

Peters Township Parks & Recreation



2021 ANNUAL REPORT

Parks & Recreation Annual Report Index

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From the Director



Mission Statement

The Parks and Recreation Department exists to provide meaningful recreation and leisure opportunities through program offerings and the provision of parks, special use areas and facilities. The Parks and Recreation Department wishes to create a positive relationship between staff, volunteers and the public through mutual respect and consideration.

In this report you will see some great accomplishments that happened in the Parks and Recreation Department throughout 2021. We finished the ADA Improvements and Playground project in Peterswood Park, construction began on the new Rolling Hills Park, we redesigned the Rolling Hills Aquatic Facility to fit our anticipated budget and so much more. But who would have thought that we would still be under restrictions and dealing with the COVID-19 Pandemic? I guess the good thing is, we have gotten pretty good at it.

2020 taught us to roll with the punches and adjust as we go. We figured out how to offer programs and events within the limitations set forth by the Pennsylvania Health Department. The things that we learned in 2020 rolled into 2021 and we continued to do what we do best, successfully engage the community in Parks and Recreation.

This pandemic has been a roller coaster of ups and downs and although we were still not out of the woods at the end of 2021 restrictions became less as we made our way through the year. We were able to begin operating in a way that looked more normal, however we are still limiting participation in a way to provide adequate spacing as necessary. We always try to look for the positive in things, and a positive that came from the pandemic is that many more people began using our parks and participating in our events such as the concerts, etc. Over the last two years Parks and Recreation Departments across Pennsylvania as well as across the country, have dealt with the COVID-19 Pandemic differently. Some departments closed completely for extended periods of time while other offered only virtual or take home activities. The Peters Township Parks and Recreation feels fortunate to have been able to stay open for the majority of the time and offer in person programming. Although the programming looked a little different at times with the mask requirements, social distancing and participation limitations, it provided some much needed sense of normalcy in such a crazy time.

Early in 2021 the Peter Township Fire Department coordinated with both Hill Top Pharmacy and Washington Health System to provide COVID-19 vaccination clinics at the Community Recreation Center. We coordinated with the Fire Department, Public Works, the business and IT for the floor covers and the set-up necessary to conduct those clinics. Initially we had one day clinics with a follow up for second shots 4 weeks following. By March one side of the gym was set up for regular use of Washington Health System for a vaccination clinic. That clinic continued through the end of June.

2019 prior all of the craziness, we had one of our best years as far as participation and revenues. Although 2021 did not beat those numbers, you will see in this report that even with some challenges, we came close to the numbers we saw in 2019.

One major issue that 2021 brought us was staffing. The year prior while many business and colleges were shut-down, we had a number of our staff that were college students, attending college virtually from home that were able to work for us. Once things began to open, those college students went back to school in person. In addition to these students going back to school the job market was booming and some recent college graduates that were working for us left because they found their "dream" jobs. Finding part-time staff continues to be a challenge.

We have so many new and exciting things on the horizon we cannot wait to see what 2022 and the next several years hold for the Parks and Recreation Department.

**Parks & Recreation Director
Michele Harmel, CPRP**

Peters Township Parks



Peterswood Park Peterswood Park (133 acres)

- New Outdoor Amphitheater
- 5 Ball Fields
- 4 Multi-Use Fields
- 1 Synthetic Turf Field
- 3 Playgrounds



Arrowhead Trail



Arrowhead Trail

- 3.5 miles paved surface trail
- Runs from Route 19 to Brush Run Rd

Tennis Center



Tennis Center

- 4 Har Tru Clay Courts
- 5 Deco Courts

Peters Lake Park



Peters Lake Park (189 acres)

- Natural Walking Trail
- Fishing Pier/Kayak Launch

Elm Grove Park



Elm Grove Park (14 acres)

- 1 Ball Field
- 1 Multi-Use Field

Venetia Park



Venetia Park (7 acres)

- 2 Ball Fields
- 1 Multi-Use Field

Rees Park



Rees Park (15 acres)

- 1 Ball Field
- 1 Multi-Use Field

Old Trail Park

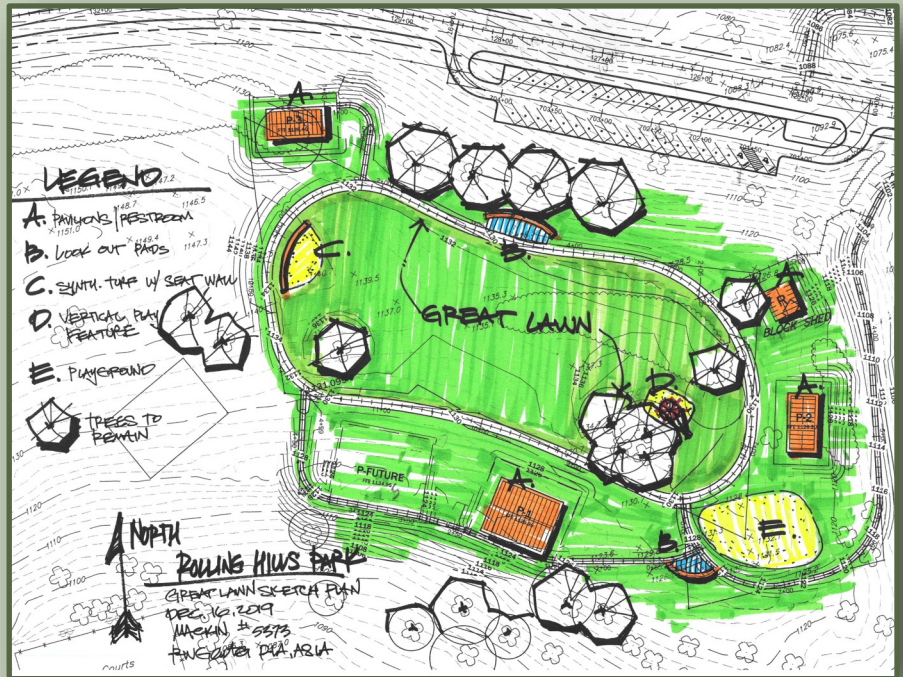
Old Trail (7 acres neighborhood park)

Rolling Hills Park

Rolling Hills (90 acres community park)

Phase 2 construction in progress
Aquatic Facility design in progress

In the Peters Township Comprehensive Recreation, Parks and Open Space Plan that was completed in 2016 it identified that there was a need for additional park property on the western portion of the Township. Shortly after that plan was completed, the Township became aware that the former Rolling Hills Country Club was selling their property. This property is located in an area that would fulfill this need. The Township and the School District worked together to acquire the former Rolling Hills Country Club property with the intent to build a new High School on one half and develop the other as a community park to be named Rolling Hills Park. In 2018 Mackin Engineering completed the Master Plan for Rolling Hills Park.



