

Parks and Recreation Department

April 2024 Monthly Report

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

3/1/24 – 3/31/24

March was an exciting month, as programs and events are starting to move outside, and field and facility reservations opened to residents and community members.

- OPRA Foundation Grant
 - An OPRA Foundation Grant was awarded to the Parks and Recreation Department for two communication boards, located at Village Green Park playground and Adventure Park playground. The grant amount was \$1,500 with matching funds in the form of installation and landscaping. The boards will allow non-traditional communicators the opportunity to express their feelings, needs, and wants when enjoying our playgrounds and splashpad. We are excited to add these communication boards to our parks and provide inclusive and equitable spaces for our users.
- Bunny Hop
 - Over 250 children enjoyed visiting with the Bunny during our annual Bunny Hop. Families were able to reserved photo times and each child received a goodie bag and craft. The Powell Youth Council volunteered for this event and helped stuff over 200 bags, and created the photo backdrop. Volunteers also helped during the event with check in, passing out items and managing the photo line.
- Tree City USA
 - The City of Powell has again been recognized as a Tree City USA. We have been a proud Tree City USA location since 1998. The Tree City USA program has been greening up cities and towns across America since 1976. It is a nationwide movement that provides the framework necessary for communities to manage and expand their public trees. More than 3,400 communities have made the commitment to becoming a Tree City USA.
- COSI and Delaware County Libraries Partnership
 - As a partner in the COSI Science Festival, the Parks and Recreation Department qualified for 500 free Solar Eclipse themed learning lunchboxes. Boxes were distributed by the Delaware County District Libraries at the Powell and Liberty branches. Boxes included eclipse themed science experiments and a pair of eclipse glasses.

- Facility and Field Reservations
 - Spring/Summer (April 1 – October 31) facility and field reservations opened to residents on March 4th and non-residents March 18th. Seldom Seen baseball/softball fields were completely reserved in the first 30 minutes, and shelters were booked for graduation parties, birthday parties and more.