

RECREATION - 7410

MISSION

The Albany County Recreation Department's mission is to provide structured recreational programming for the youth of the county, and other recreational opportunities to our families. The ability to offer positive diversions for the most vulnerable youth in our community who have historically had limited opportunities is vital for Albany County. By providing a comprehensive approach combining experienced coaches, staff, effective programs, and recreational areas, the youth and families of Albany County will truly benefit, contributing to the promotion of healthy, productive lifestyles.

WHO WE SERVE

With our various free youth recreation programs, we serve youths ages 5-17 from around the county. We have formed a partnership with the AAU (Amateur Athletic Union), the first of its kind in the country. The AAU was formed in 1888 to establish standards and uniformity in amateur sports. "Sports for All, Forever" is their motto, and the youths in our programs join 670,000 participants and 100,000 volunteers across the country in this prestigious organization.

With the addition of Lawson Lake County Park, the Hockey Facility, and the Albany County Helderberg-Hudson Rail Trail, we add to our service population families across the county that seek fun, healthy, affordable outdoor and indoor recreation and athletic activities.

ABOUT OUR DEPARTMENT

The Albany County Recreation Department's focus on providing quality **Recreational Programs** such as karate, lacrosse, flag football, basketball, volleyball, and learn to skate/hockey, is at our core. We also will be expanding our programs this year with the addition of volleyball, baseball, Tae Kwan Do, and track & field. In conjunction with our partnership with the AAU, we run these programs around the county, in some of the lowest income and least served areas. By bringing these free programs to our youth, we aim to give them structured, fun activities that not only keep them active and off the streets, but teach them discipline and respect for themselves and others.

Not to be forgotten as part of the Recreation Department is the jewel of Albany County, Lawson Lake County Park. Once a neglected former camp, in recent years it has been transformed into a destination for youth in summer camp programs, and for the general public seeking outdoor activities such as hiking, picnicking, kayaking, canoeing, fishing, bird watching, cross country skiing, snowshoeing, and nature study. The park is open year round from dawn to dusk, and is located on the border of the towns of Coeymans and New Scotland.

The Hockey Facility offers a diversified program of recreational and competitive programming for people of all ages and abilities, and is home to the Department's free learn to skate/learn to play hockey program. The Facility is open ten months a year and averages over 100 hours of activity per week. In addition to programs, a food concession, full service pro shop, and skate rentals are available to residents.

The Albany County Helderberg-Hudson Rail Trail is a project that converted a nine-mile stretch of the old Delaware & Hudson (D&H) Railroad between the Port of Albany and Voorheesville to a public recreational trail. It has linked the municipalities along a safe and accessible pedestrian and bicycle route. The many benefits of the Rail Trail include community linkages, opportunities for physical activity, the opportunity to enjoy the outdoors and even the potential to commute to downtown Albany.

2016 ACCOMPLISHMENTS

- In 2016, over 1400 children took part in our youth recreation programs, many taking advantage of more than one program.
- The bedrock of our youth recreation program, karate, is now operating in five different locations around the county.
- Over 85 of our children competed and medaled in an AAU Regional Karate Tournament held at St. Rose, and 15 of them went on to compete and medal in the AAU National Karate Championships in Florida.
- We were successful in starting flag football, basketball, and lacrosse programs that were extremely popular, and ran in multiple locations.
- Learn to skate/learn to play hockey program was a huge success, drawing over 225 children to the Hockey Facility.

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- In collaboration with the Building Trades, the Department of General Services, and the Department of Public Works, tremendous work was done at Lawson Lake County Park. The list includes completing the parking lot to the Visitor's House, improving drainage around the park, the construction of a pavilion lakefront, installation of security cameras and a 911 phone, and updating and replacing all signage.
- With the assistance of a grant from the Hudson River Valley Greenway, the barn at Lawson Lake was renovated, including running water and electricity.
- The Boys & Girls Club and Pride Center had another successful year with summer camps at Lawson Lake, and the Boy and Girl Scouts held several special events at the park.
- Project Growth, a four-week program involving clients of the Albany County Probation Department who owe restitution to the victims of their offense was conducted at Lawson Lake. The program serves clients ages 16-24, and provides them an opportunity to engage with members of the Building Trades and learn valuable skills necessary for future employment opportunities.
- In April the Hockey Facility, for the first time, became home to Tech Valley Youth Box Lacrosse.
- In 2016 the Hockey Facility hosted The Rink Rat Tournament, United Way Charity Hockey Tournament, Siena College Showcase, The Empire State Cup, and the Albany Cougars Special Needs Tournament.
- In 2016, approximately five miles of paving was completed from South Pearl Street to Slingerlands. As a result, trail utilization has increased significantly
- Community groups and organizations have worked with Albany County to schedule guided tours and information sessions on the trail including CDRPC, The Albany Bicycle Coalition, and the South End Bikeway Link Committee.
- We have fielded many calls and e-mails from various community members and groups regarding the scheduling of events, fundraisers, and the provision of complementary amenities along heavily used sections of the Rail Trail. We are currently creating an online portal to streamline the process for those interesting in registering to use the trail for special events

