



City of Valdez Parks & Recreation Report Year End Report for 2019

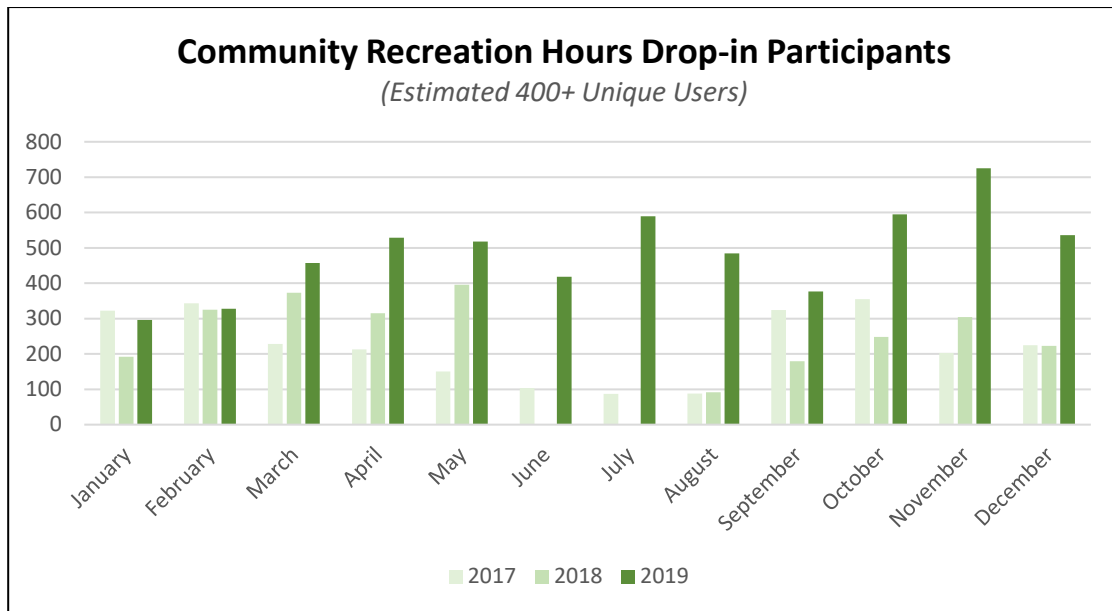


JANUARY – DECEMBER 2019

IKE “WOODY” WOODMAN RECREATION CENTER

RECREATION CENTER REVENUE	
47 Rentals	
• Dance Room	\$ 2,052.00
• Game Room	\$ 410.00
• Patio	\$ 40.00
• Additions	\$ 290.00
Snack Bar	\$ 8,198.58
Programs	\$ 915.00
TOTAL	\$ 11,905.58

RECREATION CENTER EXPENSES	
Programming	\$ 5,084.37
Snack Bar	\$ 7,333.89
Facility Supplies/Equipment	\$ 9,510.97
TOTAL	\$ 21,929.23



FREE PROGRAMS			
	PROGRAM	SESS	PARTICIPANTS
1	Community Rec Hours	305	5,844
2	Mighty Mites	90	1,390
3	Open Game Night	5	23
4	Family Yoga	3	9
5	Junior Circus Arts	1	1
6	Valentine Crafts	1	47
7	Origami	2	14
8	Home School Game Day	1	8
9	Easter Sprouts	1	59
10	Bike Maintenance Clinic	1	8
11	Community Board Game Series	4	15
12	Community Cleanup Day	1	75
13	Tot Gym	6	122
14	Kids' Gold Panning	1	95
15	Beginner Fencing	3	10
16	Fall Explorers	4	128
17	Open Fencing	3	13
18	Earth Explorers	3	96
19	RupLoops Workshop	1	45
20	Holiday Craft & DVD Drive	1	6
21	Science Series	6	23
TOTAL			8031

