



**Recreation & Parks  
Department Report  
August 2025**

- In July, the Hughes Center hosted eight different groups for a total of 181 hours. Notable events included a Gutierrez birthday party, the Pope County Library Summer Reading Finale and several Scouting America meetings.
- The Parks Commission did not meet in July. Minutes from previous meetings are available for viewing at [www.russellvillearkansas.org](http://www.russellvillearkansas.org).
- In July, the department handled thirteen pavilion rentals across the city parks and twelve practice field reservations for Shiloh Park, Pleasant View Park, and Vick Field.
- In safety matters, the department performed safety inspections on all fire extinguishers, eyewash stations, vehicles, AEDs, and park buildings in July.
- After a quiet July without any tournaments, the ballfields at Pleasant View Park and M.J. Hickey Park are gearing up for a busy fall season. A total of twelve tournaments are currently scheduled across August, September, and October. The Arkansas Valley Soccer Association (AVSA) hosted a soccer tournament on July 20, featuring 28 participating teams.
- Registration for the Russellville Youth Baseball Association's fall league is currently underway for kids ages 3 to 12. Registration information can be found at [www.rybabaseball.com/fall](http://www.rybabaseball.com/fall).
- In July, the Arkansas Valley Soccer Association accepted fall league sign-ups for kids born between 2008 and 2022. Information about their soccer league is available at [www.arvalleysoccer.com](http://www.arvalleysoccer.com).
- The City of Russellville, in partnership with Main Street Russellville, hosted the fifth annual Independence Day celebration downtown on July 4. The evening concluded with a spectacular fireworks display presented by Interstate Fireworks. Special thanks go to the many volunteers from Public Works, the Russellville Police Department, the Russellville Fire Department, and the Parks Department for their essential support in making the event a success.
- Registration for the department's adult fall softball league was held from July 7 through July 18, with twenty-two teams signing up to compete in the upcoming season. The league is set to begin in August and will run through October, with games scheduled on Tuesday nights at Pleasant View Park.
- Animal Control Department Head Mike Vernon conducted the orientation and qualification event for this year's Urban Deer Hunt at the Sheppard Drive soccer fields in July. He was assisted by representatives from the Arkansas Game and Fish Commission and the Arkansas Bowhunters Association. A total of 39 participants successfully qualified for the upcoming season, which will run from September 1 through February 28.
- A new water slide has been installed at M.J. Hickey Pool. Big thanks to the Russellville Regional Leadership Academy for raising the funds to purchase the slide. It is a great addition and appreciated by all.