



# MEDFORD PARKS & RECREATION

HEALTHY LIVES. HAPPY PEOPLE. STRONG COMMUNITY.

## Frequently Asked Questions

### **How do I register for classes?**

You can call the Santo Community Center 541-774-2400, visit [www.playmedford.com](http://www.playmedford.com) or visit the Santo Community Center ([701 N. Columbus Ave, Medford 97501](http://701.N.Columbus.Ave.Medford.97501)). Payment can be made with Visa / MasterCard online or by phone, in addition to cash or check in person. Full payment is required at the time of registration or to reserve a facility.

### **What if I want to join a program that has already started?**

With the exception of most sports leagues, it may be possible to register for a class after the start date. However, we cannot guarantee that the program will adjust for those coming in late; nor can we prorate class fees.

### **Do you have waitlists for classes that are full (just in case someone cancels)?**

We maintain waitlists for some programs. We are often able to add additional classes or sections to accommodate overflow for some programs.

### **How often does the programs and services magazine come out?**

Three times – April (summer), August (fall) and December (winter/spring)

### **Do you offer scholarships?**

The Medford Parks and Recreation Department makes a concerted effort to make its recreation programs and services accessible to all segments of the community by addressing physical and economic barriers.

The Department's Financial Assistance Policy assists low-income families in registering for recreation programs and services, with approximately 98 percent of disbursements allocated to childcare and youth enrichment programs and services.

Scholarship funding is typically allocated as a pre-determined partial discount. Applicants submit a Financial Assistance Application form when registering for a program. The applicant child/family must live within the Medford city limits or attend a Medford school.

Applicants are immediately eligible for scholarship funding and discounts if the applicant/family:

- Receives an Oregon Trail Card.
- Is enrolled in the Oregon Health Plan.
- Receives aid for dependent children.

Please note that not all programs are eligible for scholarship applications.

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### **Can I/We rent the bounce houses or the Park & Play mobile recreation unit?**

MPRD does not rent bounce houses to private parties due to the wear-and-tear that occurs in transporting these heavy, expensive and important equipment items. One bounce house and an inflatable playground are provided as a part of the Santo Community Center Birthday Party rental fee (\$99 for 2 hours) – a great deal; for those under 8 years of age.

If a bounce house is deployed at any public park, the bounce house provider must provide insurance to MPRD which covers liability during its use. Contact the department for a draft of insurance policy requirements.

### **Can the Santo Community Center Gym be reserved?**

The gymnasium is rarely available during peak usage times (weekday evenings and weekends, year-round) due to MPRD youth and adult sports leagues. Off-peak gym rental requests are considered on a case-by-case basis by the Recreation Superintendent. Email [parks@cityofmedford.org](mailto:parks@cityofmedford.org) your request.

### **What's going on with the park property on Ross Lane/Rossanley Drive?**

This 50-acre piece of property is called the "Wes Howard Memorial Sports Park". It is private property is owned/managed by trustees John Schleining, Sal Esquivel and Dennis Hoffbuhr.

## **SPORTS**

### **How can I get information on your sports programs/tournaments?**

Visit [www.sportsmedford.com](http://www.sportsmedford.com) for leagues and tournaments, call our office, or stop by the Santo Community Center.

### **How do I join a sports team if I don't know anyone in the area/just moved here, etc.?**

MPRD accepts team registrations and generally does not form "free agent" teams.

Individuals can place their name and contact information on our "[Free Agent List](#)". Phone the department, [visit the website](#) and search FREE AGENT or come into Santo Community Center. When/if a team is short-handed, a team captain may call us to see if any free agents have signed up and we provide this list. There is no guarantee that you will be placed on a team by going on the Free Agent List.

The most proactive method is to visit the venue when teams are playing and look for teams that may be short-handed. League schedules can be viewed at [www.sportsmedford.com](http://www.sportsmedford.com)

### **May I reserve a spot in a sports league, and provide (partial) payment before the first game or sometime after the registration deadline?**

Only **full payment** reserves a slot, providing the league has not already reached capacity. League registration is on a first-come, first-served basis. Leagues often fill before listed deadlines. Past participation in the program does not provide priority in the registration process.

### **May my team "jump on" a field at USCCP or other city fields if nobody is there?**

No. There is very little "open" field time anywhere in Medford year-round, and our field-use/rental process is compromised when teams do this. Either rent a field, or follow the procedures set forth in the Field Allocation Process, posted at [playmedford.com](http://playmedford.com).

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**How do I get a banner for my business up at “Cellular One Fields”?**

It’s called “U.S. Cellular Community Park” and you can contact MPRD for details on advertising packages.

**Is there “open gym” sports at the Santo Community Center?**

MPRD offers drop-in play dates/times as gym availability allows for volleyball, badminton, pickleball and basketball programs. Check the program guide for details at [www.playmedford.com](http://www.playmedford.com).

**SWIM/POOLS**

**Where are the public pools?**

MPRD operates the City’s lone remaining outdoor swimming pool: Jackson Aquatic Center, located at 815 Summit Avenue on the corner of Clark and Summit streets in Medford. It is operational mid-June through Labor Day.

