



WILDWOOD

October 18, 2022

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

Re: **Proposed Schedule of Recreation Events for 2023**

Council Members:

At its October 18th meeting, the Planning and Parks Committee was presented the proposed schedule of major recreation events for the upcoming year – Fiscal Year 2023. The development of this schedule considers a number of resources relating to it. These resources are Department staffing, other personnel of the City, who assist in the events held by it, partners that work with the City on different events, and, probably, most importantly, feedback from attendees and vendors. With this input and feedback, the City has tried to retain popular events, address new trends, and modify or delete items that had limited popularity and/or attendance.

Attached to this report is the recommended and approved schedule of events for the upcoming 2023 Season, along with a snippet of background information. Many of the events that are a part of this schedule are retained from years past and remain some of the most popular activities on it, such as the Green Rock Trail Challenge and the Music on Main Summer Concert Series. Both of these events are now nearing their twenty (20) year anniversaries. Other events are recent additions, again reflecting the result of the update process the Committee oversees. Regardless of the events and activities being new or old, they cover a range of interests, provide opportunities for all ages, and cover the entire calendar year. This broad based approach has resulted in attendance numbers for some of the larger events now exceeding thousands of participants/attendees.

If any of the City Council Members should have comments or questions regarding this information, please feel free to contact the Department of Planning and Parks at (636) 458-0440. A presentation is planned on this matter at tonight's meeting during the City Council's Work Session, under 'For Action.' Thank you for your consideration of this information and action on the same.

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
Rick Brown, P.E. and P.T.O.E., Director of Public Works
Melanie Rippetoe, Assistant Director of Planning and Parks

* 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.



WILDWOOD

Event Schedule for 2023

Prepared by the Department of Planning and Parks

	Event Name	Date	Comments
1.	Frozen Feet Half-Marathon Trail Run	January 28, 2023 (Saturday)	Thirteenth year for this event. Has been recognized as the second best trail run in the region by <i>Terrain Magazine (Pere Marquette Event Ranked #1)</i> .
2.	Cabin Fever Hike	Not Applicable	Event is one (1) of the oldest the City has offered. During COVID-19 and now thereafter, this event is now two (2), guided hikes over a period of six (6) weeks covering distances of three (3) and seven (7) miles. Competitors that complete both hikes received a one-of-a-kind T-shirt recognizing their accomplishment.
3.	Egg Hunt	April 1, 2023 (Saturday morning)	Moved to new location over five (5) years ago at Fairway Elementary School and crowds have been steady and large, in terms of overall attendance. Event is the weekend before the Easter Holiday.
4.	Arbor Day Celebration	April 28, 2023	Event is a requirement to maintain Tree City USA status.
5.	Plein Air Art Event	May 6, 2023 (Saturday)	8 th year for this event and has grown significantly in number of participants and interest. This event was even held during the two (2) plus years of the pandemic.
6.	Music on Main – 1st of the Season	May 19, 2023 (Friday Evening)	Wildwood has held this concert series, since 1996 – Band - TBD.
7.	Green Rock Trail Challenge	June 3, 2023 (Saturday morning)	Most popular fitness event the City offers. The allotted 150 spaces are generally reserved within 24 hours of posting for reservations.
8.	Music on Main – 2nd of the Season	June 16, 2023 (Friday evening)	See above – Band - TBD.
9.	Music on Main – 3rd of the Season	July 21, 2023 (Friday evening)	See above – Band - TBD.
10.	Back-To-School Party	August 18, 2023 (Friday evening)	Highly attended event that marks the start of the school year, which includes a concert and games - Band – TBD.
11.	Annual Celebrate Wildwood Event	September 23, 2023 (Saturday)	The event was moved to the fourth weekend in September, when the BBQ Bash closed due to the pandemic. The event is the largest in all facets, including expenditures and attendance.
?.	Tour de Wildwood	?	Long-standing event moved to October in 2014, with reductions in number of courses offered to riders, added entry fee for riders, and added new partner for it as well.

	Event Name	Date	Comments
12.	Shivering Shadows 7K on Zombie Road	October 27, 2023 (Friday, late night)	Great end to the fall event calendar. This event is held on the trail system along the Meramec River, at night, and includes Zombie Road. It is a very haunting event.
13.	Holiday Tree Lighting	December 2, 2023 (Saturday evening)	Would be fourth of event, which is held in the public plaza area of Town Center. The event is a partnership with the Wildwood Business Association (WBA). It is the kick-off to the holiday season and attendance is always high, with Santa and carolers adding to the atmosphere.

Editor's Notes

1. The above schedule does not include classes, workshops, and the Early Childhood Recreation Program Events, which are regulars in the Department's yearly schedule and have been offered for many years by the City.
2. The City provides substantial for programming seniors and will continue throughout 2023.
3. The Department does plan on hosting a small number of night sky events in 2023 at several different park locations.