

**Recreation, Parks &  
Cultural Affairs  
Department Overview**



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# Recreation, Parks, & Cultural Affairs

## Description

The Department works together with nationally recognized consultants, community, business, and government leaders, as well as citizens of DeKalb County and community organizations to create signature parks and recreational facilities that will enhance the image of DeKalb County and its park system. Our department features our outstanding park system.

The budget for Recreation, Parks & Cultural Affairs FY2022 is \$26,048,777.

### **Division Features include:**

- 113 parks consisting of approximately 6,140 acres of parkland and open space
- 76 playgrounds including 62 pavilions
- 2 public golf courses
- 70 tennis courts within 2 tennis centers
- 9 recreational facilities including 7 aquatic facilities & 104 athletic ball fields
- A horse farm & nature center
- state of the art 500 seat performing arts community center & new 1000 seat amphitheater



# Mission Statement

## Mission Statement

The Parks and Recreation Department is dedicated to enhancing the quality of life of the citizens of DeKalb County by connecting communities to exceptional parks, recreational facilities, and cross-generational programs that promote healthy and active lifestyles.

Vision To Create and Connect Communities through People, Parks, and Programs.



# Recreation, Parks & Cultural Affairs

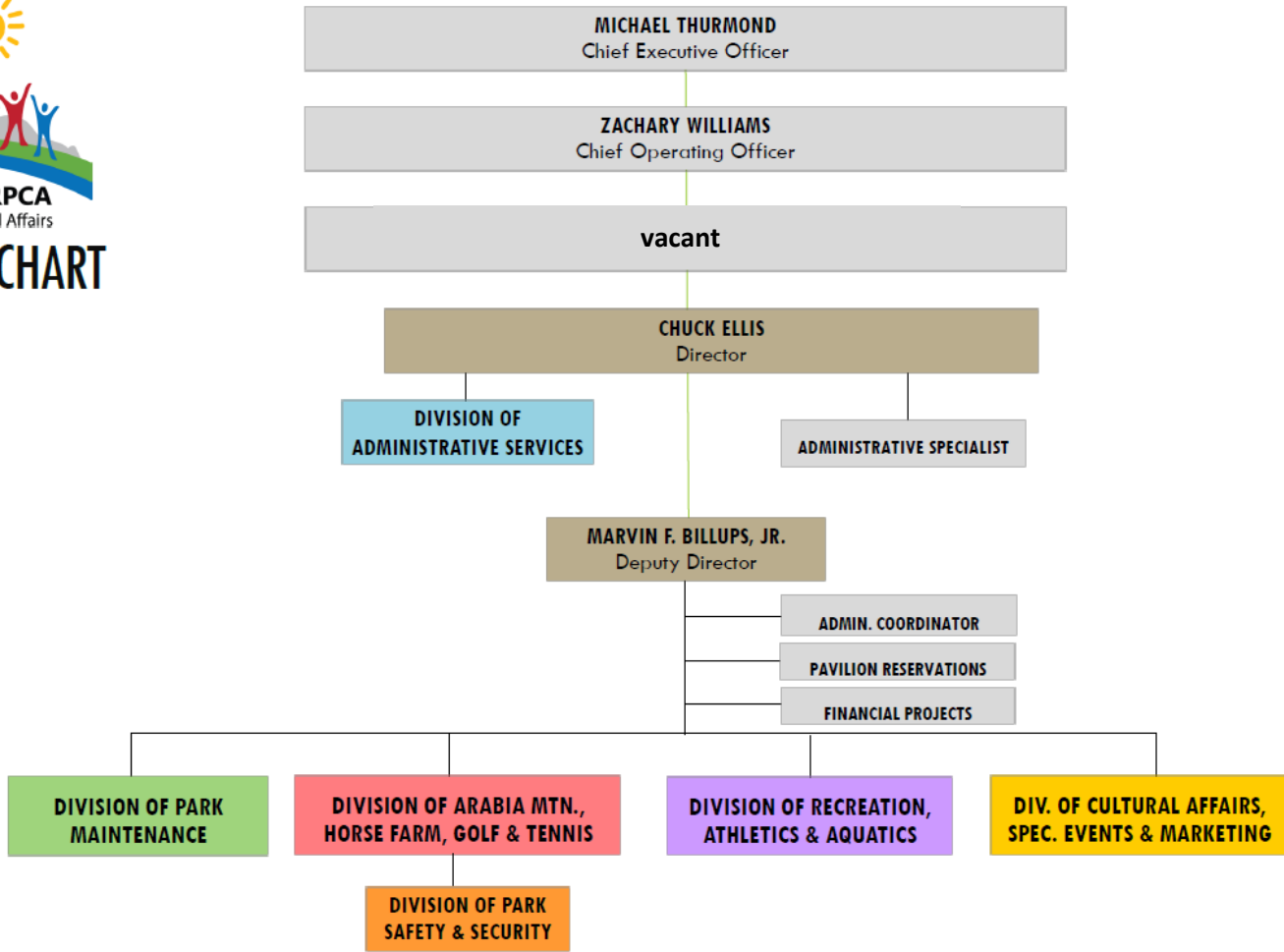
## AWARDED CAPRA ACCREDITATION

DeKalb County Department of Recreation, Parks and Cultural Affairs (RPCA) was awarded the Commission for Accreditation of Park and Recreation Agencies (CAPRA). CAPRA is the only national accreditation for park and recreation agencies. Only 191 of the United States' 9,000 park systems have received accreditation, and 11 are in Georgia. Achieving CAPRA Accreditation is a valuable measure of an agency's overall quality of operation, management, and service to the community. Through national accreditation, RPCA joins thousands of people who are committed to the highest standards of ethical and professional practice in the delivery of park and recreation programs.

The Accreditation of Park and Recreation Agencies is administered by the Commission for Accreditation of Parks and Agencies, an independent body which is authorized by the National Recreation and Parks Association (NRPA) and the American Academy for Park and Recreation Administration (AAPRA). *Accreditation Process:* Achieving accreditation is a rigorous and labor-intensive process. Accreditation is based on an agency's compliance with 151 standards for national accreditation. To achieve accreditation, an agency must comply with 37 fundamental standards and 103 of 114 Non-Fundamental Standards. Upon reaccreditation, 108 Non-Fundamental Standards must be met. *Reaccreditation:* Agencies must repeat this process every five years to stay in compliance with CAPRA's guidelines. RPCA is scheduled for 2025.



