

Green River Park to get face lift ... and dog park

By ANITA FRITZ
Recorder Staff

GREENFIELD — The town has received a \$400,000 state PARC grant to renovate Green River Park.

Renovations will include a new playground, new pavilion, a basketball court, a pickleball (a tennis-like game played with a Wiffle Ball and paddles) court and the town's first dog park.

"Greenfield is thrilled to receive this grant in support of our continued effort of park improvements throughout the town," said Christy Moore, the town's recreation director. "Pickle ball fanatics and dog park enthusiasts will have something exciting to look forward to."

Moore said the town will also make the park more accessible to people of all abilities.

The money came from Massachusetts Energy and Environmental Affairs as it continues to invest in the state's parks, open space and recreation improvements.

State Environmental Undersecretary Maeve Valley Bartlett said the state is committed to investing in parks and open space not only to preserve and upgrade, but to create economic growth.

Over the past several years, the town renovated Hillside Park and Beacon Field's playground.

The town was recently designated a "Playful City USA" for a third year in a row.

Moore said at that time that it is because of the investments the town is willing to make in its recreational spaces.

In March, the town decided that it will build a dog park in Green River Park.



Recorder/Paul Franz

Cara Leach of Greenfield walks her dog Little at the Green River Park off Petty Plain Road in Greenfield.

Preliminary plans would place the dog park immediately accessible from the parking lot so as not to disturb other park-goers.

Designs for the renovation will begin soon and the renovations themselves are expected to begin next summer.