

# PROSE

## PARKS, RECREATION, OPEN SPACE, AND EVENTS

August 2023

### **New Position for a Growing Division**

A Park Ranger? Yes! PROSE will be growing with a new position to the City of Flagstaff Parks Section. The position will oversee the trash team and will be boots on the ground for education efforts related to park rules.

Recruitment closed this month with over 30 applicants, making the first Flagstaff Park Ranger recruitment highly competitive.



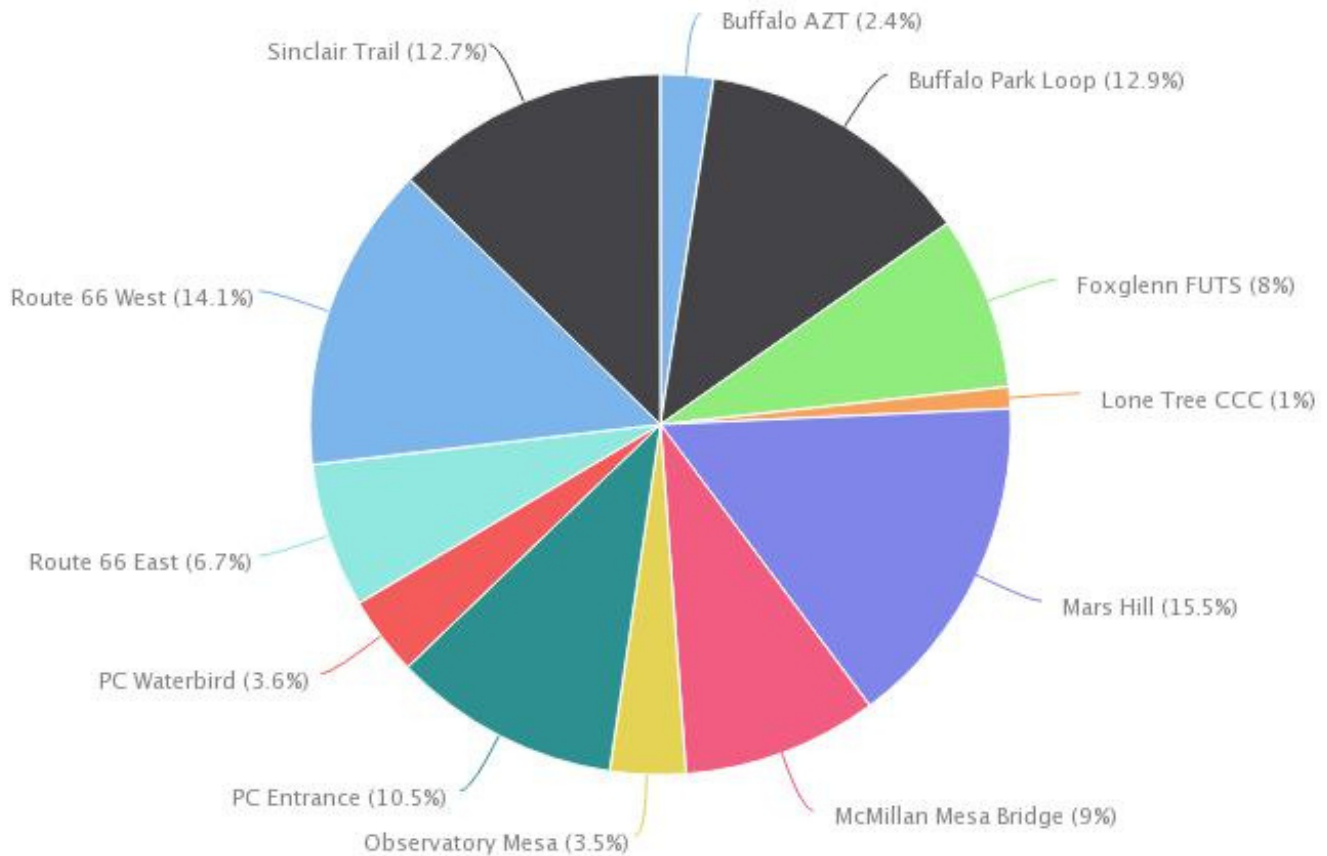
Above: Andrew Edwards, Recreation Coordinator 1 located at Hal Jensen

### **Welcome to the Team!**

Recreation held a successful recruitment for the Recreation Coordinator 1 role with the top candidate being Andrew Edwards. Andrew is a Flagstaff native who enjoys baseball, basketball, and the great outdoors. Andrew started at Hal Jensen as a Recreation Assistant 15 years ago which has led to his passion for building relationships with the community.

