

# Groton Parks and Recreation Annual Report -2014-

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Dear Groton Community Stakeholder,

On behalf of the Groton Parks and Recreation Department, I respectfully submit the following 2014 Annual Report. This report highlights some of the accomplishments and points of pride of our department which consists of 4 divisions: recreation services, senior center, parks and forestry, and Shennecossett Golf Course.

Over the past year each division has strived to make the most of our resources and to continue to increase the satisfaction of our participants and community members who enjoy the use of our programs and facilities.

I invite you and your family to experience and enjoy the many varied recreational opportunities available here in Groton. From exciting trips to recreational programs to special events at our parks, there is always something new to discover. Make the most of what our community has to offer.

For more information, please visit our website [GrotonRec.com](http://GrotonRec.com). We welcome your thoughts and ideas for ways to improve our level of service to you. Thank you for your continuing support of Groton Parks and Recreation!

Sincerely,



Mark Berry  
Director, Groton Parks and Recreation



## RECREATION SERVICES

Groton Recreation Services provides instructional programs, health and fitness classes, cultural activities, enrichment programs, sports leagues, concerts, special events, summer camps, safety programs, and more. Programs are offered to all ages and are accessible to those with disabilities.



**665**

Programs offered

**2,275**

Kilometers run in our races



**364**

Scholarships awarded

### POINT OF PRIDE

In 2014, Groton Parks and Recreation celebrated the 25th year of the Summer SoundWaves Concert Series at Esker Point Beach.



**1,575.17**

Acres of outdoor recreation facilities maintained



**28**

Miles of trails



**25**

Athletic fields maintained

## PARKS & FORESTRY

The Parks and Forestry Division maintains parks, athletic fields, school grounds, open space, public properties, 13 cemeteries, and the trails at the Copp Property and Pequot Woods. It also hosts the annual Arbor Day event by planting new trees around town.

### POINT OF PRIDE

For 19 years, Groton has been recognized by the National Arbor Foundation as member of the Tree City USA program.



## SENIOR CENTER

The Groton Senior Center is the premiere location for nutrition, health and recreational classes, special events and trips, transportation, information and referral services for Groton residents 55 years and older. Programs in health, finance, fitness, art, and more are offered year-round as well as special events.

### POINT OF PRIDE

The Groton Senior Center was re-accredited by the National Institute of Senior Centers, an honor that recognizes the Center's excellence in many areas.

Accredited by   
National Institute of Senior Centers

## GOLF COURSE

Shennecossett is a historic 18-hole golf course designed by Donald Ross. Located on beautiful Long Island Sound and the Thames River, the course has dramatic water views from several holes. Shennecossett was founded in 1898 and remains a top New England golfing destination year-round.

**13,740**

Cart rentals



**225**

Season pass holders



**34,391**

Total rounds played

### POINT OF PRIDE

Since 2005, Shennecossett Golf Course has been designated as a "Certified Audubon Cooperative Sanctuary" through the Audubon Cooperative Sanctuary Program for Golf Courses.



