

A City/County Collaboration Helps Bryan Park

The Friends of Bryan Park are indebted to Henrico County and Richmond City officials for working together to clear a log jam at the end of Kenmore Road in the County. The jam was located on Upham Brook, upstream from Bryan Park's ponds. With every hard rain it was the cause of flooding at the dead end of Kenmore and of a property located there. There was no question that the blockage needed to be removed.

Huge amounts of waterborne trash littered the area upstream from the jam. With the next good rain, logs and branches released by clearing the log jam would have traveled downstream, along with mounds of litter, into Bryan Park's two lakes, and back into Henrico.

We presented these concerns to the County and the City. Richmond officials offered to remove logs and debris collected from the site in Henrico by the County's Department of Public Works. They were willing to work as a team, making this a win-win situation.

The log jam removal project was postponed to allow Friends of Bryan Park time to remove what turned out to be 53 bags of litter and other bulky trash from the area above the stream blockage.

When the day came to clear the jam, the teamwork was evident. To keep logs from floating down stream with the next flooding rain, coating the Bryan Park lake shoreline and bashing into the bollards on the spillway in the park, the City hauled away huge amounts of the debris removed from the waterway by Henrico.

The result is amazing. The flooding caused by the jam is no longer a threat. The surrounding area has been graded and newly planted grass is visible. Unfortunately, there is more work to be done. A tenacious non-native plant, Japanese Knotweed (*Polygonum cuspidatum*), is taking over much of the brook's floodplain. Work is being done now to remove this plant which returned with a vengeance to the freshly graded area. Once done, native plants will be put in place and the riparian buffer restored by Friends of Bryan Park and others.

Thanks go to the City and the County for working together to protect the Park.

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Other Important Contacts:

- Third District Councilman Chris Hilbert, City Hall: 646-5400
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- Parks & Recreation Director John (JR) Pope: 646-5717
- Bryan Park Manager Rocky Edwards: 646-1270
- Community Facilities Manager Larry Miller: 646-0037

Let Us Hear From You!

Your suggestions and comments about the Park are important to FoBP. Send comments to ReBryanPark@aol.com. Use this email too if you'd like to be added to our server list. Also visit our website at:

www.friendsofbryanpark.org

Friends of Bryan Park

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Bryan Park Disc Golf Now Open

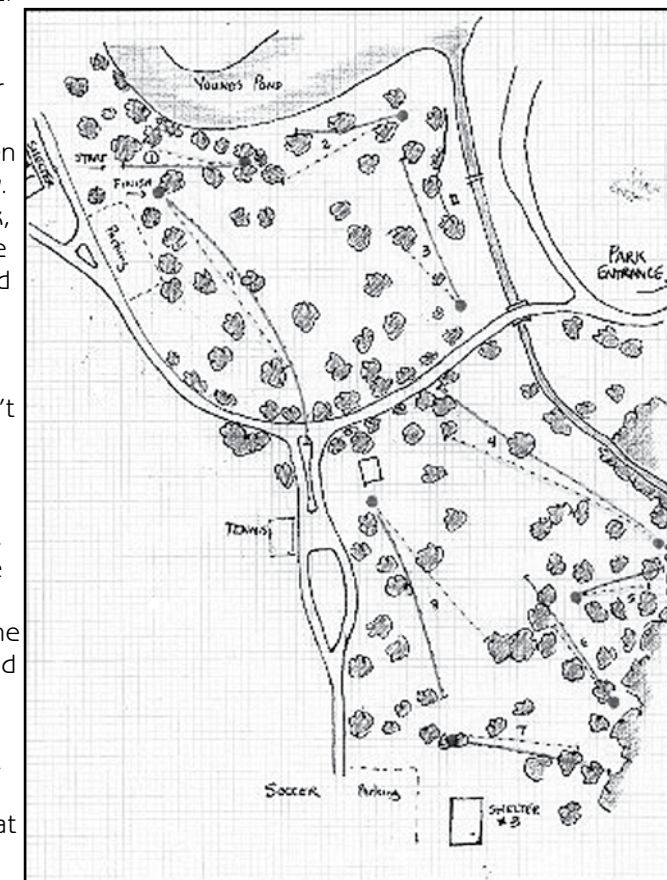
by Glen Todd, Course Manager

The first nine holes to a new Disc Golf Course have been installed at Bryan Park. Each hole will have two "tee-off" pads. The easier layout is played from the gold tees and covers a distance of around 3030 feet. The more difficult "Pro" tees are marked with blue blocks and are longer with less open fairways, and add up to over 3475 feet. The nine holes include six par 3's and three par 4's. Those of you wanting to get in 18 holes can play two rounds, first from the gold and then from the blue tees.



Those of you wondering what in the world this is all about, don't be alarmed. Although the sport has been growing at 20% a year, and Virginia now has 33 courses (make that 34), most people haven't heard of it. Frisbee Golf, or Disc Golf as it is now called, works just like ball golf. Instead of hitting a golf ball off the tee, you throw a Frisbee. Go to the spot where the Frisbee ends up, and throw from there again. Instead of a golf ball ending up in a hole, the Frisbee ends up in a basket. Count up the number of throws it took to land in the basket, just as a ball golfer counts the strokes to a hole.

The Frisbee discs for golf are a little smaller and go further than the more familiar Frisbees we use to play catch, but they can be harder to control, so feel free to bring out your old Wham-o and try it out if you are new to the sport. The good players eventually acquire a whole bag of discs; some to turn left, some to turn right, some for rollers, others for medium shots and putts, just as a ball golfer carries a whole bag of clubs. In fact, the biggest difference between this and ball golf is **it's free**. Just show up with a Frisbee and enjoy. Richmond has only one other disc golf course at Gillies Creek Park, and the local players are very excited that a course has come here to Bryan Park. But this course is also for you, the local neighborhood citizens. This is one more good reason to cut off the TV and get outside for a few hours and enjoy the beauty of this park right in your backyard. Bring a Frisbee and try it out. You may find it very enjoyable and relaxing (especially if you don't keep score).



Come Celebrate
 the Disc Golf Course
 Opening Tuesday, July
 17th, 7pm at Shelter # 1

Free Ice Cream,
 courtesy of Friends of
 Bryan Park, from Dabney
 Morriss at the Ice
 Cream Connection

The course begins next to the parking lot across from Shelter #1. The tee pads for the first hole are just past the far end of the lot. The baskets can be seen from the tee pads and the hole number and distance are marked on the blue and gold blocks. After each hole is played, look on top of the basket for the gold and blue arrows pointing to the next tee pad. You end up back at the parking lot after the ninth hole basket

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