

Make sure to check out the website, <u>www.mocorec.com</u>, and follow Montgomery County Recreation on <u>social media</u> for the latest updates from the Department.

# Department Updates

# Aquatics

The aquatics team manages five indoor pools and seven outdoor pools. Indoor pools are open year-round, and outdoor pools are open from Memorial Day through Labor Day. All pools have accessibility features such as ADA stairs, pool lifts and zero depth entry. Whether you're looking to swim a few laps, participate in a water exercise class, take swimming lessons or just enjoy the water, MCR pools have it all.

#### Updates:

Preparing for summer. Opening day is May 25. Ordered new lawn chairs for outdoor pools. KSAC had a pipe burst and repairs will be completed on May 6. Purchased a new Wibit piece.

## **Business Services**

The Business Services Team contributes to the achievement of Recreation's mission of high quality, diverse and accessible programs, services, and facilities from an administrative business perspective. Services are directed toward the management and support of the department through ensuring sound business practices in the areas of budget, finance, risk management, contracts and procurement and human resources management.

#### Updates:

- Budget
  - FY25 Development Stage continues with May Council Hearings (Expect approval by May 23<sup>rd</sup>)
  - Operating Budget systems accessible for FY25 entries (May 6<sup>th</sup>)
  - o FY24 Year-end Review, Liquidation Exercise & Final Quarter Reporting
- Finance
  - Timeline for year-end close process for Journal Entries, Chargebacks & Budget Changes provided
  - o Internal preparation for department closing
- Contracts & Procurement
  - o Timeline provided for year-end close for current RQs/POs and Late Exception Process
  - Timeline provided for FY25 early RQs/POs
  - Recreation represented in the Procurement Contractors Fair in April
- Hiring Update: Budget Management Specialist III position filled

# **Capital Improvement Plans (CIP)**

Pre-Screening planning for new and changed projects are in May & June Continued CIP Hearings with Council

# **Community Recreation Centers (Facilities)**

Montgomery County Recreation has 22 Recreation Centers located throughout the County that offer a wide range of activities for children, teens and adults, and may include programs for seniors and individuals with disabilities. Activities typically include classes, workshops, clinics, drop-in programs, supervised play, sports, open gym, crafts and special events. Our centers have diverse amenities that may include fitness rooms, social halls, meeting spaces, classrooms, billiards and game rooms. We have a wide array of rooms available for your use, from social halls to meeting rooms.

## Updates:

- East County Community Center in partnership with Police are hosting a 3-on-3 Basketball Tournament for 4 Fridays in May from 5-10pm. Teams will participate through a round-robin type play to enter into a seeded elimination bracket. This event is Free for students ages 12-17.
  - Dates of the Tournament: May 3, May 10, May 17, May 24
- Cultural Heritage Concerts (Asian/Jewish Theme)
  - Praisner Friday May 10<sup>th</sup> at 6PM
  - Coffield Saturday, May 11<sup>th</sup> at 12noon
  - Plum Gar Sunday, May 19<sup>th</sup> at 11AM
  - Long Branch Wednesday, May 22 at 11AM
- Tiny Lil' Ones Carnival on Saturday, May 11<sup>th</sup> from 10am-1PM for ages 5 and under. Clara Barton Neighborhood Recreation Center will have a moon bounce, food, crafts, story time and more!
- Bloom at Good Hope Concert Series Saturday, May 11<sup>th</sup> at 5PM for all ages. Folk Music for all Featuring Kevin Elam
- Community Unity at Plum Gar Community Recreation Center Friday, May 17<sup>th</sup> from 10am-2pm for all ages. In partnership with A Wider Circle to distribute essentials like clothing, groceries, and hygiene products.
- NextGen Gaming Program at Wisconsin Place Community Recreation Center Friday, May 17<sup>th</sup> from 5:30-8:30PM for ages 12-17.
- Chevy Chase Spring Festival Sunday, May 19<sup>th</sup> from 12noon –2:30pm for all ages. Lawton Community Recreation Center will have crafts, inflatables, face painting, food and more!
- The staff at East County is work on a program called 'East County Got Talent' that will be held on Thursday, May 23 from 6:30-8:30PM
- Youth Urban Art & Expressions Good Hope Community Center Friday, May 31<sup>st</sup> from 6-9PM
- White Oak Day is Saturday, June 1<sup>st</sup> from 11-4PM

# **Communications and Public Outreach**

The Communications and Public Outreach Team manages marketing for the Department, including social media, graphics, website maintenance and advertising. This branch also includes the customer service team housed at the administrative offices in Wheaton and the community outreach specialists who attend dozens of events every month to promote recreation programs and services.

