



**WE RISE
TOGETHER**
ONE COMMUNITY, ONE TEAM

RISE TOGETHER - JULY 5, 2023

SPOTLIGHT ON DE&I

THE IMPORTANCE OF UNIVERSALLY ACCESSIBLE PLAYGROUNDS

Playgrounds play an important role in the development of children, in many ways serving as their first classroom. Just as education should be accessible to everyone, all children, regardless of any disabilities, should be able to enjoy the fun that comes along with playing on a playground.

In addition to providing a space for all children to have fun in, universally accessible playgrounds help promote inclusion from a young age and allow kids of all physical ability levels to come together and have fun. This is why universally accessible playgrounds are so important.

At Columbus Recreation and Parks, we strive to create an environment that is inclusive to all, whether they are residents or staff members. This extends into the design of our playgrounds. As we prepare to enter Disability Pride Month this July, we encourage you to visit some of our universally accessible playgrounds, which can be found at Carriage Place Park, Livingston Park, Rhodes Park, Sullivant Gardens Park and Whetstone Park.

[View a map of all department playgrounds, including universally accessible playgrounds.](#)

ONGOING AND UPCOMING CELEBRATIONS

- **Disability Pride Month (July):** Celebrates the 1990 enactment of the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA), a landmark U.S. civil rights law that prohibits discrimination against individuals with disabilities in all areas of public life, including jobs, schools, transportation, and all public and private places that are open to the general public. The first official Disability Pride celebration occurred in 2015.
- **Somali Independence Day (July 1):** A national holiday observed in Somalia to celebrate the unification of the Trust Territory of Somaliland and the State of Somaliland into the Somali Republic on July 1, 1960. Columbus boasts a Somali community of approximately 45,000-50,000.
- **Americans with Disabilities Act (July 26):** The anniversary of the enactment of the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA), which was signed on July 26, 1990.

CULTURAL CELEBRATIONS AROUND TOWN

- **Pop of Africa Pop Shop:** July 8, 12-7 p.m. at 2470 Cleveland Ave.
- **All Disabilities Festival:** July 16, 12-5 p.m. at Genoa Park (303 W. Broad St.)

Share your opinion with the DEI Committee by filling out this quick [online survey](#). Your input is valuable and it will help





IREPORTS REMINDERS AND NEW RESOURCES

The department implemented iReports eight months ago to capture all safety-related reports. Thank you all for your efforts in implementing the system! Here are a few reminders:

- You must enter the Injury/Incident/Accident under your own log in; your supervisors can't do it for you
- You must enter your direct supervisor's name so Safety can assign a follow-up
- Don't forget the timelines - you have two days to report an incident, and two weeks to complete paperwork
- Ensure you have notifications turned on so you receive reminders when you need to take action; turn on notifications/alerts under Account Settings in iReports

Also, Safety has developed a new packet you can refer to in the event you have Injury/Vehicle Accident/Property Damage or an Incident of Importance to report. The packet replaces the Vehicle and Sedgwick/Careworks packet and contains resources such as:

- A fact sheet
- A cheat sheet that lists what information to gather so you can complete a report in iReports, and what to do after a vehicle accident
- A map of Bureau of Workers' Compensation (BWC) providers and an Incident Report in the event you're injured and need to seek care
- Where to drop off needles for disposal
- City fuel locations and oil change services
- An EAP card

Managers are asked to place a packet in the glovebox of all City vehicles, and all buildings are asked to keep a packet with their safety materials. If you need to replace documents that have been used, you can [download them from the intranet](#).

If you have any questions, please contact Sherry Booth at SHBooth@columbus.gov.

7/10/2023

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| 16 | 17 | 18 | 19 | 20 | 21 | 22 |
| 23 | 24 | 25 | 26 | 27 | 28 | 29 |
| 30 | 31 | 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 |

April 25

All day

YOUTH SOCCER 23/24 LEAGUE REGISTRATION

All day

CULTURAL ARTS CENTER CLASSES - SESSION 4 REGISTRATION

All day

YOUTH BASEBALL, SOFTBALL AND TEE BALL FALL LEAGUE REGISTRATION

All day

ADULT SOFTBALL LEAGUES - SUMMER II SESSION REGISTRATION

SHARE YOUR THOUGHTS!



recognized at work?

kfrancisapr@gmail.com [Switch account](#)

Not shared



* Indicates required question

How do you like to be recognized at work? *

- In front of my immediate team
- In a large meeting such as a section-wide meeting
- An email or note
- A casual in-person thank you from my manager
- In the newsletter

Submit

Clear form

A casual in-perso...
23.4%



An email or
5

LEADERSHIP UPDATE

STAFF SPOTLIGHT

**MALCOLM
WILKES**
HE/HIM/HIS

Section
Center Manager, Westgate Community Center

Length of Employment
6 1/2 years



What's your favorite aspect of Columbus Recreation and Parks?



What's your favorite project that you have worked on?

Helping establish the new Youth Sports Office.

What is your favorite ice cream flavor?

Chocolate

What is your favorite book or movie?

The Dark Knight

What is one piece of advice you have?

Be engaged and flexible with what you do, but also remember to prioritize yourself.

Nominate A Coworker for the Staff Spotlight

[Fill out this form to nominate a coworker.](#) They will be notified that they were nominated in order to answer spotlight questions.

ARCHIVE

2023



2022



NATURE

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WELLNESS

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