

City of Alexandria, Virginia

MEMORANDUM

**DATE:** MAY 19, 2022  
**TO:** PARK AND RECREATION COMMISSION MEMBERS

**FROM:** LAURA DURHAM, DEPUTY DIRECTOR  
RECREATION SERVICES DIVISION

**SUBJECT:** PARK AND RECREATION COMMISSION DIVISION UPDATE ITEM IV

**2021-2022 OSTP Update:**

Please view the chart for current summer registration for Power-On and Power-Up programs. There are still spaces available, but we expect registration to increase as the school year comes to an end.

Activity	Description	Max	Enrl
102901-01	JAES Summer Power	80	32
102902-01	Polk Summer Power-	80	27
102903-01	FTD Summer Power	85	78
102904-01	Power-Up MacArthur	40	19
103500-01	CBRC Summer Power	90	88
103600-01	CHRC Summer Power	75	53
103700-01	CKRC Summer Power	115	76
103800-01	MVRC Summer Power	140	86
104000-01	PHRC Summer Power	160	146
104100-01	WRC Summer Powe	75	59

Pre-Registration for School Year 2022-2023 will be held June 13-18 for families needing fee assistance. Open registration for all open spaces after pre-registration is completed will begin online only on June 29 and will continue online or in-person as space permits.

RPCA is coordinating with ACPS Transportation to provide timely information to parents on where buses can provide transport to afterschool care sites if space is not available at the school their child attends. The limited number of bus drivers and high gas fees are requiring a more rigorous approach to routing buses.

**Program Wrap-ups:**

- The Patrick Henry Recreation Center partnered with the Capital Youth Empowerment Program, to work with our teens on Tuesdays and Thursdays during the month of April. The program engages with youth to better promote positive development and healthy lifestyle choices. The training program entitled Project Success addresses a variety of topics including teen pregnancy prevention, domestic violence prevention, STEM, mental health awareness, and social and emotional learning.



topics including teen pregnancy prevention, domestic violence prevention, STEM, mental health awareness, and social and emotional learning.

- On April 30, Patrick Henry Recreation Center held a Pop-up Rec. The theme was the Wild, Wild West and Mother's. The youth painted pictures and decorated vases for their mothers.



- From April 11-15, Patrick Henry Recreation Center had a variety of activities for youth to enjoy during Spring Break. The youth enjoyed a performance from Clown N Around as well as participating in an indoor Egg Hunt.



- On April 16, Chinquapin hosted the annual Underwater Egg Hunt. 119 youth, ages 6 months – 13 years old, participated in finding eggs and collecting prizes.



- Community Outreach & Safe Place – RPCA staff attended 7 community cookouts. These events provided an outreach opportunity to the community to help educate and provide resources about summer camp opportunities, outreach programs, Safe Place, City-Wide resources and services, summer hiring, community events and updates as well as building the relationship between the community and law enforcement. The Community Cookouts were provided in partnership by RPCA, Alexandria Police Department, Alexandria Sheriff Department, Alexandria Fire Department, DCHS, ARHA, and other City agencies and local non-profits. The community cookout dates ran from April 19 – May 10, at locations throughout the City of Alexandria.



- April was **Child Abuse & Child Neglect Prevention Month**. Each center and OSTP location received a knapsack of supplies and information to share with families. Each knapsack included 6 Blue Pinwheels to create a Pinwheel Garden, mini-Pinwheel Lapel Pins and a flyer of weekly themed activities. Each location also received yard signs to add to their Pinwheel Garden and balloons. The blue signature Pinwheels were used to help educate communities about the importance of supporting children and families and were a positive emblem of the effect we can have when we work together to prevent child abuse. As mandated reporters we all need to do our part to keep youth and teens safe.