PROGRAMS WITH REGISTRATION FEES				
	PROGRAM	SESS.	PARTICIPANTS	REVENUE
1	Fencing	3	8	\$ 120.00
2	Acoustic Crash Course	4	7	\$ 50.00
3	Beginner Ukulele	4	5	\$ 25.00
4	Learn to Knit	4	4	\$ 75.00
5	Intro to Macramé	1	6	\$ 45.00
6	Macramé Plant Hangers	1	13	\$ 195.00
7	Understanding Photography	1	13	\$ 240.00
8	Kids' Pumpkin Carving	1	42	\$ 105.00
9	Longevity Stick	6	0	\$ 0.00
10	Cornucopia Class	1	4	\$ 60.00
	TOTALS		102	\$ 915.00

TOTAL PROGRAMS: 31
TOTAL PROGRAM SESSIONS: 469
OVERALL PARTICIPATION: 8,133

HIGHLIGHTS

Kids' Gold Panning

Kids' Gold Panning was drop-in and open to all youth. Participants received their own burlap bag of pay dirt and one-on-one instruction on how to pan. Pay dirt had a variety of gems, minerals, fossils and other fun finds. Gold found was captured and placed in their very own vials to take home. Turnout was fantastic! Due to high demand and long waits, next year may need to be pre-registration only.

Explorers Programs

Fall Explorers and Earth Explorers were a series of play-based sensory activities for parents with little ones under the age of six. Each week highlighted a unique theme. Participation was excellent and we received positive feedback and praise from the community. We hope to continue programming similar activities in the future.



2019 Kids' Gold Panning Set-up



2019 Earth Explorers – Oceans Day

Pre-registered activity focused for youth. The facility was transformed for this event. The program consisted of a 'pumpkin patch' photo booth, 'creation station', 'cutting and gutting station', snacks, refreshments and instructional pamphlets for seed roasting.



2019 Kids' Pumpkin Carving Set-up

Recreation Center Clean-out

At the end of December, The Recreation Center closed for two days in order to accomplish facility deep cleaning, organizing and introduction of new items.



2019 Rec Center Before & During Clean-out



2019 Rec Center After Clean-out Pictures

AQUATICS

* Registration & Fees Required

	PROGRAM	HOURS	ATTENDANCE # (VISITS)	REVENUE
1	Lap Swim	459.25	1,404	
2	Open Swim	376	4,631	
3	Minute to win it	2	55	
3	Rehabilitation Swim	22	54	
4	*Rentals	50	602	\$2,047.00
5	Senior Swim	32.5	67	
6	Tot Swim	157.75	874	
7	VCS SPED	54	265	
8	VHS AQUATICS	110.25	1,228	
9	*VTSC Events	297	3,907	\$4,301.15
10	*Masters	21.5	65	\$315.00
11	*Swim Lessons	29.25	213	\$120.00
12	*Water Aerobics	8	103	\$560.00
	TOTALS	1,619.5	13,468	\$7,343.15

TOTAL PROGRAMS:	12
TOTAL PARTICIPATION/VISITS:	13,468
TOTAL REVENUE:	\$7,343.15

All pool programs concluded on March 3rd, 2019 in preparation of the pool remodel! The pool re-opened to the public on August 21st, 2019!

HIGHLIGHTS

Minute to Win It

We held a pool “send-off” event MINUTE TO WIN IT- SWIM STYLE! On Saturday, March 2nd. We had 55 people try their skill and/or luck against the clock or against their friends in challenges of swimming skill – including the opportunity to try to beat Mayor O’Neill.

Annual Summer Sign-up Fair

Annual Summer Sign Up Fair on Wednesday, May 8th 6:00-8:00pm at the Civic Center. We had four other organizations set up booths as well to highlight their summer activities. We had 22 families come to register 27 children up for our Summer Camp programs.

Pool Grand Re-Opening

An Open House and Ribbon Cutting Ceremony was held Sunday, August 18th with approximately 40 people in attendance, including Mayor Pro-temp Sharon Crisp and Parks and Rec Commissioner Amy Gould. It was a great way for people to see some of the new upgrades of the facility. We held out first public Open Swim on Wednesday, August 21st.

