JOPLIN CITY COUNCIL
INFORMAL MEETING AGENDA
MONDAY, AUGUST 5, 2019
5TH FLOOR INFORMAL COUNCIL ROOM
602 S. MAIN ST.
5:15 PM

1. Parks and Recreation Department Annual Review
2. Any other business

Notice posted at 1:00 pm. on this 1st day of August 2019. (RSMo 610.020)






2018 Annual Report





JOPLIN PARKS & RECREATION
just play










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2018 Annual Report

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Who We Are

Our Mission

The Joplin Parks and Recreation Department provides quality parks, services, and programs to enhance the quality of life for the citizens of Joplin and surrounding communities.

Director

Paul Bloomberg

Park Advisory Board

Dustin Parker, Chairman
Josh DeTar, Vice Chairman
Harvey Hutchison
Jennifer Martucci
Edwin Mwangi
Kreg Selvey
Ryan Stanley, Council Representative

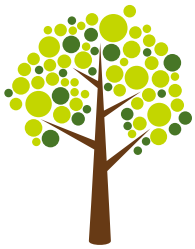
Tree Board

Jason Grossman, Chairman
Lauren Copple
Bob Willcoxon
Samuel Wimsett
Anthony Monteleone, Council Representative

Parks & Recreation Administration and Support Staff

Greg Bertoncino, Athletic Maintenance Superintendent
Carla Bond, Business Development Manager
Daryn Buholt, Golf Course Professional
Ashley Clements, Recreation Coordinator
Jason Cowen, Parks Superintendent
Dickie Gray, Cemetery Superintendent
Jessica Johnson, Recreation Coordinator
Nakia Osborne, Accounting Specalist
Maron Towse, Golf Course Maintenance Supervisor
Alina Watkins, Recreation Leader

Parks & Rec By The Numbers



1070 acres of park land

10 miles of recreational trails

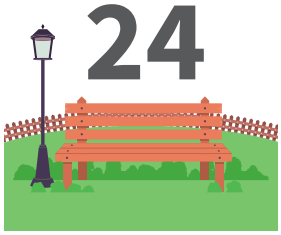




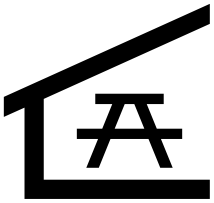
20 playgrounds



1 golf course



24 parks & greenspaces

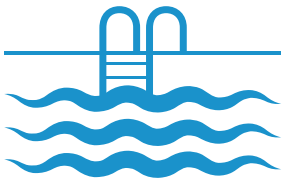


24 reservable shelters



8 basketball courts

3 aquatic centers





1 skate park

1 splash pad

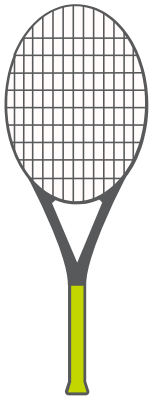




4 disc golf courses

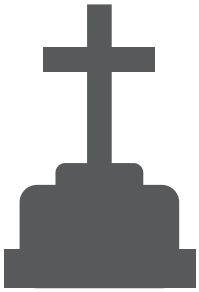


6 sand volleyball courts



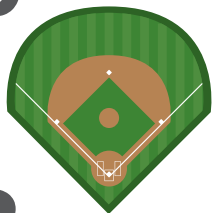
14 tennis courts

11 pickleball courts



4 cemeteries

6 softball fields



3 baseball fields



5 soccer fields



1 dog park

2018 At-A-Glance

20,932
rounds of golf played

47,088
pool visitors

7,629
facebook followers

392
games played at Joe Becker & Wendell Redden Stadiums

5,627
recreation program participants

291
headstone repairs

490
shelter reservations

77
pool party rentals

402
swim lesson participants

35
golf tournaments held

965
aqua zumba participants

250
dog park members

1,100
trees pruned

134
adult sports teams

43
memorial hall rentals

Parks Division

Joplin is extremely fortunate to have excellent parks offering a variety of quality amenities and experiences.

