



*Recreation & Parks
Department Report
August 2015*

- Fourteen (14) groups used the Hughes Center during July for a total of 183 hours. Events included AVSA soccer signups, Single Parent Scholarship Fund fundraiser, Pope County Library Summer Reading Program event and signups for the senior softball league.
- The Parks Commission did not meet in July.
- The department had 7 pavilion reservations and 21 pool party reservations in July.
- The Boys and Girls Club Sharks swim team completed their season at M.J. Hickey Pool. The pool was also utilized for near drowning training by the Arkansas National Guard in July.
- The Learn to Swim program completed their third and final session in July. The Department would like to thank Gary Knudsen and all of his instructors on doing such a great job teaching 117 participants the art of swimming.
- A USSSA State Tournament for ages 8 to 16 was held in July at Pleasant View Park and Shiloh Park. The tournament had 73 teams and played 168 games. This was the largest tournament of the year. Thanks go out to everyone who helped put on this large tournament.
- The Department performed safety inspections on vehicles, jobsites, offices and all park buildings. Any safety issues that were discovered were repaired. We continually strive to make safety a top priority.
- The Fourth of July fireworks display was held at 9:25pm at Old Post Park. Special thanks to the Kiwanis for providing concessions for the show. We also want to thank the police and fire departments for all of their assistance and the community band for providing the music for the evening. A lot of hard work went on to put on this year's display so again thanks to all who helped. This year's show was once again a spectacular display thanks to Dwayne Roberts and Dwaine Millsaps.
- Signups were held for the department's adult fall softball league from July 13 through July 24. We had 29 teams sign up for our fall season. Games will begin in August and run through October. Games will be played on Monday, Tuesday and Thursday nights at Pleasant View Park.
- Five trees had to be removed from city parks as they had become a safety issue. All five were removed and cleaned the same day.
- The grant for lights at the soccer complex was completed. It will be submitted the first week of August and we should hear the results in January.
- Preliminary work has started on the Phoenix Avenue Trail that will connect Phoenix Avenue to Bona Dea Trail. The trail will be a ten foot asphalt trail. This trail will provide a much safer route to Bona Dea, alleviating the need to use Arkansas Avenue and Lakefront Drive to access the trail. We hope to have it completed this year.