



Make sure to check out the website, www.mocorec.com, and follow Montgomery County Recreation on [social media](#) for the latest updates from the Department.

Department Updates - DECEMBER 2023

Aquatics

The aquatics team manages five indoor pools and seven outdoor pools. Indoor pools are open year-round, and outdoor pools are open from Memorial Day through Labor Day. All pools have accessibility features such as ADA stairs, pool lifts and zero depth entry. Whether you're looking to swim a few laps, participate in a water exercise class, take swimming lessons or just enjoy the water, MCR pools have it all.

Updates:

- Launch of DigiQuatics – new scheduling and documentation platform
- High School Season Began November 15th, Meets begin December 2
- RMSC Holiday Invitational now renamed Riley Eaton Invitational December 14th-17
- Winter programs Fall programs end 12/22
- Updating and launching new CR2 AED's to facilities.

Business Services

The Business Services Team contributes to the achievement of Recreation's mission of high quality, diverse and accessible programs, services, and facilities from an administrative business perspective. Services are directed toward the management and support of the department through ensuring sound business practices in the areas of budget, finance, risk management, contracts and procurement and human resources management.

- **Staff Updates:**
 - The HR Administrative Specialist I (GS 18) position has been recruited & filled.
 - The HR Administrative Specialist II (GS 21) position has been recruited & offer pending.
 - Currently all positions are filled.
- **Productivity/Work:**
 - FY25 Operating Budget process continues with our first scheduled Department Head Review Meeting for January 9, 2024.
 - To date, the Finance unit has completed 30 out of 37 safe audits; the remaining 5 are for outdoor pool sites currently closed. We will be reporting findings to the leadership team in January.
 - We are continuing work on the updates to our current Refund Policy.

- The Human Resources unit is continuing work on the revamp of the background processes for volunteers and coaches.
- As we near the end of the calendar year, the HR unit is working to ensure appropriate management of the slotted positions for the department to remain within our allotment.
- The Contract & Procurement unit has rolled out a new Contract workflow, which includes some updates to existing approval flows.
- The team continues our training refreshers for the department, ensuring that staff are informed and made aware of new changes or improvements to existing practices related to our business processes. In the month of December, we will provide refreshers/training on financial, budget, human resources and contract processes.

Capital Improvement Plans (CIP)

Community Recreation Centers (Facilities)

Montgomery County Recreation has 22 Recreation Centers located throughout the County that offer a wide range of activities for children, teens and adults, and may include programs for seniors and individuals with disabilities. Activities typically include classes, workshops, clinics, drop-in programs, supervised play, sports, open gym, crafts and special events. Our centers have diverse amenities that may include fitness rooms, social halls, meeting spaces, classrooms, billiards and game rooms. We have a wide array of rooms available for your use, from social halls to meeting rooms.

Updates:

Holiday Hours – Most Recreation Centers will be closed December 24 through January 1. Some Centers will have special operating hours during the winter holidays. Bauer Drive, Long Branch, North Potomac, Potomac and White Oak will be open 9am-4pm, Tuesday, December 26 through Saturday, December 30. Wheaton will be open 10am-8pm on those dates. Those six facilities will be closed December 24, 25, 31 and January 1.

Renovation work to expand the footprint of the Potomac Community Center fitness room is ongoing. Friends of Potomac Community Center is covering much of the cost for the project, designed to alleviate crowding in the heavily used fitness room.

The following special events will occur in December:

- Bauer Drive: Holiday Craft Show – Dec 2
- Clara Barton: Holiday Craft Show – Dec 3
- Damascus: Winter Wonderland – Dec 9
- Germantown: Letters to Santa – Dec 2
- Good Hope: Deck the Halls with Spaghetti & Meatballs – Dec 16
- Long Branch: Family Movie Night (The Grinch) – Dec 8

- Long Branch: Winter Festival – Dec 15
- North Potomac: Holiday Extravaganza – Dec 9
- Potomac: Seniors Holiday Luncheon – Dec 15
- Ross Boddy: Letters to Santa – Nov 8-Dec 8 (Ongoing)
- Ross Boddy: Cocoa & Crafts – Dec 16
- Wisconsin Place: Tiny Tot Holiday Puppet Show – Dec 15

Communications and Public Outreach

The Communications and Public Outreach Team manages marketing for the Department, including social media, graphics, website maintenance and advertising. This branch also includes the customer service team housed at the administrative offices in Wheaton and the community outreach specialists who attend dozens of events every month to promote recreation programs and services.

See attachment – includes updates and November Newsletter.

Countywide Programming

Countywide Programs offers essential and universally accessible recreation and leisure services to all residents across the region. Program staff generates partnerships with local small businesses and nonprofit organizations to activate key public and private spaces and to offer culturally responsive programs, activities and services such as classes, performing arts, camps, sports, workshops, therapeutic recreation, inclusion services and special events which provide a wide range of economic, health and social benefits.

