



# CITY OF CONCORD

## REPORT TO MAYOR AND THE CITY COUNCIL

**FROM:** David Gill, Parks & Recreation Director

**DATE:** March 23, 2019

**SUBJECT:** Grounds/Parks Division Update

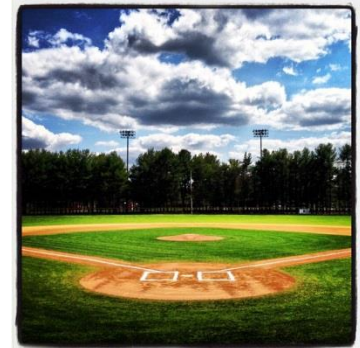
### Background

The Department would like to highlight the work of the grounds division last year.

### Discussion

The Parks and Recreation Department maintains and operates approximately 230 acres that encompasses seventeen major parks throughout the city.

Depending on the season the park system includes the following outdoor athletic facilities: four baseball fields, seven softball fields, four little league fields, twelve soccer fields, three football fields, one field hockey field, twelve outdoor basketball courts, numerous playgrounds, seventeen tennis courts with six multipurpose outdoor pickleball courts and four outdoor ice skating areas during the winter months.



### Administration and Staffing

The grounds division has eight year round full time employees (two are shared with the General Services Department during the winter) and up to twelve seasonal employees during the summer months. One of the full time employees is our mechanic based out of White Park. The mechanic is responsible for the repairs and maintenance of the mowers and tractors used by the Grounds and Cemetery Division. Also, during the winter months one of the golf course full time employees is shared with the ground division.



During the winter months, grounds staff are responsible for the daily maintenance of the city's four outdoor skating areas: White Park Pond and Hockey Rink, Skating Area at Rollins Park, the upper pond at Beaver Meadow Golf Course and the grooming of the cross country ski trails at the golf course. The following parking lots are maintained by the grounds staff during the winter: Rollins, Keach, Merrill, Rolfe and White. By agreement, the Concord School District maintains Memorial Field, Boys and Girls Club Kimball Park and Second Start handles Garrison Park parking lot.

Besides their regular duties during the winter months, up to four of the six winter staff usually snow plow the 2<sup>nd</sup> shift when needed by General Services Department. During the winter months grounds division staff also assist with plowing and sanding of the parking lots at the new City Wide Community Center and the Beaver Meadow Golf Course.

## Park Amenities

Park	Playground	Basketball	Tennis	Trails	Skate Park	Picnic Shelter	Picnic Tables	Track	Dog Park	Little League	Baseball	Softball	Soccer	Football	Field Hockey	Lacrosse
<i>Beaver Meadow</i>			*							*						
<i>Garrison</i>	*	*		*			*									
<i>Kiwanis</i>					*		*									
<i>Keach</i>	*	*	*			*	*			*		*	*			
<i>Kimball</i>	*	*					*									
<i>Memorial Field</i>		*	*	*		*	*	*		*	*	*	*	*		*
<i>Merrill</i>	*	*	*	*		*	*			*		*	*			
<i>Reed</i>	*											*				
<i>Riverfront – Penacook</i>				*			*									
<i>Rolfe</i>	*	*	*	*			*			*	*	*	*			
<i>Rollins</i>	*	*	*	*		*	*				*	*			*	
<i>Russ Martin</i>				*										*		*
<i>Terrill</i>				*			*		*							
<i>White</i>	*	*		*			*				*		*			
<i>Fletcher Murphy Play Lot</i>	*	*					*									
<i>Thompson Play Lot</i>	*	*					*									
<i>West Street Play Lot</i>	*	*					*									

Depending on the season some of the athletic fields are not available. All park locations and amenities are listed on the City of Concord web site and in the majority of our seasonal brochures.

## Highlights of Park Usage:

Baseball games – During the 2018 season we had a total of 280 games (not including practices) played on our baseball fields. The baseball season usually begins in mid-April and runs until mid-August (4 months). The number of games per baseball field: White: 72 games, Rollins: 78 games, Rolfe: 63 games and, Memorial: 67 games.

Special Events: Division staff helped with many special events this past year. Here is a sample of some of the events hosted in the city's parks: Girls on the Run 5k (spring and summer races) at Memorial Field, Cancer Walk at Memorial Field, Wicked Fit 5k at Rollins, July 4th Celebration at Memorial Field, Sunapee Racing Team bike race at White, Frank Monahan 5k at Rollins, Bill Luti 5k at Memorial, Black Ice Pond Hockey Tournament at White, Winter Carnival at White and more.

Keach Park: Due to residents request, we now keep the youth soccer field at Keach Park unscheduled three days mid-week and all day on Sundays. This allows the field to be used for pick up soccer games for the residents who live near the park.

New Youth Lacrosse Field at Memorial Field (weekend use only). Located in outfield of Softball B. This new field allows youth lacrosse to host two games at the same time and allows some of the previous youth games that were played on the varsity field to be played on the new field.

## Playgrounds and Picnic Shelters

The division inspects the eleven playgrounds monthly, rakes and replaces the safety surfacing as needed throughout the year. There are also picnic shelters at Keach, Rollins, Memorial Field and Merrill Parks.



## Update on Capital Improvement Projects

### Rollins Park Reforestation (CIP #56)

Department staff working alongside staff from General Services Staff planted over 100 trees and shrubs during the spring of 2018. The new picnic shelter was installed in the fall and the new educational garden will be planted this summer. Through the Rollins Park Adopt A Tree program residents donated over \$5,000 to help buy and plant additional trees.



### Memorial Field Tennis (CIP #557)

Five courts were fully refurbished and the new courts opened June of 2018.





## Terrill Park (CIP #59)

The new master plan for Terrill Park is now fully permitted and is ready for formal RFP if the project is funded. Over the past year or so several of the youth sport leagues have signed letters of support for this project and indicated they would be regular renters if the artificial turf field in built.



## Wall Repairs at Rollins Park (CIP #56)

Wall repairs along the park side of Broadway Street continued in 2018. This past year work focused on the middle section of the wall.



## LED Flood Lights at White Park Basketball and Hockey Rink (CIP#51)

The flood lights at the basketball court were replaced with new LED lights. A timer was also added to allow users to turn the lights on after dark (until 10:30 pm). Replacing the lights and allowing park participants to turn the lights on only when needed will reduce the amount of power used.



## **Rolfe Park Basketball Court (CIP #55)**

The basketball court at the park was fully renovated with new base, fencing and basketball hoops. The court will be painted later this spring with a planned opening June of 2019.



## **Non Park Areas Maintained**

The Grounds Division of the department is also responsible for maintenance of the following locations during the warmer grass growing months. The water fund pays for one seasonal employee to help offset the cost of maintaining the Water Tanks and Wells. See attached map for these non-park locations.

### **Water Tanks and Wells**

- Penacook Street Tank
- Pembroke Wells
- Portsmouth Street Water Tank
- Auburn Street Water Tank
- Primrose Water Tank
- Snow Pond Water Tank
- Broad Cove Pump Station
- Mountain Road Pump Station
- Transmission/Water Line

### **Other Areas**

- Transfer Station
- Fort Eddy Road
- Loudon Road
- Airport Road – outside of fence and across street
- Eastman Street Clock Tower
- Checkerberry Lane Roundabouts
- COMF
- Constitution Ave
- Horseshoe Pond
- Old Turnpike Road
- McKee Square

