



Newsletter | November 2023

SOUTH PORTLAND

PARKS, RECREATION, AND WATERFRONT

Contents

[Community Calendars](#)

[Announcements](#)

[Youth Programs](#)

[Adult Programs](#)

[Senior Programs](#)

[Aquatic Programs](#)

[Conservation & Parks](#)

[Special Events](#)

[View Full
Fall Brochure](#)



[Trunk or Treat](#)

October 28 | 11a-3p
South Portland Community
Center



[Holiday Fun!](#)

We'll be feeling festive in no time with Tree Lightings, gingerbread houses, and visits with Santa.

CONNECT WITH US

South Portland Community Center

21 Nelson Rd
South Portland, ME 04106
Hours: M-F 6a-9p, Sat 8a-5p, Sun 10a-6p
207-767-7650

www.sopoparksrec.com



@SoPoParksRec

Community Calendars

The South Portland Community Center and Redbank Community Center offer scheduled programs, open use, and drop-in programs. View the calendars to learn more about when these spaces are available for use.

Youth Open Gym

Hours:
Sundays
12:15pm-1:45pm

[Calendar](#)

Senior Drop-in Center

Hours:
Monday-Thursday
9am-3pm
Friday
9am-12pm.

[Event Calendar](#)

Teen Center

Hours:
Monday-Friday
2:30pm-6pm

[More Info](#)

[Calendar](#)

Adult Open Gym

Start October 1!
Days and hours
vary by sport and
location.

[Calendar](#)

Announcements



Get Outside

Youth Winter Equipment Rentals- South Portland residents can rent youth ice skates and snowshoes from SPCC through the winter for FREE.

Winter Kids- 50% off family membership with promo code *PARKS24*

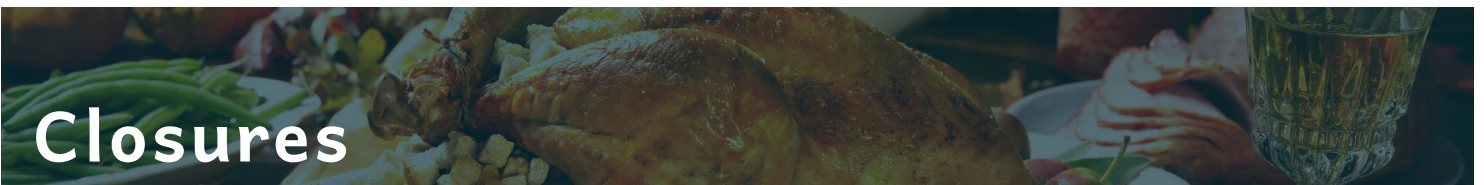


We're Hiring

Parks Laborer (Full Time)

Teen Center Assistant (Part Time)

Apply: Visit the [City Job Board](#) for full details.



Closures

Community Centers and all city buildings are closed on the following days:

November 10 (Veteran's Day Observed)
November 23 & 24 (Thanksgiving)

Youth Programs

Teen Center

Mission Statement

To provide Middle School and High School aged students with a fun, safe place to spend their after school hours in an environment that is free of violence and intimidation, encouraging the development of social and emotional growth among its teen members.

Grades: 6-12

Days: Mon-Fri, 2:15-6:00p*

Location: Redbank Community Center

*Schedule is subject to change at anytime

Program Cost

FREE

[More Info](#)



OUT OF SCHOOL PROGRAMS



No School Days

Dates: Wednesday, November 22

Friday, December 22

Grades: K-5

Time: 8a-5p

Location: SPCC

Program Cost

Residents: \$60

[Register](#)



Vacation Camps

December Vacation Camp

Dates: December 26-29

Grade: K-5

Time: 8a-5p

Location: SPCC

Program Cost

Residents: \$175

[Register](#)



Dance

Intro to Dance

Dates: Oct 30- Dec 11

Times: Mondays, 4:30-5:15p

Ages: 5-9

Location: SPCC Casco Bay Room

Program Cost

Residents: \$75

Non-Residents: \$85

[Register](#)

Intro to Hip Hop

Dates: Oct 30- Dec 11

Times: Mondays, 5:30-6:15p

Ages: 6-10

Location: SPCC Casco Bay Room

Program Cost

Residents: \$75

Non-Residents: \$85

[Register](#)



Fun!

