



2022/2023

**Lower Makefield Township
Parks and Recreation
Annual Report**

Welcome



We did it! We are the first Parks and Recreation agency in Pennsylvania to hold National Accreditation. This was a true community effort. Township staff, volunteers, interns, advisory boards, and the Board of Supervisors all worked closely to achieve this goal. It was a true labor of love, and sometimes not love. I am happy to say that Team LMT pulled it off.

Accreditation means that you are being served by one of the best agencies in the country, that we have innovative thinking, review procedures in place, and that we are being held accountable to a national standard of excellence. Since 2019, we have been dedicated to this process recognizing that this will allow us to organize the parks department in a way that is professional, timely, transparent and community driven.

Now, as an accredited parks and recreation agency, we will work hard to live up to CAPRA standards and continue to serve you at our highest capacity. As you will see in this report, we have been working diligently to continue to implement the plans we created during the CAPRA process. We are dedicated to review our process, policies, and procedures.

Previously our report was cumbersome and difficult to navigate. After reviewing our previous reports, we determined that this format would better suite the needs of the Township. This year we have consolidated our report to make it more readable for you.

We know that even through the toughest of times this community will rally around each other, and our staff will continue to exceed expectations. Our parks will continue to flourish, programs will evolve, and facilities will continue to improve.

Thank you to everyone who makes this department shine!

Monica Tierney, MEd., MBA, CPRE
Director of Parks and Recreation
Lower Makefield Township, PA 19067





Boards and Staff

Board of Supervisors

Fredric K. Weiss, Chair
 Suzanne S. Blundi, Vice Chair
 James McCartney, Treasurer
 John B. Lewis, Secretary
 Daniel R. Grenier, Supervisor

Park and Recreation Advisory Board

Doug Krauss, Chair
 Michael Brody, Vice Chair
 Kim Rock, Secretary
 David Malinowski, Member
 Rob LaBar, Member
 Dennis Wysocki, Member
 Michael Blundi, Member
 Board of Supervisor Liaison:
 Fredric K. Weiss

Parks and Recreation Staff

Monica Tierney, Director
 Lynn Todd, Operations Manager
 Elizabeth Lawson, Program Manager
 Caitlin (Cat) Adams, Aquatics Manager
 Kathleen Howell, Membership Services Coordinator
 Souyma Belagodu, Administrative Assistant
 Bob Copson, Maintenance Lead
 Victor Guze, Maintenance Crew
 Rob Mason, Maintenance Crew
 Dan Ringhauser, Maintenance Crew
 Harry Mayer, Maintenance Crew

