

RECREATION & PARKS DEPARTMENT

The Recreation and Parks Department offers quality recreational programs to the community. A four season recreation program is offered to the community funded by a combination of municipal dollars, grants and community contributions, as well as user fees. We offer a broad range of programs with children and adults in mind. Costs of our programs are designed to be family friendly. Our schedule is planned around the schedules of busy working families.

Some interesting hallmarks of our program year included:

THE CLi'F Summer Reading Program

Berlin Recreation & Parks Department
and the
Children's Literary Foundation of
Vermont & New Hampshire

**Invite You to Story Time
and Free Book Give Away**

Thursday, July 12

9:00 Brown School - Inside,
10:00 Bartlett School - Inside,
1:00 Brookside Park - Outside,
1:00 Community - Outside

Call 752-2010 for more information

Open to All Area Children



The Children's Literary Foundation Summer Readers Program will be back visiting the Berlin Recreation & Parks Playground program. This very popular program is returning to Berlin and visited Brookside and Community Playground, in July 2009. CLiF's Summer Program was created to help keep reading a part of children's activities over the summer months. The program

provides lively storytelling presentations and free books to children in various summer programs across Vermont and New Hampshire, including to those children participating in the Berlin Recreation and Parks Department Summer Activities Program

The CLiF Program included;

Storytelling Presentation: A CLiF representative traveled to Berlin and presented a fun, interactive storytelling production to the children.

Books for Children to Keep: Each child who attended the program was able to select a few new books to keep for their own from a wide selection of brand-new fiction and non-fiction children's books.

Approximately 50 children attended and enjoyed a funny and active storytelling hour.

USDA Summer Food Program

The Berlin Recreation & Parks Department contributed so that no children in the City of Berlin would go hungry when school was closed during the summer. Many children in Berlin receive free or reduced-price meals during the school year, but many of these children do not get enough to eat when school is out. The Summer Food Service Program (SFSP) ensures that children continue to grow during the summer. This program provided noon time lunches and afternoon snacks to all area children free of charge. This program was open to all children in the community regardless of income level. Meals were served to all school age children and youth up to age 18.

Lunch consisted of a nutritious sandwich or cold lunch item, dessert, and milk. Mid afternoon snacks were fruit or a light snack

with beverage and were served at approximately 2:30. All meals highlighted wholesome and nutritious food. Meals were provided Monday through Friday at Brown School, Bartlett School, Community Field, and Brookside Park playgrounds.

The Summer Food Service Program is sponsored by the U.S. Department of Agriculture, is the largest federal resource available for local programs that combine meal time with recreational and educational activities. The Summer Food Service Program for Children is a federally funded program operated nationally by the U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA) and administered by a State Agency. Eligible sponsors such as non-profit organizations, schools and local governments serve nutritious meals and snacks free to children during the summer months.

The USDA Summer Free Meal Program is a community program open to all school aged children, teens included, providing nutritional summer meals to children regardless of race, color, nationality, origin, sex, age, or disability. All children receive the same meal benefit and there is no discrimination in operation of the food service. Children with food allergies should tell meal attendants prior to receiving meal.

The Summer Food Program was sponsored by the Berlin Recreation & Parks Department in partnership with Tri - County CAP Senior Center and the USDA.

Departmental Programs

RiverFire 2008
Tennis Beginner Baseball
K-4 Basketball Camp
Farm League Baseball
Student Craft Program
Adult Craft Program

After School Craft Program
Girl's Softball
Babe Ruth Baseball
Little Tykes Play Program
K-1 Soccer
2nd-3th Soccer
Craft the Month
Special Events
Open Gym Program
Indoor Jogging Program
Community Yard Sale
Easter Egg Hunt
Gazebo Rentals
Senior Exercise
Cosmic Bowling
Boys Hockey
Girls Hockey
Glen Ave Gazebo Rentals
Snowboard/Ski Program
Gym Rentals
Senior Walking

Approximately 4,800 participants enjoyed department programs.



Bridger Viger on the "Curvy Slide" at Community Field (Laura Viger photo)

Maintenance & Parks Services

The maintenance division of the department continued to provide year round services to the properties of the department as well as other city and community properties. Parks and playgrounds, athletic fields, and a large variety of municipal land is maintained by the Recreation Department.

Inter-Departmental

City Hall – Plowing and Shovelng
Library – Plowing and Shovelng, Mowing
Police Department – Plowing
District Court – Plowing
Bartlett School Playground – Mowing
School Playground Equipment -
Maintenance/Replacement
School Athletic Field Maintenance & Game
Preparation

Outside Agency Support

Main Street Support - Each year the Main Street Program receives maintenance support from the Recreation Department for:

Road Rally
Thunder in the Mountains
Drive in the '50s
PSNH Park Noon Concert
Downtown Christmas
Flower Boxes

Northern Forest Heritage Park/Rotary Park

The recreation maintenance crew mows Rotary Park annually. The crew also plows and shovels entries at the Heritage Park/ Brown House property annually.

Relay for Life - The maintenance staff assist in the setup of the Relay for Life. We provide man power and various site amenities like staging, tables, etc.

Will O'Brien and the Garden Club

Continuing this year are the special gardens throughout the city maintained by Will O'Brien's, clients from the Community Service Center and the local garden club.



Beautiful gardens are located and maintained by Will and his group at the Voudoukis Park, the Library, Memorial Field and notably the Botanical Garden on Unity Street.

Respectfully Submitted,
Laura Viger
Community Services Director