



**Recreation & Parks  
Department Report  
May 2017**

- Ten (10) groups used the Hughes Center during April for a total of 105 hours. Events included the River Valley Arts Center's pARTy in the Park, Pope County Lands Tax Sale, Hospice's Saturday's Fair and the Bruce Bland Ministries Healing Conference.
- The Parks Commission met on April 6. Minutes are available for viewing on [www.russellvillearkansas.org](http://www.russellvillearkansas.org)
- The department has 15 pavilion rentals, 16 practice field reservations for Shiloh and Pleasant View Parks and 12 practice field reservations for Vick Field in April.
- The Russellville Recreation and Parks Department summer softball league began play with 24 teams participating this summers. Games are played on Wednesday and Thursday nights at Pleasant View Park. Other softball leagues beginning play at the same parks are the Russellville Church League with 17 teams participating and the Boys and Girls Club with 15 teams. The older teams compete in the River Valley Girls Softball League which has 72 teams participating this year.
- The Russellville Youth Baseball Association league began play at M.J. Hickey Park on April 11. They have 37 teams consisting of 411 players participating this year. Games are played on Monday, Tuesday, Thursday and Friday nights. This year RYBA is hosting Fun Day Sundays (2:00pm to 4:00pm) which are open to anyone that wants to come out to practice, play a little baseball and have a good time.
- Work began on cleaning and preparing Hickey Pool to open for the summer season. Applications were taken for the pool staff in April. The pool is scheduled to open on Saturday, May 27 at 12:30pm.
- In safety matters, the department performed inspections on all fire extinguishers, vehicles, jobsites, offices and all park buildings. A fire drill was conducted at the Hughes Center.
- Storms on April 26 caused damage to City Park. A tree was blown over taking out a power pole and line near the splash pad. Within three days it was cleaned up and Entergy had a new pole in place and the power restored. Great job Entergy and our maintenance staff to get the damage cleaned up. James School Park had many limbs down and one tree down.
- The dock at Ouita boat launch was repaired. The dock hinge plates have pulled away from the concrete. We will need to look at replacing the dock in the future. We encourage the public to contact us if they experience any problems at any of our City docks.
- Temporary occupancy was granted to the City for the new Russellville Aquatic Center. Training is currently ongoing in the new facility and work continues to get a staff in place for operation. The opening date will be announced in the very near future.
- Graffiti artists used Hickey Park's play unit for their canvas as there was extensive spray painting on the unit. It took six hours for maintenance to clean the unit.
- The trail connection at Parkway to Bona Dea Trails was opened in April. A ribbon cutting ceremony will be held in May.