



**RECTOBERFEST
& TRICK-OR-TREAT
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Recreation - Page 3

With cooler days ahead, fall is the perfect season to get moving - whether it's a swing, a throw or a catch, discover how we can help you and your family stay active and healthy on and off the field.



Senior Center - Page 3

Recreation opportunities are getting Lancaster Seniors up, moving, and flocking to our **Senior Center** to engage. Learn more about the programs that are helping Seniors stay active and sharp.



Back to School - Page 4

As the 2025-2026 school year begins, learn how our programs are helping students thrive mentally, physically and academically. Learn more about our **Before-and-After School Care and All Day Camps**.



At **McCaskey Early Learning Center**, we are proud to be a place where innovation meets opportunity. Hear how a grant from the **Lancaster County Community Foundation** is transforming education for our youngest learners.



Upcoming Events

Trick-or-Treat

Friday, October 31
Lancaster Rec Center
6 p.m. - 8 p.m.



RecToberFest

Saturday, October 18
Conestoga Pines Park
2 p.m. - 6 p.m.



Winter Carnival

Thursday, December 18
Lancaster Rec Center
6 p.m. - 8 p.m.

Want to know what is going on TODAY at Lancaster Rec?

Follow us on our social media accounts.



[LancasterRec](#)



[Lancaster_Rec](#)

FALL
2025

LancasterREC
NEWSLETTER

Lancaster Rec is Hosting Two Fall Family Events: REcToberfest & Trick-or-Treat

Join Lancaster Rec for REcToberFest from 2-6 p.m. on Saturday, October 18 at Conestoga Pines Park. This free community festival brings together all the best parts of autumn in one festive afternoon, with vendors, games, pumpkin launching, food trucks, live music, and more. With activities for kids and adults alike, REcToberFest is a chance for friends and family to enjoy the crisp air and colorful season in one of Lancaster City's most scenic parks.

"REcToberfest is a celebration of everything we love about fall," said Mathieu Schroeder, Recreation Events Specialist. "It's a time to come together as a community, enjoy the outdoors, and make memories."



And don't miss Trick-or-Treat on Friday, October 31, from 6-8 p.m. at the Lancaster Rec Center. In collaboration with the [Lancaster SouthWest Community \(SoWe\)](#), this family-friendly evening transforms the Rec Center into the ultimate Halloween destination. Children can enjoy safe trick-or-treating, festive activities, and plenty of Halloween surprises—all in one community-centered celebration.

"Halloween is a holiday centered around spending time in your neighborhood and meeting new neighbors," said Jacque Morges of SOWE. "To have a grand and spectacular Trick-or-Treat event close to home, that upholds this important tradition of neighbors meeting and playing together, is one of SOWE's top priorities. We are excited to partner with Lancaster Rec for the third year and continue this unforgettable night, complete with king-size candy bars and connections!"



Lancaster Rec invites families to celebrate the season—whether it's enjoying fall fun at REcToberFest or costumes and candy at Trick-or-Treat. Both events are free, open to the public, and designed for Lancaster residents to celebrate the season and meet their neighbors.

Volunteer Opportunities are Available!

If you would like to lend a hand or make a product donation, please reach out to Mathieu Schroeder at

MSchroeder@LancasterRec.org

LancasterREC NEWSLETTER

Recreation



Fall Sports are in full swing with baseball, soccer, flag football, running club, tennis, and—for the first time—travel basketball competing in the LL league.



Don't miss our featured **Esports programs** and remember—you can **rent the Rodney Park Esports Center** for your next themed party!



The 2025 gardening season is winding down at **Bay Street Garden**. In 2026, we are preparing to add individual rentable plots, while continuing to serve more than 80+ residents through our programming.



Under the leadership of longtime coach **Kristy Aurand**, the new Jr. Tornado Elite Cheer team kicks off its first year with a focus on competitive cheer.



Love **Lancaster Beer Gardens**? They will be part of the Hispanic Heritage Month Celebration at Ewell Plaza on October 4.



Looking ahead, our **Winter Carnival** brings holiday games, a candy cane hunt with SOWE, festive cheer, and a special visit from Santa.



