

Thornton Recreation Department Annual Report 2022-2023

Mission Statement:

To provide quality recreation programs, facilities, and parks that meet the leisure needs and improve the quality of life for the residents of Thornton.

Thornton Recreation Personnel

Director of Parks and Recreation

Sharlee Dunlop

Assistant Director/Rental Coordinator

Amy Potwin

Front Desk Personnel

Mary Vasquez

Ida Martinez

Preschool Instructors

Amy Potwin

Jennifer Shadley

Felicia Maddox

Pamela Markowski

Camp Counselor

Hannah Voris

Camp Volunteer

Logan Geiger

Responsibilities

Park equipment and safety surfacing of all parks are maintained. We offer free community programs: T.O.P.S. and Alcoholics Anonymous. We update social media including; Facebook, sections of the Village of Thornton website and Comcast Cable channel four. We receive each department's articles to edit and insert in the Village newsletter. We maintain paperwork for existing grant applications and research new opportunities. We coordinate with Thornton Youth Baseball League, the Thornton Library and Wolcott Community PTA. We work closely with School District 154 to provide opportunity of educational services to resident youth. We maintain a helpful and friendly team of employees who continue to prove their loyalty, dependability and commitment to the recreational needs of the community.

2022-23 Year in Review

- **May 2022:** Preschool comes to an end with a donut party! Softball field rentals begin. Memorial Bricks were installed. We introduced Summer Workshops for ages 6-12. Summer camp plans began and we volunteered at Wolcott's 5K.
- **June 2022:** Township in the Park was held. With camp and workshops running smoothly, we prepared for concessions and made improvements to the two year old classroom. We hired a new camp counselor and teaching assistant.
- **July 2022:** We renewed our CPR and First Aid training. Concessions for Independence Day went smoothly, as well as a library movie night. We hired a new teacher and offered back to school open houses.
- **August 2022:** The two year old class has a new name; Preschool Prep. The room was painted and new furniture and toys were added. Summer camps and workshops came to an end. Preventative Maintenance was performed in the fitness center. We extended fitness hours three days a week. Preschool welcomed new and returning students.
- **September 2022:** Preschool went on a field trip to Windmill Acres. We hosted another movie night with the Thornton Library. We introduced a community activity, Scarecrow Stroll. It didn't catch on right away, but we will try again in FY24.
- **October 2022:** Softball field rentals finished their seasons. We held two Pumpkin Hunts. We also held an event called "Ice Cream on the Scene", where Police, Fire, SSERT, TEMA and Public Works vehicles were on display at Nason Park and we handed out free ice cream. It had a great turn out for a cold evening.
- **November/December 2022:** Holiday Happenings event -Free Family Bingo went well. Participants were asked to make donations to Alicia's House, a food pantry in Chicago Heights. We also coordinated a Village-wide Holiday Decorating Contest. The new heat and AC units were installed.
- **January 2023:** We were able to give away free hats to the public with a donation from the Thornton Township. We took delivery of a new rowing machine in the fitness center. Director Dunlop wrote our five year capital plan and went through training for Civic Ready, a Village wide alert system.
- **February 2023:** Preventative Maintenance was performed in the fitness center. We received our new treadmill. We held a community Nacho Party. We put a freeze on fitness center fees for the month of February.

- **March 2023:** The first draft of FY24 budget was submitted. We purchased a new weight bench. We ran a special offer of \$5.00 fitness for the month of March. Staff filled 1000 eggs to prepare for the Easter egg hunts. A new summer camp counselor was hired.
- **April 2023:** We conducted Easter Egg Hunts. We met with Wolcott school to discuss some improvements to the playground. In coordination with Public Works, the mulch was reshaped. We ordered a new piece of equipment and the asphalt patch was renewed. Public Works also poured fresh sand and mulch at the Nason Park playground. They were able to build a community rock garden on the north side of the planter box. Most exciting for the month, was the approval of new equipment to be installed at Marian A. Mikrut Memorial Park.
- Fiscal Year 23, the department generated **\$59,124.50 in revenue** including the ISSATF rental fee of **\$22,000.**

2023-24 Thornton Recreation Goals

Continue to maintain all park equipment with ADA compliance.

Continue to update, Capital Assets, Grant Applications and Five year plan.

Continue to evaluate and remove inoperative equipment, paperwork and electronics.

Install the new equipment and surfacing at Mikrut Park.

Replace all the belt and baby swings throughout the Village.

Maintain and increase programs and events that could benefit the residents and generate revenue.

Recreation Program Revenue Descriptions

Preschool – **Preschool, and Pre-Kindergarten classes offered to children ages 3-5.**

Youth Programs – **Summer Camps - offered to children ages 3-6**

Adult Programs – **Senior Bingo, Memorial Bricks, Co-Ed Softball and Jujitsu**

Special Events – **Egg & Pumpkin Hunts, Family Bingo and concessions.**

Rentals – **Parties, Room, Ball field, Table & chairs, and pavilion rentals.**

Fitness Center – **Memberships**

Recreation Program Revenue Comparison

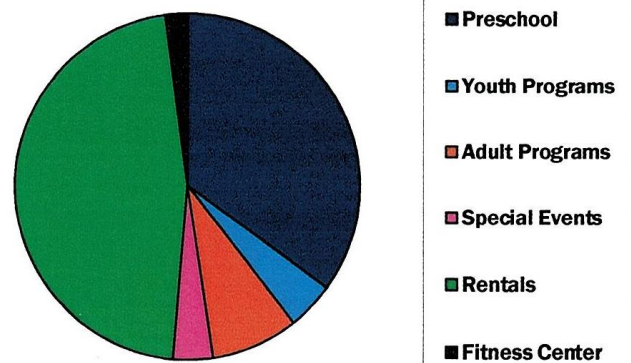
Program Type	Revenue
Preschool	\$20,735.50
Youth Programs	\$2,611.00
Adult Programs	\$4,790.00
Special Events	\$2,215.00
Rentals	\$27,558.00
Fitness Center	\$1,215.00
	\$59,124.50

IL Secretary of State Task Force Rental is included \$22,000.00

Program Type	Revenue
Preschool	\$17,712.00
Youth Programs	\$1,075.00
Adult Programs	\$3,627.00
Special Events	\$1,150.00
Rentals	\$28,555.00
Fitness Center	\$1,710.00
	\$53,829.00

IL Secretary of State Task Force Rental is included \$22,000.00

**Program Revenue Comparison
for May 2022 - April 2023**



**Program Revenue Comparison
for May 2021 - April 2022**