Part Time

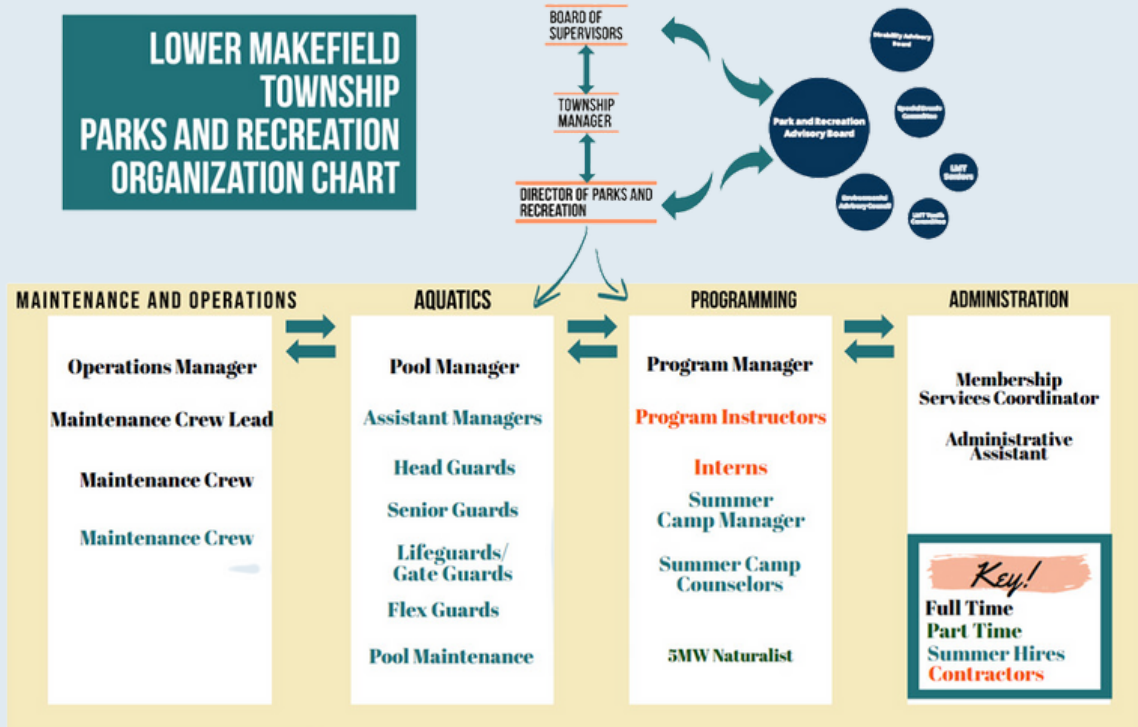
John Heilferty, Naturalist

Township Manager

David Kratzer

Police Chief/Emergency Management Coordinator

Ken Coluzzi



Mission, Vision and Goals

Lower Makefield Township Parks and Recreation Department is committed to providing top-notch parks and recreation facilities and services for all residents through three key themes:



Health

Improve physical health, mental health and overall quality of life by offering safe and accessible facilities and open space.



Environment

Act as environmental stewards through responsible use of the natural environment and protect and maintain Parks and Recreation assets.



Community

Create opportunities for the community to connect through a wide variety of partnerships, programs, events and classes.

Play for All

Lower Makefield Township has a set of big picture goals for the Township Master Plan and recently refined goals for the Parks and Recreation Master and Strategic Plan titled the *Play for All Plan* this year.

Play for All Plan Goals

Goal 1: Protect green space and provide a plan for stewardship.

Goal 2: “Play for All”—Continue to improve parks, recreation, and nature-based facilities that serve residents of all ages, interests, and abilities.

Goal 3: Connect the Township with safe places to bicycle and walk.

Goal 4: Engage residents in active living through recreation opportunities for all ages, abilities and interests that focus on fun, health, nature, self-improvement, and building a sense of community.

Goal 5: Continue to provide excellence in operations, management, and financing to yield the greatest public benefit.



Play for All Progress

Use this QR code for more information



Connectivity

LMT has made it a priority to provide connectivity for people to bike and walk through the Township and beyond.



Completed 3,700 linear feet of trail on Edgewood Rd. and Oxford Valley Rd. linking residents to key amenities.



In Progress: a 3,200 linear feet of trail on Woodside Rd. that will link the Township with Yardley Borough.



In Progress: Applying for a grant to connect three key areas that will create linkages between amenities, shops, and schools.

Pathway to Zero Waste

The Environmental Advisory Council introduced a Pathway to Zero Waste Plan that was approved by the BOS and the Park and Recreation Advisory Board. Implementation began in 2023.



In 2023 waste receptacles were retired from passive parks. Carry in, carry out model was implemented.



In 2024 waste receptacles will be limited in active parks. Carry in, carry out model will be implemented.

Snipes

Snipes has a long history of planning in LMT that can be found by using the QR code at the top of the page.



The BOS engaged Natural Lands to do a prioritization study which would determine areas that should be protected.



Natural Lands performed a site assessment in the Winter of 2022 and the spring of 2023.



Once Natural Lands completes its report, they will present findings to the BOS.

ADA Transition Plan

LMT has been working to make all the parks accessible. Below are a few projects we worked on in the past year:



Completed a new parking space in Memorial Park that makes the 9/11 Monument and Tennis Courts more accessible.



BOS Approved funding for projects at Veterans Square and Memorial Park Playground.



The Township received funding from the PECO Green Region Grant to build a section of accessible pathway at 5-Mile Woods.

Macclesfield Park Master Plan

Lower Makefield Township recently adopted a new Parks and Recreation Play for All Master Plan and part of the plan is the rehabilitation of Macclesfield Park due to its high traffic, congestion, and overuse.



The Board of Supervisors selected Johnson, Mirmiran & Thompson, Inc. (JMT) for this project.



The purpose of this would be to devise solutions for community and league needs for ball fields and support facilities such as parking circulation.



For information on this project, please use the QR Code on the top of the page.

Projects

There are many projects the Township is undertaking over the next few years. Please follow along by using the QR code at the top of the page.



COMPLETE: Schuyler Tennis Courts, Community Trail, Memorial Park East Pickleball/Tennis.



IN PROGRESS: Memorial Park East, Heacock Playground replacement, Five Mile Woods trail project, Woodside Road bike paths.



