



# PARKS, RECREATION, OPEN SPACE, AND EVENTS

MAY 2025 NEWSLETTER

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

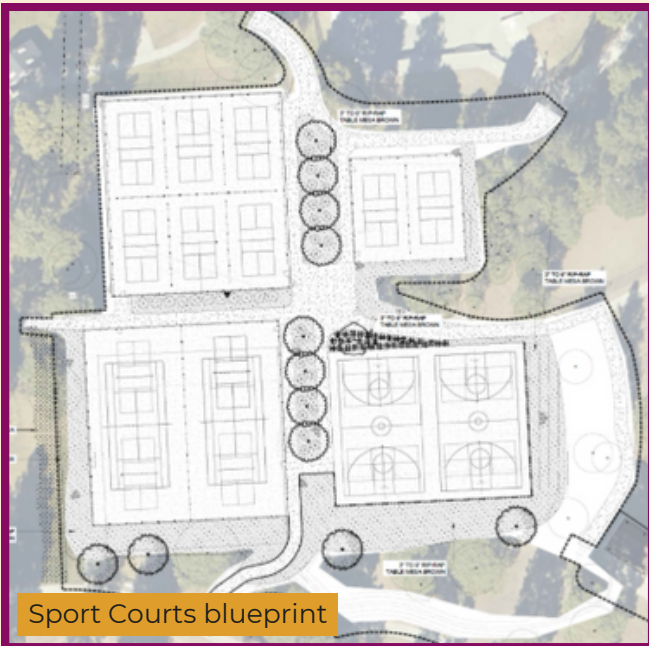


Bushmaster Park

## Bushmaster Sport Courts Project Underway

The Bushmaster Park Sport Courts project is officially in motion. Approved by City Council on May 6<sup>th</sup>, the contract was awarded to Hope Construction, with work beginning on May 7. The

project includes the full reconstruction of two tennis courts, two basketball courts, and eight pickleball courts along with sitework and landscaping enhancements. The existing sport courts will be closed during the duration of the construction improvement project. The construction site within the park now has fencing and clear identifiers of the work zone. Funded by the BBB-Recreation special revenue fund, construction is expected to be substantially complete by November 2025.



Sport Courts blueprint

**Sport Courts at Bushmaster Park**

Click here to follow project progress.

<https://connect.flagstaffaz.gov/bushmaster-courts>



New playground at Smokerise Park



# PARKS

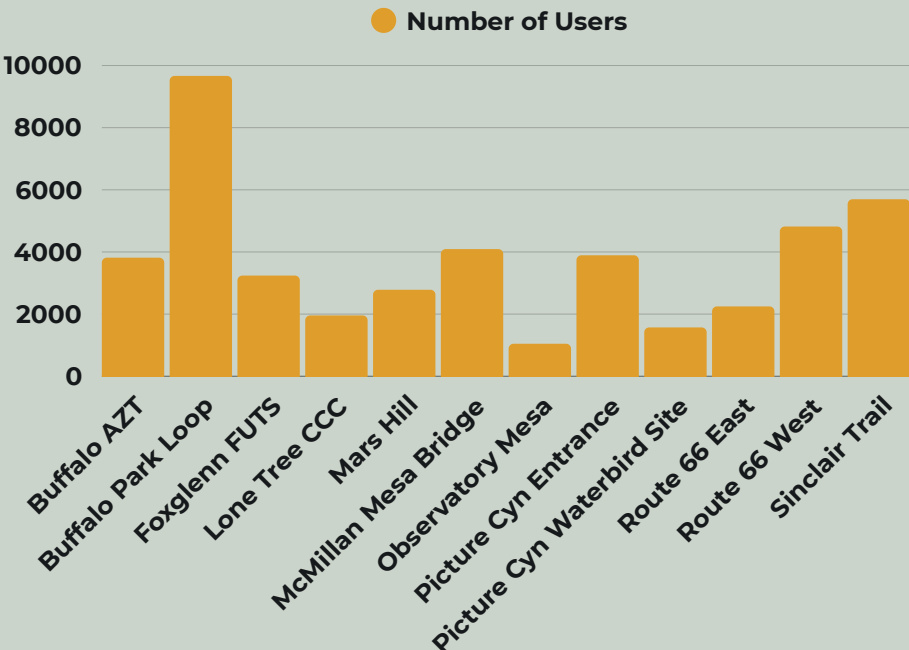
## Playground Replacements

Parks recently completed the replacement of two aging playground structures at Mobile Haven and Smokerise Park. The new structures, designed for children ages two to five, feature accessible elements and are thoughtfully designed to compliment the larger playgrounds already in place at each location.



