

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



PARKS & RECREATION

DAN MILLER

DIRECTOR, DEPT. OF PARKS & RECREATION

January 19 2022

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

Dept. Director was re-elected to the PA Parks Maintenance Institute (PPMI) advisory board for a new two year term continuing to provide experience and knowledge through 2024. The Pennsylvania Park Maintenance Institute is dedicated to building the capacity of park owners and stewards to maintain parks in a safe, clean, and ready-to-use manner. It advances education, advocacy and research for park and recreation maintenance through practical and implementable services.

Park labor staff is anticipating spring and will meet with Dept. Director to discuss anticipated projects that relate to park improvements that have been budgeted for 2022 at local playgrounds.

Off season maintenance work at local neighborhood parks continues throughout the winter season with frequent site visits and “to do” items being addressed.

Rest rooms that remain open for the winter season are seeing daily cleaning and disinfection both morning and afternoons while the Omnicron surge is present.

Random cold patch work is being addressed at local park roads and parking lots. These repairs will insure our blacktop areas will not be a major issue come spring when hot mix is available to warrant our needs.

Small neighborhood parks will remain gated and closed for the season, while OHP, ILP, BTP and now Lions Park all continue to operate within winter operation limitations.

Interior lights are scheduled to be cleaned inside maintenance garage areas.

Indian Lake Park has witnessed more pet friendly traffic due to the seasonal park ordinance. Appropriate steps remain in place to welcome our pet park users.

Snow clean-up has been occasional at both Indian Lake and Oak Hollow Parks for the purpose of keeping these parks open for daily activity including, walking, sledding, cross country skiing. Lions Park is also being addressed as needed.

Vandalism has been at a minimum this winter and park staff has addressed issues and monitoring parks throughout the week.

Preventative seasonal winter maintenance on small tools and hand held equipment is scheduled.

Picnic tables and garbage cans are being brought in for repair, replacement and painting to prepare for the 2022 season.

Tree cutting at Oak Hollow Park is being addressed during the dormant season to provide clearance for our seasonal mowing.

Brush cutting is taking place on our proposed disc golf course as we look to prepare for this exciting park improvement project.

Maintenance continues its' day to day operations completing a list of duties, projects and upkeep as instructed.

RECREATION PROGRAMS & EVENTS

Many thanks again to all who supported our Holiday Laser Light Drive- In Show. The event was a huge success with maximum capacity crowds and plenty of positive comments. This novel idea and covid-safe production was well worth the planning and support it received. We look to offer this again in 2022.

Our "family fun" snowman contest is ongoing throughout the winter season, while the fun continues through the end of February. Participants can still register their entry via photos supplied to the Dept. of Parks & Recreation.

All winter indoor partner programs normally scheduled this time of year have been pushed back due to the omnicron surge.

Recreation Advisory Board is discussing their 2022 calendar of events to include the following favorites: Father/Daughter Dance, Easter Egg Event Movies In The Park, Music Festival, Youth Fishing Derby, Halloween Haunted Trail and Holiday Laser Show. Only time will tell what we can produce within CDC guidelines as we are challenged to come up with safe measures of these events.

Initial process of 2022 marketing utilizing social media platforms has begun with anticipation of distribution to residents by late spring.

Picnic reservations are brisk this time of year and we are seeing a flurry of on line activity.

Father/Daughter Dance scheduled 2022 at Stratigo's Banquet Facility continues to be discussed and we are looking at alternative ways to provide this annual event while remaining safe. We will likely push the annual date back to early spring.

Dept. Director was nominated and re-elected to serve as Vice-President of the Westmoreland County Parks & Recreation Alliance that unites and supports area professionals while promoting parks and recreation services in Westmoreland County through cooperation, networking, joint programming efforts, and regional development.

Respectfully submitted,

Dan Miller
Director, Dept. of Parks & Recreation