



### Mission -

To provide quality facilities for passive and organized recreation, and to enhance the aesthetic appeal of the community.

### Department Goals

1. Provide sustainable landscaping to all City owned green space and parks to improve city wide aesthetics.
2. Expand outdoor recreational opportunities for all Newton residents.
3. Continue to be the leaders on environmental stewardship within the community.

### Summary of Major Responsibilities

The Park Department is responsible for the planning, development, and maintenance of all City owned green space and facilities within the green spaces. The department acts as the steward of these green spaces for all the residents to insure the sustainability of all the community's resources, while maintaining a safe recreational environment for a large number of outdoor activities.

The department also serves as the community leader in keeping Newton attractive to both residents and visitors alike.

### Major Departmental Challenges

The department has done everything it can to do more with less. The next step will be to replace some program activities with others, or cease them altogether. Along these lines the department will investigate switching more green spaces to native grasses. This will reduce the amount of maintenance and change the appearance of some areas. Resources will be used to improve the maintenance of new or more visible areas such as community entrances.

### 2010 Accomplishments

- Removed Lincoln playground surfacing and installed a poured in place surface

- Removed existing raised flowerbed and installed turf, landscaping and a sweeping sidewalk in front of the 1880 at Military Park
- Expanded the bike path from 1st Street to the dam
- Replaced all Christmas lights with LED bulbs
- Planted and maintained fourteen flower beds throughout the City
- Constructed and installed seven Welcome to Newton signs
- Planted a rain garden at Midtown Arboretum
- Planted 87 trees on City property
- Continued road stabilization at Greenwood Cemetery
- Sprayed pre-emergent and broadleaf weed control on all City green spaces
- Removed trip hazards from the majority of the parks

### 2011 Objectives

- Remove the asphalt from the S. Kansas medians and install pavers and landscaping
- Replace the sidewalks at Restlawn Cemetery
- Install Quail Creek playground and protective surfacing
- Construct a disc golf course at Centennial Park
- Remove the trip hazards along Oak Street in front of the Library
- Clear woody growth from Slate Creek channel
- Spray pre-emergent and broadleaf weed control on all City green spaces
- Install two solar powered lights on the bike path
- Install two new drinking fountains on the bike path
- Plant and maintain flower beds and landscape beds
- Plant at least seventy-five trees on City property

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**2012 Objectives**

- Complete the median/street landscaping on South Kansas Avenue
- Add two more solar lights to the dark areas along the bike path
- Identify more areas to be converted to native grass
- Continue the amenity replacement along the north end of the bike path
- Expand Kansas Department of Wildlife and Parks program to include ponds at Kansas Logistics Park
- Continue to refocus maintenance on community entrances

**Parks & Public Facilities Alignment with City Beliefs**

We support **growth** by planning and developing recreation facilities in growth areas throughout Newton.

We enhance the **quality of life** by providing quality facilities and areas designed to enhance the aesthetic appeal of the community.

We provide for **health and safety** by developing and maintaining safe, high quality parks, hike and bike trails, amenities and playgrounds.

We **respect the environment** by using processes and technology that support a healthy natural environment and minimize adverse environmental impacts.

We support **civic engagement** through the City's Tree Board and the National Arbor Day Foundation.

We are **fiscally responsible** by continuously seeking ways to improve both efficiency and effectiveness, while operating within budget.

We pursue **progressive and innovative solutions** by continuously seeking ways of taking advantage of partnerships with other individuals and organizations, innovations in technology, and creative ideas that better serve the citizens and the community.

DEPARTMENT EXPENDITURES	2008	ACTUAL 2009	2010	ADOPTED 2011	ADOPTED 2012
PERSONAL SERVICES	\$ 699,323	\$ 831,563	\$ 817,145	\$ 950,304	\$ 651,583
CONTRACTUAL SERVICES	\$ 137,735	\$ 166,031	\$ 120,716	\$ 121,600	\$ 88,400
COMMODITIES & SUPPLIES	\$ 146,753	\$ 156,691	\$ 119,669	\$ 102,000	\$ 72,400
VEHICLE OPERATING	\$ 58,229	\$ 65,942	\$ 71,787	\$ 70,000	\$ 63,030
CAPITAL OUTLAY	\$ 167,415	\$ 44,436	\$ 105,070	\$ 125,000	\$ 15,000
TRANSFERS	\$ 92,926	\$ 50,945	\$ (2,300)	\$ 44,914	\$ 56,057
	<b>\$ 1,302,381</b>	<b>\$ 1,315,608</b>	<b>\$ 1,232,087</b>	<b>\$ 1,413,818</b>	<b>\$ 946,470</b>

Position	PARKS				
	F/P	STAFFING LEVELS			
		2009	2010	2011	2012
Park Superintendent	F	1	1	1	0.5
Park Supervisor	F	1	1	1	0.5
Park Horticulturist	F	1	1	1	0.5
Maintenance worker III	F	2	2	2	1
Maintenance Worker II	F	2	2	3	2
Maintenance Worker I	F	6	6	5	4
Part Time Tractor Mower	P	2	2	2	2
<b>Total Part Time</b>		<b>2</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>2</b>
<b>Total Full Time</b>		<b>13</b>	<b>13</b>	<b>13</b>	<b>8.5</b>

Performance Indicators	2010	2011	2012
	Actual	Projected	Estimated
Waterways Maintenance	344.7	160	360
Right of Way Maintenance	1,100.79	260	1,100
Acres Mowed	9,876.95	2,469	8,000
Acres Maintained	634.05	634.05	634.05
Trees Planted	80	61	0
Trees Removed	40	50	100