VHS Annual Swim Invite

VHS hosted their Swim Invite Meet with eight visiting teams. There was over 100 swimmers competing in swim event races. Upon the school's request, we were able to operate the waterslide after the event on Friday evening for the swimmers.

Looking Forward to 2020

Please welcome the new Head Lifeguard, Hannah Haase! We are looking forward to offering new programming in January or 2020!

ADULT AND YOUTH ACTIVITIES:

* Registration & Fees Required

PROGRAM	HOURS	ATTENDANCE # (VISITS)	REVENUE
Adult Basketball	150.25	677	
Open Volleyball	124.5	574	
Family Gym	22	110	
Pickleball	157.5	1011	
Rockwall (Adult and Family Climb)	304	2438	
Eddy Walks	5	27	
Ski Hill	122	796	
Avalanche I Course	8	6	
Frosty Fever Dog Sledding	4	101	
Frosty Fever Retro Movie Night	2	20	
Rocks & Reels	4	15	
Frosty Fever Build a Sled	2	40	
*Ski/Snowboard Lessons	32	22	\$360.00
Frosty Fever Headlamp Hustle	2	36	
*Adult Coed 3 on 3 Tournament	21	25	\$200.00
Beacon & Eggs	4	40	
H.A.W.K Group Hikes	16	61	
*Outdoor Skills Week	35	8	\$475.00
*Week of Rock Summer Fun	35	17	\$2,730.00
*Wild Week Summer Fun	35	19	\$2,270.00
*Making Waves Summer Fun	35	22	\$2,580.00
Uncle Salmon 5k	1	133	

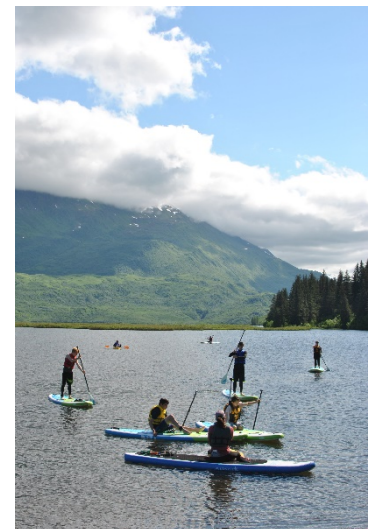
Sunday Fun-Day	4	35	
SWAN 5k	2	35	
*Route Setting Clinic	8	12	\$280.00
*Kids Climbing Clinic	4	20	\$235.00
Archery Range Soft Opening	4	20+	
Ski Hill Brush Cutting	8	5	
The Lunchtime Mile	1	10	
Annual Halloween Carnival	2.5	100+	
Pickleball Tournament	2	18	
Annual Christmas Tree Lighting	1	50+	
Total	1,157.75	6,503	\$9,130.00

TOTAL # OF PROGRAMS OFFERED	32
TOTAL REVENUE	\$9,130.00
TOTAL PARTICIPATION/VISITS	6,503

HIGHLIGHTS

Outdoor Skills Week

8 campers participated in a new program facilitated by Adult and Youth programmer Gabby Palko with assistance from Bridget Irish and two PRCS summer interns. These 8 teens gained knowledge in numerous outdoor activities including Fat Tire Biking, Stand-Up Paddle Boarding, Hiking, and Rock climbing. An additional component of the week was how we, as the next generation, can be environmental stewards for our community and how can we preserve the lands we recreate on. The campers participated in a challenge at the end of week consisting of a hike into one of our favorite local beaches and completed a garbage clean up by hauling an old boat mattress off the beach. They moved on to the Rockwall, climbing to the top as a team, then biking to Ruth Pond to participate in a partner paddle and self-rescue exercise. We look forward to continuing variations of this program in upcoming years!



This season PRCS joined in on the Frosty Fever fun by providing numerous activities for the public to participate in! These activities included a Headlamp Hustle into Mineral Creek Canyon, Build a Sled and Hope it Shreds, a Retro Ski movie night, and Dog Mushing!



