



## City of Branson

Jennifer Langford, MBA/MIS – Communications Manager  
110 West Maddux | Branson, MO 65616  
BransonMo.gov | 417.337.0017 direct  
[JLangford@BransonMO.gov](mailto:JLangford@BransonMO.gov)

### FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Wednesday, April 6, 2016

Parks & Recreation, City of Branson

Cindy Shook, Director

417.335.2368 | [CShook@BransonMO.gov](mailto:CShook@BransonMO.gov)

## MEDIA RELEASE

### Branson RecPlex Earns Prestigious 2015 Gold International Aquatic Safety Award

**Branson, MO** – The Branson RecPlex has been awarded the “2015 Gold International Aquatic Safety Award” by Jeff Ellis & Associates. As an International Aquatic Safety & Risk Management Consulting firm, Ellis & Associates (E&A) works with over 600 organizations in the United States and around the world. Conducting over 2,000 Aquatic Safety Operational Audits every year, the audit scores determine the awards for which The Branson RecPlex lifeguarding staff scored in the top 30% of all of these organizations, thereby earning this prestigious award.

Jeff Ellis & Associates certifies all the aquatic staff in Health Care Provider level CPR, AED training, Emergency Oxygen Administration training, First Aid, and state-of-the-art rescue techniques. In addition to the training, E&A performs four random audits each season.

The audits are divided into three sections:

1. Individual on-duty Lifeguard/Supervisor;
2. Lifeguard/Team Management of a Simulated Emergency;
3. Facility, Supervisory, and Administrative evaluations. To receive this award, staff must consistently exceed the criteria for aquatic safety.

Bunny Gilchrist, who is serving in her 30<sup>th</sup> year as the Pool Manager for the Branson Parks & Recreation Department, was very excited upon announcement of the award and stated “Every summer the lifeguards amaze me by the way they are so eager to learn and practice the highest skills needed to keep the RecPlex pool a safe place for people and families to visit and have a great time. I am blessed to work with these people year after year!”

The pool at the Branson RecPlex opens Memorial Day weekend to start the 2016 summer season and is open seven days a week through August 20<sup>th</sup>, then on weekends through September 5<sup>th</sup>. Season passes are available at the Branson RecPlex. Information about The Branson RecPlex can be found online at [www.bransonparksandrecreation.com](http://www.bransonparksandrecreation.com) or by calling 417-335-2368.

Content related to the City of Branson Parks & Recreation department can also be found on Facebook at [www.facebook.com/Branson.RecPlex](http://www.facebook.com/Branson.RecPlex) or at the [www.BransonMo.gov](http://www.BransonMo.gov) website.

For more information about the City of Branson, visit [www.BransonMO.Gov](http://www.BransonMO.Gov) on the web, “Like” us on Facebook at [www.Facebook.com/CityBranson](http://www.Facebook.com/CityBranson), and follow @CityofBranson on Twitter for regular news and updates. For immediate inquiries related to this content, contact Jennifer Langford, City of Branson Communications Manager at [JLangford@BransonMO.gov](mailto:JLangford@BransonMO.gov).

###

**About the City of Branson, Missouri:**

Located in Southwest Missouri, the City of Branson is committed to its citizens and to those who visit here, to ensure a safe and environmentally sound community. We will work as a team to maintain and promote the growth of our City, and to provide professional, courteous service to all through fair and open communication. We look to tomorrow, remembering yesterday, dedicated to excellence today.