

Department of Parks & Recreation
March 2024

Project Updates:

- Ambassador Playground – The new playground at Ambassador Commons Park (639 Gahanna Highlands Dr.) is in process of being installed and is slated to be completed by the end of April.
- The Request for Proposal for the Aquatics Master Plan received six submittals. The submissions will be scored for final selection. A notice to proceed will occur by April 29.
- An RFP is published requesting design and engineering for the Academy Park parking lot, playground and mountain bike trailhead. Submissions are due April 5.

Recreation Division:

Adult & Senior Programming

- 3/18 Bea's Craft Workshop – This new art program taught by seasonal staff member, Bea Sull, had 1 person attend the first class. 2 are signed up for the next class.
- 3/18 St. Patrick's Day Party – 40 members attend the St. Patrick's Day party and received a meal from sponsor Evergold Homecare.
- The Senior Center held 1 Day Trip in March – Mamma Mia at the Ohio Theater (19 attendees). The trip to Malabar Farms Maple Festival was cancelled due to inclement weather.
- Adult Pickleball Lessons began 3/19. Classes will be held every Monday and Friday and Friendship Park through April 19. Both Monday and Friday beginner level classes are sold out with 15 attendees.
- The Gahanna Adult Pickleball Ladder League was cancelled due to low participation.

Aquatics & Safety Programming

- Citywide training for CPR was offered on March 21 & 22. We certified 17 City staff between these two courses.
 - Chris received several compliments from various staff on the quality of these courses and how they are very grateful that they are being offered.
- Skip-The-Line events were held on March 20 & 27. The purpose is to allow residents to come and purchase memberships or verify residency prior to the pool season beginning.
- Seasonal Hiring is well underway – in March, 16 candidates per week, every week were interviewed. Currently over **80** staff members have accepted positions for this summer. The 2023 pool season ended with **93** seasonal staff.

Golf Updates & Course Programming

- Course opened for the season on March 3.
- SNAG registration is open, program begins 4/10.

Special Event & Paddle Programs

- The Egg Hunt took place on 3/23 at Hannah Park. Registration opened on March 1st and had over 600 participants registered for the event. The first sensory friendly hunt was held with 20 participants.

Youth & Family Programming

- Lego Robot Class was held on Sat, 3/2 with (13) participants
- The next session of Drama Kids starts on Wed, 3/6 with (5) participants
- Gymboree Babies (Mom and Me) starts on Wed, 3/6 with (4) total participants
- Storytime with Parks & Rec will be held on Thursday, 3/7 at the Gahanna Library. Over 60 people attended in Feb.
- Pasta 101 Cooking Class will be held on Sat, 3/9 with (4) participants
- Paint Kindness Rocks will be held on Sun, 3/10 and there are (5) participants
- Youth Pickleball Try it Clinic (FREE) to be held on Sat, 3/23 has (25) participants
- Currently there are (15) participants signed up for Bally Sports Spring Break Camp to be held the week of 4/8 - 4/12

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- Day Camp registration has started, and we are off to a great start:
 - Camp Hannah is at 89% FULL (max was increased from 72 to 80 for 2024)
 - Camp Friendship is at 79% FULL (max was increased from 36 to 48 in 2024)
 - Camp Begins is at 57% FULL (youngest campers ages 4-5)
 - Camp Thrive is at 44% FULL (new teen camp that will run 4 weeks total)

APRIL

Adult & Senior Programming

- 4/2 TCT Fitness Class – This new class at the Senior Center is a free exercise class taught by a physical therapists from Total Care Therapy.
- 4/11 Golf League Kick-Off Meeting – The Senior Golf League will host the 2024 Kick-Off meeting at the Senior Center.
- 4/30 Meet the City: Gahanna Arbor Team – Members of the Gahanna Arbor Team will be visiting with seniors to talk about current projects.
- Day Trips – There will be 2 day trips held in April: The Solar Eclipse Experience (4/8) and the Titanic Exhibit at COSI (4/29)

Aquatics & Safety Programming

- 4/6-9 - The Lifeguard course at the YMCA currently has 6 LG candidates in it. All candidates are incoming staff.
- 4/17 & 25 - Skip-The-Line events will take place at the senior center on April 17 & 24.
- Pool membership advertisements will be mailed out to around 2,700 households in the next week.
- Current memberships sold to date: 152

Special Event & Paddle Programs

- The Gahanna Lincoln High Schools Arty Party Event will be taking place on 4/27. This event will also be the Story Trail Ribbon Cutting Ceremony.

