

The following projects and programs have been undertaken by the Parks and Recreation Department in October.

- The Parks and Recreation Staff completed the primary follow-up work to the Memorial Park Playground Relocation Project. Installation of drainage, safety surface and curbing, grading and reseeding were all completed during a period of 6 working days. A playground audit was conducted 10/25/21. The site is primarily operational. Follow-up work in 2022 will include installation of benches and other site amenities, installation of connecting pedestrian walkways and barrier fencing. Additional funding for this project is forthcoming from Pottstown Walmart, a regular supporter of Pottstown Parks and Recreation.
 - Memorial Park turf restoration, consisting of weed control, fertilization, aeration, and reseeding was completed by staff in the week following the playground project. This includes restoration of the former site of the Memorial Park Playground and removal of the construction fence that has been on-site since the 2020 Flood.
 - The Halloween Parade was held successfully on Saturday October 23 with the support of the Pottstown Rotary. We are pleased with the overall transition of days from a weekday evening to a weekend midday and will seek to improve upon the model for future dates
 - 17 3" caliper trees will be secured in November through the Tree Tenders Bare Root Grant Program for planting in our parks. The majority will be planted in Riverfront Park along the SRT. These will include yellow woods, heritage oak hybrids, elm hybrids, red maple, and catalpa. Other locations for planting include Potts Drive Park, Maple Street Park and Cherry Street Park. These trees will be planted Nov 21 by volunteers and staff.
 - Currently grant applications are either submitted or in development for the following projects:
 - o DCED and DCNR grants for Memorial Park Pedestrian Bridge and Streambank Restoration (totaling \$350,00 collectively). Announcement is expected any day now
 - o PAHWF Grant and Schuylkill Highlands Grant for Washington / West Park Playground replacement and improvements (collectively \$40,000)
 - o PMRPC Grant for Spruce Street Basketball Courts (\$25,000)
 - o Preparations are being made to apply to the EPA for funding in remediating contaminated soil at Pollock Park, which is a very exciting development. Anticipated project costs are approximately \$350,000. We will be able to request a waiver of 20% match requirements based on the Borough's population size, though approval of the request is not guaranteed. Application will be made by a Dec 1 deadline.
- Additional developments / updates in the department
- Carousel of Pottstown has elected not to renew their lease at Manatawny Green mini golf and the Department will plan to take back over operations in 2022, focusing primarily on afternoon / evening operations from Memorial Day to Halloween.
 - Sundstrom Field Preliminary Plans have been received from RVE and are under review.
 - Riverfront Park embankment restoration along the Manatawny Creek at the SRT pedestrian bridge bid documents have been completed and are under review. We will look to bid and execute the project upon review and approval.

If you have questions about these projects or others, please feel free to contact me.

Sincerely,

Michael A. Lenhart CPRP CPSI
Borough of Pottstown
Parks and Recreation Director
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