



PARKS AND RECREATION

Monthly Report

April 2019



--Up's For the Month from the director's chair:

GREENWAY PHASE III- TDOT finally approved the Phase III Greenway Project and this will be presented to the Mayor and Board of Alderman on May 6th for awarding the Contract to Whaley Construction. Also, TDOT came through with \$68,000 additional dollars for the project if needed.

WEST PRONG GREENWAY EXTENSION; TDEC and our Engineering Firm keep exchanging information for the final design of this greenway project. We have received an Extension on the Project from TDEC, the new deadline for the entire project to be completed is March 14, 2020.

BLUEWAYS: On April 30th Officials from the National Park Service and TDEC met with myself, our Planning Director and City Engineer to discuss Blueway Development in Sevierville. Both NPS and TDEC are very positive about the possibilities of development of a possible 11-mile Blueway on the WEST AND MIDDLE PRONG as well as the Pigeon River to the intersection with the French Broad River .

Community Center Roof: Does the roof at the Community Center need to be replaced. Let's say that most roofs do not last 39 years under most conditions. Replacement of this dated roof began this month.

BEAUTIFICATION IMPROVEMENTS BY REPOSITING FROM DOWNTOWN: Hanging Pots with Flowers, Benches and some new permanent pots for flowers have been moved from Downtown to the Municipal Complex. All of these assets would have had to be moved due the Streetscapes project which begins on May 20th. We did not want to be in the way during construction. We will leave some benches downtown until the construction process requires us to remove them.



Not such an up for the month....

Six Years and Counting: Yes, TDOT has approved the low bidder for the Phase III Greenway project. For those that maybe had forgot, this process with TDOT has taken over (6) six years. When completed early next year, it will have taken almost (7) seven years to get this project from the Application Phase to the Construction Phase.

SPASH PAD AT FAMILY AQUATICS CENTER: The marsite floor in the splash pad is coming up again for the third time. Staff will make repairs before May 24th.

Parks and Recreation:

This division includes but is not limited to: All outdoor parks, greenways and all other city and city contracted properties. This division also includes Winterfest, Beautification and Trees with the primary goal of this division being to provide overall departmental leadership and support plus providing clean, safe and aesthetically pleasing public areas throughout the City.

Major Maintenance

Accomplishments:

-Completed moving Hanging Pots, Flowers and Benches from Downtown to the Municipal Complex.

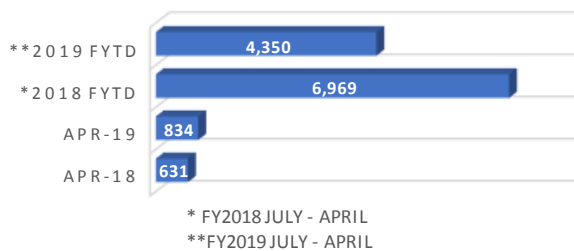


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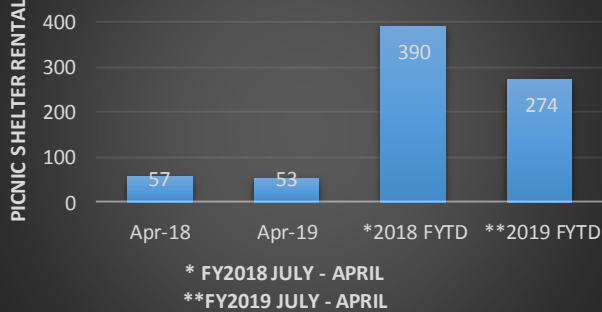
COMMUNITY CENTER MEMBERSHIPS



Community Center:

The Community Center is a 43,000-square foot multipurpose building that includes: 10-lane bowling center, 6-lane natatorium, children's programs, gym, two racquetball courts, weight, fitness and spinning room, locker rooms and administrative offices.

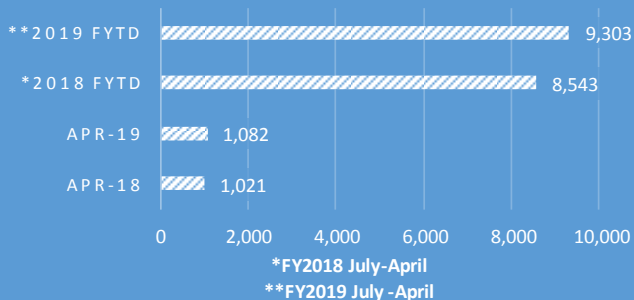
Picnic Shelter Rentals



Below are Parents with TOTS learning to swim.



