

# Sears Park SURVEY RESULTS

The survey results are based upon 58 returned surveys. We requested responses to the four following questions:

- Counting yourself, how many people are in your household and what are their ages?

AGES IN HOUSEHOLD:	TOTALS
under age 5	11
age 5-9	11
age 10-14	31
age 15-19	16
age 20-24	5
age 25-34	16
age 35-44	33
age 45-54	29
age 55-64	30
age 65+	7

- Which activities do you or your household members participate in at Sears Park or within the community and how often? (1=seldom to never, 2=at least 1x/mo., 3=few x/mo., 4=several x/week)

FREQUENCY OF USE:	1	2	3	4
Volleyball	48	3	1	0
Beach activities	16	8	17	12
Tennis	42	3	6	1
Canoeing, kayaking	29	11	7	5
Hiking	26	11	9	8
Ice Skating	38	7	6	2
Swimming	15	10	13	16
Basketball	40	4	3	5
Motorboating	38	4	2	8
Skateboarding	42	0	1	9
Biking	26	12	12	4
Relaxing	14	5	16	19
Handball	50	1	0	0
Picknicking	22	15	12	3
Fishing	36	7	6	5
Waterskiing	42	2	2	6
Playgrounds	32	8	6	7
Other	7	2	3	2

- Do you or your household members have a need for the following activities in Sears Park? (1=yes, 0=no)

FACILITY NEED:	Yes	No
Volleyball court	17	39
Basketball court	21	33
Tennis courts	21	34
Skateboard plaza	16	41
Handball court	5	48
Park benches	38	17
Beach/waterfront	44	12
Picnic shelters/areas	39	16
Boat launch/ramp	30	25
Play equipment	25	30
Dock for loading	21	33
Green space	35	20
Walking	35	19
Cartop launch	16	38
Bandstand	16	38
Other	9	3

- Please rate Sears Park facilities as to their need for improvement in order to enhance the overall quality for park patrons. (1=adequate, 2=could use some improvement, 3=improvements are necessary/doesn't function as well as expected)

IMPROVEMENT NEEDS:	1	2	3
Volleyball court	26	9	2
Basketball court	24	12	1
Pavilion	40	5	1
Handicap accessibility	24	5	1
Picnic shelters/areas	26	18	4
Tow-trailer parking	20	10	9
Handicap parking	24	4	2
Vehicle parking	28	11	8
Bandstand	23	10	2
Play equipment	17	16	9
Tennis court	32	7	2
Boat launch/ramp	19	9	13
Handball court	24	4	4
Green space	20	12	11
Other	0	2	2

- Additional comments received:

**BAND STAND**

- Could be in another area to fit more in that area or make bigger green area.
- Small and falling apart.
- Good area.
- Would love to see more bands performing.
- Visually poor.
- Expand.
- Adequate; perhaps unnecessary; we rarely see it used except during park movies.
- Would like to see it used.

#### BASKETBALL COURT

- There are two hoops and they work.
- Courts are OK but could use help.
- Crack seal.
- Cleaning and maybe a scoreboard.
- Upkeep/repair.
- Cleaning, painting.

#### BEACH AREA

- Lake water and beach area are too dirty to enjoy! Clean lake and beach. Currently, the lake is filthy and the beach sand is as well. Certainly, Park & Rec. is not responsible for the condition of the lake but could maintain and refurbish the beach better!
- Swim area for lap-lane swims/swim team.
- There are so many rocks.
- Cleanliness: water, grounds often littered with all types of trash. May put trash cans on beach or have lifeguards monitor. Also lots of cigarette butts.
- Cleaner!
- Too many rocks in wading area.
- More sand on the beach and in shady areas under trees would be wonderful.
- Sand should be better maintained at the lake.
- Too much goose droppings. Any way to rake/clean?

#### BOAT LAUNCH & TRAILER PARKING

- As a frequent user of the boat launch and trailer parking area, I have noticed that even since improvements were made last year, there is still a long way to go. The most important thing anyone can do for improvements is to hire someone (a second person besides the other driveway attendant) to check boat and parking passes and assure that the proper vehicles are parking there or in the right places. The swimming driveway is fine. The boat launch is very chaotic on weekends due to people not obeying the parking rules or showing courtesy to other people waiting to launch or pick up their boats or jet skis. People sit in the boat launch and tie up boats, etc., which they should do further away in the parking area. Someone directing these folks would help a lot. Also not allowing any cars to park there except with trailers would help also. One day last year someone parked a pick-up truck on the grass on the side of the inbound road to the boat launch with a canoe sticking out at least 4 feet into the traffic lane. No one was there to ask this person to move in further, and it made it difficult for everyone else to get by with boats and trailers. Also there is not enough space to park boats and jet skis at Sears Park on weekends. When the floating dock was there two summers ago, that was quite helpful in expanding space to tie up a boat to go get your car. Again, someone directing a smooth flow of traffic in and out of the launch area would help immensely. People that park cars and trucks (without trailers) in the trailer area take up the little bit of space that is available. Perhaps a special parking area could be made for cars with car-top boats so they don't have to park in the car and trailer spaces. The area is tight. Lastly, maybe a large sign that says to "enter and exit the launch area as quickly as possible" may help to remind those that think they "own" the launch and take an unreasonable amount of time, not paying attention to those that are waiting their turn to launch or pick up their vessels.
- What parking?
- More defined. People park all over.
- Launch/ramp needs to be longer so a hole isn't created at the end by props.
- Needs to be longer, better structured.
- More defined. People just park all over.
- Needs to be longer so prop wash from boats don't make a big hole at end of ramp.
- Used a lot.
- Parking: they park everywhere, no structure.
- Parking: much better last year, however. We are small boat owners who use the lake during the week and on weekends. The issue is lack of space to pull your boat or jet ski into the beach while stopping to eat or swim. Last summer, with the increase in town population, it started to

become a real issue. Too many people trying to come in for a break, people launching and people putting their boats in. Some jet skis moved their boats in the water in the middle of the launch area. A dock further away for keeping boats while eating or swimming would be very helpful.

