



CHRIS ABELE, MILWAUKEE COUNTY EXECUTIVE
JOHN DARGLE, JR., DIRECTOR OF PARKS, RECREATION AND CULTURE

Contact: Jeff Baudry
(414) 257-4575
Jeffrey.Baudry@milwaukeecountywi.gov

For Immediate Release:

Accessible Walkway to Break Ground at Boerner Botanical Gardens

Hales Corners, WI (Dec. 15, 2014) – A new ADA-accessible walkway will be constructed in the Boerner Botanical Gardens thanks to a partnership between the Whitnall Park Rotary Club, Friends of Boerner Botanical Gardens, the Reiman Foundation, the Holz Foundation, Breckenridge Landscape, and Milwaukee County. The groundbreaking ceremony for the Rotary Walk/Circle is scheduled for Wed., Dec. 17 at noon, at 9400 Boerner Drive.

“Thank you to everyone who has donated their time, money, and effort to make this incredible project come to life,” County Executive Chris Abele said. “Through strong community and business partnerships, we will continue to build projects that improve our parks and our community.”

The Rotary Walk/Circle will not only provide connections to previously inaccessible garden collections, but also showcase best practices in stormwater management.

The meandering walkway will replace the old stairway to the Bog Garden and will make the juniper and dwarf conifer collections more accessible to all populations — including the many children attending educational programs here. The Rotary Circle plaza area will feature limestone seatwalls and a planter with a shade tree.

Continuing the Green Initiative of Milwaukee County, the project will use permeable pavers in the construction of both the walk and the plaza. In 2012, Boerner Botanical Gardens received the Rain Bird Intelligent Use of Water Award for its rain-harvesting system, and the Rotary Walk/Circle project expands the sustainability efforts at the Botanical Gardens.

Engraved pavers in the Rotary Circle will be available for purchase as memorials or in honor of individuals, families, or organizations. In the future, memorial benches along the pathway may be available for purchase.

“We are thrilled with the progress of this project,” said Whitnall Rotary Board Member Jim Thorsen. “It will provide thousands of people access to parts of the gardens formerly difficult to navigate; it’s going to be a beautiful addition as well.”

The Whitnall Rotary Path Community Project is scheduled for completion in spring of 2015. For more information, visit: <http://www.whitnallparkrotary.org/SitePage/boerner-rotary-circle-project#sthash.DqIBZYm0.dpuf>

###



ADDRESS
9480 Watertown Plank Road
Wauwatosa, WI 53226-3560

PHONE/FAX
ph: **414 / 257 PARK** (7275)
fax: 414 / 257 6466

EMAIL
parks@milwcnty.com

WEBSITE
countyparks.com