

# SAN RAMON SPORTING GREEN



## INFORMATION FOR SPORTS TEAMS AND FIELD USER GROUPS

SAN RAMON SPORTING GREEN  
PUBLISHED BY THE SAN RAMON PUBLIC SERVICES  
DEPARTMENT

**FEBRUARY 2012**

The Public Services Department will be publishing the San Ramon Sporting Green twice per year to provide useful information for the co-sponsored Sports leagues and field users on the maintenance and use of fields in San Ramon.

## ATHAN DOWNS PLAYGROUND RENOVATION

The City of San Ramon is in the process of designing a new playground to replace the existing playground at Athan Downs. The new playground design will be a universally accessible concept that offers full access to each piece of playground equipment to persons with disabilities.

The City held two public meetings to solicit input from the community regarding design elements and accessible playground components that might be included in the playground. A public meeting to present and discuss preliminary design elements was held on Tuesday, December 13, 2011. An invitation to attend the meeting was posted on the City's web site and sent to the San Ramon Valley Unified School District's Special Education Local Plan Area (SELPA) <http://www.srvusd.net/selpa> and to other local residents known to us that might be interested, as well as members of the Parks Commission. The purpose of this first meeting was to present preliminary conceptual playground design elements and receive input from the meeting attendees, particularly from professional special education and physical therapists that work with disabled children who have insight on types of play equipment that work well with various disabilities, as well as, local parents of children with disabilities who are interested and might offer personal insights and suggestions. A design consultant from Ross Recreation Products, the distributor for Landscape Structures Playground Equipment provided an informative power point presentation followed by a discussion with the meeting attendees.

Discussion at the meeting produced several good ideas to consider in developing a final design. The design consultant provided some options based on the input received at the meeting. A second meeting to review design options for developing final plans was held on for January 18, 2012.

A notice was posted on the City website and also sent to residents living in the neighborhoods surrounding Athan Downs. The design options developed as a result of the community meetings were presented and approved by the

Parks Commission on February 8, 2012. Construction is expected to start in fall 2012.



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## PARK PROJECTS

The Public Services Department has worked on several projects this year. These projects are done for safety and to enhance the appearance of park sites that field user groups and the public can enjoy.

**Baseball Field Maintenance and Repairs:** Public Services staff completed baseball field renovations in various parks. This included adding infield material, replacing any worn grass areas and rebuilding pitchers mounds. Staff also inspects home plates, pitching rubbers and base anchors and replaced them as needed.

<b>Central Park Field #1 (Lucky A's)</b>	15 tons of infield material, installed new home plate and pitchers rubber, replaced two base anchors
<b>Central Park Field #2 , 3 , 4 , 5</b>	10 tons total of infield material
<b>Central Park Field #2</b>	Re-built pitchers mound, base anchors were added at 70 feet
<b>Central Park Field #4</b>	Removed existing damaged turf, rototilled and leveled the infield, 6800 square feet of new sod
<b>Athan Downs Field #1, 3, 4</b>	1000 square feet of new sod to the front of the pitcher's mound and base paths
<b>Memorial Park, Sports Park Valley View</b>	Aerated infields, rototilled base paths and re-built pitchers mound 5 yards of infield material, removed lips from the arch and foul line at the turf and infield edge



Public Services staff performed various maintenance tasks at all other baseball fields, which included cutting the arcs and flattening the transition lips between the turf and infield material, adding infield material, preparing the pitcher's mounds and batters box areas, re-cutting the sidelines and grooming of the infield material to a playable finish.



## BASEBALL FIELD RENOVATIONS



As baseball season approaches, the Public Services staff conducts the annual baseball field renovation and maintenance tasks. All fields are evaluated during the off season and then scheduled for renovation as needed. Some fields require only minor maintenance such as, trimming sidelines, adding sod or seeding to straighten base paths and adding fresh infield material. Other fields need extensive renovation such as the removal and replacement of a turf infield. An area of concern is the “lip” that forms at the transition from the infield to the outfield; this area is cut out to remove the lip, re-graded and then new turf is installed to smooth out the bump. The pitchers mounds are repaired or rebuilt as needed; the landing area in front of the pitching rubber is dug out and new un-fired clay bricks are added for durability; the rubber is reset or

replaced. Bulk clay along with the clay brick is used to construct the mound. Home plate and the batter’s box area is another high wear area that requires the use of the un-fired clay bricks or on some fields synthetic mats; the mats are installed just under the surface in the batter’s box area to help eliminate the holes caused by the batters digging in. Base anchors are located and inspected; some are replaced if found to be worn. Once the fields are in good condition and the leagues start practice and play, the fields will be maintained and groomed on a weekly schedule.



