APRIL IS NATIONAL VOLUNTEER MONTH!

All this month we CELEBRATE our wonderful Volunteers and all YOU do to help make our Parks, Greenways, Nature Preserves and recreation programs the BEST in the land!

Volunteers may serve as Youth Sports coaches or assistants...Help with a landscaping or clean-up project in a Park...Tutor or mentor students in an after-school program...Chaperone a dance...Coach or support youth and teens in Adapted Sports...Serve on an Advisory Council...Lend a hand at one of our three Senior Centers...Help during a Holiday event...Care for the environment as Master Naturalists, Master Gardeners or Nature Center volunteers...Come out with their school class to Volunteer and learn life skills...Plant flowers in their neighborhood Park...Or use their time and skills to help in countless other ways!

THANK YOU to all of our AWESOME VOLUNTEERS!

EARTH DAY at Berewick!
LOCATION: Berewick Recreation Center
- 5910 Dixie River Road, Charlotte, 28278
DATE/TIME OF EVENT: Saturday, April 21, 10:00AM – 2:00PM
NUMBER OF VOLUNTEERS NEEDED: 20 and more!

Everyone is welcome to join us as we come together to beautify the landscaping at Berewick Recreation Center for an Earth Day celebration! Groups from companies and organizations are welcome to come! Volunteers will help with garden bed preparation and other landscaping projects around the Recreation Center and school. Please dress for the weather and bring work gloves – this is a rain or shine event! Be prepared to get dirty...
Water and snacks will be provided. Volunteers should be at least 18 years old.
Contact VolunteerServices@MeckNC.gov or Cara.Helfer@MecklenburgCountyNC.gov
Opportunities for Groups

Park projects for Spring are HERE! Bring YOUR group out to help keep our Parks looking their best! We welcome any group, from businesses, churches, neighborhoods, fraternities/sororities, Scouts, students, civic groups, etc.

For more information on volunteering for any of our projects, please contact:
- Karen Howard at 980-314-1046 Karen.Howard@MeckNC.gov
- Pamela Thomas at 980-314-1059 Pamela.Thomas@MeckNC.gov

SATURDAY PROJECTS
- Hours are 9:00am – 12:00 Noon
- Volunteers 12 years old and up are welcome!
- All Volunteers under the age of 16 must be accompanied by an adult over the age of 21.
- You must RSVP to VolunteerServices@MeckNC.gov. We need to know the number of volunteers you are bringing and the breakdown between Adults and Youths, if applicable.
- All of the projects are park maintenance and beautification projects, which may include mulching, weeding, pruning and clean-ups.
- All of these projects involve manual labor - at these projects we do not have opportunities for individuals who are unable to perform physical labor.
- All you need to bring are a pair of gloves, a water bottle and LOTS OF ENERGY!!
- Please go to www.parkandrec.com to see where these parks and greenways are located. Once you get to the home page click on either the Parks or the Greenways tab.

SPRING 2018 PROJECT DATES: *Locations and/or projects subject to change*
- Saturday, April 14 at R.L Smith Park (playground surface)
- Saturday, April 21 at Briar Creek Greenway
- Saturday, April 28 at Col. Francis Beatty Park
- Saturday, May 5 at McDowell Nature Center
- Saturday, May 5 at Idlewild Road Park
- Saturday, May 5 at Elon Park
- Saturday, May 12 at Eva Barber Park (playground surface)
- Saturday, May 19 at Sportsplex at Matthews
- Saturday, June 2 at Freedom Park (tentative)
- Saturday, June 9 at West Branch Nature Preserve (Davidson)
- Saturday, June 23 at Latta Plantation Nature Preserve
- Saturday, June 30 at Blythe Landing Park

Natural Resources Volunteer Interest Sessions!

Are you interested in helping out at one of Park & Recreation's Nature Centers or Nature Preserves? Find out what it takes to Volunteer: tour the facility, review available Volunteer roles (such as special events, programming, stewardship, etc.) and expected commitments, and more!