Kid's Night Out

Date: November 17

Times: Friday 5-8:50p

Grades: K-5

Location: SPCC Casco Bay Room & Gym

Program Cost

Residents: \$30

Non-Residents: \$40

Additional child discounted by \$10

[Register](#)



Cheering

South Portland Fire Cheering

Dates: Nov 6- April 1

Grades:

3/4: MW 5-7:30p

7/8: MW 6:30-8p

Location: SPCC & SPHS

Program Cost

Residents: \$175-225

[Register](#)



Pre-K

POP- Preschool Open Play

Dates: Oct 3-May 28
Times: Tuesdays, 9-11a
Ages: 5 and under
Location: Redbank Community Center

Program Cost

Residents: \$4
 Non-Residents: \$5

[Register](#)

Redbank Storytime

Dates: Oct 3-May 28
Time: Tuesdays, 9-11a
Ages: 5 and under
Location: Redbank Community Center

Program Cost

FREE

[Register](#)

Tiny Tykes Soccer Magic

Dates: Oct 28- Nov 25
Time: Saturdays,
 Cubs: 9-9:45a
 Cubs: 10-10:45a
 Lions: 11-11:45a
Ages: 2-5
Location: SPCC Gym

Program Cost

Residents: \$100
 Non-Residents: \$110

[Register](#)



Cooking

Cooking Matters

Dates: Nov 9- Dec 14
Ages: 8-12
Times: Tuesdays, 4-5:30p
Location: SPCC Casco Bay Room

Program Cost

FREE (must register)

[Register](#)



STEAM

Steamworks for Kids Electronics Arcade & Game-atorium

Dates: November 22
Time: 8:30a-4p
Ages: 6-11
Location: SPCC Conference Room

Program Cost

Residents: \$95
 Non-Residents: \$105

No
School
Day!

[Register](#)



Karate

Karate Kids

Dates: Oct 27- Dec 8
Times: Fridays, 4-5p
Ages: 5-12
Location: SPCC Multipurpose Room

Program Cost

Residents: \$65
 Non-Residents: \$75

[Register](#)

Adult Programs



Leagues

Adult Basketball League

Thursday League- Winter 1

Dates: November 2- January 18

Monday League Winter

Dates: December 4- March 4

Times: Games between 6:30-8:30p

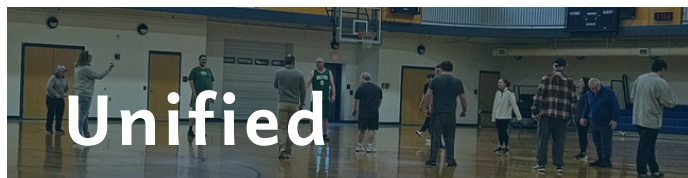
Location: SPCC Gym

Program Cost

Residents: \$75

Non-Residents: \$85

[Register](#)



Unified

Unified Sports

Dates: November 5- December 28
(no program 11/23)

Times: Thursdays, 10a-11:30a

Location: Redbank Gym

Program Cost

FREE (please register)

[Register](#)



Pickleball

Beginner Pickleball

Dates: Nov 1-Dec 1

(no class 11/22, 11/24)

Sessions:

Fridays, 8-9a @ Redbank Gym

Wednesdays, 6:30-7:30p @ SPCC

Sundays, 10-11a @ SPCC

Program Cost

Residents: \$70

Non-Residents: \$80

[Register](#)

Improver Pickleball

Dates: Nov 1-Dec 1

(no class 11/22, 11/24)

Sessions:

Fridays, 9-10a @ Redbank Gym

Wednesdays, 7:30-8:30p @ SPCC

Sundays, 11a-12p @ SPCC

Program Cost

Residents: \$70

Non-Residents: \$80

[Register](#)

Senior Programs

Featured Senior Artist of the Month

Come one and all to the South Portland Community Center to enjoy the art of **Diana Ellis**. Diana's art is on display until **Monday, November 13**, every **Monday-Thursday** from **9:00 a.m. to 2:45 p.m.** and **Fridays** from **9:00 a.m. to 11:45 p.m.**



HIGHLIGHTS



Jason A'dour teaches "All About Balance"



Ukulele practice in the Drop-in Center



Team Trivia stumps participants



Park Ranger Sydney presents on bats and other animals with haunted stories

A still life arrangement featuring a white ceramic pitcher, several mugs, a bottle of orange juice, and a small pumpkin on a wooden tray.