The Parks Division is comprised of 11 full-time and 13 seasonal employees. They are responsible for the maintenance and management of over 1,070 acres of land inside the city limits, which includes:

- 24 parks, parkways, and green spaces
- Junge Boulevard medians
- Shelters and Amphitheaters
- 3 Aquatic Centers
- Joplin Museum Complex
- Joplin Senior Center
- Parr Hill Dog Park
- Public and private partnerships with local agencies

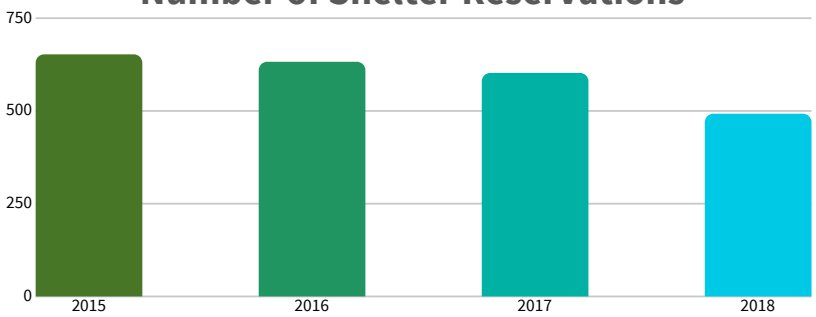
Like most Park Divisions in the country, our biggest challenge is retaining enough staff to properly maintain all 1,070 acres of grounds under our care. In 2018, our staff were able to maintain all of our areas of responsibility within a two-week turn around.


Mercy Park and the Joplin Senior Center

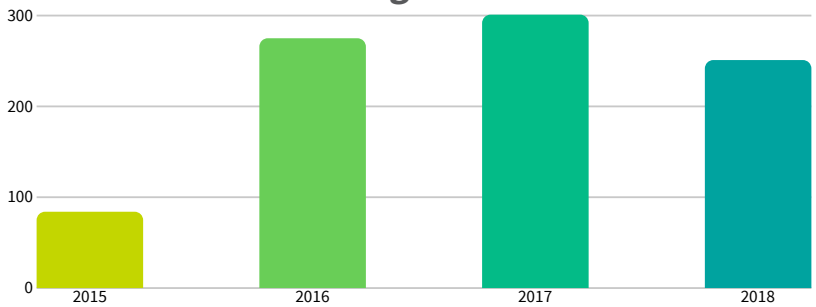


Monarch Garden at Ewert Park

Number of Shelter Reservations



Number of Dog Park Members



Community Involvement

- Downtown Joplin Alliance's Third Thursdays
- Emancipation Park Days at Ewert Park
- Great Day of Service
- Joplin Arts Fest at Mercy Park



Parks Division


Basketball court at Cunningham Park


Pickleball Courts at Landreth Park


New playgrounds at Leonard Park


Horseshoe Pits at McClelland Park

Major Projects

Cunningham Park
- Repaired and repainted basketball court

Dover Park
- Assisted volunteers with blazing of a mountain bike trail

Landreth Park
- Renovated 2 tennis courts into 8 pickleball courts

Leonard Park
- Replaced all playground equipment
- Repaired and repainted tennis court

McClelland Park
- Installed 2 horseshoe pits

Mercy Park
- Completed construction on the new Joplin Senior Center

Wildcat Park
- Removed old baseball field

MDC Trim Grant

In 2018, the Tree Resource Improvement and Maintenance (TRIM) grant added $10,000 to the City's ability to properly manage over 1,100 trees in Dover Hill, Campbell Parkway, Landreth, McIndoe, McClelland, Iron Gates, Leonard, and Parr Hill Parks. Pruning young trees allows the trees to grow properly for the future. This will reduce future structural problems that may lead to early tree failure, potential safety issues, and removal earlier than necessary.

Did You Know?

