

Kennedy Pool

What is the “most happening” aspect of the Twin Cities? With the citizens of Lewiston and Auburn constantly working to make our cities better places, L/A thrives with many “happening” aspects. The Lewiston Recreation Department’s Kennedy Pool Program, however, is *the most* happening aspect of Lewiston-Auburn (at least during the summer months.) From the pool, to the splash pad, to the activities held by the program for the local children, Kennedy Pool is the place to be during the summer months in Lewiston. By providing the city and city’s children with a safe and fun environment to spend their summer at, the Lewiston Rec.’s Kennedy Pool Program truly makes our city a better place.

Summers in Lewiston, Maine are nothing unique. The sun is often shining, children are enjoying their time off from school, and adults are looking forward to a day off to enjoy the nice weather. Sometimes, however, the heat can be unbearable, and the only refuge from the high temperatures is a dip in a pool, or finding sanctuary in an air conditioned room somewhere. For many citizens of downtown Lewiston, taking a refreshing dip in a pool would simply not be an option if it wasn’t for the Kennedy Pool Program.

Situated in the bottom corner of Kennedy Park, the fenced in pool and splash pad (an oasis for younger visitors) welcome patrons of all ages to come and enjoy the cool water on a hot summer’s day. Usage of the pool is free and open to anyone who would like to use it (the only stipulation being getting a permission slip signed by a caretaker if a patron is under eighteen years old.) Not only are the pool and splash pad available, but the program also offers games, arts and crafts, and even free breakfast and lunch for patrons under eighteen. Kennedy Pool staff members clean the pool and pool area daily, and life guards are always on duty. Kennedy Pool is

a fun and safe environment for anyone and everyone, and for patrons who may not have many other options for spending their summer days (especially the younger children in the area), the pool can be just the escape they need.

What makes the Kennedy Pool Program the most happening aspect of L/A? For many citizens in our cities, it's not difficult to take a trip to the beach, or add an air conditioner to their homes to keep them cool during the hot summer months. For some citizens, however, due to financial or family situations, these resolutions to beating the heat could never be fulfilled. The Kennedy Pool Program helps solve that dilemma for those in Lewiston who may not have the ability to stay cool in other ways. To my knowledge there are no other programs such as this in the surrounding area, and that is what makes it so unique. The program is extraordinary in the way that it provides a safe and fun environment free of charge for any patrons wanting to utilize the program's pool, splash pad, or activities. Many of us take for granted the pools in our backyards, how easy it is to take a trip to the beach, or the air conditioners in our living rooms. For those less fortunate in the Lewiston area, the Kennedy Pool Program can be their saving grace for the hot months of June, July and August.