



Make sure to check out the website, www.mocorec.com, and follow Montgomery County Recreation on [social media](#) 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:

Outdoor pools will begin cleaning for summer this month.

All pools are holding lifeguarding classes and recruiting staff.

KSAC will be hosting an Aquatic Easter Egg Hunt on March 30 and April 20. March 30 will hold two events – one for individuals with disabilities and their families, second for all individuals.

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**
 - In Budget Development stage for FY25 Budget, next step is budget review with Council
- **Contracts/Procurement**
 - Centralized our Instructor Onboarding process (instructors work with multiple teams)
 - Innovative Contract Fair will introduce new programs to REC staff
 - Developed an Instructor Contract Monitoring policy and procedure
- **Finance**
 - Updated Refund Policy (introducing to department & customers)
 - Revising & updating some internal practices and procedures
 - Reviewing "Green" financial practices (paper reduction, etc.)
- **Human Resources**
 - Summer Hiring underway
 - 3 Summer Job Fairs completed
 - Involved in county partnerships with Hiring Fairs to engage & support youth
 - Working with CPO team to develop improved hiring campaigns

Hiring Update:

Budget Management Specialist III position is in the hiring phase (potential candidate)

Capital Improvement Plans (CIP)

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:

1. **Montgomery County Spring Break Basketball Tournament** – middle and high school youth will participate over a 2-day period in the Annual Spring Break Tournament. It will be held at the White Oak Recreation Center. Tuesday and Wednesday, March 26-27, 2024.
2. **Coffield** Carpe Diem Cultural Heritage: Irish & Greek American Month Sunday, March 3, 2 PM - 3 PM All ages Free Concert Featuring: Jody Marshall + Melos (Spyros Koliavasilis & Niko Mitreone).
3. **Good Hope** Bloom at Good Hope Concert Series Saturday, March 9, 5:00 PM All ages Beloved Pop & Soul Music Featuring: Rochelle Rice & beheld
4. **Long Branch** Carpe Diem Cultural Heritage: Irish & Greek American Month Wednesday, March 20 11 AM - 12 noon All ages Free Concert Featuring: Sean Heely & Abbie Palmer + Karpouzi Trio
5. **North Potomac** Trivia Night Monday, March 18, 7 PM - 8:30 PM Ages 14+ Test your knowledge against other community members. Water & snacks provided.
6. **Plum Gar** Tai Chi Tuesday, March 5, 2:15 PM - 3:15 PM Ages 55+ Free Demo; and 6-7 pm, 18+
7. **Plum Gar** Carpe Diem Cultural Heritage: Irish & Greek American Month Sunday, March 24 1 PM - 2 PM All ages Free Concert Featuring: Karen Ashbrook & Paul Oorts + Stavros Blicas & Theologos Fragkos
8. **Plum Gar** Teens Night Out Friday, March 29, 9 PM - 11 PM Ages 11 - 18 DJ, basketball, game truck, Arcade game tournament, dancing, food/snacks
9. **Praisner** Tai Chi Tuesdays, February 6 - March 26, 6:30 PM - 7:30 PM Ages 18+ with Master Ray Lee
10. **Praisner** Carpe Diem Cultural Heritage: Irish & Greek American Month Thursday, March 14 6:30 PM - 7:30 PM All ages Free Concert Featuring: Just in Time + Melos
11. **Upper County** Senior Card Group Mondays, ongoing 10 AM - 2:30 PM Ages 55+ Fun & FREE opportunity for Seniors to gather, socialize, build and make new friendships while playing Bid Whist.
12. **Upper County** Jumping Jack Jamboree Wednesday, March 6, 5:30 PM - 6 PM Ages 6 - 11 Promote over-all well-being through a variety of aerobic, strength training & fun games to keep children active.

13. **Wheaton** Youth Urban Art Expressions Friday, March 1, 6 PM - 9 PM Ages 12 - 17 This month will feature: Culinary Arts.
14. **Wheaton** Hoops & Scoops Saturday, March 9, 12 noon - 3 PM Ages 6 - 11 Hoop it up with MoCo Rec & MoCo PD. Fun basketball clinic, followed by 3 on 3 games. Ending with ICE CREAM!
15. **White Oak** March Madness Fridays, March 8, 15 & 22 5 PM - 9 PM Ages 14 - 17 Non-stop competitive action against other high school students in the County. Light refreshments provided. White Oak Spring Break Basketball (boys & girls) Tuesday & Wednesday, March 26 & 27 Starting at 10 AM Middle & High School Ages 11 - 18 Middle School on Tuesday, March 26, High School on Wednesday, March 27
16. **Wisconsin Place** NextGen Gaming Program Friday, March 22, 5:30 PM - 8:30 PM Ages 12 - 17 Excitement, education, entertainment and more. Featuring guest speakers and food.

