

BEMA Group Duplicator Plug-In

Introduction

The BEMA Group Duplicator Plug-In is a tool to duplicate a portion of a group tree structure including the group, group members, group attributes, group locations and group schedules. The initial use for this is in churches that create new groups each semester for life groups/small groups and where many of these groups continue with the same members. It allows them to be copied and then prepared/edited for the next semester with updates to attributes such as topic, meeting time/location, etc., without disrupting the current group information. The current semester groups can continue to be edited and updated at the same time the new groups are being edited and updated. This allows the next semester groups to be prepared for a sign-up/registration while the current semester continues.

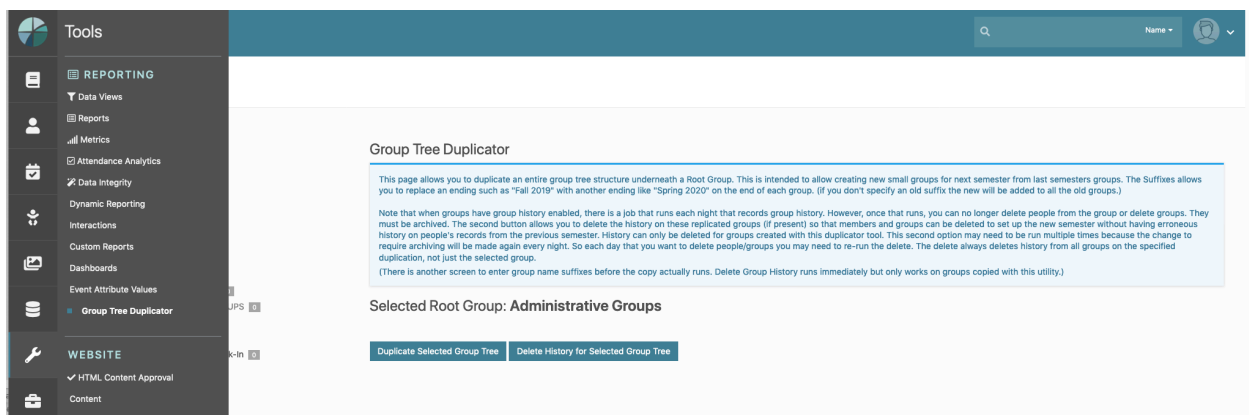
NOTE – at present group member attributes are not duplicated. The Crossing did not have any group member attributes to duplicate.

If group history is enabled on the group type, it can be difficult to prevent members from showing as being a part of the new group even though they never attended it. Group history in Rock prevents deleting and requires archiving or members. There is an additional feature in this plug-in to delete any group history from the copied groups so that members can be deleted to set up the groups, and person history will show accurately since the person was never a part of the new group.

The plug-in consists of a stored procedure and two workflows. One workflow handles the entry form and duplication, and the second handles group history deletion.

The group history deletion only works on groups that were duplicated with this tool. It does not provide a general group history deletion option.

