park beaches.

In the past eight years, there have been 733 Great Lakes drownings. Before this year, 2012 and 2016 were tied for the most drownings, with 99 each. Historically, Lake Michigan is home to nearly half of all the drowning deaths across the five Great Lakes.

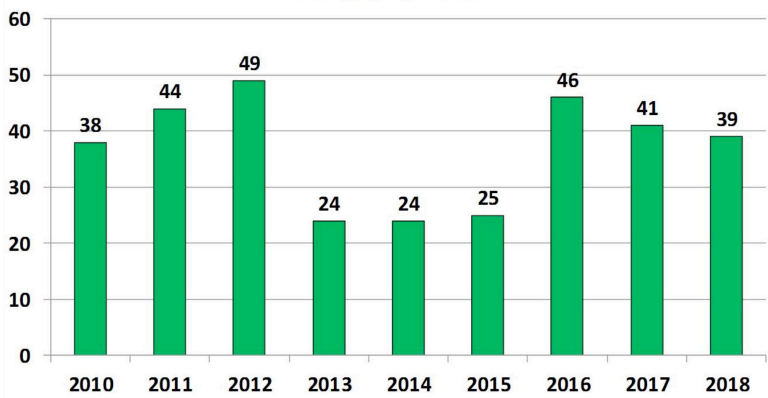
Currents, rip tides, undertows, cold temperatures, limited visibility and uneven depths can make swimming in Lake Michigan difficult, along with structural currents near break-walls and man-made structures.

The most likely person to drown in a Great Lake is a male African-American teenager, according to Safe Kids Worldwide. Nearly 85 percent of all drowning fatalities are male and African-American children are twice as likely as white children to drown in open water.

To stay safe while on the Great Lakes, swimmers are reminded to wear life jackets, heed warning flags, check water and weather conditions,

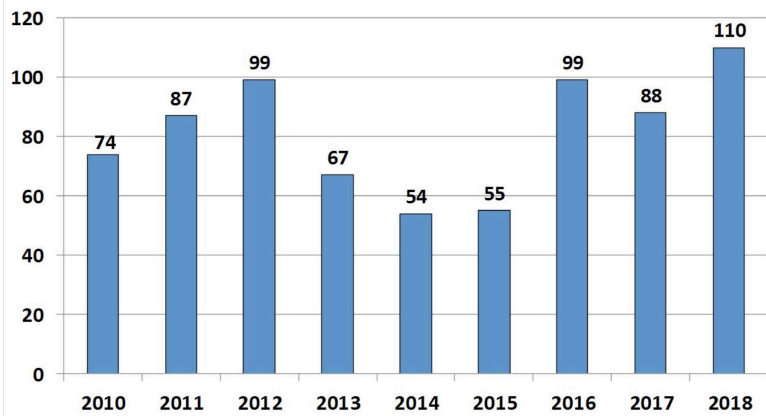
330 Lake Michigan Drownings since 2010

As of November 7, 2018
www.glsrp.org/statistics



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RESPECTING OUR POWERFUL LAKE

Plans are in place to install "dangerous water" and "shelf ice warning" signs for next year. In the meantime, educating everyone who loves to visit our beaches in summer or winter is critically important. They need to know the dangers of rip currents and moving sandbars with unseen drop-offs into deeper water. Non-swimmers are especially at risk.

Winter weather presents new dangers. What appears to be icy hills of sand is really shelf ice that sits on top of constantly moving water.

Many people have fallen through shelf ice into very icy water. This could be deadly. **Please stay off of shelf ice and warn others of the danger.**

Bring your camera and take great photos while standing on solid ground (or sand). Stay safe year-round.