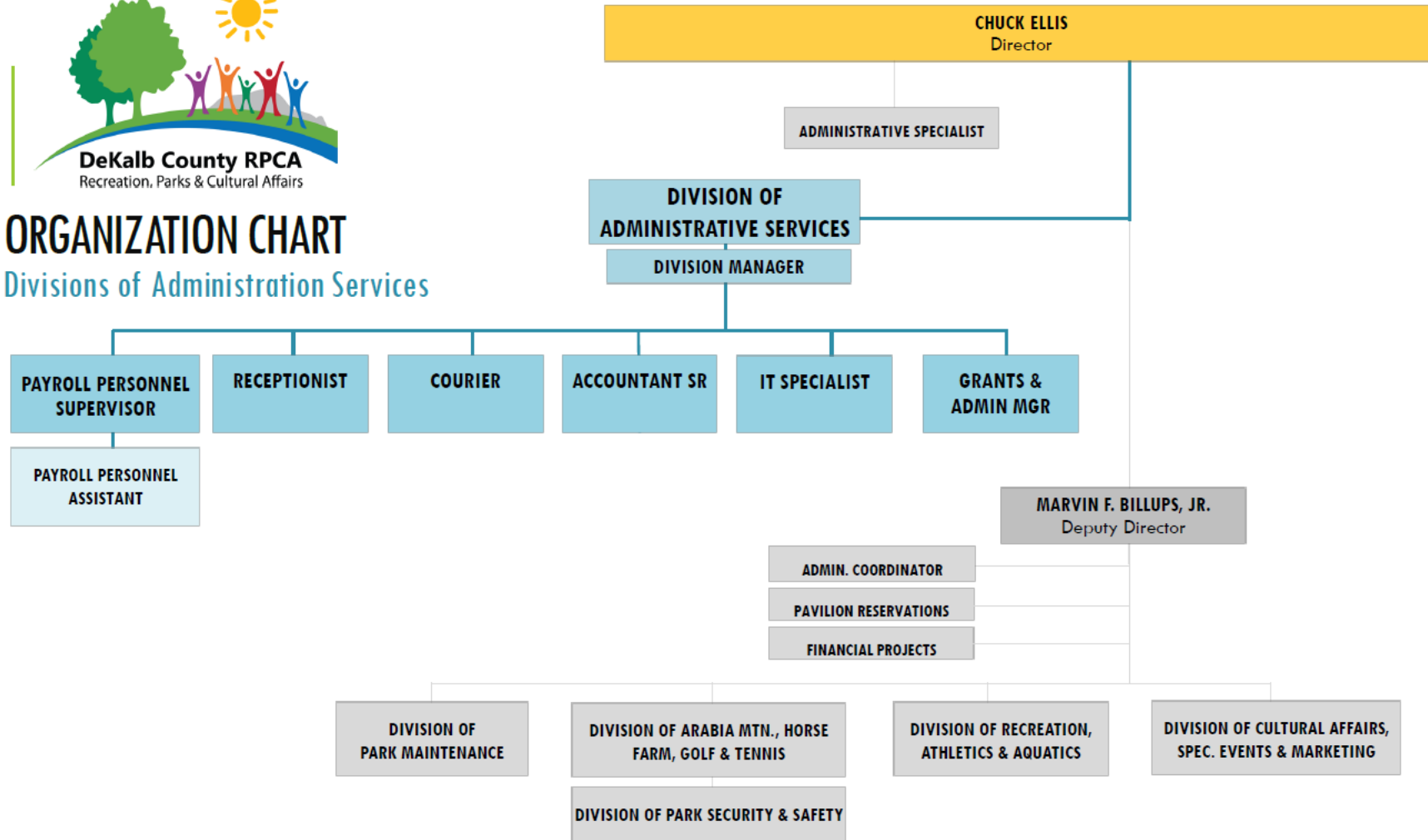
# DeKalb County Organizational Chart



# Organizational Chart- Division of