The tool is located under Tools -> Group Tree Duplicator

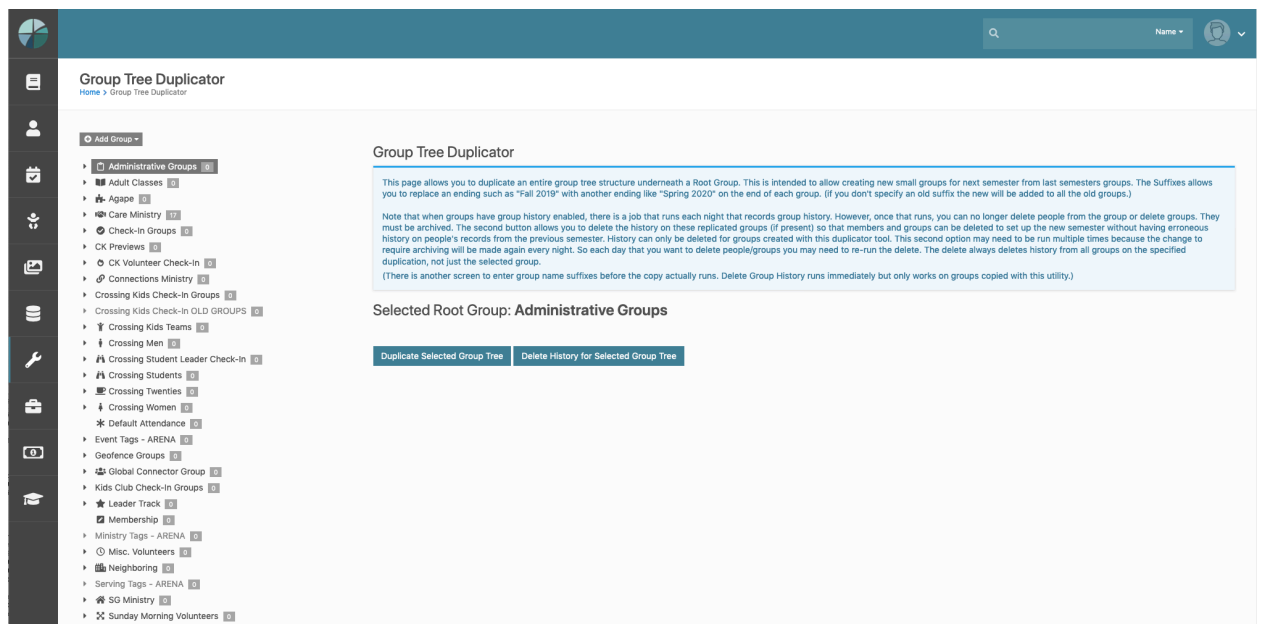


Set Up

- *The Crossing – Setup is already completed on your site.*

Duplication Process

- 1) Select the root group from the group tree on the left of the page. All groups under the root group will be duplicated. This can include multiple group types. The copied groups will retain the original group type.
- 2) Click “Duplicate Selected Group Tree.”



- 3) The screens will prompt for an Old Suffix and New Suffix. This allows a portion of the group names to be replaced/updated as a part of duplicating the groups. The Old Suffix will be removed from the group name and the New Suffix added. If the Old Suffix is blank or the Old Suffix is not part of the group name, the New Suffix will still be added to the group names to distinguish them from the old groups. New Suffix is a required field.
- 4) Click “Submit” and the groups will be duplicated under the same parent group as the root group.

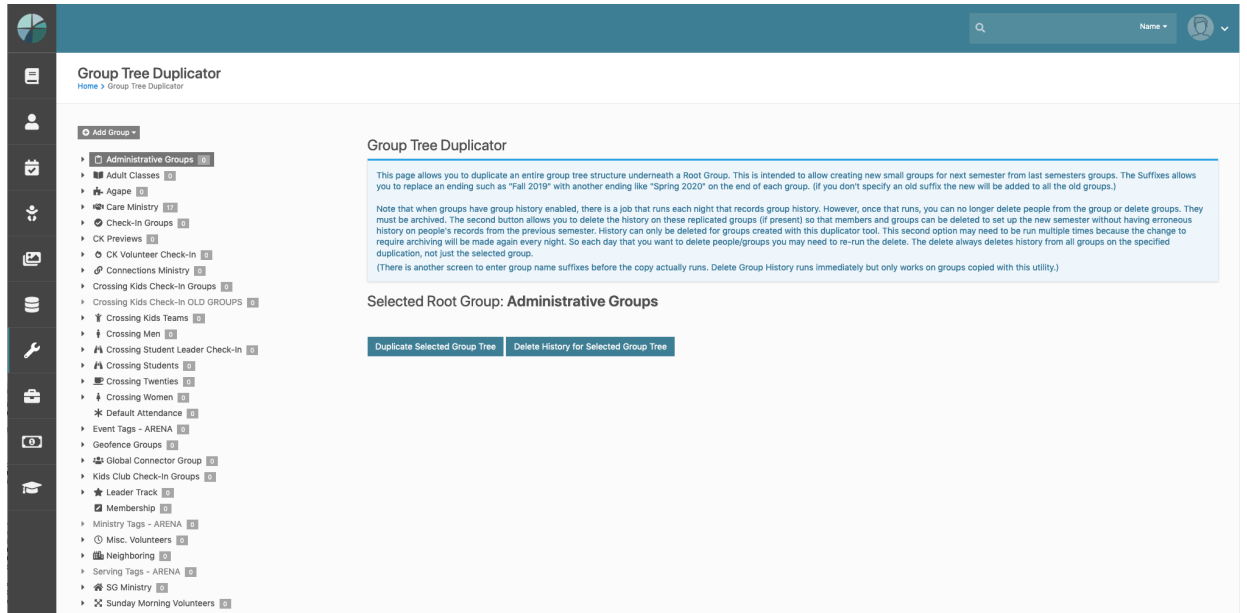
The screenshot shows a web application titled "Duplicate Group Tree". It features a dark sidebar on the left with various icons. The main content area has a header with the title and a breadcrumb trail: "Home > Group Tree Duplicator > Duplicate Group Tree". Below the header, there is an "Options" section with a bullet point explaining the purpose of the "Old Suffix" and "New Suffix" fields. The "Work Entry" section shows a "Root Group: Carla" and two input fields: "Old Suffix" (containing "Fall 2019") and "New Suffix" (containing "Winter 2020"). A "Submit" button is located below these fields. At the bottom, there is a footer that reads "Crafted by the Spark Development Network / License".

