Topstone Park

Redding’s Topstone Park is more than just a great place to swim in the summertime; Topstone offers so much more, like year-round picnicking, hiking and nature study. Plus, this year some new improvements will make visiting the park an even more enjoyable occasion. Many people use a stroll on the trails as an opportunity to walk their dog. With the creation a few years ago of our small waterfront area known as “Magee’s Swimming Hole,” your dog can romp off the leash and go for a swim even after beach season begins. There are also grills, picnic tables, playground and basketball hoops available for use in the off season. Residents may also apply for beach party or overnight camping permits on weekends.

Once summer season begins, our beautiful 280 acre facility offers a superb sand beach and guarded swimming area as well as use of the Park and Recreation Department’s fleet of fun watercraft. We have kayaks, paddleboats and canoes for your enjoyment free of charge with admission to the park. In addition this summer, we’ll be offering a wide variety of new special programs hosted by our lifeguards, residents and invited guests such as outdoor lectures, family fun nights and contests to win prizes.

This summer, the Beach will be open for swimming on weekends starting Memorial Day weekend. We will offer an abbreviated weekday schedule starting June 10 and beginning the last day of school, we will be open every day until school opens in the fall. See specific hours in the right column.

To encourage use of Topstone Park year round, we hope to secure a volunteer to open and close the entrance gate so that the park can be used during the day from about October 1 until early May, allowing patrons to conveniently drive up to the main parking lot.

However, during the late summer and early fall, the gate will remain closed to discourage and impede easy access to unguarded swimming.

There are many different price options for your convenience including a Family Season Pass fee of only $130 for residents a real steal of a deal! This year we have changed the pass structure allowing a discount for single parent families. We also are allowing you to sign up additional family member for a pass who may live out of town for an additional fee. This year you may also renew your season pass online or pay at the park.

Besides buying a Full Season Pass, residents may choose to pay at the entrance (see the chart on the next page) or buy a “20 Use Pass.” The 20 Use Pass is only $65 and will be punched once daily for each person who uses the swimming beach.

Another option is our “Weekly Pass.” Residents may purchase a Weekly Pass for themselves or their guests at the park for $12 per person, per week. These passes are good for 1 calendar week and may be purchased at the entrance. A great offer for those who are home only a few summer weeks or for weeklong visiting guests

Lastly, we are now allowing residents who visit at the end of the day to pay only $3 per person when entering the beach after 5:00pm.

Hopefully these new choices will make using our Town Park an even better value for you, your family and your friends.

**Hours of Operation**
This summer, the Topstone Park Beach opens for swimming on Memorial Day weekend May 25-27. The park will open on a “weekends only” schedule 11:00am-7:00pm until June 9.

Beginning Monday, June 10, Topstone will open on an abbreviated early summer weekday schedule from 3:00-7:00pm. Beginning the last day of school, we will be open daily for the summer as follows:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Days</th>
<th>Hours</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Weekends</td>
<td>11:00am-7:00pm</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Weekdays</td>
<td>10:00am-7:00pm</td>
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The beach will be closed August 28-30 due to the schools opening but will reopen for Labor Day Weekend August 31 and September 1-2 from the hours of 11am-7pm.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Season Beach Passes</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>Pass Type</strong></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Family:</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Single parent Family:</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Adult:</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Youth:</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Senior:</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>20 Punch Card:</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Weekly:</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

ID is required as proof of residency for purchasing your pass. Acceptable forms of ID: a driver’s license, tax bill or a current utility bill. PO boxes are not acceptable.
Topstone season passes can be renewed online and can be purchased at Topstone as well as through the Park and Recreation office during normal office hours or by mail or fax. If you had a pass last year, you can renew your pass online.

Forms are available at the front of this booklet, at our office or online at www.townofreddingct.org

Although we call them “Passes,” we actually have a list of pass holders at the beach welcome table. Showing your Drivers’ License to the entrance guard and having them check the pass holders list will permit your entry. Those visitors paying the daily fee should bring their Drivers’ License to the entrance guard and having them check the pass holders list will permit your entry. Those visitors paying the daily fee should bring their Drivers’ License and showing it to the entrance guard will permit your entry. Those visitors paying the daily fee should bring their Drivers’ License to the entrance guard and having them check the pass holders list will permit your entry. Those visitors paying the daily fee should bring their Drivers’ License to the entrance guard and having them check the pass holders list will permit your entry.

Forgot to buy your pass in advance but don’t have enough money at the gate? You can pay the daily use fee at the entrance table and use your receipt(s) for up to $40 off your season pass within 2 weeks.

