

Frequently Asked Questions (Revised Oct. 14, 2011)

Medford Parks and Recreation (MPRD)

How do I register for classes?

You can call (541) 774-2400, go to www.playmedford.com (you must create an account), or come into the Santo Center (701 N. Columbus Ave, Medford, OR 97501) in order to register for classes, sports leagues, swim lessons, summer camps, etc. Payment can be made with Visa or MasterCard, online or by phone, in addition to cash or check in person.

Payment is required at the time one registers for a class. We can not hold spots (i.e. register) for those who do not pay at the time of registration.

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

For most programs (NOT including adult sports), we might be able to register one into a class after the start date. However, we cannot guarantee that the program will adjust for those coming in late; nor can we pro-rate class fees. Call us at 774-2400 for more information.

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

We do have waitlists for some programs. We may be able add additional classes or sections to accommodate overflow for some programs.

How often does the *Community Connection* come out?

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

Do you offer scholarships?

Yes. Some youth classes, programs and services are discounted for qualified families who reside in the Medford city limits.

In order to be qualified, you must fill out our application, turn it into MPRD (in person), and show proof of assistance (i.e. receives aid for dependent children, currently enrolled in Oregon Health Plan, receives food stamps/Trail Card). For further information, please contact us at (541) 774-2400 or visit our website www.playmedford.com for the form.

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. On occasion, MPRD has provided bounce houses and other resources at events that have broad and strategic promotional value to the Department, as determined by the Recreation Superintendent. Two bounce houses are provided as a part of the Tot Birthday Party rental fee (\$95 for 2 hours) – a great deal.

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

Can the Santo Gym be reserved?

Technically yes, but 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. The gym is not used for celebratory events like baptisms and birthday parties.

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

This 50-acre piece of property is called the "Howard Memorial Sports Park" and it is not owned, maintained or operated by the City of Medford. The contact is Raymond Kelly, 541-779-8390.

What's the status of the "Water Park"?

The Parks and Recreation Commission has recommended an "Aquatics Facility Plan" to the City Council. The Council has not approved the Plan or identified a funding source, and the issue may go to voters in the near future. Plan details are available at playmedford.com.

SPORTS

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

Go to www.sportsmedford.com, call our office number (774-2400), or stop by the MPRD offices at 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 registration and generally does not form "free agent" teams.

Individuals can place their name and contact information on our "Free Agent List" via phone, internet, or come into Santo. 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.

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

No. 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.

Due to conflicts, can my sports team play only on certain days and times?

No. We are unable to accept special scheduling requests due to fairness and the complexity of the scheduling 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.

SWIM/POOLS

Where are the public pools?

MPRD owns two outdoor aquatic centers: Hawthorne and Jackson pools. Hawthorne is located near Sears on Hawthorne Street and Jackson is located on Clark Street near Jackson elementary school. These pools are operated during the summer months.

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 the MPRD Aquatics Director at (541)774-2400 towards the end of winter-- **most positions are full by the end of April.**

PARKS

City of Medford owns what parks/facilities?

- | | |
|---------------------------------|--------------------------------------|
| Alba Park | Lewis Park |
| Bear Creek Park | Lone Pine Park |
| Donahue Frohnmayer Park | Prescott Park |
| Earhart Park | Railroad Park (outside fenced area) |
| Fichtner-Mainwaring Park | Ruhl Park (groups less than 50 only) |
| Hawthorne Park | Santo Community Center |
| Holmes Park | Union Park |
| IOOF/Eastwood Historic Cemetery | Veterans Park |
| Jackson Park | U.S. Cellular Community Park |
| Carnegie Building | Vogel Plaza |

MPRD maintains these school parks: Jefferson, Kennedy and Orchard Hill

Harry & David Field Direct questions to Gary Miller, 261-7089

Railroad Park

The park is operated by volunteers and open to the public the 2nd and 4th 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, 855-5485.

Jackson County Parks 541-774-8183

Britt Gardens

Cantrall-Buckey

Emigrant Lake

Howard Prairie

The River House

Oregon State Parks 800-551-6949 or 503-986-0707

Stewart State Park (541-560-3334)

TouVelle State Park

BLM 541-621-2200

Table Rock (both Upper and Lower)

Do I *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. We can not hold spots (i.e. reserve) for those who do not pay at the time of reserving.

Am I allowed to have alcohol (of any sort) in any of the Medford parks?

City Ordinance 5.310 states that the consumption of alcohol in any public park, public right of way, street, sidewalk or alley is NOT permitted.

With the approval of the MPRD Director, park regulations allow the sale and consumption of wine and malt beverages in a controlled setting at **certain special events** in the following park facilities: Vogel Plaza, Alba Park, Hawthorne Park, U.S. Cellular Community Park and the Bear Creek Amphitheater. Requests are to be made **in writing** to the Director.

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

Yes (with the exception of U.S. Cellular Community Park and Prescott Park). Gas barbecues are preferred over charcoal. **Our Parks do not have dump sites for charcoal.** If you do bring a charcoal BBQ, you are required to remove the used charcoal when you leave the park and dispose of it at a safe dumpsite. BBQs are not permitted at U.S. Cellular Community Park or Prescott 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, 774-2400.

How do you turn on/off the tennis court lights?

Fichtner-Mainwaring Park, Bear Creek Park and North High all have some lighted tennis courts. Typically they are set to shut off about 10ish. However, time may change depending on energy concerns, season and neighborhood concerns.

- Fichtner-Mainwaring Park: switches are on the power panel by the shade structure.
- Bear Creek Park:
- North High Courts:

Are dogs allowed in Medford parks?

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

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 your name and phone number and if it becomes possible to add names you will be contacted.

When will Oregon Hills Park be completed?

Phase 1 construction of Oregon Hills Park will begin in early 2012 and will take several months. Park Planner Pete Young is the project manager and contact, 774-2413.

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.