

Park Ranger Program/ Noise Complaints Northshore Park



April 21, 2022

Board Direction

The Board of Directors approved
(11/17/2021)

“implement proposed mitigation, implementing a dedicated Park Ranger at Northshore Park from 8:00 p.m. until 11:00 p.m., and for staff to bring back proposals for option 1, imposing a time limit on the volleyball courts (9:00 p.m.), and option 3, prohibiting amplified sound at Northshore Park after 9:00 p.m., as they both relate to the volleyball courts”.



Previous Mitigation Strategies

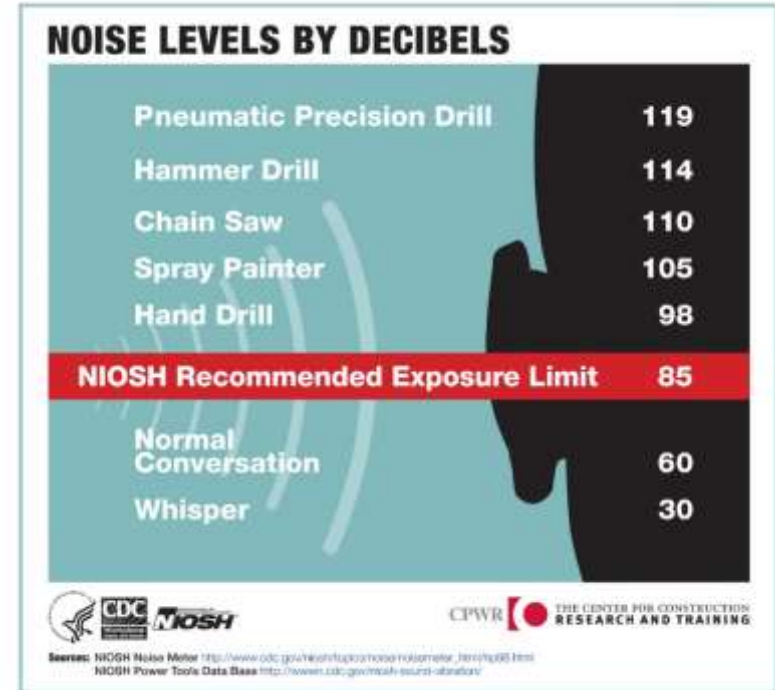
- Signs Installed – “Kindy Respect the Neighbors”
- Moved Programs – Directed contracted fitness provider to move
- Lights – Installed locks and tamper-proof hardware on volleyball lights.
- Development of a new stage, positioned at an angle of 11 degrees to the northeast
- Additional reforestation along the western boundary of the park
- No renovation to volleyball court
- Implemented a prohibition of commercial events at Northshore Park



Park Ranger Information

Per the Center of Diseases Control (CDC)

- Noise above 70 dB over a prolonged period may start to damage your hearing.
- Loud noise above 120 dB can cause immediate harm to your ears.



Park Ranger Information

November 21, 2021 - March 31, 2022

- 11.9 – Average number of people using park between 8:00 p.m. and 11:00 p.m.
- 161 – Highest Use Day/Hour occurred Saturday, March 19 - Spring Break
- 51.7 dB – Average level in Restroom Area
- 52.9 dB – Average level in Volleyball Area
- 55.2 dB – Average level in Picnic Area



Special Event/Amplified Sound Permits

For all parks, including Northshore and Rob Fleming – a maximum of 3 hours of amplified sound is permitted for live continuous music. Amplified sound cannot be used earlier than 1 hour after sunrise and no later than 2 hours after sunset of the day of the permit, which shall not exceed past 9 p.m. for all parks except Rob Fleming, whose cut off is 10:30 pm.



Special Event/Amplified Sound Permits

2019 (baseline year)

- 17 Special Event Permits, all had amplified sound

2022

- 11 events completed/planned Special Event Permits, all require amplified sound



Proposed Mitigation Options

1. Impose time limit of 9 p.m. on Volleyball Courts*
2. Close Northshore Park to all activity at dusk or a specific hour*
3. Remove the lights from the Northshore Park Volleyball Court
4. Continue dedicated Park Ranger (8 p.m. to 11 p.m. - \$24,440 per year)
5. Add lights to four parks with volleyball courts (\$180,000)
6. Develop a new multi-court lighted volleyball complex at Bear Branch Park \$250,000



*Public hearing required

Recommendation

Continue the dedicated Northshore Park “hot spot” program by the Ranger unit(s) to ensure compliance with Township Orders related to sound/noise between 8 p.m. and 11 p.m. and return to the Board with a full year’s data on this program (November 2022).

