

## Yarmouth Community Services (YCS)

In the fall of 2010, YCS celebrated its 30<sup>th</sup> anniversary of *creating community through people, parks and programs.*

### Recreation Division

YCS provides diverse offerings of year-round youth programs that decrease boredom, build self-esteem and teach lifelong healthy choices in the areas of enrichment, fitness, science, music, arts and sports program opportunities. Theater and music programs produce self confidence and budding performers who proudly showcase their new talents for families and friends.

During 2010, **3,814 youth participated** in over **150 program offerings** that provided over **5,500 hours of recreational programming** to the Yarmouth community. The YCS youth sports programs served **788 youth** of all ages and ability levels in softball, baseball, basketball, lacrosse, soccer and running. These positive learning experiences are not possible without the commitment, dedication and enthusiasm of over **90 parent volunteer coaches** who provide fun, excitement and skill development while cultivating lifelong interests in active lifestyles and healthy habits.



We are extremely grateful and appreciative of our **60+ part-time employees**, as well as our youth and adult volunteers who help make so many of our program efforts a reality. These individuals serve as mentors to our youth participants -- helping to shape and create our future leaders.

Over **50 summer camps** provided summer programs to **1,214 camper's** ages 3 to 18. Summer programs included:

- Enrichment programs in creative arts, dance, theater, music and hapkido.
- Educational and experiential camps in Industrial Arts, Rocketry, Science and Nature.
- Sports camps for basketball, baseball, field hockey, fitness, football, horseback riding, lacrosse, soccer, softball and tennis.
- Teen Time at Trek Camp, Kayak Camp, as well as volunteer opportunities in our summer day camp.



**2010 Spring Royal River Ramblers prepare to start their meet**

**Adult Education**

In 2010, **927 adults participated in 133 adult education classes** which provided instruction in a broad spectrum of programs for the enrichment of Yarmouth’s adult residents. Lifelong opportunities for new skills, vocational training and other quality enrichment pursuits were offered in the interest areas of:

- Creative Outlets
- Financial Planning & Job Strategy
- Health, Wellness & Fitness
- Practical skills

Many of our active adults and senior residents enjoy a **regional approach** to specialized programs, activities, trips and tours to local and distant destinations such as:

- Cultural programs at Portland Stage Company, Portland Museum of Art, Portland Symphony, Culinary Walking tour and Stone Mountain Arts Center.
- Mt. Washington Cog Railway, Fall Foliage Train trip to Rockland and overnight trip to Burlington, Vermont.

**Parks Division**

**Zachary Wiest (Parks Superintendent), Earl Rowe (Parks Foreman/Equipment Operator), Ronald Thoits, Ken Gillis, Jay Mountain and Cecil Ryder** are the parks employees who manage and maintain over **610 acres of open spaces and recreation places** for the pleasure and use of Yarmouth’s residents to enjoy nature and outdoor sports and exercise. We welcomed new **Land Stewardship Coordinator Kyle Warren** in May 2010.

Parks, Open Space & Conservation Land	Facilities & Fun Places
<p><b>Parks:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Latchstring Park</li> <li>• Village Green Park</li> <li>• Town Hall Memorial Green</li> <li>• Grist Mill Park</li> <li>• Royal River Park</li> <li>• Pratt’s Brook Park</li> <li>• Spear Farm Estuary Preserve (Bayview)</li> </ul> <p><b>Conservation Land:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Frank Knight Forest (formerly Parks Property)</li> <li>• Fels Groves Farm Preserve</li> <li>• Barker Property</li> <li>• Sligo Road</li> <li>• Sweetsir Properties</li> <li>• Tinker Property on Cousins Island</li> </ul>	<p><b>Athletics:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 8 tennis courts</li> <li>• 7 baseball/softball fields</li> <li>• 5 soccer/field hockey/lacrosse fields, track</li> </ul> <p><b>Playgrounds:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Rowe School</li> <li>• Yarmouth Elementary School</li> <li>• Harrison Middle School</li> <li>• Applewoods</li> <li>• Nan Jones Kimball Shipyard (North Road)</li> </ul> <p><b>Other facilities:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Camp SOCI</li> <li>• Sandy Point Beach</li> <li>• Orland M. Blake outdoor ice rink</li> <li>• Beth Condon Pathway</li> </ul>



**View from Sandy Point Beach on Cousins Island**

**Yarmouth Open Space Guide**

The guide is a valuable community resource that highlights a variety of the town’s open spaces ranging from active recreation to rustic and natural areas. Our parks and preserves vary in size from less than an acre to over 220 acres. Many feature trails that wander through woodlands, wetlands and grasslands and scenic overlooks along the water’s edge.