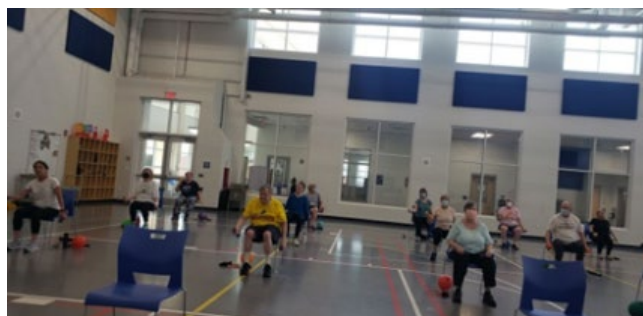


### Program Updates:

- Miracle League Baseball Games are being played on Wednesdays at 4:30 p.m. for youth participants and on Saturdays at 1 p.m. for adult participants. Volunteers can sign on to help as Angels in the Outfield online at [miracleleagueofalexandria.com](http://miracleleagueofalexandria.com). Remaining game dates are May 18 and 25 for youth and May 14 and 21 for adults.

- **Department Summer Camp update:** \$975,235.90 in revenue, and 55 camps filled.

- On Wednesdays, from 10am -11am, during the month of April 2022, the Patrick Henry Recreation Center conducted the Walk & Fit Training class for the City of Alexandria residents. This is a circuit training class that incorporates walking as an aerobic activity and the use of handheld weights and resistance bands for strength training. This is a cardiovascular fat burning workout that will aid in firming and sculpting your body. During the past few months, the program has started to regain its popularity and increased in class participation. All participants are required to bring their own PPE for the class. There were 17 participants signed up for the class.



- On Wednesdays, during the month of April, from 12-1pm, the Patrick Henry Recreation Center conducted a revamp Senior Cardio & Weight Training class for the City of Alexandria residents. This is a cardio and weight training exercise program that is designed by using our weight and cardio fitness machines in a timed interval system to increase endurance, burn calories, strengthen, and tone muscles and improve flexibility. There were 7 participants enrolled in the class.



- On Mondays, during the month of April, the teens took part in the Weight Training for Teens at the Patrick Henry Center. This teen weight training class will focus on learning the basics of strength training and getting acclimated to the fitness area. This class will offer: 6 weeks of instructional weight training w Total body strength workout Learning proper form and good gym etiquette while meeting your fitness goals Personalized body composition testing
- During the month of April, the teens continue to participate in the Patrick Henry Center's HITT Training for Teens. This fitness program incorporates safe, effective exercise through circuit training to accomplish goals, from improved health to weight loss to better performance. All workouts are modified and designed to help participants, improve fitness, and move towards goals.



The City of Alexandria's 2022 Outdoor Pool season begins May 28, and RPCA is kicking off the summer with an Outdoor Pool Pass Sale. All passes are 15% off when purchased May 1<sup>st</sup> -15<sup>th</sup> and will be valid at Memorial Pool (901 Wythe St.), Old Town Pool (1609 Cameron St.), and Warwick Pool (3301 Landover St.) from May 28 through September 9.

New this year is the Teen Pool Pass, on sale for \$39 when purchased May 1 - June 19. This pass will provide teenagers access to all three Outdoor Pools from May 28 through September 9. All teenagers between the ages of 13-17 who wish to swim at a pool without an adult will need a parent or guardian to complete a Teen Program Registration form in advance at [alexandriava.gov/Aquatics](http://alexandriava.gov/Aquatics) or at Chinquapin.

All Outdoor Pool passes may be purchased in advance at Chinquapin Park Recreation Center and Aquatics Facility (3210 King St.). For more information about the Outdoor Pools, including daily admission fees and schedules, visit [alexandriava.gov/Aquatics](http://alexandriava.gov/Aquatics).

### Upcoming Events:

- RPCA as a member of the Commission on Aging Successful Aging Committee with the ACHS Student Government Association is hosting a Spring Sock Hop for Seniors in the High School cafeteria on May 13, 7-9 p.m. 70 senior adults are registered. Dancing to DJ music, good food, and great fellowship will be evening.
- RPCA as a member of the Commission on Aging Successful Aging Committee with Senior Services of Alexandria will host a Senior Health and Fitness Fair on May 19<sup>th</sup> from 10 a.m.-12 p.m. at Lee Center. A presentation on fall prevention, vision, and blood pressure screenings, COVID vaccinations, and break-out sessions on exercise and

nutrition are on the agenda for this event. This annual event generally attracts 125 or more participants.

