



WILDWOOD

November 15, 2022

MEMORANDUM

To: Planning and Parks Committee Members

From: Department of Planning and Parks

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

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
Kristin Naeger, Superintendent of Parks and Recreation
Stacy Chanski, Recreation Specialist

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 October 2022 meeting:

Wildwood Farms Community Garden

- The 2022 Garden Season came to a close on October 18, 2022, when most vegetation did not survive the overnight freezing temperatures. While most plots have been cleaned out, gardeners are welcome to garden during the winter months. Deadlines for cleaning out plots is December 5, 2022, for those that are not winter gardening, and January 15, 2023 for those who are.
- There are eighty-four (84) garden hopefuls on the waiting list for a garden plot next year.

Wildwood Celebration Commission Meeting

- The Commission held its regular meeting on November 2, 2022, at which Members discussed the 2023 budget for the event, including ideas for generating revenue to offset expenses.

Shivering Shadows

- October 28, 2022, turned out to be a beautiful night for Shivering Shadows, a nighttime 7K Run/Walk. One hundred nineteen (119) trail runners out of one hundred twenty-five (125)

registrants braved the dark woods surrounding Zombie Road (Rock Hollow Trail) with flashlights in hand and on head!

- This spooky route started on the asphalt Hamilton-Carr Trail, then transitioned to the Al Foster Memorial Trail, binging participants to the darkness of Bluff View Trail, followed by the enchanted forest of the legendary Zombie Road, where the rocks, roots, and tree limbs seemed to be alive.
- Participants enjoyed salad and pizza from Imo's during the post-race ceremony.

Wildwood Farmers Market

- The Farmer's Market held the Holiday Market on November 6, 2022, from 10:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m. where over thirty (30) vendors displayed and sold their goods to early holiday shoppers.
- The event was moved from its original date of November 5th to November 6th to avoid rain that had been in the forecast.

Hometown Heroes Banner Program

- Hometown Hero Banners are a great way to give living tribute and honor to those individuals who have served or continue to serve in the United States Armed Forces. The program honors past and present members by featuring local heroes on banners.
- The banners will be displayed along Manchester Road, twice per year, in celebration of Memorial Day and Veterans Day. Following the final display, banners will be given to the hero's family or stored by the City for renewal the following year.
- The program launched on Veterans Day, November 11, 2022, and banners can be purchased online or at City Hall through February 15, 2023.

Feed the Masses

- It's time to clean out your pantry in preparation for the holidays! Missouri Parks and Recreation Association (MPRA) Region Four is excited to host the Third Annual "Feed the Masses" Food Drive Contest this holiday season!
- Parks and Recreation Departments from around the region will be competing to see which of them can collect the most food items in November, which will be donated to the local food bank of their choice.
- Two (2) large totes have been placed in the vestibule at the Main Street entry doors at City Hall for the deposit of donations and will be there until November 30, 2022.
- The Department that collects the most canned goods will be crowned the 2022 Feed the Masses Champion! They will receive a plaque and recognition at the region meeting at the 2023 MPRA State Conference.

Holiday Tree Lighting Ceremony

- In partnership with the Wildwood Business Association, the City of Wildwood will host the City's Annual Holiday Tree Lighting Ceremony on December 3, 2022, from 3:30 p.m. to 6:00 p.m., at the plaza square in Town Center.
- The mayor will lead the lighting of the tree at 5:00 p.m.
- This festive evening features live music from the Kingsbury Place Singers, craft making with volunteers from Living Word, and Santa Claus!

- Joining our local businesses, there will be vendors selling hot chocolate, specialty coffee, chili and treats.
- Local businesses will begin decorating trees along Plaza Drive, in the themes appropriate to them, to help bring the holiday spirit and prepare for the festivities!

Upcoming City Events

December 3, 2022	Holiday Tree Lighting Ceremony
January 28, 2023	Wildwood Frozen Feet Half Marathon Trail Run

CONTACT INFORMATION >>> If any of the Committee 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.