Administrative Services



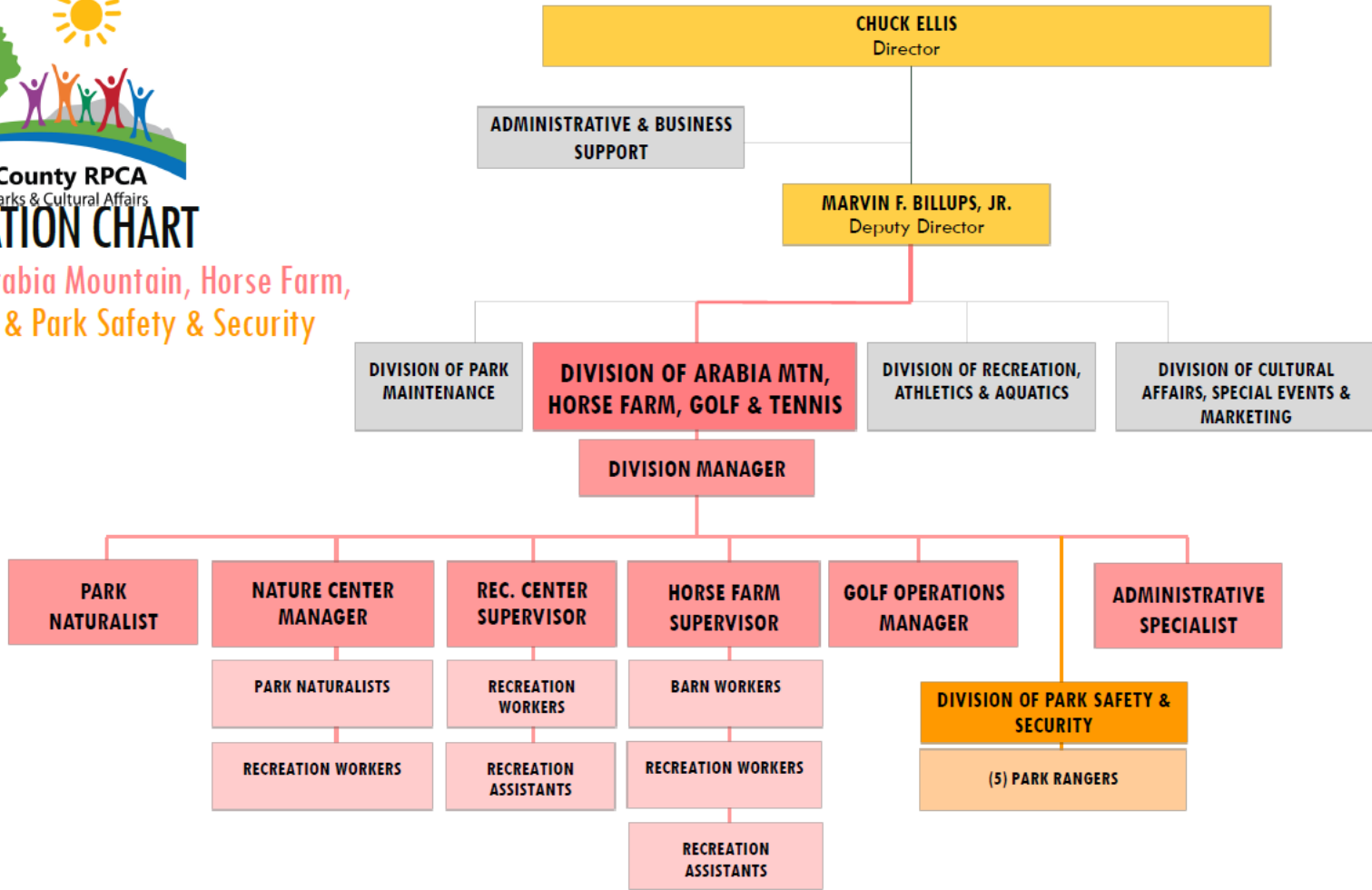
## ORGANIZATION CHART Divisions of Administration Services



