Our registration process has changed this quarter!

- You still need to turn in a completed registration form to STAR Center by 6 pm, Thursday, Dec. 19th. But there are activities that you can register and pay for early!
- We will email a registration form that you can fill out electronically and email to: specialized@tacomaparks.com.
- If activities have a \(+\) next to them, you can register and pay for them any time before December 19th, either in person or at STAR Center. If you do NOT use DDA to pay for our programs, you may register and pay for these activities online (apm.activecommunities.com/MetroParksTacoma). Do not create an online account - contact Specialized staff for online access. You cannot register online if you use DDA for program payment.
- If an activity does NOT have a \(+\) next to it, registration for it will be done in the same randomized process we have always used. These will be processed on Friday, December 20th. You will be emailed a receipt for these activities if you have a valid email on your account. Otherwise you will need to pick up your receipt in person at STAR Center.
- Only requesting early registration activities? Register and pay any time before December 19th or just turn in your form in by December 19th and we will register you.
- Requesting both early AND randomized registrations? You can either register and pay for early activities by December 19th and then turn in your form for us to register your randomized activities on registration day OR just turn in your form by December 19th and we will take care of your registrations.

Questions?
- We will host an informational meeting to explain the new process and answer questions at STAR Center on Wednesday, December 11, 2019 from 5-8 pm or give Specialized a call (253) 404-3950, or email us at specialized@tacomaparks.com.

Registrations will be due to STAR Center by 6 pm on Thursday, December 19th.
Final payments due: Sunday, January 5th.
Winter Quarter: January 6 - March 29th
SOCIALS & CLASSES EARLY REGISTRATION

Daytimes Age: 15+
First we socialize and have lunch, then we play games, do craft activities, and get our bodies moving with easy exercises and dance activities. Meet at STAR Center with a sack lunch. On days that it is nice, we will be taking walks outside. All levels welcome.
Meet at STAR Center Fee: $40 13561 01/07 - 03/24 Tue 12 – 2 pm 13562 01/09 - 03/26 Thu 12 – 2 pm

Tuesday Night Activity Club Age: 15+
How about spending Tuesday nights playing games and doing crafts? This is a meadow night of activities, hanging out with old friends, and making new ones.
All levels welcome.
Meet at STAR Center Fee: $40 13563 01/07 - 03/24 Tue 6:30 – 8:15 pm

Wednesday Night Social Group Age: 15+
This is a high energy place to play interactive games and dance! Come enjoy a fun time with old friends and new. We have a great time! What are you waiting for?
Meet at STAR Center Fee: $40 13564 01/08 - 03/25 Wed 6:00 – 8:00 pm

Lifetime Fitness Age: 15+
Hang out with friends and get in shape! All abilities are welcome. We will do group and individualized exercises, stretches, games, sports, and workouts. Please wear clothes you can be active in and bring water!
Meet at STAR Center Fee: $40 13565 01/09 - 03/26 Thu 5:00 – 6:30 pm 4 – 5:30 pm

Mind + Body = Fun Age: 15+
Learn relaxation techniques while having fun. Move your bodies and get in touch with the connection between your thoughts and your feelings. Develop self-awareness through movements, arts, and games meant to help you feel better! Learn to use your breathing, settle your mind, and have fun!
Meet at STAR Center Fee: $40 13566 01/10 - 03/27 Fri 10 am – 12pm

DANCES & EVENTS EARLY REGISTRATION

Super Hero Dance Age: 15+
Super Heroes from far and wide unite at STAR Center for the first dance of the new decade. Dress as your favorite hero (or villain) and enjoy some great music with friends. Please no masks that cover the face. STAR Center 15265 01/04- 01/04 Wed 6 – 8 pm Fee: $8

Athlete Recognition Banquet Age: 8+
This is our annual event to honor our Metro Parks Special Olympics Athletes. Please join us with your friends and family for dinner, awards, and lots of fun! This program is for people who have participated in Special Olympics with Metro Parks in the past year. Donations Accepted! STAR Center 15266 02/07 Tue 6 p.m – 8 p.m Fee-Free!!

