



## ST. CHARLES PARK DISTRICT • MARKETING DEPARTMENT

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### **PRESS RELEASE**

April 10, 2014

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

FOR MORE INFORMATION

Laura Rudow, Superintendent of Parks & Planning, 630-513-4344

### **St. Charles Park District Receives Illinois State Grant Funding**

The St. Charles Park District announced that it has received a \$259,000 grant funded by the State of Illinois OSLAD (Open Space Lands Acquisition and Development) Program, making it one of 46 park districts across the state to receive a share of this year's \$16.5 million grant distribution. Governor Pat Quinn announced the recipients during an April 5, 2014, ceremony at the Community Park District of LaGrange Park.

According to Superintendent of Parks and Planning Laura Rudow, the OSLAD funding will be used for projects at the Ferson Creek Park, including shoreline stabilization; construction of an ADA accessible fishing pier; installation of a paddle-sport appropriate dock with equipment rack for users of kayaks, rowing sculls, canoes, and paddle boards; creation of outdoor classroom space; construction of new playground and picnic shelter to replace existing structures; and interpretive signage.

Opened in 1990, the 13-acre Ferson Creek Park is located off Route 31 just east of Wildrose Springs Drive. The popular park is known for its river shoreline access and convenient canoe launch that attracts fishing and boating enthusiasts.

The state-funded OSLAD grant program provides funding assistance to local government agencies for acquisition and/or development of land for public parks and open space. Managed in Illinois by the Department of Natural Resources, OSLAD can provide funding assistance for up to 50% of the costs of an approved project.

According to the Illinois Association of Park Districts, the OSLAD grant program has been a successful institution for more than twenty-five years, helping park districts offer much-needed services that positively impact their community's recreational facilities and programs, and provide their constituents with resources that can have far-reaching benefits in promoting physical and mental health and wellness.

For more information about the St. Charles Park District's receipt of OSLAD grant funds, contact Laura Rudow at 630-513-4344.

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