# Division of Special Facilities



Division of Arabia Mountain, Horse Farm, Golf & Tennis & Park Safety & Security





# Division of Special Facilities

RPCA special facilities include: 2 tennis centers, 2 public golf courses, 1 horse farm and 1 nature center

DeKalb County Special Facilities	
Name	Address
Mason Mill Tennis Center- Agape Tennis Academy	1400 McConnell Dr., Decatur, Georgia 30033
Sugar Creek Golf and Tennis Club	2706 Bouldercrest Rd, Atlanta, GA 30316
Mystery Valley Golf Course	6094 Shadow Rock Dr, Lithonia, GA 30058
Arabia Mountain Nature Preserve	3787 Klondike Rd, Stonecrest, GA 30038
Little Creek Horse Farm Conservancy	2057 Lawrenceville Hwy, Decatur, GA 30033

# Division of Special Facilities

- **Sugar Creek & DeKalb Tennis Centers** facilities have a total of 31 lighted tennis courts, 4 being clay used for public tennis for drop-in play, league play, lessons, and tournaments, including pickleball. Sugar Creek's revenue for 2022 was **\$41,033**. Mason Mill/DeKalb Tennis Center had 38,580 units of participation.
- **Little Creek Horse Farm** provides daily boarding of 46 horses including a large boarding barn with an indoor riding arena and an outdoor riding arena. The property is 40 acres, which includes the barn and fenced horse pastures as well as 20 acres of wood area which is also open to the public for trail walking.
- **Mystery Valley & Sugar Creek Golf Courses** provide yearly rounds of golf averaging 25,000 or more. Sugar Creek provides a lighted driving range for public use as well as golf lessons. Mystery Valley Golf revenue between March 1 – June 10, 2022 was **\$395,986**. The revenue for Sugar Creek Golf between March 1 – June 10, 2022 was **\$305,047**.
- **Davidson-Arabia Mountain Nature Center and Preserve** originally was established in 1972 with a land donation of 535 acres. Arabia Mountain now has grown to nearly 2,600 acres with over 30 miles of walking and biking trails.