- Jr. Wizards Basketball Clinic – Saturday, May 21 at 9:30 at Lee Center Outdoor Courts
- Alexandria Titans Track Meet – Saturday, May 21 at 2 p.m. at Alexandria City High School
- Late Night Basketball League Championship – Thursday, May 26 at Charles Houston
- Outdoor Pools open May 28
- Wahoos Swim Team begins May 31
- Two additional Community Cook-Out dates were added to the calendar to be held on May 23 at Four Mile Run Park and May 25 at Brent Place from 5:30-7:30 p.m.

**Staff Updates:**

- Fee Classes and Camps Coordinator Rotation- The Program Coordinator vacancy in the Fee Classes and Camps section has been filled for May-August with a City internal rotational opportunity. Skylar Borman, Coordinator for the Youth and Adult Sports Section, will be filling this rotation.
- Welcome Trina Wood who recently joined RPCA as a full-time Aquatics Coordinator.

# City of Alexandria, Virginia

## MEMORANDUM

DATE: MAY 19, 2022

FROM: JACK BROWAND, DEPUTY DIRECTOR - PARK OPERATIONS, RPCA

THROUGH: JAMES SPENGLER, DIRECTOR, RPCA

SUBJECT: PARK OPERATIONS MONTHLY UPDATE

### 1. PARK AND FACILITIES MAINTENANCE

#### a. Park Maintenance

- New warehouse office flammable safety cabinets.
- Installation of new floor in the warehouse office.

#### b. Park Facilities Maintenance

- Continued irrigation start-up and repairs.
- Continued warehouse enhancements at 2900 Business Center Dr.

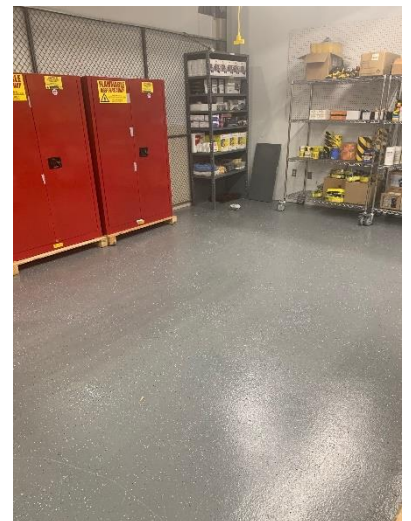
### 2. URBAN FORESTRY & HORTICULTURE

#### a. Urban Forestry

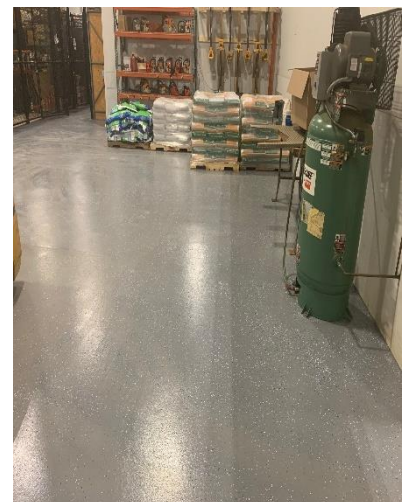
- Celebrated Arbor Day with a proclamation and tree planting near City Hall.
- Supported the Tree Stewards in a volunteer tree planting at Ben Brenman Park.
- Supported Skanska USA Building Inc. in a volunteer tree planting near MacArthur school.
- Supported an Earth Day tree giveaway with Tree Stewards and DHL.

#### b. Horticulture

- Community Garden plots have all been assigned and gardeners have started spring gardening. Board meetings for both Holmes Run Gardens and Chinquapin Community Gardens have begun for the 2022 season.



