

## Sports and Wellness Center

### *Weather delayed work on Richard E. Workman Sports and Wellness Center*

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Construction is about a month behind on the Richard E. Workman Sports and Wellness Center, according to Effingham officials.

“Every time they dig for a footing, it rains, and they have to pump it out,” said Effingham Park District President Jeff Althoff.

Althoff plans to give a more detailed update of progress on the 80,000-square-foot sports complex at a board meeting on Wednesday.

“It has been a wet fall and early part of winter,” said Althoff.

Unlike everyone else, the construction workers are hoping for freezing temperatures.

“They are hoping the ground freezes so they don't have to work in the mud,” Althoff said.

Althoff said the initial construction timeline was pushed back by issues with financing the project. It took several extra months to finalize a funds before work began in November, he explained.

Once the concrete work is done, Althoff hopes the steel frame will be constructed by spring 2015. If the weather cooperates the project looks to be complete in late 2015.

“We were hoping the opening would be in November 2015, but right now it is looking more like December,” said Althoff.



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*This photo is from the construction site for the Richard E. Workman Sports and Wellness Center. The construction firm doing work on the complex has an automatic time lapse photo system set up on site. Photos of the progress can be viewed at [www.workzonecam.com/projects/poettker/wellnesscomplex](http://www.workzonecam.com/projects/poettker/wellnesscomplex).*