ROLLING HILLS Park Development

The first obstacle that needed to be tackled was the main roadway that would connect from East McMurray Road to Center Church Road and would service both the High School and the park. This project was a joint effort between the School District and Township and was not free from challenge, but all worked out in the end. In 2020 after Rolling Hills Drive construction was underway, the Township went out to bid for the development of phase 2 Rolling Hills Park. Phase 2 includes the roadways, walking and biking paths (including connection to the Arrowhead Trail), infrastructure, a Park Maintenance Building as well as the Great Lawn area. The Great Lawn area includes three picnic shelters, a playground, a restroom facility, outlook areas and terminus features. Due to the

unexpected cost of the treehouse type terminus feature, it was removed from this phase of construction and will be built separately and hopefully partially funded by a grant. A contract for this project was executed with A. Liberoni, Inc. and construction began in 2021. We anticipate the completion of this project and ribbon cutting in 2022.

We look forward to all of the opportunities that this new park will offer not just for everyday use but for programming and some of our most popular special events as well as some new and exciting ones that we are planning.



Rolling Hills Park Aquatic Facility

An aquatic facility has always been a hot topic in Peters Township and one of the most requested facilities by the community members, including in the most recent Comprehensive Recreation, Parks and Open Space Plan. The main constraint to building this type of facility has always been that we simply did not have property to properly house it. When the Township decided to purchase the Rolling Hills property for the purpose of a community park, this constraint no longer existed. When we hired Mackin Engineering to do a Master Plan for the park, they were instructed to dedicate space in the plan for an aquatic facility. Mackin completed this plan in 2018.

In 2020 a design team led by Kimmel Bogrette Architecture + Site was hired by the Township to design an aquatic facility for Rolling Hills Park. We established an Aquatic Facility Design Committee consisting of Parks and Recreation Board members, Council Members and Township Administration. We held our kick-off meeting in August of 2020. A very aggressive time-line for the project had been established with the intent to have a ribbon cutting for this facility Memorial Day 2022. The purpose for the expedited schedule was because Council really wanted to put something significant on the property so that the \$7.5 million investment in the property did not sit fallow and unused for a length of time.

Once the project design was complete it was sent out to bid, however when we opened bids, the cost of the project was significantly higher than anticipated. So at the direction of Council in 2021 we held an open house and conducted a survey to gain input on what those in the community prioritized. We then went back to the drawing board to adjust the scale of the project with the intent to bring the cost within the anticipated budget. The design firm had the revisions mostly complete by the end of 2021. At the end of the year we were notified of 2 significant grants that the Township was awarded for this aquatic facility. First was a \$2million RCAP grant and second was a \$631,000 grant from the DCNR. There was one final grant that we had applied for that we had not been notified about before the end of the year, however, since then we have been informed that we received an additional \$200,000 from the Washington County LSA Grant. These grants will make a significant impact on this project for Peters Township and surrounding areas.

There is no other public facility in southwest Pennsylvania similar to what we are designing. This facility will not only service Peters Township residents, it will service our entire region, including Washington county and Southern Allegheny county. A market study was done to establish the need for such a facility in our area and the results show, overwhelmingly that we have the audience to support an aquatic facility of this nature. Below is an initial schematic design which is still a work in progress.



Park Improvements

In 2008 JMT completed a master site plan for the expansion to Peterswood Park. Included in that plan what they called a Tot Lot (playground) behind the concession stand and restroom building. In 2012 we held a ribbon cutting for the opening of the Park Expansion which included everything except the Tot Lot.

When we hired Pashek in 2016 to complete the Comprehensive Recreation, Parks and Open Space Plan, we asked them to identify as part of that plan all of the ADA improvements throughout our parks and facilities that would be necessary for us to be in full compliance. Since that plan was completed we have been working diligently to bring everything into compliance.

In 2019 the DCNR awarded us a matching grant in the amount of \$150,000 for construction of the new playground in the Peterswood Park Expansion which will complete everything identified in that master site plan, as well as complete the remaining ADA improvements throughout Peterswood Park. In 2020 we hired Mackin Engineering to design the project and Murin and Murn Inc. were hired for construction while Jeffrey Associates were contracted to supply the playground equipment, amenities, poured in place surface and installation. The project was completed in 2021.



The Township received a grant to install ADA access to both the multi-purpose field and the 2 small baseball fields at Venetia Park. At one point the deck on the concession stand was built by the Baseball Association to provide viewing to those that were not able to access the fields. Access to these fields has posed quite the challenge. This project finally provided a solution to our access problems and brings us one step closer to being completely ADA accessible in our parks and facilities. The project began in the fall of 2021 with some minor work to be completed in 2022.



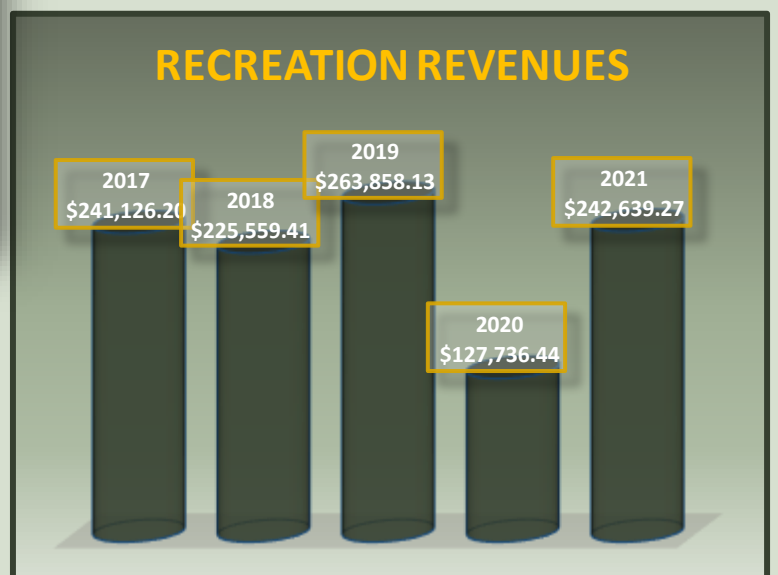
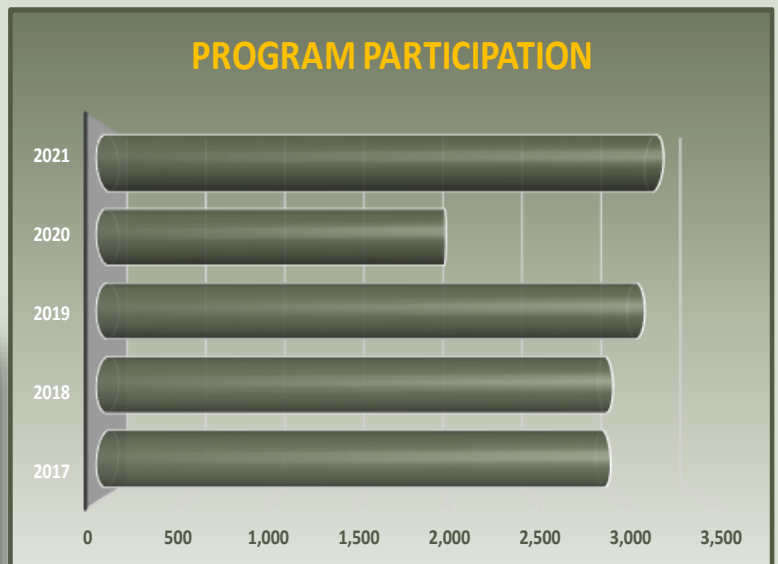
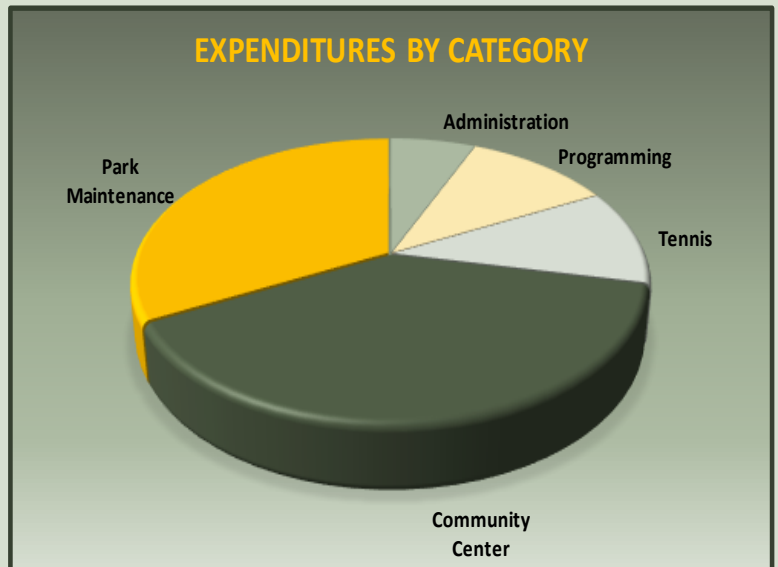
Administration

