

Good Afternoon,

Please find below highlights from the Parks and Recreation Department for March 2022 Infrastructure. My apologies for the lateness of the email as I was out of the office last week for a professional conference.

- Teardown work has been completed at Washington West Park in anticipation of the installation of a new playground paid for with funds from Pottstown Area Health and Wellness, David Yeck Foundation and ARPA funds. The site is ready to receive the new equipment once it is received. This may take another 3 weeks for delivery. New equipment will include a composite unit for ages 5-12, a rotating unit and repositioning of the existing swings.
- Fencing and backstop were removed from Maple Street Park Large Ballfield as the component were damaged beyond repair. Operation of the other ballfield on site will remain the focus for this season until future Maple Street Park redevelopment is considered, at which time, we are likely to follow a Master Plan process for park redesign. In the meantime, Pottstown/Pottsgrove joint Little League Tee-Ball practices will run from the Maple Street Park this Spring and Summer.
- Teardown of the fence at Spruce Street Park basketball court has been completed in anticipation of rebuilding of the courts. The contracts are signed for the work and we are awaiting a start date from the contractor, but are anticipating to have the work begin this Spring.
- Survey and site design will be completed in April for Chestnut and South Street Parks. These parks are the focus of a \$85,000 grant request to Department of Natural Resources C2P2 Grant program for park renovation. Plans include replacement of playground units at both locations and redesigned ADA access. The survey and site design are a key component of the application. PARRC Planner Tricia McCloskey is working on this application and will also submit a companion grant to DCED Greenways Trails and Recreation Program Grant for the same later in April
- Parks and Recreation Leadership staff participated in the 2022 Annual Conference for The Pa Parks and Recreation Society in Pocono Manor, Pa last week from 3/29 to 4/1. Staff attended education sessions addressing turf management, inclusive park design, ecological diversity, riparian park management, storm water management, youth program design, pickleball program design, internship program design, capital planning and the Walk with a Doc National program. These courses also count towards continuing education units for the leadership staff's Certified Parks and Recreation Professional designations as maintained through the National Recreation and Park Society
- Seasonal park preparatory work continues with installation of new playground mulch at multiple park locations and turf treatment in Memorial park athletic field areas. The first baseball games of the season will commence mid April.
- The next issue of the Borough Newsletter is under production and will be posted at the end of April.
- We are developing an application for \$250,000 in grant funding from Montgomery County Recovery office for funding for the Riverfront Park pedestrian bridge and Manatawny Creek embankment restoration project. This is companion funding to the MontCo 2040 application whose resolution from Council was approved last month.

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
610-970-6608