Climbing Clinics with Marcus Garcia & Re-routing the Rockwall

Professional climber Marcus Garcia was brought to Valdez in partnership with PWSC to teach some exciting new classes to the community! PRCS help a Route Setting Course, training 12 individuals on how to properly re-route our own wall. Re-routing indoor climbing gyms keeps things fresh and exciting for participants. During this time he also helped PRCS host their first Kids Climbing clinic!

PARK AND TRAIL MAINTENANCE

Parks Maintenance Department provided In Kind services, and event support with many different agencies. Some of these are:

Snow machine club 120 race course building and grooming, Mayors cup preparation building and grooming, Frosty fever event preparation, Local Town race preparation, Elementary school sledding hill construction and grooming, May Day Fly in Set up and take down, Local softball tournament preparation, Little League tournament preparation, Gold Rush Days, Fish Derbies and more.

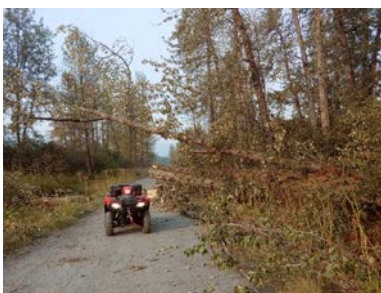


Maintenance has been tasked with a variety of construction projects as well. Some of them are memorials such as the Airmen's Memorial. This was a project that was set up in a rush in 2018 in order to have a display piece for the dedication. In spring of 2019, we came back and permanently mounted the bronze plaque and finalized the landscaping and floral displays.



Ski Trails

The In Town Trails received extensively work with hand clearing of brush. Major excavator work over Skyline trail, Rollercoaster Hill, The knoll, and Otter Loop was accomplished. Continued drainage diversion has been done along the snow machine loop on the west dike. We were able to accomplish the large equipment tasks up in mineral creek this summer because the water levels in the river were finally low enough to allow us access upstream along the west dike in the riverbed. This area is normally flowing quite deep and fast. A summer of unusually high temperatures and extended weeks of dry weather made this possible. Ski trails were also hit by the heavy winds causing downed cottonwoods throughout the trail system.



Dog Park Shelter

A covered seating area was built by Park Staff to allow animal parents to stay dry while allowing their pets to enjoy the park. We made concrete stamps from plaster of paris casts of a staff members own pup. Final turf work will take place early next summer.



Danger Tree removal

Fourteen large rotten cottonwoods were removed from the Memorial Cemetery this fall. Headstones were removed to protect from falling debris and replaced once completed.



Park Maintenance performed quite a bit of drainage and fill work on the ALPETCO road area of the trail system to make it passable in summer as well as winter. Continued flooding and warming temperatures have made the area quite wet and mushy.



In late fall 2019 we tore down Alpine Woods playground to prepare for summer 2020 installation



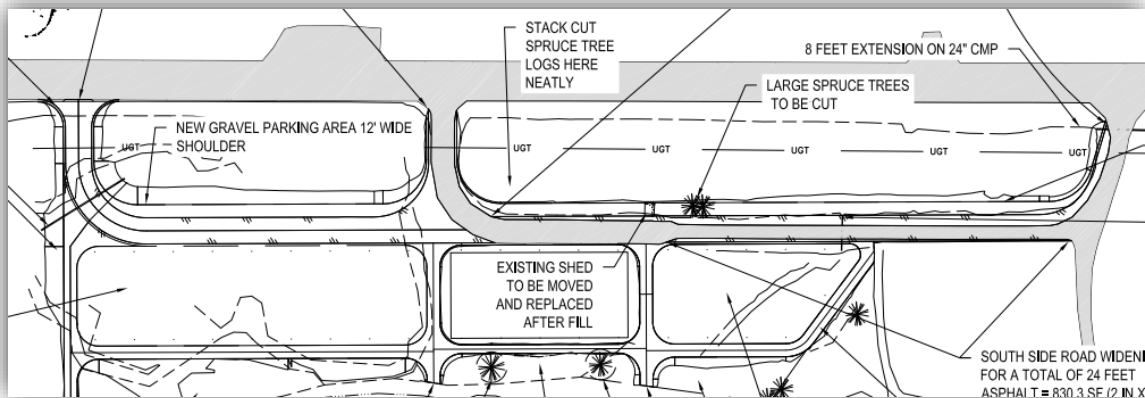
New City Christmas Tree

Installation of a new City Christmas Tree took place with a new 20 foot faux pine tree. It seems to have survived the snow loads. It was built on a movable concrete base so we can easily set it each year and save days of preparation that was done in the past.