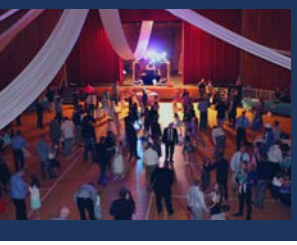
The City of Joplin has been a Tree City USA community for 10 years!

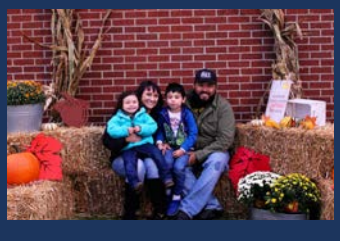
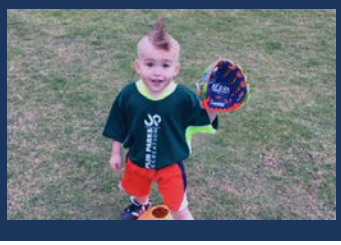
TREE CITY USA®

Recreation Division

Our Recreation Division provides the Four State Area with a variety of quality recreation programs year round.

This division is staffed by 4 full time and over 150 seasonal employees. They are responsible for sports programming, aquatics, summer day camp, 9 concession facilities, youth and adult programs, special events, and the Memorial Hall rental program.




Program Highlights

Lil' Instructionals Series

Our Lil' Instructional sports series is a 4-week instructional program, specifically designed for children 3-4 years of age. All classes focus on developing skills through fun drills to prepare children to play in league games when they get older. Sports offered include basketball, soccer, t-ball, tennis, and football. We have had a 55% increase in enrollment in these programs since 2015.

Youth Soccer Leagues

Like many of our programs, 2018 marked a significant increase in participation. We had 715 players in our Spring and Fall seasons. This is an increase of 398 players from 2015!

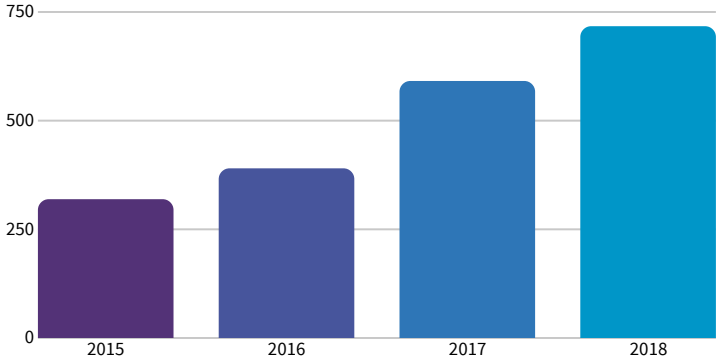
Flashlight Easter Egg Hunt

A few years ago, we created a twist on the traditional egg hunt by having it take place on our softball fields at the Athletic Complex. Our staff scatters 10,000 eggs, filled with candy and prizes, onto the fields. Then, we turn off the lights! The kids have a great time searching for eggs in the dark with their flashlights. This year, the program had 343 egg hunters!

New Programs in 2018

Our staff continuously strives to improve and add to our lineup of programs. This year we added "Cooking Matters for Kids," a cooperative program with the University of Missouri Extension, where kids were introduced to basic principles of healthy eating and safe cooking. "Lil' Netters Tennis" was added to our preschool offerings and we believe is a good program to build interest in our other tennis programs. Lastly, we partnered with the Joplin Humane Society to offer a Doggy Dive In at Ewert Aquatic Center where residents could have their pups swim in the pool before we drained it for the season.

The Youth Soccer program has had an 125% increase in players since 2015.





Community Partnerships & Events



Joplin's Independence Day Celebration

Joplin Parks & Recreation organizes the Celebration on behalf of the City of Joplin. In 2018, the City and Missouri Southern State University partnered and brought the Celebration back to the Missouri Southern State University campus. The event featured food trucks, inflatables and games, live music, and the largest fireworks display in the area.