Deleting Group History

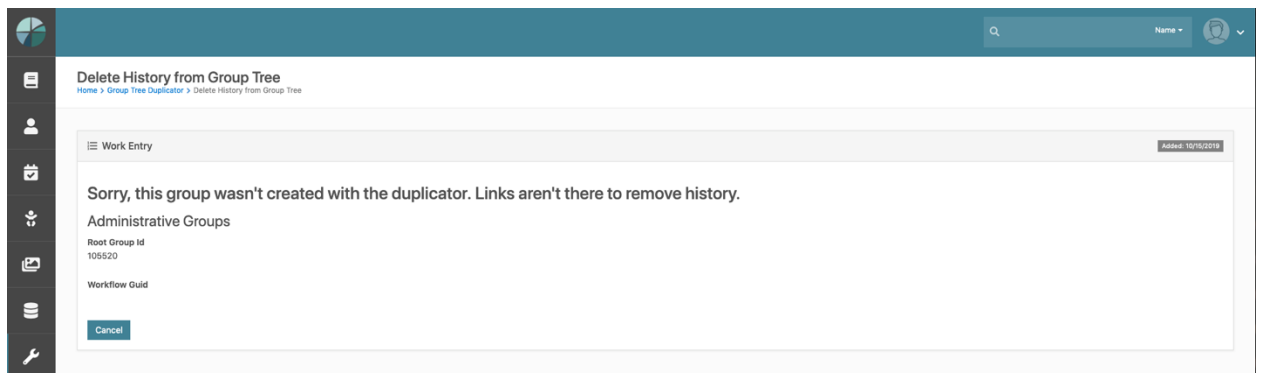
Deleting Group History can only be performed on the groups that were duplicated with this tool. It will delete history for all groups duplicated and “reset” the history to start over.

There is a task that runs nightly in Rock to store group history information. As long as there is no history, group members can be deleted. Once history exists, members must be Archived instead of deleted. By deleting Group History, it re-enables deletion of group members. However, this may need to be run multiple times because the job will run each night and create new group history information. Therefore, any day where members are being deleted will require the Group History to be deleted.

- 1) Select any group from the group tree on the left of the page that was duplicated with this tool.
- 2) Click Delete History for Selected Group Tree.



If the group selected was not created with the Group Duplicator Tool you will see the following error.



Other Uses

The Crossing - The stored procedure supports replacing the ending date on the group schedule with a new value. So, if the fall semester ended with one particular date, it can be replaced with a different ending date for the winter semester. However, this functionality was not being used by The Crossing and is not exposed on the user interface.