

FM Rotary Foundation Natural Playground



Putting the 'play' back in playground

Play is a natural part of childhood — active, exciting and, most of all, fun. But today, technology and adult-directed activities have crowded out much of the imaginative freestyle outdoor adventures that we adults remember from our youth. The FM Rotary Natural Playground will offer our children a taste of that inspiring and mental freedom in the heart of our communities.



Natural elements, natural fun!

Part of the Natural Playground will be designed with hills, paths and other elements to help youth learn and master bicycle skills in a challenging environment — safe from traffic and pedestrians.



Why does Fargo-Moorhead need a natural playground?

Children in Fargo-Moorhead have access to numerous parks, playgrounds, and sporting activities. However, children today have much less time for unstructured play compared to previous generations. Why does that matter? Unstructured play is critical to children’s cognitive, social and emotional development. This lack of free play is contributing to the mental and physical health crisis in children.

This project also envisions building a bike skills park. Biking instills confidence in kids and helps develop balance, strengthens joints, muscles, bones, and the heart and lungs. Bike skills parks are playgrounds for young bikers that include a variety of natural obstacles such as rocks and logs, imaginatively created features such land ladder bridges, teeters, and dirt jumps — all collected in a small and easily accessible location.

The FM Rotary Foundation has completed two other successful projects for children in recent years: the playground at Lindenwood Park in Fargo and the Miracle Field in Moorhead.

Come Join Us!

The FM Rotary Foundation's goal is to raise \$700,000 to build a world-class natural playground and bike skills park in our community. We envision a unique, fun and challenging playground to promote physical activity, get kids outside year round and promote healthy development in local kids.

Join the discussion on natural outdoor play! Much remains to be done, and your support is needed. The goal is to have the playground construction kicked off in 2022. Corporate and individual sponsorships and donations are welcome. Major donors will be recognized through signage at the playground.

To make a secure online donation:

<https://tinyurl.com/fmnaturalplayground>

For more information: bit.ly/fmnaturalplayground

Or mail your check — with “playground” on memo line. Include information on how the donor’s name should be listed:

FM Rotary Foundation, Box 684, Fargo ND 58107