



# WILDWOOD

June 20, 2023

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

Re: **Update on In-Person and Virtual Recreation Programs (Wards – All)**

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 May 2023 meeting:

## Plein Air Art Event

- Wildwood's Plein Air Art Event took place on May 6, 2023, and had fifty-eight (58) registrants.
- 'En plein air' is a French term that translates literally to 'in the open air', and this type of artwork is completed outdoors on location.
- The artwork submitted is on display at City Hall and available for purchase until July 5, 2023. Winners of the awards were announced at City Hall on June 14, 2023.

## Music on Main Concert Series

- This free concert series takes place on the third Friday of the month throughout the summer and ends with a 'Back to School Party' in August. The concerts will be held on Main Street, between Fountain Place and Eastgate Lane, in the open field east of the B & B Theatre, beginning at 6:45 p.m. and are generally over around 9:00 p.m.
- Griffin and the Gargoyles played to a record setting crowd in Town Center on Friday, June 16, 2023! It was a great night for live music and gathering with friends and neighbors!
- The rest of the 2023 Music on Main concert schedule is:
  - Friday, July 21st - Dr. Zhivegas
  - Friday, August 18th - Back to School Party - LustreLights

## Grand Re-Opening of Bluff View Park

- After nearly a year of construction, renovations of Bluff View Park have been completed and were worth the wait. The park now features an improved parking area, several small pavilions, trail improvements, and covered seating areas at the bluff to enjoy the view.

- Wildwood Team Members, Council Members, and residents gathered at Bluff View Park on May 22, 2023 for the official ribbon cutting and enjoyed ice cream from Silver Spoon Ice Cream and Sweets.

### Wildwood Farmers Market

- The 2022 Wildwood Farmers Market Season kicked off on Saturday, May 27, 2023, and will be 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.

### Green Rock Trail Challenge

- The Green Rock Trail Challenge took place on June 3, 2023, starting and ending at the Muckerman Shelter, in Greensfelder County Park, where registrants enjoyed snacks before and lunch after the hike.
- Given the great reviews from the 2022 event, the 7.9-mile hike remained the same as last year, and again received nothing but positive feedback, despite the hot day.
- The event had eighty-three (83) registrants, of which, eighty (80) participants braved the heat to complete the hike.

### Wildwood Celebration Commission Meeting

- The Commission met on Wednesday, June 14, 2023, to discuss selection of subthemes for this year's main theme, "*This Is My Wildwood*", as well as parade components, and event promotion efforts.
- The Commission also met on Thursday, July 6, 2023, to discuss various components of the event including parade details, event promotion and advertising, sponsorship solicitation letters to different partners, and an update on the Wildwood History Book that will be released for sale at the event.

### Annual Photography Contest

- The City's Annual Photography Contest opened for 2023 submissions on June 1, 2023, and ended on June 22, 2023. All entries have been posted on the City's website and open to a vote of the public from July 5, 2023 through July 19, 2023.
- The professional judging will be completed by August 2, 2023, with winners announced on the City's website no later than August 7, 2023.
- The City will not be printing a calendar for 2024, as in the past few years, but the winning photographs will be used on the website, social media, print publications, and in other exciting new ways.

### Pop-Up Playdate

- The City hosted an impromptu Pop-Up Playdate for kids at Community Park on June 7, 2023, from 10:00 a.m. to 11:00 a.m., by the pavilion and playground.
- The event included kids crafts and sidewalk chalk, as well as a foam cannon and light snacks.
- The turnout was significant, with well over one-hundred (100) kids in attendance and everyone had a great time!

### Music in the Garden

- Wildwood Farms Community Garden hosted its Music in the Garden work event on June 28, 2023, with an acoustical musical performance by Julie Lynch. The Lions Club were on hand to grill hot dogs for all to enjoy. Fifty (50) gardeners registered for this work day in the garden. The small scale event was promoted a few days before the event, similar to the 'Pop-Up' events the City has held in previous years. Despite the heat and the poor air quality, the event was well attended by both gardeners and interested residents.
- The next work event, Watermelon Social, is scheduled for August 9, 2023. This event will be a social event, with a little caretaking around the garden.

### Pedestrian Bridge Opening

- Construction of the pedestrian bridge, located between the Manors at the Meadows of Cherry Hills and the Enclaves at Cherry Hills subdivisions, has been completed and not only increases connectivity, but also turned out to be a beautiful addition to the surrounding area.
- The bridge has been very well received by the surrounding residents and the City has heard nothing but positive feedback since its opening!
- City Team Members will be contacting the City Council on the opportunity to hold a ribbon cutting ceremony for this exciting connection, in order to determine interest in an event of this nature.

### 2023 Family Swimming Pool Passes

- Again, in 2023, the City of Wildwood has partnered with the Cities of Ellisville and Ballwin to provide access to their outdoor swimming pool facilities. Ellisville and Ballwin continue to be great partners and afford Wildwood residents a wonderful opportunity to ensure fun in the sun in 2023!

### Upcoming City Events

|                        |   |
|------------------------|---|
| July 5 – July 19, 2023 | Popular voting for the 2023 Photography Contest |
| July 21, 2023          | Music on Main Summer Concert (Dr. Zhivegas)     |
| August 18, 2023        | Back to School Party (LustreLights)             |
| September 23, 2023     | <b>Celebrate Wildwood</b>                       |

**CONTACT INFORMATION >>>** If any City Council Member should have other questions or comments before tonight's meeting about this information, please feel free to contact the Department of Planning and Parks at (636) 458-0440. This item is on tonight's Work Session Agenda under 'For Information,' but can be discussed, if any City Council Members would request such. Thank you for your review of this information.

Respectfully submitted,  
**CITY OF WILDWOOD**  
Michael Gillani, Chair\*  
Planning and Parks Committee

Cc: The Honorable James R. Bowlin, Mayor  
Thomas Lee, Interim City Administrator  
John A. Young, City Attorney  
Melanie Rippetoe, Assistant Director of Planning and Parks  
Kristin Naeger, Superintendent of Parks and Recreation  
Stacy Chanski, Recreation Specialist

\* 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.