



PARKS, RECREATION, OPEN SPACE, AND EVENTS

AUGUST 2025 NEWSLETTER

*Connecting our community through people, parks,
natural areas, and programs.*

Sunflowers at Buffalo Park

Welcome New PROSE Full-Time Staff!

We are excited to welcome Lori Reynolds as our new Administrative Specialist! Lori joins us from the Kaibab National Forest, where she worked since 2020 following several seasons with National Forests across the country. She moved to Arizona in 2014 and worked as a trail guide at Grand

Canyon National Park, leading mule rides in and out of the canyon.

These days, Lori enjoys spending time with her family and keeping up with a very energetic toddler!

We are excited to welcome Robert Hewat and Graham Whitney to the Parks team! Robert has been in Flagstaff for 13 years and previously worked at Forest Highlands. On a typical weekend day, Robert enjoys meandering through the farmer's market with his wife and four children.

Graham has lived in Flagstaff for around ten years now and previously worked for the

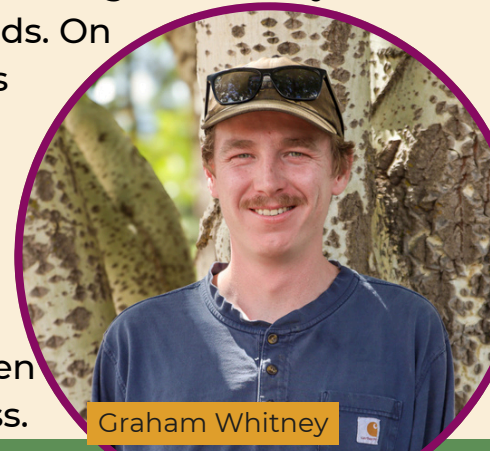
Forest Service. One of his favorite Flagstaff activities is hitting the mountain on his skis. His favorite local park is the Jim Cullen Memorial Park. Can't beat the shady trees and green lush grass.