# Division of Special Facilities



Mystery Valley Golf Course



Little Creek Horse Farm



Arabia Mountain Nature Preserve



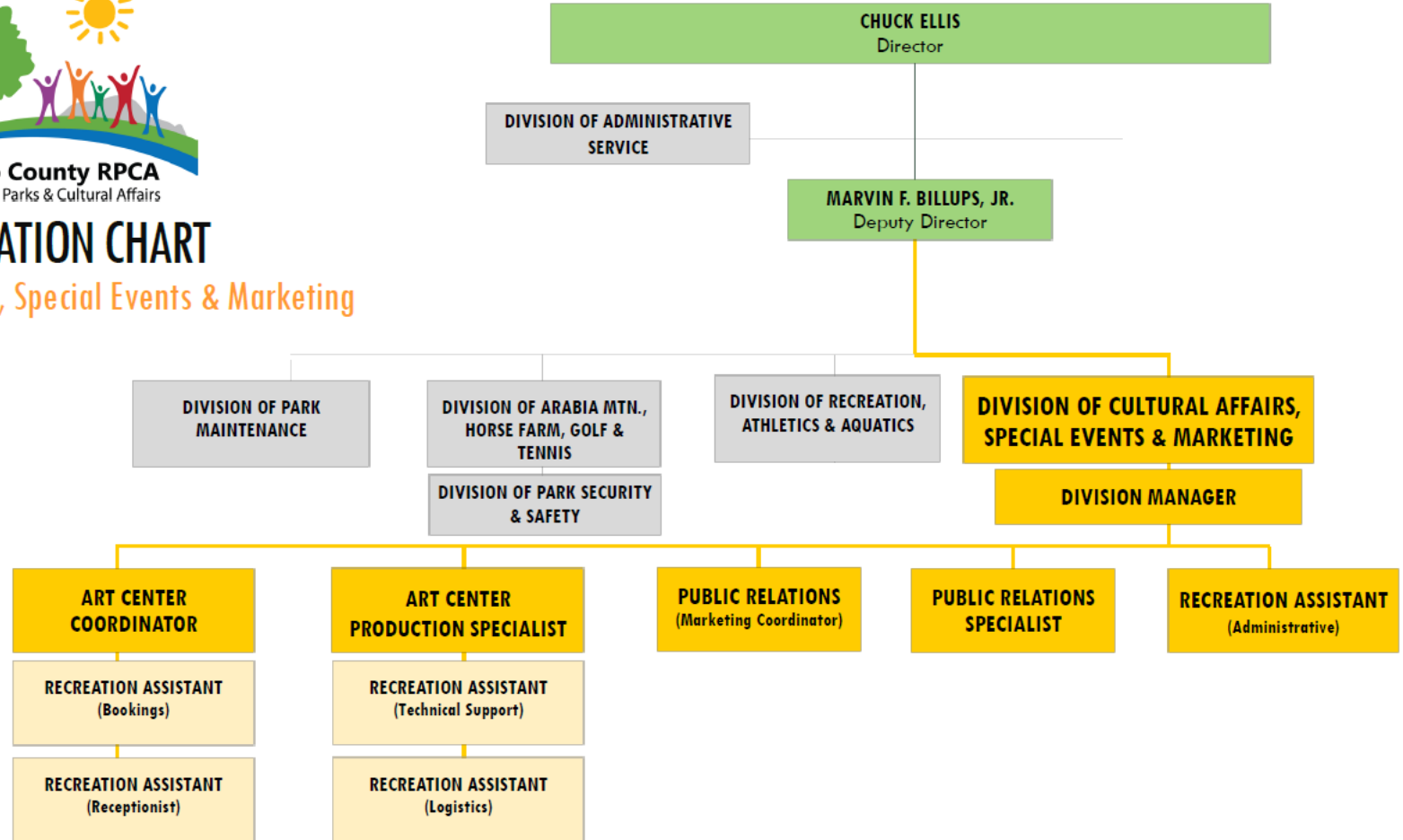
Sugar Creek Tennis-Pickleball

# Division of Cultural Affairs



## ORGANIZATION CHART

Cultural Arts, Special Events & Marketing



# Division of Cultural Affairs

- Porter Sanford III Performing Arts Center- 3181 Rainbow Dr. Decatur, GA 30032
- Porter Sanford III Performing Arts & Community Center opened December 2008
- theatre seats- 500, black box seats- 100, lobby can seat- 200
- served an estimated 15,000 this year
- Porter Sanford III FY 2022 Visitor Goal: 50,000
- Rainbow Park Amphitheatre open May 14, 2022
- Amphitheatre seats 1,000
- served an estimated 6,000 this year

