

Park Maintenance

The park system in Cambridge is divided into 3 sectors, each of which has a dedicated crew and supervisor. You will see many of the same people at the park on a regular basis. You can expect the following services from your park sector crew:

- Rubbish pick up and general cleaning three times a week May through November.
- Monthly weeding.
- Upkeep and replacement of plantings as needed.

This schedule may be adjusted based on maintenance issues that emerge over time.

You can help the maintenance teams by:

- *Reporting graffiti, vandalism, or other problems:* This includes things like burnt out streetlights, problems with water play, and broken furniture. Please call the Police if you witness vandalism or tagging in action.
- *Organizing beautification projects at the park:* Projects might include general cleaning, weeding, or planting. DPW will supply gloves, trash bags, cleaning supplies, hand tools, and plants/ bulbs to any community or youth groups who would like to participate. Please contact DPW for more information.

*Donald Down, District Supervisor: (617) 349-6962
Department of Public Works*

Planning an Event

The City encourages residents to use the parks for community-building events. Please call DPW to let us know about the event, and staff will review any reservations, guidelines, or fees that are associated with the type of event you are planning.

*Annette Rodibaugh, Operations Manager: (617) 349-4846
Department of Public Works*

Keeping the Park Safe

The best way to keep a park safe is to ensure that it is well maintained, well used, and well loved. However, if a pattern of bad behavior seems to be emerging, the Neighborhood Sergeant can help address the problem by hosting community meetings, conducting walk-throughs, and helping develop strategies for crime prevention.

Maureen Ford, Neighborhood Sergeant: (617) 349-3322

Guidelines for Dogs

Gold Star Mothers Park is a wonderful place for dog walking, but it is important to respect the comfort and safety of other park users. Cambridge has a leash law that requires that dogs be leashed at all times in city parks. Dog waste bags have been provided for the convenience of owners to clean up after their pets.

The Cambridge Animal Commission: (617) 349-4376

Park Design and Renovation

The City renovated Gold Star Mothers Park in 2006. The design was developed through a series of community meetings hosted in partnership with the East Cambridge Planning Team in the winter and spring of 2005, and construction lasted from fall 2005 to summer 2006.

The design intended to preserve and enhance the park's function as a play area and a community meeting space. The new playground and water play provide a variety of experiences for children of all ages. New seating was added for community gathering, and lighting was added throughout the park to enhance safety. New entrances and plantings helped to beautify the park and make it more welcoming.

*Rob Steck, Landscape Architect
Jeff Roberts, Neighborhood Planner
Community Development Department: (617) 349-4600*