CC POOL PARTICIPANTS



Aquatic Center Highlights:

Our long time Aquatics Supervisor Roxanne Dehart lost her mother this month. Her mother had been in a nursing home along with her father for quite some time, may she RIP! Due to this event, our CPR for Staff was cancelled this month. Swim Lessons wrapped up for the winter and Aquatic Supervisor conducted Front Desk Skills test and spent time refreshing her knowledge of this complex operation.



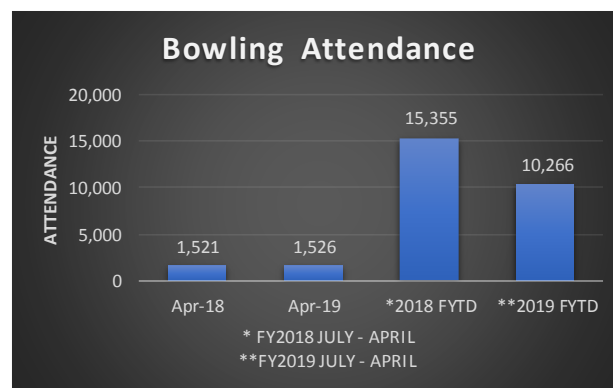
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Bowling

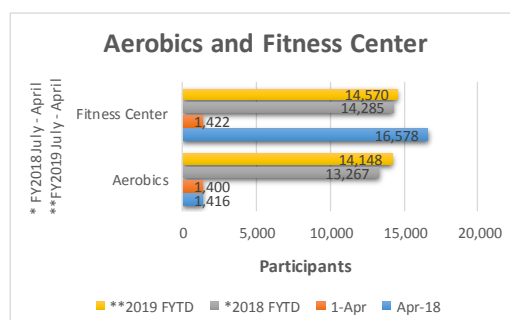
The 36- week Winter Bowling Season finished up this month. We have booked multiple school field trips; each child is required to pay a fee to participate. We expect to have over 700 students come bowling in May. So far; we have gotten a huge response on our sign-up sheet for Summer leagues.



Fitness

We replaced the dumbbells 5-90 lbs. and the all the plates in the Fitness Center! We cannot even remember how old the ones replaced are, but I am guessing over 20 years old. One hundred seventy-one City (171) city employees participated in the Wellness Program in April; eight (8) of for the first time, and three (3) employees returned to the program. Congratulations to one of our instructors Danielle Speelman who ran the Boston Marathon! We are super proud of her!

Danielle Speelman running
Boston Marathon 2019



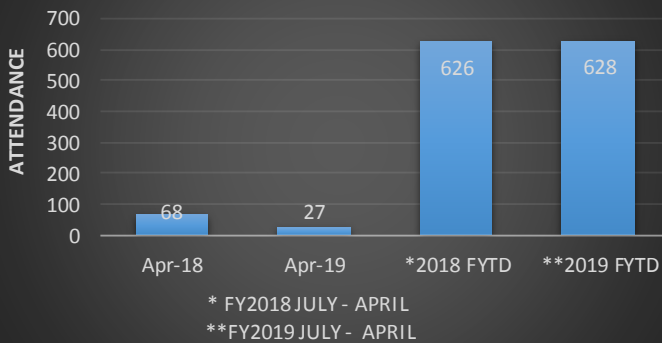


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Children's Program



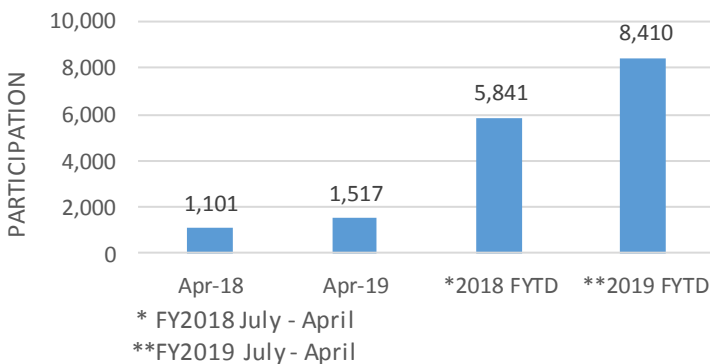
Children's Program Highlights:

April was Spring Break and Staff completed a successful, safe and fun Spring Extreme Program, April 1st – 5th. Staff also held the first annual Bark in the Park Dog Easter Egg Hunt at the Sevierville PetSafe Dog Park on April 16th. After-School Program continues to be successful and staff has already started planning and organizing for the upcoming Summer Camp Programs.



