

# RECREATION

## RECREATION DEPARTMENT

The Arlington Recreation Department continued to offer a variety of programs and facilities for the residents of Arlington in 2016. The Department continues to operate as a self-supporting department and does not utilize general fund dollars to support the staff, programs, or Ed Burns Arena.

The Ed Burns Arena at the Veterans Memorial Sport Complex had a successful year. The chart below gives you an overview of the usage at the rink for the previous five years.



*Bay State Skating*

ED BURNS ARENA	FY2012	FY2013	FY2014	FY2015	FY2016
Ice Rental Hours	1,962	1,934	2,010	2,055	2,032
Public Skate #'s-Adult	4,258	4,708	5,023	4,567	4,795
Public Skate Passes #'s-Adult	53	31	98	116	107
Public Skate #'s-Child/Senior	8,411	8,115	8,195	7,091	7,643
Public Skate Passes #'s-Child/Senior	79	67	174	148	140
Skate Rentals	2,959	3,378	3,931	3,621	3,325
Skate Sharpening	848	691	914	785	845
Stick and Puck	657	1,137	1,749	1,005	1,377

There were several upgrades that were completed at the rink this year. New LED efficient light fixtures throughout the rink and electrical upgrades were completed in 2016. New electrical controllers will assist in making the rink more efficient by enabling the selection of the right amount of light for the given event taking place. These improvements will reduce the energy consumption and help reduce costs.

The Department has been committed to providing quality programs and special events. The chart below gives you an overview of the Department's participation numbers for the past 5 years.

Overall the participation numbers in recreational programs have increased steadily over the past five years. However there will be a number of factors that will impact this growth moving forward and it is anticipated that the participation numbers will decrease in FY18 and FY19.

Gibbs Gymnasium was used for indoor recreational programming and rental space for the residents of Arlington. The gymnasium had a total of 2,416 hours of use this past year. Rentals made up 590 hours, parties totaled 230 hours, and recreational programs consisted of 1,596 hours. The Department will oversee the rental of the gymnasium until June of 2017.

The numbers at the Reservoir have fluctuated a bit over the past 5 years. The chart below represents the number of beach goers over the past 5 years.

Arlington Recreation collaborates with various Town organizations to offer Town-wide special events. Such events include the Town Day Road Race, Daddy Daughter Dance, Egg Hunt, Halloween and Special Winter Public Skates, Art in the Park, Dog Park Events and the Moonlight Beach Party.

Supply and demand continues to be a challenge with the outdoor facilities and playing fields in Town. The

Season	FY2012	FY2013	FY2014	FY2015	FY2016
Summer	1,823	1,165	2,915	3,177	3,423
Fall	1,263	1,862	1,731	1,924	2,417
Winter	2,012	1,236	1,860	2,312	2,613
Spring	786	2,826	2,413	2,069	1,971
Kids Care Memberships	0	42	85	148	163
<b>Total</b>	<b>5,884</b>	<b>7,131</b>	<b>9,004</b>	<b>9,630</b>	<b>10,424</b>

# RECREATION

Reservoir Tags	FY2012	FY2013	FY2014	FY2015	FY2016
Adult Resident	437	423	426	363	279
Child Resident	395	376	364	374	339
Senior Citizen	71	60	59	74	68
Non Resident	24	6	3	0	0
Resident Family	340	511	470	459	325
Non Resident Family	33	30	0	0	0
Resident Family Plus 1	64	74	109	11	79
<b>Total Tags Sold</b>	<b>1,364</b>	<b>1,480</b>	<b>1,431</b>	<b>1,281</b>	<b>1,090</b>
<b>Total Daily Passes</b>	<b>5,730</b>	<b>5,375</b>	<b>6,172</b>	<b>9,565</b>	<b>8,806</b>

Department works closely with Public Works to try and balance usage with conditions. The number of fields has remained constant over the years, but the influx in the school age population has increased. There is also a growing request for new leagues and non-permitted usage for adults. The Department will continue to work with the various user groups, friends groups, and residents to address these challenges.

### Park and Recreation Commission

Arlington Recreation continues to manage the capital improvement projects for the Park and Recreation Commission. Projects in 2016 consisted of:

- Magnolia Park Project – updating park elements, improving ADA access, improving drainage, and expanding community garden plots.
- Buck Field Safety Upgrades – improve safety between baseball field and playground.
- Robbins Farm Project – held public meetings to solicit input and created initial concept plans.
- Florence ADA Upgrades – finalized construction documents.
- Ed Burns Arena Electrical Upgrades – LED lighting and electrical controls.



Wayne from Maine concert

### 2017 Objectives

The Department will face a number of challenges in 2017. We will be working with Arlington Public Schools to continue to offer our state licensed preschool and afterschool programs. With the loss of programming space at the Gibbs Gymnasium, the Department will seek programming space to try and account for the 2,416 hours used at the Gibbs Gymnasium in 2016. The steady growth in the school age population will continue to increase the need for afterschool recreational space, further compounding the challenges in 2017 and beyond. The Department has a number of projects on the books for 2017 including park improvements at Robbins Farm Park, ADA upgrade at Florence Field, and fence work at Robillard Field. The Department is in the process of requesting funding for additional projects in 2017.



Arlington Reservoir, Lowell Street