Leprechaun Dance Age: 8+
Join us for our St. Patrick’s Day Fun. Come dressed as a leprechaun or all in green! This dance will be a great way to say goodbye to Winter and hello to Spring!! STAR Center 15267 03/20 08 pm Fee: $8

Sports EARLY REGISTRATION

Bowling Age: 15+
Make friends with like-minded bowlers and work on your form. Bring $2.20 each week for two games and shoes. We will have someone to help you change. Meet at Narrow Plaza Bowl.
Narrow Plaza Bowl Fee: $40 13931 01/07 - 03/24 Mon 4 – 5:30 pm
13931 01/07 - 03/24 Tue 4 – 5:30 pm

Special Olympic Aquatics Age: 8+
Meet at UPS or PLU for swim practice where the men’s and women’s collegiate teams will help coach our athletes. Improve your stroke and prepare for competition while getting low impact exercise.
University of Puget Sound Fee: $40 13930 02/25 - 04/28 Tue 6 - 7:30 pm
13931 01/06 - 03/23 Mon 4 – 5:30 pm

Special Olympic Soccer Age: 8+
Soccer season is upon us! Participants will need tall socks, shin guards, and cleats. Meet at Gray Middle School Fee: $40 13933 03/19 - 04/06 Mon 7:30 – 8:30 pm

A.O. Track & Field Age: 8+
It’s time to get outside and practice. Let’s go for a run, walk, or try your hand at a field event. There’s something for everyone!
Meet Gray Middle School. Fee: $40 13934 03/19 - 04/06 Thu 5:30 – 7:00 pm

INFORMATION

Notice: In the last year the number of participants registering for our programs has increased substantially. Because of this we cannot guarantee that you will receive all the programs and outings you request on your registration form. If you turn in your registration form late we cannot guarantee you are placed in any requested programs. Once you are paid we will pay close attention to our emailed invoice. It will inform you of the dates, times, and locations for programs you are registered for.

Notice: We cannot guarantee you a spot in a program just because you have been attending said program for multiple years. New registrants for programs and outings have a limited number of spaces available—if you cannot attend an outing or program please call Specialized Recreation staff at (253) 404-3980 to withdraw so we can fill your spot with someone on the waitlist and refund you (please see cancelation policy below). If you are not registered or are on the waitlist for a program, please do not attend the program unless staff has contacted you.

Registration

Due to the high demand for our programs, we register using a randomized process. Registrations turned in by the deadline will be sequentially drawn and you will be notified. You may not be registered for everything you have requested.

Please complete the registration form before participating in programs. Make sure you are registered and have paid before payment deadline on January 5.

Mail, email, or your registration form before 6 pm on 12/19/19 to STAR Center. Forms cannot be faxed and we cannot accept registrations over the phone.

Please note that registrations are due on Thursday, December 19th.

Due to our randomized registration process please do not send in payment with your registration form, unless registering for early registration programs only.

All participants need to be pre-registered for programs for safety.

No substitutions of participants.

If you are new to our program and are signing up after the deadline, please contact the office to see what programs are available.

Avoid late and withdrawal fees. Learn how by reading the Information section.

Make sure you are registered and have paid before payment deadline on January 5.

We will email invoices when you are registered. If you do not have an email, you can find out what you are registered for in person at STAR Center.

All activities and courses must be paid in full on or before January 8th, unless DDA is arranged prior to registration.

Cancelation Policy/No Show Policy

You must request cancelation, and receive confirmation from a Specialized Recreation administrative staff at least 5 business days before an outing for a refund. You must contact an Specialized Recreation administrative staff to cancel. The number is (253) 404-3980.

Refunds will not be made for missed or forgotten sessions, or late cancellations.

If a participant No Shows for 2 programs (weekend adventures, art or cooking classes) they will be removed (with refund) from the rest of their registered outings & classes for the rest of the quarter if there are people on the waiting list. And their registration form will be processed last for the following quarter.

