



WILDWOOD

August 16, 2022

The Honorable City Council
City of Wildwood, Missouri
16860 Main Street
Wildwood, Missouri 63040

Re: **Update on In-Person and Virtual Recreation Programs**

Council Members:

Listed below is a summary of the programs and activities the City has completed, or have currently underway, relative to implementing the goals and recommendations that are set forth for parks and recreation in the City's Action Plan 2018. This summary reflects major items that have been the focus of the City, since the Committee's July 2022 meeting:

Music on Main Concert Series – Back to School Party

- The concert was held on Friday, August 19, 2022, at 6:45 PM, where Griffin and the Gargoyles entertained a record crowd.
- The event was held in the same location as last year, at the corner of Taylor Road and Main Street, which allows more space for the additional children's activities that began at 6:00 p.m.
- Numerous bounce houses, a climbing wall and face painters were available for the children's entertainment.
- The usual complimentary hot dogs, kettle corn, Kona shaved ice, water, and soda were enjoyed by all.
- The St. Louis County Police Department had a tent and several of its School Resource Officers (SRO) were in attendance.
- The St. Louis Children's Hospital attended, along with St. Louis Community College – Wildwood Campus, and representatives of the Rockwood School District, notably its new Superintendent, Dr. Curtis Cain, to meet and greet.

Wildwood Celebration Commission Meeting

- The Commission continues its preparation, as the 2022 Celebrate Wildwood Event draws near.
- The Wildwood Celebration Commission met on August 3, 2022. At this meeting, the Commission discussed the venue location and layout, implemented a scavenger hunt, and also discussed a robust advertising campaign for the event.
- The Commission held a special meeting on August 30, 2022 to finalize the selection of a Grand Marshal for this year's parade, given the unexpected passing of Virgil Schmidt. The Commission

decided to take the opportunity to honor and memorialize Mr. Schmidt, as a great representative for this community, before and after its establishment.

- The venue will return to the same location as last year, at the corner of Taylor Road and Main Street, making preparations and layout familiar.
- The last meeting, before the event, of the Wildwood Celebration Commission was held on September 7, 2022, where the event layout and other details were finalized.

Celebrate Wildwood Event:

- The 2022 Celebrate Wildwood Event is scheduled for September 24, 2022.
- There will be Arts and Crafts booths, Author booths, Non-Profit and Sponsor booths, as well as various food and drink vendors.
- Entertainment includes static displays, children's activities, two (2) musical performances, and a fireworks display.
- The Parade start will return to the Schnuck's location to accommodate the forty-four (44) registrants to date.
- The event will be held on Main Street, between Fountain Place and Eastgate Lane, along with the open field just east of the B & B Theatre.

Wildwood Farms Community Garden

- The most recent work event, Watermelon Social, was held on August 13, 2022. This event was a social event, with a little caretaking being completed around the garden.
- The next work event is scheduled for September 21, 2022, and will feature scarecrows and s'mores in the garden!
- There are seventy-nine (79) garden hopefuls on the waiting list for a garden plot.

Annual Photography Contest

- The City's Annual Photography Contest opened for submissions on June 1, 2022 and ended on June 22, 2022. All entries were placed on the City's website and open to a vote by the public from July 1, 2022 through July 15, 2022.
- The professional judging was completed by July 29, 2022, and winners were announced on the City's website on August 3, 2022.
- The City will not be printing a calendar for 2023, but the winning photos will be used on its website, social media, print publications, and in other exciting new ways.

New Resident Picnic

- A New Resident Picnic was held on July 23, 2022, at the main pavilion, in Community Park.
- Despite extreme heat, numerous new residents attended to meet City officials, asked many questions, and enjoyed a complimentary lunch provided by Craft Eats and Drinks, Wildwood Pub and Grill, and Big Chief Roadhouse.

Wildwood Farmers Market

- The 2022 Wildwood Farmers Market Season kicked off on Saturday, May 28, 2022, and is held every Saturday through the first part of October. The market is located in the Wildwood Town Center, on the public plaza area, which is located at 221 Plaza Drive.

- The Market hosts local vendors that offer everything from fresh farm produce to hot, prepared food, as well as unique handmade items, such as jewelry, art, and bath products.
- The Farmer’s Market will not be open on September 24, 2022, but you will still be able to find many of your favorite vendors nearby participating in Celebrate Wildwood!
- Due to the popularity last year, the Farmer’s Market will again hold the Holiday Market in November.

Upcoming City Events

September 14, 2022	Early Childhood Recreation Program – Ride the Trains (W, F & P Railroad)
September 24, 2022	Celebrate Wildwood!
October 2, 2022	Tour de Wildwood
October 12, 2022	Early Childhood Recreation Program – Pumpkin Decorating
October 28, 2022	Shivering Shadows

CONTACT INFORMATION >>> If any of the City Council Members should have any questions or comments regarding this information, please feel free to contact the Department of Planning and Parks at (636) 458-0440. This item has been placed on tonight’s Work Session Agenda under ‘For Information’ and, if any City Council Member would like to discuss any of these items, the Departments of Planning and Parks will be available for such. Thank you for your consideration of this information.

Respectfully submitted,

CITY OF WILDWOOD

Don Bartoni, Chair*
 Planning and Parks Committee

Cc: The Honorable James R. Bowlin, Mayor
 Steve Cross, City Administrator
 John A. Young, City Attorney
 Joe Vujnich, Director of Planning and Parks
 Melanie Rippetoe, Assistant Director of Planning and Parks
 Kristin Naeger, Superintendent of Parks and Recreation
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*The Department of Planning and Parks developed this report, in conjunction with the Planning and Parks Committee. Content reflects the Committee’s consideration of this subject and not necessarily an individual’s position or opinion.