TWA Memorial Site

## April 2025 Trail Counts



## TWA Memorial Improvements

Parks completed improvements to the TWA memorial at Citizen's Cemetery, which honors the passengers and crew who lost their lives in the June 30, 1956, midair collision. Enhancements included replacing sod with artificial turf, removing and thinning overgrown landscaping, repairing and replacing concrete sidewalk sections, and refurbishing the surrounding border wall and stanchions. The memorial, maintained in perpetuity by Parks, was restored in partnership with the Patrons of the 1956 Grand Canyon Midair Collision.

# RECREATION

## Annual Cleaning & Maintenance at Jay Lively Activity Center and the Aquaplex

The annual maintenance closures at the Aquaplex and Jay Lively Activity Center provided the opportunity for extensive improvements and deep cleaning. At the Aquaplex, the pool was drained, cleaned, and refilled. The pool deck, gym floor, offices, and party room were thoroughly cleaned, with select areas receiving fresh coats of paint. The gym floor was refinished, and the main hallway carpets were professionally cleaned. Audio and visual equipment in the Community Rooms was also upgraded.



The pool drained for cleaning and maintenance

The pool after refilling



Before: new flooring



After: new flooring

At Jay Lively, the floor was replaced throughout the entire facility, including the lobby, party room, pro shop, bathrooms, Zamboni room, back hallways, and locker rooms. Deep cleaning and dasher board maintenance also took place to improve the overall condition of the facility.

## Summer Sports Camp

Recreation staff are preparing for Summer Sports camp at Hal Jensen Recreation Center. Participants will learn the basics of a wide variety of games while developing teamwork, confidence, and new skills. Camp will be Monday, June 23<sup>rd</sup> to Friday 27<sup>th</sup> from 8:00 AM to 3:30 PM. This camp is designed for youth grades 4<sup>th</sup> - 8<sup>th</sup>. Registration is \$150. Space is limited so register online today!

**CITY OF FLAGSTAFF RECREATION**

# SUMMER SPORTS CAMP

**June 23 - 27**

**CITY OF FLAGSTAFF PROSE**  
PARKS, RECREATION,  
OPEN SPACE & EVENTS

**\$150**  
Registration

**YOUTH GRADES**  
4<sup>th</sup> - 8<sup>th</sup>

**8:00 AM - 3:30 PM**  
**Hal Jensen Recreation Center**

**CLICK HERE TO REGISTER ONLINE**  
928-213-2346



New plaque at McMillan Mesa

# OPEN SPACE

## McMillan Mesa Plaque Recognizes Community Efforts

Open Space is proud to announce the installation of a commemorative plaque honoring the community effort that led to the protection of the McMillan Mesa Natural Area. This area was preserved as Open Space thanks to the dedication of a committee of Flagstaff residents who successfully placed a measure on the November 2016 ballot—an initiative that passed with overwhelming support, receiving 86% of the vote. The City of Flagstaff recognizes the importance of commemorating this community effort and acknowledges the tremendous collective public effort that preserved the McMillan Mesa Natural Area. We invite the public to visit this meaningful tribute, located on the east side of the Cedar Avenue Bridge at the intersection of Cedar Trail and the Arizona Trail.



Volunteers from the campsite clean-up

## Illegal Campsite Clean-Ups on McMillan Mesa

Several NAU student groups helped clean up abandoned campsites on the McMillan Mesa, following reports from an Open Space Steward and a local resident. Notices were posted in advance, and outreach was made to individuals at active sites.



Abandoned campsite before



Abandoned campsite after

Open Space staff and PROSE Park Ranger Thomas McKenna also identified and cleared additional sites and trash along the Sego Lily Trail, near a recent hillside fire above N. Isabel Street.

## Education & Field Trips

Students from Summit High School wrapped up a water systems unit with a field trip to Picture Canyon, where they tested water quality and measured the flow of the Rio de Flag—building on a prior visit to the Wildcat Wastewater Treatment Plant.

The Open Space Education team partnered with Willow Bend to deliver a three-day in-class program for Mount Elden Middle School 6th graders. Students explored Picture Canyon’s cultural history, wildlife, and plant life through nature journaling, investigative tools, and outdoor exploration near their school.



Student learning about petroglyphs

# EVENTS, MARKETING & ATHLETICS

## Concerts in the Park 2025

The 2025 Concerts in the Park line-up is here, and staff are excited to bring a diverse mix of live music to a variety of City and County parks every Wednesday throughout June and July. These free, family-friendly events feature performances from local and regional bands, along with food from McGregor's Wandering Wiener Wagon, sweet treats from Archuleta Ice Cream, and book browsing courtesy of the PALS Mobile Library.