UPCOMING PROJECTS: Veterans Square ADA improvements and playground replacement, rubberized surface replacement at Memorial Park.



CAPRA

Use this QR code for more information



Commission for Accreditation of Parks and Recreation Agencies

Lower Makefield Township officially earned Accreditation in September of 2022 through the Commission for Accreditation of Parks and Recreation Agencies (CAPRA).

CAPRA Commission has a 15 Member Board

- National Recreation and Park Association (5 representatives)
- American Academy for Park and Recreation Administration (5 representatives)
- International City/County Management Association (1 representative)
- Council of State Executive Directors (1 representative)
- The Academy of Leisure Sciences (1 representative)
- National Association of County Park and Recreation Officials (1 representative)
- Armed Forces Recreation Network (1 representative)



Fun Facts:

- LMT is the first Parks and Recreation agency in Pennsylvania to achieve National Accreditation.
- LMT is 1 of 5 accredited agencies in the Northeast.
- LMT is 1 of 193 Accredited agencies in the Nation.

CAPRA History

“The CAPRA standards were developed by a special committee initiated in 1989 by the American Academy for Park and Recreation Administration (AAPRA) and the National Recreation and Park Association (NRPA). The standards and accreditation process were field tested at park and recreation agencies of varying characteristics. In 1993, the Commission for Accreditation of Park and Recreation Agencies (CAPRA) was established to implement and administer agency accreditation. Since then, the CAPRA standards have been reviewed and revised several times, notably in 1996, 2001, 2009, 2014 and 2019. The current CAPRA Standards are evaluated on a continuous basis to maintain relevance to the industry and published annually.”

(CAPRA ACCREDITATION HANDBOOK)



2022 Events Summary

Use this QR code for more information



Ceremonies & Veterans

9/11 Events

Location: Garden of Reflection
Date: Week of September 11, 2022
Morning ceremony
Evening Ceremony
5k Race
Estimated Participation: 2,500

Race the Course

Location: Makefield Highlands
Date: November 4, 2022
Vendors: PA American Water
Weather: 70 Degrees
Participants: 32

Veterans Parade / Ceremony

Location: Edgewood Rd. and Veterans Square
Date: November 5, 2022
Weather: 77 Degrees
Participants: 43 Organizations
Attendance: Approximately 2,000



Family Fun



Egg-Stravaganza

Location: All parks
Date: April 13-15, 2022
Eggs hidden: 5,000

5K Any Way

Location: Macclesfield Park
Date: August 6, 2022
Participants: 104

Zumba After Dark

Zumba After Dark:
Location: Community Park
Date: September 16, 2022

Community Day

Date: August 27, 2022
Location: Edgewood School and Community Park
Vendors: 22

Non-Food Vendors: 18
Basketball 3v3: 150
Participants: 35 Teams
Entertainment: 5 bands, 8 rides, facepainting, pony rides, balloon twisting, fire trucks.
Weather: 86 Degrees, 41% Humidity, sunny. real feel 96 Degrees.

Monster Mash

Date: October 7, 2022
Location: Community Center
Participants: 100

Holiday Craft Fair

Location: Community Center
Date: December 8, 2022
Attendance: 500
Vendors: 28 craft vendors
Entertainment: Mr. and Mrs. Clause, Bucks County Singers
Weather: 56 Degrees and Rainy

