

RECREATION NEWS

Tuesday Morning Forest Walks

Beginning in June (exact dates to be determined) and through September the Tuesday Morning Walkers will meet each Tuesday at 9am sharp at the Brook St. parking area for a brisk morning nature walk around the Town Forest. All ages are invited. Dogs on leashes can join their humans. Walks will be cancelled if there is heavy



rain. Come once or walk all season! For more information or rain checks contact Marianne at 802-476-418 or at mkotch731@gmail.com. There will also be every other Sunday Nature Walks, meeting at 9am sharp at the Brook St. parking area, starting in June, exact date TBD. Samantha Ryan will be leading these walks. She may be emailed at SamanthaR@sbelectronics.com.

Reserving Picnic Shelter

The picnic shelter in the recreation area (near the school) is a popular spot for reunions, parties, showers and club, group or business picnics. Many Saturdays and Sundays already are reserved, but it might not be too late for the time of your function. Call Tina Thurston at 479-9331 to request a time and/or reservation. For "self-service" go to barretown.org and view the Recreation Calendar to check for existing reservations. Then request to reserve with the form available online at www.barretown.org/departments/recreation. The fee to complete the reservation is \$50 for up to 50 people, plus \$1 per person over 50 people. Note that other, smaller picnic shelters are available, first come first served, at the South Barre (Wilson Street) and East Barre (Pleasant Street) playgrounds. Electricity, restrooms and water are not available at those sites.



Tennis Lessons

The Barre Town Recreation Department will once again offer tennis lessons this summer June 20-23 and June 27-30. Beginners can take lessons for one or two weeks. The intermediate session is the second week only. Youth lessons (for students entering 3rd grade through 6th grade) will be offered Tues. – Fri. mornings. Adult lessons (for students entering 7th grade, on up) will be offered Tues. – Thurs. evenings. Registration forms and more information is available at www.barretown.org, or contact Kelly Cleveland at krc67@stang@gmail.com or 802-279-2679.



Youth Track and Field

Attention 7-14 year old boys and girls! Do you like to run, jump, throw a softball, and make new friends? If so, sign up for summer Youth Track & Field! Practices are two days a week (times and days TBD) at the Spaulding High School Track on Ayer Street. The fee is \$30. For more information or to sign up, call the Barre City Recreation Department at 476-0257. Co-sponsored by the Barre Town and Barre City Rec Departments.



Ice Cream Socials

Make a kid's day. Take them to a playground and give them free ice cream! The Recreation Board is planning to hold the popular ice cream socials again. On successive Tuesday evenings from July 11 to August 15 the board will be at one of the neighborhood playgrounds with plenty of ice cream. Serving will start at 6:30 pm. The neighborhood playgrounds are: Trow Hill, South Barre, Lower Graniteville, Upper Graniteville, Upper Websterville, and East Barre. Watch the website for locations on these Tuesday night.



Spring Into Summer Festival

The Recreation Board's 2nd annual Spring into Summer Festival will be held Saturday, June 3 from 10:00 am to 2:00 pm at the town's main park. The event is planned with children ages 3 – 10 in mind but any child may participate.



Rec Board member Terry Smith offered an invitation. "We are excited to bring the back Spring into Summer Festival. We had such a good first year and appreciated the feedback received from attendees. This year the event is completely free including the trucks and rigs. There will be a concession hosted by a Boy Scout Troop. We have more activities and games for pre-schoolers. We hope you will come out to play with us!"

Activities include crafts, bounce house, face painting, information tables and displays, big trucks and equipment to check out up close and the BRecs Challenge. The big rigs corral will include a Race to Read race car and driver. The BRecs Challenge is a series of 10 skills based on the sports that can be played at the town park. Pre-registration is not required.

Volunteers are welcomed. Call the manager's office (479-9331). The Recreation Board's Facebook page will list more details in the weeks before the Festival. Enjoy an inexpensive, fun day and check out the full park.

5K Runs

April 29: C.H.O.I.C.E. Academy is sponsoring and conducting a 5K (3.1 miles) run during the morning. Registration will be at the picnic shelter in the main park. The event will use the bike path. Call C.H.O.I.C.E. Academy or check their website for more information.



May 20: Central VT Runners will conduct its Barre Town Spring run. Registration starts at 7:45 at the picnic shelter, race time is set for 9:00 am. The race course is down the park road, across the parking lot, and onto the bike path. This is a low-key event. Registration fee is \$5. Everyone is welcome to participate. Visit www.cvrunters.org for more information and a registration form.

July 30: As part of the Barre Heritage Festival, the CV Runners and Rehab GYM are offering a 5K trail run in the town forest. Registration is at the 44 Brook Street parking lot in Upper Websterville starting at 9:00 am. The race starts and ends near the parking area. Visit www.rehabgym.com for more information.

Soccer Camps

VT Voltage: The camp is scheduled for August 14 – 18 from 5pm – 8pm. It will be held at the town’s main park. The camp is for boys and girls ages 5 – 18. Fees are charged. Flyers with a registration form are available in the municipal building. Visit www.voltagesportsclub.com for more information.