Senior Center



We've introduced new **Geri-Fit** hours. Join us Wednesdays from 12:15–1:00 p.m. and Thursdays from 10:30–11:15 a.m.



We're thrilled to welcome our new Senior Center Assistant, Yvette, to the team.

Our newest class, Dancing with Miss Lydia, has received raving reviews. Participants love the environment she creates and the knowledge and energy she brings to the program.



Our **Senior Center** Manager, Tina Miller, and our Pre-K Teacher, Miss Jess, are excited to launch more intergenerational activities this school year, bringing seniors and preschoolers together for fun and meaningful connections.



The Lancaster Rec Senior Center is funded, in part, under an Agreement with money allocated by the Pennsylvania Department of Aging and the Lancaster County Office of Aging. Membership to our Senior Center is FREE.

Back to School



This school year, we're excited to be serving 12 schools across 9 different locations! Fulton Elementary joins us as our newest addition, reopening its doors for the year.



Carter & MacRae begins its journey as our newest Community School under the leadership of [Community School Director, Shane Howell](#), known fondly by students as "Mister Shane".



Looking ahead, our [Adventure Outpost](#) program will once again be available during the Thanksgiving and Christmas breaks, hosted at Maple Grove. [Maple Grove is also a rentable facility.](#)



Thanks to the generous support of the [Lancaster County Community Foundation](#) - Better Lancaster Fund, our McCaskey Early Learning Center is receiving a curriculum upgrade. This investment ensures our youngest learners have access to high-quality, engaging educational experiences that lay the foundation for lifelong success.

Career Opportunities

Help create a fun, safe, and supportive environment for young children! Duties include assisting with activities, encouraging independence, and building positive relationships with kids and families.

Requirements: High school diploma/GED, plus either 2 years of childcare experience or college credits in Early Childhood Education.

Schedule: Monday - Friday

Lead ECE Teacher (Full Time)

Pay: \$16-\$18/hour

\$1,000 sign-on bonus after 90 days

Benefits: Health, Dental, Vision, PTO

Assistant Group Supervisor (Part Time)

Pay: \$14-\$16/hour - 25 Hours/Week
Split Shift - Mornings/Afternoons

Assistant ECE Teacher (Full Time)

Pay: \$14-\$16/hour

\$1,000 sign-on bonus after 90 days

Benefits: Health, Dental, Vision, PTO

Ways to Support Lancaster Rec



Many of our programs rely on [Volunteer Help](#). Adult volunteers coach youth sports, help out at senior centers, assist with special events, lead classes, and provide entertainment. Teens volunteer as summer camp counselors-in-training and junior playground leaders. The orange and blue needs you!



We pride ourselves on education through recreation. Generous product or service donations by the community not only help us create new programming, they enhance our existing programs. Our [Requested Donations List](#) is the perfect way to make a gift that will make an instant impact.



Recreation experiences are especially important for the healthy development of our children. When children play, they're developing the skills they need to succeed in life. Recreation activities help children feel good about themselves, learn how to solve problems and get along with others. By [Donating to Lancaster Rec](#), you support the creative community recreation and educational programming our Lancaster residents rely on.

For more information, please visit: www.LancasterRec.org and navigate to the "Support Us" tab

Testimonials



“
I started out as a School Age Group Supervisor Assistant, then moved into the Early Childhood Preschool Room as an Assistant. After earning my CDA Credential, I became a Lead Teacher. Over the years, I have also spent many seasons of being a volunteer coach for Lancaster Rec's youth sports programs.

Lancaster Rec is like home to me. It's where I grew, learned, and found my purpose. Lancaster Rec helped me reach my goals, and I can't wait to see it continue to uplift families and help our community thrive. **”**

**TAMARA P.
LANCASTER REC TEAM MEMBER**



“
Lancaster Recreation Commission serves as the Community Financial Partner for the Annual Back to School Event where we serve Lancaster students, K-8, with free uniforms, shoes, backpacks, reading books and other supplies.

They provide affordable programs. The staff truly care about and understand the importance of community. They make sure residents are connected to services, resources, and help to build partnerships between agencies. **”**

**FRAN M.
LANCASTER REC SUPPORTER**

