

Town of Manchester Leisure, Family and Recreation
Upcoming Programs & Events
Weekly Report Updated: Thursday, February 22, 2018

What's Happening in the World of the...

Recreation Division

39 Lodge Drive (main office), 860-647-3084

Aquatics

Now Hiring – Water Safety Instructors: Looking for Water Safety Instructors to teach swimming lessons to youth 6 months – 12 years of age. Hours are flexible including nights and weekends. Pay begins at \$12.50/hr. Visit recreation.townofmanchester.org and click on General Information for a job description and application!

Aqua Fitness: Did you know that there are multiple different adult aquatic fitness classes taking place at the Manchester High School indoor pools? Register today for classes like Aqua Circuit, Total Aqua, Swim for Fitness and Aqua Arthritis. No matter your skill level or availability, you're bound to find the right class for you!

Swim Lessons: Register now for Infant, Toddler, Preschool and Level 1 – 6 swimming lessons. Some lessons have filled, so be sure to register soon! Please note that our youth swim lessons are for Manchester residents only.

Aqua Egg Hunt: *Please note that the time slot for children ages 2 – 4 is full, but there is still ONE more spot currently open for children ages 5 – 9!* Join us for our Aqua Egg Hunt at MHS on Saturday, March 24th where children ages 2 – 8 will collect floating and sinking eggs and enjoy a visit from the Bunny! Bring a bucket to collect eggs and then turn them into the Bunny's helper for a prize. Swim attire is required. Children 4 years and under must be accompanied by a parent in the water. Children who are not potty trained must wear a swim diaper. Pre-registration is required. Bring your camera! There is a \$3.00 fee and this program is for Manchester residents only.

Life Guard Training: *Only FOUR more spots open* Looking for a great summer job? Through video, group discussion and hands-on practice, learn patron rescue and surveillance skills, first Aid and CPR/AED. Successful candidates will receive a 2 year CPR/AED certification and a 2 year Lifeguard certification. Prerequisites: must be at least 15 years of age and pass certain swimming requirements. Attendance at each class is mandatory. Register now for this program that will be held on Tuesday evenings from 7:30 – 9:30 at the MHS Main Pool.

Water Safety Instructor: This American Red Cross certification program is offered to interested individuals 16 years of age and older to become certified to teach swimming lessons. Register now for this program that will be held on Thursday evenings from 7:30 – 9:30pm at the MHS Main Pool.

Adult Programming

Pickleball: Register now for Pickleball which takes places at the Nathan Hale Activity Center, 160 Spruce Street. Pickleball is on Monday, Tuesday and Thursday nights from 6:00 – 8:00pm. Register today by visiting reconline.townofmanchester.org, or by calling 860-647-3084!

Adult Fitness at Center Springs: Register now for a great workout at the Center Springs Activity Room with classes such as Team Active, Walk Live, Team Fit After Work, or our Adult Boot Camp!

Adult Fitness at the Community Y Rec Center: Looking for a sign to get going on that New Year's Resolution? Well here it is! Register now for great classes at the Community Y Rec Center such as Tapercize, Yoga for Active Lifestyles, Strength for Life, Total Body Plus, or Barre!

See Aquatics above for Adult Aquatic Fitness information.

Youth Programming

Summer Camp 2018: It is almost that time again! The Summer Camp 2018 registration packets will be available online at recreation.townofmanchester.org (Summer Camp Information link), at Center Springs Main Office, Mahoney Rec Center,

Community Y Rec Center and Town Hall Customer Service on March 1, 2018. Registration forms **MUST** be mailed in (packets will not be accepted if handed in, or emailed) by March 31, 2018. Please note that registration is done by lottery; the lottery process will begin Monday, April 2nd. Summer Camp will take place from July 2 – August 10 at the following sites: Bowers/Mahoney/Martin/Robertson (youth 5 – 11), Bennet (teens 11 – 13), Manchester Regional Academy (teens 13 – 15), and Nathan Hale Activity Center (RLT 15 year olds). For the full Summer Camp 2018 informational flyer please visit recreation.townofmanchester.org !

