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May - 2019

Monthly Insight into the Elizabeth Park & Rec District

EPR connections

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Evans Park Project Updates

Construction of the new splashpad in Evans Park will continue over the next month with an anticipated grand opening near Memorial Day. Stay tuned for details as we plan for a festive ribbon-cutting and gathering to officially open it to the community!

After some frustrating manufacturing delays, the new playground is scheduled to arrive and be installed the week of May 13. The new playground will feature 2 separate play structures for children under 5 as well as children 6 and up and is sure to provide some new excitement for all park patrons.



Message from the Director *The Power of Play*

As a kid growing up in rural Indiana, I was always the one in my neighborhood calling everyone or knocking on doors to round up enough players for a game. The choice of game really didn't matter, I just wanted to get outside and play. The acts of running, jumping, throwing, catching, competing, exploring, and just acting childish are what seemed to bring me the most joy in my life. Many years later as a seasoned Park and Recreation professional, I realize not much has changed.

Though I get paid now, and am truly thankful for that, 35 years later, I am still focused on rallying folks to come out and play and trying to make those play experiences as life-enriching as possible. In fact, I now have an entire team that shares my passion and works hard every day to support our mission of providing all of you quality play opportunities. Whether you play a sport, walk your dog in the park, use the rodeo arena to ride your horse, fish in Dragonfly Pond, or hone your kick flip in the skatepark, we love it that you come out and play. If there are ways that we can enhance your play experience, please let us know.

For those of you that are play challenged, and are not dedicating time to pursue personally gratifying recreation or leisure experiences, I truly encourage you to make a change. Play, leisure, or recreation experiences can be powerfully re-energizing forces in our lives. They should be times when we forget about pressures and challenges in our lives for a brief period. They should be times when we experience flow, and completely focus on the task we are engaged in.

Play is restorative, play is healthy, it is powerful, and it is for all ages! If you need ideas or support in playing, we are here to help.. You deserve it!

Anyone for Pickleball?



Some of you may be wondering, what is Pickleball?

Well, Pickleball is paddle sport that combines elements of tennis, badminton, and table tennis. Two to four players use wooden or composite material paddles to volley a wiffle like ball back and forth over a custom sized net. The game is for people of all ages, though has become very popular amongst seniors who prefer the smaller court and increased ball control from tennis, allowing them to stay active as speed and mobility begins to decline a bit.

The District has received an inquiry from a resident about adding a court to the park system, and we want to know if others in the community are also interested in playing. So, if you play or would like to play, or are just curious about possibly playing, give us a call or shoot us an email and let us know!



Crayfish in Dragonfly Pond

Quote of the Month

“The real problem of leisure time is how to keep others from using yours”

- Arthur Lacey-

Youth Fishing Clinic

Saturday, June 15th – 9am

Evans Park

\$5 Registration Fee

Youth between the ages of 6-14 are invited to join us for this fun introduction to fishing

The first 30 registrants will receive a rod and reel with their registration.

Youth will learn to rig a pole, bait their hook, cast, and reel in their catch.

Youth can win prizes for casting accuracy and biggest catch of the day.

Register online at www.elizabethpr.com