*Flammable safety cabinets for new Shop office at 2900 A.*



*New Shop floor installation, and supply organization.*

Chinquapin Community Gardens held a Spring Potluck gathering, April 23, for the first time since 2019, at Chinquapin Park picnic area.

### 3. NATURAL LANDS MANAGEMENT

#### a. Invasive Plant Management and Ecological Restoration

- Staff pulled thousands of seedlings and saplings of Burning Bush, Bush Honeysuckle, Winter Creeper, Porcelain-berry, Oriental Bittersweet, Mile-a-minute Weed, Higan Cherry, English Ivy, Privet, Japanese Privet, Southern Magnolia, Holly Osmanthus, Japanese Holly, Chinese Holly, Cherry Laurel, Asian Crabapple, Callery Pear, Zelkova, Five-leaf Akebia, Japanese Maple, and Tree-of-Heaven from Rynex Natural Area and Stonegate Scenic Easement.
- Staff and conservation volunteers pulled and bagged dozens of large bags of Garlic Mustard and Money Plant from Holmes Run Park, Fort Williams Park, Rynex Natural Area, Forest Park, and Dora Kelley Nature Park.
- Staff carefully dug out and bagged an established, unauthorized out Planting of 150-200 Golden Wood Poppy plants - a popular garden plant that in Virginia only occurs in the far southwestern mountains - from the border of a seepage wetland at Rynex Natural Area.
- Staff supervised our contractor, Invasive Plant Control (IPC), in the foliar treatment of Lesser Celandine at Dora Kelley Nature Park, Holmes Run Scenic Easement, Four Mile Run Park, Chinquapin Park, Forest Park, Timberbranch Parkway, Ben Brenman Park, Angel Park, Tarleton Park, and Battery Heights Conservation Easement.

#### b. Cooperative Initiatives

- On April 9, 2022, City Natural Resources Field Inspector organized a stream cleanup at All Veterans Park with the Alice Ferguson Foundation.
- On April 16, 2022, the Friends of Monticello Park removed several truckloads of heavy debris from Monticello Park, including 3 electric motor scooters dumped into the stream.
- On April 21, 2022, City Natural Resource Manager gave "The Policy and Practice of Stream Restoration" PowerPoint, via Zoom, at the Maryland Forestry Foundation's Framing the Future - Forest Policy Third Thursdays.
- Staff assisted Four Mile Run Conservatory Foundation in the implementation of an Eagle Scout Project on April 22,



*Irrigation damage at Founders Park.*



*Irrigation repair at Founders Park.*



*New office space in the mechanic shop at 2900BCD.*



2022. Twelve Swamp Rose, 2 Black Gum, 2 Sweetgum, 2 Ironwood, 1 Sycamore, and 1 Basswood were planted in the park.

c. Environmental Review

- No review this period.

4. JEROME “BUDDIE” FORD NATURE CENTER

a. Programs/Updates:

- There was a total of 614 visitors during the month of April. There were 33 interpretive programs attended by 731 participants

School Programs:

- During the month of April there were 12 school programs conducted for a total of 242 students.
- 120 3<sup>rd</sup> graders from Mason Crest Elementary School (FCPS) visited over two days to learn about animal adaptations and take a walk in Dora Kelly Nature Park.
- With SOL testing beginning in May for ACPS, many of our school programs this month focused on Oceans and Ecosystems for 4<sup>th</sup> and 5<sup>th</sup> grades.

Outreach Programs:

- This month’s recreation center programs focused on reptiles. Elementary aged students from William Ramsay, Patrick Henry, Chick Armstrong, Charles Houston, and Samuel Tucker Elementary School learned about the characteristics and behaviors of reptiles. They were able to meet several of our ambassadors from the center to include snakes, turtles, and lizards.
- Staff from the center tabled at Community Cookouts, hosted by the Alexandria Police Department. We took informative displays and some of our ambassador animals to neighborhoods throughout Alexandria.
- We attended Mount Vernon Community School Annual Science Night. Our display focused on native Alexandria wildlife and the students enjoyed talking about their animal encounters in this urban environment.