## Porter Sanford III Performing Arts Community Center 2022:

- Stepp Stewart (various plays)
- DeKalb County Police and Fire graduations
- Thriving Thursday concerts
- Summer camps
- Numerous conferences/training classes

# Division of Cultural Affairs



“How Big Is Your Dream”  
summer camp. talent show



Rainbow Amphitheater

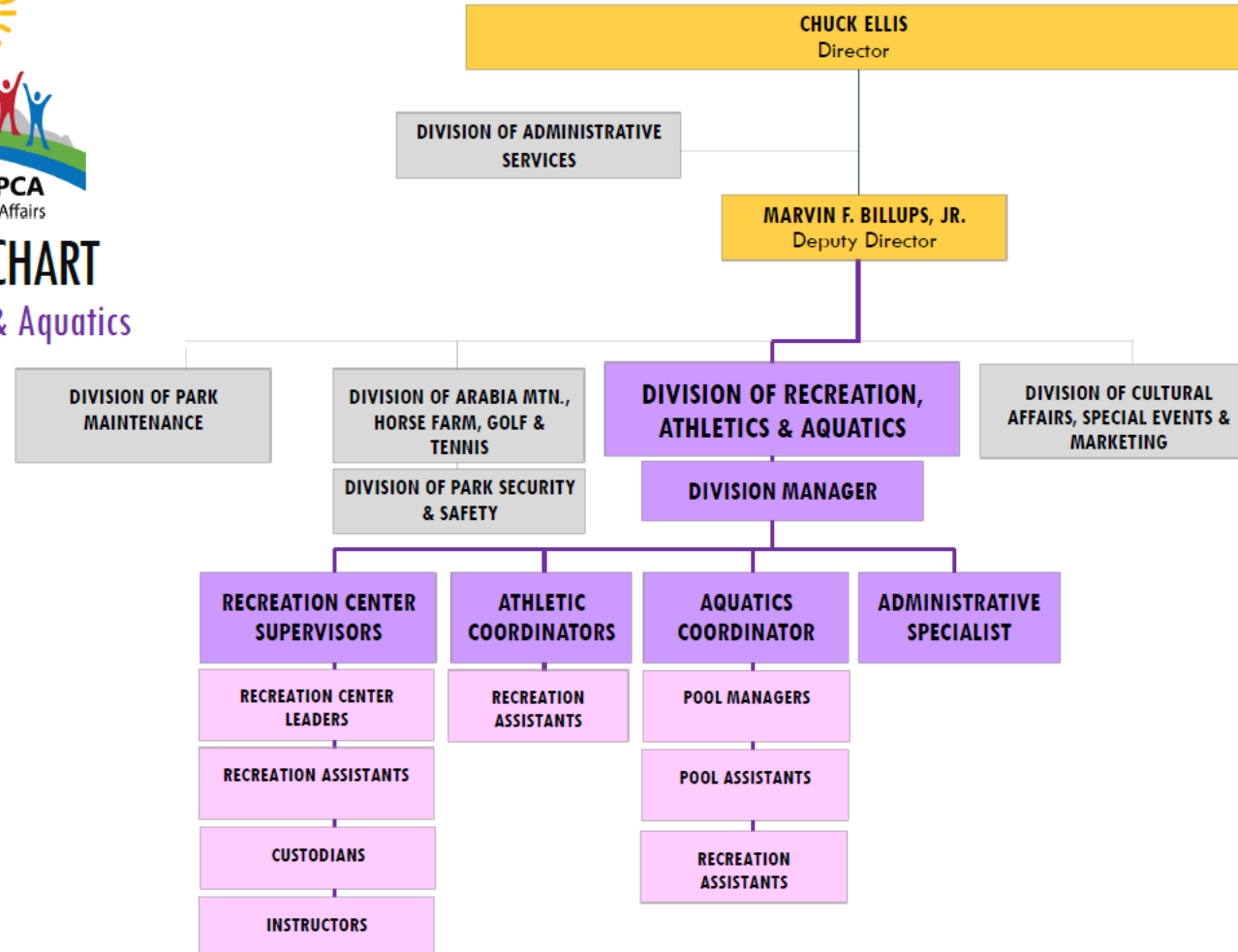


Rainbow  
and opening

# Division of Recreation



## ORGANIZATION CHART Recreation, Athletics & Aquatics



# Division of Recreation

	<b>FY21 Goal</b>	<b>FY21 Actual</b>	<b>FY22 Goal</b>
Number of summer camp participants	42,000	16,520	40000
Number of aquatic participants	25,000	18,552	25000
Number of after-school program (ASP) participants	20,000	1,162	20,000

## 2022 Program Numbers

- After School Program-17,840 participants
- Athletics - 1,250 participants
- Aquatics - 18,552 participants
- Summer Camp - 11,035 participants
- Adult Programs - 1,417 participants
- Senior Programs - 3,786 participants

**Total Served 40,860 Served!**



# Division of Recreation- Locations

There are 9 DeKalb County Recreation Centers and 7 Aquatic Centers, one being a Splash Pad.