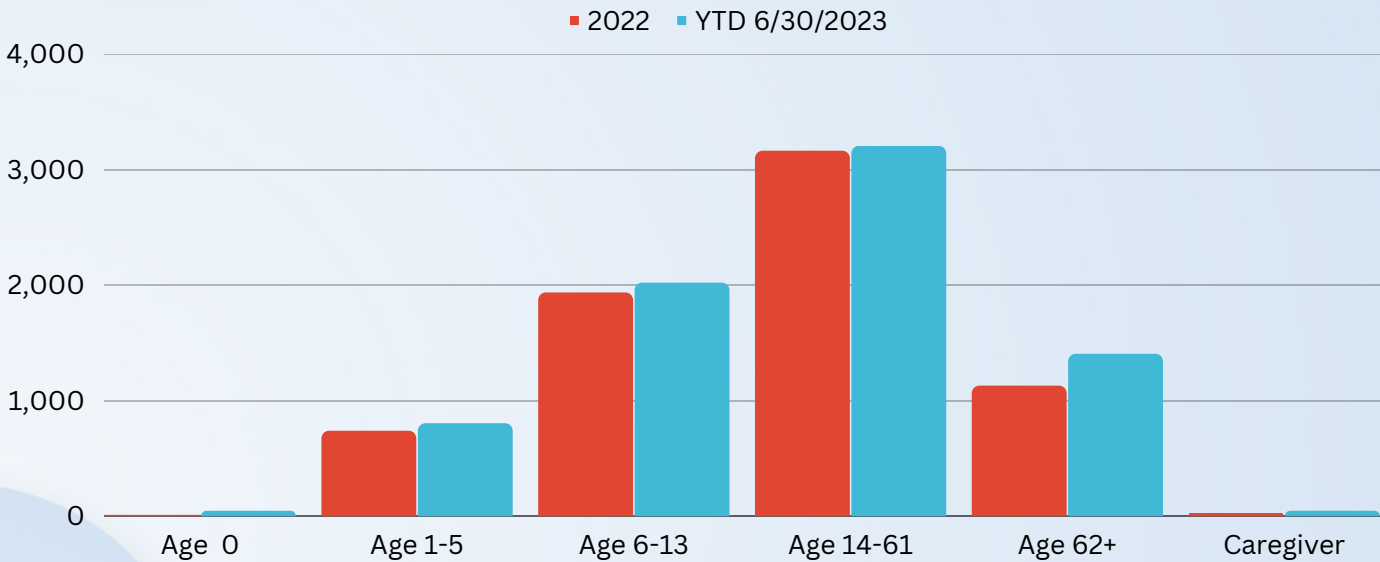


Pool

Use this QR code for more information



2022/2023 Registration by Age



What's New in 2023

American Red Cross Lifeguard Courses:

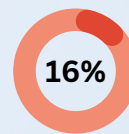
From this training LMT received two staff applications from the first course and anticipates more interest after running the August course.

American Red Cross Jr. Lifeguard Camp:

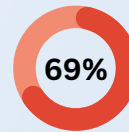
This one-week specialty camp is designed to engage tweens who are not quite old enough to be certified as lifeguards and have an interest in water safety.

Adult Swim Clinic: This program was not successful this year, it was cancelled due to low enrollment. In speaking with pool members, management believes there is a strong interest in this program, but lack of marketing prevented it from really taking off.

2022 Registration Statistics



Of all pool members are Seniors.



Of members are Township Residents.

- The Pool played host to 6,997 members in 2022.
- The Pool played host to 2,022 guest visits in 2022.
- The Pool had 74,935 people scan in at the gate in 2022.**
- 483 Members participated in group lessons.
- 136 Members participated in private lessons.