Below is staff and children playing Gala Ball at Greenbrier Campground

Athletics



Athletic Highlights:

- Youth Baseball is going great and adult softball will start soon.

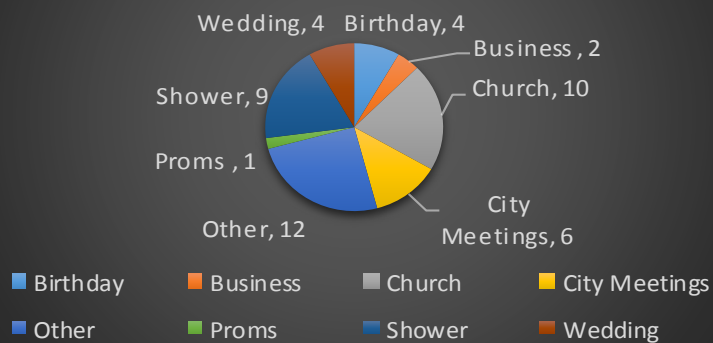


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Civic Center Events April 2019



Civic Center:

The Civic Center provides 11,000 square feet of multipurpose public meeting and rental areas. The Civic Center offers; Council Hall, Kitchen along with LeConte Auditorium.

This facility houses the Administrative Offices for the Parks and Recreation Department.

Civic Center

After many years of good service, Standard Coffee collected all their old coffee pots and we replaced the coffee pot and 2 new warmers owned by the City. Although privatizing Coffee is easier, it is more expensive.

Civic Center staff has made several improvements to our sound board and microphone capabilities in the LeConte Auditorium. We continue to challenge with the 35-year-old front doors that are worn out, we have asked for new doors in next year's budget.

Due to the roof construction at the Community Center, the ability to load and unload from the rear of the Civic Center is not an option. Thus, we have converted two parking spaces next to the handicap ramp to make it as easy as possible for renters to load and unload for events. Very busy month for city and private functions at the Civic Center.



Evergreen Church—Easter Dinner



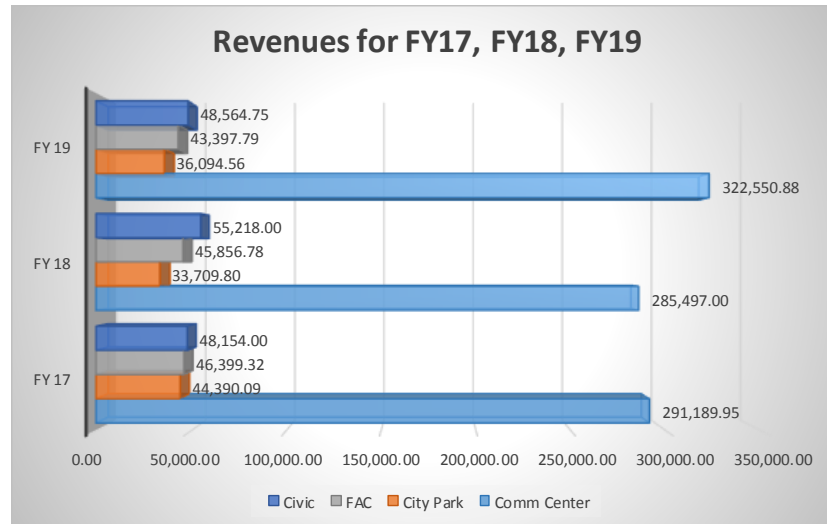
Smoky Mountain Youth Leadership Graduation



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The Recreation Advisory Committee met this month; below is a copy of the Agenda and the items that were discussed.

For additional information or a copy of the Minutes, please contact the Director.