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:

- MCR has launched a new podcast, "[Inside Recreation](#)." The first episode features a conversation with Director Robin Riley.
- Press Releases Issued in February:
 - [Donate New or Gently Used Items for Third Annual 'Project Prom Dress' \(montgomerycountymd.gov\)](#)
 - [Montgomery County Recreation is Hiring for Summer; Job Fairs Scheduled in February, March and April \(montgomerycountymd.gov\)](#)
 - [Montgomery County Celebrates the Grand Opening of the Silver Spring Recreation and Aquatic Center \(montgomerycountymd.gov\)](#)
- The graphics team received and began working on 28 requests for digital graphics, flyers, posters, GUIDEs and more in February (year to date, 82 requests).

Social Media/Newsletter Growth:

Facebook – 16, 271; +386 Followers –

[Getting Ready to Open SSRAC](#) - 229 Reactions - 11.6% Engagement

[Summer Hiring Fair](#) – 14.97% Engagement

Instagram – 4,881 4,505; +376 Followers - [Getting Ready to Open SSSRAC](#) - 14.48% Engagement, 255 Likes

X (Formerly Twitter) - 6,954; +90 Followers - [SSRAC Photos](#) - 6.72% Engagement

Outreach Events:

2/1 Ross Boddy Recreation Center Surveying
 2/2 Flyer Distribution for Montgomery Village Rec N Resources UpCounty (Six Schools)
 2/7 ECCAB
 2/8 Cresthaven ES Parent Cafe
 2/9 Montgomery Village Library Outreach Tabling
 2/9 North Potomac Community Recreation Center Surveying
 2/11 Rec N Resources Event Montgomery Village MS
 2/12 Washington Grove ES Food Distribution Tabling
 2/14 Praisner Community Recreation Center Outreach/Surveying
 2/14 ECCAB – Quality of Life
 2/15 Glenallen ES Family Fitness Night Tabling
 2/16 Potomac Surveying
 2/20 Brownstation ES Information sharing Guidance Office
 2/22 Gwendolyn E. Coffield Job Fair
 2/23 HHS/ WPA Outreach Network Presentation
 2/24 SSRAC Grand Opening Event
 2/27 MCPD DUI Unit Presentation
 2/28 Germantown Community Center Outreach
 2/29 The Black Coalition for Excellence in Education Resource Fair at Blair HS

The Rec Insider - Current number of subscribers – 44,470, +8,699 Subscribers

[March 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:

- Our Winter Season is coming to a close, finishing with 12,705 enrollments in 1,207 sections.

Type	As of 3/7/2024		As of 2/7/2024		As of 1/5/2024	
	Enrollment	Number of Sections	Enrollment	Number of Sections	Enrollment	Number of Sections
Art	304	33	305	33	266	33
Cooking	23	3	23	3	27	3

CPR and First Aid	39	5	28	5	15	5
Dance	306	29	306	29	258	29
Educational	15	2	13	2	5	2
Fitness	555	46	524	40	384	40
Health and Wellness	207	16	189	13	166	13
Martial Arts	772	41	767	41	634	41
Music	143	14	143	14	133	14
Sports	7920	956	7777	993	7241	976
STEAM	12	2	12	2	5	2
Therapeutic Recreation	408	15	363	25	98	19
School Break Programs	2001	44	1974	44	1788	44
Total	12705	1207	12431	1250	11020	1221

- Spring registration continues and programs begin early April. Currently has 4,798 enrollments across 495 sections.

As of 3/7/2024

Type	Enrollment	Number of Sections
Art	293	38
Cooking	7	3
CPR and First Aid	3	8
Dance	154	31
Educational	9	3
Fitness	261	45
Health and Wellness	109	12
Martial Arts	406	42
Music	126	19
Sports	1910	236
STEAM	31	9

Therapeutic Recreation	97	15
Special Events	22	2
School Break Programs	1370	32
Total	4798	495

- Camp registration began on January 16, and currently has 3,928 enrollments in 291 sections. Camp season will run from mid-June to mid-August.

