



Standish Parks & Recreation

Annual Report
FY17 (July 1, 2016 – June 30, 2017)

MISSION:

The Parks & Recreation Department is committed to improving the quality of life in Standish by providing exceptional community experiences through diverse recreation programs and parks for people of all ages.

YOUTH SPORTS PHILOSOPHY:

Keep it simple. Make it fun. Everybody plays.

Who We Are & What We Do

PARKS & FACILITIES:

Our public park system includes four unique parks managed by the Parks & Recreation Department and covering more than 67 acres of land located at Johnson Field Activity Center, Memorial Park, Mill Street Park and Steep Falls Ballfield. These facilities are devoted to providing health, recreation and educational opportunities, including: community meeting space, athletic fields, basketball and tennis courts, skate boarding park, outdoor exercise equipment, ice skating rinks and playgrounds. Recreational programming and community special events offered within and outside of these facilities enrich the lives of all people and make Standish a more beautiful and enjoyable place to live.

SPECIAL EVENTS:

Special events play a vital role in our community. The volunteers of the Standish Recreation Committee, the Standish Summer Spectacular Committee, local businesses and our recreation staff plan and implement annual special events that include: free movies in the park, Halloween Spooktacular, Breakfast with the Easter Bunny, Holiday Tree Lighting, ice skating parties and the 3-day Standish Summer Spectacular with fireworks, a parade, community marketplace and entertainment held at the Boat Launch.



PROGRAMMING FOR ALL AGES:

Throughout the year, the Parks & Recreation Department offered 145 programs for 348 adults and 1005 kids. Our 7-week summer rec camp took place at both Edna Libby School (grades K-3) and George E Jack School (grades 4 -9) where 33 staff members covered 425 hours of day camp activities including games, field trips, swimming, crafts and special events. The school year kicked off with our 18th year of the After School Program and the 5th year of the Before School Program. There were a total of 116 registrations for children in grades K-5. Additional programs throughout the year included a soccer program for boys and girls ages 4 – grade 8, a girls’ basketball program for grades 2 – 6, vacation week camps and after school enrichment programs such as Mad Science, Kids’ Harvest, Dance, Animal Shelter Helpers, Track & Field, Basketball Skills Clinics, Red Cross Babysitting and more.

For adults, we offered Line Dancing and Tai Chi at the Municipal Center. The senior newsletter is distributed quarterly and highlights many events taking place in Standish and surrounding communities. In addition to many senior programs offered at the Municipal Center including the Active Seniors lunches, bridge, movies, potluck social, entertainment, and Mah Jong, we also coordinated day trips and overnights for seniors on the go! This year we traveled to Stone Mt. Arts Center, Quilt Shops, Historical Society Trips, Merrill Auditorium for Pippin, Celtic Women and the Magic of Christmas, Romeo & Juliet at Portland Players, Fiddler on the Roof at the Me. State Music Theater, Lake Winnepesaukee Cruise, Hart’s Turkey Farm, Fryeburg Fair, Washington DC, New Brunswick, Montreal, and Quebec City, Canada, Aroostook County, Portsmouth Foodie Tour and more.

STAFF & VOLUNTEERS:

Parks and Recreation delivers quality customer service through its seasonal and fulltime employees, nearly 45 members strong, who are charged with creating an environment that is safe, active, beneficial and fun for all. Our department processed 2165 registrations this year – 529 of them were from first-time participants. Our on-line registration software provides easy access to program registration and information any time of day. We value the community’s commitment and support, including volunteer efforts from over 75 individuals on behalf of Parks and Recreation, and we constantly seek new and innovative ways to help serve the public.

The Standish Recreation Committee is a nine-member committee appointed by the Town Council. Members provide input to the Director for the operation of parks and recreation programs, events and facilities and engage in fund-raising activities on behalf of the community. The committee meets monthly to help plan and promote community events throughout the year. New members are always welcome.