For the full schedule and event details, click the flyer or visit: [flagstaff.az.gov/5120/Concerts-in-the-Park-2025](http://flagstaff.az.gov/5120/Concerts-in-the-Park-2025)

## Cleo Murdoch Park Grand Opening - June 11<sup>th</sup>



The Murdoch Center sign at Cleo Murdoch Park

The grand opening of Cleo Murdoch Park (203 E Brannen Ave) takes place on **Wednesday, June 11 at 4:30 PM**. All are welcome to celebrate this exciting new addition to the community and stay afterward to enjoy live music by Dub and Down with the Blues as part of Concerts in the Park.

## Athletics

The Athletics team has been hard at work! May kicked off our tournament season with four athletic tournaments being hosted throughout the month including girls' softball, soccer, baseball and senior softball.



Monday night Softball at Thorpe

**CITY OF FLAGSTAFF**  
**CONCERTS**   
**IN THE PARK**

**2025**

6.4	<b>Tommy Dukes Blues Band</b> 📍 Jim Cullen Memorial Park	7.2	<b>Big Daddy D &amp; the Dynamites</b> 📍 McMillan Mesa Park
6.11	<b>Dub &amp; Down with the Blues</b> 📍 Cleo Murdoch Park	7.9	<b>Sleep Stampede</b> 📍 Cheshire Park
6.18	<b>Wild World Irish Fiddle</b> 📍 Smokerise Park	7.16	<b>Nolan McKelvey</b> 📍 Raymond County Park
6.25	<b>Holly Kirsten</b> 📍 Peaks View County Park	7.23	<b>The Carbonics</b> 📍 Mobile Haven Park
		7.30	<b>Optimal Delusion</b> 📍 Jim Cullen Memorial Park

Every Wednesday in June & July  
5:30 pm - 7:30 pm

# Summer Activities at Hal Jensen

Hal Jensen Recreation Center has something fun scheduled every day of the week. Stop by this summer for games, arts and crafts, or a cooking class! Click the image for more information.

## HAL JENSEN RECREATION CENTER SUMMER ACTIVITIES

**June 2<sup>nd</sup> - August 4<sup>th</sup>**

Our doors are open **Monday - Friday** 10:00 AM - 7:00 PM

Stop by for one of our planned activities, shoot some hoops, workout in our fitness room, or just hang out!

Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
 <b>12:00 PM</b> <b>GROUP GAMES</b> flag football whiffleball or kickball  <b>2:00 PM</b> <b>ARTS &amp; CRAFTS</b>	 <b>2:00 PM</b> <b>ARTS &amp; CRAFTS</b>	 <b>12:00 PM</b> <b>GROUP GAMES</b> flag football whiffleball or kickball  <b>2:00 PM</b> <b>ARTS &amp; CRAFTS</b>	 <b>2:00 PM</b> <b>ARTS &amp; CRAFTS</b>  <b>3:00 PM</b> <b>GROUP GAMES</b> flag football whiffleball or kickball	 <b>1:00 PM</b> <b>COOKING CLASS</b>  <b>2:30 PM</b> <b>GROUP GAMES</b> flag football whiffleball or kickball





All activities are **FREE!**


Questions? ☎ (928) 213-2760


### City of Flagstaff Open Space



# WEDNESDAY WEED PULLS



 **Select Wednesday Mornings**  
**June - September**

 **7:00 AM - 10:00 AM**

 **Picture Canyon**

### Wednesday Weed Pulls at Picture Canyon

Help protect the natural beauty of Picture Canyon by joining our invasive weed removal and reseeding efforts. Click the image for more information.

### Mountain Mash Up Hockey Tournament

Sign up for Jay Lively Activity Center's annual Mountain Mash up Hockey Tournament! Click the image to learn more sign up.



## MOUNTAIN MASH UP

### HOCKEY TOURNAMENT JULY 18-20

**\$150 PER PLAYER**

Space is limited to first 48 skaters and 4 goalies

**DRAFT EVENING OF JULY 18TH**  
 Draft style tournament | Goalies draft teams | Unique jerseys included  
 12 players + goalie to each team | 4 games guaranteed  
 Meet new people and have fun!

Registration based on skill level (Ages 18+)  
 All skill levels welcome

Questions?  
 (928) 213-2344  
 David.Carolus@flagstaffaz.gov

CLICK HERE TO SIGN UP



### Touch a Truck!

Come out to Touch A Truck on **Saturday, July 12<sup>th</sup>** to explore cool vehicles and learn about what they do! Click the image for more information.



Hal Jensen Recreation Center Presents:

# TOUCH A TRUCK

**Saturday, July 12<sup>th</sup>**  
**8:00 AM - 12:00 PM**  
**Coconino High School (North Parking Lot)**





### FOLLOW US!