- Launch/ramp: The issue is the non-boat people are also parking their and sometimes are the way because they are not familiar with towing. The area needs better monitoring by park employees, better signs, and a place where people using the picnic shelter can have spill-over parking. They do currently have some spaces.
- Too much parking. We need to discourage motorized boating. What a waste of money and space with the improvement done last year! Would like to see the number of boats allowed to launch limited to 20 or less, for safety reasons as well as environmental reasons.
- Parking: should be paved.
- Launch/ramp: needs to be repaved.
- Launch/ramp: upkeep/repair.
- Parking: paving or crushed stone.
- Launch/ramp: needs floating docks to assist on and off loading. Big sign regarding "weed inspection."
- Also, construct small dock for boarding.
- Launch/ramp: cleaning, painting.
- Parking: need tar/black top.
- Parking: needs to be more organized and incorporate staff.
- Launch/ramp: it's falling apart.

#### GREEN SPACE

- Good amount of open space.
- The garden near the boat launch is lovely.
- No geese!
- Lots of space.
- Would love to see more.
- Would love to see open-air markets held here as well as other community functions. Without a town green, this is the only space available.
- Small space.
- We would enjoy having more green space.
- Riparian planting.
- What green space!!! Restore the lakefront laurel all around the lake!
- More of it.

#### HANDBALL

- Get rid of it.
- No one uses. Could go.
- What's handball?
- No one uses it. Needs to be removed.
- There's a wall.
- We don't really need this.
- Maybe not needed.
- Would definitely consider removing this court. In the 23 years I have been using the Park, I have never seen this court in use.
- Separate space from basketball.
- Cleaning, painting.

#### HANDICAP ACCESSIBILITY & PARKING

- Appears good.
- Parking: smoother, easier access (paved to trail/sidewalk for wheelchair).
- No stairs.
- Parking: available and close to the beach.
- Parking: seems to be adequate.

- Bad terrain. Dirt, rough road.
- Upkeep.

#### PAVILION

- Beautiful.
- Miss the picnic tables on the porch.
- Excellent.
- The pavilion is in great shape.
- Extend hours.
- Nice job on new facility.
- Love it.
- Great.

#### PICNIC SHELTERS/AREAS

- Plenty of tables, nice. Area by smaller pavilion needs a lot of work.
- Would like to see some picnic tables on the pavilion deck.
- It would be nice to have a sheltered picnic area near swimming.
- Could be a little nicer around them. Goose poop everywhere.
- Lots of poop. Could be more country-like.
- Need a few more picnic benches.
- Shelter area is great.
- Update.
- During camp weeks, most tables are together, so more picnic tables spread out around the park may help.
- Need more areas, especially when camp is in session.
- Fire pits?

#### PLAY EQUIPMENT

- This town has a need for indoor play for young children. There are very limited services with East Hampton for young children under the age of 5 to have recreational play. Considering the number of families with young children, the Parks & Recreation Department should figure out how to accommodate this age group.
- Maintain equipment. Upgrades possible?
- Could use more equipment.
- There is only a swing set and a slide. Would like to see it expanded. Lots of young kids go to the beach.
- Updated, safer equipment.
- Next to the water.
- Old. Plenty of newer options out there.
- Could use additional play equipment.
- Needs more, newer playscape.
- Outdated.
- We would love to see more playground equipment. We would also enjoy more benches, especially near the playground.
- More.
- More equipment and benches in play area would improve park quality.
- Playground at Sears Park is terrible. Very Old. Borderline unsafe.
- Need it to be more flowing, new equipment.

#### SKATEBOARD PLAZA

- Please don't put Skateboard Plaza at Sears Park.
- In our opinion, a Skateboard Plaza would ruin the family-friendly atmosphere and the peacefulness of the park. Because of the noise, we would rather see a Skateboard Plaza at a school or someplace that's not as serene and natural.
- We've read that the town is considering putting a Skate Park at Sears Park. Although we support the idea of a Skate Park, we do not think Sears Park is the best location. We would like

to see a gated Skate Park that is supervised when open, in a location that is not a family-centered, peaceful setting (perhaps at a school or by the Police Department. Thanks for your consideration.

#### TENNIS COURTS

- Cracks in surface last summer.
- Needs lights like the basketball court.
- In good shape.
- Could use lighting at night.
- Upkeep/repair.
- Cleaning, painting.

#### VEHICLE PARKING

- Lots of room by tennis courts.
- What parking?
- Lots of parking.
- Needs more.
- Should be paved with marked spaces.
- Dirt.
- Could use more parking (especially for when swim lessons are going on).

#### VOLLEYBALL COURT

- There is a volleyball court?
- Works well already.
- Seems fine to me.
- Periodically rake sand.
- I have very rarely seen this court in use. Would consider removing it.
- Upkeep/repair.
- Clean sand (raked) would be nice.
- Cleaning, painting.

#### MISCELLANEOUS

- Need for a dog park.
- A walkway from parking lot to beach is needed. Bathrooms need updating. Also, a bathroom in the pavilion would be better. The retaining wall by the beach stinks. You can't sit by water, and it's dangerous for small children. Get the rocks out of the water.
- #0 mile marker at Airline Trail/Cranberry Bog needs to be reinstalled.
- If there's space, a stroller-friendly walking/hiking track/trail would be nice.
- Bathrooms need improvement.
- Need more bike stands.