

## NOTICE AND AGENDA

PARKS AND RECREATION COMMISSION  
MONDAY  
MARCH 16, 2026

HYBRID MEETING  
FLAGSTAFF AQUAPLEX  
AND [MICROSOFT TEAMS](#)  
1702 N. FOURTH STREET  
4:00 P.M.

1. **Call to Order**

2. **Roll Call**

*NOTE: One or more Commissioners may be in attendance through other technological means.*

Chair Stephen Parsons  
Co-Chair Austin Kerr  
Commissioner Neil Frazier  
Commissioner Camille Diab

Commissioner Lisa Lamberson  
Commissioner Jill Christensen  
Commissioner Josh Stackhouse  
Councilmember Rep: Anthony Garcia

3. **Land Acknowledgement**

The Flagstaff Parks and Recreation Commission humbly acknowledges the ancestral homelands of this area's Indigenous nations and original stewards. These lands, still inhabited by Native descendants, border mountains sacred to Indigenous peoples. We honor them, their legacies, their traditions, and their continued contributions. We celebrate their past, present, and future generations who will forever know this place as home.

4. **Approval of Minutes from [February 23, 2026](#) Parks and Recreation Commission and Open Spaces Commission's Joint Meeting**

5. **Open Call to the Public**

*This portion of the meeting is for items that are NOT on the agenda. The Commission cannot act on items presented during the public participation of the agenda. The Commission is prohibited by the open meeting law from discussing or considering the item until the item is officially placed on an agenda. Please limit comments to five minutes.*

6. **Discussion Items**

- A. Parks Maintenance Updates  
Informational and discussion
- B. Recreation center updates  
Informational and discussion
- C. Events and Athletics Updates  
Informational and discussion

7. **Reports and Updates**

- A. Council Representative Report, Council Representative Anthony Garcia
- B. PROSE Monthly Newsletter ([February 2026](#))

8. **Informational items to and from Commissioners and Staff**

9. **Agenda Items for next meeting**

10. **Adjournment**

CERTIFICATE OF POSTING OF NOTICE

The undersigned hereby certifies that a copy of the foregoing notice was duly posted at Flagstaff City Hall on Wednesday, March 11th at 2 p.m. This notice has been posted on the City's website and can be downloaded at [www.flagstaff.az.gov](http://www.flagstaff.az.gov).

Dated this 11th day of March, 2026.

*Lori Reynolds*

\_\_\_\_\_  
Lori Reynolds, Administrative Specialist

ADDITIONAL INFORMATION: In compliance with the Americans with Disabilities Act, if you need assistance to participate in this meeting, please contact Lori Reynolds ([Lori.Reynolds@flagstaffaz.gov](mailto:Lori.Reynolds@flagstaffaz.gov)) at least two business days prior to the scheduled meeting time to enable the City to make reasonable arrangements.



**Parks & Recreation**

4.

**From:** Lori Reynolds, PROSE Admin Specialist

**DATE:** 03/16/2026

**SUBJECT:** Approval of Minutes from [February 23, 2026](#) Parks and Recreation Commission and Open Spaces Commission's Joint Meeting

---

**STAFF RECOMMENDED ACTION:**

**Executive Summary:**

---

**Attachments**

Approval of February 23, 2026 Minutes

---

## MINUTES

JOINT PARKS & RECREATION / OPEN SPACES COMMISSION  
MONDAY  
FEBRUARY 23, 2026

HYBRID MEETING  
FLAGSTAFF AQUAPLEX  
AND [MICROSOFT TEAMS](#)  
1702 N FOURTH STREET  
4:00 P.M.

### 1. Call to Order

Open Spaces Commission Chair Thomas called the meeting to order at 4:04 PM.

