

# MEDFORD PARKS & RECREATION FACILITIES MANAGEMENT

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## Olsrud Playground Preparations Entering Home Stretch Volunteers, Tools Needed for Playground Construction

### Contact:

Rich Rosenthal, Director, 541-774-2483, [richard.rosenthal@cityofmedford.org](mailto:richard.rosenthal@cityofmedford.org)

(Medford, Sept. 18, 2018) – Construction is set to begin Sept. 29, but the Medford Parks, Recreation and Facilities Department still needs volunteers and specific tools for the “community build” phase of the Olsrud Family Community Playground project at Bear Creek Park.

Dozens of volunteers are needed to fill 20 construction shifts over a seven-day span culminating on Sat., Oct. 6. Sign-ups for the 8 a.m.-Noon, 12:30-5 p.m. and 5:30 p.m.-dark shifts on weekdays are critically short of the necessary numbers.

### Volunteer Counts by Shift (as of Sept. 18)

Date	8 a.m.- Noon	12:30-5 p.m.	5:30 p.m.- Dark
Sat., Sept. 29	87 of 100	72 of 100	41 of 100
Sun., Sept. 30	50 of 100	65 of 100	36 of 100
Mon., Oct. 1			
Tue., Oct. 2	47 of 85	52 of 85	49 of 85
Wed., Oct. 3	44 of 85	43 of 85	45 of 85
Thur., Oct. 4	31 of 85	35 of 85	37 of 85
Fri., Oct. 5	37 of 85	48 of 85	38 of 85
Sat., Oct. 6	84 of 100	70 of 100	

As importantly, the Department has yet to receive enough tools and equipment through donation or loan from citizens for volunteers to use during construction, most notably:

- Orbital jigsaws
- Corded and cordless drills
- Extension cords
- 36-inch levels
- Nail aprons
- Circular saws
- Saw horses



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- Speed squares
- Tape measures
- Wheelbarrows

Prospective volunteers are asked to sign up online at [playmedford.com](http://playmedford.com); tools can be checked in at the Santo Community Center at 701 N. Columbus Ave. during normal business hours.

Rejuvenating the popular fort-like playground with a similar style using modern material was identified as a high-priority capital improvement project for the 2017-19 funding cycle. The City teamed up with JWA Public Affairs, the Medford Parks and Recreation Foundation, the Medford School District, and Leathers Inc. to replicate the original 1987-88 community design-and-build process and to galvanize fundraising and community engagement.

The Medford City Council voted unanimously to re-name the new playground in honor of the Olsruds on April 5.

In addition to being larger in size, the Olsrud Family Community Playground will meet or exceed Federal accessibility guidelines, will have better sightlines for supervision, and will have more climbing features and imaginative amenities for children of all ages.

Besides volunteering or donating tools, for details on how to donate to the project or how to sponsor a feature, please visit [www.playmedford.com](http://www.playmedford.com).

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