The Peters Township Parks and Recreation Department is made up of 9 full-time staff, typically 13 part-time staff, independent contractors, seasonal employees and volunteers. Our departmental budget is broken down into five categories of which you can see the 2020 expenditure chart to the right.

Included in the Administration portion of our department and budget are things such as office supplies, copy machine contracts, training and membership expenses.

A big challenge that we faced in 2021 was staffing. Since many of the college students returned to school in person, our available part-time staff between the Recreation Center and Tennis Center dropped to 4. Because the job market was so robust and it seemed everyone was hiring, we also lost a couple of our full-time staff to their "dream" jobs. So like many others we spent a good part of 2021 advertising, interviewing and trying to hire new staff.

Kristen Martin was hired in June 2021 as a Recreation Supervisor. She previously was the Programming Coordinator for Hempfield Township where she planned and organized similar events. She is excited to be a part of the Peters Township Parks Department and contribute to the success of our programs and events. She hopes to bring in more members to the recreation department by providing fun and exciting events for the community!



The three main sources of advertising that we use in the Parks and Recreation Department is the bi-monthly InPeters Township Magazine, our email blasts and social media, specifically Facebook. The number of people that follow and like us on Facebook is a slow continuous climb. At the end of 2021 we had 4,029 likes compared to the 3,303 at the end of 2020.



Parks & Recreation Professionals Day



The PA House and Senate recognizes July 19 as Park and Recreation Professionals Day
House Resolution No. 370 Senate Resolution No. 148 Adopted June 4, 2019 The Pennsylvania House and the Pennsylvania Senate on Tuesday each passed resolutions designating and celebrating July 19 as Pennsylvania Park and Recreation Professionals Day in the Commonwealth.

" WHEREAS, This Commonwealth is home to 121 State parks, more than 6,000 local parks, various Federal parks and recreation facilities and numerous playgrounds, pools, beaches, campsites, marinas, picnic areas, athletic fields, skate parks, dog parks, festival venues, gardens, visitor centers, historic and cultural attractions and many other recreational facilities and amenities; and *WHEREAS, The value and relative importance that Pennsylvanians place on State parks is demonstrated by the fact that while Pennsylvania is the 33rd largest state, only Alaska and California have more state park land; and WHEREAS, United States Census Bureau data confirms that there are nearly 8,000 full-time and part-time park and recreation employees working in this Commonwealth; and WHEREAS, Park and recreation professionals, complemented by thousands of volunteers who serve on boards, committees, trails, friends and neighborhood groups, contribute significantly to the health, well-being, economic vitality and quality of life of citizens of this Commonwealth of all ages; and WHEREAS, Park and recreation professionals bring life-enriching services to citizens of all ages and abilities, work to keep facilities clean, safe and ready to use, strengthen community cohesion and resiliency, connect people with nature and each other, develop and manage a wide range of public programming and provide and promote opportunities for healthy living, social equity and environmental sustainability; therefore be it RESOLVED, That the House [and Senate] of Representatives recognize and celebrate July 19, 2019, as "Pennsylvania Park and Recreation Professionals Day" in this Commonwealth and extend its thanks and gratitude to park and recreation professionals and the essential services that they provide to our citizens and our communities. *Language appearing in Senate resolution.

To acknowledge the Parks and Recreation Staff on Parks and Recreation Professionals Day here in Peters Township the Parks and Recreation Director Michele Harmel worked with the Cable Television Department to have some nice pictures taken to share on Facebook. The staff always does a great job providing programs, maintaining the parks and facilities, working with members and soooo much more! But over the last two years in dealing with the challenges and restrictions from the pandemic yet providing quality parks and programs they deserve a big shout out! Thank you to all of the Parks and Recreation staff for all you do!



Meet PT Parks & Recreation Full-Time Staff

Jay Mizia

My name is John Mizia Jr. People call me Jay. I began working for Peters Township on April 23, 1996 as a laborer. I eventually achieved the position of light equipment operator and spent twenty five plus, years between the two positions. Then on February 21, 2011 I was offered the position of Park Maintenance Supervisor which I was happy to accept. I have enjoyed my twenty plus years working for Peters Township. The opportunity to work outdoors is something that I have always enjoyed and the diverse types of jobs I encounter keep my job interesting. I have had the opportunity to meet and interact with many interesting people throughout the township from both sports associations and the general public within the many parks we maintain. I look forward to continuing to improve and maintain the exceptional park system within the township.

Becky Goodwin_Sopko

In 2006 I was hired as the Recreation Secretary for the Peters Township Parks and Recreation Department now 16 years later I have watched the Department grow and thrive. Still after all these years I see my position as the first person that the public encounters and I strive to make that a positive experience even if the answer is no. This is all possible with the tools that I have to work with, given to us from our Township and our Recreation Director. In my role as secretary I have a close working relationship with all the instructors that offer programs at the Recreation Center. Still my favorite part of my job is "The Witch of the Woods" at our annual Haunted Trail. I look forward in continuing the job of Secretary and being in the supporting role department and its continued growth.

