

Parks and Recreation Annual Report

September 2009-August 2010

A message from the Director.

It is with great pleasure I present the annual report to the West Branch Community, detailing special programs, events, and new projects that were undertaken in 2009-2010. West Branch Parks and Recreation continues to grow due to the tremendous support of the West Branch community and the City of West Branch. Volunteers assist with coaching, field maintenance, and special community events. This year, we have also received donations, both in monetary form and prizes. The donations have enabled Parks and Recreation to keep fees low for participants.

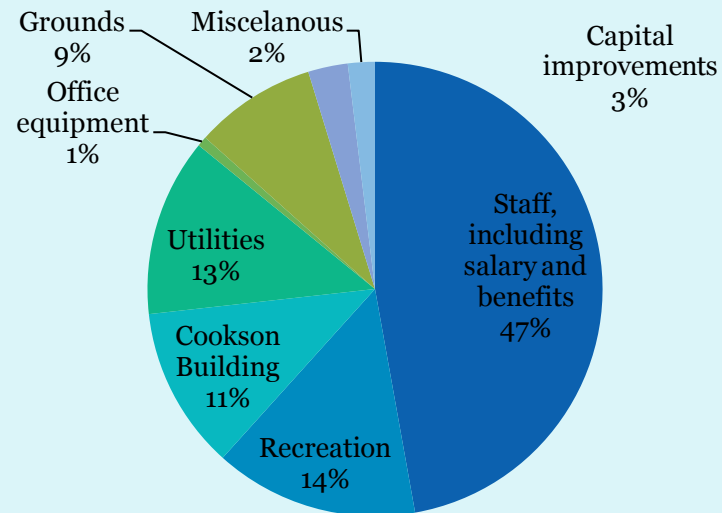
The greatest challenge of the upcoming year will be developing comprehensive plans for park facilities, trails, and building needs. I am looking forward to the continued growth of existing programs and the development of new ones. Thank you for your continued support of Parks and Recreation.....

Melissa Russell

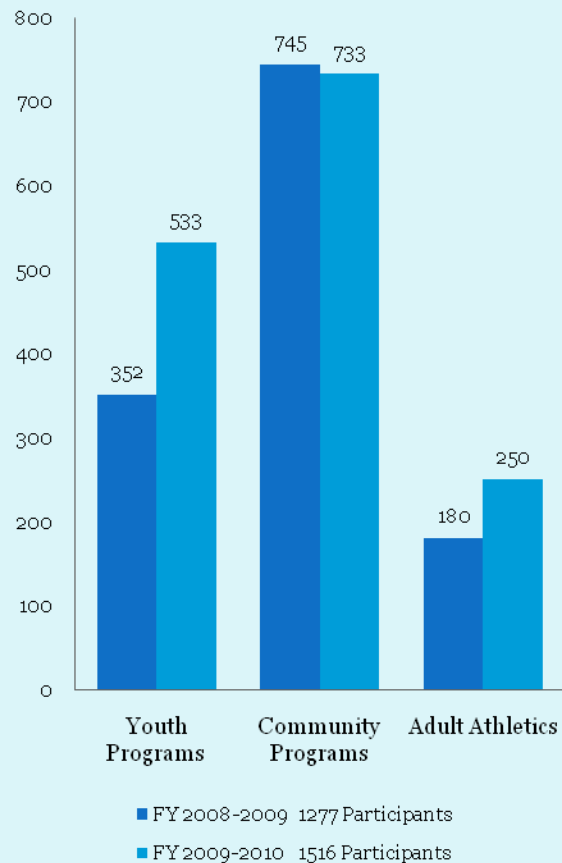
Budget Spending

Total spending: \$ 93,643

Staff (including benefits)	\$44175
Recreation	\$13588
Cookson Building(including maintenance and contracts)	\$10821
Utilities (including telephone, gas, and electric)	\$11843
Office Supplies	\$662
Grounds(including equipment , chemicals, and supplies)	\$8114
Capital improvements	\$2648
Miscellaneous(miscellaneous, dues, and liability insurance)	\$1795



Participation in Parks and Recreation programs continued to grow this past year. The slight dip in community program attendance can be attributed to the cancellation of the Scarecrow Festival and the discontinuation of Trivia Nights. I anticipate the growth to continue over the next year. Over the next few pages ,you will see a specific breakdown of participation in the different programs.



