

Norfolk Insider

City of Norfolk, NE

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July 22, 2014

“Swimmers Braved Cooler Temperatures”

When the pool water temperature is warmer than the outdoor temperature, it's hard for a swimmer to get out of the water, let alone go to the pool at sunrise and brave the cool air to swim laps. Every morning at 6:30 am five days a week members of the AquaJets Swim Team have arrived at AquaVenture for training.

“The water is 84 degrees so it's nice once the kids get into the water,” said P.J. Evans, Manager of AquaVenture Water Park. The AquaVenture Water Park has been busy even with the cooler weather that has been the theme in June and much of July 2014.



Swimming lessons have gone on as scheduled this summer even when the temperatures haven't been summer-like. Over 600 kids have taken swimming lessons with some sessions held at 9:45 am and evening lessons beginning at 8:10 pm. The last swimming lesson session began July 21 and runs for two weeks, four days a week.

“We keep them in the water and don't have the kids go off the boards as much when it's cool out,” Evans said.

Even though there have been record low temperatures this summer, there have been only six days since Memorial Day that the outside temperature was under 70 degrees and the park had to be closed.

Evans emphasized that they like to keep the park open as much as possible.

“We want people to enjoy the facility but if there's only 25 people here because of the cool weather than we still have to have 18 life guards and two aids on staff to watch all areas of the facility. We try to stay open as long as we can for as many days as we can,” Evans said.

Lifeguards, aids, and concession works are only paid for the hours the work so they miss out on wages when the pool closes early or for the day. Regular hours for the park are 7 days a week 11:30 am to 7:30 pm.

Regular attendance during the day has been down a bit because of the cooler weather. On one day last week at 1:30 pm when the temperature was 75 degrees there were 138 people swimming when most hot July days will see close to 600 swimmers at that time of day.

There have also been eight days when park had to close early because lightning or severe weather.

“When we see lightning, we get everyone out of the pool and wait 30 minutes. Usually the storm will pass over in 30 minutes and we can get back in the pool again. If it’s 4:00 pm and it looks like the storm will last awhile, we have to send people home,” Evans said.

Evans encourages people to come to the park even if the temperature outside isn’t really hot.

“It’s always warmer at the water park because of the sun warming the concrete and the heat from the sun reflecting off the water. If you have any doubt about whether we’re open or not call us at 844-2270,” Evans said.