Onsite Programs:

- Our adult Garden Series kicked off in early April with a session on Spring Planting led by MGNV Volunteer, Valerie LaTortue. We had a total of 8 participants, and they learned how to start flower and vegetable gardens in containers and gardens.
- The first meeting of our spring Little Adventures session took place on Earth Day. The group had a chance to meet many of the center’s animal collection and took a hike through Dora Kelly Nature Park to search for animals in their native habitats.



*Wild Geranium in bloom at Monticello Park.*



*Pinxterflower in bloom at Dora Kelley Nature Park.*



*Trash was removed from the stream banks in DKNP. Volunteers included the Alexandria Sherriff’s office.*

b. Volunteers Hours:

- One volunteer reported 13 hours for the month of March.
- The Friends of Dora Kelly Nature Park led their Annual Spring Cleanup on April 9<sup>th</sup>. A total of 31 people including some from the Alexandria Sherriff's Office came out to pull trash from the stream banks and throughout the park.

c. Noteworthy:

- The 2022 City Nature Challenge took place April 29-May 2. In this 4-day bioblitz citizens used iNaturalist to observe and document plant and animal species in the City of Alexandria. Current counts show 851 logged observations of 434 individual species by 50 observers. Final results, will be available in early-May.



*Alexandria Sherriff's office DKNP volunteers stream banks trash removed.*



*Students participating in OSTP at William Ramsay got a closeup look at one of our snakes.*



*Our Little Adventures group took a walk to the pond in DNKP and spotted several frogs, turtles, and a friendly pair of ducks.*

# City of Alexandria, Virginia

---

## MEMORANDUM

**DATE:** MAY 19, 2022

**TO:** PARK AND RECREATION COMMISSION MEMBERS

**FROM:** JACK BROWAND, DEPUTY DIRECTOR   
PARK SERVICES

BETHANY ZNIDERSIC, ACTING DIVISION CHIEF   
PARK SERVICES - PARK PLANNING & CAPITAL DEVELOPMENT

**ITEM 4:** PARK AND RECREATION COMMISSION DIVISION UPDATE  
PARK SERVICES - PARK PLANNING & CAPITAL DEVELOPMENT

---

### **Commission Presentations & Oral Reports**

- None

### **Attached Memorandums**

- None

### **Capital Improvement Project Updates**

- May 2022 Park Planning & Capital Development, Park Services (*Attached*)

### **Small Area Plan & ACPS Modernization Coordination**

- Landmark Mall
- Eisenhower East
- North Potomac Yard
- Arlandria-Chirilagua
- Potomac River Generating Station
- High School Project Minnie Howard Campus
- Douglas MacArthur Elementary School
- Patrick Henry K-8 & Recreation Center Restart (FY 2023)

