



## ***Recreation & Parks Department Report October 2012***

- Four (4) groups used the Hughes Center during September for a total of 129 hours. Events included the Senior Network Group Health Expo and the Sandoval birthday party.
- The Parks Commission did not meet in September. The next meeting is scheduled for Tuesday, October 9 at 12:00pm at the Hughes Center.
- The department had one incident of vandalism for the month of September. Vandals spray painted graffiti on the outside walls of Washburn Park restrooms.
- Reservations for the month of September included 16 pavilion reservations. City Park continues to be our most reserved park but Sequoyah is being used quite a bit since the addition of the restroom facilities. Fall is a busy time for pavilion reservations as the weather improves and the heat subsides.
- A disc golf tournament was hosted by the local disc golf club on September 1. The club, led by Matt Lloyd, is very active in promoting the sport of disc golf and has assisted our department in several projects at the course.
- The Russellville Water Ski Club held a state qualifier ski tournament on September 7, 8 & 9 at the Russellville water ski area. The tournament was a big success with 30 skiers participating. A special thanks to Chris Draggs and Paul Jackson for hosting this tournament each year.
- The department's annual Punt, Pass & Kick event was held on September 8. Participation in the event continues to grow each year. Winners at the local event advance to the state meets in Paris or North Little Rock. If successful there they travel on to NFL Tennessee Titans game. We wish all of our winners good luck at the state meet.
- The groups who participate in the department's Adopt-a Park program generously donated their time to take part in the Great Arkansas Cleanup on Publics Lands Day with employees and equipment from our department. We would like to thank Mahle Engine Components, Inc., Russellville Water Ski Club, Firestone Tube Company, Conagra Foods and our newest group, the ATU Student Government Association. The department appreciates your help.
- The fences on the front of the dugouts at Pleasant View Park were replaced. We added additional railing and ties to strengthen the new fence in hopes it will last longer and be safer for park patrons.
- The gym floor was refinished by Lee's Gym Floor Coatings on September 24, 25 & 26. The yearly refinishing is directly responsible for the longevity of the floor.
- Work continues on the Illinois Bayou Park Trail with clearing and grubbing on the side trails and leveling the main trail.
- Mowing the parks has picked up for the month and will continue in October since the rains have returned and warm temperatures continue.

- Fire ants have again become an issue in the parks since the rains have returned. We have purchased the appropriate poison and have begun to search the parks for mounds. We have kept up with the increased infestations and would like to thank the public for letting us know areas we have missed. Anyone seeing fire ant mounds in city parks, please call and report them to the Center at 968-1272.
- We have been treating the Hickey Pool water weekly with powdered chlorine to keep the threat of mosquitoes down.
- Arkansas Valley Soccer Association began their fall league on September 15. They play at the soccer complex in the afternoons on Monday, Tuesday, Thursday and Saturday mornings. This year's league has 55 teams with 500 participants.
- The adult soccer league continues their league play at the soccer complex on Sunday's from 9:00am until 3:00pm. This year's fall league has sixteen teams.
- The Russellville Youth Baseball Association began their fall baseball league on September 18. They play at Hickey Park on Tuesday and Thursday nights on Fields 3, 4, 5 and 7. The league has 170 participants that make up 15 teams.