## CRICKET PITCH AT MONARK PARK

The Public Services Department performed its annual renovation of the Cricket Pitch at Monark Park. The pitch area was graded and worn out areas were removed. Bare spots were reseeded and approximately 150 square feet of sod was installed. The pitch will be in excellent shape for the upcoming season in March.



## UPCOMING PARK PROJECTS



### **Back Stop Repair at Athan Downs Fields #1,2 and 3:**

The Public Services staff will be repairing the aging back stops at Athan Downs Fields #1, 2 and 3. The project is scheduled for completion by March 1st. The scope of work will include priming and painting the new backboards, removing the existing boards, sanding and refinishing any salvageable boards from these fields, and reinstalling to existing specifications.

February 2012

# Parks Make Life Better!

The California Parks and Recreation Society (CPRS) created a statewide campaign to be used by local parks and recreation agencies. The goal of the Parks Make Life Better!® Campaign is to raise awareness of the benefits of parks and recreation throughout California and to raise the status of

parks and recreation as an essential community service. This campaign is a movement that relies on every staff person who has any contact with the general public to understand that his/her actions help shape the brand that is Parks Make Life Better!®.



As part of the campaign, the City of San Ramon held a Park Clean up Day at Memorial Park on Saturday, September 17<sup>th</sup>. Around 20 plus volunteers assisted the City park maintenance staff with tasks that included spreading fifty (50) yards of fibar on the playground area, which is a wood fiber used for playground surfaces. They also added mulch to the shrub beds along the walkways. Twenty five (25) yards of mulch was donated by a local vendor, Waraner Tree Experts. Two Girl Scouts troops also helped with the clean up. The tasks for the event were completed by noon.



## Parks Make Life Better! Clean Up Days:

**February 25 at Alcosta Senior & Community Center Park**  
9:00am – 12:00pm

**April 14, Earth Day at Forest Home Farms Historic Park**  
10:00am – 2:00pm

**June 2 at Boone Acres Park**  
9:00am – 12:00pm

Join our professional park maintenance staff for the first of several clean up events to assist the City in maintaining neighborhood parks. Tasks may include planting, pruning, applying mulch, replacing sand box materials, painting and general clean up. The event is open to all ages, however children under 13 must be accompanied by an adult. Volunteers are asked to bring work gloves and will need to register in advance by visiting [www.citylights.volunteerhub.com](http://www.citylights.volunteerhub.com) or contact Bonnie Mertz at [bmertz@sanramon.ca.gov](mailto:bmertz@sanramon.ca.gov) or (925) 973-3222.

## Baseball Field Mowing and Field Grooming Schedule\*

\* This schedule is subject to change if necessary at the discretion of the Public Services Department and/or Parks and Community Services.

**C = Clay**  
**T = Turf**

**G = Groom**   **E = Edge**  
**M = Mowing**

Field/Day	Type	MON	TUE	WED	THUR	FRI
CP1 (80 & 65)	C	G			G/E	
CP2 (80 & 65)	C	G			G/E	
CP3 (65 & 60)	C	G			G/E	
CP4 (90)	T				M/G/E	
CP5 (55 & 60)	C				G/E	
AD1 (60)	T				M	G/E
AD2 (90)	T				M	G/E
AD3 (60)	T				M	G/E
AD4 (60)	T				M	G/E
Arlington(60)	C					G/E
Bollinger	C		G/E			
Country Club (60)	C	G/E				
Coyote Creek (55 & 60)	C		G/E			
Coyote Crossing (60)	C		G/E			
East Branch (60)	C			G/E		
Gale Ranch #1	C					G/E
Gale Ranch #2	C					G/E
Golden View (60 & 55)	C				G/E	
Hidden Hills (60)	C					G/E
Hidden Valley (60)	C					G/E
Memorial Park (60)	T		M		G/E	
Montevideo (60)	C		G/E			
Neil Armstrong W. (55 & 60)	C	G/E				
Neil Armstrong E. (55 & 60)	C	G/E				
Pine Valley #1 (60)	C	G/E				
Pine Valley #2 (60)	C	G/E				
Quail Run W.	C			G/E		
Quail Run E.	C			G/E		
Red Willow	C			G/E		
Sports Park #1 (90)	T					M/G/E
Sports Park #2 (60)	C					G/E
Twin Creeks (60)	C		G/E			
Valley View (55 & 60)	C				G/E	
Village Green (55 & 60)	C	G/E				
Walt Disney (60)	C		G/E			
Windermere MS #1 (60)	C				G/E	
Windermere MS #2 (90)	T		M		G/E	



