



CITY OF BERLIN

OFFICIAL PRESS RELEASE

June 6, 2022

Effective immediately, restrooms at Riverside Park will be locked unless there is a rental of the shelter houses. This will be temporary as an attempt to prevent further vandalism this summer.

As many members of the public are aware, vandalism has been ongoing in the parks for several weeks, more so than our average year. In this last week, it has been almost every day. This damage ranges from minimal, to massive in work and funds required to repair the restrooms back to running order. The most recent was this Saturday when our Parks Staff found urinals filled with sand. To remove all the sand that was poured in the urinals, staff had to completely remove the pipe work and empty them before the urinals could be functioning again. This is difficult, costly, and time-consuming work.

Unfortunately, we are not the only municipality that is having to resort to this option. Hopefully, this option will remain temporary. We are in the process of looking into security camera systems to possibly catch the individuals who seem to pride themselves on destroying city property. We installed a trial camera today with hopefully more to be installed shortly. We apologize we have had to resort to this, but find we have no other option to prevent further damage and cost at this time.

If you see anyone acting suspicious or doing something you know is not right at the Parks or in the Parks restrooms, PLEASE call the police.

If you have any questions or concerns about this press release, please reach to the City Administrator Sara Rutkowski at 920-361-5400 or [srutkowski@cityofberlin.wi.gov](mailto:srutkowski@cityofberlin.wi.gov)  
Thank you for your understanding.