Lori Reynolds (left) with her mom and child



Robert Hewat



Graham Whitney



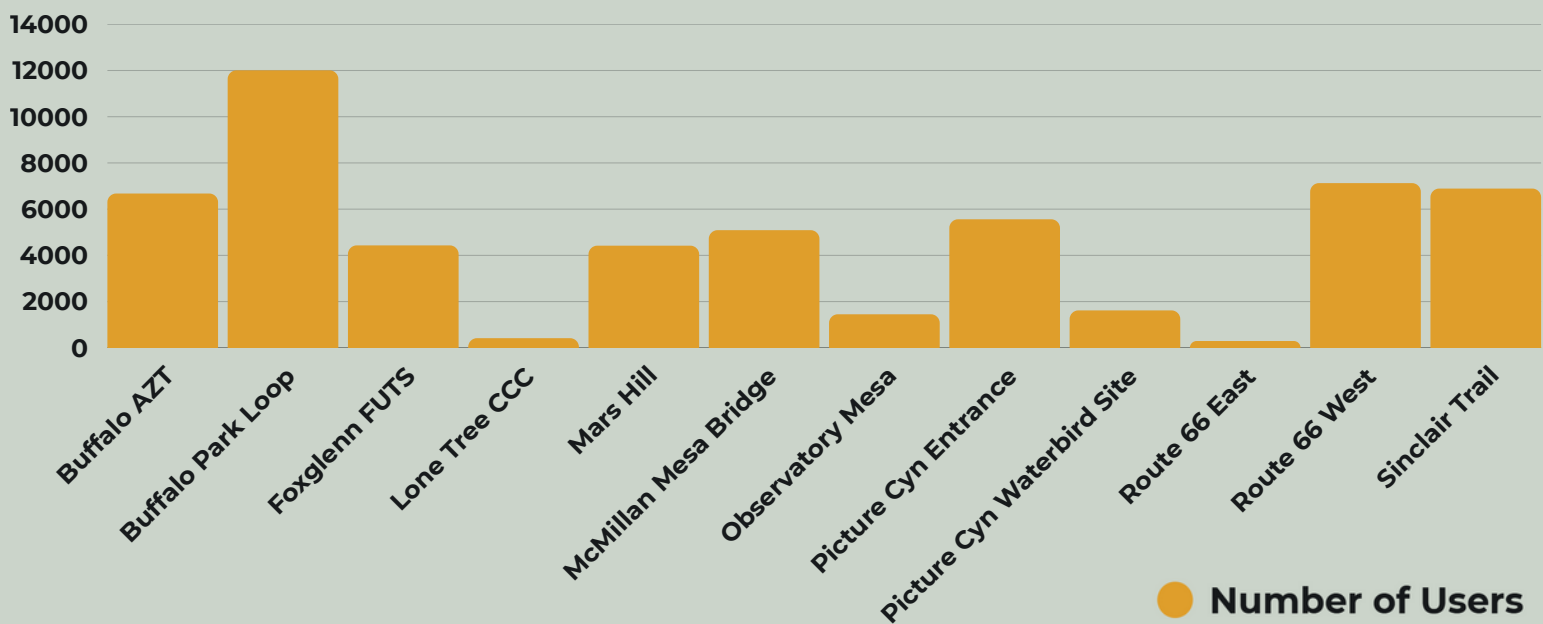
PARKS

New RC Track Coming to BMX Basin

Local RC car enthusiasts broke ground on the City's first dirt RC track at The Basin/BMX Track. With support from PROSE, this volunteer-led project will transform unused space into a fun, family-friendly feature that will hopefully bring new life to the park. The club has several work-days planned to build the track over the next couple months. The photo above shows an outline of what the track will look like.



July 2025 Trail Counts





Night Court

RECREATION

Back to School at Hal Jensen Recreation Center

A new school year brings new faces as well as familiar faces into Hal Jensen. The foot traffic at the center during lunch and after school hours increases tremendously as the high school youth rely on the center as a safe drop-in space where they can partake in physical activity, get a free lunch, or simply lounge and unwind from school. Night Court this month had great participation from our youth as well as from officers with the Flagstaff Police Department. The Arizona Daily Sun featured a story with some fantastic photos. [**CLICK HERE FOR THE STORY AND PHOTOS.**](#)



Night Court action



Aquaplex New Siding Project Complete!

The large capital expenditure is complete at the Aquaplex addressing significant wear and damage to the former cementitious siding with the installation of new metal siding vertical panels. Working with Facilities Maintenance, the team identified a long-lasting proper exterior product in installing vertical metal siding panels.

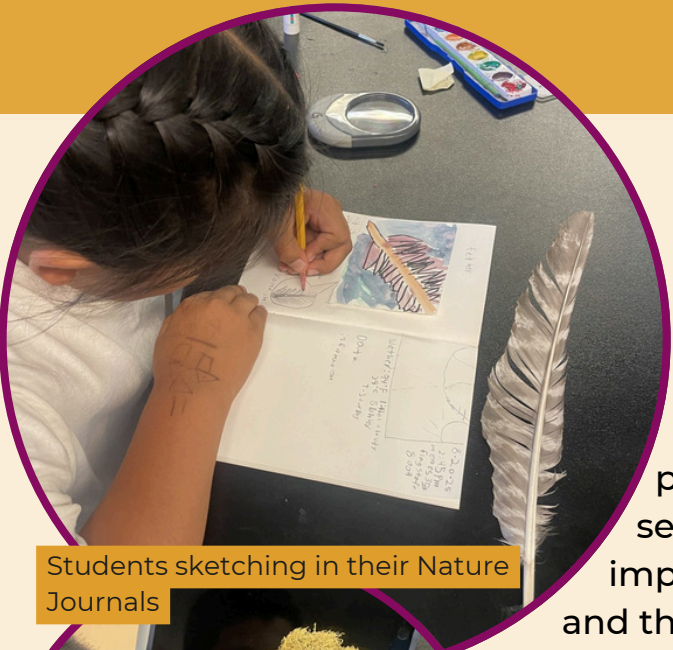
The exterior renovation included the painting of faded window mullions and doors as well as reworking a drainage space that during heavy rains or snow melt gathered standing water. A special thank you for Jennifer Brown for keeping the team engaged and well-informed during the four-month project.



OPEN SPACE

FUSD/MEMS Partnership Launches Year-Long Phenology Project

Open Space and Willow Bend Environmental Education Center kicked off partnership with Mount Elden Middle School (MEMS) 6th grade science teacher, Scott Godwin. Together, they are engaging with over 100 sixth-grade students in a hands-on phenology and field journaling project. This month's sessions introduced students to the concept and importance of Open Space, highlighting local locations and their ecological value. Students also began field journaling which will help them learn to observe and sketch the natural world around them as a way to deepen their connection to the environment. This collaboration sets the stage for a year of exploration, observation, and environmental learning!




Students sketching in their Nature Journals

Friends of the Rio de Flag Guided Hike

The Open Space team led a guided hike with the Friends of the Rio group to the Waterfall Overlook. Along the way, participants learned about the extensive restoration efforts along the Rio de Flag and surrounding riparian zones. The hike offered a meaningful opportunity to connect with the landscape and reflect on the importance of ongoing conservation work.

Native Americans for Community Action (NACA) - Back to School Blessing Hike

Open Space Educator Ashlee led a Guided Walk with NACA as part of their Back to School Blessing. Attendees explored the area using field guides and binoculars to identify local plants and wildlife. The walk provided a fun and educational experience for families while fostering a deeper appreciation for the natural world.