Park	Frequency Peak Season 3/1 - 11/15	Frequency Off Season 11/16 - 2/28
Athans Downs	7	5
Central Park	7	5
Memorial Park	7	5
San Ramon Sports Park	7	5
Arlington	5	3
Boone Acres	5	3
Coyote Crossing	5	3
Valley View	5	3
Village Green	5	3
Creekside	5	3
Crow Canyon Gardens	5	3
East Branch	5	3
Gale Ranch MS	5	3
Hidden Valley	5	3
Iron Horse MS	5	3
Monarch	5	3
Old Ranch	5	3
Pine Valley MS	5	3
Six Pillars	5	3
Ramona	5	3
Red Willow	5	3
Windemere Ranch MS	5	3
Bollinger Canyon	3	2
Country Club	3	2
Coyote Creek School	3	2
Montevideo	3	2
Neil Armstrong	3	2
Golden View School	3	2
Limerick	3	2
Piccadilly	3	2
Souyen	3	2
Twin Creeks School	3	2
Walt Disney School	3	2
Hidden Hills School	3	2
Live Oak	3	2
Quail Run School	3	2
Fire Truck	3	2
Bellingham Square	3	2
Hidden Crest	3	2
Del Mar Dog Park	3	3
Bark & Ride	3	3
Inverness Park	3	2
Centennial Park	3	2
Mill Creek Hollow	3	2
Country Faire	3	2
Sherwood	3	2
Compass Point	3	2
Summit View	3	2
Windy Hills	3	2

Maintenance Frequency is based on typical peak season park usage from March through October. Some schedules may be reduced from 7 to 5 day or 5 day to 3 day during the winter months of November through February based on usage and maintenance requirements

3 days maintenance = M, W, F  
 5 days maintenance = M, , T, W, TH, F



**SPORTS FIELD SUSTAINABILITY AND MAINTENANCE PLAN**



In November 2010, the City of San Ramon hired PRZ International Sports Turf Consulting to develop a maintenance and sustainability plan for the fields at Central Park, Athan Downs, and the San Ramon Sports Park. After

conducting on site field assessments, reviewing use history and maintenance practices, the consultant laid out a plan for maintenance strategies, which included scheduled periods of downtime for the selected fields. Currently, the City of San Ramon, with the input from the field sports users groups, implemented down time for soccer fields 3&4 at Central Park from April to the first week of June, where normally these fields would be booked for play. Also, Athan Downs soccer field # 1 will have time to recoup from the 2<sup>nd</sup> week of June to August 1<sup>st</sup>. Staff continues to use sound horticulture practices, which make our fields some of the best baseball and soccer fields around.

FIELD LIGHTING



The City of San Ramon is currently working towards acquiring a web based programmable lighting solution for the sports field lights at the San Ramon Sports Park and Central Park. This cost effective system will help control, monitor and manage the sports field lighting. This will eliminate the need for field user groups to manually switch on and off the field lights prior to and following field use. The field lights will be programmed by City staff according to the scheduled field requests, eliminating the need for field user groups and sports fields organizations to assume this responsibility. We are currently working with the lighting vendor to integrate both parks lighting systems and will provide information as to when the transition will be finalized.

LOST AND FOUND



Any items found by City staff at any park site will be returned to the closest City facility: San Ramon Community Center at Central Park , Alcosta Senior & Community Center, Dougherty Station Community Center Station and San Ramon Olympic Pool and can be claimed during business hours.