DDA – Participants who use DDA to pay for their programs will be personally financially accountable to pay the registration fee for the programs (outings, classes, & dances) if they No Showed.

Attendant Staffing (1:1, aids, chaperones, care providers)

Metro Parks staff work in support of our programs and trips. Staff ratio vary depending on the program. We are unable to provide attendant care, such as assistance using the restroom, personal transfers, eating or dispensing your medication. Your staff may accompany you without paying the program fee to support you if you need this type of assistance. They must be pre-registered. They will also be responsible for any admission or other charges. Often Metro Parks will pay for tickets in advance to secure seats, there is a separate fee for your aid or staff on those programs this quarter. If it becomes necessary for you to bring an attendant to help you be successful in our programs, we’ll help you find a solution. Attendants needed for outings must be indicated on the registration form. If it is not properly indicated, the participant may be withdrawn from the program.

Staff Arrival Times & Departure Times

For your safety we want to alert you to the staff schedule. Our activity sites are not staffed more than 30 minutes before and after the published program time. If you arrive earlier than that you will be unaccompanied and unsupervised. If our staff is required to wait with you longer than 30 minutes the ending time for activities, a service fee will be charged to your account, at the rate of $20 per hour.

Behavior Policy

Metro Parks staff are dedicated and trained to assist all participants to have a successful experience at all activities. However, we are not equipped to deal with significant behavioral issues. All participants must be able to function in a group environment. If closer supervision is needed and a caregiver or chaperone is welcome to accompany the participant. Unacceptable behaviors include but are not limited to; self abuse, physical or verbal abuse towards others, violent behaviors, profanity, and a constant unwillingness to participate in activities. Noncompliance with behavior standards may result in the requirement of a caregiver assistance during future activities or possible dismissal from activities.
Our last trip of the year will be to Wilson Environmental Learning Center at Fort Flagler State Park. We will get to go hiking and enjoy the beautiful mountain views. This will be a trip to stay in the Wallowa Mountains as we stay at Wallowa Campground. We will do some hiking, sight seeing, and have a campfire. After a fun day outside, you will have your warm bed to get a good night sleep. You get the best of both worlds with the Lodge Camping Trips!

Meet at STAR Center

Meet at STAR Center

Fee: $300; Attendant $200

Joseph, Oregon Tent Camping Trip (Register in Spring Quarter)

Ages: 18+

For this trip we will be heading to Cornet Bay Environmental Learning Center at Deception Pass State Park. You will be able to enjoy the outdoors by hiking, sight seeing, and have a campfire. This will be our 3 night, 4 day tent camping trip. We will have the opportunity to see the Wallowa Mountains and have plenty of time to explore and relax! We plan on spending the night at the Wallowa Campground.

Meet at STAR Center

Meet at STAR Center

Fee: $190; Attendant $90

North Cascades Tent Camping Trip (Register in Summer Quarter)

Ages: 18+

Join us for a 3 day, 2 night tent camping trip at Newhalem Campground in North Cascades National Park. We will get to go hiking and enjoy the beautiful mountain views. This will be a trip that you will truly never forget.

Meet at STAR Center

Meet at STAR Center

Fee: $220; Attendant $95

Fort Flagler Lodge Flagging Camping Trip (Register in Summer Quarter)

Ages: 18+

Our last trip of the year will be to Wilson Environmental Learning Center at Fort Flagler State Park. Fort Flagler is located on the Northern tip of Marrowstone Island and was built in the late 1800's! We will get to do some hiking, beach exploring, and more!

Meet at STAR Center

Meet at STAR Center

Fee: $170; Attendant $80

Java and Clay

Age: 15+

Join us as we head up to Gig Harbor for some pottery painting. You will have the chance to pick out your own piece of unique pottery, paint it, then they will glaze and fire it for you. You will be able to pick it up at STAR Center a week or so afterwards. Please bring $30 for a piece of pottery.

