



**Recreation & Parks
Department Report
March 2025**

- Twelve groups used the Hughes Center during the month of February for a total of 144 hours. Events included Chocopalooza, a Delta Waterfowl fundraiser and the Cub Scouts Pack 182 Pinewood Derby.
- The Parks Commission did not meet in February. Minutes from previous meetings are available for viewing at www.russellvillearkansas.org.
- The department had one pavilion rental in the city parks and thirty-six practice field reservations for Shiloh Park, Pleasant View Park and Vick Field in February.
- The Russellville Youth Baseball Association began registration for their 2025 season in February. For the first time in their history, RYBA offered 6U and 8U softball divisions. Four teams took advantage of this offer and our looking forward to playing under the RYBA umbrella. Practices for all teams will begin the first week of March. RYBA signed up 430 participants and will have 41 teams competing this summer. The season will run from April through June.
- Arkansas Valley Soccer Association held registration in February for their spring season. League play begins in March and will end in May.
- The Russellville Cyclones baseball and softball teams are practicing for their upcoming seasons on Field 1 and Field 6 at M.J. Hickey Park. The first home game for baseball was held on February 25, and the first home game for softball will be played on March 4.
- Renovations on the Ouita boat launch have begun. The shoreline has been cleaned up and all the brush has been cleared. A concrete wall was set into place between the two boat ramps. The wall will help with shoreline erosion. A new fifty-foot dock and gangway were also installed. The new dock replaced a dock that was fifty years old.
- Three new zero turn mowers and one twelve foot batwing mower have been delivered to the Parks Department. The equipment will be put into use by our every day mowing crew.
- Construction continues on the six new pickleball courts located at the Russellville Soccer Complex. The foundation has been set and the footings were poured. Concrete work will start the first week of March. The new ten foot by fifty foot pavilion has also been delivered for the pickleball courts.
- Our staff will see a lot of new faces in March. The Department hired a new aquatic center assistant manager, three new maintenance workers and a program manager. The program manager position is new for the department. The program manager will develop recreation programs and help supervise our leagues and numerous tournaments.