Updates:

Fall/Winter Plans:

- Fall 2023
 - Highlights: Countywide Programs Team is having a successful Fall 2023 seasons with 7,018 registrations across 455 activities as of 11.17.2023. Registration began on 9.5.2023 with programs kicking off in early October. Fall programs will run through the end of 2023. Key programs to highlight are:
 - Our Flag Football League launched their second location at Damascus Community Recreation Center with over 50 youth including a new cohort of officials in-training through our Officiating Program.
 - We hosted a Candy and Costume Community Skate Night in partnership with our White Oak Community Recreation Center that drew in 54 participants. Skaters received specialized attention from our skate instructors (Goats on Wheels) and giveaways.
 - We launched our very first...ever....Cricket programs at Calverton-Galway Park. We had 34 youth participate from ages 6-16. Youth were introduced to the sport with a focus on fundamentals and growing a love of the game.
 - We held an Outdoor Pickleball Tournament at Wood Middle School with 82 participants. Kudos to our contractor MoCo Pickleball.

- Our Therapeutic Recreation Boo Crew held several “Halloween” themed events including TR Family Spooktacular Saturday, TR Saturday Night Social Enchanted Evening Dance and TR Floating Pumpkin Patch in partnership with our Aquatics Team drawing over 150 participants.
 - Partnered with our Community Outreach Team to host a Rec & Resources Fair at East County featuring Rec Programs including basketball, cricket, lacrosse, gaga ball and fitness classes as well as other Montgomery County agencies.
 - By the Numbers:
 - By Type:
 - Art: 351 registrations across 32 activities
 - Camps (Winter Break non-TR): 24 across 2 activities
 - Cooking: 11 registrations across 1 activity
 - Education: 70 registrations across 5 activities
 - Dance: 290 registrations across 25 activities
 - Fitness: 439 registrations across 34 activities
 - Health & Wellness: 167 registrations across 11 activities
 - Martial Arts: 786 registrations across 43 activities
 - Music: 121 registrations across 11 activities
 - Sports: 4065 registrations across 266 activities
 - STEM: 21 registrations across 2 activities
 - Therapeutic Recreation: 673 registrations across 23 activities
 - Adult Sports
 - Women’s (36 participants) and Men’s (12 teams) Basketball. Approximate total participants 156 based on average of 10 players per team.
 - Men’s (38 teams) and Women’s (13 teams) Soccer. Approximate total participants 1,020 based on average of 20 players per team.
 - CoRec (24 teams), Men’s (42 teams), and Women’s (4 teams) Softball. Approximate total participants 1,050 based on average of 15 players per team.
 - Pickleball Leagues and Clinics. Total 877 registrations.
 - Youth Sports
 - Volleyball Leagues and Clinics. Total 1,003 participants.
 - Flag Football Leagues. Total 206 participants.
 - Ultimate Frisbee High School League. Total 108 participants.
 - Cricket Academy begins September 30. Total 34 participants.
 - Out of School Time
 - Kids Day Out
 - 10.9.2023, 13 locations, 637 registrations, \$15,925 fee
 - 11.1.2023, 13 locations, 635 registrations, \$15,875 fee
 - Teens Day Out
 - 10.9.2023, 3 locations, 94 registrations, \$2,350 fee
 - 11.1.2023, 3 locations, 88 registrations, \$2,200 fee
- Winter 2023
 - Winter Youth Basketball registration has closed.
 - Practices for grades 3-12 kicked off December 4
 - Instructional begins January 6
 - Youth 3rd – 8th and High School begins with practices on December 4 and games on January 6

IT /Automation Team

The IT Team administers the primary recreation management software RecTrac, branded as ActiveMONTGOMERY, that facilitates customers registrations into activities, facility reservations within recreation centers, and pass membership sales. Senior members of team provide regularly scheduled training classes and training materials to more than 250 career staff and over 500 part-time staff on navigating the system regarding the processes for conducting transactions for recreational services. Rec IT works in close collaboration with the county's Finance Department to ensure financial interfaces and reconciliations are accurately integrated and reported daily to the county's financial systems.

In addition to RecTrac the team is responsible for Recreation's IT infrastructure, hardware, and software needs for all teams and facilities within the Department from procurement through install and end-user training. REC IT ensures the Department's practices regarding use of information systems and resources comply and align to the county's Administrative Procedures and information security best practices.

Updates:

Senior Facilities/Programs

Montgomery County Recreation has many ways for independent adults, 55 and older, to stay active and healthy. Whether you are working, semi-retired, or fully retired, our eight senior centers offer many programs, activities, classes and events for you to choose from. Our centers have diverse amenities that may include fitness rooms, social halls, meeting spaces, classrooms, billiards and game rooms.

November Recap:

- Our Seniors on Strike Bowling Event at Bowl America on 11/14 had 143 participants registered.
- Damascus Senior Center had their Thanksgiving Celebration on 11/16 with 86 participants registered.
- North Potomac hosting a Diwali Celebration with Damascus Senior Center where participants from DSC came to NPSC and enjoyed the food, dancing, music, etc. Together they had 182 participants registered.
- Holiday Park held their Thanksgiving program on 11/14 with 94 participants.

