



Improvements to

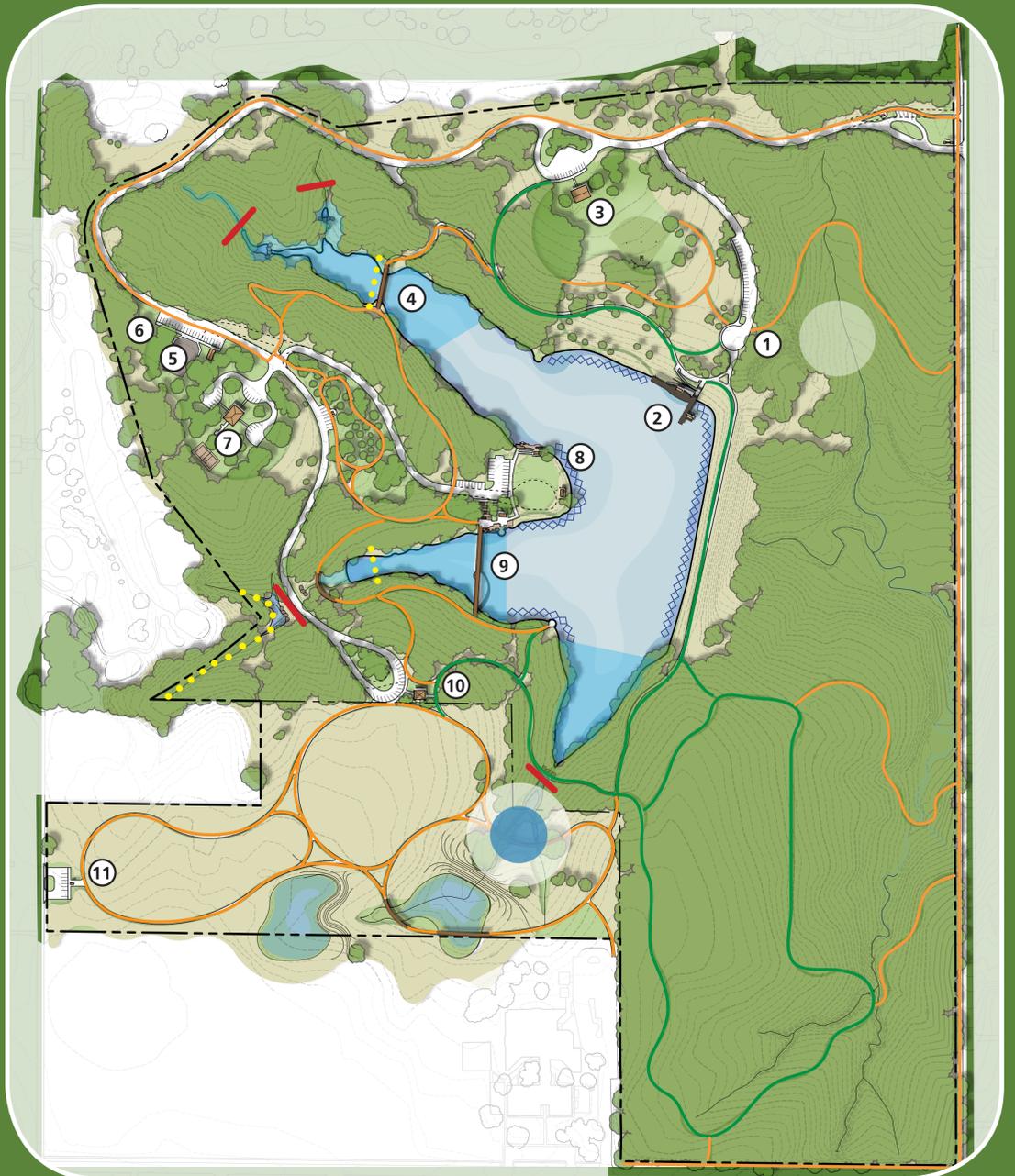
Fort Des Moines Park

Protection and improvement of the Fort Des Moines pond is a high priority water quality project. Polk County Conservation understands the many benefits it provides to park users and wildlife. That is why we want to make it better for you and future generations. Beginning in the summer of 2013, several park improvements will begin, many of which are directly related to the pond. Following fish relocation, the pond will be drained approximately 8 feet. Fishing and other recreational activities will cease until renovations are complete. (See the timeline below.)

Silt basins will be constructed on each of the arms of the pond to slow water flow and retain sediment prior to entering the Fort Des Moines pond. Rock checks and sills will be constructed across eroding gullies to prevent further downcutting of eroded channels and collapsing banks.

Several areas along the pond's shoreline are eroding resulting in increased sedimentation of the pond and challenging access for fishing. Some portions of the eroded shoreline will be pulled back and rocked along the water's edge to prevent wave erosion. The majority of areas will be stabilized with natural vegetation. Reconstruction of the shoreline will provide additional high quality fish habitat and provide better public access to the water.

Polk County Conservation and their consultants are collaborating with the IA DNR Urban Fisheries Program on this project.



FORT DES MOINES PARK — PROPOSED IMPROVEMENTS LEGEND

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|--------------------------|-------------------------|--------------------------|---------------------------|----------------------------------|
| ●●●● ROCK CHECKS & SILLS | ● RECONSTRUCTED WETLAND | ① LAKE DRIVE & PARKING | ⑤ PLAYGROUND ENHANCEMENTS | ⑨ BOARDWALK & PEDESTRIAN BRIDGE |
| ◇◇◇◇ SHORELINE ARMOR | ● DREDGE AREAS | ② FISHING PIER | ⑥ RESTROOM RESTORATION | ⑩ SHELTER & AMPHITHEATER |
| — SILT BASINS | — NEW TRAILS | ③ SHELTER #1 RESTORATION | ⑦ SHELTER #2 RESTORATION | ⑪ PARKING, KIOSK, & TRAIL ACCESS |
| ● SILT HOLDING AREA | — EXISTING TRAILS | ④ PEDESTRIAN CROSSING | ⑧ PENINSULA ENHANCEMENTS | |

Summer 2013

- relocate fish
- drain pond
- build construction road; eventually will become new lake drive road
- develop parking lot access between the schools from County Line Road

Fall 2013

- installation of stabilization structures
- build sediment holding areas and start dredging
- begin wetland construction
- shoreline stabilization

Winter 2013/2014

- dormant seed wetland and sediment holding areas

Spring/Summer 2014

- begin construction of trail access, bridges, fishing pier, canoe launch, and peninsula enhancements
- installation of fish habitat structures

Fall 2014

- restock fish and restore natural vegetation
- begin construction on the outdoor classroom amphitheater and shelter
- renovate existing shelters and playground



For more information about this project, contact Polk County Conservation at **515-323-5300** or visit our website at **leadingyououtdoors.org**. Thank you for your patience while these improvements are taking place.



COMING SOON!

- One mile natural surface trail around the pond
- Pedestrian bridge over the pond
- Accessible fishing pier
- Canoe launch
- Environmental education outdoor classroom, amphitheater and shelter
- Renovated shelters and playground
- Peninsula enhancements