### **Updates:**

- New Podcast Episode: <u>The Silver Spring Recreation and Aquatic Center</u>
- Press Releases Issued in April:
  - o <u>Project Prom Dress Media Advisory</u>
- Videos Produced:
  - o The Silver Spring Recreation and Aquatic Center Podcast
  - o Montgomery County Recreation Outdoor Pool Fun (youtube.com)
- The graphics team received and began working on 36 requests for digital graphics, flyers, posters, GUIDEs and more in April (year to date, 160 requests).

### Social Media/Newsletter Growth:

Facebook – 16,573; +122 Followers – Project Prom Dress - 13.13% Engagement, 86 Reactions

Instagram – 5,138; +134 Followers – <u>New Employees</u> - 5.94% Engagement, 66 Likes

X (Formerly Twitter) - 7,069 +57 Followers - April Newsletter - 6.16% Engagement

### **Outreach Events:**

- 4/6 GLOW (Girls Leading Our World) Career Summit
- 4/7 Joan Karasik Resource Event MC
- 4/10 HHS Resource Fair (Montgomery College)
- 4/10 Gaithersburg Catholic Charites
- 4/15 Stedwick ES Parent Cafe
- 4/15 Gaithersburg MV Germantown Canvassing Day
- 4/17 Youth in Power
- 4/17 Watkins Mill Students Resource Fair Event
- 4/17 Whetstone ES Family Market Event
- 4/18 MCPD Latino Community Liaison Event
- 4/19 Spring Garden Apartment Presentation on Rec Assist
- 4/19 Highland ES Parent Cafe Event
- 4/22 Gaithersburg Brazilian Church Partnership Meeting
- 4/25 Morning Coffee at Eastern Middle School
- 4/25 NIH Take Your Child to Work Event
- 4/27 Greenfest
- 4/30 Latin American Advisory Group Presentation

The Rec Insider - Current number of subscribers – 45,476; +510 Subscribers

#### May Newsletter

# **Countywide Programming**

Countywide Programs offers essential and universally accessible recreation and leisure services to all residents across the region. Program staff generates partnerships with local small businesses and nonprofit organizations to activate key public and private spaces and to offer culturally responsive programs, activities and services such as classes, performing arts, camps, sports, workshops, therapeutic recreation, inclusion services and special events which provide a wide range of economic, health and social benefits.

#### **Updates:**

• Spring registration continues and programs have begun. Currently has 8,601 enrollments across 582 sections.

	As of 5	/4/2024	As of 4/8/2024		As of 3/7/2024	
Туре	Enrollment	Number of Sections	Enrollment	Number of Sections	Enrollment	Number of Sections
Art	357	38	359	38	293	38
Cooking	12	3	11	3	7	3
CPR and First Aid	48	12	9	10	3	8
Dance	216	33	195	33	154	31
Educational	15	3	13	3	9	3
Fitness	483	46	421	45	261	45
Health and Wellness	167	12	161	12	109	12
Martial Arts	825	42	728	42	406	42
Music	167	19	159	19	126	19
Sports	4332	315	3836	313	1910	236
STEAM	56	9	50	9	31	9
Therapeutic Recreation	412	16	245	15	97	15
Special Events	26	2	18	2	22	2
School Break Programs	1485	32	1444	32	1370	32
Total	8601	582	7647	576	4798	495

• Camp registration began on January 16, and currently has 4,336 enrollments in 292 sections. Camp season will run from mid-June to mid-August.

