



**Recreation & Parks  
Department Report  
May 2025**

- Eleven groups used the Hughes Center during the month of April for a total of 142 hours. Events included a CPR/AED class for city employees, a basketball league organizational meeting and a Scouting America Eagle Board of Review.
- The Parks Commission did not meet in April. Minutes from previous meetings are available for viewing at [www.russellvillearkansas.org](http://www.russellvillearkansas.org).
- In April, the department handled 26 pavilion rentals across the city parks and 32 practice field reservations for Shiloh Park, Pleasant View Park, and Vick Field.
- In terms of safety, the department conducted inspections of all fire extinguishers, vehicles, offices, and park buildings. Additionally, a fire drill was held at the Hughes Center.
- The annual third-grade kickball tournament for London Elementary, Crawford Elementary, and Center Valley Elementary took place on April 11 at Pleasant View Park.
- In April, tournaments at Pleasant View Park and M.J. Hickey Park featured two softball tournaments and one baseball tournament. A total of 54 teams took advantage of the turf fields throughout the month.
- City employees Mariah Jeffcoat and John Pettigrew successfully completed an AED/CPR training course in April. The class was led by aquatic staff member Zoe Keen.
- An organizational meeting for the Department's new basketball league was held on April 29. Games will take place on Tuesday nights at the Hughes Community Center, with the first game scheduled for Tuesday, May 6, at 6:00 p.m.
- Construction is progressing on the pickleball courts at the Russellville Soccer Complex. The concrete and sidewalk work has been completed, while the pavilion and electrical work are currently underway. The fence work and court surface painting are scheduled to take place in the coming weeks.
- The Ouita boat dock project is nearly complete. The dock has been installed, the parking lot paved, landscaping refreshed, and the shoreline stabilized. The area is now open to the public.
- The new ski area dock has arrived and is now installed. It features a kayak ramp on one end—the first of its kind in a city-managed area.
- New playground equipment for James School Park is expected to arrive soon. The previous play unit, which had been in place for 27 years, has been removed and the area has been leveled in preparation. The updated playground will feature a main play structure, a swing set, and a turf play surface.
- The playground surface at Crawford Park has been replaced. The old rubber tiles were removed and upgraded to a padded turf surface. The playground is now open to the public and ready for use.