

**April Quote:** "Parks and open spaces are our collective backyard, places where we can come together, escape from daily stresses, and reconnect with nature." – Richard Louv

### **Parks Director Report – April**

As we transition into April, our focus shifts to preparing for the busy spring and summer seasons. March saw strong engagement across various programs, facility preparations, and the early stages of hiring for our summer staff.

### **Youth Sports & Tournaments**

Our youth soccer program has reached its highest registration numbers since COVID, with 250 kids signed up. This growth highlights the ongoing demand for quality recreational opportunities, and we're committed to ensuring a smooth season with well-maintained fields, organized schedules, and responsive staff.

Additionally, the homeschool basketball tournament was a success, bringing in teams from multiple regions, some as far away as Hawaii and drawing spectators to our facilities. We also hosted an archery tournament in coordination with Willard High School, which saw strong participation and reinforced the demand for alternative sports programming in our community.

### **Facility Preparations & Maintenance**

With warmer weather approaching, our team has been actively preparing outdoor facilities:

- **Pool Repairs & De-Winterization** – Maintenance efforts are underway to ensure the pool is ready for the summer season. This includes addressing necessary repairs and preparing for health and safety inspections. We needed to replace a backflow prevention valve in addition to the planned repair of the main drain sentry system replacement.
- **Outdoor Facility Readiness** – Parks and athletic fields are being prepped for upcoming programs. Mowing and landscaping have begun, and we're focusing on enhancing public spaces to provide an inviting experience for residents and visitors.

### **Community Engagement & Program Success**

The recent camp at the Community Building was well-attended, reinforcing the value of structured programming during school breaks. This was a new location, and feedback surveys show that the new location has gotten positive reviews. We are also seeing continued strong participation in our fitness programs, a testament to our community's interest in wellness-focused offerings.

### **Summer Hiring & Staffing**

We have officially begun hiring seasonal staff for summer operations. Lifeguards, maintenance workers, and program leaders are key positions we are working to fill to ensure we maintain high-quality services during our busiest months.

As we progress through spring, our team remains committed to providing top-tier recreational experiences while balancing operational efficiency and fiscal responsibility. We appreciate the continued support from our staff, volunteers, and community members.

March					
Facility	General Attendance	Members	Day Pass	\$2/2 Youth Rate	Total
Recreation Center	7600	2181		183	9964
Better Together Playground	2000				2000
Jackson St Park	5600				5600
Miller Disc Golf Course	1800				1800
Highline Sports Complex					
Community Building	Insufficient Data				0