



Potter Park Waterfall

The main purpose of this project was to add to the Sensory Garden, donated by the local Lions Club. We had to make sure that audible sounds would be heard from the surrounding walking paths. This became more challenging when the pond was redesigned to underground. Restructuring of the lower layer of outcropping stonework allowed for the splash from the waterfall to be maximised.

There are three surrounding pathways that enclose the Sensory Garden location. Commonly, waterfall structures are only viewed from a straight-on angle. To address this new problem, we created a several tiered waterfall that would redirect water to allow for views from each pathway.

The initial design involved having an open air pond at the base of the waterfall, for catchment purposes and to mimic the pond behind the hill. Through changes in the design, adding a patio area with no fence, safety became a concern for Zoo Visitors and the pond had to be moved underground. This prevents any harm from occurring if children happen to wander off and follow the sounds from the waterfall.

Another important concern was safety during the installation. The build area was much smaller than we typically get, especially when we factored in the trees that required protection from getting damaged by equipment. Logistics and Communication increased the build time. Digging the hole for the underground pond system required a rethinking of where to stage necessary equipment, tools and supplies without adding more build time. We also needed plan ahead the removal of dirt and debris for the pond with the haul-away trailer, as well as keep a worker ahead of equipment to search for Zoo Visitors for safety purposes.

