

White Township Recreation Complex
White Township
Indiana County, PA

Project Description:

Pleasing children, teenagers, adults and seniors throughout the entire year in one location isn't an easy feat. But, White Township Recreation Complex in Indiana County has managed to do just that.

DCNR has supported the township's efforts to provide an array of facilities in the park – a \$110,000 Keystone grant in 2000 partially funded the addition of tennis courts and a pavilion.

Children, high school teams, adults and seniors share the five courts whether they're getting lessons, having pick-up games or using them for organized practice.

"There's [also] a pavilion with a game area and just outside it there's a place to play bocce, shuffleboard and horseshoes," said Milton Lady, White Township Recreation Complex Facility Manager.

"It's for activities that aren't on a sports-minded competitive level. We got input from senior citizens in the community and found out that's what we needed."

The grant also partially funded concession facilities, site furniture, fencing, landscaping and ADA access. Beyond what DCNR helped fund, the 70-acre outdoor facility boasts four baseball fields (one of which includes 500 yellow seats salvaged Pittsburgh's Three River Stadium), two soccerfields, two basketball courts, a playground and a walking path.

Offerings like these bring large numbers of people to the area for everything from state playoff baseball games to Relay for Life fundraising events.



Park events and facilities are attracting people to the Indiana County area – and not just for a few hours to partake in a game or fundraiser.

"I think the park attracts future residents to the community. It's a plus for the area because it brings people to the employment sector," Lady said.

With so many facilities, it's no surprise that community members take pride in the park. "A local garden club expressed interest in creating a handicapped [flower] bed. Now we have raised beds that people can access from wheelchairs. That project won a national award," said Lady.

"We were approached by a group in town that wanted to build a playground area. They had a bunch of volunteers come out and pretty much built that playground area in one weekend," said Larry Garner, White Township Manager.

That's just the outside recreation center. The adjacent indoor facility is offers an ice skating rink, turf arena and batting cage.



Quote: Milton Lady, White Township Recreation Complex Facility Manager

"A lot of people ask how they can help through community service. We've had residents come do landscaping, painting, build the playground and Eagle Scout Projects. There's a real sense of community with this park."



Amount of Keystone funding awarded, year and matching sources:

2000: \$110,000