# SPORTS FIELD CONDITIONS

The Sports Field Conditions are now online. For visiting teams, who would like to find out if the sports fields are open or closed, and do not want to subscribe to E-SanRamon Updates, they can visit the City's website and click on the "Sports Field Conditions" link on the homepage. The link will send them to <http://www.sanramon.ca.gov/publicsvcs/alerts.htm> where the most recent 10 bulletin alerts are posted.

## SPORTS FIELD CONDITIONS

The City of San Ramon provides daily information on sports field conditions using a free email and digital subscription service. Once you subscribe, information on fields that are open, closed or under repair will be sent in real time by email or to your wireless device (phone or PDA) and can be updated as often as necessary to keep field users informed as to the status of fields, particularly during inclement weather. The Sports Field Conditions are sent out at 2:00 pm, Mondays through Fridays and at 8:00 am on Saturday and Sundays. **We request your assistance in asking all of your league representatives [parents, coaches, managers, referees, etc.] to subscribe to this service.** Signing up is free, easy and risk-free. Subscriptions can be changed and cancelled at anytime. To date, there are **2482** email subscribers and **197** wireless (SMS) subscribers to the Sports Field Conditions.

To subscribe, go to [www.SanRamon.ca.gov](http://www.SanRamon.ca.gov) and click on "E-SanRamon Updates" 



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## SAN RAMON SPORTING GREEN

### Subscribe to the San Ramon Sporting Green

The Public Services Department strives to provide ongoing communication to residents on a variety of topics through e-newsletters.

The San Ramon Sporting Green is published twice a year to provide useful information for the co-sponsored Sports leagues and field users on the maintenance and use of fields in San Ramon. These are forwarded to the co-sponsored Sports leagues for posting on their league website. To date, there are **517** subscribers to the San Ramon Sporting Green. To view the past issues, go to <http://www.sanramon.ca.gov/publicsvc/newsletter.htm>

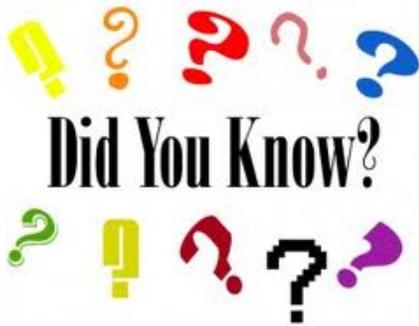
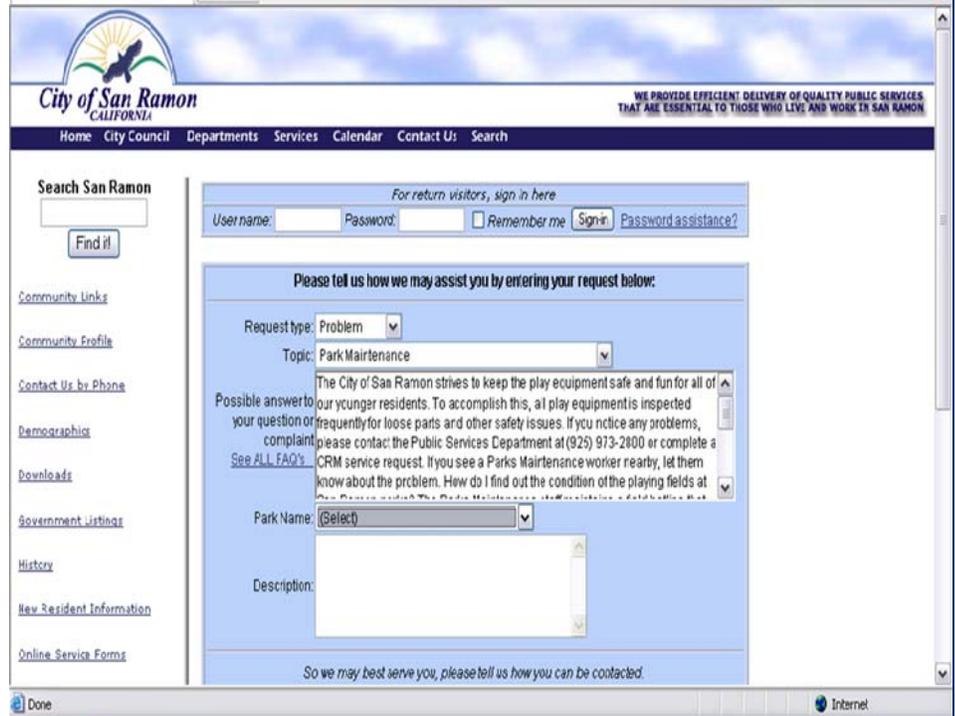


