

# A GREAT PLACE TO PLAY



Recorder file photo/Paul Franz

Jaydon Grazick, 9, of Greenfield, stands under one of the water jets at the new splash pad at Hillside Park in Greenfield.

## Greenfield named 'Playful City' four years running

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**GREENFIELD** — With hopscotch sidewalks, structured recess programs, lots of parks, a splash pad, town-wide play days and dozens of recreation programs, why wouldn't Greenfield be chosen as a "playful city" for the

fourth year in a row?

Greenfield Recreation Director Christy Moore said that Greenfield was once again chosen as a Playful City USA, which is a national recognition.

Over the past few years, the town has found itself eligible for a number of construc-

tion grants, which have helped it pay for the renovations of some of its playgrounds, because of the designation.

"We don't get money with the designation, but it allows us to apply for competitive grants, some of which we've received," said Moore.

She said so far the town has received \$40,000 in grants because of its designation — \$20,000 for the construction of the Academy of Early Learning playground and \$20,000 for the Federal Street School playground.

"I am grateful to be part of a community that values the importance of play," said Moore. "I look forward to continuing to create play opportunities for people of all ages."

KaBOOM!, a nonprofit sponsored by the Humana Foundation, honors cities, towns and communities across the nation each year. The organization takes steps to ensure all children, espe-

cially those who live in poverty, have access to active play.

"The Greenfield Recreation Department strives to provide unique play opportunities for the community from its annual Winter Carnival to its most recent grand opening of its splash pad," said Moore. "We've also got the upcoming renovation of Green River Park and our new dog park."

The repeat designation celebrates overall playability and commitment to play in cities and towns across the country.

"I think this designation is attributed to the dedication and vision of the Recreation Department to create a happy and healthy community where residents can live, learn, work and play," said Moore.

Montague was the only other town in Franklin County to be designated a Playful City USA this year.

For more information about Playful City USA, visit: [www.playfulcityusa.org](http://www.playfulcityusa.org).



Recorder file photo/Micky Bedell

The Beacon Field playground is another popular spot in the "Playful City" of Greenfield.