DeKalb County Aquatic Centers	
Locations	Addresses
Gresham Pool	3113 Gresham Road, Atlanta, GA 30316
Lithonia Pool	2501 Park Dr. Lithonia, GA 30058
Medlock Pool -	874 Gaylemont Circle Decatur, GA 30033
Tobie Grant Pool	644 Parkdale Dr. Scottdale, GA, 30079
Midway Pool	3181 Midway Rd. Decatur, GA 30032
Kittredge Pool	2535 North Druid Hill Rd. Atlanta, 30329
Exchange Splash Pad	2771 Columbia Dr. Decatur, Ga 30034

DeKalb County Recreational Centers	
Locations	Addresses
Exchange Recreation	2771 Columbia Drive, Decatur, GA 30034
Gresham Recreation Center	3113 Gresham Road, Atlanta, GA 30316
Hamilton Recreation Center	3263 Chapel Street, Scottdale, GA 30079
Lucious Sanders	2484 Bruce Street, Lithonia, GA 30058
Mason Mill Recreation Center	1340- B McConnell Drive, Decatur, GA 30033
Midway Recreation Center	3181 Midway Rd, Decatur, GA 30032
N.H. Scott Recreation Center	2230 Tilson Road, Decatur, GA 30032
Redan Recreation Center	1839 Phillips Rd., Lithonia, GA 30058
Tobie Grant Recreation Center	593 Parkdale Drive, Scottdale, GA 30079