Athletic Organizations

Convention & Visitors Bureau
Challenger Sports
Joplin Disc Golf Club
Joplin Golf Club
Joplin Outlaws
Joplin Sports Authority
Joplin Table Tennis Club

Aquatics

Berzerkers Swim Team
Boys and Girls Club of SW Missouri
Joplin Family YMCA
Joplin High School Swim Team
Joplin Stingrays Swim Team

Community Groups

Area Agency on Aging
Connect 2 Culture
Downtown Joplin Alliance
Economic Security of the Southwest Area
Joplin Emancipation Park Days
Kappa Alpha Order
Liberty Utilities
Miracle League of Joplin
Missouri Department of Conservation
Missouri Master Naturalists
Missouri Prairie Foundation
Missouri Southern State University
The Salvation Army
United States Fish & Wildlife Service
Wildcat Glades Friends Group

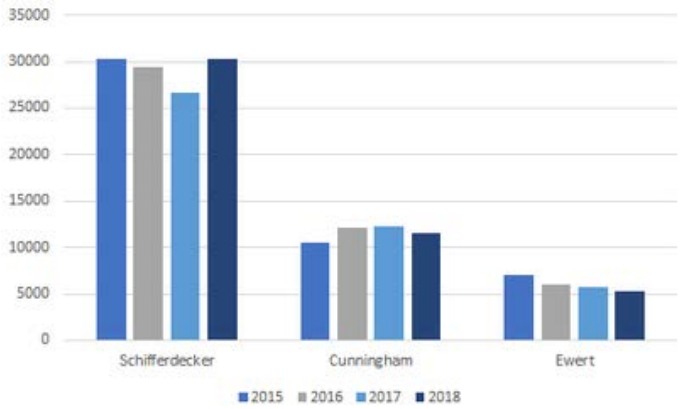
Aquatics



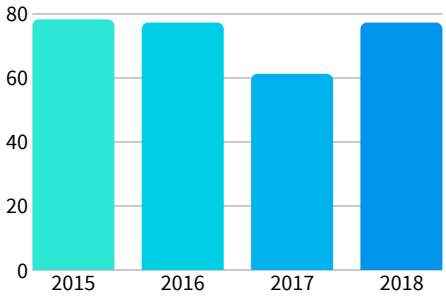
The Recreation Division operates Joplin's three aquatic facilities: Schifferdecker, Ewert, and Cunningham Aquatic Centers.

We hire and train over 120 employees annually. This includes lifeguards, cashiers, and managers. We reserve pool parties at all three pools, host Aqua Zumba classes, are home to the Joplin and Berzerker Swim Teams, and offer swim lessons throughout the summer.

Attendance



Pool Parties & Rentals







Aqua Zumba moved to Cunningham Aquatic Center in 2017 to increase the available class space so the program would grow.

In 2016, the program had 289 participants. In 2018, the class had 965 participants attend throughout the summer!

Athletic Maintenance Division

We are honored to provide quality fields and facilities for local, regional, and national organizations.

The Athletic Maintenance Division is comprised of 5 full-time and 6 seasonal employees. This Division is responsible for maintaining all of the following buildings and facilities:

- Joplin Athletic Complex
  - Wendell Redden Stadium
  - Gene Bassman Softball Complex
  - Hershewe Soccer Complex
  - JAC Tennis Facility
  - Will Norton Miracle Field and Playground
- Joe Becker Stadium
- Landreth Park Soccer Field
- Gabby Street Baseball Field
- Gene Bassman and Wendell Redden Practice Fields
- Ewert Skate Park
- Carver Nursery Building
- City of Joplin Welcome Signs


Wendell Redden Stadium


Gene Bassman Softball Complex


Hershewe Soccer Complex


Will Norton Miracle Field


Skate Park at Ewert Park

In 2018, Joplin Parks and Recreation hosted a combined 392 baseball games at Joe Becker and Wendell Redden Stadiums and 14 baseball/softball tournaments at the Gene Bassman Softball Complex. Below are the community organizations who utilized our athletic facilities in 2018.

