

2006 Erie MetroParks Employee Safety Program

In 2006, checks were done on emergency exit lights, fire extinguishers, smoke detectors, carbon monoxide detectors, and first aid stations in all the MetroPark buildings. Checks were also done on traffic safety signs.

All park managers are responsible for addressing all safety concerns reported to them by their assigned employees and ensuring that unsafe conditions are immediately addressed and corrected. This was accomplished through incident and accident reports, safety observations and accident investigations with the Safety and Security Coordinator and Supervisor of Operations. Spot checks were made to assure that all employees wear their personal protective wear provided by EMP (ear, eye, etc.).

Erie MetroParks also has a staff orientation session in May for full time and part time year around employees and seasonal employees regarding safety procedures, including use of park equipment, Blood Borne Pathogens exposure and other safety and/or emergency procedures. In 2006 only four seasonal employees were hired to help and maintain all thirteen MetroParks.

Again this year a Medtronic LIFEPAK CRP/PLUS (commonly known as a defibrillator or AED) was carried by the Park Rangers while on duty and is stored in the Operational Supervisors Office in the Frost Center with the Ranger gear. The other AED is available in the Reservations Office storage closet in the Frost Center for programming, nature camp and staff.

The employee Safety Committee met quarterly. Safety policies, practices, and safety concerns were reviewed and addressed. All employee and visitor injury accidents are investigated. The Safety Committee also decided to remove the first aid kit in the Sandusky Room, and put it beside the AED and Blood Borne Pathogens in the Reservations Office storage closet for easy access for staff.

At the All Staff in-service training meeting in March of 2006, Maria Rupert, from Human Resource came in and did a presentation on workplace ergonomics, also a Fire Extinguisher safety program with hands on training was given. At the December all-staff meeting Maria Rupert came back in and did a presentation on "Stress in the Work Place". Also in December all Ranger and Program staff were recertified in Adult, Child, and Infant CPR & AED.

Erie MetroParks employees appear to be very safety conscious and are doing a very good job with our safety program. Employees have developed and continue to maintain a positive attitude toward safety. We look forward to keeping our parks safe in 2007.

Injury Accident Reports Investigated

- 2006: 6 employee injury accidents resulting in 3 missed workdays.
51 restricted days. 3 minor visitor accidents.
- 2005: 8 employee injury accidents resulting in 15 missed workdays.
53 restricted days. 6 minor visitor accidents.

Employee Safety Observations Made

- 2006: 17
- 2005: 25