Lisa Morris

I began working in the Peters Township Parks and Recreation Department as a Recreation Supervisor in April of 2015. In my 6 years here, I have experienced and learned so much. I absolutely love providing programs and events for our residents and look forward to offering new experiences for them in the future. I feel grateful to work for a township and a community who values and supports the work we do.

Kristen Martin

I have been a part of the Recreation Staff for a little over seven months now as a Recreation Supervisor. I have grown to love the tight-knit community that Peters Township and the Recreation Community Center has. I love meeting new people and everyone that I have come to know here so far has been nothing but kind. My real passion is planning and organizing events that bring people together in a fun and leisurely way. I love watching people have fun! I hope to continue to grow in this position and offer more for our residents for the years to come.

Ian Sopko

I began working as the full-time recreation attendant in August of 2021. As the attendant, I am responsible for taking care of administrative tasks as well as general maintenance around the facility. Since the beginning, I have had the pleasure of meeting new people on a daily basis and assist them in answering their questions. I look forward to continuing to help provide an exceptional experience for all those who visit our Tennis Center.

Patty Bahr

I started working at the Peters Township Recreation Center as the Full Time Recreation Attendant in September 2021. Leaving behind the stressful life of the health care industry after 27 years. I was hired to work the front desk; meeting and greeting each and every person that enters the facility, helping people to enroll as a member, register for classes, answering township questions, renting out the facility or shelter within the Parks. I work with a great team of people, both full time staff and part time. Born and raised in Peters Township, and now working for the Township; I love that I get to meet and interact with so many interesting people every day, especially love helping the senior citizens of the township. I can actually say "I love my job". I look forward to being a part of a growing department within the township.

Programming

SPECIAL EVENTS

With Covid-19 still affecting our programs and events we have become accustomed to making changes and accommodations daily. With some events unable to safely run we have created new and more one-day programs for our residents and members to get involved in! We aim to reach each age group to make sure we offer activities that all can get involved in. In order to safely hold some of our special events this year we had to make a few modifications to our already successful events such as limiting registrations. We found what worked best was to set up time blocks for participants to attend at a designated time allotted to them. We also spaced our time out longer for some events to eliminate traffic and this helped with crowd control that made for things to be more organized. Each year our department offers many special events throughout the year that have continued to be successful. This year compared to last, we noticed that a lot of families were ready to get out in the community and it shows in our numbers!

The Princess Ball was our first event and unfortunately, it was too risky to hold indoors at the time. Instead, we offered take home kits for the girls and fathers to enjoy a night at home together! This box acted as a place holder for the 2022 event, all that purchased a Princess Ball box had the opportunity to pre-register. Registration for 2022 was held on December 27th and sold out in 2 hours. We really look forward to hosting this very popular event again soon.

In March we held our first “in-person” event of the year, the Egg Scramble. We eliminated our usual indoor Bunny Hop and moved everything outside in accordance with Covid- 19. The event provided children with a fun egg hunt and a visit from their favorite bunny!



Our annual Fishing Derby included a fun day of prizes, treats, and of course, fishing! We had 54 elementary-aged children competing to win one of our four big prizes and trophies. Categories included first fish, biggest fish, smallest fish, and most fish. Every child gets a treat bag and a door prize just for participating. The highlight of the event this year was a 24.75 inch fish... our biggest catch ever! A special thank you goes out to the McMurray Rotary and our many donors in helping to once again make this event a huge success.

HALLOWEEN EVENTS

Each year, the beginning of October brings our Haunted Trail, which was themed “Trail of Terror” this year. With the help of our many volunteers we offered a spooky weekend along Peterswood Park Arrowhead Trail Connector that had guest screaming and jumping all night! For this event we also offer a “Kids Haunted Trail” earlier on Saturday that allows our younger crowd to walk through and meet the actors without all the fright. Even with the modifications made to this event this year, we still had an amazing turn out of about 1,754 people. Also in October was our Trick or Treat Trail where little ghouls and goblins collect treats and goodies along our trail provided by local business in the community.



HOLIDAY KICK-OFF EVENT

Finally, our last event of 2021 was our Christmas Kickoff Event formerly, the Holiday Tree Lighting. We held this year’s event at the Community Recreation Center and scheduled at specific times to help with spacing and over crowdedness. The Christmas Kickoff Event had Santa & Mrs. Clause meet with all the good boys and girls and each child received a bag full of goodies that were donated from our amazing sponsors. The library supplied take home crafts and the Fire Department along with some volunteers provided fun interactive games that were a big hit! Children also had the opportunity to write to Santa and put their wish list in our mailbox to the North Pole! We had approximately 220 participants this year.



SUMMER DAY CAMPS

Warm summer days mean summer camps! Camps were offered for 4 weeks in July and August for ages 4 to 6 and 7 to 11. As a result of COVID-19 and the inability to move indoors, make-up weeks were scheduled in case of inclement weather. All of our camps offer age-appropriate, themed activities, which include field games, sports, arts and crafts, and special guests. This year’s weekly themes were Island Adventure, Call of the Wild, Up Up & Away, and Party Animals. Our in-house camps are run by our Summer Intern and Camp Counselors.

AMPHITHEATER EVENTS

Rain or shine, we work hard to bring the best music and entertainment to our outdoor amphitheater. With a loss of some of our other big annual events, our amphitheater became the highlight of the season. Unfortunately, many events were faced with rain, but our staff went above and beyond to make our 2022 a success.

Starting in May instead of July, we increased the number of concerts, which also included the addition of local acoustic acts. Our first “big” concert of the year was *Totally 80’s*. Since we were unable to hold Community Day this year due to COVID-19, our township decided to amp things up with the addition of fireworks following this concert. We estimate the attendance reached over 1,000 people at the concert alone. Each show is complimented with a food truck, which changes with each event. Although one concert had to be cancelled due to a storm and a few had to be moved inside, over-all we had a fantastic concert season.



Friday Night Flicks also run from May through October and feature movies on our huge inflatable screen. Families bring along their chairs, blankets and snacks and enjoy the most popular new and classic movies under the stars. Some of our movies were postponed until 2022 due to inclement weather, but we were able to show *The Croods: A New Age*, *Trolls World Tour*, *Toy Story 4*, *The Karate Kid*, *Onward*, and the original *Angels in the Outfield*.

This year also included several other shows for families to enjoy. *Wild World of Animals* introduced the audience to a variety of exotic animals, including snakes, a tortoise, crocodile, birds, a sloth, and more! The presenter amazed everyone with his knowledge, experience, and passion for his animals. Another popular show was our *Kids Concert* featuring performers singing familiar kid’s songs. Our department offered free activities including a sand art bracelet making station, games, temporary tattoos, hula hoops and beach balls. An ice cream truck was onsite providing families a cold treat on this hot summer day. In August the audience laughed the night away at the Comedy Night. Everyone loved the entertainers, which offered our residents a night of comedy for all ages.