2017 GOALS AND PERFORMANCE TARGETS

- In 2017, we are working to double the number of children we serve with our recreation programs. In addition to our karate, flag football, basketball, lacrosse, and learn to skate/learn to play hockey programs, we are planning to add volleyball, baseball, Tae Kwon Do, and track & field.
- We will be holding several local AAU karate tournaments in the county, with the hopes of bringing a national tournament. These tournaments will not only serve our children who participate, but will also draw contestants from around the region and the country. These tournaments will have a positive economic benefit for Albany County.
- Phase two and three of renovations at the Hockey Facility will be completed. This consists of the addition of two new locker rooms, a conference/party room and women's locker room, as well as renovation of the existing youth locker rooms. We will replace the bleachers, three air handling units, hot water storage tank, main sprinkler piping, rubber flooring, front entry doors, all emergency lighting/exit signs, public address/sound system, and locker room doors. All of these items are original to the rink, and 25+ years old.
- We will be investigating the energy saving benefits of installing a low-emissivity reflective insulated ceiling in the Hockey Facility to help reduce refrigeration costs and reduce radiant loads to the ice surface.
- Using the results of the infrastructure study completed in 2016, work will be done to get running water to the kitchen and cabins at Lawson Lake.
- All work on the Visitor's House at Lawson Lake will be complete and it will be open to the public.
- Many events are planned at Lawson Lake, including Winter and Fall Festivals, and continuation of our current, ongoing programming for visitors of all ages.
- The Hockey Facility will explore and seek ways to increase revenue through sponsorship advertisements within the Facility.

A7410 Recreation Department		2016	2017	2015	2016	2017	2017	2017	
		Count	Count	Expended	Adjusted	Requested	Proposed	Adopted	
Personnel Services Individual									
A7410	11010 001 520100	Commissioner	0	1	\$0	\$0	\$96,000	\$96,000	-
A7410	11043 001 520101	Rink Manager	0	1	\$0	\$0	\$52,985	\$52,985	-
A7410	11143 001 520102	Asst Rink Manager	0	1	\$0	\$0	\$36,495	\$36,495	-
A7410	15298 001 520107	Community Program Educator	0	1	\$0	\$0	\$47,858	\$47,858	-
A7410	16232 001 520103	Clerk Typist III	0	1	\$0	\$0	\$45,711	\$45,711	-
A7410	16232 002 520104	Clerk Typist III	0	1	\$0	\$0	\$45,711	\$45,711	-
A7410	16232 003 520105	Clerk Typist III	0	1	\$0	\$0	\$45,711	\$45,711	-
A7410	18113 001 520108	Recreation Maintenance Person	0	1	\$0	\$0	\$45,000	\$45,000	-
A7410	18204 001 520106	Karate Instructor PT	0	1	\$0	\$0	\$29,131	\$29,131	-
<i>Personnel Services Individual Subtotal</i>			0	9	\$0	\$0	\$444,602	\$444,602	\$0
Personnel									
Personnel Non-Individual									
A	7410 19950	Longevity Raise			\$0	\$0	\$1,850	\$1,850	\$0
A	7410 19970	Temporary Help			\$0	\$0	\$102,500	\$102,500	\$0
Subtotal for: Personnel Non-Individual					\$0	\$0	\$104,350	\$104,350	\$0
Equipment									
A	7410 22700	Recreation Equipment			\$0	\$0	\$65,000	\$65,000	\$0
Subtotal for: Equipment					\$0	\$0	\$65,000	\$65,000	\$0
Contractual Expenses									
A	7410 44020	Office Supplies			\$0	\$0	\$4,000	\$4,000	\$0
A	7410 44022	Maintenance Supplies			\$0	\$0	\$1,800	\$1,800	\$0
A	7410 44035	Postage			\$0	\$0	\$2,000	\$2,000	\$0
A	7410 44036	Telephone			\$0	\$0	\$1,500	\$1,500	\$0
A	7410 44037	Insurance			\$0	\$0	\$10,653	\$10,653	\$0
A	7410 44038	Travel Mileage Freight			\$0	\$0	\$150	\$150	\$0
A	7410 44046	Fees For Services			\$0	\$0	\$40,000	\$40,000	\$0
A	7410 44065	Photocopier Lease			\$0	\$0	\$3,820	\$3,820	\$0
A	7410 44070	Equipment Repair And Rental			\$0	\$0	\$18,680	\$18,680	\$0
A	7410 44101	Electric			\$0	\$0	\$35,000	\$35,000	\$0
A	7410 44104	Natural Gas			\$0	\$0	\$15,000	\$15,000	\$0
A	7410 44301	Taxes And Assessment			\$0	\$0	\$4,400	\$4,400	\$0
A	7410 44449	Youth Recreation Programming			\$0	\$0	\$155,000	\$155,000	\$0
A	7410 44903	DGS Shared Services Charges			\$0	\$0	\$1,436	\$1,436	\$0
Subtotal for: Contractual Expenses					\$0	\$0	\$293,439	\$293,439	\$0
Fringe Benefits									
A	7410 89010	State Retirement			\$0	\$0	\$29,772	\$29,772	\$0
A	7410 89030	Social Security			\$0	\$0	\$33,225	\$33,225	\$0
A	7410 89060	Hospital and Medical Insurance			\$0	\$0	\$49,308	\$49,308	\$0
Subtotal for: Fringe Benefits					\$0	\$0	\$112,305	\$112,305	\$0
Total Appropriations					\$0	\$0	\$1,019,696	\$1,019,696	\$0
Revenue									
A7410	02025	Special Rec Fac Charges			\$0	\$0	(\$500,000)	(\$500,000)	\$0
A7410	02410	Rental Of Real Property			\$0	\$0	(\$37,729)	(\$37,729)	\$0
Total Revenue					\$0	\$0	(\$537,729)	(\$537,729)	\$0
County Share					\$0	\$0	\$481,967	\$481,967	\$0