

## **FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

### **Valpo Parks Partners with U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service to Restore Habitat at Rogers Lakewood Park**

**Valparaiso, IN:** Valpo Parks is excited to announce a partnership with the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service (USFWS) to restore vital habitat at Rogers Lakewood Park. This project will focus on controlling and managing invasive woody plants that threaten the park's ecosystem.

"Invasive species pose a significant threat to our natural areas," said Kevin Nuppnau, Director of Valpo Parks. "This project, in partnership with the USFWS, will remove harmful plants and create a healthier environment for native wildlife. We are grateful for this partnership to make a greater impact on our community."

Habitat restoration work will take place at Rogers Lakewood Park from February 9th to 12th. To ensure safety, the park will be temporarily closed while crews remove invasive brush from approximately 30 acres of woodland. This project will enhance forest structure, diversity, and overall park health.

The restoration of Rogers Lakewood Park aligns with the City of Valparaiso's commitment to environmental stewardship. The city is a designated "Tree City" by the Arbor Day Foundation and a "Monarch City" by Monarch City, USA. This project demonstrates the city's ongoing efforts to protect and preserve its natural spaces.

Residents interested in learning more about invasive species management can find educational and technical resources through the State of Indiana Cooperative Invasives Management (SICIM) at [www.sicim.info](http://www.sicim.info).

#### **About Valpo Parks:**

Valpo Parks is dedicated to enriching our community by designing meaningful spaces, creating impactful experiences, and promoting healthy lifestyles. Learn more at [www.valpoparks.org](http://www.valpoparks.org).

#### **About U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service:**

The mission of the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service is to work with others to conserve, protect, and enhance fish, wildlife, plant and their habitats for the continuing benefit of the American people. Learn more at [www.fws.gov](http://www.fws.gov).

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