



TOWN OF EAST LYME PARKS AND RECREATION DEPARTMENT

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Monthly Report – January, 2026

Staffing

Steven Gerovitz was hired as the new Parks Foreman. Candidates went through two rounds of interviews before Steven was chosen. We now have two open maintainer positions on the Parks crew that we hope to fill soon. Interviews for one of the two positions will be held soon and the other position will hopefully be filled this spring.

Collaborations

We are partnering with the Junior NBA to offer a youth summer basketball league for middle and high school age kids at Peretz Park at Bridebrook this summer. We are also working closely with East Lyme Youth Basketball to get coaches as well as other personnel to help make the league run smoothly. We are very excited for the opportunity to offer this program that would be affordable for our residents and provide more youth sports in town!

East Lyme Parks and Recreation also partnered with multiple SECT parks and recreation departments in the area to plan a “Unified Night” that offers a variety of programs and activities for people with all abilities. Partnering departments included New London, Norwich, Waterford, Groton, Salem, Ledyard and the Miracle League of SECT. Each agency planned one or more activities for those in attendance to sample. The idea is that by each agency sharing the load we can offer a variety of opportunities for people who have difficulty participating in many of our more typical programs.

Alternative Resources

The department is working with the Planning Department to submit a grant for funds to construct trails at Darrow Pond. Our consultant, funded through an earlier grant, designed a new accessible trail from a renovated parking lot to the pond's edge. Additional work would be done to repair and maintain other sections of trail to make them more stable and safer. The grant requires local permits to be obtained, so we have already obtained approval from the Inlands Wetlands Agency and we are in the process of seeking Zoning Commission approval. The State of CT DEEP grant would provide 80% of the construction costs with 20% being contributed by East Lyme. That 20% match is being requested in the FYE2027 Budget.