Our summer concerts and events at the amphitheater are made possible through the generosity and support of local businesses. We offer sponsorship levels and benefits at different price options, which allows businesses to participate at a level that fits their budget. In 2021 we brought in \$13,875 in sponsorships from local businesses. It is our goal to increase business participation each year so we can continue offering the kind of entertainment our community has come to know and love.

INSTRUCTOR BASED PROGRAMMING

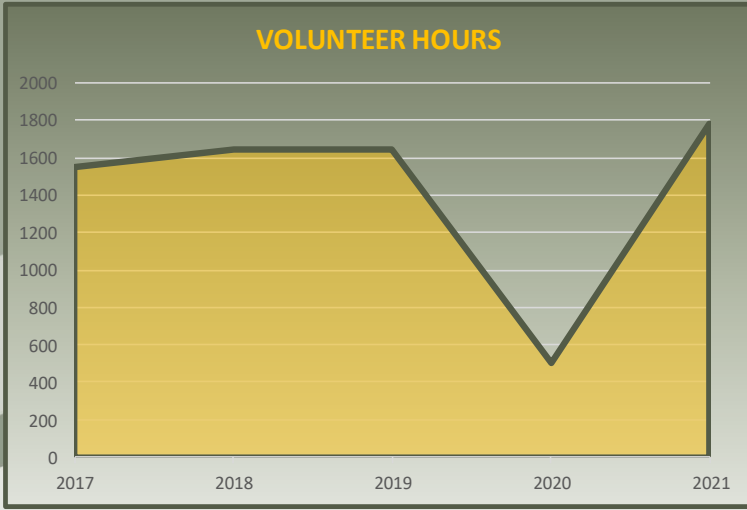
In 2021, the recreation center was able to offer 390 programs to a wide range of age groups from toddlers to Senior citizens. New programs such as Mad Science summer camps and day programs along with Silver Sneakers. Yoga continues to gain popularity. Many of our classes started with low numbers with in-person attendance due to COVID and offerings via ZOOM, but as the year progressed they have increased. The classes with the biggest increases of attendance were our Mixed Yoga and Zumba classes. Youth volleyball interest has been a class that stayed strong throughout 2021 and usually fills up within just a couple hours of registration opening. We will be continuing to expand with more classes and options for all age groups.



2021 Instructors

Adult Volleyball.....	Mitch Patterson
Card Group.....	Rae Helman
Crafting with Cricut.....	Allison Viron
Dance It Out.....	Ashley Wilson
Full Boday Cardio.....	Leeana Hergenreder
Insanity / P90X.....	Ann Bondi
Insanity 30.....	Jessica Berardino Cline
JumpBunch Sports.....	Danielle Rayman
Karate.....	C.S. Kim Karate
Kids Cooking.....	Sarah Wray
Kids Yoga.....	Anita Dextrateur
Pickleball Instruction.....	Laurel Heilman
Science Preschool.....	Mad Science
Silversneakers.....	Suzie Bode
Silversneakers.....	Gerrie Delaney
Theater Classes.....	Lorra Brannen
Total Body Sculpting.....	Jennifer Alexander
Track for Kids.....	Victoria Kern
Volleyball Basics.....	Erin Graybill
Yoga.....	Susan Volkar
Yoga Beg/Intermediate.....	Terry Gustas
Yoga Mixed.....	Gayle Zacharia
Yoga Outdoors.....	Caroline Knight
Youth Hip Hop Dance.....	Meghan Greenwood
Youth Veterinarian classes.....	Lil Medical School of Pittsburgh
Zumba.....	Debbie Colditz
Zumba Gold.....	Gail Witneske

Volunteers



Many of our programs and events are successful thanks to our dedicated volunteers. Whether it be a small event like Parents Night Out or a large event like the Haunted Trail, our volunteers are there to support us and make sure we provide the best experience possible. We are also grateful for the businesses and organizations who volunteer, donate, and offer their services.

	# of Volunteers	# of Hours
Community Day Meeting	9	9
Parents' Night Out	7	22
Preschool	1	2
St. Patrick's Day Treasure Hunt	1	2
Easter Egg Scramble	10	34
Summer Day Camps	10	98
Fishing Derby	8	24
Creative Kids: Nature Suncatchers	1	2
Haunted Trail	85	1,0134
Trick or Treat Trail	91	273
Tween Night	2	4
Beyond Fish & Birds	6	24
Holiday Kickoff	8	21
Senior Luncheons	14	14
Senior Series	6	12
Parking Lot Bingo	34	102
Card Group	1	4
Totals:	294	1,782



Community Recreation Center



Located just inside Peterswood Park, the Recreation Center is two full sized basketball courts, a tenth of a mile elevated walking/running track, multi-purpose room with a small kitchen and bathrooms, conference room, classroom, fitness room with mirrored walls and wood floor and a concession stand that services both inside the center as well as the baseball field adjacent to the center. The Community Recreation Center is also home to the Parks and Recreation Department staff and offices.

In 2020 the Recreation Center went through some changes due the COVID-19 pandemic. We started 2021 with the same restrictions however many of those restrictions were lifted throughout the year and we have been allow larger numbers at a time to enjoy all the Recreation Center has to offer.

The Peters Township Fire Department coordinated with both Hill Top Pharmacy and Washington Health System to provide vaccination clinics in the Community Recreation Center. Initially they were one day clinics with follow-up clinics 4 weeks following for the second vaccination in a series of 2. Eventually, in March, Washington Health System set up a regular operation on one side of the gym where they provided scheduled vaccinations 3—5 days a week. By the end of June the demand had declined so they wrapped up their operation and moved out of the Recreation Center. It was great to be able to offer this service to members of our community and those in surrounding areas.



