



# The City of Groton Connecticut 06340

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## **Parks and Recreation Director's Annual Report 2016-2017**

As Director of Parks and Recreation, I hereby submit the Annual Report for the period of July 1, 2016 to June 30, 2017.

### **EASTERN POINT BEACH:**

Eastern Point Beach officially closed on Monday, September 5, 2016. During the summer of 2016; 44,192 patrons attended the beach.

### **SUMMER RECREATION:**

The Summer Playground Program held at Washington Park and West Side Middle School completed another successful year. Three Hundred and Twenty one (312) youngsters were enrolled in these programs:

	Washington Park	West Side
Minnows (4 & 5 yr olds)	12	4
Snappers (6 & 7 yr olds)	47	28
Piranhas (8 & 9 yr olds)	55	31
Marlins (10 & 11 yr olds)	30	32
Barracudas (12-14 yr olds)	39	34
Total	183	129
<b>Grand Total</b>	<b>312</b>	

Youth Tennis Lessons at Washington Park started on Monday, June 20, 2016. To date, a total of Sixty-one (61) youngsters and six (6) Adults have registered for the Program. The age group breakouts are as follows:

Tiny Tots (4-5 yr olds)	5
Junior Clinic I (6-9 yr olds)	29
Junior Clinic II (10-12 yr olds)	18
Teens (13-18 yr olds)	9
Adults	6
<b>Total</b>	<b>67</b>

Girls Summer Basketball: This program continued with 50 girls registered and we offered instruction to girls ages 8-12 every Tuesday evening from 5:00-7:00 pm on the basketball courts at Washington Park. Girls Basketball started on June 21<sup>st</sup> and ran through August 16, 2016.

Seven (7) Concerts in the Park were held at Washington Park during the months of June, July, and August. This program is co-sponsored by the Parks and Recreation Department and Groton Utilities.

The Art Truck visited the City of Groton seven (7) times during the summer, at the Bill Memorial Library, Branford Manor and Eastern Point Beach, as well as Groton City Day.

Summer Cabarets 2016 held three (3) concerts at Eastern Point Beach, the third Sunday of June, July and August.

We also offered two (2) movies in the Park. On July 1 we showed Water Horse Legend of the Deep and on August 5 after City Day we showed Open Season Scared Silly .

Golf Lessons were offered to Adults and Youth and were held at the Great Brook Golf Center.

The City of Groton hosted the Field of Greens Farmers Market at Washington Park every Tuesday July – October 2016.

#### **FALL RECREATION:**

The West Side Middle School Fall Festival was held at Washington Park.

Friday Night Out evenings were offered to Groton Middle school students on Fridays in January, February and March.

Babysitting Courses were offered twice during the year.

Youth Karate started In September and ran sessions throughout the year at West Side Middle School.

Family Swim was offered at the UCONN-Avery Point Pool on Sunday afternoons; a large number of families enjoyed this program.

Bus trips through the department were offered during the fall, winter and spring seasons, to the Big E, Roger Williams Zoo Jack o Lantern Spectacular and Radio City Music Hall.

Photography Classes were offered starting in the Fall/Winter at the Zbierski House.

The seventh Annual Trick or Trunk was held at Eastern Point Beach. We had 58 vehicles participate in this event with over 250 people overall. The program was opened to walk ins for a small fee.

## **WINTER AND SPRING RECREATION:**

The Winter Recreation Program prevailed with various supervised activities offered during the fall and winter months. Programs provided were: Peewee Basketball, Intermediate Basketball, Junior Basketball, Elks Hoop Shoot, Over-Thirty Basketball, and Karate.

Zumba was offered during the year in the municipal building auditorium.

City Cabaret held three (3) concerts in the auditorium during the months of January, February and March.

The Annual Easter Egg Hunt was held in April. A large crowd turned out to gather eggs on the Municipal Building lawn and to have their picture taken with the Easter Bunny.

Three Babysitting Courses were held throughout the year to youth of the community.

Two (2) publications of the Parks and Recreation Department Informational Brochures were distributed to the Residents of the City of Groton, one in September 2016 for all FALL/WINTER Activities and one in February 2017 for all SPRING/SUMMER activities.

## **BEACH AND PARKS MAINTENANCE:**

The department performed all general maintenance and grooming duties for all beach and parks properties during the year. The City's parks system encompasses Washington Park – 32.82 acres, Eastern Point Beach - 9.4 acres, Birch Plain Creek Nature Area - 11 acres, Slocomb Terrace, the National Submarine Memorial, Colonial Manor, Costa Property, Griswold Point and Parklets at Bridge Street, Circle Avenue, Harmacy Park, and Smith/Allen Streets. A new playground structure was installed at Washington Park along with resurfacing of tennis courts.

Washington Park continues to be one of the premier recreation areas in Southeastern Connecticut. It offers residents and non-residents a place to picnic, relax, and play with six (6) picnic shelters, exercise course, two (2) basketball courts, five (5) baseball/softball fields, six (6) tennis courts, and a sliding area. It provides a recreational and family atmosphere we are proud of.

### **Highlighted Events:**

July Fourth Parade  
Annual City of Groton Day  
2016 Jimmy Fund Softball Tournament  
Groton Little League Baseball  
Groton Little League Softball  
13-15 Babe Ruth League  
Home of Avery Point Baseball  
Eastern Connecticut Major League  
EBAC Softball League  
Pfizer Softball League  
Fitch High School Softball  
Fitch High School Baseball  
Ella T. Grass Tech High School Tennis  
Workers Memorial Day  
Branford Manor Picnic

Holiday Festival

Respectfully submitted,

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Mary K. Hill  
Director

CC: File