Single Day Rates

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>Resident</th>
<th>Guest</th>
<th>Non-resident</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Adult</td>
<td>$6</td>
<td>$6</td>
<td>$15</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Youth</td>
<td>$5</td>
<td>$5</td>
<td>$13</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Senior</td>
<td>$3</td>
<td>$3</td>
<td>$8</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>After 5:00pm</td>
<td>$3</td>
<td>$3</td>
<td>$8</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

A Few More Important Details:

Smoking and Alcohol Policy
For the safety and enjoyment of all patrons, smoking is not permitted past the parking lot and alcohol is not permitted in the park at any time (without authorization.)

Family / Guest
A “family,” for our purposes, is any one or two adults who live at the same address year round and all the children who live at that same address. You may buy a separate pass for one Nanny / Caregiver (or additional adults who live in your household at the rate of $25 per person. You may also choose to count the nanny as one of the two adults in the household (In these cases, the second parent must then pay the $6 daily resident fee when they attend or buy a Punch Pass, Weekly Pass, etc.....).

Summer guests or family members whose permanent residence is outside Redding are not Redding taxpayers can’t be included on your family pass. They must pay the daily fee if accompanied by the resident; or the non-resident fee if not accompanied by a resident. This year however we are allowing you to pay additional fees for family members who do not live in your household; @ $25 per adult and $20 per child. They can enjoy Topstone Park under your family pass for a reasonable annual fee. This is only if YOU (the resident) has purchased a season pass.

Non-swimmers
Parents of non-swimmers who venture into the shallow areas are expected to be in the water with them at all times, within an arm’s reach of their children.

No flotation devices are permitted except certified lifejackets. “Noodles” are considered swim toys to be played with by swimmers or by non-swimmers with an adult standing next to them within arm’s reach in the water.

Age Requirements and Boats
Topstone has canoes, kayaks, funyaks and paddleboats available for use at no additional charge with your admission. However, boat waivers must be signed by an adult before using any of our watercraft.

Youth pass holders 13 and older have full use of Topstone without a supervising parent/guardian adult being present; although they must have their parents fill out a “Seasonal Boat Use Waiver” if they wish to allow their child to use the boats when they are not present.

Children age twelve and under are required to have a supervising adult with them whenever they are at Topstone Park.

Boat waivers or Seasonal Boat waivers must be signed by parents of all participants under the age of 18 who will be using a boat without an adult onboard with them.

Children ages 11 and older may use the canoes, kayaks or paddle boats if their parents sign the boat out for them. Nine and ten year olds must always have an adult in the boats with them but may use the smaller, easy to handle funyaks on their own provided their parents sign them out.

9-12 year olds may only use the boats if a parent signs them out or if a parent has signed the “Seasonal Boat Use Waiver” allowing another adult to sign them out.

Birthday Parties at Topstone
Want to have a youth birthday party at Topstone? We can offer you a table and shade cover for a 2-3 hour time block. To request a party simply send an email specifying your interest in having a birthday party at Topstone to Rob Blick at rblick@townofreddingct.org.

We need the approximate number of children, age of the children, and the date and time you are requesting. We will get back to you confirming availability within a few days and you’re all set.

Provide us with a list of your guests the day of the party (or in advance) so we don’t charge them when they arrive. We will only charge you for any guests who do not have a Season Topstone Pass. So… if all of the people you invite have Topstone Passes there is no additional fee for a party at Topstone! Just contact Rob by email with the pertinent info today and reserve your party.

If you prefer to have your party after hours or continue after the beach is closed, you may include that request in your email. There are additional fees for evening or camping parties. The privilege of evening and overnight groups is for Redding residents only.

Topstone Park Special Events
Please check the Topstone Activity Calendar on the Topstone page of our website for additional events that will be added (as opening day approaches). Some more details on page 8

May 25-27 Opening Weekend 11am-7pm
- Weekends only until 6/18
Mon, June 24 Mexican Night
- Food for purchase by Rancho Alegre
- $13 in advance by noon 6/14; $18 at the park
Sat, June 15 or 22 Animals at Topstone
- Advanced sign up requested Free 10am
Thurs, July 11 Les Julian
- Free Family Concert 7:00 – 8:30pm
Wed, July 17 Habitat Hunt
- Free Advanced sign up required 9:00am
Sat, July 20 Meet with a Master Gardener
- Redding Garden Club 10:00am-12:00pm
Thurs, August 1 Kenn Morr Band - Free
- Adult only 7:15 -9:15pm
Thurs, August 8 Catfish
- Feel Good Music - Free Concert 7:15-9:15pm
Wed, August 21 A cappella concert
- Yale’s Society of Orpheus and Bacchus 7:00pm $10 in advance / $12 at the Park

A waterfront Lifeguarding class will be held on July 8-19 Complete details on page 19

Swim Lessons @ Topstone
This year we will offer both low cost group swim lessons and private swim lessons at Topstone Park. The lessons will be taught whenever possible by certified Red Cross Water Safety Instructors (WSI). Our WSI will use the instructional levels as defined by the American Red Cross Swim Lesson Program.