Gather

Thank a Veteran/Meet a Veteran

Dates: November 9

Times: Thursday, 9a-12p

Location: SPCC Senior Drop-in Center

Program Cost

\$9 (Free for Veteran's)

[Register](#)

A close-up view of several books stacked together, showing their spines and pages.

Read

Psuedo Book Club

Topic: True Crime

Dates: October 25

Times: Wednesday, 9-10:30a

Location: SPCC Senior Drop-in Center

Program Cost

FREE (must register)

[Register](#)

A woman standing at the front of a room, presenting to a group of people seated at tables. A screen is visible in the background.

Presentation

Nature Themed Presentation

Topic: Nature's Naratives

Date: November 15

Times: Wednesday, 9:30-10:30a

Location: SPCC Senior Drop-in Center

Program Cost

FREE (must register)

[Register](#)

Three glass jars filled with red jam, each tied with a cinnamon stick and a red ribbon bow.

Trips

Stonewall Kitchen

Date: November 7

Times: Departs at 8:30a

Location: Meet at SPCC

Program Cost

\$12

1 Spot
left!

[Register](#)



Laughter Yoga | January 2023

Fitness

Step Into Fitness

Dates: November 9 & 30

Times: Thursdays, 11:30-12:15pm

Location: SPCC Multi-purpose Room

Program Cost

Residents: \$14

Non-Residents: \$24

Drop-in: \$8

[Register](#)

Chair Fitness

Dates: November 9 & 30

Time: Thursdays, 12:30-1:15p

Location: SPCC Multi-purpose Room

Program Cost

Residents: \$14

Non-Residents: \$24

Drop-in: \$8

[Register](#)

Senior Cornhole

Dates: November 3 & 17

Time: Fridays, 1:45-3:15p

Location: SPCC Gym

Program Cost

FREE (please try to pre-register, drop-ins welcome)

[Register](#)

Laughter Yoga

Date: November 17

Time: Friday, 12-1p

Location: SPCC Senior Drop-in Center

Program Cost

FREE (must register)

[Register](#)

Aquatics Programs



Pool Closure

Wondering why the Community Center pool is closed and when it will reopen? Read this FAQ with City of South Portland Facilities Director Don Hopkins.

Why is the pool closed?

The pool is closed because the roof over the pool is in need of replacement.

Why does the roof need to be replaced?

The moisture from the pool water has gotten into the roof system and is deteriorating the structural stability of the roof. This is being done now, in advance of the winter, since this area of the roof would not be safe for use with a snow load on it in its current state.

Didn't the City just replace the Community Center roof?

Several parts of the Community Center roof were replaced in 2022, but this work did not include the roof over the pool, which needs separate attention due to its structure and the effects of internal moisture. The pool roof was last replaced over 25 years ago.

When is the work expected to begin?

While project planning is currently underway, the current tentative start date for the work is October 15.

If the work has not yet started, why has the pool remained closed? What's causing delays?

Due to material availability and proper bonds required for the project, the start date was delayed.

Will the rest of the Community Center be open to the public while the pool roof is under construction?

Yes. Proper protections will be installed inside the building prior to roof removal.

When will the pool reopen?

We are aiming to have the pool back online by November 20, in time for the South Portland High School Swim Team season. However, delays are possible as weather, supply chain issues, and other factors can affect the project timeline.

What will be the benefits of having a new roof on the pool?

The pool roof will be structurally stable and safe for swimmers in all seasons. Shutdowns for repairs due to snow damage are unlikely.

As the project progresses, updates will be sent via email and posted on the South Portland Parks & Recreation website (www.sopoparksrec.com) and on the [South Portland Parks & Recreation Facebook page](#).

Municipal Golf Course

For course updates, please follow us on Facebook. We hope to see you on the course!

