



*Brian Corn, a West Carrollton parks and recreation department seasonal employee, spreads mulch under the new playground equipment in front of the Civic Center.*

June 23, 2008

### **News Release**

#### **NOT JUST FOR ‘PLAYING AROUND’ NEW PLAYGROUND PROMOTES STRENGTH, BALANCE**

WEST CARROLLTON, Ohio - The City of West Carrollton parks and recreation department recently installed new playground equipment at Weidner Park in front of the Civic Center, 300 E. Central Ave.

With lots of climbing ropes, arcs and rings, the new equipment looks like a futuristic spider web. However, the playground is more than just a climbing toy.

“It’s designed to promote muscle development, agility and coordination,” said Christian Mattingly, parks and recreation director. “As far as I know, this type of playground is pretty unique to Montgomery County.”

In addition to climbers and hanging bars, the “Evos” Landscape Structures equipment also has an edgeless slide, wobble bouncers to promote coordination and rotating turn twister toys.

The new equipment is designed to “encourage kids to continually balance and counterbalance their bodies against the forces of gravity,” according to Landscape Structures.

“The playground is spread out so that it can accommodate a lot of children at once and it’s accessible from the ground for children with disabilities,” Mattingly said.

“The old equipment that we replaced was approximately 24 years old,” Mattingly said. “It got pretty heavy use because it was centrally located near the library and baseball field.

The installation of the new equipment required digging about 52 holes and using 120 bags of cement. “It was somewhat of a complicated installation process, but I think the result is worthwhile,” Mattingly said.

“The city saved about \$3,000 by installing the new equipment in-house rather than hiring a contractor.”

For more information about the playground equipment, see [www.playlsi.com](http://www.playlsi.com).

-end-

For media interviews, call **Christian Mattingly**, parks and recreation director, at (937) 859-5181.