Capital Soccer Club: Capital City had a camp planned for June 19 – 23. Because many snow days will delay area schools’ last day, Capital Soccer scratched its camp for that week. The camp hasn’t been rescheduled. Watch the town recreation calendar (www.barretown.org/recreation-calendars/index.php) for the new date. Visit the club’s website at www.capitalsoccer.net for more information. The camp will be held in the town’s main park. Fees are charged. It is intended for girls and boys ages 6 - 15.

Town Forest Events

Following are events planned to be held in the town forest this year; more events may request use of the forest later this spring or summer. Residents may want to participate. Forest users should be aware of the dates and times of these events. Access to areas of the town forest could be restricted during events, especially mountain bike races.

Quarries Throw Down: The Green Mountain Disc Golf Club (GMDGC) is holding the Quarries Throw Down on the Quarries Disc Golf course. The event is on Saturday, May 13. The 44 Brook Street parking lot and disc golf course will be occupied by Throw Down players from 8:00 am to 5:30 pm. The Quarries Throw Down is the first points event in the GMDGC’s 2017 points series. There are 9 other events. Check out the GMDGC’s website for more information: www.gmdgc.org.

Community Disc Golf Challenge: The event is put on by the Barre Lions Club. The Challenge will be played on Tuesday, June 13. Gathering point is the 44 Brook Street parking lot. Registration starts at 5:00 pm. A registration fee will be charged. This event is intended for casual disc golf players. The Lions would like to see your team.

RockFire: The popular (one of the 10 best summer events according to the VT Chamber of Commerce) arts, fire and music event will be held Saturday, June 24. The event is centered at the Millstone Lodge on Littlejohn Road. The 44 Brook Street parking lot will be closed in the evening and designated for performers and volunteers parking. Music performances and food offerings start at 7pm at the Lodge.

At 9:00 the Iron Guild will provide fire art. At 9:30 the main event, the Firewalk, begins. Participants will pass fires of various sizes, music performances, and art works as they walk town forest trails and the Grand Lookout trail.

Fees are charged for Firewalk. Rockfire is produced in conjunction with the VT Granite Museum of Barre. Proceeds from the event are held by the Museum for acquisition of the Grand Lookout. Punch up www.rockfirevt.com for more information.

Millstone Relay: Casco Bay Sports’ 8 hour mountain bike race is planned for Saturday, July 29. Race time is 10:00 am to 6:00 pm. The race headquarters and start line are in the large hayfield on Littlejohn Road. Most of the trails in the heart of the town forest are used for the course. The event is for solo riders and 2 or 3 person teams.



Prizes are given in several categories: men’s, women’s and juniors for all three classes. The solo class has a masters category. The 2 or 3 person classes have a co-ed category.

For more information visit www.cascobaysports.com. Select Events and then Cycling Events.

Town Playgrounds

Barre Town offers six playgrounds. All have equipment and each is unique. Visit all six playgrounds and witness children experiencing various equipment. They might find a single or a few favorites.



All playgrounds are open dawn to dusk. The town recreation division budget pays for expenses. The cemetery maintenance crew visits each playground weekly to empty trash and recycling containers and give the playground a look-over for problems. A contractor cuts the grass; that is their sole responsibility. Problems at a playground can be reported to the town office at 479-9331.

<u>Playground, Street</u>	<u>Shelter</u>	<u>Basketball</u>	<u>Equipment</u>
E. Barre Park, Pleasant St.	Y	Y	Y
Upp. Websterville, Brook St.	Y	Y	Y
Upp. Graniteville, Park St.		Y	Y
Lwr. Graniteville, Baptist St.	Y	Y	Y
Trow Hill, Hill Street	Y	Y	Y
S. Barre Park, Wilson St.	Y		Y

Trow Hill has the newest (1 year) and probably largest playground equipment. Upper Websterville’s equipment and shelter are 2-3 years old. South Barre’s shelter and equipment are 5-7 years old, and in East Barre it is about 10 years old. East and South Barre have athletic fields for pick up football, soccer or baseball games; flying a kite; or tossing a frisbee.

Town Forest

The 350 acre town forest with 20 miles of mountain biking and hiking trails is there for the public’s use. Where’s there? Most of the forest is inside the large block of land bounded by Littlejohn, Donahue, Graniteville and Church Hill Roads. There is a section north of Littlejohn Road. Millstone Trails Assoc. (MTA) maintains the trails. MTA has trails beyond the forest’s borders. Those trails are open to walkers.



Mountain bikers are asked to buy a MTA membership or a day pass. Passes and memberships are available at Morgan’s East Barre Market and Lawson’s Store in Websterville. All pedestrian use is free.

Parking to use the forest is provided at 44 Brook Street in Websterville and at the top of Barclay Quarry Road in Upper Graniteville. Maps are available at the town office and on the MTA website www.millstonetrails.com. MTA offers a trail app and paper maps. Trail names are posted to help users follow their course. Users can walk as long or short as wanted. Go explore or join one of the guided walks to start learning the trails.