Reservations

Have a wedding or birthday party coming up? Call 441-8262 today to reserve one of our many parks, gardens, indoor and outdoor picnic shelters, Auld Pavilion or the Schildnek Bandshell. Reservations for park shelters are taken the first business day of January. Reservations for weddings are taken the first business day of December.

Public Display Gardens

Parks and Recreation's Public Gardens section cares for three public display gardens, each open year round from 5 a.m. to 11 p.m. and admission is free. For more information, call 441-8267. Sunken Gardens, located near 26th & D streets, was originally developed in 1931 and most recently renovated in 2004. Every year thousands of annuals are planted in coordination with a new garden theme. The iconic garden also has two living ponds, a cascading water fall and a healing garden.

Roses have been a part of Lincoln’s public gardens for over 75 years. The recently renovated Hamann Rose Garden in Antelope Park, located near 27th and C streets, is home to more than 100 rose varieties including floribundas, grandifloras, hybrids and tea roses.

The Rotary Strolling Garden just to the north and east of Hamann Rose Garden features landscape shrubroses in combination with many other Nebraska-native plants including grasses and wildflowers.

Veteran’s Memorial Garden in Antelope Park

3200 Veteran’s Memorial Drive

A visit to this site in Lincoln's historic Antelope Park will take you on a walking tour of over twenty one military monuments. A place of solemn beauty, the garden allows peaceful reflection and serves as a permanent reminder of the sacrifices veterans have made to preserve our freedom. The Veteran’s Memorial Garden is located within Antelope Park at 3200 Veteran’s Memorial Drive. The garden is maintained by Lincoln Parks and Recreation and the Veteran’s Memorial Garden Advisory Council. Listed below are the programs scheduled for 2010 recognizing special days and patriotic holidays. For more information, call 441-7847.

Memorial Day
- Monday, May 31
- 8:00 p.m. program

Flag Day
- Monday, June 14
- No program, flags will be displayed

Patriot Day
- Saturday, September 11
- 10:00 a.m. program

Pearl Harbor Day
- Tuesday, December 7
- 11:55 a.m. program
- In Auld Pavilion

June Celebration
- Saturday, June 12
- 10:00 a.m. program

Independence Day
- Sunday, July 4
- No program, flags will be displayed

Veteran’s Day
- Thursday, November 11
- 11:00 a.m. program
- In Auld Pavilion

Other public gardens include the Prairie Building Garden, Louise Evans Doole Herb Garden and the Preschool Butterfly Garden - all at Pioneers Park Nature Center.
Beds to Bed
Sunken Gardens (27 & Capital Parkway)
Join us November 6 to help put our Beds to Bed for the winter. We’ll pull annual flowers and spade the garden. Registration is requested by November 1 to 441.7035 or forestry@lincoln.ne.gov.

Garden Gab at Sunken Gardens & Hamann Rose Garden
City horticulturists will host weekly “learn and do” sessions to discuss different topics regarding the growth and culture of plants in the public gardens. Tuesdays and Thursdays each week will start with a 30-minute informative lecture at 9:00 a.m. about a horticultural procedure, followed by volunteers using their new knowledge working at the gardens until 12:00 p.m. (or as their time allows.) Volunteers should meet at the Sunken Gardens pavilion at 9:00 a.m.

Hyde Observatory
South side of Holmes Lake in Holmes Park;
Gaze at the night sky through three powerful telescopes, enjoy two programs about astronomy or space exploration that change monthly, and interact with knowledgeable volunteers. Free. Weekly special showings for groups of 20 or more may be arranged with two weeks notice by calling 441-8708. For more information: www.hydeobservatory.info.