# Division of Recreation



Exchange Splash Pad

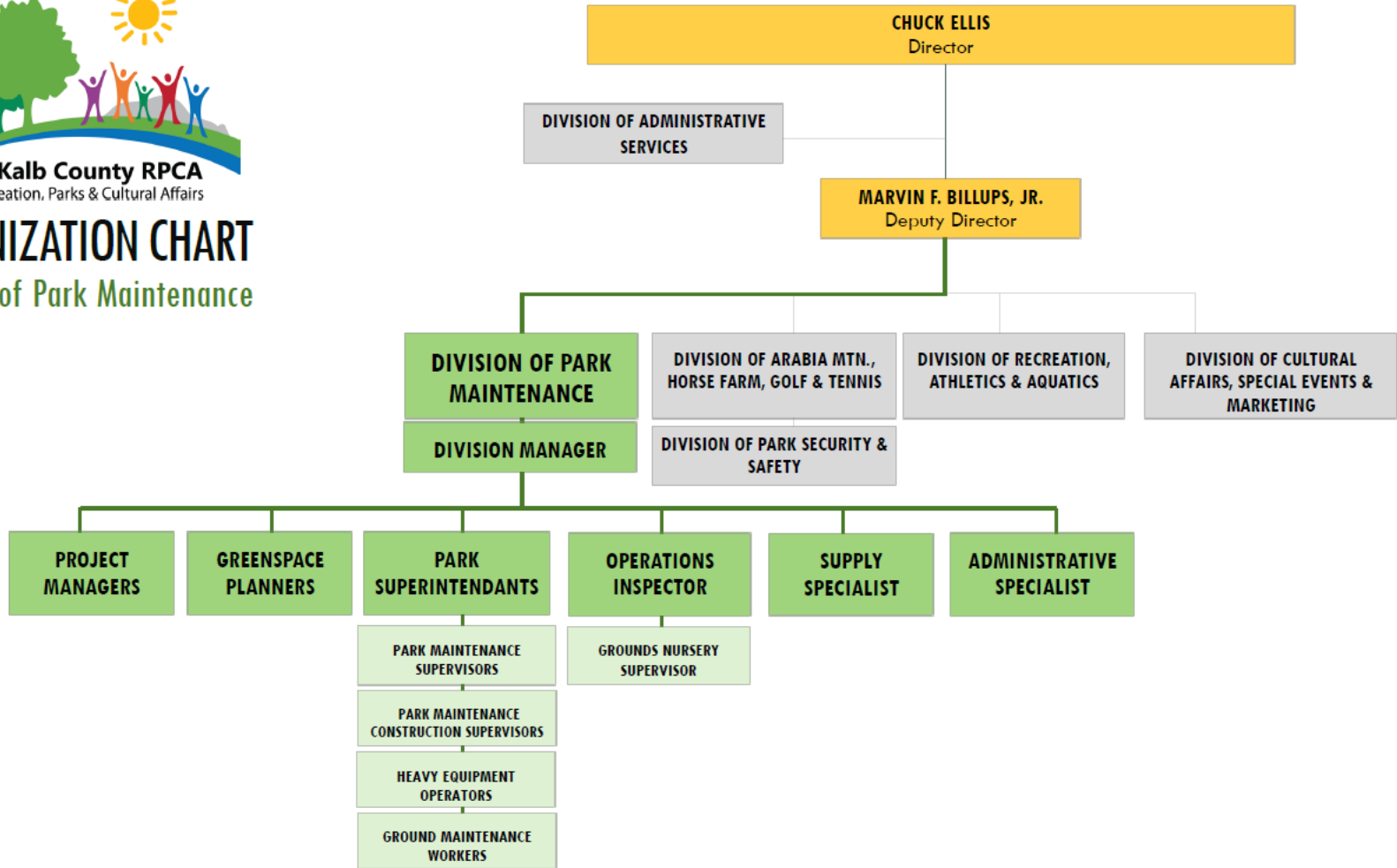
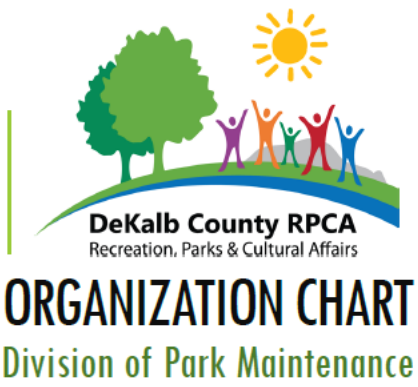


Newly renovated Tobie Grant Recreation Center



New Good Neighbor Club- N.H. Scott Recreation Center

# Division of Parks



# Division of Parks

- SPLOST allocated funding: \$37,250, 000
- Active with Friends of Park groups
- Maintenance of parks include, litter pick-up, mowing, weed eating, blowing, restroom cleaning and landscape maintenance
- Charm/Live Thrive – recycling center in design/permit review for construction

- Park sites: **113**
- Total acreage: **6,143.72**

## 2022 SPLOST Projects

**Athletic Fields:** Gresham athletic Fields 5, 6, and 21- ***completed***

**Tennis and Basketball courts** –Shoal Creek II, Glen Emerald, DeKalb Tennis Center, Wade Walker, Dottie- ***completed***

**Facility upgrades and replacements** – Glen Emerald, Emory Grove, Shoal Creek II, Washington- ***under construction for pavilions***

**Pools** – NH Scott-***in design phase***

**Playgrounds:** Princeton- ***under construction***

# Division of Parks



Gresham Park Athletic Field



Shoals Creek Park I Pavilion

**Chuck O. Ellis, Director  
Recreation, Parks & Cultural Affairs  
DeKalb County, GA**