Agenda April 8, 2019

- Call to order
- Old Business
 - 1. Foundation Update
- New Business
 - 1. Smoking Challenges in and around public facilities
 - 2. Tournament Calendar and Economic Impact
 - 3. Swim Team Summer Contract
 - 4. Summary of Proposed FY 2020 Budget
- Non-Agenda Items
- Adjournment



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This information was presented by the Sevierville Intermediate School BETA Club at Arbor Day on April 18th

Creating a Non-flammable Barrier Zone

As ground fires approach a house, flames and embers make contact, causing the structure to catch fire. For best defense, the first 5 feet adjacent to a house should not contain any flammable material. This includes grass/plants/shrubs/trees, as well as decaying material such as leaves, mulch, bark and even firewood. Ideally, the non-flammable barrier zone should be sidewalks, stepping stones, stone walls, and/or rock or gravel. Elimination of flammable material in this zone protects a house from ground flames. However, the zone will not protect buildings from overhead flames or embers originating from taller vegetation, such as trees. A different strategy is needed beyond the non-flammable zone.

Beyond the Non-flammable Zone

To minimize the likelihood of flames or embers either jumping toward or falling onto a house, vegetation should resemble a "stair-stepping" pattern as it proceeds outward from a house (Figures 1 and 2). Within the first "step" (a region from 5–15 feet from the house) should be low-stature landscaping, including raised flower beds, water or rock gardens, stone walkways or patios. This region will continue to break the fuel chain, while still providing visual enjoyment.

In the second "step" ground cover, shrubs and small trees can be established approximately 15 to 30 feet from the house. Vegetation in this region should be of high moisture-holding capacity, with low sap or resin content, and resistant to ignition. Also, vegetation should not be continuous, rather altering in arrangement and separated by non-flammable gaps of stone or other non-flammable material. A list of recommended ground covers, shrubs and trees for use in the second "step" is found in Tables 1, 2 and 3.

The final "step" occurs 30 feet and beyond from the house. Here larger-growing trees can be established and/or maintained. Species of conifers such as pine and fir are not recommended because of the high flammability of needles and bark. Instead, deciduous species such as oaks, poplar, maple, etc. are recommended. The ground directly under and around larger trees should be well-maintained, kept free of brush, debris and flammable dead material. Table 4 gives suggestions for larger trees more suitable for the Firewise defensible space.

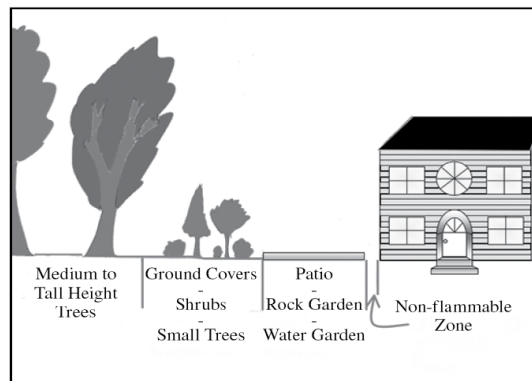


Figure 1. Side View of Firewise Landscaping

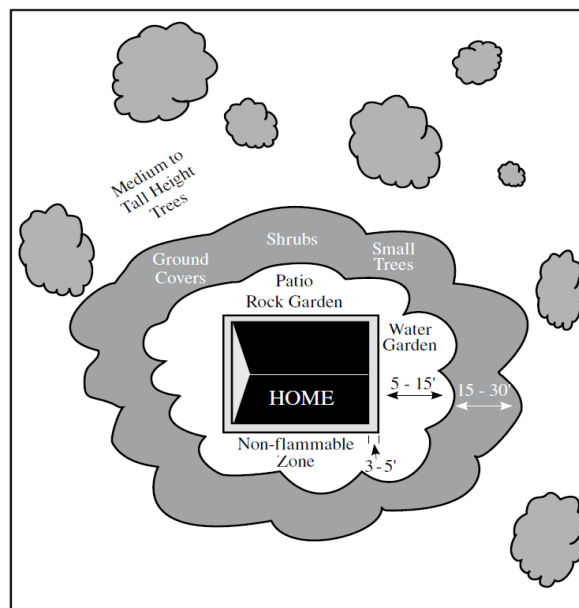


Figure 2. Top View of Firewise Landscaping