# Park & Recreation Commission -Park Planning Report



May 19, 2022

Project	Project Description	Monthly Update	Status	Planning District	Target Completion Date	Assigned To	
1	Safety Surface Replacement Projects	Address playground safety surface end of life replacements.	Scoping will be done this spring to identify projects.	Procurement	Citywide	12/01/21	Judy Lo
2	Open Space Policy Plan	This project will develop a framework for explaining Open Space and identifying policy change needs. City Council reinstated the Open Space Steering Committee with charge of work to be completed by FY 2023.	The Committee met on April 25. The committee passed a motion to accept the updates to the open space acquisition criteria. The Committee also discussed metrics for measuring open space quality in Alexandria.	Implementation	Citywide	06/30/23	Ana Vicinanza
3	NOVA Cameron Run Regional Park Sport Court	Purchase of a portable sport court to support programming during pool off season, includes storage container (FY21 carryover)	Design for the sport court is ongoing. Department staff will meet with Nova Parks by end of spring to finalize the plans and installation.	Design	Citywide	06/30/22	Daniel Unkle
4	Witter Recreational Fields Netting	Netting along Witter Drive on the Rectangular Fields	The Special Use Permit for the netting on all four sides of the rectangular fields was approved by Planning Commission and City Council in April. The donation from the Alexandria Soccer Association was received. The project will move into design in FY 2023.	Planning	District 1	12/30/22	Daniel Unkle
5	Wilkes Street Park	Develop plan for Wilkes Street Park in anticipation of building redevelopments	The revised grading plan has been routed to City staff for review and comment.	Planning	District 1	02/18/21	Ana Vicinanza
6	Carlyle Tennis Court ADA Improvements	Install a ADA concrete sidewalk from the parking lot to the tennis courts. Install concrete pad for existing bike rack.	The concrete sidewalk and bike rack pad installation is complete. The parking lot stripping will occur by the end of June.	Implementation	District 1	11/12/21	Daniel Unkle
7	Simpson Dog Park Renovation	This project will address erosion and drainage issues in the Simpson Park dog park per the 2014 Citywide Parks Improvements Plan.	The construction Invitation To Bid opening was held in mid-March. The bids are currently under review. The project is anticipated to	Procurement	District 2	12/30/22	Bethany Znidersic
8	Colasanto Interactive Fountain Design	This project will convert the existing closed Colasanto Pool to an interactive fountain per the 2012 Aquatics Plan. The renovated site will be an intergenerational, inclusive, multi-functional site that can be used year round.	A virtual community meeting was held on April 28 to discuss the final design and the public art. The final plan submission is anticipated in June 2022. The public art infrastructure and supporting footers will be incorporated with the final plan submission and included in the construction package.	Planning	District 2	12/30/21	Bethany Znidersic
9	Naming Proposal at Chinquapin Park	RPCA supports the City Council Naming Committee regarding naming requests as they are received.	RPCA has received a proposal to name the memorial tree grove located at Chinquapin Park. The tree grove was planted by Virginia Tech in 2017 as a tribute to the mass shooting victims. The proposed name will recognize gun violence prevention. Per the Naming Policy, a public comment period is required and will be planned for this spring.	Administrative	District 2	06/30/22	Judy Lo
10	Fort Ward Park Picnic Shelter Access Improvements	Provide barrier free accessible route that connects picnic shelter, picnic tables, and parking. The ADA accessible path will also connect to the sidewalk on Van Dorn Street	A community pre-construction meeting was held on April 9. Work will commence the week of April 25. Archaeologists will be on-site to monitor excavation activities throughout construction.	Implementation	District 3		Judy Lo
11	AL Boothe Synthetic Turf Field Conversion	This project will convert the natural turf field in Armistead L. Boothe Park to synthetic turf.	The Health and Safety Plan has been developed and the 100% plan submission is anticipated to be submitted for City regulatory review in June. Construction procurement is anticipated this summer/fall. Construction timing will be coordinated with Rec Services to minimize impacts to the community.	Planning	District 3	05/02/22	Bethany Znidersic
12	Beatley Bridge Surface Repairs	This project will provide a resurfacing to the bridge and improve drainage.	Project scheduled to begin week of May 16 with completion the week of May 23. The bridge will be closed for the duration of the project.	Implementation	District 3	10/29/21	Jack Broward
13	Ewald Park Site Design	Design of Ewald Park per the 2015 Neighborhood Parks Plan	The Land and Water Conservation grant was submitted. Staff will be submitting additional materials for the pre-review phase of the grant process. A 30 day public comment period will be scheduled this spring. Staff continue to work on the design scope of work.	Initiation	District 3	06/30/23	Judy Lo
14	Landmark Block P - Terrace Park	This development project is part of the Landmark Mall Redevelopment Coordinated Development District.	Landmark Mall open space was presented at the April Park and Recreation Commission Meeting	Planning	District 3	01/21/22	Ana Vicinanza
15	Four Mile Run Pedestrian Bridge Repairs	Replace existing bridge structure (FY21 carryover)	Contract was awarded for structural analysis and design recommendations. Preliminary analysis will continue through May with a final report and replacement recommendation received by the City in early June.			06/30/22	Jack Broward