

***NORTH HUNTINGDON TOWNSHIP  
DEPT. OF PARKS & RECREATION  
MONTHLY MEETING REPORT***



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**PARKS & RECREATION**

***DAN MILLER***

***DIRECTOR, DEPT. OF PARKS & RECREATION***

***April 21, 2021***

The following report has been submitted for your review on behalf of the Dept. of Parks and Recreation. As always, should you have any questions, please feel free to contact the office so that we may assist you.

### PARKS OPERATIONS

Parks operations continues to explore playground areas to prepare for the installation of new playground equipment and safety surface at three neighborhood park locations. Additional work continues despite the reduced staff.

Staff recently completed work at Braddock's Trail Park, preparing the nature walking trail for the upcoming spring wildflower walks. Removal of fallen timber, debris and clearing of trails were identified. Current tour guide walks are being planned with smaller groups for social distancing.

Park staff has prepared all facilities for spring opening with placement of newly painted tables and cans anticipating outdoor activities to resume with excitement.

In cooperation with the NHTPD we are requesting the return of dirt bike patrols to deter ATV's at Braddock's Trail Park again this spring.

Park rest rooms remain sanitized twice daily for safety.

The opening of trout season with an earlier than anticipated date saw many anglers keeping social distance at the lake while enjoying the outdoors.

Mowing in the parks which is a necessary now has begun. This will be a daily task as we are operating with reduced manpower for now. We will plan our work accordingly.

A 300 ft section of fencing that was damaged from fallen timbers was removed and replaced along our Indian Lake hiking trail that abuts the Shuster property.

Park staff removed sections of perimeter fencing at Indian Lake while keeping the good sections and putting a fresh coat of paint on to make new again.

A new gathering area at Indian Lake is now available under the awning adjacent to our maintenance garage. This covered patio area will serve as a social gathering area for morning and evening park users.

Newly installed fascia boards at Oak Hollow Pavilions are scheduled to be stained this month.

New broom attachment for Ventrac mower is being used to clean paved walking trails at Indian Lake and Lions Park respectively.

All water has been turned on at various parks for the season and repairs have been identified to any broken lines with this annual rite of spring.

Spring turf rolling and aeration is taking place to relieve compaction on all athletic turf areas. Overseeding these areas will be the next phase of spring maintenance.

Stone curbing and parking areas planned to be addressed at all parks.

All athletic fields are scheduled for continued maintenance. Rolling, top soil and seeding is all necessary in most turf playing areas in addition to conditioners applied to areas of need.

Spring fertilization program is completed and a review of the Oak Hollow Soccer fields is currently being addressed for over-seeding.

Contracted port-a-john units have been scheduled throughout our park system. These units will be put in place at local neighborhood parks.

Township parks are open for business. Picnic shelters are again popular now with many reservations being accepted throughout the summer months.

Tree removal and trimming work continues of tree limbs and debris for spring cleanup are scheduled. Braddock's Trail paths have been cleared.

Summer staff applications have been reviewed and recommendations have been made for summer staff hires.

Michael Hornicak's Eagle Scout project at Lions Park looks to get underway now that the weather is cooperating. I anticipate a late spring completion for this park entry improvement.

Maintenance continues its' day to day operations completing a list of duties, projects and upkeep within the limits of staffing and work orders.

### RECREATION PROGRAMS & EVENTS

Our 2021 Easter Egg Drive-Through event was a success, seeing approximately 200 cars pass through during the two hour window. Our future with this community event has us revisiting the way we operate. This was a much simpler operation than in years past and still offered value to residents.

The official opening day of trout season saw a large number of anglers at Indian Lake. We received all fish stocking courtesy of the PA Fish & Boat Commission earlier this year which helps to keep our local parks attractive to area residents.

All spring programs through our partner Jump Start Sports have been planned for now and we will monitor the CDC guidelines for starting.

The annual Braddock's Trail Wildflower tours have begun each Saturday through May 4th. The guided tour at no cost is a great nature walk for those that love to experience the wonders of God's beauty. This year's tour are being again led by Dr. Jack Boylan and Dr. Bob Whyte.

Movies in the Park are being reviewed and will be offered and scheduled for the summer months beginning in May 2021.

Pavilion rentals and reservations are still being accepted daily. The popularity of our facilities continues to increase.

Respectfully submitted,

Dan Miller  
Director of Parks & Recreation