Mural Madness: Work closely with staff at the Bennet Leisure Center and local artist Jeff Slobodien to learn how to make a mural. Students will also participate in a local art show and create and install a mural in Manchester! Register now for this creative program that is held on Thursdays from 6:15 – 7:15pm!

Start Smart: Parents work together with their children in a supportive environment to learn the basics of sports. Start Smart teaches children a variety of skills. Parent involvement is required. Register now for Start Smart Basketball which began February 3rd and Start Smart Baseball which will begin in April. Start Smart programming is held on Saturday mornings at the Community Y Rec Center for 3 – 5 year olds. The fee is \$65.00 for residents and \$82.00 for non-residents and includes equipment. Please note that the 10am session for Start Smart Basketball is full, but there are still 2 spots left in the 9am session!

Indoor Tennis: Kids ages 4 – 12 will learn the basic tennis lessons – groundstroke, backhand, forehand, volleying and serving. Please wear gym clothes and bring a racquet. Indoor Tennis takes place in the evening at the Mahoney Rec Center starting Tuesday, April 3rd. Be sure to register soon as the 4 – 7 year old lessons are full and there are only TWO more spots left open in the first session of the 8 – 12 year old lessons!

Bennet Leisure Center Clubs and Programs: Bennet Leisure Center is a recreation center that provides programming for 6th graders, weekday evening drop-in recreation programs and family community events. Residents can also use this site to register for programs and obtain recreation passes. There is no fee, but Recreation cards are required. Come to 22 School Street Monday – Friday from 6:00 – 9:00pm to join in on fun programs such as Chess Club, Indoor Soccer, Dodgeball, Flag Football, Creative Arts and our Game Activity Club!

Nathan Hale Drop In Rec: Drop-in basketball, board games, active games, arts & crafts and more have started at the Nathan Hale Activity Center, 160 Spruce Street, for children ages 5 – 18. There is no fee, but Recreation cards are required. Come join us on Saturdays from 12:00 – 5:00pm!

See Aquatics above for information on swimming lessons.

Free Family Fun Nights

The Bremen Town Musicians: What are a donkey, dog, cat and a rooster to do when they have to leave the farm? Try and become world famous musicians of course! Join Cactus Head Puppets for the hilarious tale of four farm animals that set out on the road to Bremen to pursue their dreams of fame and fortune, and come together to create beautiful music and a new home. Show length is 45 minutes plus Q&A after the show. Join us for this free Family Fun Night on Friday, February 23rd from 6:30 – 7:30pm at the Nathan Hale Activity Center, 160 Spruce Street.

Hip Hop for Health: DJ, MC, dance instruction, floor games, and more! This free Family Fun Night will promote the importance of stretching and healthy choices. It will also discuss the benefits of dancing as an exercise and creative outlet promoting self-confidence. Join us on Friday, March 9th from 6:30 – 8:00pm at the Nathan Hale Activity Center, 160 Spruce Street. Call 860-647-3089 for more information!

Membership & Registration

Membership: The new membership year began September 1st and with it came our exciting new card system! Now youth, adults and seniors of Manchester can choose between a wallet sized card, or key chain sized cards, which will be renewed year to year instead of printing new cards every year. Membership cards can be obtained at the Center Springs Main Office, Community Y Rec Center and Customer Service at Town Hall. Senior cards can also be purchased at the Senior Center. Please note that youth cards can no longer be processed at the libraries. Proof of residency is required each year when obtaining your card to verify current resident status. Membership cards are valid at all of our rec centers, indoor and outdoor pools, as well as the Fitness Center at the Community Y Rec Center. Come visit us today!

Program Registration: Please note that the Winter/Spring program (January – May) registration is ongoing for both residents and non-residents! Registration can be done online, in person, or over the phone. Payment, when applicable,

is due at the time of registration; online and phone registration can be processed using Visa or MasterCard. Our full winter/spring program brochure is available online at recreation.townofmanchester.org by clicking the Brochures link!

