



# Kiwaniis®

## CLUB OF ROANOKE

### FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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### ***Kiwanis Club of Roanoke Receives Grant for Kiwanis Nature Park!***

*(Roanoke, VA)* – The Kiwanis Club of Roanoke is excited to announce our club has been awarded a \$50,000 grant from the Virginia Environmental Endowment Community Conservation Fund.

Last year, Kiwanis Club of Roanoke built an inclusive playground in the Melrose neighborhood, near the Melrose Library and Goodwill Campus. This year our club is building an adjacent Nature Park!

This 3-year grant will fund benches and picnic tables, an amphitheater, and accessible trails as we build a Nature Park in tandem with the City of Roanoke’s stream restoration scheduled for 2024-2025. Benefits of the Nature Park include improvement of water quality for Horton’s Branch, increased biodiversity that will reduce the heat island index in Northwest Roanoke, and adding butterflies and other pollinators to our local environment.

Community-wide engagement in this park is being fostered at a **FREE Spring FunDay and Planting Festival on May 21st** that is open to the public. Activities at the FunDay include a Job Fair and cookout. All are invited to celebrate Spring and what we can accomplish working together!

Cheri Hartman, co-chair of the Kiwanis Nature Park Committee says: “we’re so excited that this grant will support the creation of the Kiwanis Nature Park adjacent to our playground. We look forward to the impact of the nature park on the quality of life in the Northwest neighborhood where it is located and on our Valley's environmental sustainability!

All are welcome to attend – and bring a friend!

### **About the Kiwanis Club of Roanoke**

**The Kiwanis Club of Roanoke** is a community service organization in the Roanoke Valley of Virginia that has been serving the needs of youth, older adults, and the environment for over 100 years. Our Club provides funds and sweat equity to over 25 charitable organizations, sponsors seven Key Clubs at area high schools, a Builders Club at Cave Spring Middle School. BUGS at Westside Elementary School, and the Phoenix Star AKtion Club for adults with special needs. We have provided mileage markers and signs on the greenways and donated an all-inclusive playground to the Melrose-Orange neighborhood. At the Kiwanis Club of Roanoke you can fulfill your desire to serve the community and build friendships that will last a lifetime. All are welcome to join or participate in programs.

The Kiwanis Club of Roanoke meets each Wednesday from 12:30-1:30PM.

For general information:

Tel: (540) 265-2441

Website: [www.roanokekiwanisclub.org](http://www.roanokekiwanisclub.org)