



Ibach Park

City of Tualatin
 Grand Opening:
 May 18, 1996



Design and Construction
 Robert E. Meyer
Master Plan
 Kurahashi & Associates, Inc.
Final design and construction administration
 Baisley/McNees & Associates, Inc.
Electrical design
 J. Timothy Richard *Architect*
 James G. Pierson, Inc.
Structural design
 Martha Gannett *Graphic Design*
Interpretive signs
 MIG, Inc. *Playground design*
 System Design Consultants
Mechanical design
 Universal Access *Accessibility*
 J.P. Contractors, Inc. *General contractor*

Join the celebration...

Ibach Park
GRAND OPENING

Saturday, May 18, 1996

10455 SW Ibach Street - west of Boones Ferry Road

11:00 am-1:00 pm

Schedule of Events

- 11:00am-1:00pm Steel Drum Music by *Island Breeze*
 Face Painting and Free Ice Cream
 Children's Crafts
 Children's Games by *Kids & Company*
 Clowns: *Eartha and Shortcake*
 Scavenger Hunt using Nature/Cultural Interpretive Signs
- 12:00pm **Dedication Ceremony and Ribbon Cutting**
- 12:30pm Children's Parade led by *Island Breeze*
- 12:45pm Puppetry by the *New Rag Bag Theatre*

Fun for the Whole Family!



City of Tualatin Parks and Recreation Department - For more information, call 692-2000, extension 932

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Parks and Recreation - The Benefits are Endless...

Parks and recreation opportunities provide *essential, personal, social, economic, and environmental benefits* that help make Tualatin a great place to live, work, and play.

Personal Benefits

- ♦ *Children's play is essential to the human development process.*
- ♦ *Meaningful leisure activity is an essential source of self-esteem and positive self-image.*
- ♦ *Relaxation, rest, and revitalization through the opportunity of leisure is essential to stress management in today's busy world.*
- ♦ *Leisure opportunities for youth provide positive life style choices and alternatives to self-destructive and anti-social behavior.*
- ♦ *Parks and open spaces bring beauty to an area while giving people satisfaction and improving their quality of life.*

Social Benefits

- ♦ *Recreating together builds strong families, the foundation of a stronger society.*
- ♦ *Leisure provides leadership opportunities that build strong communities.*
- ♦ *Community recreation promotes ethnic and cultural harmony.*
- ♦ *Integrated and accessible leisure services are critical to the quality of life of people with a disability and disadvantaged individuals.*

Economic Benefits

- ♦ *Parks and recreation services motivate residential and business relocation and expansion decisions in Tualatin.*
- ♦ *Meaningful leisure services reduce the high cost of vandalism and criminal activity.*
- ♦ *Pay now or pay later! Investment in recreation as a preventive health service makes sense.*

Environmental Benefits

- ♦ *Parks and open spaces can contribute to the environmental health of Tualatin by nurturing essential, life-sustaining habitats for wildlife, and serving as natural filters for cleaning water.*
- ♦ *Parks and open spaces provide needed space for trees that produce oxygen, reduce air pollution, cool the environment, and control erosion and runoff.*

How Did the Park Get its Name?

In 1990, Tualatin residents were asked to help name three of its undeveloped parks. Over 50 suggestions were submitted, and the name for this park site was chosen by the City Council. Ibach Park, pronounced "I-back", was once the location of a portion of the original farm of Hillar and Jane Ibach. Phase I of the Hedges Creek subdivision occupies the balance of the farm site. Additionally, it is a street name and will make it easy for people to find the park.



How Long Did it Take to Build Ibach Park?

- 1983 The City approved the Parks and Recreation Master Plan which called for acquisition of park sites geographically distributed to serve the growing population.
- 1985 Tualatin voters approved a special 3 year serial levy for park land acquisition and park site master plan development.
- 1987 The City purchased the 19.86 acre Ibach Park site and the City Council approved the master plan for the site.
- 1990 Tualatin voters approved a 6 year serial levy for the development of parks and greenways, including Ibach Park.
- 1996 Construction of Ibach Park is completed.