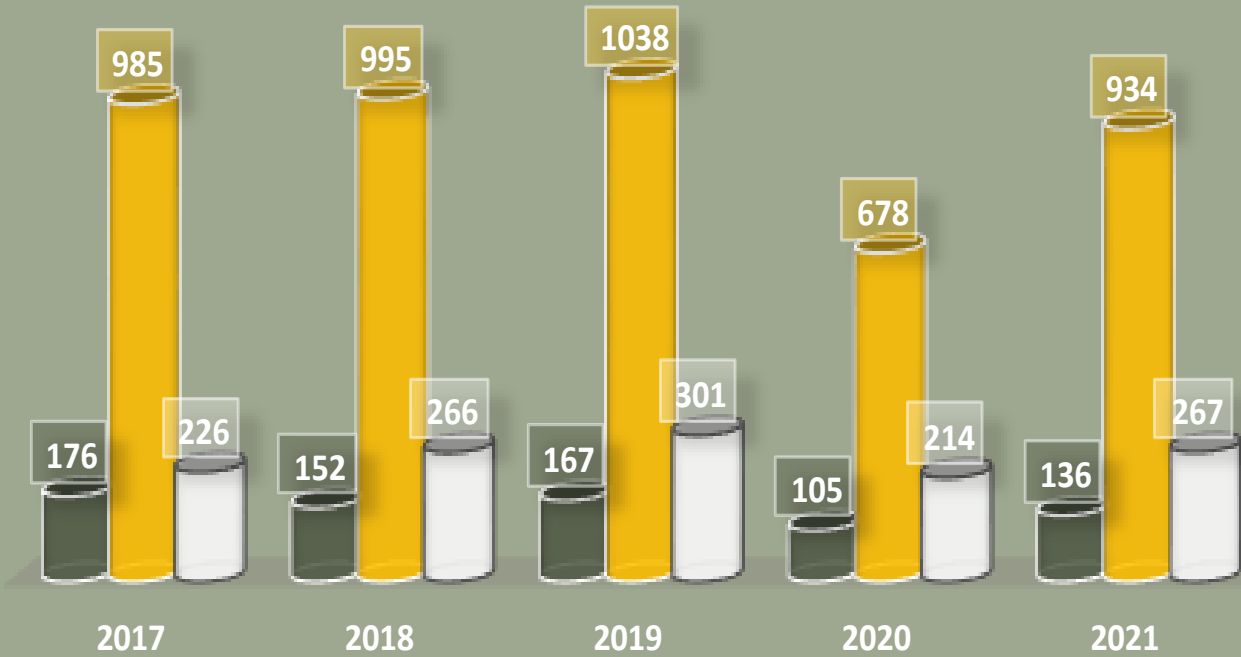
With some of the CARES ACT money the Township received, the Parks and Recreation installed new electric doors at the front entrance of the Community Recreation Center. This not only addressed the ADA access to the building but it also provided touch free access as well. The doors were a great addition to the Community Recreation Center, but we learned early on, during a one day vaccination clinic, that with

large amounts of people coming and going from the facility that the heating units we have inside the doors is not sufficient to keep the cold out. So we have been working to get an air curtain installed to help keep the lobby and hallways warmer during these cold winter months. We hope to have it installed early in 2022.



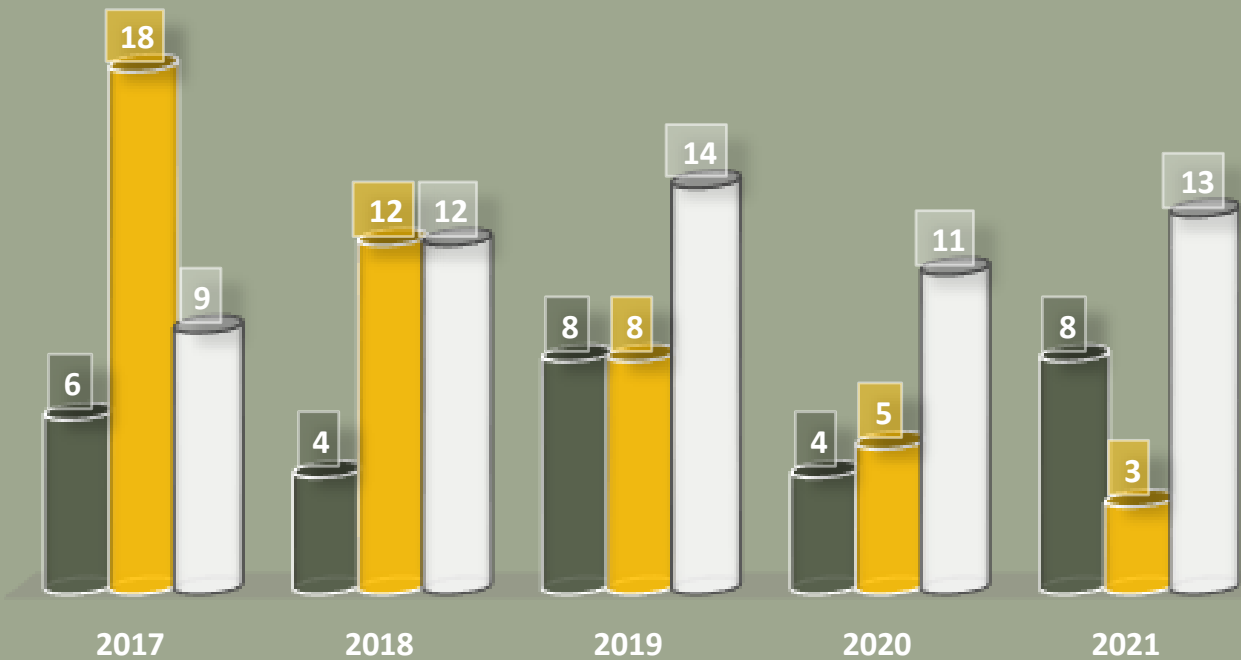
CRC RESIDENT MEMBERSHIPS

Resident Individual
 Resident Family
 Resident Senior Citizen



CRC NON-RESIDENT MEMBERSHIP

Non-Resident Individual
 Non-Resident Family
 Non-Resident Senior Citizen



Tennis



When in full swing, the Peters Township Tennis Center is a very unique facility in Western Pennsylvania. Providing our players with an extensive list of programs including the above mentioned Tournaments, Junior and Adult Programs as well as Pickle Ball and Triples events makes our Tennis Center a great choice for the avid tennis player as well as the many beginners that we present this great game of a lifetime to.

The Peters Township Tennis Center was not without challenges in 2021. After a challenging year in 2020 with closures and limitations due to the COVID-19 pandemic, 2021 started with some of the same restrictions and mandates still in place. As the year went on those limitations became less and less, although COVID is still very real and we continue to proceed cautiously. There were other issues that we continued to work through including limited pro staff and the resignation of our Tennis Center Manager. Once things began to open, many of our part-time staff, left to go back to college in person and some that were newly graduated moved on to full-time careers, this left us with many vacancies on our staff.

We made every effort to hire new staff, but were limited in applicants. So Peters Township Council approved for us to hire some full-time staff to help cover and run the Tennis Center as well as the Community Recreation Center. With the help of a Township Resident who has been involved in our Tennis Center for years and is a USTA Representative as well as a long time user of our facility and very involved in the operation of the Tennis Bubble when it was owned and operated by the Tennis Association, we advertised for a full-time Racquet Sports Manager and received some qualified applications, unfortunately by the end of the year we had offered the position to 2 of the applicants that we had interviewed (both living out of state) but neither accepted the position.

Because of the challenges that we were facing, we were not sure what the future looked like for our Tennis Center. We asked Council how they would like to proceed, to continue to operate the Tennis Center as a full service operation and continue our search to fine the necessary staff to staff and operate the facility and programming or to open the courts up for free play and not charge people for use and not staff the facility. Some Tennis Center Members attended the meeting that Council held this discussion and gave their input and expressed their desire for this to remain a full service facility. Council ultimately decided to continue to maintain this as a full service operation and we would begin our search for a new Racquet Sports Manager. It was decided that the bubble would be installed as usual and we did that successfully in October. We have continued to operate the facility for open court time, development clinics for both youth and adult and private lessons and are hopeful that we will get a manager hired early in 2022.