Sunday, April 22 - 2:00pm-3:30pm at McDowell Nature Center, 15222 South York Road, 28278
CONTACT: Melissa.Olenick@MecklenburgCountyNC.gov

Sunday, September 16 - 2:00pm-3:30pm at Latta Plantation Nature Center, 6211 Sample Road, 28078
CONTACT: Anjoli.Reynolds@MecklenburgCountyNC.gov
Help out with Native Plants at Latta Plantation Nature Preserve
6211 Sample Road, Huntersville, 28078

Every Thursday from March 8 through May 24 at Latta Plantation Nature Preserve – 9:00am-10:30am

Help our garden grow! Join us on Thursdays to care for our native plants as they grow and bloom through the spring. Please bring your hat, sunscreen and water bottle!

Volunteers must be at least age 10; volunteers under the age of 16 must be accompanied by a parent/adult over age 21.

Contact VolunteerServices@MeckNC.gov or Anjoli.Reynolds@mecklenburgcountync.gov to sign up!

MECKLENBURG COUNTY YOUTH TRACK & FIELD MEETS

LOCATION: JOHNSON C. SMITH UNIVERSITY – IRWIN BELK COMPLEX
- 500 Summit Avenue, Charlotte, 28216

DATES OF EVENTS:
- Sunday, April 15
- Saturday, April 21
- Sunday, April 29
- Saturday, May 5
- Saturday, May 12

TIME VOLUNTEERS NEEDED: Saturdays 8:00am-3:00pm, Sundays 12:00-7:00pm

NUMBER OF VOLUNTEERS NEEDED: 25-30 each date

The Youth Track & Field program is an annual youth sports offering from Mecklenburg County, serving over 500 participants ages 4 to 18 years old in 2017. Athletes compete in developmentally appropriate disciplines in a recreational setting, to promote a love of athletics!

Volunteers are needed to assist with a wide variety of tasks during each meet, including: event set-up and tear-down; clerking tent (athlete check-in); hipping tent (distributing numbers to athletes, etc.); warm-up areas; starting line; finish line volunteers and timing/finish line runner; and helping with various events that need additional preparation including long-jump and softball throw. We will also need volunteers to: assist the announcer; act as ushers for the athletes and runners for additional support; and to be Hospitality Assistants, keeping hospitality stations stocked with water and refreshments for athletes, officials and volunteers (ability to lift 30+ pounds on and off trailers is required for Hospitality Assistants).

*Volunteers must be at least 12 years old for these events – ANY volunteer under the age of 16 MUST be accompanied by a parent/adult at all times. Please wear comfortable clothing/shoes, and bring a lunch, sunscreen, hat and water bottle – snacks/refreshments will be provided.

Please contact VolunteerServices@MeckNC.gov to register as a volunteer!

GET READY FOR SENIOR GAMES & SILVER ARTS!

Beginning in mid-April and continuing through the first week of June, hundreds of active seniors will be taking part in the annual Senior Games and Silver Arts competitions!

We are seeking friendly, upbeat volunteers to assist local older active adults that are participating in the 2018 Charlotte Mecklenburg Senior Games! Under the guidance of Event Managers, volunteers will be responsible for the following tasks for each event: Set up, welcoming participants, registration, monitoring events, rules enforcement, awards presentations, breakdown and basic clean up. Volunteers must be at least age 12 – anyone under the age of 16 MUST be accompanied by a parent/adult at all times. Please dress in appropriate athletic attire with comfortable, closed-toe shoes. All volunteers will receive a T-shirt.