Details for this summer’s swim lessons will be available by May 1. This year, our group lessons will run Monday-Thursday in 2 week sessions with Friday makeups.

All children taking swim lessons must be pretested except for the non-swimmer lessons.

GROUP SWIM LESSON SESSIONS

Session 1:
M-F no 7/4 and M-Th 7/1 to 7/11

Session 2:
Monday-Thursday 7/15 to 7/25

Session 3:
Monday-Thursday 7/29 to 8/8

Specific times for each class level will be published around June 1

Cancellations/ makeups and credits
Make ups for rained out classes will be on Fridays. Credits will be issued if no make up class can be held. No credits will be issued for missed classes. Light rain or drizzle does not automatically cancel classes. If there is a question as to whether class will be held or not, call the Park and Recreation cancellation line at 938-5036 and select voice mail option #3.

Whenever possible cancellation line will have class status listed at least 30 minutes prior to the class time. However, decisions are often made earlier and sometimes classes are cancelled at the park due to changing weather conditions.

GROUP LESSON FEES

Family Passholders: $48/ session
Individual Passholder $96 / session
Non-passholders $128 / session
GROUP SWIM LESSON
REGISTRATION & TESTING

All participants (except preschool non-swimmers and Level 1’s) must be pre-tested prior to registering for swim lessons so that we get them in the correct class.

Preschool Swim Lessons are for 3-4 year olds only. Level 1-5 Swim Lessons are for children 5 year olds and up on the first day of class.

Forms are available and must be submitted by Tuesday, 6/25 at 12:00pm for processing. As we process forms, first priority will be given to season passholders. Please indicate a second or third choice if appropriate. We will only contact people who did not get in to their first choice…and we will do that by Thursday, June 28.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Testing Required?</th>
<th>Class</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>No</td>
<td>Preschool Non-swimmer</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>No</td>
<td>Level 1 Non-swimmer</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Yes</td>
<td>Level 2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Yes</td>
<td>Level 3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Yes</td>
<td>Level 4-5</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Pre-testing will take place at Topstone Park on the following dates and times:

- Saturday & Sunday, June 15-16  12:30-5:30pm
- Monday- Friday 6/17-21        3:00-5:00pm
- Saturday & Sunday, June 22-23  12:30-5:30pm
- Monday 6/24                    2:00-5:00pm

Additional testing times by arrangement

All children taking swim lessons must be tested except for the non-swimmer categories listed above.

If you can’t make our swim testing dates, you may call the office, leave your number and our instructor will attempt to set up a testing date if possible. Remember, you can not register for a class until you have been tested.

Where do I find the Swim Testing Registration form?

By June 1, the Swim Lesson Registration/Testing form will be available at the Park and Recreation office, online (www.townofreddingct.org) or at Topstone Park on the days of the swim testing.

All registration forms must be brought to the Park and Recreation Office (with payment) or dropped at the green Community Center drop box outside the Park and Recreation office by Tuesday, June 26 at 12:00pm. You may NOT register online for swim lessons.

We will run all classes with at least 2 people in them. Class size is limited to a maximum of 8 students per instructor and 6 students per instructor for beginner classes and preschool classes. Classes may be bigger if we have extra instructors but the ratio will remain no greater than 8:1 or 6:1 respectfully.

PRIVATE SWIM LESSONS

Private Swim lessons are being offered this summer at Topstone Park on Mondays-Thursdays on the same 6 weeks as our group lessons. There will be 4 half hour classes in these 6 one week sessions with start times running at 10:00am or 10:45am. If we do not fill all the assigned slots we may need to adjust lesson times within these times to fit our instructor schedules. A special Private lesson registration form will be available on the Park and Recreation webpage before June 1, at the office and at Topstone Park.

Private swim lessons will on a first come first served basis separate from our group lesson registration process. Lessons are $100 for four private lessons and $150 ($75 each) for four semi-private lessons. We will accept one single payment of either $100 or $150 for each slot reserved. This means if you choose the semi-private option you must find a partner and sign up together on a single form.