Type	As of 3/7/2024		As of 2/7/2024	
	Enrollment	Number of Sections	Enrollment	Number of Sections
Arts and Crafts	287	27	265	27
Basketball	132	8	104	8
Karate - Jujitsu	35	2	29	2
Multi-Sports	976	40	762	40
Nature Outdoors Exploration and Skills	102	2	101	2
Performing Arts	155	10	145	10
Playtime and Music	179	10	165	10
Soccer	212	32	179	32
Specialty Programs	1077	96	958	90
Therapeutic Recreation Programs	151	15	133	15
Volleyball	244	16	176	16
Youth Cooking	270	11	250	11
Skateboarding	51	6	44	6
Youth Development	57	16	40	12
Total	3928	291	3351	281

- Girls and Women in Sports
 - Upcoming opportunities include
 - HERTime2shine Flag Football League at Wheaton HS
 - HERTime2shine Volleyball Leagues at Mid County CRC, Ross Boddy CRC, East County CRC, and Plum Gar CRC
 - 3v3 Spring Basketball for Girls: 10U, 12U, 14U and 16U
 - Women's Soccer: 25+ and 40+
 - Women's Softball: 40+
 - Women's Drop-in Basketball: 18+
 - Women's Adult Volleyball: 18+
 - Additional co-ed opportunities are available for sports including cricket, skateboarding and more.
- Participated in outreach and hiring events:
 - Rec n Resources at Montgomery Village MS on 2/11

- Camp Hiring Fair at Coffield CRC on 2/22
- Silver Spring Recreation and Aquatics Center Opening Day on 2/24
- Camp Hiring Fair at Silver Spring Recreation and Aquatics Center on 2/28
- Camp Hiring Fair at Long Branch CRC on 3/8
- Camp Hiring Fair at North Potomac CRC on 3/9
- Camp Hiring Fair at Germantown CRC on 3/9
- MCPS Girls' Summit at Northwood HS on 3/9
- Camp Hiring Fair at White Oak CRC on 3/12
- Upcoming events, outreach and hiring events:
 - Innovative Contractor Fair at North Potomac CRC on 3/28 from 4:30-7pm
 - Camp Hiring Fair at Upper County CRC on 4/4 from 6-8:30pm
 - Camp Hiring Fair at Bauer CRC on 4/6 from 10am-12:30pm
 - Camp Hiring Fair at East County CRC on 4/6 from 3-5pm
 - Shine Brighter Autism Acceptance Special Event at Wheaton Regional Park on 4/6 from 11am-2pm
 - MoCO Transition Workgroup Fair at Montgomery College on 4/6 from 1-4pm

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:

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:

- We kicked off February with several Black History Month Lunar New Year, and Valentine's Day programs at various Senior Centers
 - Black History Music & Memorabilia with Howard Feinstein at Schweinhaut SC
 - Black History Celebration at White Oak SC
 - Black History Month Jazz Singing Session at North Potomac SC
 - Black History Social at Holiday Park SC
 - Celebrating Black History Month at Long Branch SC
 - Chinese New Year Celebration at Wheaton SC
 - Be my Jazzy Valentine at Damascus SC
 - Lunar New Year (Vietnamese, Korean, & Chinese) at Holiday Park SC
 - Valentine's Day Special at Holiday Park SC
 - Chinese New Year Celebration at Schweinhaut SC
 - Valentines Performance by MSSC Angklung Group at Schweinhaut SC
- We started The Virtual Reality Experience with older adults in Partnership with TEBS. (Pic attached for HP intro session)
 - Pilot locations: Damascus SC, Wheaton SC, Holiday Park SC, Schweinhaut SC
 - Overall feedback is that the participants love it. They enjoy the educational tours, hikes, swimming with the sharks, and games. We are working with TEBS to figure out what expansion into the summer could look like. 67 individuals participated in the introduction demo with TEBS in total.
 - We also held a TeenWorks training to teach youth workers about the VR headsets, how to help a senior navigate and help develop a user manual for the participants to take home for summer offerings (Picture Attached)
- National Endowment for the Arts awarded Carpe Diem a grant to hold free intergenerational culturally appropriate concerts at 4 reoccurring locations.
 - Locations:
 - Plum Gar Community Recreation Center
 - Coffield Community Recreation Center
 - Praisner Community Recreation Center
 - Long Branch Senior Center
 - February's theme was Black History (Flyer Attached)
 - March's theme is Irish American & Greek (Flyer Attached)
 - April's theme will be Arab American & Scottish
 - May's theme will be Asian/Pacific & Jewish American
 - June's theme will be Caribbean Amercian
- Our Annual 55+ Cardboard Regatta will be on Thursday, March 14th at the MLK Swim Center (Flyer Attached)
 - Participating locations are: Damascus SC, N. Potomac SC, Poolville Senior, Schweinhart SC, Long Branch SC, Holiday Park SC, White Oak SC, Wheaton SC

