



**Recreation & Parks
Department Report
April 2008**

- Eleven (11) groups used the Hughes Center during March for a total of 272 hours. Events included Hamfest, two baby showers and Kiwanis Pancake Day.
- The Parks Commission met on March 12th. They reviewed the survey that A.T.U. is doing for the City of Russellville. The skate park dedication was moved to June 28th. Capital projects were discussed with projected revenues and a timeline for the first purchases. A 50/50 matching grant was discussed for the purchase of playground equipment. A review committee was established for capital projects. It will include Sherry Spencer, Mack Hollis, Marvin Collier, Bill Eaton and Chloe Lieblong.
- There were 11 incidents of illegal dumping reported in March. Nine of those were at Orbit Lane and two at Pleasant View Park. There was also vandalism at Hickey Park, James School Park, Russellville Soccer Complex and the skate park. This is a bad trend that we will need to address and remedy.
- The weather was an issue in March. There were several downed tree limbs and some park areas were closed due to high water. There are still many park areas we can not get into due to the wet ground. This is hampering cleanup of downed trees in those areas.
- R.Y.B.A. began their season with practices at Hickey and Vick fields. A.V.S.A. soccer began play at the Soccer Complex. The Adult Soccer League began play on Sundays in March. Adult softball teams began practices on Shiloh and Pleasant View fields.
- Registration was held for the department's adult summer softball league with thirty four (34) teams registering.
- All city parks were opened and readied for the upcoming season. All pavilions, rest rooms, ball fields and park areas are set up for summer use.
- New T8 electronic lights were installed at the rest rooms at Hickey Park Phase III. They are more energy efficient and provide more light. This is in keeping with our green policy.
- Work on the parking lot at the skate park was started and weather permitting, it will be ready for the grand opening on June 28th.
- Timers were installed to control lights at city park rest rooms. This is in keeping with our green policy.
- The department held our annual Junior Olympic basketball and tennis skills competition for kids ages 8 to 13 on Saturday, March 15th at the Hughes Center.