	As of 5/4/2024		As of 4/8/2024		As of 3/7/2024		As of 2/7/2024	
Туре	Enrollment	Number of Sections	Enrollment	Number of Section s	Enrollmen t	Number of Sections	Enrollmen t	Number of Sections
Arts and Crafts	333	27	314	27	287	27	265	27
Basketball	154	10	155	8	132	8	104	8
Karate - Jujitsu	59	2	39	2	35	2	29	2
Multi-Sports	1250	40	1156	40	976	40	762	40
Nature Outdoors Exploration and Skills	105	2	105	2	102	2	101	2
Performing Arts	143	10	149	10	155	10	145	10
Playtime and Music	181	10	180	10	179	10	165	10
Soccer	252	32	229	32	212	32	179	32
Specialty Programs	1176	96	1104	96	1077	96	958	90
Therapeutic Recreation Programs	202	15	179	15	151	15	133	15
Volleyball	309	16	277	16	244	16	176	16
Youth Cooking	290	11	280	11	270	11	250	11
Skateboarding	63	6	57	6	51	6	44	6
Youth Development	72	16	65	16	57	16	40	12
Total	4589	293	4336	292	3928	291	3351	281

#### Notable News:

- The Shine Brighter event was a huge success and even T-Recs enjoyed sliding down the hill during the event.
- Launched two skateboarding classes this Spring at Damascus CRC serving 27 youth ages 8-12 years old.
- That is a wrap for our 2023-2024 Kids and Teens Day Out for this school year, a big thank you to MCPS for partnering with us to make this school year a huge success!
- On May 1, our Cricket Academy program received a shoutout from our Director, Robin Riley and many Councilmembers at the council session.
- On May 20, we welcome our newest staff member, Dr. Megan Trifilo to the Countywide Programs Team as the Recreation Specialist overseeing the Department's Inclusion Program and youth programming for people with disabilities.

- In Summer 2024, we are adding a Girl's Varsity division in our High School Summer Basketball League. Currently 11 teams from across the County have registered.
- Spring Sport Leagues:
  - 3v3 Basketball: Launched Friday, April 5 with 144 participants across 4 locations (Upper County CRC, White Oak CRC, Coffield CRC, East County CRC). Collaborated with our Youth Development team to hold a special 3v3 mini league at Leleck ES.
  - NFL Flag Football League: Launching Sunday, May 5 with 343 participants across 2 locations (Wheaton HS, Damascus CRC). An 85% increase from Spring 2023 (185 participants).
  - Adult Soccer launched Saturday, April 6 with 1,253 participants across 8 divisions.
  - Adult Softball launched Monday, April 8 with 78 teams across 10 divisions. Approximately 1,170 participants at 15 participants per team.
  - Youth Volleyball League: Launched Saturday, April 6 with 275 participants across 4 locations (Ross Boddy CRC, East County CRC, Plum Gar CRC, Mid County CRC).
  - Adult Volleyball League: Launched on April 14 with 65 participants at 1 location (Silver Spring Recreation and Aquatic Center).
  - Adult Pickleball Leagues: 171 participants across 7 divisions at 3 locations (Bauer CRC, Longwood CRC, Damascus CRC).
  - Adult Basketball Drop-in and Team Leagues: 104\* participants across 3 divisions at 2 locations (Bauer CRC, Coffield CRC \*NEW\*location for Women). \* Based on 10 players per team in Men's divisions.
  - \*NEW\* TR Adult Kickball League: Launched Sunday, April 28 with 31 participants at 1 location (Bauer CRC).
- Preparing for Summer Camp 2024:
  - Our theme is "Power of Play", a back to the basics of how crucial the role of play is in helping our campers and staff develop social skills, build lifelong friendships and have fun.
  - Held our first department training, "Power of Play with Jim Cain" to teach and engage connections between 127 career staff across the department. Dr. Jim Cain has authored 31 team and community building texts and is known for his ability to share his knowledge on subjects ranging from teamwork and leadership to interactive play. Create out this reel: <u>https://www.instagram.com/reel/C6bb-Zduz-6/?igsh=djZneHE40HZoY2hi</u>
  - Next training will be on Youth Day Camp Standards for career staff overseeing camps on May 16.
  - Participated in outreach and hiring events:
    - Adaptive Maryland Day at Promise Landing Farm on 5/5 from 12-5pm
- Upcoming events, outreach and hiring events:
  - Contractor 101: Be Pitch Perfect on 5/7 from 6-8pm. In partnership with our MCR Procurement Team, CWP participate in this workshop to prepare and educate potential contractors interested in working with Montgomery County Recreation.
  - MCPS Special Ed Parent Summit at Blair HS on 5/13 from 10am-3pm

# IT /Automation Team

The IT Team administers the primary recreation management software RecTrac, branded as ActiveMONTGOMERY, that facilitates customers activity registrations, facility reservations within recreation centers, and pass membership sales.