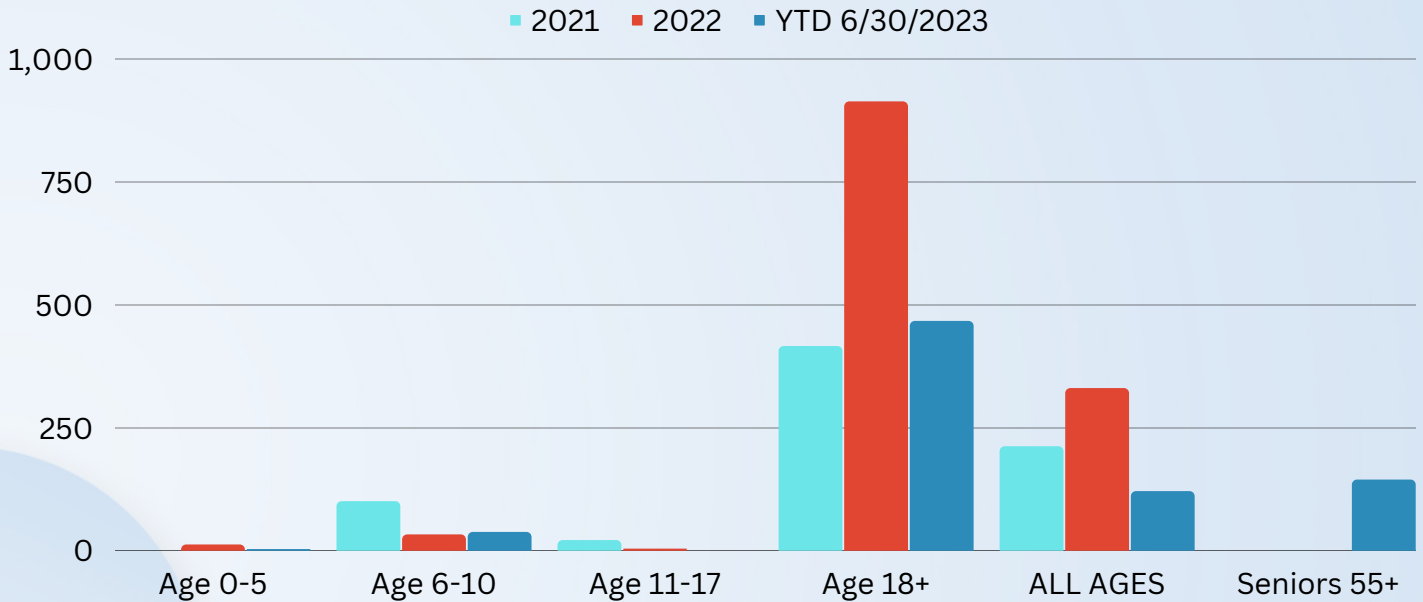


Programs

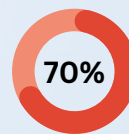
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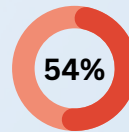
Participants by Age



Registration statistics



Of program participants in 2022 were over the age of 18.



Of program participants in 2021 were over the age of 18.

What's New in 2023

We used community needs to determine how we would identify new programs. A program determinants tool was developed to aid department staff in decision making about programming. Every program proposal is monitored and evaluated using key measurements that determines if the program is filling a true community need. We also evaluated our current programs to ensure they were up to par and still a need for the Township.

Programming served 1,292 participants in 2022.

Program participation doubled from 2021 to 2022.

YTD program participation as of June 30, 2023 is 593 participants.

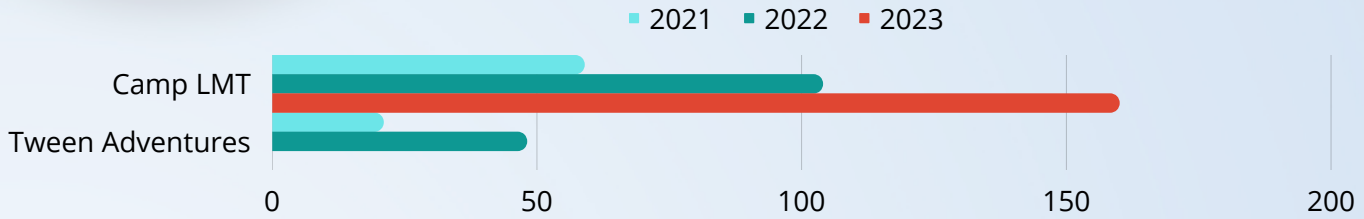


Summer Camp

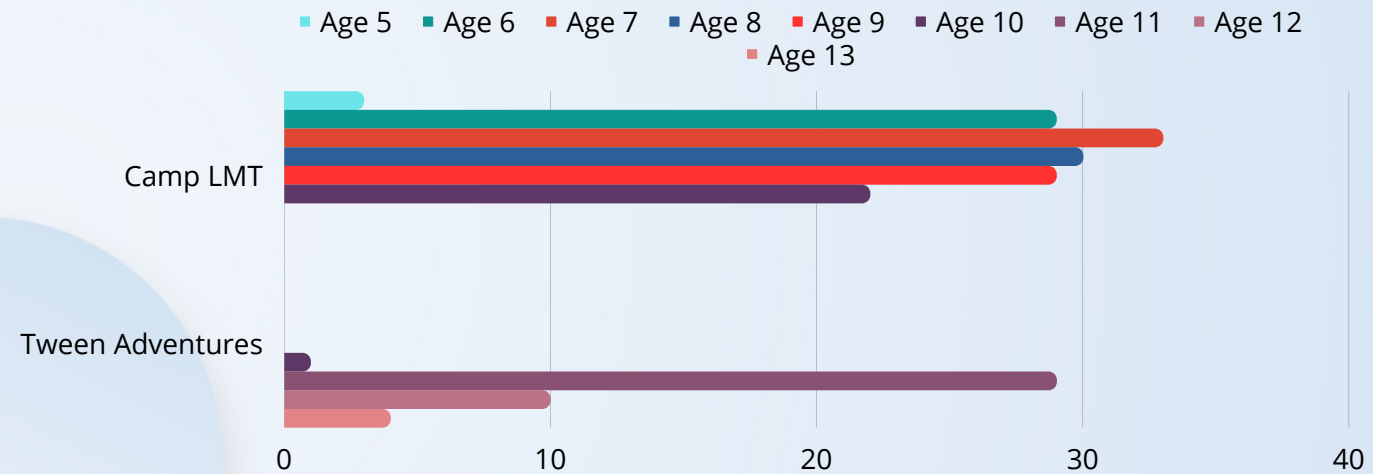
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Summer Camp Program Growth 2021 -2023