Youth & Family Programming

- Intro to Video Game Design class scheduled for Sat, 4/27 currently has (3) enrolled
- Acrylic Tiny Canvas class scheduled for Sun, 4/14 currently has (5) enrolled
- Little Sluggers T-ball class scheduled to start Thursday, 4/25 has (30) enrolled
- Minor League Baseball class scheduled to start Tuesday, 4/23 has (14) enrolled
- Youth Pickleball lessons scheduled to start Sun, 4/7 has (4) enrolled
- Spring Break Scavenger Hunt will run during Spring Break week via Goosechase
- Earth Day coloring contest currently has (15) total submissions

Arbor/Horticulture

- Wood chipped Hannah community garden
- Hydroseeded grass at Vet's Memorial
- Woody vegetation removed from Lower McCorkle wetlands
- Damaged tree at Pizzurro removed by Russell, cleaned up by Gahanna Parks staff
- Volunteer orientation with Friendship Park ambassador (Amanda)
- RFQ for mulching, weeding, herb garden maintenance
- Landscape bed cleanup-Upper McCorkle, HRP, GSP, Lintner Park, Golf Course, Woodside Green, Ashburnam, Ambassador, Trapp, Rathburn, Gahanna Woods, City Hall complex, Friendship, Gramercy, Sunpoint, Creekside, Headley, Academy, Gahanna Woods
- Mulching (performed by Parks crews) -Woodside Green, Trapp, Sunpoint park trees, VFW

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- Landscape bed edging and mulching -Royal Gardens, Vet's Memorial, Ashburnham, Rathburn
- GIS tree inventory for Sidewalk Program
- Mid-Ohio Tree removed hazardous white pines near Tech Center trail
- Early spring annual flower installation
- Prairie maintenance
- Finished Gahanna Woods boardwalks

March

Planted	0
Pruned	15
Removed	3
Storm/Emergency Cleanup	5
Hazard Inspections	0
Resident/Contractor Calls	37
Resident/Contractor Meetings	7
Zoning Application Reviews	12

Safety

- Confined space training for Zac, Shunnye, Curt, Jim
- Met with Melissa regarding safety trainings for other equipment
- Weekly safety with Parks teams
- Scheduled rough terrain training for Manitou for all Parks staff

HR

- Coordinating with HR to post PT Coordinator and PT Seasonal
- Began interview process for PT Coordinator and PT Seasonal
- Interviews scheduled for MWI & MWII

Software

City Works

- 0 SR closed in last 30 days
- 7 SR currently open
- 99 WO closed or completed in last 30 days
- 87 WO currently open

Project/Ongoing Park tasks

- Completed concrete at GSP and Woodside Green (pool pit, dug outs and bench)
- Academy netting and fencing In communication on design and planning phase
- New flooring for Friendship bathrooms installed
- Ambassador playground
 - Assisted PM with site visits

Site audits

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- Renovation of Friendship storage area
- Scheduling gaga pit friendship surface
- Trapp slide repair
- Assisting in planning McCorkle playground install
- Rathburn update completed
- Communication panel project with Schools, gained \$15,000 commitment, install to be Fall 2024
- Creekside Lagoon opened 3/15
- Reinstalled fencing around back pump house
- Removed old shed at GSP

Athletic fields

- Dragged fields, leveled, added new infield mix as necessary
- All fields lined
- Playgrounds Inspections
 - Trapp park
 - Installed sunshades at Headley, HRP, GSP and Sunpoint

Facilities

- Painting concluded at HRP
- Repainting and repairing story trail signs at Hannah
- Rebuilt shed from GSP to be repurposed as storage for Camp Friendship
- Repaired and installed siding on south side of Academy building
- Prepared mowers for spring season
- Weekly mowing has begin at all properties
- Broomed all bike paths weekly
- Repaired and replaced split rail throughout park system

Golf Course

- Course opened on limited hours/days early March.
- Annual review for Part-time staff
- Delivered carts as needed to fleet for winter maintenance
- Repaired greens mower through collaboration with Airport Golf Course
- Daily tasks: Trash, bathrooms, clear debris, cut greens, spray for weeds
- Weekly tasks: Mow all areas 2-3 times per week, cut cups, gas carts, monitor watering