Park Maintenance

As we moved into 2021 we were still in the midst of the pandemic, following protocols, but still finding a way to get the work done. The year started with less than average snowfall so several projects were accomplished. New hand dryers and baby changing stations were installed at all the restrooms that did not have them. A new bench was installed at the lake and we replaced trash cans and picnic tables at several locations as well as got some painting done at the library. In February the snow moved back in and we spent most of the month clearing roads, parks, the trail, steps and sidewalks. Along with the snow came vaccination clinics at the Community Recreation Center. We set up for and cleaned up after these clinics several times over the next few months.



As the snow eased up and spring began to move in the crew identified a roof and gutter issue on a storage building and was able to make the repairs before they got started on the spring landscaping at the Community Recreation Center and in Peterswood Park. Brush cutting and tree removal on the Arrowhead Trail along with the athletic field maintenance program began as soon as the weather permitted. Towards the end of March seasonal restrooms began to open up and playground inspections started monthly to continue through November. Restrooms are cleaned, sanitized and stocked daily throughout the summer. The mowing program started early in April. The crew mows all open areas once a week and the athletic fields twice a week when possible. During the month the salt trucks were cleaned up, plows and spreaders put away and the trucks were prepared for the summer workload.



With the early change in the weather, and people anxious to get out of their houses, the picnic shelters and playgrounds saw a lot of early use causing us to begin our weekend custodial program six weeks earlier than usual. As usual, at the end of April the crew assisted with the take down of the tennis bubble. They remove lights, net posts, amenities and haul the bubble away to storage for the summer.



Water line Repair



Tree Removal



Water line Repair

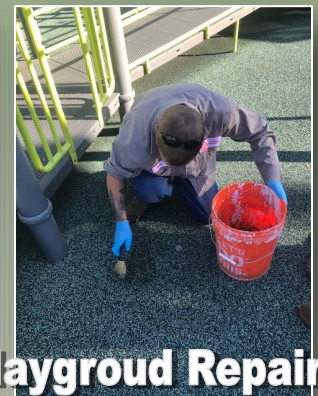
As we moved into summer, activities picked up at the amphitheater. Concerts and Friday Night Flicks led the way in the increasing popularity at the facility. The crew set up for these events weekly by placing trash cans, hanging banners, moving the movie screen, and providing some traffic control, etc. Unfortunately due to the pandemic Community Day and Touch a Truck were cancelled again this year, but the crew stayed busy with several water line and sewer repairs in the parks, extensive tree removal throughout the township and some playground repairs. We also painted lines on the turf field for soccer tournaments and other sports. As we moved through the summer we did get some good news, the Haunted Trail and the Fishing Derby programs were a go. The crew assisted with these programs in many ways, scenes, props, bleachers, fences, and hayrides, etc. As the fall moved in the crew performed year end maintenance on the athletic fields and began to winterize seasonal restrooms and water fountains and put away the summer equipment for the season. The salt trucks, plows and spreaders were prepared for the upcoming snow season. The holiday display was set up at the library and we were able to add some pieces to that display at the Municipal Building, a nice way to signify the end of the year!



Holiday Display



Holiday Display



Playground Repairs

Every year we encounter tasks or projects that are not done on a regular basis, some Highlights from 2021 include; the set-up and clean-up for the COVID 19 vaccination clinics, placement of the voting signage, numerous utility repairs, extensive tree removal, playground repairs, ongoing landscaping at the Municipal Building Police Department and Tennis Center, painting restrooms and bleacher and trash can replacement, Tennis Pro Shop improvements and CRC roof repairs and tile replacement.



Parks and Recreation Board

In October we lost a long standing and integral part of the Parks and Recreation Board Pat Airhart. To say the least, the loss of Pat will leave a huge void in the Parks and Recreation Board not just because of his longevity, but because he was so revered by not only our department but those in the sports groups and throughout our community. He provided so much to our Board and most importantly, he was always calm and provided such a voice of reason. We are so grateful and honored to have had Pat lead our Board, he left some very big shoes to fill. He will be fondly remembered and greatly missed. Thank you for your dedication and service Pat!



The Peters Township Parks and Recreation Board is an advisory board to advise and recommend to Peters Township Council in conjunction with the Parks and Recreation Director on policies and practices, promote recreation and park services, participate in initiation, review and recommending development and monitors the compliance from the sports associations. Three of the seven board members are recommended by Peters Township School Board. The intent of this method was to have involvement and input by individuals associated with the school because we work so closely with them by sharing fields, facilities and of course common participants.

The Parks and Recreation Board spends a significant amount of time reviewing the documentation from our 10 youth sports associations and dealing with issues as they arise. As stated in their by-laws they feel strongly that the purpose of its recreational sports programs is to encourage and develop in children a love for sports in a safe and positive environment, while teaching skill development, teamwork, and sportsmanship.

In 2021 the board worked with the Parks and Recreation Director on reviewing Sports Association Documentation as well as some special park requests, capital budget prioritization, etc. After the passing of Pat Airhart the Board made some recommendations to Council to honor and memorialize Pat for his dedication and service.



Board Members

Listed from left to right including years of service:

- Ed Rafferty—7 years
- K.D. Jueci—1 year
- John Hilzendeger—7 years
- Jeff Crummie—13 years
- Pat Airhart—15 Years
Chairman**
- Bill Kinavey— 5 Years
- Brittany Smith—6 years

Sports Associations



There are 10 youth sports associations that the Parks and Recreation Department works directly with. Each of those sports associations has its own board and by-laws by which they are governed. Each association is required to provide the Parks and Recreation required documentation and follow our policies in order to utilize our fields and facilities as well as the School District's.

In November of 2021 the Parks and Recreation Director hosted a sports Alliance meeting. We ask that each association President and Documentation Coordinator attend the meeting or send other Board members in their place if they are unable to attend. These meetings provide an opportunity to discuss our policies and procedures and the documentation requirements to make sure we are all on the same page. It also offers networking between associations and the opportunity to share ideas as well as things that have worked or even not worked for them. It is the chance to ask and answer questions and have open dialog. At this Alliance meeting the Associations were asked to provide meeting and training ideas that the Parks and Recreation could provide for them.



There are many ways that the Township and the Sports Associations work together. Advertising on the field fences and scoreboards is one of many examples of how we partner. Another is when the sports associations propose and financially support improvements to the fields or facilities that they utilize. In 2021 the Township and the Baseball Association worked together to start the conversion of the multi-purpose field at Venetia Park to 2 small Baseball fields. The project will be completed in 2022.