Senior members of team provide regularly scheduled training classes and training materials to more than 250 career staff and over 500 part-time staff on navigating the software system regarding the processes for conducting transactions for recreational services. Rec IT works in close collaboration with the county's Finance Department to ensure financial interfaces and reconciliations are accurately integrated and reported daily to the county's financial systems.

In addition to RecTrac the team is responsible for Recreation's IT infrastructure, hardware, and software needs for all teams and facilities within the Department from procurement through install and end-user training. REC IT ensures the Department's practices regarding use of information systems and resources comply and align to the county's Administrative Procedures and information security best practices.

## Updates:

- Resolved 201 REC IT support request in April
- Resolved 988 Rec IT support request year-to-date
- Deployment of summer outdoor pool equipment starting week of 5/6
- Development of Virtual Agent Chatbot completed. Testing has started with Customer Service team representative.
- Reviewed through TEBS Enterprise Information Security Office (EISO) for procurement of HelloInsight and Vimeo software acquisition as required by AP 6-1
- Initiated research for the procurement of HR background screening software between Background Investigation Bureaus (BIB) and National Center for Safety Initiatives (NCSI).
- Implemented new configurations in VSI to allow customers to self withdrawal from enrolled activities through ActiveMontgomery, where refund amounts are automatically assessed based on new refund policy effective for transactions on or after May 13<sup>th</sup>.
- Issuance of Mobile Device Managed (MDM) phone upgrades for staff have begun.
  - All IT staff, 2 Business Services staff and 1 new staff using MDM phones.
- Pass visit background visit processing testing completed. Pilot at Wheaton Center successful and implemented at MLK Swim Center. Germantown Swim Center implementation to be completed.

# Senior Facilities/Programs

Montgomery County Recreation has many ways for independent adults, 55 and older, to stay active and healthy. Whether you are working, semi-retired, or fully retired, our eight senior centers offer many programs, activities, classes and events for you to choose from. Our centers have diverse amenities that may include fitness rooms, social halls, meeting spaces, classrooms, billiards and game rooms.

# Updates:

- Senior Programs staff had a great time at the Active Aging Expo at Bohrer Park on 4/24. We tabled in the exhibit hall and provided information on Senior Programs, Senior Centers and our Active Adult Program Locations.
- The Long Branch Fashion Show had about 80 come to participate or watch on 4/24. Models took a trip to Chico's a few days prior to the event where they worked with a stylist at the store and all the clothes were donated for the models in the fashion show.

- Our Basketball Skills Competition at White Oak on 4/17 has 22 participants.
- Senior Adventures Camp still has a few spaces at selected centers, but spots are filling up quickly.
  - $\circ \quad \text{White Oak Senior Center} \text{FULL}$
  - Damascus Senior Center FULL
  - North Potomac Senior Center FULL
  - Schweinhaut Senior Center has 8 spots open before full
  - Silver Spring Senior Center 14 spots open before full
  - Ross Boddy Neighborhood Program 12 spots open before full

## **Upcoming Programs/Events:**

- Mother's Day Program at Schweinhaut on Tues, May 7<sup>th</sup> from 11-noon.
- Cinco de Mayo Event at Holiday Park on Tues., May 7<sup>th</sup> from 1-2:30pm.
- Caregiver Wellness Workshop in partnership with Ruth from HHS at White Oak on Wed. May 8<sup>th</sup> from 9-10AM.
- Mother's Day Brunch at Wheaton on Friday, May 10<sup>th</sup> from 11:30am 1:30pm.
- Bocce Tournament at Schweinhaut on Saturday, May 11<sup>th</sup> from 10am-noon
- Wheaton has partnered with JCA to host a travel training workshop to teach older adults how to use public transportation and then they will go on a field trip to visit Silver Spring Rec & Aquatics Center.
- 55+ Martial Arts Performance at North Potomac on Friday May 17<sup>th</sup> from 10am-noon.
- HHS and Rec will be holding a celebration event at Long Branch Senior center on Friday, May 24<sup>th</sup> from 10am-noon to celebrate Older American Month.

