

July—Sept. 2016

NEWS AND VIEWS



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PARK VOLUNTEERS

Wheat Ridge Kiwanis joined forces with over 60 Everitt Middle School students on September 15 to help clean up Discovery Park and the grounds at the Recreation Center. Everitt student and Kiwanis members properly disposed of trash found at the facilities. The Parks and Recreation Department welcomes individuals and groups wishing to volunteer to help keep parks and facilities clean for the community. For more information or to volunteer, contact Matt Anderson, Parks and Recreation Analyst at 303-231-1307.



PARKS AND FACILITIES ARE SMOKE AND VAPOR FREE



The City of Wheat Ridge defines smoking as inhaling, exhaling, or carrying any burning tobacco or other plant matter or inhaling vapor containing nicotine, THC, or other chemical. This includes but is not limited to: cigarettes, cigars, chew, pipes, e-cigarettes, vape pens, and other vapor devices. Wheat Ridge joins cities with similar laws, including Edgewater, Lakewood, and Golden, that also added the use of vaporizing devices to smoke free laws. City Ordinance #1584 makes the following areas smoke and vapor free:

- Outdoor parks, trails, open space, sports fields and other recreation areas
- The 15 foot perimeter around main building and facility entrances
- Public transit waiting areas, bus stops, shelters, light rail platforms, etc.
- Indoor areas of businesses and other facilities open to the public.

City staff will be handing out educational cards and flyers to remind patrons of the smoke and vapor free ordinance. Furthermore, the Wheat Ridge Parks and Recreation Department has increased smoke-free signage at parks, playgrounds and ballfields.

CAPRA ACCREDITATION!

In July, the Parks and Recreation Department received our accreditation scores from the CAPRA Visitation Team and Reviewers. The department met 147 out of 151 best practice standards.

On October 4th, Patrick Goff and representatives from the Parks and Recreation Department attended an accreditation hearing at the National Parks and Recreation Association Conference in St. Louis. The CAPRA Board of Directors granted the department national accreditation. Wheat Ridge Parks and Recreation is only the 8th agency in Colorado to receive this prestigious recognition.

The CAPRA logo to the right is the official accreditation logo which will be displayed at department facilities and in promotional literature.



COURT REPAIRS



Being Repaired



Finished Product

The department has been busy this summer renovating court surfaces at many parks.

Panorama Park—4 tennis courts and basketball court received crack repair, color resurfacing and lining.

Stites Park—basketball court received a 2 inch asphalt overlay and resurface.

Anderson Park—basketball court received a 2 inch asphalt overlay and resurface.

Fruitdale Park—basketball court received a 2 inch asphalt overlay and resurface.

Paramount Park—basketball court received a crack seal and color

RECTRAC UPGRADE

RecTrac is the Parks and Recreation Department's point of sale and scheduling software. RecTrac is used to reserve rooms and shelters, pay for classes and services, track attendance and revenue, and many other useful functions. During closure week in August, the department's RecTrac program received a significant upgrade. The new internet based RecTrac will speed up transactions, allow staff more capability and improve customer service. A few of the improvements to go along with the upgrade include:

- Touchscreen monitors
- Credit card chip readers
- High resolution cameras



RECREATION CENTERS ANNUAL CLOSURE

The Recreations Centers were closed August 22-26 for annual maintenance.

Some of the improvements included:

- New grating was installed at the indoor leisure pool
- Fitness equipment was replaced with new Cybex machines
- Recreation Center gym floor received a fresh coat of wax
- Fresh paint throughout the buildings
- High dusting
- New concrete by the Recreation Center entrance and patio
- Parking lot maintenance and line striping



MEET MARGARET PAGET, FORESTRY AND OPEN SPACE SUPERVISOR



Margaret has spent the last 25 years working to protect and preserve Wheat Ridge's open space areas. In 2016, Margaret was recognized by the Good News Jefferson County Coalition for her support of resident projects including protecting and reclaiming the Baugh House property, helping the Wheaties University team execute an environmental education festival, and encouraging residents to eliminate invasive plants near the Greenbelt and surrounding areas. Wheat Ridge has been recognized as a Tree City USA community for the past 33 years.