



November 17, 2011

Contact: Lee Mcleron, Fundraising Chair for the Mirror Pond Renovation, 509.747.4926

MAJOR FUNDING ANNOUNCEMENT

The Friends of Manito Provide \$50,000 to begin Phase I of the Mirror Pond Renovation

EDITOR'S NOTE: Please join us for details on this announcement and a demonstration of how the Water Purification System will work.

Monday, November 21st, 2011, 2:00 pm

Manito Meeting Room, East of the Conservatory in Manito Park.

About the Friends of Manito

Founded in 1990, The Friends of Manito (TFM) is a non-profit group that works to support Manito Park by providing funds for improvements for the general enhancement of Manito Park. Three major plant sales are given each year with approximately 100 volunteers working for months before to prepare the plant material - making the events the premier plant sales for Spokane gardeners. Throughout the year, TFM also offers educational programs to further promote the community's use and enjoyment of Manito Park. Since their beginning, The Friends of Manito has contributed over \$525,000 to Manito Park. For more information www.thefriendsofmanito.org

About Manito Park

The Spokane Parks and Recreation Department maintains Manito Park's 78 acres of native and cultivated landscape and 20 acres of world class botanical gardens. Comprised of five major garden areas, the Nishinomiya Tsutakawa Japanese Garden, Duncan Garden, Rose Hill, Lilac Garden and Ferris Perennial Garden, Manito Park is nationally recognized for its diverse horticultural displays. In 2007, Rose Hill was named number one in the nation by All-America Rose

Selections (AARS), a nonprofit association dedicated to the introduction and promotion of exceptional roses. Manito Park was officially established in April 1904, and has evolved from an undeveloped recreational area with a few flower beds, picnic spots and a zoo to one of Spokane's primary showplaces. Other Manito Park features include: Mirror Pond, a favorite of those who enjoy watching ducks and other water fowl; the Park Bench Café, open in season for light meals; the Loop Drive and Bridge offering majestic views of the Rose Garden; Upper and Lower Playgrounds – a favorite gathering spot of children; and the large basalt rock office building constructed in 1912. Central to the Park is the Gaiser Conservatory where beautiful flowing displays change seasonally.

About Spokane Parks and Recreation

City of Spokane Parks and Recreation is responsible for the professional management and prudent caretaking of more than 4,100 acres of developed parks and conservation land. The Golf Division maintains and operates four championship municipal golf courses, including Indian Canyon, Downriver, Esmeralda and the Creek at Qualchan. Park Operations has responsibility for the maintenance of all park land and park facilities in the City of Spokane including Riverfront Park, Manito Park, Gaiser Conservatory, the many city-wide gardens, and Finch Arboretum. Urban Forestry staff manages 50,000 street trees and another 28,000 trees on developed park land within the City of Spokane. The Recreation/Entertainment Division offers classes, special events, athletic leagues and activities for youth, teens, adults, seniors and persons with physical and mental disabilities. It also operates Riverfront Park attractions, activities and events, and provides support for community centers, senior centers, the Northeast Youth Center, Corbin Art Center and outdoor swimming pools.

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