



Recreation & Parks Department Report July 2011

- Seventeen groups used the Hughes Center during June for a total of 209 hours. Events included the Pink Rose Civic Club's summer cereal drive, the Tillis wedding reception and the Sandoval wedding reception, an AVSA board meeting and Board of Adjustment and Planning Commission meetings.
- The Parks Commission met on June 14. Business included Freedom Fest, Zumba classes at the Hughes Center, the gate at the Skate Park and Orbit Lane.
- The department had one incident of vandalism in the month of June. It was destruction of property at City Park.
- Red Cross began their swim lessons on June 13 and will conduct three different sessions until July 21. Red Cross gives lessons for all ages from 6 months to adult. We encourage everyone to learn to swim and participate in the Red Cross lessons.
- The Russellville Sharks swim team began their summer at Hickey Pool on June 13. They practice from 7:00am to 9:00am Monday through Friday. They will host a swim meet on July 8.
- Eleven private pool parties were booked at M.J. Hickey Pool in June. The pool was also utilized by the Russellville Police Department for their explorer program.
- Playground inspections were completed on all of the playgrounds in the city in June. Most equipment was in perfect operating condition and met all the safety criteria. Any inadequacies found will be repaired.
- A safety meeting was conducted by Mark Lawrence of the Arkansas Department of Labor on first aid. The presentation was designed more specific to our department and what we encounter. After the safety meeting we held a staff meeting to discuss several park concerns and projects.
- The department concluded the adult summer softball league on June 23. Congratulations to the following winners: The Car Company - Men Division I, Dirty Dozen Men – Men Division I, Champion Fitness – Coed Division I, Hit N Run – Coed Division II and Affordable Bail Bonds – Coed Division III.
- The Russellville Youth Baseball Association hosted the 12AA State Baseball tournament at M.J. Hickey Park. The tournament was held on June 25 – 26 with 33 teams participating.
- Four tournaments were held at Pleasant View Park in June. The tournaments included a benefit for Hospice (15 teams), the ASA Youth District Tournament (54 teams), a benefit for Burton Memorial Scholarship (14 teams) and the ASA Youth 8 and Under State (22 teams).
- The smoker grill was used twice in June.
- The department's annual children's fishing derby was held on June 11 at Pleasant View Park. Congratulations to the following winners: Age Group 4 to 6, Gage Taylor – heaviest fish, Garrett Wilson – heaviest stringer, Age Group 7 to 9, Wesley Ivey and Zachary Evins (tie) – heaviest stringer, Aaron Thomas – heaviest fish overall and age group, Age Group 10 to 12, Evan Irwin, heaviest fish and stringer. The crowd was one of the largest we have had and most participants managed to catch fish.
- The heating and air conditioners at the Hughes Center were completed by Beavers Electric which is just in time for our summer heat wave.
- Preparation for the annual fireworks display kept us all busy the last part of June. Several meetings were held with the fireworks committee, the shooters and emergency personnel working the event. Thanks to public works staff for assisting us in preparing the site. Also thanks to the Russellville Police and Fire Department, the Office of Emergency Management and the Journey Church.