

The concrete planks that comprise the French boat launch on Medicine Lake frequently fail and require sufficient maintenance. Per scheduled improvements, Three Rivers will reconstruct the ramp beginning after Labor Day 2014.

(Courtesy of Three Rivers Park District)

## **Pavement rehabilitation**

Beginning in spring 2015, the district will work on rehabilitating French's network of paved trails, roadways and parking lots.

Bowe said that much of the pavement in the park shows an abundance of cracking and deterioration.

The project is expected to be phased to limit user disruption – French will remain open during construction, though temporary closures and shutdowns are expected. Pavement will be improved in specific areas prior to disturbing other portions of the park.

“The idea is to keep the park open during construction,” Bowe noted. “This is just a potential phasing plan.”

The district anticipates that it will host open house informational meetings this summer to inform park users and neighbors of the construction projects and schedules.

In conjunction with the pavement rehabilitation, best management practices will be incorporated to reduce pollutants from storm water runoff and improve water quality in Medicine Lake.

## **Sanitary sewer repair**

The project at French will also include the replacement of the water distribution system and isolated sanitary sewer repairs.

According to Bowe, the current water system was built out in 1971 and was inherited from the city when Three Rivers acquired the property. During the '80s, some of the system was touched up, though Bowe recognized that “[the system] has reached the end of its service life.”

Since 1998, the district has dealt with at least eight water main breaks as a result of corrosive soil and outdated piping in French. Aiming for industry standard, the system will be updated with plastic piping.

Both the water project and the boat ramp reconstruction are funded in the 2014 Asset Management Program and are expected to begin within the same timeframe.

The board approved St. Paul-based Stantec Consulting Services late last year and will pay about \$377,500 for its services. The total cost of construction is estimated at \$4.4 million.

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