### 2. Roll Call

*NOTE: One or more Commissioners may be in attendance through other technological means.*

#### OPEN SPACES

Chair Jacqueline Thomas, present  
Co-Chair Bruce Fox, present  
Commissioner Mary Norton (P&Z Liaison), present  
Commissioner Molly Joyce, present  
Commissioner Lina Wallen, present  
Commissioner Nat White, present  
Commissioner William Kluwin, present  
Councilmember Rep. David Spence, present

#### PARKS AND REC

Chair Stephen Parsons, present  
Co-Chair Austin Kerr, present  
Commissioner Neil Frazier, absent  
Commissioner Camile Diab, absent  
Commissioner Lisa Lamberson, present  
Commissioner Jill Christensen, present  
Commissioner Josh Stackhouse, absent  
Councilmember Rep. Anthony Garcia, absent

Staff present: Rebecca Sayers (PROSE Director), Amy Hagin (Assistant PROSE Director), Robert Wallace (Open Space Manager), Haley Reynolds (Events and Marketing Manager), Tyrone Johnson (Recreation Manager), Gino Leoni (Parks Manager), Lori Reynolds (Administrative Specialist), Sarah Holditch (Events and Marketing Coordinator), Sylvia Struss (Open Space Coordinator), Ashlee Fliney (Open Space Education Coordinator)  
Open Space Interns: Aryelle Reynolds, George Wilson, and Grace Harris.

### 3. Land Acknowledgment

The Flagstaff Parks and Recreation Commission and the Open Spaces Commission humbly acknowledge the ancestral homelands of this area's Indigenous nations and original stewards. These lands, still inhabited by Native descendants, border mountains sacred to Indigenous peoples. We honor them, their legacies, their traditions, and their continued contributions. We celebrate their past, present, and future generations who will forever know this place as home.

Read by Chair Thomas.

### 4. Approval of Minutes

Parks & Recreation Commission: [December 2025 Minutes](#)

- For the Parks and Recreation Commission's last minutes on December 15, 2025, Commissioner Parsons motioned to approve the minutes. Commissioner Lamberson seconded the motion. All Parks and Recreation Commissioners present approved the motion.

Open Spaces Commission: [January 2026 Minutes](#)

- For the Open Spaces Commission's last minutes on January 26, 2026, Commissioner Fox motioned to approve the minutes. Commissioners Norton and Joyce seconded the motion. All Open Spaces Commissioners approved the motion.

## 5. Public Comment

At this time, any member of the public may address the Commissions on any subject that is not scheduled before the Commissions on this day. The Arizona Open Meeting Law prohibits the Commissions from discussing or taking action on an item which is not listed on the prepared agenda. Commission members may, however, respond to criticism made by those addressing the Commissions, ask staff to review a matter, or ask that a matter be placed on a future agenda. To address the Commissions on an item that is on the agenda, please wait for the Chair to call for Public Comment at the time the item is heard.

Read by Chair Thomas. No comments or questions were received.

## 6. Business Items

### A. Parks, Recreation, and Open Space 5-Year Capital Improvement Plan review and approval

Rebecca Sayers shared with Commissioners an overview of the 5-Year Capital Improvement plan and why the Commissions are responsible for reviewing and approving the plan annually. This is a part of the City of Flagstaff's annual budgeting process, giving PROSE staff an opportunity to share with the City's budget team that both Commissions had reviewed and approved the plan. Referencing the [PROSE 5-Year Capital Improvement Plan's spreadsheet on the screen](#), Rebecca noted that the estimated revenue over the next five years is lower than last year's estimates. Budget Section staff adjusted their revenue projections based on actual revenues received to date during the current fiscal year.

Amy Hagin provided updates on various Parks and Recreation projects including:

- Sports Courts (Bushmaster Park)
  - Project is substantially complete, any remaining work to be completed will be done by the end of this fiscal year (June 30, 2026).
- Highland Mesa Park
  - The project is still in the design stage and the overall completion of the park will be carried forward into the next fiscal year.
- Heritage Square Restroom
  - Concept design is complete. It is being moved to construction design and then will go out to bid, moving further work on the restroom into the next fiscal year.
- Ponderosa Park Reconstruction
  - Currently waiting for the stormwater project to wrap up before park reconstruction can begin and is funded beginning in fiscal year 2026-27.
- Thorpe Park Annex (former public works yard buildings)
  - Working on repurposing the large stone building (former Fleet facility) into the future Indigenous Cultural Community Center.
- Cheshire Park Expansion
  - The project is currently funded this fiscal year. Some of that has been spent on a topographic survey and a soils report for the proposed eight (8) acres north of the existing Cheshire Park.
  - Seeking to apply for a one-million-dollar match from the Land Water Conservation Fund grant in this upcoming fiscal year.
- Continental Park Expansion
  - In fiscal years 2026/27 to 2027/28, the team will be working on the design of the park's expansion that would extend from the existing Continental Park up towards I-40.
- Hal Jensen Recreation Center HVAC in Gym -- Project work and installation remain ongoing

