



Quickie News



Stuff That Just Can't Wait Until Next Newsletter

July 27, 2012

BIG DIG II

We Need 10 Volunteers

BIG DIG II



SAFETY FIRST

Crew will work on rotating basis – with each crew member taking several breaks in our Cooling Station. We will have plenty of water, snacks, fruit, hose, ice, sun screen, etc.

Volunteers

We need YOU



Volunteers must be able and willing to dig dirt, shovel gravel, move wheelbarrow of both. Other tasks include carrying buckets, cutting liners, holding things in place, etc.

In addition to the BIG DIG II tasks, we also like a couple folks to run a weed whip along the fence line on the River des Peres side.

August 11, Saturday, 8:00 am

We must have an organized crew before we launch the project. Contact Judi (Willow) directly to offer your help, and be included on the crew list. willow.nic07@yahoo.com

Purpose and Scope of Project

To remedy the ongoing mud problem around Water Station 3, and the nearby sprinkler head (s) – we plan to expand and improve the gravel pool pad. A French drain will be installed in a 2 foot trench in two places along with appropriate materials and liners; the general pad area will be dug approximately 6 inches deep and filled with Meramec gravel. The existing rubber edging will be relocated along the fence line to keep the gravel from spilling through the fence. The existing concrete pad around the water station will be enlarged by using a border of aggregate stepping stones and the enlarged gravel pad surface will be topped off with a three prong aggregate stepping stone path and pavers as an exterior buffer. There will be plenty of surface space for multiple pools and room for an abundance of splashing and good times. 😊

The available dirt will be used in the lowest area where we have water constantly pooling from the sprinkler head. This area will also have a French drain in a 2 foot trench, appropriate materials, and topped with either sod or grass seed, tbd. If time and energy permit, and if we have remaining dirt – we may opt to fill in other low areas.

BIG DIG II Time Line

August 8 (Wed), 8:00pm – Close Water Station 3

August 8 (Wed), 8:00pm – Open temporary pool area in front corner of park, where the turf is strong enough to handle the water activity. A hose will be attached to the fence, as we did in previous seasons.

August 9 (Thurs), 8:00pm – Close back section of park with temporary fencing (across width of park)

August 10 (Fri), Afternoon/Evening – Supplies delivered

August 11 (Sat), 7:00am – Set up Crew Cooling Station, final supplies delivered.

August 11 (Sat), 8:00am – Begin work

August ? (TBD) – Temporary fencing will remain up and Water Station 3 closed until completion of the project. This may take anywhere from 3-4 days to two weeks. Once the sod or seed is installed, we will revert to a smaller temp fencing just around that particular area – and Water Station 3, Agility, and the back area of the park will re-open.

We appreciate your patience as we continue to improve our dog park

BIG DIG II

Ways You Can Help

BIG DIG II



August 11, Saturday

Send email to **Judi** – to say what you will contribute to the project. See below.
willow.nic07@yahoo.com



Be on the BIG DIG II Crew

We need at least 10 people

Dig dirt, shovel gravel, move wheelbarrow of both.
Carry buckets of gravel / other supplies.
Measure, cut liners and piping, hold things in place, etc.
Take down small area of our green fencing / put back up; Temp fencing.
Move and arrange pavers and stepping stones.

If time permits: Run weed trimmer along fence line, River desPeres side; re-set stepping stones in gangway; clean up and extend Day Lily bed near Water Station 1-2; weed flower beds at front entrance.

Follow-up Crew: Anything not completed on August 11, will be done in the following two weeks, as members are available.

Be a Cooling Station Supplier

Deliver to dog park on Saturday – between 7:00-9:00 am

4-5 bags ice (20 lb bags)

5-6 cases bottled water *

Gatorade, or other sports beverage

Salted peanuts, other salty snacks

Granola bars

Cookies (sturdy enough to withstand heat)

Watermelon

Grapes, apples, other fruit

* Left over water is used for the ongoing volunteer projects, we **always need bottled water**

Be a Doggie Sitter

Only crew will be allowed behind the temporary fence

We need non-crew members to watch BIG DIG II crew dogs - they need supervision while their humans work on the project. You will be assigned specific dogs to “babysit”.

Be a Donor

Cash is always needed – and appreciated

BIG DIG II will be funded from our general operating funds, just as BIG DIG I was funded. The difference is that we did not anticipate doing a BIG DIG II this season – so while we have the funds to do this project – it does increase operating expenses. If you cannot be on the crew – but wish to help - especially those whose 4-Leggeds are big pool users – sending a few bucks is a great way to be involved. BIG DIG II is a significant dog park improvement – remember your cash donation is tax deductible – and we will send you a receipt for your records.

Make check payable to: **Southampton Neighborhood Association**

Write “**BIG DIG II**” on the check

Mail to: **PO Box 5183, St Louis, MO 63139** – put **SWCDP** on envelope.

Events and Activities

Mark Your Calendars

Swim & Romp



Willow's fav dog park
(after SWCDP, of course!)