2023 Camp by age

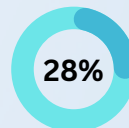


Growth

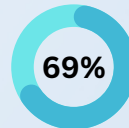
As the programs were coming back in 2022, we struggled to find enough space to house Camp LMT, Tween Adventures, LMT Seniors and LMT Parks and Recreation Programming. In addition there was a large demand for camp to expand. To fulfil our square footage, we added a tent so campers could enjoy a "indoor" space. During our after action meeting, we realized that a tent is not the best solution.

In 2023, with the cooperation of the Pennsbury School District, we were able to utilize Edgewood Elementary School. While we still have a waiting list, this helped provide more LMT families with an affordable summer camp.

2023 Registration statistics



The largest share of campers were 7 years old.



Tween Adventures campers age 11.

Over **90%** of our campers are Pennsbury School District students.

2022 we piloted Tween Adventures due to a disparity in programming for tween and teens in our population.

LMT Parks and Rec used the Township van to transport campers from site to site for extended services.

New in 2023



Art in the Parks

Use this QR code for more information









Meeting Community Needs

In 2022, the Community Needs Assessment identified that there was a need for more arts and culture in the parks and was added to the Play for all Plan as an area to address. As a follow up [AOY Art Center](#) and the Parks and Recreation Department put their heads together to find a way to imbed art within the parks. After reaching out to [Seward Johnson Atelier](#) located next to the Grounds for Sculpture, we identified a project partner that would allow the Township to host sculptures for a six-month period within the parks.

The theme of the project is the vision of the Parks Department "Play for All." This allows the Township and the Artist of Yardley to imbed eight sculptures throughout the parks and implement programming that encompasses all forms of art to include visual and performing arts.

2023 Art and the Park Programming

-  Sunday Strolls with AOY
-  Movie and Picnic in the Park
-  Ultimate Frisbee Demo
-  Art Show in Memorial Park
-  Pickleball Demo
-  Silly Stories with LMT Series

Project Partners

AOY Art Center
Seward Johnson Atelier
Visit Bucks County



Other P&R Offerings

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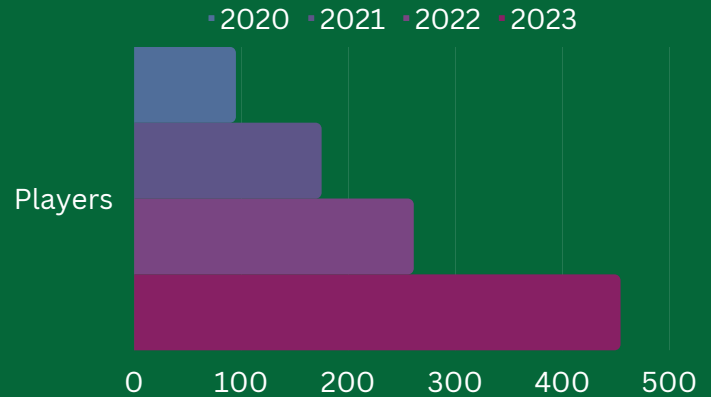


2022 Community Volunteers



- 81** Special Events and Programs
- 6** Pickleball
- 140** Lower Makefield Football Association
- 246** Yardley Makefield Soccer
- 120** Pennsbury Athletic Association
- 90** Township Committees

2022 Pickleball Meetup



2022 Facility Rentals



- 81** Community Center
- 12** Parks Permits
- 118** Pavilion Permits

2022 Dog Park Statistics

- 333** Resident dogs
- 18** Non-Resident dogs
- 257** People participated in orientation.

2022 LMT Sanctioned Leagues fall user numbers

- Yardley Makefield Soccer**
R- 756, NR - 510, NR Pennsbury-87
- Lower Makefield Football Association**
R- 337, NR - 269, NR Pennsbury - 124
- Pennsbury Athletic Association**
R- 211, NR - 114, NR Pennsbury - 64
- LMT Swim and Dive Team**
ALL-178

2022 Ticket sale

As an added perk, LMT Parks and Recreation offers discount tickets through Pennsylvania Recreation and Parks Society. There was a slow start after covid but in 2023 we are seeing increased participation.



35 Tickets sold in 2022



PARK & RECREATION
*Good
Gratitude!*
JULY 21, 2023
PROFESSIONALS DAY

