

Community Use of Public Facilities



Interagency Coordinating Board Montgomery County, Maryland



Winter Newsletter
December 2011 – March 2012

FROM THE DIRECTOR



The unusual October snowfall was a wake-up call that winter was just around the bend. And, as we head into winter, I want to remind everyone about our inclement weather policy (see next page).

We are now passing the one-year milestone, but it seems like only yesterday that I reported on our new collaboration with Parks and the County Recreation Department to serve as the central scheduling point of contact for all fields in the County. Throughout the year, CUPF and Park staff have worked to align fees and practices. Much progress, such as launching the online application and payment system for local Park fields, has been realized, and we hope to streamline our processes even more as we head into FY13.

My last comment is to remind everyone that in these difficult times CUPF does whatever it can to keep public facilities accessible and affordable. As an Enterprise Fund, we receive no tax-dollar support and work hard to treat all groups fairly and equitably. Keeping fees low and supporting equal treatment for all requires everyone to pay their fair share. Best wishes for the Holidays!

Regards,
Ginny
Ginny Gong, Director

CUPF on YouTube

CUPF was recently spotlighted on the County Council show *Did Kou Know*. You can catch it on YouTube by linking to <http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=08lrUcXbXew>

Scheduling Window Reminder

The next priority **window** for scheduling indoor school space will run from **Jan 15 until Feb 1**. Those wishing to access space for dates from April 1 through Aug 31 must submit requests during that window to receive priority consideration.

Community Service Day



For the second year in a row, CUPF staff collected clothing for the Interfaith Clothing Center, a nonprofit agency of more than 165 affiliated congregations of diverse faiths helping to meet the needs of the poor and homeless. The Clothing Drive is CUPF's contribution to Montgomery County's Community Service Day.

New MSDE Concussion Policy

Maryland State Department of Education has a new concussion policy. Check out CUPF's flyer <http://www.montgomerycountymd.gov/cuptmpl.asp?url=/content/cupf/html/info-cupf/news.asp> which also has links to training resources for coaches, student athletes and parents.

Recognition for Director Ginny Gong

On October 24, Maryland Life Magazine and the Maryland Women's Heritage Center hosted a recognition ceremony in Baltimore honoring this year's *Legendary Ladies – 10 women who changed the face of Maryland*, one of whom was Ginny Gong.



Field Schedule Changes Effective Fall 2012

Local Park Seasons – NEW DATES

- Spring/Summer – March 15–August 15
- Fall – August 16–November 30
- Fields will no longer be closed for a two-week period in August

Block permitting - league representatives should submit all their organizations' practice and game field needs directly to CUPF. Field time will be assigned based on number of organization's teams and players. No scheduling preference will be given to games vs. practices except at restricted fields.

Regional/Recreational Park Seasons – NEW DATES

- Spring/Summer – April 1–July 31
- Fall – August 16–November 30
- Fields will be closed from August 1–15

Fee Modifications for FY13

A fee increase approved in FY10 was implemented over a two-year period, FY11-FY12. Based on current projections, no fee changes will be implemented during FY13 (September 1, 2012 – August 31, 2013) except for the following:

- Use of a school field by a for-profit entity for practices or games: \$10 per hour. No changes to camp, special event, tournament, or other commercial use fees.
- A holiday premium as well as new equipment fees apply to the Silver Spring Civic Building. For more information visit the CUPF website www.montgomerycountymd.gov/cupf



Inclement Weather Cancellation Guidelines

The ICB's philosophy regarding cancellations has always been to keep facilities open to the public to the extent possible, keeping safety in mind, with the understanding that groups can cancel use on their own based on their comfort levels.

If community use is cancelled by CUPF, a full credit of the rental fees for the hours cancelled will be issued. However, please be advised that while all users can certainly make their own choices regarding whether or not to cancel their activities, it is only when activities have been officially cancelled by this office that credits will be issued.

Cancellation of weekday community use of schools will be in effect if schools are closed for the day. That decision is made by MCPS.

Delayed opening – when schools open late, before school/morning community use will be cancelled. Childcare providers will have access as normal unless MCPS Administrative Offices are on a delayed schedule, in which case childcare programs can access the school at 9:00 a.m.

If schools complete the day or for weekend use a decision regarding whether or not schools will be open for community use (non-school) activities will be made by the Director of CUPF and users will be informed as follows:

1. recording on Inclement Weather Line 240-777-2710
2. posting on CUPF's website (Emergencies tab)
3. information provided by TV and radio stations
4. Montgomery County eSubscription alert

Users are encouraged to sign up for eSubscription by going to below link to receive the latest announcements regarding cancellations of community use during inclement weather
<https://ext01.montgomerycountymd.gov/entp/s1p/esubpublic/newssubscriber.do>

Americans with Disability Accommodations

If you have concerns or need for ADA accommodations at a location booked by CUPF, please be sure to let us know in advance of your event.

Reminders for Our MCPS Partners

- School/MCPS pay staff costs through CUPF regardless of the day of the week.
- School/MCPS hosting activities in schools other than their own should clear the date with the host school prior to submitting the form to CUPF.