



**Recreation & Parks
Department Report
August 2018**

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- Thirteen (13) groups used the Hughes Center during July for a total of 170 hours. Events included a fundraiser for the Single Parent Scholarship Fund of Pope and Yell Counties, the Segura Quinceanera and meetings for AVSA and the Arkansas Department of Labor.
- For the month of July there were 15 regular parties held at the Aquatic Center for a total of 30 hours and 11 private parties for a total of 33 hours. Four of the private parties were for Arkansas Tech University. The aquatic center held a Try Scuba class on July 3, a teen movie night on July 13 and a Boys and Girls Club Sharks swim meet on July 21.
- The Parks Commission did not meet in July.
- The department had nine pavilion rentals and thirteen pool party reservations in July.
- The Department inspected the fire extinguishers in all vehicles and park buildings. Safety inspections are performed frequently by the department to ensure that work conditions are safe for our employees.
- Signups were held for the department's adult fall softball league from July 9 through July 20. We had 23 teams sign up for our fall season. The league will begin in August and run through October with games being played on Tuesday and Thursday nights at Pleasant View Park. We would like to congratulate the following winners of our summer league: Fletcher Oil – Men Division I, HK/American Veteran Lawn Care – Men Division II, Gamerz –Men Division III, Bad Company – Coed Division I, Arkansas Elite –Coed Division II and Thunder Chickens –Coed Division III.
- The Fourth of July fireworks display was held at Old Post Park. Special thanks to the police, fire, parks and public works departments for all of their assistance and the community band for providing the music for the evening. This year's show went off with a bang thanks to Dwayne Roberts and Dwaine Millsaps with Hog Wild Pyrotechnics.
- A huge limb fell out of the big oak tree in City Park on July 21 after a storm with high winds passed through our area. The Department has contacted Phil Sims, Pope County Arkansas Cooperative Extension Staff Chair, to discuss the tree. Phil gave wonderful advice and he is contacting the appropriate people to come inspect the tree. Every effort is being made to make sure the tree lives on for future generations. Storms also caused damage to the fence at the splash pad and the fence between Hickey Park and the Russellville High School. Many limbs fell in all of the parks. Approximately thirty loads of brush were hauled to the yard waste area at the Animal Shelter.
- The Department received the notice to proceed from the Arkansas Department of Parks and Tourism Outdoor Recreation Grants Program for the installation of lights on the upper field at Shiloh Park. The equipment has been ordered and work should begin around the end of August.
- The sprinkler system that gets water from the well at the soccer complex is up and going. The fields are being watered once a week and the fields are looking better.
- The request for qualification for a parks master plan was advertised in the newspaper and on the City's website in July. The deadline for submitting an RFQ is August 17 at 2:00pm.