December Updates

- 12/9 North Potomac is holding their annual HOLIDAY EXTRAVAGANZA from 3:30-6:30PM.
- 12/11 Wheaton will be hosting the CE's Senior Budget Forum viewing party from 2-3:30PM. Where seniors can come and participate virtually while the CE speaks in person at Leisure World.
- 12/19 Holiday Park Senior Center will be hosting a Black & White Holiday Formal with Dale Jarrett at 1PM.

- 12/20 Bel Canto Women's Choir from Damascus High School will be coming to Damascus Senior Center for a special performance at 1 PM.
- 12/22 Margaret Schweinhaut, White Oak & Long Branch Senior Centers will join at MSSC for a Multi-Center Holiday Bash from 10:30-1PM.
- Long Branch Senior Center will be running a series of Fall Prevention classes starting in December on Wednesdays from 9:30-1:30AM. These classes will focus on Balance Exercises.
- North Potomac will be running a Saturday class for those 55+ called Gentle Stretching and Yoga Breathing from 11AM – noon, each Saturday in December.
- The week of December 25-January 1 Holiday Park Senior Center, Damascus Senior Center, and Margaret Schweinhaut Senior Center will be closed for cleaning. N. Potomac Senior Center, Long Branch Senior Center, Wheaton Senior Center and White Oak Senior Center will be open with normal senior center hours from December 26—29 (Tuesday-Friday). All Centers are closed in observance of the holiday on December 25th and January 1st.

Silver Spring Recreation and Aquatic Center (SSRAC)

Updates:

- Preparing for move in the first week of January. Ribbon cutting in February.
- Met with the coordinator for the MerMagicCon event coming to SSRAC on March 2&3
- Hiring is currently active for seasonal staff at SSRAC. 22 new hires this month.
- SSRAC Leadership staff are meeting with County Wide program staff to discuss classes, camps and programs that will be held at the center. We are discussing the program opportunities, needs, and ideas as we learn the community interests.
- The Ice & Lights special event that will take place on December 22, 2023, at Veteran's Plaza in Silver Spring from 5 - 9. It will feature food trucks, ice skating, music, crafts and more.

Youth Development

Montgomery County Recreation's Youth Development Team uses a variety of means to reach the County's diverse young people. Our recreation activities and services allow children and teens to make the most of their time outside of school.

Updates:

- Teens Day Out program held its second date on 11/1 at 3 community center locations serving 50 middle schoolers.
- All Youth Development afterschool programs in partnership with MCPS continue to operate at 44 locations. Current enrollment is 6028 (an increase of 927 from November) and we continue to enroll new participants weekly.

- Soccer4Change finished its Fall season with a fantastic culminating event at MLK park on 11/17. Lots of community and family supporters joined to cheer on our final teams and celebrate a great season. The team is now preparing for our County Cup Futsal tournament. Registrations ongoing now and the program will launch in January at Long Branch CRC and Plum Gar CRC on Friday nights for high school students.
- Onboarded new Rec. Specialist (TeenWorks) to the team; continuous hiring of seasonal staffers to support programs including 22 new TeenWorks staffers
- Inclusion trainings have begun with TeenWorks volunteers with 3 offered in November to recruit and prepare youth volunteers for one-on-one support roles with youth participants in MCR programs.
- RecZone: Springbrook launched a lunchtime Best Buddies program for LFY youth; Held Madden Turkey Bowl event at Wheaton CRC on 11/22; Collaboration with Wellness Center at Watkins Mill on FIFA tournament programming; teams registered for CWP winter basketball and volleyball leagues; Kennedy HS conducts a soccer mentoring program with Shannon EBB weekly
- Approximately 30 YD participants attended the annual County Council Youth Town Hall on 11/29 to advocate and provide youth voice on issues that matter to them in their community and schools
- Afterschool Committee held its first training of the year with sessions on positive behavior management strategies as well as safety from MCPD. 85 staff were present.

Upcoming Events/Visit Opportunities –

- EBBE Parent Engagement Events:
 - 12/9- Burnt Mills at Good Hope CRC 12-3:30pm
 - 12/14- Wheaton Woods 6-8pm
 - 12/15- Roscoe Nix 6:30-8:30pm, Harmony Hills 6:30-8pm
 - 12/18- Gaithersburg 6:30-8pm
 - 12/19- NHE/Oak view combined @ NHE 6:30-8:30p
 - 12/21- Georgian Forest 6:30-8pm, South Lake 6:45-8pm, Greencastle 6:30-8:30pm
- 12/6 -Finale for RecXtra/MCPD Police program @ Sligo MS 3-4:30pm
- 12/10- TeenWorks Volunteers at Baltimore Ravens home game as Honors Row recipients
- 12/15- RecXtra Takoma Park dance celebration 5:30-6:30
- 12/16- Afterschool Committee Training @ Holiday Park 10-2

MONTGOMERY COUNTY RECREATION ORGANIZATION CHART

