

New Aerator Protects Aquatic Life in Frances Short Pond

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Partnership with Willow Bend Supports Recreation and Education

Water Services was busy installing a second solar aerator in Frances Short Pond during early May. Part of the Rio de Flag system, this pond transforms stormwater into a remarkable recreation, urban fishing, and eco-education area less than a mile from the city center. It also serves the practical purpose of detaining water during storms to prevent floods. However, the fish and other species that make the pond their home suffer during summer months, when high temperatures cause oxygen levels to drop. The city partnered with Willow Bend Environmental Education Center to address this issue, receiving a Heritage Grant from the Arizona Game and Fish Department to implement a solution. Willow Bend uses the location for their many educational events focusing on biology and wetland ecology, and keeping the pond healthy is important for this curriculum. Vibrant and freshly stocked with fish, Frances Short Pond now offers even greater opportunities for year-round recreation and outdoor education programs within the heart of Flagstaff.



City of Flagstaff Stormwater Staff preparing the aerator for installation.

Photo by Amanda Richardson

Questions or comments?

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