NACA group at the Waterbird Site

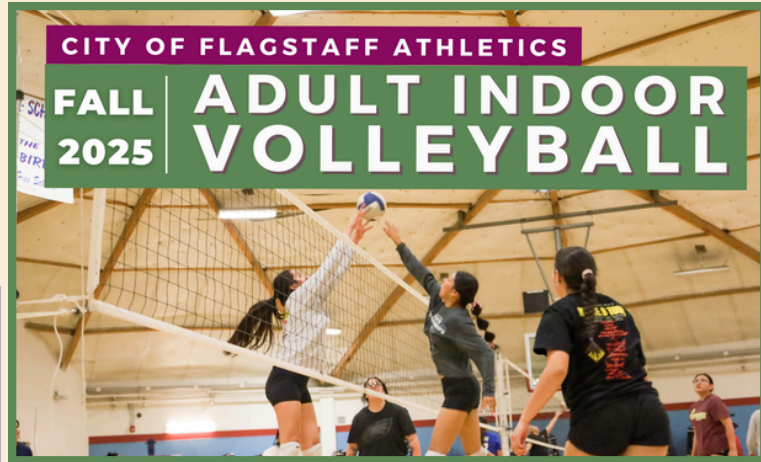


Friends of the Rio group hiking

EVENTS & ATHLETICS

Adult Indoor Volleyball Registration Now Open!

Registration for Fall 2025 Adult Indoor Volleyball is now open! Teams can register online through WebTrac or in-person at the Flagstaff Aquaplex. Registration is \$275/ team.



ANNIVERSARY MEMBERSHIP SALE
THE FLAGSTAFF AQUAPLEX
SEPTEMBER 7 - 13
20% OFF GENERAL MEMBERSHIPS
25% OFF BUSINESS MEMBERSHIPS
CITY OF FLAGSTAFF PROSE

Aquaplex Anniversary Membership Sale!

Memberships at the Flagstaff Aquaplex will be discounted **September 7-13 20% off General Memberships and 25% off Business Pass Memberships**. For more information visit the Aquaplex front desk.

Jay Lively Activity Center
SPIRIT SKATE
Break out your jerseys, hats, and school colors to rep your team or school pride!
Friday, September 12th
5:30 - 8:00 PM
Jay Lively Activity Center
CITY OF FLAGSTAFF PROSE
928-213-2344

Jay Lively Activity Center Spirit Skate

Break out your jerseys, hats, and school colors —whatever you have to represent your team or school pride on **September 12, from 5:30–8:00 PM at the Jay Lively Ice Rink**. Regular admission fees apply.

City of Flagstaff Open Space
WEDNESDAY WEED PULLS
CITY OF FLAGSTAFF PROSE
Select Wednesday Mornings
June - September
7:00 AM - 10:00 AM
Picture Canyon

Wednesday Weed Pulls at Picture Canyon

Only one more Wednesday Weed Pull event at Picture Canyon until the weeding season comes to an end, **September 17 from 7:00 AM - 10:00 AM**. Help protect the natural beauty of Picture Canyon by joining our invasive weed removal and reseeding efforts. For more information visit our website.

GUIDED HIKE FOR

NORTHERN ARIZONA UNIVERSITY Center for Service and Volunteerism



GRANDPARENTS & GRANDCHILDREN



Guided Hike for Grandparents & Grandchildren on Observatory Mesa

Open Space is partnering with the NAU Center for Service and Volunteerism and AmeriCorps Seniors to lead a guided nature hike on Observatory Mesa on **September 13** from **9:00 AM to 11:00 AM** starting the **Thorpe Park Large Ramada**. For more information visit our website.

Night Court at Hal Jensen Recreation Center

Come play after-hours 5-on-5 basketball with the Flagstaff Police Department on **September 19 from 8:00 PM - 9:00 PM** at **Hal Jensen Recreation Center!** For grades 6th - 12th. Free and open to the public! This will be the last Night Court of the year so don't miss it!

Women's Volleyball Tournament at the Flagstaff Aquaplex

The Aquaplex is hosting a one-day women's volleyball tournament on **September 27!**

Flagstaff Aquaplex

WOMEN'S VOLLEYBALL TOURNAMENT

Saturday, September 27th
Check-in: 7:00 AM | Games Begin: 8:00 AM
Aquaplex Gymnasium



SCAN TO SIGN UP

One day tournament for all skill levels!
Cap: 16 Teams
Team size: 6-8 players
Registration: \$100/ team

Hal Jensen Recreation Center

Night Court



Play 5 on 5 basketball after hours with the Flagstaff Police Department.
Grades 6th - 12th



8:00 PM - 10:00 PM

September 19th

Hal Jensen Recreation Center

(928) 213-2760

Check-on will be at **7:00 AM** and games will start at **8:00 AM**. Teams can be 6-8 players. Limited to 16 teams. Registration is \$100/ team. Sign up on WebTrac or in-person at the Aquaplex front desk.

FOLLOW US ON SOCIAL MEDIA FOR MORE!