4-State Fusion Arena Football
British Soccer Camp
Carl Junction High School (soccer, tennis)
College Heights Christian School (baseball, softball, tennis)
McAuley High School (baseball)
Midwest Select Youth Soccer
Joplin Little League (Senior League Baseball)
Joplin Sports Authority (Youth & Adult sports)
Joplin Outlaws (Collegiate Baseball)
National Softball Association (Adult Softball)
PlayMakers (Youth Baseball)
TwelveOne Group (5k, 10k, Marathons)

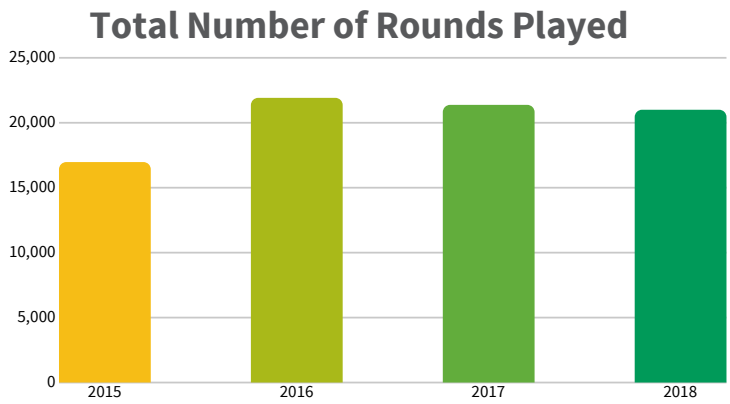
Schifferdecker Golf Course



Schifferdecker Golf Course is comprised of two divisions: Clubhouse Operations and Grounds Operations.

The Clubhouse has one full-time employee, the Head Golf Professional, and 10 part-time positions that help with the daily clubhouse duties.

The Grounds Division has 3 full-time employees and 6 seasonal positions. The two divisions work closely to ensure everything runs smoothly for public play, tournaments, leagues, and various other programs at the golf course.



Awards & Recognition

In early 2019, the Golf Course received a regional accolade, the "Joplin Globe Favorites of the Four States" award.

This award recognized Schifferdecker Golf Course as the best golf course in the area. Voting for this award was based upon people's opinions about the 2018 season. It's a shining example of how hard our staff are continuously working to ensure this course is above par!

Schifferdecker Golf Course

2018 Projects

- Removed 4 sweetgum trees
- Treated 2 oak trees for horned oak gall
- Added 4 tee boxes to reduce wear on others
  - Holes 5, 6, 12 (Ladies' tees)
  - Hole 11 (Senior tee)
- Changed collars to rye grass
- Added native grass areas to reduce mowing
- Replaced 3 work carts

Schifferdecker hosted the 70th Annual Ozark Amateur in 2018 and had 139 players compete. The Amateur is expected to continually grow in numbers due to the condition and increased popularity of the course.


Clubhouse


View from the 16th Green

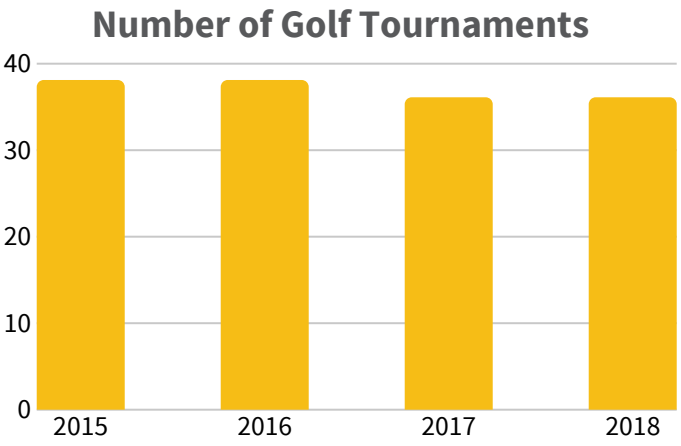
SNAG & PGA Jr. League

One of the keys to any golf course is recruiting new and younger players.

Our Head Golf Professional, Daryn Buholt, started the "Starting New At Golf" program (or SNAG) which is aimed to introduce younger children to the sport.

