



REC Report

QUARTERLY RECREATION UPDATE

IT'S ALMOST PARKS SEASON!!

The sun is shining, the trees are budding, and outdoor recreation is on everybody's minds! We are preparing for springtime, including cleaning and prepping our parks and fields. After an eventful winter, the desire to be outdoors and in the sunshine is human nature. Outdoor recreation is a chance for rejuvenation, leisure, and improving individual and community well-being.

Our parks and fields need time to be ready for the busy spring sports season. Please be patient with our staff and recognize that while we all want the work to be completed overnight, in reality it will take more time.

Should you be interested in helping prepare our parks, please join us for our two volunteer days: **Wednesday, April 30 from 4-6 at Dac Rowe Park, and Thursday, May 1 from 4-6 at Hope Davey Park.** These days will be a chance to jumpstart Green Up Day, and clean up our public spaces.

GARDENS - UPDATES FOR 2025

For 2025 there are some changes blooming in our garden spaces. We will no longer host garden plots in the South Community Gardens. This change is because of the last two years of flooding. The flood waters impacted the South Gardens to the point of closure and the harvests were not viable due to contamination.

For 2025: All the community garden plots will be at the North Gardens, located behind the municipal building. There will be 10ftX20ft, 20ftX20ft, and a few 20ftX40ft plots. Returning Gardeners (2024 gardeners) have early access to the garden plots, and **new gardeners will be able to register on May 1 at 9am.**

Waterbury Recreation, in partnership with the Waterbury Library, created the Children's Garden in 2024. The garden is a free space for children to learn about gardening, the process of growing food, composting, and more. The garden abuts the Community Garden plots. Earlier this year, the Children's Garden was named to the USDA's Peoples' Gardens.

PARKS AND FACILITY UPGRADES - 2025

There are many upgrades coming to our parks in 2025. You will likely see work throughout town this summer, improving our public, outdoor spaces!

We will continue to clean up from the 2023 and 2024 flooding. Most notable will be the continued clean up at Dac Rowe Fields and the Ice Center Soccer Fields. The Ice Center Soccer Fields have the benefit of a VOREC grant and FEMA funding.

At Town meeting day, voters passed funding for resurfacing of the shallow end of the pool, and a facility study for a new recreation building. The pool resurfacing will occur before the 8-week pool season, just in time to jump in!

There will be smaller, yet still significant updates of signage at our parks, playgrounds, and disc golf course. There will be the installation of accessible playground surfacing at Rusty Parker Park (similar to Hope Davey Park). There will be new tennis posts installed and upgraded dugout roofs at Anderson Park.

While most of the work is accomplished by Town Staff and contractors, some of the work is possible because of volunteers. Without volunteers, we would not be able to make as much progress! Thank you!

DROP IN Fitness Classes

JOIN WATERBURY REC PROGRAM COORDINATOR KATIE MANDYCH FOR A STRONG START TO YOUR DAY WITH EARLY MORNING FITNESS CLASSES! ALL YOU NEED TO BRING IS AN EXERCISE MAT, WATER BOTTLE, AND A POSITIVE ATTITUDE.

WEDNESDAYS AND FRIDAYS
7:30AM
27 BUTLER STREET, WATERBURY
AGES 14+ (AGES 14-17 NEED GUARDIAN PERMISSION)



Waterbury Recreation hosts fitness classes in our recreation facility. Wednesdays and Fridays at 7:30am, join Katie Mandyach for morning workout classes. And please check our calendar for Zumba classes!

Steele Room Exhibit from April-June

Colors Abound!



A new exhibit is hung on the walls of the Steele Community Room! Artist Marianne Miller shares more about her creative process:

“Exploring creativity with varied mediums ignites my inner muse. Organic layers and texture bring deeper meaning and contemplation to my artwork. The connection between my intuitive process and final art pieces brings to me a balance of my inner/outer worlds. My work unpacks, challenges and questions not only the typical use of materials but also how the exploration of art aligns with our shared human journeys.

I work primarily in 2D mixed media, using acrylics, collage, and textural elements by trusting the compositions to find new and expressive qualities. My art making demonstrates acceptance, exploring process, letting go and stretching into the unknowns of possibility. Creating fills my spirit for solitude work as well as supports relationship building with the art community.

Being an artist has been a journey filled with wonder, deep listening within, and exploring emotions with my work. I create my art to encourage and inspire people to use art for introspection, exploration and taking their own journey through our spiritual layers of being human.”

KIDS PROGRAMS

Our afterschool program is going strong, operating from school release until 6pm.

For in-service days throughout the school year we host full-day care. Most recently, we field-tripped to Twin City Family Center for a day of bowling and pizza. While there are no in-service days left in this school year, we expect to host more next year.

On April 12 we are hosting a spring-fling extravaganza. The morning will start with a non-rated chess tournament and in the afternoon, competitors will run through an outdoor obstacle course. For one or both events, the cost is \$10.

We will be hosting a Kids Night Out on May 9 from 6:15 to 8:30. The evening will have pizza, instructional painting of a spring scene, and cookies! Residents \$25, Non-residents \$35

APRIL VACATION CAMP

Kids can sign up for Waterbury Recreation’s April break camp! The camp will offer a week of fun around town. Activities we have planned for the week include:

- Ice skating at the Ice Center
- Baking strawberry shortcake
- Planting potatoes
- Cider pressing at Cold Hollow
- Making ice cream
- Hiking the Community Path
- Growing crystals
- Visit to the fire station

To register, visit www.waterburyrec.com
Registration closes April 14th!



EVENTS CALENDAR

ZUMBA
Monday, April 7
6:30pm
\$15

CHESS
TOURNAMENT
Sat, April 12, 9am
\$10

OUTDOOR
OBSTACLE
COURSE
Sat, April 12, 1pm
\$10

GREEN-UP THE
PARK
Wed, April 30 &
May 1
4-6pm

COMMUNITY
GARDEN
REGISTRATION
Thursday, May 1
9am

KIDS PAINT &
PIZZA NIGHT
Friday, May 9
6:15 - 8:30pm
\$25-\$35

WATERBURY
VOLUNTEER FAIR
Sat, May 17,
1-3pm
FREE!

RECREATION
YARD SALE
Sat, May 31
9am-4pm

And more!