Planning for Cemetery Expansion

Planning for cemetery expansion is ongoing with the Capital facilities Department. We currently have less than 30 available burial lots. This will be rectified with the expansion.

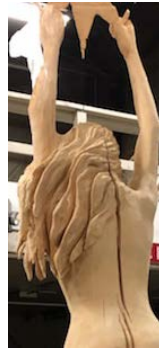


Chainsaw Carving Repairs and Installation

The bases were designed with fork holes to lift and move the artwork easily. The concrete stamps were re-used from the Egan Street seat wall project. Treated 4x12's were anchored into the concrete to then attach the carvings, so that they may be removed for maintenance or replaced as needed.

Repairing these, making the bases and attaching the artwork took more than a month with two staff members.

Repair processes included sanding, stain, clear coat, oil, seal, attach to treated timbers, trim with cedar bases, and attach to concrete bases. After months of work and hundreds of man and woman hours, the artwork was set out for the public to enjoy. Brass plaques are forthcoming.



Colebeck and Laura Deatherage (first picture) lead the charge on this project.

Allison Point

With no applicant for operating under the permit for Allison point Campground, Park Maintenance took on the operations of the facility. Many repairs and needed maintenance was completed. Lining out parking areas, new signage, re-staining the restrooms, brush clearing, grading, trail and fence line work was done.



Volunteer Help

Spring and summer bring large groups of volunteers and multiple events that Parks Maintenance supports. Gilson Middle School students and staff spend a full morning every spring assisting in parks and trails clean up. (see below) Through the summer season, Parks Maintenance provides support to Gold Rush, Fish Derbies, cruise ships, Clerks office events, Relay for Life, Military Appreciation, Richardson Highway Rendezvous, Little League Association, Softball Association, New Harbor Opening, Seafood Festival, and more. In summer of 2019, the Parks Maintenance team took on Allison Point operations in conjunction with the Parks and Recreation administrative office. Much needed maintenance and clearing that was not previously accomplished by the permittee was accomplished: restrooms repainted, trails cleared multiple times, brush cleared back away from the roadways, lot markers rebuilt and each lot lined like a parking space, roofing maintenance and repairs, vault clean outs and pressure washing, kiosks repainted and resigned, and website information with aerial photos of the camp sites were placed on signage throughout the five sections of the campground.



Court, Field, Turf and Greenspace Projects

Many areas have been getting cleaned up and cleared to make additional green space. Last season Park Maintenance purchased a hydro-seeder. We have saved more than \$6,000.00 in contractual services costs in just one season by seeding park areas with our own equipment and staff. The area adjacent to the dog park was cleared of brush and trees, roots removed, top soiled and seeded for more greenspace. A pair of new pickle ball courts were developed by painting tennis courts for dual purpose. And per the public request, a hose bib and sprayer was placed at Dock Point to allow people to clean off residue on children who have walked and played in the low tide flats of the park.



Civic Center Shelter Area Rebuild

The old shelters were rotten and no longer safe to use. Park Maintenance took them off of the hill using a crane and the rotten legs were cut down to the usable wood. They were then placed atop concrete pillars we built and stamped using the salvaged Egan Street seat wall stamps. The area was then turned into a new flagpole location adjacent to the light pole which will supply the required night lighting of the US flag. A trail was also created which links into the Ruth Pond trail. Other amenities include a safety fence along the steep hill edge and two new buddy glider swings.





