

RECREATION

RECREATION DEPARTMENT

In 2012 the Arlington Recreation Department continued to offer a variety of safe, quality programs and facilities for the residents of the Town of Arlington.

The Ed Burns Arena at the Veterans Memorial Sport Complex had 1,962 hours of ice rentals and our public skating attendance numbers were 4,258 adults and 8,411 youth/seniors, excluding seasonal skate passes.

The Department has been committed to providing quality programs, special events, and improvements to its many facilities. New programs offered in 2012 include: kayak rentals, toddler art classes, adult tai chi, and special needs programming. Overall the participation numbers in recreational programs have increased from 4,921 participants in 2011 to 5,884 participants in 2012.

Although the summer started out strong because of higher than normal temperatures the Reservoir Beach numbers remained consistent. A total of 1,364 season passes were sold, which is the same as the previous year.

The North Union Spray Pool located adjacent to the Thompson Elementary School was also enjoyed by residents on a daily basis throughout the summer. The North Union Spray Pool continues to be a free service offered by the Department.

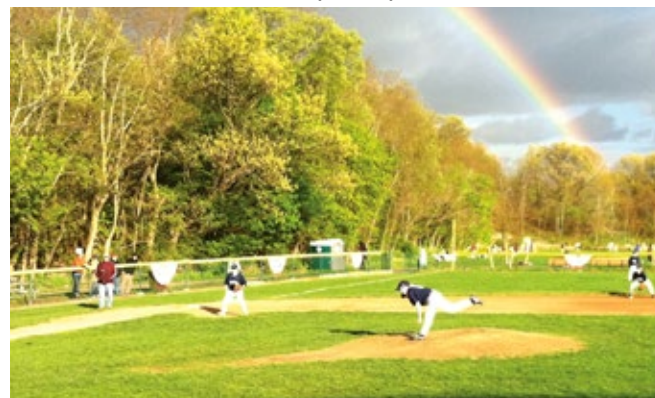
Gibbs Gymnasium continued to house a majority of the recreation indoor programs as well as provide indoor birthday party and gym rental options for the Arlington community. The Department oversees the rental of the facility, which currently includes various youth activities and organizations, adult basketball, and soccer. Gibbs Gym hosted 103 birthday parties in 2012 which is a decrease from the 107 hosted in 2011.

Arlington Recreation collaborates with various Town organizations and recreation centers in Arlington to offer Town-wide special events. Such events include

the Town Day Road Race, Daddy Daughter Dance, Egg Hunt, Halloween Window Painting, and Halloween Public Skate. This year we continued to offer the successful Special Needs Skate Program with the Arlington Catholic High School Boys' & Girls' Hockey team and their coaching staff. Arlington Recreation proudly held their Fourth Annual Golf Tournament at Hillview Country Club. The tournament was in honor former Town Manager Brian Sullivan.

Limited outdoor recreational facilities and playing fields continue to be an important issue facing Arlington Recreation. The Department continues to work with both high schools and the Town's many youth sport associations, the Department is crafting policies and procedures to assist in the scheduling and maintenance of Town playing fields. A field summit was held to review the current scheduling assignments and permitting policies. The Department also works with many of the park abutters, neighbors, and friends' organizations on perpetual park concerns and maintenance items.

Arlington Recreation received its state license to operate an after school program. The Arlington Kid Care program was opened in September at the Gibbs Gymnasium. There are currently fifty-two children enrolled in the program. Arlington Recreation will be requesting an increase in license to 110 participants in 2013.



Arlington Youth Baseball/Softball Program enjoy a beautiful spring day at Buck Field.

Veteran's Memorial Rink	FY2008 Actual	FY2009 Actual	FY2010 Actual	FY2011 Actual	FY2012 Actual
Ice Rental Hours	1,913	2,086	1,859	1,944	1,962
Rec & Public Skate Hrs	496	552	500	610	622
Public Skate #'s-Adult	3,597	3824	3,979	4,484	4,258
Public Skate Passes #'s-Adult	46	55	58	53	53
Public Skate #'s-Child/Sen	8,356	8597	7,846	8,317	8,411
Public Skate Passes #'s-Child/Sen	85	92	98	127	79
Skate Rentals	2,713	2597	2,762	3,235	2,959
Skate Sharpening	932	962	982	1,112	848
Skate Sharpening Passes	NA	11	20	15	9
Stick and Puck	280	452	557	518	657

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Program Participants by Season	FY2008	FY2009	FY2010	FY2011	FY2012
Summer	1,464	1,349	1,634	1832	1823
Fall	913	1057	920	1110	1263
Winter	764	905	1,506	1207	2012
Spring	544	732	812	772	786
Reservoir Tags Sold					
Adult Resident	464	352	455	437	437
Child Resident	461	346	443	395	395
Senior Citizen	67	51	70	71	71
Non Resident	31	13	13	24	24
Resident Family	358	290	379	340	340
Non Resident Family	46	17	34	27	27
Resident Family Plus 1	90	59	70	64	64
Non Resident Family Plus 1	8	1	3	6	6
Total	1,525	1,129	1,467	1,364	1,364
Reservoir Passes Sold					
Weekday Pass	3,500	3,051	4,254	3,050	3,344
Weekend Pass	1,191	1,431	1,827	1,667	2,386
Total	4,691	4,482	6,081	4,717	5,730

PARKS AND RECREATION COMMISSION

Arlington Recreation continues to manage the capital improvement projects for the Park and Recreation Commission. In 2012 the Wellington Tennis Courts were completed with lights making it Arlington's first lighted tennis facility. Buck Field was renovated by Arlington Youth Baseball and Softball. Arlington's first off leash dog facility was completed at Thorndike Field, thanks to a generous gift from the Stanton Foundation. The design process began for the renovation of the Florence Avenue Playground adjacent to the Dallin School.

With the passing of Article 36 by Town Meeting in 2010, the Recreation Director continues to oversee the

plan of designated off-leash dog hours at parks specified by the Park and Recreation Commission.

2013 Objectives

Arlington Recreation will continue to offer residents quality recreational programming. It is the goal of the Department to increase and improve program offerings every season. The Department will continue to work with users of the Arlington Sports Center and Town outdoor playing fields to address the increasing needs of the community. Our financial goal is to continue to become increasingly self-supporting through appropriate fee structuring and program and facility management.



Thorndike Off-leash Recreation Area