Tee Times:

7am-Sunset

Tee times can be made up to two days in advance by calling 775-0005. Tee times are scheduled in 15-minute intervals. Walk-ups are permitted and accommodated when possible.

Closing date scheduled for November 12.

[More Info](#)



Conservation and Parks

OCTOBER HIGHLIGHTS



Clockwise from left: Chewonki Foundation at the owl celebration with live owls, owl pellet dissection, clean-up at Fisherman's point, bright fall foliage on the Greenbelt

Explore

Autumn Olive Foraging

Date: October 29

Times: Sunday, 11a-12p

Location: Bug Light Park

Program Cost

FREE

[More Info](#)

Full Moon Hike

Myths & Legends

Date: October 28

Time: Saturday, 6-7p

Location: Hinckley Park

Program Cost

FREE

[More Info](#)

Learn

Bat Celebration

Date: November 5

Time: Sunday, 11a-1p

Location: Redbank
Community Center

Program Cost

FREE

[More Info](#)

Ecology Lecture Series

Foraging in Maine

Ages: Geared towards adults but older kids welcome

Date: November 9

Time: 6:30-7:30p

Location: South Portland Public Library

Program Cost

FREE

[More Info](#)

Nature Story Time

Wolves

South Portland Public Library

Date: November 17

Ages 0-5: 10:30-11a

Ages 5-12: 3:30-4:30p

[More Info](#)

South Portland Branch Library

Date: November 19

Ages: 0-12

Time: 1-2p

[More Info](#)

Program Cost

FREE

Special Events



Fall Festivities

Visit the Scarecrow Patch in Hinckley Park!



Zombie Dash **Original date was postponed for weather**

Run for your lives through a trails at Hinckley Park which have been plagued with the living dead! We'll have two sessions starting with a "mildly scary" dash before dark, followed by a "thrill seekers" dash after sunset. If you survive the dash, you'll be entered to win some great raffle prizes!

Date: October 27

Times: Friday,

Mild Session: 5:30-6:30p

Thrill Seekers: 6:30-7:30p

Location: Hinckley Park

Sponsored by:



Program Cost

Residents: \$10

Non-Residents: \$20

Zombie Volunteer: FREE!

**New
Date**

[Register](#)

HALLOWEEN TRUNK OR TREAT

October 28

11am-3pm
Free!

Join us for:

-  Touch-a-truck
-  Trick or Treating
with local service providers
-  FREE new coats
-  Donating coats *(gently used)*
-  Games



CITY OF
**SOUTH
PORTLAND**
Parks, Recreation
& Waterfront



Cop a Free Coat!

South Portland
Police will be
handing out
FREE COATS
while supplies &
sizes last!

**Sharing warmth one coat
at a time**



Holiday Fun!

Tree Lighting at Mill Creek

Join the City of South Portland and other community groups for a festive evening of horse drawn carriage rides, visits with Santa, hot chocolate, baked goods, and caroling. A brief ceremony will take place at 5:45 followed by the lights in Mill Creek being turned on at 6pm.

Date: December 1

Times: Friday, 4:40-6:30p

Location: Mill Creek Park

Program Cost

FREE!

Breakfast with Santa

Enjoy breakfast in the Casco Bay Room, with a visit from the Jolly ol' Elf himself! Breakfast will consist of pancakes, sausage, fruit cocktail and beverages. The proceeds from this program will be donated to the South Portland Police Department VIPS Program.

Date: December 9

Times: Saturday, 8-10a

Location: SPCC Casco Bay Room

Program Cost

\$12

[Register](#)

Gingerbread House Building

Get in the holiday spirit while you enjoy decorating a gingerbread house and sipping hot cocoa! We'll supply pre-assembled (frustration free) gingerbread houses, ingredients to decorate, and hot cocoa.

Date: December 16

Times: Saturday, 2-4p

Location: SPCC Casco Bay Room

Program Cost

Residents: \$20

Non-Residents: \$25

[Register](#)

North Pole Calling

We've got exclusive access for a call with Santa himself!

Date: December 11-13

Grades: PreK-2

Call times/dates vary based on age and start at 5pm.

Program Cost

FREE! (must register, residents only)

[Register](#)