Peters Township Parks and Recreation

2021 Participation Comparison

	2021	2020	2019	2018	2017	2016	2015
EXERCISE							
Ballroom Dancing	0	0	10		21	13	8
Belly/Cardio Dancing	65	42	94	91	88	16	7
Body Sculpt	60	71	108		26		75
Cardio (multiple classes)	40	42	149	154	248	197	176
Women's Self Defense	0	0		2	5	5	
Classic Step	0	0					51
Classic Aerobics	0	0					19
Core and More / Mommy & Me	0	0			6	27	41
Decorating	0	0	2				
Interval Training	18	23	135	48			35
Kick Boxing /Cardio Kick	0	0		13	13	43	55
Boxing Classes	0	0	10	5			
Pickleball	19	51	120	16		22	143
Pilates (4)	0	0		15	28	53	52
Piyo	0	0			5	40	
Power Sculpt / Hardbody	0	0		58	10	27	
Silver Sneakers	448	206	367	214	240	151	230
Step It Up	0	0					
Super Sculpt/Insanity	0	27	51	52	99	79	67
Tai Chi	0	0	2	23	29	21	13
Volleyball	98	44	91	98	99	95	62
Yoga (multiple classes)	211	210	386	338	353	308	334
Zumba	305	209	414	445	549	552	556
Exercise Totals	1,264	925	1,939	1,572	1,819	1,649	1,924
FIFTY-FIVE +							
Fall Festival / Flu Shots	23	13	30	25	29	53	38
Fifty Five Alive (AARP Driving)	0	0	68	57	48	53	60
Back to Basic	26	39	84	66	60		
Zumba Gold	33	34	60	76	68	70	37
Luncheons	336	291	428	423	372	319	302
Senior Series	135	30	100	85			
Trips	30	0	257	200	264	206	0
Fifty-Five Totals	583	407	1,027	932	841	701	437
HOLIDAY EVENTS							
Egg Hunt/Bunny Hop	151	0	180	204	122	110	84
Frosty's Funhouse	0	0	0			21	14
Celebrate the Lake	10	0	40	100			
Haunted Trail	1754	0	2,678	1,831	2,105	1,259	1,165
Princess Ball	71	173	173	166	161	158	149
Tree Lighting	200	500	550	600		150	200
Holiday Events Totals	2,186	673	3,621	2,901	2,388	1,698	1,612

Peters Township Parks and Recreation

2021 Participation Comparison

	2021	2020	2019	2018	2017	2016	2015
INSTRUCTIONAL - YOUTH							
Baking/Cooking	5	42	15			3	
In-House Program	190	0					
Youth Volleyball	244	0					
Choi Kwang Do /Karate	72	31	48	37	34	7	10
Dance Hip Hop	38	0	38	38		62	
Engineering	0	0			4		6
Fun Fitness & Sport	10	0			19	5	
Science Programs	46	0					
Speed Conditioning	0	0				13	
Youth Volleyball	163	175	9				
Holiday Events Totals	768	248	110	75	57	90	16
INSTRUCTIONAL - FAMILY							
In-House Program	22						
Instructional Totals	22	0	0	0	0	0	0
INSTRUCTIONAL - ADULT							
Adult Crafts / Decorating	10	26	28				
Dance classes	0	0			2		
Dog Obedience	0	15	33	19	31	24	57
Getting Organized	0	0			10		
Hypnosis / Positive Thinking	0	0					3
Photography	0	0		7			
Plant Based	0	4				4	
In House Program	21						
Sports Monster	0	0	50	80			
Total Body Fitness	0	0					6
Ukrainian Egg	0	0		0	0		
Instructional Totals	31	45	111	106	43	28	66
PRE-SCHOOL / Infant							
Basketball for Children	0	0					42
Choi Kwang Do / Karate	46	33	43	29	63	35	9
Frozen Party	0	0			0		
Fun with Dance/Ballet	0	0	19		0	8	13
In-House programs	188	219	170	168	95	142	
Kids Yoga	12	0	14				
Motorskills Development	0	0	2				
Pre-School Play/Open Gym	0	0		25	0		
Pre-School Sports	43	0	6		26		
Pre-School Science	0	21	14	13	11		
Tumblers Beginners	0	0			0		
Zumba Kids	0	0			0		
Pre-School Totals	289	273	268	235	195	185	64

Peters Township Parks and Recreation

2021 Participation Comparison

	2021	2020	2019	2018	2017	2016	2015
SPECIAL EVENTS							
Antique Appraisal	0	26				29	
Community Day	0	0	3,000	3,000	3,500	3,500	900
Amphitheater Events	6333	2790	3,990	2,645	3,445	190	1,120
Fishing Derby	54	42	119	81	70	77	49
Super Hero Night	0	0	107	84	31	42	
Movie Night	492	360	471	475	16	33	
Touch a Truck	0	0	1,200	1,000	1,200	1,200	1,200
Trick or Treat Trail	300	300	299	302	225	246	
Special Events Totals	7,179	3,518	9,186	7,587	8,487	5,317	3,269
SPORTS							
Baseball	1,243	1,043	1,043	1,290	1,179	1,806	2,103
Basketball	1,385	816	816	1,025		620	740
Cheerleading	220	206	206	220	200	212	220
Coach's Clinic						10	75
Flag Football							
Football	116	97	97	88	132	119	125
Football Camp		4	64			33	75
Girls Lacrosse	84	98	98	80	72	78	95
Girls Lacrosse Camp	118						
Boys Lacrosse	97	132	132	108	84	97	114
Boys Lacrosse Camp		51	51				
Soccer	2,252	1,958	1,958	3,180	2,540	2,157	1,985
Soccer Camp		177	177	177	131	133	167
Softball	328	356	356	370		282	404
Softball Clinic				24		82	82
Swim	111	156	156	300	145	145	111
Learn to Swim		170	170		43	132	348
Wrestling	135	96	96	73	81	74	74
Sports Totals	6,089	5,360	5,420	6,935	4,607	5,980	6,718
SUMMER CAMPS							
Dance Camp (7-11 years)	0	0			13	10	13
Lil Medical Camp	12	0					
Cooking Camp	0	0	15				
Dance Camp	0	0					
Day Camp	78	21	38	19	50	122	
Fun Fitness Camp	43	0					
Playground Pals	35	24	57	72	87	61	54
Science Camp	19	9		10	5		
Sports Camp	58	24			50	20	59
Theater Camp	21	15	23	10	16		
Summer Camp Totals	266	93	133	111	221	213	126

Peters Township Parks and Recreation

2021 Participation Comparison

	2021	2020	2019	2018	2017	2016	2015
TEENS							
Teen / Tween programs	41	55	39	77			
Teen Totals	0	55	39	77	0	0	0
TENNIS							
Memberships			325	314	371	431	
Adult Clinics			1,017	1,053	1,200	1,177	
Junior Development Clinics			1,065	607	986	719	
Lessons			2,016	2,285	2,735	2,233	
Match Play			116	137			
League			27	5			
Court Time			1,477	2,546	2,171	2,011	
Tournaments			300	155	197	168	
Tennis Totals	0	0	6,343	7,102	7,660	6,739	0
COMMUNITY RECREATION CENTER							
Drop-In	6,922	12,009	12,009	13,060	13,320	10,085	10,656
Rental	17,605	28,284	28,384	26,374	23,735	27,306	20,210
CRC Totals	24,527	40,293	40,393	39,434	37,055	37,391	30,866