Daryn also coaches the Schifferdekcer PGA Jr. League, which competes with other local golf course chapters in a league format.


SNAG Golf



Cemetery Division



Information station at Parkway Cemetery


New gate at Forest Park Cemetery


Rock wall at Parkway Cemetery


Forest Park Cemetery

The Cemetery Division is responsible for four cemeteries: Fairview, Parkway, Osborne, and Forest Park.

The general care for each cemetery includes mowing, trimming around each headstone, seeding, pruning trees and shrubs, resetting of sunken graves, and other related maintenance.

The Cemetery Division consists of 5 full-time and 4 seasonal employees that maintain the four city-owned cemeteries.

2018 Projects

- Repaired and reset 291 headstones at Fairview Cemetery
- Refurbished posts and fencing from Fairview Cemetery to create a new gate at Forest Park Cemetery
- Repair rock wall at Parkway Cemetery
- Installed new rules signs and painted information stations at all locations
- Working with the historical preservation committee for historical designations at all cemeteries

Did You Know?

The Cemetery Division is responsible for the care and upkeep of the streetscape flowers in Downtown Joplin.

We maintain these gorgeous plantings by watering them 7 days a week throughout the growing months!



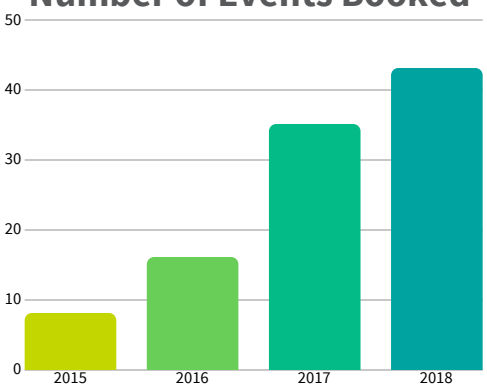
Memorial Hall



Memorial Hall has seen a significant increase in events over the last 3 years. Before 2015, Memorial Hall was used by the Joplin School District as a temporary facility until the high school was completed in August 2015. Community organizations use the building for clinics, tradeshows, ceremonies, and gatherings. Promoters also rent the building to hold events, such as concerts, bull riding, and circuses. The Joplin Parks and Recreation Department also uses Memorial Hall for programming and special events.



Number of Events Booked



2018 Rentals & Events

- Joplin Table Tennis Practices & Tournaments
- Joplin Big Brothers & Big Sisters - Beerfest Event
- Joplin Eye of the Storm Karate Tournament
- Michael Jackson Tribute Concert
- City of Joplin Employee Christmas Lunch
- National Wrestling League Pro Wrestling Events
- Joplin Fire Department Christmas 4 Kids Event
- Joplin Eye of the Storm Karate Tournament
- Walkout Fight Club MMA Events
- Project Homeless Connect
- Joplin Police Department Testing
- Carden Circus
- Job Fest 2018
- MCSAA State Cheerleading and Volleyball
- LJ Jenkins Bull Bash
- Compass Quest Veteran & Military Ball
- Impact Life Church Community Easter Service
- Red Rhino Fireworks Expo
- VFW District Meeting
- Joplin Memorial Run
- Jasper County Sheltered Facilities Open House
- Fiddlers on the Route (C2C Event)
- Garden Circus
- Chi Chi Mamas World Breastfeeding Event
- Construction Job Expo
- Veteran's Expo
- City of Joplin Employee Health Fair
- Rumble in the Heartland Boxing
- Best of.... Second City (C2C Event)
- Mother Road Marathon Expo
- Christ In Youth
- City of Joplin Employee Banquet
- US Army Jazz Band Performance

Joplin Parks & Recreation Programs

- Daddy Daughter Date Night
- Turkey Shootout
- Breakfast with Santa
- Kids Garage Sale
- Lil' Dribblers Basketball
- Adult Futsal
- Adult Volleyball
- Pickleball

Stay Connected With Us!



www.joplinparks.org

#JustPlayJoplin