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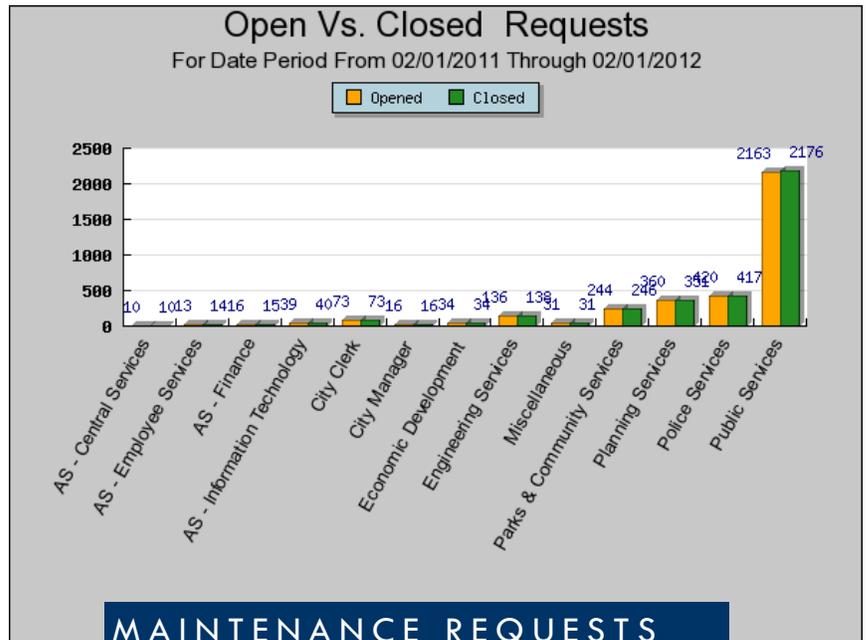
Go to [www.SanRamon.ca.gov](http://www.SanRamon.ca.gov) and click on “Contact Us”

- Requests are reviewed and monitored daily
- Requests cannot be “lost in the system”
- Requests are automatically assigned to the staff responsible for the topic
- Requests are managed when supervisors are out of the office or on vacation
- A response is provided for each request
- Correspondence can be sent to requestor from City staff for more information



**Any citizen, parent, coach or league representative can**

- Request for maintenance and repairs
- Advise us of a problem
- Request for a Special Service



**MAINTENANCE REQUESTS**

From February 1, 2011 to February 1, 2012, the Public Services Department received 2163 requests and closed 2176 requests.

REACHING US AFTER HOURS

**After hours are defined as**

- Weekdays after 5 pm
- Weekends starting at 5 pm Friday through 6 am Monday morning
- Holidays— starting at 5 pm the previous business day through 6 am the following business day

**Examples of Problems requiring Immediate Attention:**

- Plugged restroom
- Sports field light timers not functioning
- Broken quick coupler
- Irrigation valve stuck on
- Unauthorized use of field when field is booked by user group
- Main line break

**A Public Services Supervisor is on call 24 hours a day, 7 days a week.**

The Supervisor can:

- Dispatch standby staff
- Make contact with staff on duty during weekends and holidays and dispatch them to your location
- Make contact with Department management as needed
- Make contact with contractors to make repairs as needed



To reach a Public Services After Hours Standby Staff and Supervisor, call Police Dispatch at (925) 973-2779. Police Dispatch will contact our Stand By Staff.

**“There’s an app for that.”**

**GOrequest** Mobile offers a simple way to tap right into the City of San Ramon and quickly submit a request while on the go. With **GOrequest** Mobile, a photo and the GPS coordinates allow us to efficiently find exactly where problems are occurring and fix issues. You can download this free application on your iPhone, Android phone or any smartphone.

**Benefits:**

- Easily report about issues like overgrown trees, unsafe sidewalks, graffiti, or potholes
- GPS and camera features built into the mobile devices make it simple to send the City a photo and location of the issue
- Conveniently check the status of issues reported, even if you reported them anonymously