Adult and Community Programs 2009-2010

Adult Athletics

Harvey Peden Sand Volleyball League	110 Participants	11 Teams
All Night Volleyball Tournament	120 Participants	12 teams
Women's Running Group	10 Participants	
Fall Fitness Class	10 Participants	
Total	250 Participants	

Community Programs

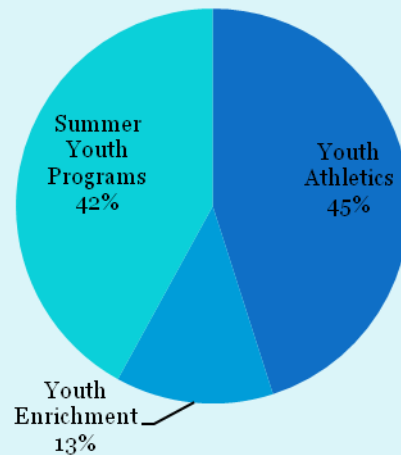
Christmas Past	300 Participants
Frosty Frenzy	133 Registrations
Easter Egg Hunt	200 Participants
Trivia Nights	100 Participants
Total Participation	733 Participants



Youth Programs



Youth Programs
526 participants



Athletics

Preschool Spring Soccer	30 Registrations
Pre K-2 nd grade Flag Football	44 Registrations
Preschool Tball	58 Registrations
3 rd -4 th grade Girls Volleyball	21 Registrations
5 th -6 th Grade Girls Volleyball	28 Registrations
5 th -6 th Grade Coed Track and Field	46 Registrations
Tumbling	10 Registrations

Youth Enrichment Activities

Craft Classes	5 Registrations
Preschool Classes	30 Participants
Preschool Playgroup	3 Participants
Early Outs	30 Participants

Summer Recreation Programs

Swimming Lesson Bus	47 Registrations
Fun City Bus Trip	25 Registrations
Lunch Bunch	60 Participants
Slip and Slide @ Cookson	50 Participants
Park and Recreation Summer Camp	39 Registrations



Park and Recreation Facilities

Trails

- Parks and Recreation applied and was granted assistance through the Rivers and Trails Conservation Assistance Program(RTCA).
- The RTCA program will provide technical assistance to the City for one year and may be renewed for a second year, if warranted. RTCA will help with the development of a comprehensive trail plan as well as lend assistance identifying potential sources for trail funding.



Beranek Park

- Several swings were replaced in Spring 2010.
- The park shelter continues to be reserved has been reserved 38 times from September 2009-August 2010.

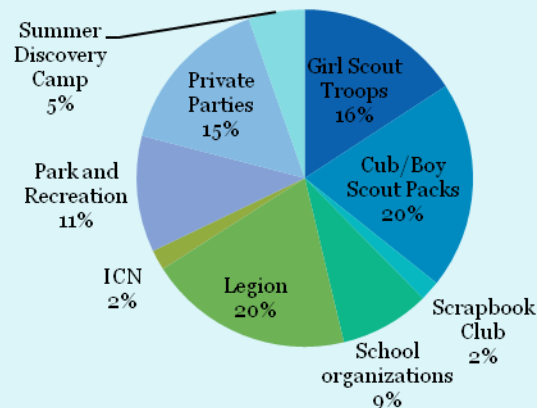
Lions Soccer Field

- Lions Soccer Field was reseeded and fertilized in the Spring of 2010. Because of the reseeding Parks and Recreation looked for alternative locations for activities such as soccer and T-ball.
- Isaac DeJong build the shelter in spring 2010 as an Eagle Scout Project.
- Trees were planted in the summer of 2010 and paid for through a grant from Trees Forever.



Cookson Community Center

Cookson Community Center is utilized by many community groups for meeting and activity space. It is the City Policy to not charge non profit organizations for the use of the Community Center. There is a rental fee charged for other gatherings consistent with Town Hall policies. Group use has declined over the past year. It is difficult to get an accurate number of how many people use the building since many of the activities occur after normal business hours. Below you will find the percentages of how often the different groups use Cookson Community Center.



Program Highlights and Photos

Blank Park Zoo
Animal Program.



One of the events during summer camp was hiking and fishing at Cedar Valley Park. The Conservationist planned and led the activities at the park.



This was the first year for the Frosty Frenzy 5K. The Frosty Frenzy occurred during Christmas past. Participation was greater than expected with 133 registrations. Next year more volunteers will be needed to make this a success.



Summer camp was a huge success this year. Participation was greater than expected. I am hopeful this program can be expanded next summer.



Preschool T-ball took place at the Little League Field at the High School. T-ball was divided into 2 divisions. The Pee Wee division played May-June and the Rookies played July-August.