Office of Neighborhoods and Families Division 153 Spruce Street, 860-647-3089

Free Family Fun Nights

Bits & Pieces: Play with bits and pieces as you and your child craft your own collage and mosaic masterpieces. This event will also be featuring Building Healthy Families' Imagination Playground, an indoor play experience for children ages 0 – 5. Join us for this free Family Fun Night on Friday, March 2nd from 6:30 – 8:00pm at Gallery 153, 153 Spruce Street.

Youth Programming

Write Out Loud Open Mic Nights: Come take part in youth-led poetry and hip hop dance workshops and then close your night with performing and/or cheering on others who display their talent and creativity in front of an encouraging audience! Open Mic Nights will be at the Eastside Neighborhood Resource Center, 153 Spruce Street. Performers will be youth ages 13 – 19 and the audience/workshop attendees will be of all ages! The next Write Out Loud Open Mic Night will be Friday, February 23rd from 5:00 – 8:00pm. This is a free drop-in program, so come join us!

E.Y.E.S. LEGO Mini Camps: Mini-camp sessions offered during the week of April vacation to introduce your child to a new and exciting S.T.E.A.M. program (full camps to be offered the summer of 2018). This program uses LEGO as the tool for experiential learning and reinforcing S.T.E.A.M. concepts. Register online now by visiting reconline.townofmanchester.org, or call 860-647-3089 for more information!

Adult Learnshops

Tag Sales 101: Clean out the clutter, simplify your lifestyle, make some money and save the landfills by selling your extra things. In this class we will talk about planning, organizing and promoting your tag sale or garage sale. We will also discuss set-up, pricing and ways to display your things to catch the eye of the customer. Props, hand-outs and lively discussion will help you have the best tag sale in town! Register now for this program being held on Wednesday, March 7th from 6:00 – 8:00pm at the Eastside Neighborhood Resource Center.

Organic Lawn Care: Late February to mid-March is a good time to improve your lawn for the season, before the weed seems germinate! Organic lawn care is very low cost, low maintenance and safer than the multistep programs. We will discuss soil improvements, seed types and the full year of care; hand-outs will be provided. Relax with your lawn! Register now for this program being held on Saturday, March 10th from 9:00 – 11:30am at the Eastside Neighborhood Resource Center.

Youth Service Bureau Division 63 Linden Street, 860-647-5213

Early Childhood Programming

Early Childhood Center: Registration is ongoing for Early Childhood programming at the Northwest Park Early Childhood Center. Register today for wonderful programming such as Wonder Years, Wee Two, Happy Together, Cradle to Crayons and the Mommy & Me Playgroup!

Early Childhood Fair: Join us on Saturday, March 10th from 9:00am – 12:00pm at the Manchester High School. This fair is free, open to the public and provides a wealth of information on programs, services, recreation and local resources available for infants, toddlers, preschoolers and young children up to age 8. There will be free play activities through Manchester Plays On! and a musical performance by Practice the Cactus, so mark your calendars!

Youth Programming

Strengthening Families: This program is a skills training program found to significantly improve parenting skills and family relationships, reduce problem behaviors, delinquency and alcohol & drug abuse in children, and improve social competencies and school performance. Dinner will be served each night to the full family. Please let us know if you will need free babysitting services for younger siblings when you register. This program will be held on Monday evenings from 5:30 – 8:00pm at the Youth Service Bureau. Strengthening Families will start on Monday, February 26th targeting youth ages 9 – 14 years for no cost.

Teen Center: The YSB Teen Center is open Monday – Friday from 2:30 – 5:30pm. Teens are asked to bring their recreation cards as they will now be swiped at the Teen Center. If your child does not have a recreation card, they can now obtain one right at the Teen Center!

Miscellaneous

Coat Drive: The Teen Center is looking for new hats, gloves, scarves and gently used coats for Manchester youth. Any donation is appreciated. Items can be dropped off at the Youth Service Bureau, 63 Linden Street, weekdays from 8:00am – 4:30pm, or call us at 860-647-5213 to arrange for pick up at other Town of Manchester buildings. If you are able, please consider donating some winter gear to keep our Manchester youth nice and warm!