



Recreation & Parks Department Report February 2009

- Nine (9) groups used the Hughes Center during January for a total of 175 hours. Events included the Martin Luther King Jr. Celebration, AARP Tax Aide Training and Tax Assistance which begins February 2.
- The parks commission did not meet in January.
- Seven (7) vandalism incidents were recorded in January. The incidents included four illegal dumps on Orbit Lane, graffiti at Hickey Park and criminal mischief at City Park and the skate park.
- The Hughes Center gymnasium was patched, caulked, painted and the floor was refinished. Closet doors were replaced in the gym as needed.
- The fall zone rubber matting for the four (4) composite play structures arrived and is being stored at the old water tower storage area.
- Playground installation began at Veterans, Shiloh and City Parks with excavation and pad work. We are planning to dedicate the playgrounds in late March or April.
- Fence work has started on Field 7 at Hickey Park.
- Russellville High School has begun baseball and softball practice at Hickey Park Fields 1 and 6. The Russellville High School girl's soccer team has begun using the soccer complex for practice.
- Enough teams did not register in order to have an adult volleyball league for 2009. We hope to have a league next year.
- Beavers have returned to Pleasant View Park and the soccer complex. We are currently working on eradication.
- The committee met on the Hickey Park concession and rest rooms. The recommendations were given to Greg Barborek of Crafton Tull Sparks.
- Work continues at Illinois Bayou Park. Gravel for the roadway, parking lot and ramp was laid. Cutting lower limbs and clearing of underbrush has begun and will be ongoing throughout the year. A trail has been designed for the park and will have three loops. One loop will be a half mile, one a mile and one a mile and a half. We hope to begin construction in February.
- A presentation on the state of parks was given to the Hoe and Hope Garden Club on January 28.
- Several of the parks had broken limbs down after the recent ice storm. The limbs were cleaned up that week.