



Recreation & Parks Department Report November 2008

- Six (6) groups used the Hughes Center during October for a total of 188 hours. Events included the RHS Class of 98 Reunion, Patel Religious Ceremony, Political Candidate Forum and KidsFest.
- The Parks Commission met on October 8. The commission discussed WIFI in the parks, set the skate park dedication date, asking the council to make our pet policy an ordinance and went over the progress of our capital projects.
- Ten (10) vandalism incidents were recorded in October. The incidents included two incidents of major graffiti at the skate park, three incidents of major graffiti at the soccer complex, two illegal dumps at Pleasant View and Shiloh Parks and three illegal dumps at Orbit Lane.
- Quarterly safety inspections were conducted on the park buildings and vehicles. A fire drill was held at the Hughes Community Center on Monday, October 6.
- Mid-Ark Fire Protection conducted an annual inspection all of the department's fire extinguishers. All needed repairs and replacements were made.
- The Hughes Center stage floor was repaired and refinished by Smith Flooring of Fort Smith.
- A dedication and ribbon cutting was held at the Russellville Skate Park on Tuesday, October 21. Refreshments and commemorative t-shirts were provided to the large attending crowd.
- The Russellville Soccer Complex was the host site for the AVSA annual fall recreational soccer tournament on Saturday, October 4 and Sunday, October 5. This year 61 teams participated in the tournament.
- Construction began on Field 7 at Hickey Park with demolition of fences, asphalt, tree removal and light pole removal. Bids for grading work were opened on Thursday, October 23.
- Construction began on the shade structures at Hickey Park, Shiloh Park and Hickey Pool. The project should be completed in November. We will wait until late March to install the fabric tops.
- Two spring toy riding animals were installed at City Park. They were purchased in part by a donation from Firestone Tube and Rubber Company. Firestone employees have adopted City Park as part of our adopt-a-park program.
- Washburn Park, Sequoyah Park and the Ouita boat ramp parking lots were painted.
- The pool filter tanks were sanded and painted at M.J. Hickey Park.
- Handicapped parking signs were installed at the skate park and replaced at James School Park.
- The adult fall softball leagues were completed for the 2008 season.
- Excavation work on the Illinois Bayou Park was completed. Work planned during the winter includes some additional hand clearing, installing electric lines, lights and picnic areas. We plan on opening the park in late March or April.