# Compare Sites

2023-07-01 to 2023-07-31



Site Name	Daily Average
Buffalo AZT	33.7 (2.4%)
Buffalo Park Loop	178.4 (12.9%)
Foxglenn FUTS	111.2 (8.0%)
Lone Tree CCC	13.9 (1.0%)
Mars Hill	215.6 (15.5%)
McMillan Mesa Bridge	125.1 (9.0%)
Observatory Mesa	48.4 (3.5%)
PC Entrance	146 (10.5%)
PC Waterbird	50.7 (3.6%)
Route 66 East	93 (6.7%)
Route 66 West	196.4 (14.1%)
Sinclair Trail	176 (12.7%)

## The FUTS and Commuting

The excessive heat may have played a role as the month of July traced less than normal passersby at all trail counter locations. Mars Hill followed by Route 66 West locations were the highest counts! The FUTS continues to be a method for the community to travel even during hot temperatures!

## Parks Projects

With a handful of projects ongoing, the Buffalo Park Accessibility Trail project is 95% complete with a trailhead map/kiosk left to complete! Look for a celebration invitation during September to come check out the trail, parking spaces, walkway, trail signage and universal exercise equipment.

Below: ADA parking spaces at Buffalo Park



The Thorpe Park Restroom project is nearing completion with the building delivered and set in August. As soon as the restroom is ready to be occupied, the portable units will be removed that are located along N. Thorpe Road. Expect a soft opening of the feature to this portion of the park.

Hal Jensen Recreation Center celebrated the end of summer as with an End of Summer Bash as kids prepared to go back to school this month. Attendees enjoyed giant lawn games, corn hole, and snacks.

The Community Garden at HJRC has been flourishing! A new shed that will hold tools and supplies for the Community Garden was installed on site next to the garden beds.



Above: 1) vegetables growing in the garden, 2) new shed, 3) vegetables growing in the garden

Flagstaff Figure Skating Club hosted its annual Ice in the Pines Figure Skating Competition at the Jay Lively Activity Center. Flagstaff Youth Hockey Association and the high school hockey club team, Flagstaff Avalanche, have both started practicing for the 2023-24 school year. NAU Hockey started back up this month with conditioning camp.

Coconino County Health and Human Services held its annual cookout where many seniors who enjoy the Congregate Meals at the Joe C. Montoya Community and Senior Center partook in the day's festivities.

The Aquaplex is gearing up for its annual Anniversary Membership Drive taking place September 7-9. All regular memberships will be discounted at 20% and business pass memberships at 25%.

Below: Councilmember Harris, Robert Wallace, and Sarah Holditch touring Open Space.



On Friday, 8/11 Open Space provided a tour of the Open Spaces for Councilmember Deborah Harris. They visited each Open Space property and provided information about the community and educational and volunteer programs they provide, and discussed future planning and visions for Open Space. They ended the tour at Picture Canyon where they took a short hike to view the waterfall at Picture Canyon.

Wednesday Weed Pulls have been very successful for the number of volunteers we have seen. Those that do attend Wednesday Weed Pulls have been very consistent and ambitious. In one week we removed roughly 25 bags of Scotch Thistle, Knapweed, Star Thistle, and some other invasive weeds from Picture Canyon.

Right: bags of weeds from Wednesday Weed Pulls





Adult Fall Volleyball  
registration has begun!  
Secure your spot by  
September 14!

[Click here to register!](#)

League play begins  
September 24.

# Upcoming Events in Flagstaff

**First Friday Art Walk**  
September 1  
Heritage Square

**Movies on the Square**  
September 2  
Heritage Square

**Flagstaff Art in the Park**  
September 2-5  
Wheeler Park

**FUSD Cross Country**  
September 2 & 16  
Buffalo Park

**Jack Welch Walk**  
September 7  
Buffalo Park

**9/11 Service Day/Trail Restoration**  
September 8  
Picture Canyon

**Invasive Weed Pull**  
September 13  
Picture Canyon

**Friday Night Concert Series**  
Friday evenings  
Heritage Square

**Flagstaff Community Market**  
Sunday Morning  
City Hall Parking Lot

**Star Party**  
September 21-23  
Buffalo Park

**Music on the Square**  
Sunday Afternoon  
Heritage Square

**Plein Air in Open Space**  
September 22  
Buffalo Park Ramada

**Festival of Science**  
September 23  
Wheeler Park

**Cornucopia**  
September 23-24  
Thorpe Park Softball  
Complex

**Family Guided Hike**  
September 26  
McMillan Mesa

**Community Guided Hike**  
September 28  
McMillan Mesa

**Full Moon Hike**  
September 29  
Observatory Mesa/Railroad  
Springs entrance



[flagstaff.az.gov/prose](http://flagstaff.az.gov/prose)