In 1987, the land was purchased and a master plan developed at a cost of approximately \$390,000. Final design and construction costs totalled about \$2,070,000.

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Play Area Design and Interpretive Signs

Do you remember when you were young, exploring a forest, cave, beach, lake, or your own backyard? Wasn't it exciting to find shells, rocks, or even fossils and to imagine the time and place from whence they came?

Ibach Park recreates this excitement by providing a play area that stimulates the imagination through interaction with the environment. Design consultants and staff gathered information to design Ibach Park's play area through conducting research and community workshops. The workshops were interactive, bringing together many members of the community. Based on insights gleaned from this research, consultants designed the play area to meet the developmental needs of children of all ages and allow children with and without disabilities to have equal access to integrated play opportunities. The final design provides play area users with an interactive tour through the history of Tualatin.

The play area design includes distinct areas reflecting significant historic eras. The Prehistory area contains a water way that ends with a replica of a meteor that landed on earth millions of years ago and was carried west to West Linn, near Tualatin, by surging waters of the Bretz Floods (floods that occurred over 15,000 years ago). In addition, an archeological dig allows children to unearth fossil rocks, fern prints, and a giant mastodon from a sand play area, providing them with a wonderful sense of discovery.

The fun doesn't stop here. The Early Native American area contains a circle of drums that allow children to create

music. Each drum is at a different height so children can play either standing or sitting. At the Pioneer Settlement, children can play in a log cabin-style play house and prepare breakfast at the sand tables. A simulated water course runs through the entire play area, symbolizing the historic impact the river has had on the life of Tualatin and its people. A segment of the creek is real water, turned on by pressing your hand against a bollard. The flow is controlled to conserve water.

Interpretive signs created for the park are important in connecting the play area designs to the natural and cultural history of Tualatin. Each sign describes one of the themes of the play area - prehistory, Native American and settlement history, forests and streams.

What makes this park unique is its translation of history into an interactive educational play area for children of all abilities.

Take a Nature Walk



The headwaters of Hedges Creek are located near Tualatin High School. The creek flows northwest, crossing Ibach Street before entering the Hedges Creek Greenway and continuing on its way through Ibach Park, ultimately joining the Tualatin River just west of the Boones Ferry Road bridge.

As you walk in the greenway, you will see Hedges Creek meandering through a heavily wooded area, dominated by Bigleaf Maple, Western Red Cedar and Douglas Fir. Unfortunately, invasive non-native plants like Himalayan Blackberry and English Ivy are decreasing the plant diversity in the creek corridor. This limits the area's value for wildlife habitat and

diminishes the natural beauty of the greenway. In addition, steep slopes, banks denuded of vegetation, and rapid storm runoff have created erosion problems.

Over the last year the greenway has been the subject of an extensive enhancement project. Can you see where the blackberry was removed and replaced with native shrubs, ground cover and trees? Some of the eroded banks have been stabilized using "bio-engineering" methods. Bio-engineering utilizes plants, biodegradable jute netting, and other soft engineering techniques, rather than riprap or concrete, to halt erosion.

Who did all this work? It has been a combined effort from the neighbors, the Tualatin Rotary Club, Byrom Elementary and Tualatin High School students, and youth service groups, such as Northwest Service Academy and The Wetlands Conservancy CRUE. This project has been managed by the Parks and Recreation Department and designed and guided by Kurahashi & Associates, Inc. Funding for this project came from the Oregon Community Foundation's Tualatin Valley Water Quality Endowment Fund. Funding to do additional work in fall, 1996, has been granted from Metro.

A special thank you

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Hazelbrook Middle School leadership class
Kids & Company
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Sandy Lafky
Scott Morrill
Patti McGrath

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