Overlook Trail Work

Along with the picnic shelter move and flog pole installation projects at the Civic Center, a new trail extension was built from the Overlook west end to allow our many cruise ship visitors easy access to the trail without walking up the paved roadway or through a parking lot to begin their hike. This has proven to be a much safer approach to the Overlook to see the town from above.



North Meyring Demolition

The picnic shelter at the end of Foraker Street was evaluated for its safety in the fall of 2018. At that time, it was deemed not safe and not salvageable. In spring of 2019, it was taken down within seconds when just one of the more than 20 leg supports was gently pushed. The building immediately collapsed. It has been hauled away, thanks to the Streets department. We have an engineered design for the replacement of this facility in the summer of 2020.



Archery Range Build and Grand Opening

With the increased numbers of archers in town who are competing around the state and bow hunters alike, the development of a static archery range was an easy venue to construct. All of the fill dirt, overburden, topsoil, and compactable gravel were left over from projects. All of this leftover rock and dirt needed to be hauled somewhere, so we took it for the range. Thousands of yards of free scavenged soils went into this project. The area is an unused

parcel of land that is mowed all summer to keep the area clear so that bears may not be as enticed to come close to the softball fields. Now it is home to a fenced in, eight lane static Archery Range that meets perimeters for state shooting competitions.



The Grand Opening of the Archery range is scheduled for Saturday October 12, 2019. Final turf work, parking, signage, fencing and target installation is almost finished. As we get to the rainy season, we will make additional drainage adjustments in the parking area. A storage unit has been installed on the property for use for both Archery and Disc Golf events and equipment storage.



Disc Golf Development

Following an incident where a member of a visiting softball team chose to open fire on a brown bear while other campers were within yards of the gun shots, the decision was made to clear back the foliage from the outer area of the softball complex. In order to keep any area in the “Valdez rainforest” clear of cottonwood and alder overgrowth, it needs to have foot traffic on it and needs to be kept mowed. So the idea to place a disc golf course in this area came to be. The brush has been cleared with a dozer, front end loader and excavator. The pond has been expanded and the area should have grass growing next summer (2020). We hope to have this area leveled enough to be mowed using a brush hog. The 1.5 mile pond adjacent to the gold fields complex was cleared back 10 years ago and the number of users continues to increase. Now, having a bear buffer of cleared forest and a disc golf course, it will make it safer for all users

The course is coming together nicely. Excavator and dozer work has been on going. Additional parking and green space are being added around the pond.

The foot bridge has been installed Final Turf work, hydro-seeding and installation of tee off areas and baskets will take place early next summer. The Gilson Middle School volunteer day will be crucial in late May to finish small rock and stick removal at the site. A mid summers high wind storm knocked over dozens of trees in the park system and the recently excavated disc golf area was hit hard. It has since been cleared.



Disc Golf Coming Soon! Examples pictured.

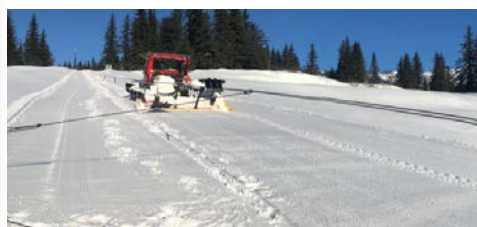


Ski Hill Barn extensions for machine storage

The ski hill lacked appropriate storage. A small barn was purchased and placed on site. Then, to keep exhaust away from the other storage area, the parks maintenance team built a barn extension to store the safety equipment and the snow machine.



Ski Hill Maintenance and Grooming



Cemetery Work

Sadly, over the winter we performed a half a dozen burials. The early summer is when we pour the concrete slabs and install headstones. Years of work have gone into rehabilitating the memorial cemetery which is an area that had been ignored. Though individuals may have passed away many years or decades prior, headstones continue to arrive for installation. We are proud to see how far we have come and even prouder to set to rest our friends and family members in such a beautiful venue. Additional staff training has taken place to ensure there is always someone in town who can provide this service when needed.



The team has provided ongoing maintenance on all facilities, turf, courts, trails and structures

