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### March 2019 Parks Report

What are some barriers or challenges to our residents taking advantage of the outdoors? According to recent studies by the National Recreation and Park Society (2016) suggest that twenty percent of Americans don't visit outdoor spaces because they lack quality facilities near their home. We are fortunate here in Elgin to have most of our population set within ten minutes' walk to a local park. Next our park staff is dedicated to making those facilities the best we can for our residents to enjoy. We take pride in cleaning, maintaining and making our facilities accessible for our residents to spend time outdoors in an effort to break down some of those barriers to visiting local Parks.

### Programs -Elizabeth

March was a busy month for programs, hosting 6 Spring Break activities over the course of 5 days. We had a great time spending time outside in our parks at Giant Tennis in Elgin Memorial Park, where we had 30 participants play giant tennis, basketball, beanbag toss, soccer and more, Community Field Day at Thomas Memorial Park where 32 people participated in Tug-of-War, tag, kickball lead by Teen Council and other games and Catch & Release Fishing at Morris Memorial Park Pond, where 48 adults and children learned to fish, tie knots and participate in catch and release. These events were unique for the Parks Department because our Grounds Crew were fully integrated in to the events, interacting with the public so our community could get to know the team behind our beautiful parks. Along with our outdoor activities, we also offered two educational events; Playground Games thru the Ages taught by a game historian to help kids learn more ways to have fun in the parks where 9 people participated, and a Painting Class by Ashley Smith from Clever Tiger where 12 children painted Elgin Memorial Park. We spent a total of \$165.15 on all our March events and had a cost recovery of \$95 from our events. We also hosted a Park Beautification Day at the Fleming Community Center where we weeded and replanted the flower beds outside of our community center with the help of the Bastrop Master Gardeners and 14 volunteers. A week after our Park Beautification Day we hosted a Senior Picnic in the Park where our Grounds Crew set up tents, tables and games on the lawn of Fleming so our 8 participants could fully enjoy their potluck.

### Goals for April 2019

- Hire and train lifeguards for the summer season.
- Renew Lifeguard Instructor Certifications for Rec Staff

Facility and Park Activity Summary	Number of uses spring 2019		
	January	February	March
Park/ Pavilion Rental	2	21	6
Ball Field Rental	37	35	53
Fleming Community Center/ Rec Center rentals	55	62	58
Monthly Rec Memberships	199	181	180
Yearly Rec Membership	20	33	3
Deposits	\$12,386.75	\$16,264.25	\$10,256.00