Meet at STAR Center

Meet at STAR Center

Fee: $15

Mariner's Stadium Tour

Age: 15+

Join us as we head up to Seattle for a private tour of T-Mobile Park. We will get the chance to check out the press box, interview room, warming track and more! Bring a sack lunch and Meet at STAR Center. Fee: $45; Caregiver Fee $20

15681 02/22 Sat 11:30 – 4 pm

Lunch and Lanes at Narrows: Age: 15+

Join us at Narrows Plaza Bowl. We will be eating lunch and bowling as a group. Please make sure to bring $25 for lunch and two games of bowling.

Meet at Narrows Plaza Bowl

Fee: $20

15512 02/23 Sun 12 – 2:30 pm

15470 03/29 Sun 12 – 2:30 pm

Pool Party at People's

Age: 15+

Pool Party!! Join us at People's Center for some pizza and fun in the pool. Please bring your swimsuit and a towel.

Meet at People's Center.

Fee: $25; Caregiver Fee $10

15731 03/08 Sun 4:30 – 7:30 pm

Contact Us!

(253) 404-3950

3873 S. 66th Street

Tacoma, WA

98409

MetroParksTacoma.org/

Specialized

Email us:

specialized@tacomaparks.com

Follow us on Facebook: for info

about classes and important

updates

Facebook.com/

SpecializedRecreationMPT

Mariner's Game Fun!
Vacation Adventures

All Vacation Adventures require a $35 deposit required, to be paid before the start of the quarter. The remaining balance is to be paid 4 weeks prior to the trip. If you use DDA and cancel, you will be responsible for the deposit. For all trips you will receive a trip itinerary and final registration form 2 weeks before the trip. Space is limited on these trips, so participants are asked to bring only 1 bag. For tent/lodge camping trips, all participants must bring their own tent, though this is not required. For more information about Vacation Adventures, please contact the office or check out MetroParksTacoma.org/specialized-adventures.

Day Trip to Downtown Tacoma!

Feeding Kangaroos at the Wallaby Ranch!

Holiday Class Schedule

COOKING CLASSES

Homemade Chili Age: 15+
Chili really is the best food on a chilly day! For this class we will be making chili from scratch. We promise this will be a recipe you will want to take home and make for your friends and family!

Feasting Center Fee: $20
STAR Center Fee: $20

Breakfast Food Age: 15+
They say that breakfast is the most important meal of the day, so why not learn some fun new recipes that you can take home and make yourself? For this class we will make some traditional breakfast dishes, with a little flair of course!

STAR Center Fee: $20

Feasting Center Fee: $20

Popcorn! Age: 15+
There are so many different types of popcorn, the options really are limitless. For this class, we will try out a few of the classics and maybe even experiment with something new! At the end you will have a delicious treat that you can take home and share!

Feasting Center Fee: $20

STAR Center Fee: $20

ART CLASSES

Button Art Age: 15+
Buttons always seem to appear out of nowhere and we can never figure out where they came from. For this class we will take those buttons, mix and match them, and create a unique piece of art!

Feasting Center Fee: $30

STAR Center Fee: $30

Cherry Blossoms Age: 15+
Cherry blossoms are meant to symbolize the beauty of life. It is with that spirit that we will make our very own cherry blossom trees using some tissue paper, a little paint, and a lot of fun!

Feasting Center Fee: $30

STAR Center Fee: $30

Cactus Gardens Age: 15+
For this class we will be making our very own cactus garden out of flat rocks and a clay pot. We will be designing and painting the rocks, so everyone will come away with their own unique garden. The best part is, no watering required!

Feasting Center Fee: $30

STAR Center Fee: $30

For the most current updates and info follow us on Facebook.com/SpecializedRecreationMPT

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Interested in Volunteering with Metro Parks Tacoma?
Interested volunteers please contact Beau Benner at beaub@tacomaparks.com or (253) 404-3950 for more info and to learn how to get started. All volunteers are subject to a free yearly background check through Metro Parks Tacoma. Volunteers and coaches represent Metro Parks Tacoma and therefore must follow all policies and guidelines of the organization. Volunteers/ Special Olympic Coaches may also be asked to fill out additional paperwork by Special Olympics Washington in order to attend tournaments and events.