Adopt a School (Buder Elementary)



Event Planning Meeting

6 Year Anniversary

Swim & Romp Agility



Group Tutoring

Canine CPR Training **SAFETY FIRST**

Saturday, July 28, 8:30 – 10:30 am, Broemmelsiek Dog Park

Children under 8 years old – are not allowed inside the dog park – enforced by Park Rangers

2.50 acres fenced in with large pond. Early event offers a fantastic 4 Legged activity - and you still have most of Saturday for other things. Early hours are usually an "off" time where not a lot of other dogs will be there - hopefully our group can have the run of the place. This is a **public and free dog park**; expect others to join us as the morning moves forward!

Bring waste bags to pick up after your dog and water bowl for clean water for your dog to drink. Parking and Restroom very convenient. Call HotLine **636/949-7475** before heading out – park closes when the grounds are wet. Alternate date - **August 4**

Saturday, August 11, 6:00 am – 6:00 pm

As way of saying thank you to Buder Elementary School – for allowing us the use of their cafeteria for our GMM (General Membership Meeting, May 2012) – we thought it would be a nice gesture to send a few extra school supplies to them.

Drop any school supplies inside our **dog park entrance** (copy paper, construction paper, crayons and any type of art supplies, file folders, pens, pencils, markers, staples, tapes, and in general, any type of office supplies)

Remember - Sales Tax Free Weekend

August 3, 4, 5 are Sales Tax Free Shopping Days for School Supplies
St Louis City participation but some county locations not included, check:
<http://dor.mo.gov/business/sales/taxholiday/school/cities.php>

Thursday, August 23, 6:30 – 8:00 pm

At Saint Louis Bread Company - Chippewa and Lansdowne
(We will have a larger event to celebrate our 10 Year Anniversary in 2016)

We plan to offer a variety of activities throughout the day/evening. Come help shape the event – maybe even lead an activity. Let's brainstorm ideas for the celebration in October. Please let Judi know if you plan to attend. As we get closer to meeting date, we may opt for different location.

willow.nic07@yahoo.com

Saturday, August 25, 8:30 – 10:30 am, Broemmelsiek Dog Park

See previous details (above)

Thursdays, September 6, 13, 20, 27, 6:30 – 8:30 pm

SWCDP has arranged for a special 4 session series – held in our agility area. First come, first serve; class limited to six participants. We will repeat in October, or ongoing, if we have enough interest. Since you will know your classmates, you may enjoy encouraging each other, and practicing together in between your sessions. Have fun!

Sylvia Oglesby, our July Agility Intro trainer, will lead this event. Sylvia has offered to share the fee proceeds with SWCDP. We will use our funds to make a training ladder, training walls for weave poles, and hopefully – or eventually, a tire jump.

\$75.00 per participant (\$18.75 per session). Make check payable to Southampton Neighborhood Association, put "Agility Tutoring" on check.

You must register and pay prior to session. Contact Judi for more details:

willow.nic07@yahoo.com

This free event is **Rescheduled for Sept/Oct – due to extreme heat**

Details coming soon. Reservations will be required.



We need your used plastic bags – every month – make a plan.

Yep, running low again. Please get into the habit of bringing plastic bags for poop pick up – maybe pick a date or day that is easy to remember – and make that your “bag day”. Place in the large can in our entry, if full, place over flow in gray storage bins.

Bags Bags Bags

Have you picked your “Bag Day” yet?

Water Station 4

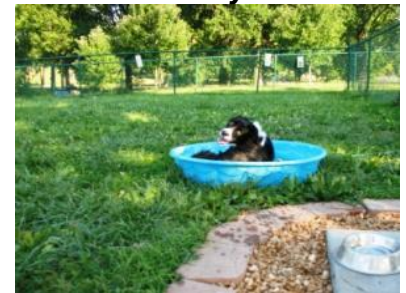
Kiddie Pools – if you are using these on the turf in the Alternate Dog Park – please move them when you refill – constant dumping in the same place is destroying our turf.

We really need our members to be responsible when using the pools for their 4-Leggeds enjoyment. The grass areas turn to mud when the area is repeatedly deluged with large amounts of pool water. We already have plenty of water leaving the pools with our “digger dogs” splashing and our long-haired dogs transferring water as they get in and out of the pools. Digger dogs and long-haired dogs are our reality. The reckless dumping of pools in the same place repeatedly is a fixable problem. Thank you for being attentive – and cooperating.

STOP THE FLOODING NOW

Move kiddie pools frequently. Move kiddie pools frequently.

Sam says...



Enough mud already!

Come on humans, you’re killin’ us here

Water Station 3

New Pool Pad – The new pool policy for Water Station 3 – after the completion of BIG DIG II – will be that ALL pools and water receptacles must remain on the enlarged pool pad. No more pools on the green stuff in the Water Station 3 area.

We should be done with mud at Water Station 3

Coming Soon

Cool New Pool Pad

Pool Replacements Needed

The “Dog Days” of Summer - a good time to replace our worn out kiddie pools. Several pools have multiple taped holes. We prefer the **smaller blue pools** because they are easier to empty – remember water gets heavy, and generates a ton of excess water. Pools will be in use until November 1, when Water Stations 2, 3, 4 will be closed for the season.

Duct Taped to Death

Time to replenish

SWCDP Message Center – HOT LINE

Our Hotline is now operational – always check before heading to the dog park after questionable weather. We will also use this Hotline to make other announcements relating to temporary dog park closings – such as the recent water main breaks.

Call SWCDP primary message center
314/567-2012, then hit #2 button

Mud Closing



Our TURF PROTECTION policy