- Recreation will be tabling at the Active Aging Expo on April 24th at Bohrer Park

Silver Spring Recreation and Aquatic Center (SSRAC)

Updates:

Grand opening on February 24, 2024 was successful.

Hosted the MerMagic Conference on March 2 – 3. Event brought over 500 people to the area.

Fitness room floor has been completed and equipment has been placed. Waiting for final permit to open.

Demonstrations are occurring throughout March with registered programs beginning in April.

Senior programming has begun. SSRAC hosted a 55+ brunch with 62 participants.

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 **7677** (an increase of 491 from previous report) and we continue to enroll new participants weekly.

-*Staffing* - Currently still recruiting and interviewing to fill 3 career vacancies within the team (2 Rec Specialists for EBBE, 1 Rec Supervisor). PAA selection completed and candidate slated to start at the end of March.

-*Special Programs* –Epic4Everyone closing celebration held 3/7 at Mid County CRC with participants and parents where the program video was premiered. Fashion Book Camp continues its Friday sessions leading up to the Finale on 3/22 including two weekend practices and model outfit shopping for the show. Collaborating with Fire & Rescue to implement a week of activities focusing on hands only CPR and 911 awareness within our afterschool programs 3/11-3/14; Participated in Bel Pre ES Community School Job Fair on 3/4 sharing information about seasonal and career opportunities within department. Futsal celebrated Women in Sports day on 2/2. Futsal culminating event held 3/8 at Mid County including not just soccer competition but other programming such as art contests, Hands Only CPR demos, Cooking class, live band music and a FIFA gaming tournament.

-*Elementary Programs*- Parent Engagement night at New Hampshire Estates on 2/27 was a big success with 123 EBB family members participating.

-*Middle Programs*- RecXtra at Takoma Park took its cooking club on a field trip to participate in the Real Food for Kids Culinary Competition in Alexandria, VA on Sat. 3/2 where they won first place for lunch and community choice awards.

-*High School Programs*- TeenWorks Held 2 Employee and 3 Volunteer orientations and supported 7 events in February. RecZones recognized Black History month by screening films such as Hidden Figures and a trip to the African American

History Museum in DC. Vibe Checkup teen mental health & wellness programs started at several locations. Preparation beginning for Spring Soccer4Change season.

Upcoming Events/Visit Opportunities:

- Friday, March 15 – Parent Engagement Event at EBBE at South Lake 6-8pm
- Saturday, March 16 – MCR Afterschool Committee Mini Conference @ White Oak CRC (Staff Training 9:30-3:30)
- Saturday, March 16 – MCR Tabling at Montgomery Village Community Wellness Event (1-3pm)
- Saturday, March 16 – Carnival themed Parent Engagement Event at EBBE at Cresthaven (over 150 expected) 12-4pm
- Tuesday, March 19 – TeenWorks Employee Info Session @ Mid County CRC 6-7:30
- Friday, March 22 – Parent Engagement Event at EBBE at Harmony Hills 6:30-8:30pm
- Friday, March 22 – Fashion Boot Camp Finale at East County CRC 7:00-9:30pm
- Saturday, March 23 – Weekend RecZone program begins at Upper County CRC for middle & high schoolers; to be held on Saturdays through April 13 (4 dates)
- Wednesday, March 27 – Teens Day Out at SSRAC special program

MONTGOMERY COUNTY RECREATION ORGANIZATION CHART

