

Partners in Parks program

One-time stewardship activity: Maintaining bird houses at RIM Park

In Canada, about 50 species of birds nest in natural cavities, such as decaying trees or stumps. To provide additional habitat, approximately 30 bird house boxes on cedar posts are situated at RIM Park environmental reserve along the Walter Bean trail.

This one-time stewardship activity involves a thorough cleaning, repair and/or installation of new nesting boxes late October to early November. We also record which bird species used the boxes based on clues found inside each box.



Participants inventory the type of bird that used the box.



Removing old nests from bird boxes.

Responsibilities

- City staff lead the event, providing education, an orientation, hand tools and cloth gloves.
- Group leader ensures group participants wear protective clothing, sign a waiver and are directly supervised. Transportation to the activity site is the sole responsibility of the participants.

Group participants

- Geared to group participants ages 14 years and up.
- Moderate physical activity is required such as handling hand tools, lifting up to 10lbs and walking on uneven terrain within natural areas.
- Area A is ideal for 5 to 15 participants per group with adult supervision.
- Area B uses up to 3 golf carts to travel along the walking trail and can accommodate 2 adult participants who drive the carts plus 3 youth or adults, and a city staff person.

Time and place

- Typically, 3 hours in length depending on the number of participants.
- Late October to early November, on a weekday or Saturday between the hours of 9 a.m. to noon or 12 p.m. to 3 p.m.
- Existing bird houses along the Walter Bean walking trail at RIM Park in Waterloo.