To get involved in preserving or improving the Town’s natural areas for generations to come, to report any special concerns or conditions or for any updates, contact YCS at 846-2406 or [info@yarmouthcommunityservices.org](mailto:info@yarmouthcommunityservices.org)

Pick up a copy or check out the 2<sup>nd</sup> version of the **Yarmouth Open Space Guide** on our website at: [http://www.yarmouthcommunityservices.org/apps\\_forms\\_handouts/handouts/OpenSpaceGuide\\_2009.pdf](http://www.yarmouthcommunityservices.org/apps_forms_handouts/handouts/OpenSpaceGuide_2009.pdf)



4<sup>th</sup> Annual Pumpkin Run starting line

### Special Events

YCS also collaborates with a variety of individuals and groups to provide annual events and opportunities for community celebration and family unity:

- **4th Annual Pumpkin Run (October)**
- **20th Annual Father/Daughter Valentine Day Dance (February)**
- **23rd Annual Scavenger Hunt (March)**
- **5th Annual Yarmouth Wellness Fair (April)**
- **23rd Annual Easter Egg Hunt (April)**
- **Summer Arts Series (July & August)**
- **Annual Carol Sing & Tree Lighting**

### Cooperative Efforts & Community Collaboration

We would truly be at a loss without the many fine Yarmouth residents who help maintain our outdoor resources. YCS works with a variety of community groups and individuals who act as volunteers and stewards who protect the environment and increase community pride with their generous contributions. We extend our thanks and appreciation to:

- **Village Improvement Society (VIS)** – Easter Egg Hunt, Summer Arts Series & Open Space Guide contributor.
- **The VIS, Merrill Memorial Library, Chamber of Commerce, Yarmouth Rotary & Dennis Welch Photography** for generous sponsorship of the annual Yarmouth Summer Arts Series in the Royal River Park.
- **Yarmouth Community Garden** for their hard work and glorious garden harvest at Frank Knight Forest
- **Bill Hoffman, David Adams and the Cousins & Little John Islands Association** for coordinating and maintaining invasive bittersweet removal at the Tinker Property.
- **Key Bank** “Neighbors Helping Neighbors” Town Hall garden projects in May.
- **YHS student advisor-advisee work groups** at the Beth Condon Garden, Royal River Park
- **The Herbie Project** – management of the removal of Yarmouth’s 217 year old American elm tree “Herbie” and sales of Herbie elm crafted products.
- **Eagle Scouts: Philip Lowe, Evan Kendall & Benjamin Quincy George**

### Citizen Advisory Committees & Staff

We welcomed our new Land Stewardship Coordinator **Kyle Warren** in May and bid thanks, farewell and good luck to Program Supervisor **Tori MacDonald** who resigned in November to pursue a new career in the medical field. Sincere thanks and appreciation is also extended to the **Sports & Recreation Committee (SRC) members** and Chair **Dick Grimm** and the **Parks & Lands Committee members** and Chair **Joshua Royle** for their insight, dedication and support.

**Special congratulations to SRC member Keith Gray who was selected as Maine Recreation & Park Association’s Citizen Volunteer of the Year** for his outstanding volunteerism as a youth sports coach, Little League member and Boy Scout Leader!

Office staffers **Maryanne Strand** and **Lynn Wiest** ensure that Yarmouth residents have positive leisure experiences with small town warmth and sincerity. If you or someone you know has a special talent, skill or interest to share, please contact us for a course proposal. We truly value your input, participation and support.

Visit us at 200 Main Street or at [www.yarmouthcommunityservices.org](http://www.yarmouthcommunityservices.org) or on *Facebook!*

Respectfully Submitted,

*Marcia Noyes*, CPRP - Director & *Jason Veilleux* - Assistant Director