# Silver Spring Recreation and Aquatic Center (SSRAC)

# Updates:

# **Youth Development**

Montgomery County Recreation's Youth Development Team uses a variety of means to reach the County's diverse young people. Our recreation activities and services allow children and teens to make the most of their time outside of school.

### Updates:

- All Youth Development afterschool programs in partnership with MCPS continue to operate at 46 locations. Current enrollment is **8761** (an increase of 1094 from previous report) and we continue to enroll new participants weekly. Programs are beginning to prepare for end of year events with RecXtra, EBBM & RecZone programming ending in mid to late May. EBBE ends early June.

-*Staffing* – Anticipating onboarding two new Recreation Specialists during May to fill existing vacancies. Currently still recruiting and interviewing to fill 2 career vacancies within the team (1 Rec Specialists for EBBM with recent resignation, 1 Rec Supervisor). See attached specific job ads for these positions to help with promotion.

-Special Programs – Participated with Teen Mental Health Awareness Week activities in collaboration with MCPL and others; Held two successful Teens Day Out including the new location at SSRAC; Summer Teen Guide published! -Elementary Programs- Cricket tournament held with Leleck EBBE & Key EBBM students at Leleck; Burnt Mills & Leleck 3 on 3 basketball tournament participation with CWP Sports. Parent engagement events continue and teams are planning for celebration week to culminate the year.

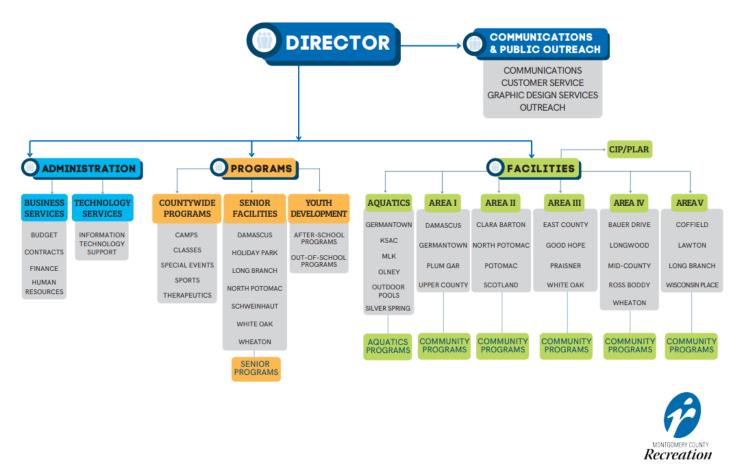
-*Middle Programs*- Police program continues with RecXtra starting in May at Briggs Chaney; Mini sessions added at several EBBM locations to address waitlist and enrollment; RecXtra Wood MS flag football club participating in CWP sports league

-High School Programs- Completed the Upper County Weekend RecZone program; Beinvenidos Spring Program kicking off at high schools including local trips, guest speakers and opportunities to join existing Recreation program for newcomer youth; Participated in Newcomers Summit 4/14; S4C Spring session has started with 32 total teams; TeenWorks continues to have information sessions and interviews to fill summer placements; offered professional development training opportunities on resume writing; participated in multiple recruitment/job fair events; Volunteers participated in Volunteer Brainstorming Session, Resume Writing Training, Pink Room Organization, Canal Community Days, ZTAG & other support at KDO/TDO, Academy of the Holy Cross serving lunch to Seniors and pot painting/planting activity, ZTAG at EBBE BM, Leveling the Playing Field, and MANNA Food Box Packing; RecZones started a spring skateboarding program at local skateparks; RecZones participated in Aquatics Rec Regatta event with teens constructing cardboard boats for the race! Looking to collaborate with Hispanic Business Foundation for financial literacy programming for May at RecZones;

#### **Upcoming Events/Visit Opportunities:**

- 5/11- Parent Engagement Event Burnt Mills @ East County CRC 12p-3p
- 5/15 S4C All Star Game
- 5/17 Parent Engagement Event @ Cresthaven EBBE 6:30-8pm
- 5/22 Parent Engagement Event @ Oak View 6:30-8p
- 5/24 S4C Culminating Event
- 5/31 3v3 Basketball Awards @ JoAnn Leleck 6:30-8pm

# MONTGOMERY COUNTY RECREATION ORGANIZATION CHART



Revised August 2023