

John G. Testa
Mayor



CITY OF PEEKSKILL
OFFICE OF THE MAYOR



Cool News in Hot Times: Peekskill’s Lepore Park Gets New “Sprayground.”

Lepore Park’s New Spray System Is Latest In Complete Revitalization of All Peekskill City Playgrounds.

Ribbon Cutting For New Park Will Take Place Wednesday, July 11, At 3:00 p.m. County Executive Andy Spano, Mayor John Testa and Common Council Members Will Attend.

For Immediate Release

Tuesday, July 10, 2007

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PEEKSKILL, NY—Just in time for the hottest days of the summer months, this city’s Lepore Park is getting a new spray playground or “sprayground.”

Located at the western end of Peekskill’s Main Street, Lepore Park is in the heart of Peekskill’s downtown district and is one of the most intensively used facilities in the city. The new “sprayground” uses both water and electronic controls to create an experience for kids that is both refreshing and entertaining.

As part of its Revitalization Plan over the last several years Peekskill has rebuilt almost every one of the playgrounds in its major parks. Though it is a relatively small city, Peekskill has more parks for its size than almost anywhere in the region.

Multiple organizations inside and outside of Peekskill worked to make the new sprayground happen. Much of the funding for the project was provided through a Community Development Block Grant through the Westchester County Urban County Consortium. The Peekskill Department of Planning, Development and Code Assistance oversaw securing the grants and getting program approval, while the Department of Parks and Recreation oversaw the construction itself and will assist in operating the facility.

“This is another wonderful resource for the parents and children of Peekskill, and a great example of teamwork by our city staff and the staffers at Westchester County,” says Peekskill Mayor John Testa. “An important part our city’s revitalization is making certain that we have superb recreational facilities, and the sprayground is great example of just that.”

“We are pleased to work with Peekskill in making their revitalization happen,” says County Executive Andy Spano. “Facilities like this are usually only found at world class amusement parks. It’s great that Peekskill citizens can use this at no cost. Quality recreational facilities are an important part of the Be Fit Westchester program, and features like this playground will help create a lifetime’s worth of active, healthy behaviors.”

Kids using the sprayground will have to touch an “activation bollard.” Electronics within the bollard will then turn on and off the park’s spray features at 30-second intervals.

The new sprayground replaces a spray pool that was in place before. But it is twice the size and far more sophisticated. “It’s interactive. Kids will touch it and the water features will go off. They won’t know what will go off first. It will give them the opportunity to think and explore,” says Suzette Lopane, a principal planner with Westchester County and the landscape architect who designed the facility. Other aspects of the park include providing different spray features for older and younger kids and the placement of seating all around the sprayground.

A large, yellow and green mushroom is a centerpiece of the sprayground, which is done in vivid, kid-friendly colors. The goal is for the sprayground to be both a family and an educational facility, Lopane says. “It will provide a way for parents to teach their kids how to interact with each other and how to interact with the spray in an appropriate manner,” she says. The sprayground will have a capacity of 50 kids.

Operating hours for the sprayground will be 11:00 a.m.-3:00 p.m. and 4:00 p.m.-8:00 p.m. Mondays through Saturdays. Park personnel will be present at all times when the facility is running. Lepore Park is located at 800 Main Street in Peekskill, NY. Peekskill’s Main Street is right off of Route 9 North. Those attending the press event need only make a left at the exit and go about one block to the first park on their left. The sprayground is in the north, or back side of the park.

For more information, call Mayor John Testa at 914-734-4105.

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