**Will Medford build a new swimming pool?**

Not unless the City Council identifies a funding mechanism to construct a new facility in the wake of the defeat of bond measure 15-115 in Nov. 2012, or if it votes to place another bond measure on the ballot.

**Can I pick the swim lesson instructor?**

No; instructors may change pool and hours they work depending on staffing needs and their personal schedules.

**How do I lifeguard for the pools?**

All lifeguards must have proper certification requirements (classes are often available at the YMCA or Red Cross). Please contact [Sue McKenna](#) or by phoning 541-774-2400 early in the calendar year. Most positions are filled by the end of April.

**PARKS AND FACILITIES**

**City of Medford owns what parks/facilities?**

- |                                 |                              |
|---------------------------------|------------------------------|
| Alba Park                       | Liberty Park                 |
| Bear Creek Park                 | Lone Pine Park               |
| Carnegie Building               | Oregon Hills Park            |
| Pear Blossom Park Blocks        | Prescott Park                |
| Donahue-Frohnmayr Park          | Railroad Park                |
| Earhart Park                    | Ruhl Park                    |
| Fichtner-Mainwaring Park        | Santo Community Center       |
| Hawthorne Park                  | Union Park                   |
| Holmes Park                     | Veterans Park                |
| IOOF/Eastwood Historic Cemetery | U.S. Cellular Community Park |
| Jackson Park                    | Vogel Plaza                  |
| Lewis Park                      |                              |

**MPRD-maintained school park sites:** Jefferson, Kennedy and Orchard Hill

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**Harry & David Field:** Direct questions and field reservation requests to Chuck Heeman, 541-973-2883, [chuck@medfordrogues.com](mailto:chuck@medfordrogues.com)

### **Railroad Park**

The park is operated by volunteers and open to the public the 2<sup>nd</sup> and 4<sup>th</sup> Sunday (11am-3pm) April thru October. Admission is free; donations are gladly accepted at the park. If you would like to ask the volunteer group if they would open outside of the “standard” operating dates/times please contact Jan Pollin, 541-855-5485.

### **Do I/we *have* to “reserve” a park?**

No, you do not have to reserve a park and pay the fees. You can take your chances. However, reservations take precedence over “first come first served”. So if you’re there with a family BBQ, but do not have a reservation, and someone comes in that has a reservation, you will be required to move. These are legally enforceable. Payment is due at the time you reserve a park area.

### **Am I allowed to have alcohol in a Medford park?**

Alcohol is permitted in the following parks and facilities when in compliance with Medford City Ordinance 2.185 and 5.310 and if all permit conditions of use have been approved. This use requires customer complete a Special Event Permit which must be reviewed by all City Departments prior to final approval.

Alba Park

Carnegie Building

Pear Blossom Blocks

U.S. Cellular Community Park

Bear Creek Park

Hawthorne Park

Santo Community Center

Vogel Plaza

When you request a park/facility reservation and you plan on serving or providing alcohol be sure to inform the agent you are working with. This will help you avoid your event being disrupted or shut down by the Medford Police Department.

### **Am I allowed to bring my own BBQ to a Medford park?**

You may bring gas/propane barbecues to all outdoor city parks except Prescott Park or U.S. Cellular Community Park.

### **Is vending allowed in Medford Parks?**

Vending is allowed in specific areas of a few parks. There is an application process managed by [Sue McKenna](mailto:sue.mckenna@cityofmedford.org), 541-774-2400, [sue.mckenna@cityofmedford.org](mailto:sue.mckenna@cityofmedford.org)

### **How do I turn on/off the tennis court lights?**

Fichtner-Mainwaring Park, Bear Creek Park and North Medford High School have lighted tennis courts. Typically the lights are set to shut off around 10 p.m. However, shutoff time may change depending on energy concerns, season and neighborhood concerns. The Fichtner-Mainwaring Park switches are on the power panel by the shade structure. If you are having trouble with lighting please contact the [Park Maintenance](#) division at 541-774-2691 Mon-Fri between the hours of 8am - 3:30pm

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**Are dogs allowed in Medford parks?**

Leashed dogs, under the control of a capable handler, are allowed in public parks. NO DOGS (on or off leash) are allowed at US Cellular Community Park.

**Can I add a name to the memorial at Veterans Park?**

The park and amenities were developed in conjunction with veterans groups in the area. Due to prohibitive costs and lack of a vendor, we are not adding names to monuments. However, you can contact [MPRD](#) and provide contact information for yourself; if it becomes possible to add names you will be contacted.

**Why are the rental rates (and some processes and procedures) different for U.S. Cellular Community Park compared to other city parks?**

U.S. Cellular Community Park is a unique, state-of-the-art, multi-million-dollar facility featuring synthetic-grass fields that require a more comprehensive level of management, maintenance and scheduling procedures.

**What is going on with Hawthorne Park?**

The plan is to have construction completed by Spring 2015. You can view the [plan here](#).

**How does the Prescott Park Challenge Course work?**

The “ropes course” is not a drop-in or user-directed facility. Visit [playmedford.com](http://playmedford.com) for details. Synergo manages the facility and coordinates group programs.