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. There are also grills, picnic tables, and basketball hoops available for use in the off season. Residents may also apply for beach party or overnight camping permits on weekends.

Many people use a stroll on the trails as an opportunity to walk their dog. Leashes are required in the parking lots, driveways and beach area. After May 15 dogs are prohibited from the beach area. This year, thanks to the Eagle Scout project of Ian Cedusk, we have added dog park where your dog can be off leash once you are in the fenced in area. Over 15 years ago, we had created a small waterfront area known as “Magee’s Swimming Hole” across the dam. Here your dog can romp off the leash and go for a swim even after beach season begins.

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, a rowboat and canoes for your enjoyment. Use of these boats is free of charge as it is included with your admission to the park. In addition, 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.

This summer, the beach will be open for swimming on weekends starting Memorial Day weekend. Beginning June 12, we will be open every day until school opens in the fall when we are closed for a few days and reopen Labor Day Weekend.

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, after Labor Day 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 $150 for residents - a real steal of a deal! We have changed the pass structure allowing a discount for single parent families. We also are allowing residents 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 $75 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 $14 per person, per week. These passes are good for 1 calendar week and may be purchased at the entrance or at our office. 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 $4 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 27-29. The park will open on a “weekends only” schedule 11:00am-7:00pm.

Beginning Monday, June 20, Topstone will be open daily for the summer as follows:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>Weekdays</th>
<th>Weekends and Holidays</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>10:00am-7:00pm</td>
<td>11:00am-7:00pm</td>
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The beach will be closed August 30 - September 1 due to the schools opening but will reopen for Labor Day Weekend, September 2-4 from the hours of 11am-7pm.

**Season Beach Passes**

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 Park** 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](http://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 prove residency as well.

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 a maximum of $50 credit off your season pass if purchased 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>$7</td>
<td>$7</td>
<td>$16</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Youth</td>
<td>$6</td>
<td>$6</td>
<td>$14</td>
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<tr>
<td>Senior</td>
<td>$4</td>
<td>$4</td>
<td>$9</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>After 5:00pm</td>
<td>$4</td>
<td>$4</td>
<td>$9</td>
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**A Few More Important Details:**

**Smoking and Alcohol Policy**

For the safety and enjoyment of all patrons, smoking and vaping is not permitted past the parking lot and alcohol is not permitted in the park at any time except certain Park and Recreation Department special events.

**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 $30 per adult or $25 per youth. 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 $7 daily resident fee when they attend or buy a Punch Pass, Weekly Pass, etc....).

Resident who have summer guests or family members whose permanent residence is outside Redding are not Redding taxpayers can’t be included on your family pass without extra fees. They must pay the daily fee if accompanied by the resident; or the non-resident fee if not accompanied by a resident. Beginning last year, we allowed residents who are family passholders only to pay additional fees for family members who do not live in your household; @ $30 per adult and $25 per child. They can enjoy Topstone Park under your Resident Family Pass for this reasonable additional annual fee. This is only for residents who have purchased a “Family 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, a row boat 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 be allowed to use the boats when their parents 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.

Topstone Park Special Events
We have three adult concerts planned for this summer at Topstone Park. We also have wonderful activities planned by our summer staff. These will be finalized by early June. Please be sure to check the Topstone Activity Calendar on the Topstone page of our website for these lifeguard-run special events but for now, save these dates!

May 27-29 Opening Weekend 11am-7pm
-Weekends only until 6/12
Wednesday, June 7 North County Band
– Adult Concert* 7:00 – 9:00pm
  Soulful Country (Raindate June 8)
Wednesday, July 26 Tribute to David Crosby
– Adult Concert* 7:00 – 9:00pm
Monday, July 31 Floydian Trip
– Adult Concert* 7:00 – 9:00pm
- Playing Pink Floyd’s Dark Side of the Moon Album in its entirety. (Raindate Aug 1)

*These are “listening events” where alcohol is allowed. Please leave children at home. Children who enjoy listening to music may attend only if they are seated with their parents during the entire event.

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, your cell number 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 to your party 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.

Waterfront Lifeguard Class
We are hoping to offer a Waterfront Lifeguarding class this summer but do not have one arranged at this time. Sign up for one in another town to guarantee enrollment. Stay tuned to our email blast for announcements.

Swim Lessons @ Topstone
This year we will again 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.

Registration details for this summer’s swim lessons will be available by June 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 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 years old and up by the first day of class.

Pre-testing will take place at Topstone Park on the following dates and times:
- Saturday & Sunday, June 10-11 12:00-5:30pm
- Saturday & Sunday, June 17-18 12:00-5:30pm
- Weekdays June 15-16; 20-21 12:00-6:30pm

Additional testing times by arrangement mid-season. 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.

GROUP SWIM LESSON SESSIONS

<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>

Session 1:
Monday-Thursday 7/10 to 7/20

Session 2:
Monday-Thursday 7/24 to 8/3

Session 3:
Monday-Thursday 8/7 to 8/17

Specific times for each class level will be published around June 1 along with a form to register for classes.

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: | $64 / session |
| Individual Passholder | $96 / session |
| Non-passholders     | $128 / session |

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 or at Topstone Park on the days of the swim testing. Sign up for the Park and Recreation Email blast to get the word the moment it is available. www.townofreddingct.org

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 Thursday, June 22 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.

We will process all registration forms on Thursday, June 22 and notify anyone who didn’t get their first choice my Monday, June 26.

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 morning classes in these 6 one week sessions. Times have not been set yet. 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 by 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.

To be alerted about the release of our swim lesson schedules and forms, be sure to sign up for the Park and Recreation email blast. www.townofreddingct.org