*Schedule of events is on the next page!
# 2018 SENIOR GAMES & SILVER ARTS EVENT SCHEDULE

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Event / Location</th>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Start Time</th>
<th>End Time</th>
<th># Vols</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Cycling - Charlotte Motor Speedway</td>
<td>4/17/18</td>
<td>9:00am</td>
<td>3:00pm</td>
<td>8</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Golf Tournament – Skybrook Golf Club</td>
<td>4/19/18</td>
<td>8:30am</td>
<td>2:30pm</td>
<td>2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Track &amp; Field Events - AG Middle School</td>
<td>4/21/18</td>
<td>8:30am</td>
<td>4:30pm</td>
<td>10</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Softball Tournament (Women)</td>
<td>4/28/18</td>
<td>9:00am</td>
<td>5:00pm</td>
<td>4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Badminton (singles) - Marion Diehl Rec. Center</td>
<td>5/2/18</td>
<td>4:30pm</td>
<td>8:30pm</td>
<td>4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Badminton (doubles &amp; mixed doubles) - Marion Diehl Rec. Center</td>
<td>5/3/18</td>
<td>4:30pm</td>
<td>8:30pm</td>
<td>4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Track &amp; Field Events – various field events – Marion Diehl Park</td>
<td>5/5/18</td>
<td>8:30am</td>
<td>4:30pm</td>
<td>12</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Table tennis - Hawthorne Rec. Center</td>
<td>5/8/18</td>
<td>4:30pm</td>
<td>8:30pm</td>
<td>6</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Archery - Mecklenburg Wildlife Club</td>
<td>5/9/18 Raindate: 5/15/18</td>
<td>11:30am</td>
<td>5:30pm</td>
<td>6</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Swim Meet – Marion Diehl pool</td>
<td>5/11/18</td>
<td>9:00am</td>
<td>3:00pm</td>
<td>4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Bowling (doubles) - Park 10 lanes</td>
<td>5/14/18</td>
<td>9:30am</td>
<td>1:30pm</td>
<td>2</td>
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<tr>
<td>Bowling (mixed doubles) - Park 10 lanes</td>
<td>5/16/18</td>
<td>9:30am</td>
<td>1:30pm</td>
<td>2</td>
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<tr>
<td>Tennis, Racquetball &amp; Basketball shooting - Jewish Comm’ty Center</td>
<td>5/18/18</td>
<td>9:30am</td>
<td>3:30pm</td>
<td>6</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Bowling (singles) - Park 10 lanes</td>
<td>5/21/18</td>
<td>9:30am</td>
<td>1:30pm</td>
<td>2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Performing Arts showcase – Levine Senior Center</td>
<td>5/22/18</td>
<td>4:30pm</td>
<td>8:30pm</td>
<td>2</td>
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<tr>
<td>Horseshoes &amp; Shuffleboard – Nevin Park</td>
<td>5/24/18</td>
<td>9:00am</td>
<td>3:00pm</td>
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<tr>
<td>3 on 3 Basketball (Men &amp; Women) - Tom Sykes Rec. Center</td>
<td>5/30/18</td>
<td>5:00pm</td>
<td>9:00pm</td>
<td>4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Billiards - Rack ‘em Billiards</td>
<td>5/31/18</td>
<td>11:30am</td>
<td>3:30pm</td>
<td>2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Pickle Ball singles, doubles &amp; mixed doubles - Crews Road Rec. Center (Matthews)</td>
<td>6/2/18</td>
<td>9:00am</td>
<td>5:00pm</td>
<td>6</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

*Contact VolunteerServices@MeckNC.gov for more information and to sign up to Volunteer!*
**Therapeutic and Inclusive Recreation Services**

**MONTHLY THERAPEUTIC RECREATION (TR) DANCE!**

LOCATION: MARION DIEHL REC. CENTER
- 2219 Tyvola Road, 28210

DATE OF EVENT: 3rd FRIDAY EACH MONTH
- April 20 – 50’s Sock Hop
- May 18 – Masquerade Ball
- June 8 (2nd Friday) – Jungle Boogie

VOLUNTEERS NEEDED: 5:30PM TO 9:30PM
NUMBER OF VOLUNTEERS NEEDED: 3 TO 10

*The TR Dance* is the place to be on the 3rd Friday of each month! Teens to adults with disabilities dance the night away at these FUN themed events. Volunteers are needed to help with set-up/tear down, serving food and drinks, and helping with crafts, games or other activities. *Volunteers must be at least 18 years old.*