**6,470**

Rides given



**6,923**

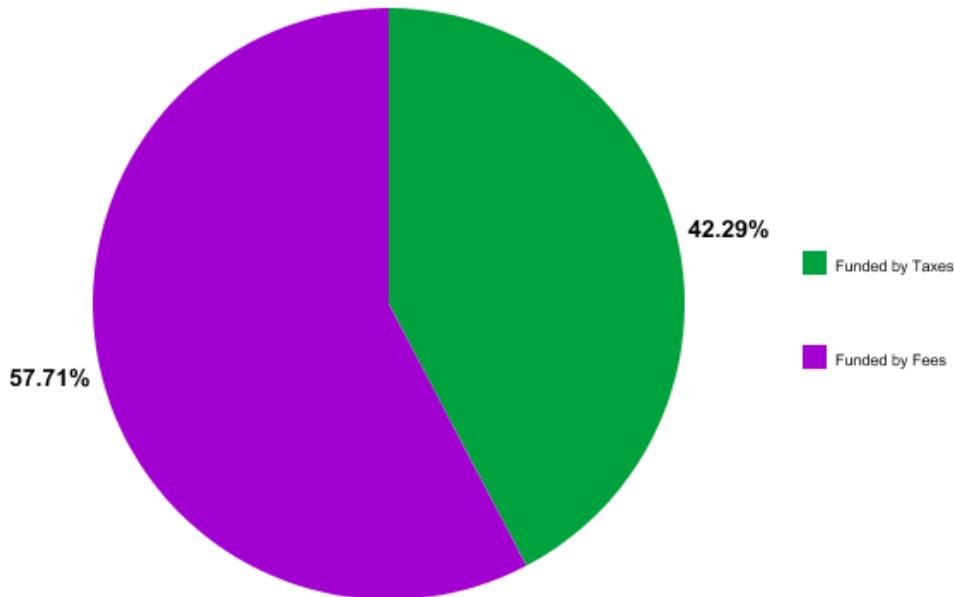
Volunteer hours served



**89,865**

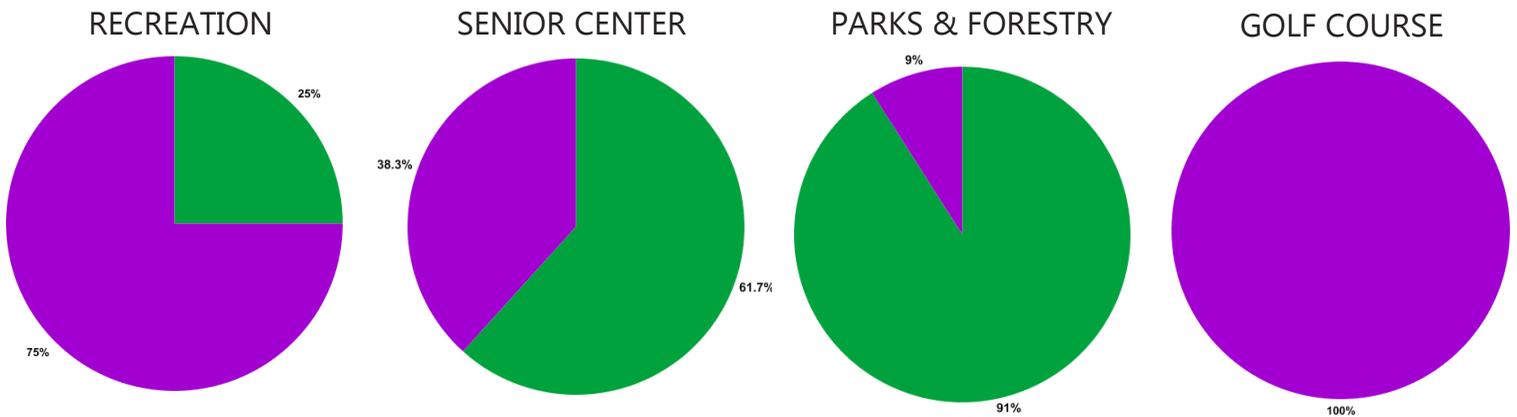
Visitor check-ins

# GROTON PARKS AND RECREATION FYE15 TOTAL DEPARTMENT OPERATING BUDGET



The total Department budget includes Recreation Services, the Groton Senior Center, Parks Maintenance, and Shennecossett Golf Course. Of the total budget, approximately \$1,600,000 or 42% is tax funded and \$2,18,3000 or 58% is supported by user fees from programs, events, etc. in a Special Revenue Fund (SRF). The average homeowner in Groton pays \$57 in taxes annually to support Parks and Recreation - about \$.16 per day or less than \$5 per month.

## OPERATING BUDGET BY DIVISION



Of the \$1,000,000 total budget for Recreation Services, \$250,000 is tax funded. This portion only pays full-time salaries. \$750,000 of the budget is funded by user fees and covers portions of full-time salaries, program costs, printing of the Discover brochure, and more.

From a total budget of \$940,000 for the Senior Center, \$580,000 is tax funded and \$360,000 is funded by fees. The Senior Center also uses the Special Revenue Fund to cover expenses not supported by taxes.

The Parks and Forestry total budget is \$633,000, of which \$57,000 is funded by fees such as park rental fees.

The entirety of Shennecossett Golf Course's operating budget is funded by user fees (greens fees, cart rentals, memberships, etc.)