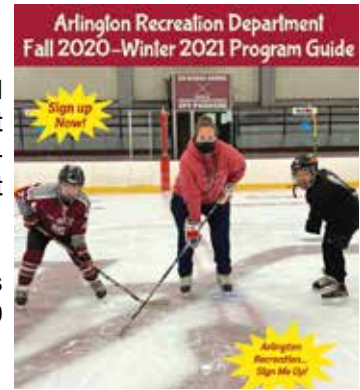


RECREATION

RECREATION DEPARTMENT

Arlington's Recreation Department offered a smaller variety of programs and facilities rentals for Arlington residents in 2020 due to restrictions, guidelines, and best practices brought on by the COVID-19 pandemic. The Department operates as a self-supporting enterprise in the Town and does not utilize general fund dollars to support the staff, programs, or the Ed Burns Arena.

The chart below gives an overview of the usage at the rink for the previous 6-years, please note that the FY 2020 season was cut short due to the covid-19 pandemic which is reflected in lower than usual numbers.



Ed Burns Arena	FY2015	FY2016	FY2017	FY2018	FY2019	FY2020
Ice Rental Hours	2,055	2,032	1,795	1,643	1,559	1,379
Public Skate - Adult	4,567	4,795	6,288	5,730	4,581	3,858
Public Skate - Child/Senior	7,091	7,643	4,805	6,623	6,732	6,434
Public Skate Passes - Adult	116	107	65	55	34	33
Public Skate Passes - Child/Senior	148	140	109	86	61	50
Skate Rentals	3,621	3,325	3,386	4,106	3,405	3,202
Skate Sharpening	785	845	528	636	352	146
Stick and Puck	1,005	1,377	1,425	1,469	1,102	1,121

The Department has been committed to providing quality affordable programs and community wide special events. The chart below gives an overview of the program attendance for the previous 6-years, please note that the FY 2020 season was cut short due to the covid-19 pandemic which is reflected in lower than usual numbers.

Season	FY2015	FY2016	FY2017	FY2018	FY2019	FY2020
Summer	2,403	3,806	3,469	3,197	2,807	2,214
Fall	1,097	1,370	1,265	1,300	1,042	1,204
Winter	2,299	2,333	2,445	2,525	2,387	1,745
Spring	1,184	1,529	2,145	2,223	1,306	0
Kids Care Memberships	148	163	135	124	169	163
Total	7,131	9,201	9,459	9,369	7,711	5,326

Overall the participation numbers in recreational programs has fluctuated over the last few years with a major drop in FY20 due to the COVID-19 pandemic. Through the pandemic Arlington Recreation was able to offer a base level of programming and was able to keep the Ed Burns Arena open whenever state and local guidelines allowed for youth recreational programming.



Arlington youth playing viking flag football while complying with COVID-19 safety protocols.

RECREATION

The access to a primary recreational program space has the biggest potential impact on the Department's ability to maintain participant numbers. Continued access to school gymnasiums, cafeterias and classrooms will be critical in the Department's ability to maintain its level of recreational programming and licensed early education and care programs. It is important for the Department to continually explore alternative program locations.

The numbers at the Reservoir Beach have fluctuated over the last several years and the beach did not open during the Summer of 2020 which will be reflected in the FY2021 numbers. The chart below represents the number of annual beach goers through the FY2020 season:

Reservoir	FY 2015	FY 2016	FY 2017	FY 2018	FY2019	FY2020
Adult Resident	363	279	215	132	142	142
Child Resident	374	339	198	153	126	126
Senior Citizen	74	68	53	56	42	42
Resident Family	470	404	338	892	712	178
Total Tags Sold	1,281	1,090	804	1,523	1,217	485
Total Daily Passes	9,565	8,806	11,782	9,239	9,775	17,590

The Recreation Department works closely with Public Works to try and balance field usage with field conditions. The number of fields has remained constant over the years, but the influx in the school age population has increased the demand on field space. There is also a growing request for new leagues and pick-up adult usage. The Department will continue to work with the Park Commission, various user groups, friends groups, and residents to seek solutions for these challenges.

PARK AND RECREATION COMMISSION

Arlington Recreation continues to manage the capital improvement projects for the Park and Recreation Commission. Projects in 2020 consisted of:

- Reservoir Phase I and Phase II
- North Union/Lussiano Playground
- Rink ADA Improvements
- Repairs and upgrades to our playgrounds based on findings in the 2019 playground audit

2021 Goals

The Department will continue to offer its state licensed afterschool and preschool programs. The Department will also be completing a review of their mainstay programs including Kid Care, Club Rec, Travel Basketball, Futsal, and various long running contracted sport programs

The Department has a number of projects scheduled for 2021 including ADA upgrades at the Hills Hill Field, the Reservoir Phase II Project, a new ADA lift for the Ed Burns Arena, and continued playground upgrades in regards to the 2019 playground audit.



New North Union / Lussiano Playground at Thompson Elementary School