



**Recreation & Parks  
Department Report  
July 2022**

- Seven groups used the Hughes Center during June for a total of 131 hours. Events included the Pope County Library Summer Kickoff Carnival, a Main Street Russellville concert, an Arkansas Blood Institute blood drive and a CPR class.
- For the month of June the Russellville Aquatic Center had 21 regular parties and 11 private parties for a total of 75 hours. Classes held included an Aqua HIIT class for a total of six hours and Learn to Swim lessons for 204 total hours. The Sharks held a swim meet on June 17 with eight teams participating. A five year anniversary celebration was held on June 29 with coffee and desserts offered to the customers. Admission prices were also reduced for the family swim hours.
- The Parks Commission did not meet in June. Minutes from previous meetings are available for viewing at [www.russellvillearkansas.org](http://www.russellvillearkansas.org).
- The Department had 18 pavilion rentals and 11 practice field reservations for Shiloh Park and Pleasant View Park in June.
- In safety matters, all fire extinguishers in all vehicles, heavy equipment and park buildings were inspected. Self-inspection office forms were completed for the month of June. Maintenance staff continued their weekly safety talks in June.
- A state tournament and a qualifier tournament were held at Pleasant View Park. The tournaments brought 53 teams to Russellville.
- A Juneteenth celebration organized by the James Park Committee was held at James School Park on June 18. The event included speeches by local dignitaries, food, prizes and live entertainment.
- The annual children's fishing derby was held on June 11 with 75 participants that caught a total of 110 fish. Congratulations to the heaviest fish winners Easton Bratton, Landon Rashell and Bruin Middleton and the heaviest stringer winners Mason Martin, Koleton Farmer and Bruin Middleton. The heaviest fish overall was caught by Bruin Middleton.
- M.J. Hickey Park was the host site for the 9AA USSSA State Tournament. The tournament brought 22 teams to Russellville.
- New fall zone protection turf was installed on the play units at City Park. Construction on an all-inclusive playground and a new splash pad should begin later this year.
- The James School Park basketball courts have been finished and opened to the public. The final paint design on the courts was completed and looks amazing. A water fountain with a bottle filling station was installed beside the basketball courts.
- Work has started on the Pine Knob Hill bike skills course located in Confederate Mothers Memorial Park. The River Valley Ozark Off-Road Cyclists club has been clearing brush, trimming trees and laying out trail routes through the park. Future plans include adding trails, skill elements, a balance course for kids and parking area improvements.