

THIS SUMMER, explore everything



Playgrounds, recreation centers, sports leagues, and summer camps are just a few things that come to mind when we think of traditional parks and recreation. Experience something new this summer and join Denton Parks and Recreation for July's Parks and Recreation Month. We challenge you to explore our parks, pools, and playground. Look beyond the facilities for unique and enjoyable opportunities that benefit all ages.

As community needs grow and expand, so do the programs and services offered by city parks and recreation departments. Traditionally the focus has been on health and fitness programs and facilities, but that has surprisingly changed and grown to include experiences that are actively social and family-centric, as well as intergenerational.

With the support through participation, non-traditional opportunities continue to grow and serve as a means for youth to engage both physically and emotionally and for adults to socialize with youth and actively participate.

Here's a sample of events to expect this summer from Denton Parks and Recreation!

Celebrate Independence Day Together

In a 2021 NRPA survey conducted by



Wakefield Research, 93% percent of U.S. adults say a summer activity from parks and recreation brings back happy memories. Why not make new memories and participate in the 24th Annual Liberty 5K Run or 1-Mile Walk. Make a day of it, walk or run in the morning, stay for the parade, and then visit Quakertown Park for the July Jubilee. Consider participating in the Hot Dog Eating Contest or enjoy live music, food trucks, inflatables, carnival games, and lots of fun.

Go With the Flow

Another option is to take a kayaking class. This introduction to paddling class covers basic boat orientation, safety skills, and stroke technique. For ages eight and older, it's an excellent opportunity all ages to engage and discover healthy fun in an intergenerational class.

Denton Parks and Recreation has to offer!



Big Wave Days

If you haven't discovered the wave pool at Water Works Park, then this summer is the perfect time! It's just the right mix of fun and relaxation as the waves differ in size and flow between cycles. The park is also home to four giant waterslides, two toddler slides, a children's play pool, a lazy river, sand volleyball, cabanas, party pavilions, and more!

Get Down and Dirty

Community gardens cultivate lifelong lessons about the origins of what we



consume and foster the desire for healthy, fresh eating. For some families, a community garden with rentable plots is the only chance they have for growing their own fruits and vegetables. The community garden at Bowling Green Park in Denton is a great example of how parks and recreation has grown outside of the box and encourages families to cultivate new outdoor experiences.

Blow off some STEAM

That's right, STEAM, not STEM, which stands for "Science, Technology, Engineering, and Math." STEAM adds ART by acknowledging that STEM naturally involves the need to be creative in some form or fashion. Most communities, regardless of where you live, offer summer learning camps either through parks and recreation, the local school district, or in some cases, through a partnership. Youth Tech Inc., a non-profit computer camp, teaches programs such as Gaming and Coding, Animation, and Video Game Design at MLK Jr. Recreation Center.

Regardless of what you choose to discover at Denton Parks and Recreation, each activity will help build an active body and mind, relieve stress, and enhance social interaction. To find a new registration-based program, a fun community event, or explore a new park, playground, or trail, visit <http://www.dentonparks.com>.

