



Located in prosperous North Central Iowa, the City of Garner is seeking an Assistant Park & Rec Director.



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Our Goal is to Help You Achieve Your Goal

About Us

Garner is a prosperous county-seat community of 3,129 residents located in North-Central Iowa, 115 miles due north of Des Moines and 145 miles south of Minneapolis. Interstate 35 is 12 miles east in Clear Lake and Mason City is 20 miles east of Garner.

Garner is known for its high-quality housing stock, large industrial employers and community facilities. In the past 10 years, 91 new homes have been constructed in Garner. Census 2010 results showed that Garner gained 207 people, or 7.1% in population, since Census 2000. These statistics make Garner a leader among small rural communities statewide. The City of Garner expects 24 lots will be available for sale in July of 2020.



There is a lot of momentum in the Parks and Recreation Department where NFL flag football was successfully implemented in the fall of 2019. City Council is setting aside funds each year for a new ballfield complex and a dog park. The City of Garner is looking for an enthusiastic leader who can help implement new and exciting projects while retaining vital part time staff.

The Position

The Assistant Park Director position was created in 2009 as the Veterans Memorial Rec Center was being built. In addition to facilitating recreation programs, the Coordinator assists the Director in the day to day operations. A five-member Board appointed by the Mayor helps guide the Director. Today, there are two full time employees, 10 part-time employees at the Rec Center and around 70 seasonal employees in the Recreation and Aquatic Center departments. Recreation and Rec Center programming is continually evolving, to keep up with the needs of the community. Their motto is: Our goal is to help you achieve yours.

Assistant Park Director

The City of Garner, a small growing community in North Central Iowa is seeking a proactive individual who loves working with youth and the outdoors for its Assistant Parks and Rec Director. It is a secure job in this trying time and comes with a great benefits package, meaningful work, and is a great way to serve one's community. Applicants must have strong management skills, recreation programming/coaching experience, and is a great communicator. BA degree in Parks & Recreation preferred; but relevant experience may substitute for education. Hiring wages range \$17 to \$18.50. Position profile, job description, and job application at www.garneriowa.org. Send cover letter, application, and résumé to Adam Kofoed, City Administrator, in person, or admin@garneriowa.org by November 9, 2020. City of Garner is an equal opportunity employer.

Education

Garner is home to the Garner-Hayfield-Ventura Community School District, a highly rated Preschool-12 school district. The school district is known for innovative information technology and industrial education programs, as well as exceptionally generous college scholarship opportunities. The City and GHV Schools have enjoyed a mutually beneficial partnership over the past many years, and are working on future joint projects.



Higher education is readily available in nearby Mason City through North Iowa Area Community College, Buena Vista University and Kaplan University. Waldorf College in Forest City is a small liberal arts college offering four-year degrees. Adult continuing education is available via NIACC at the (City-owned) Garner Education Center.

Garner Golf & Country Club

Recreation, Attractions & Events

Garner is home to six parks, an aquatic center and a recreation center. The \$3.1 million Garner Aquatic Center has 8,800 square feet of surface area and includes zero depth entry with a large play structure, current channel and 3 slides. The



Veterans Memorial Recreation Center is a \$4 million facility with an elevated walking track, large gymnasium, weight & fitness area, multipurpose room and parks & recreation offices. Recreation center operations are covered by revenues from paid memberships and programs. A city owned, board operated quality 9-hole golf course adds to this recreational minded community. Garner is home to the annual Duesey Days celebration and is located a short distance from major recreational attractions such as Clear Lake and Pilot Knob State Park.

Major Employers

Major employers located here include Concord Care Center, GHV Schools, Hancock County Courthouse, Iowa Mold Tooling Company, IMT Transport, Stellar Industries, and Zinpro Corporation. Recreational vehicle manufacturer, Winnebago Industries 11 miles away in Forest City, is also one of Garner's larger employers. The full-service commercial sector is anchored by Hy-Vee grocery store, 2 hardware stores, 3 convenience stores, 4 law firms, 3 insurance offices, and 6 restaurants - Mat's Place, Your Place, Hardees, Pizza Ranch, the China House, Casa Patron Mexican Restaurant, and Java 18 Coffee Shoppe.

Health Services

Hancock County Health Systems (HCHS) provides comprehensive medical services to the area. HCHS is affiliated with the Mercy network. It has a clinic in Garner and provides a 25-bed critical access hospital in neighboring Britt, Iowa. Iowa Specialty Hospitals opened a new clinic in 2019. Additional medical options in the area include Mercy North Iowa in Mason City, and the internationally-acclaimed Mayo Clinic is 100 miles away in Rochester, Minnesota.

Our Organization

Garner has a Mayor-Council form of government, with a non-voting Mayor & five Council Members, and an appointed city administrator. The City has had a Park & Recreation Director since 2006. It also has a 5-member Parks & Recreation Board appointment by the Mayor with Council approval. The current Mayor has served for 12 years and the Council membership has been quite stable over that period of time. The elected officials all have a positive working relationship, due in part to a strong shared vision of the community.



The City has 17 full-time, 13 permanent part-time and 70 seasonal positions. City departments include: City Hall (3 full-time employees), Police (6 full-time), Fire (28 volunteers), Library (1 FT, 3 PT), Parks & Recreation (2 FT, 10 PT, 70 seasonal), and Publicworks (5 FT). Ambulance service is provided by agreement with the Garner Volunteer Ambulance Service and garbage & recycling are contracted as well.

Park & Rec. Dept. Finances

Garner’s annual General Fund budget is around \$2 million. About ½ of General revenue comes from property taxes; the remainder comes from fees, fines and other financing sources. The City has a permanent 1% Local Option Sales Tax, available for any legal purpose, and a 5% Hotel/Motel Tax with 25% being allocated to specific Parks & Rec projects. The Parks & Rec Department budget for FY-19 is \$487,844 with \$325,000 coming from fees and memberships. The Aquatic Center has a \$73,948 reserve fund and the Veterans Memorial Recreation Center \$97,552.

Current & Future Projects

The City annually updates a strategic plan and a five-year capital improvements plan. Current Parks & Recreation projects includes replacement of workout equipment and new playground equipment for Ollenburg Park. Future projects include new softball/baseball complex, a dog park, and walking trail along Highway 18.

To Apply:

Please fill out the Garner Employment Application, Cover Letter, and Resume. Those who do not submit all three will not be interviewed.