**NEW! Mystery Dinner**

LOCATION: TYVOLA SENIOR CENTER
- 2225 Tyvola Road, Charlotte, 28210

DATE OF EVENT: Saturday, April 14

VOLUNTEERS NEEDED: 5:00PM TO 8:00PM
NUMBER OF VOLUNTEERS NEEDED: Up to 8

The NEW Mystery Dinner is a great opportunity for a fun-loving group! Diners aged 15 and up with disabilities will work together to figure out who is the “criminal” in the crowd! Volunteers are needed to help with set-up/tear down, games or other activities, serving food and drinks – and may even take part in the drama! *Volunteers must be at least 18 years old.*

**DISABILITY AWARENESS PICNIC**

LOCATION: MARION DIEHL RECREATION CENTER
2219 Tyvola Road, Charlotte, 28210

DATE OF EVENT: Saturday, April 28

VOLUNTEERS NEEDED: 7:30AM TO 2:30PM
NUMBER OF VOLUNTEERS NEEDED: Up to 10

Support your community at the 1st Disability Awareness Picnic offered by Therapeutic & Inclusive Recreation Services! Activities will include crafts, games and display booths to help raise awareness about various populations and opportunities for individuals with disabilities. Volunteers are needed to help with set-up/tear down, serving food and drinks, and helping with booths and activities. *Volunteers must be at least 18 years old.*

*Contact VolunteerServices@MeckNC.gov to sign up for any of these events!*

**Learning, Impacting and Teaching (L.I.T) Program for Youth and Teens**

LOCATION: WEST CHARLOTTE RECREATION CENTER
- 2401 Kendall Drive, Charlotte, 28216

DAYS/TIMES: Monday-Thursday, 3:30PM – 6:30PM each day

VOLUNTEERS NEEDED: 1-3 hours each date, set schedule with staff

NUMBER OF VOLUNTEERS NEEDED: 2-3 per day

Volunteers are needed to help with:
Assisting youth and teens with homework in various subjects. This is a great opportunity to set a positive example for students!

*Volunteers must be at least 18 years old for this ongoing opportunity, and must join the Volunteer Program.*

Please contact VolunteerServices@MeckNC.gov to register as a volunteer!
VOLUNTEER ENROLLMENT TIPS

We LOVE our Volunteers, and we want to make it EASY for you to come and help your community! Here are a few tips for you...THANK YOU for taking the time to support YOUR Park & Recreation Department!

YOU DO **NOT** NEED TO REGISTER/JOIN THE VOLUNTEER PROGRAM:
- For one-day events or projects
- For helping with a program ONE time (Example: chaperoning ONE field trip for an after-school program)

YOU **MUST** REGISTER/JOIN THE VOLUNTEER PROGRAM:
- To be a Coach for any sport
- To assist with an ongoing program on a regular basis (Example: tutoring once a week; teaching ESL)

*Please contact VolunteerServices@MeckNC.gov if you are not sure whether or not you need to enroll for a volunteer project, event or program. We are happy to assist you!*

CONTACT US!

For more information on volunteering for any of our programs or projects, please contact:

Karen Howard at 980-314-1046
Karen.Howard@MeckNC.gov

Pamela Thomas at 980-314-1059
Pamela.Thomas@MeckNC.gov

**PLEASE NOTE:** Volunteers under the age of 16 must be accompanied by a parent/adult, who is at least 21 years old.

*Volunteers working with Therapeutic & Inclusive Recreation Services (TIRS) must be at least 18 years old.*

Volunteer Services Program Mission Statement

1. To assist Mecklenburg County Park and Recreation Department staff in providing services needed to offer quality recreation and leisure services to the community by:
   - Supporting direct services provided by salaried department staff.
   - Supplementing administrative, clerical, maintenance and other internal support service functions.

2. To provide the Citizens of Mecklenburg County opportunities for Citizen Involvement and to increase their awareness of the Department’s Responsibilities, Services and Results.