Open Space project updates from Robert Wallace:

- City Council has approved for Open Space to receive an allocation of the BBB funds.
  - This upcoming fiscal year, they will receive their first allocation, which will go towards the McMillan Mesa Natural Area (MMNA) trail rehab project. Open Space staff are also working on a grant for a new signage project at MMNA, installing kiosks and interpretive signs.
- Open Space future land acquisition
  - Brief overview of funds that are allocated towards potential land acquisition; easements,

trail connections, property purchase that complements existing PROSE managed areas to implement the Open Space System.

- Picture Canyon Natural and Cultural Preserve (PCN&CP) restroom
  - Costs for a restroom will be a more expensive project than originally anticipated. The Open Spaces Commissioners decided those funds should be reallocated to another priority. Staff moved the funds to support the Open Space system (land acquisition)
- Observatory Mesa Natural Preserve Trail Plan
  - The plan has been completed and approved by City Council and the State Parks board. Open Space staff are currently having the trails mapped within a 30-meter corridor. This is part of four phases taking place across multiple fiscal years.
    - They are eligible to apply for a motorized grant for Observatory Mesa because of an existing Forest Service easement that passes through their property. If successfully awarded the grant, Open Space staff could use the funds to address restoration issues, fencing projects, and signage.

Councilmember Spence requested that budget items refer to the full names of the Open Space areas that the Open Spaces Commission has spent time working on changing, including using their full names in general discussion.

- McMillan Mesa Natural Area
- Picture Canyon Natural and Cultural Preserve
- Observatory Mesa Natural Preserve

Commissioner Thomas requested the Commissions provide a motion for approval of the 5-year plan as presented. Commissioner Fox motioned for the approval of the 5-year plan. Commissioner Wallen seconded the motion. All Commissioners present approved the motion.

## B. PROSE Master Plan Update

Rebecca informed Commissioners that a contractor for the PROSE master plan had been selected. If Commissioners are interested in viewing the proposed contract, it will be available in the March 3, 2026 City Council agenda.

Following potential approval on March 3rd, the contractor will be routed for signatures, which may take up to three weeks, then staff will have a kick-off meeting with the contractor. Rebecca added that the contractor understands that they will also be working with two commissions and have included in their budget time to meet with both.

Robert updated Open Space Commissioners on the request from the previous month's meeting for them to review other city master plans for open spaces. This discussion item will be moved to their March meeting. In reviewing other master plans, Commissioners were asked to see if there was something specific that they would like included in the Open Space portion of the master plan.

## C. FUTS Discussion on Operational Maintenance, Development

Amy shared with Commissioners general information regarding the Flagstaff Urban Trail Systems (FUTS) and explained a few operational concerns. FUTS has been a frequent topic for both Commissions, especially when it comes to the operational maintenance of existing trails and the addition of future trails. She acknowledged that while FUTS is a great asset, PROSE staff are not necessarily involved in the development and decision-making related to new trails. They are, though, responsible for maintaining any new trail and the existing trails, too. Another concern mentioned was that FUTS trail types have not been fully defined. For example, commuter versus recreational paths.

Carlton Johnson (City of Flagstaff Transportation Planner) provided insight, echoing similar concerns. From a developer's point of view, trails are secondary when they build. However, Carlton agrees that the sentiment of the community is that the urban trails system is an asset that began with the first step of recreational trails connecting all areas of the city, but that also functions as a transportation element between neighborhoods, not just one side of the city to the other.

Rebecca added that for this asset to the community, PROSE needs to figure a way to put more operation and maintenance funds into FUTS. The city's transportation division has completed a five-year maintenance plan for asphalt trails, but there is no plan in place for concrete and aggregate trails other than routine maintenance that is currently done by Parks staff.

Commissioners discussed the need for better defined trail definitions and emphasized that the FUTS, as an asset, makes Flagstaff a more desirable place to live.

## **7. City Council Liaison Reports**

Councilmember David Spence, liaison for the Open Spaces Commission, recognized the work that Martin Ince put into FUTS and the loss of a great asset when he retired, as well as the need for additional FUTS connections. Commissioner Norton asked if when new development plans come across City Council's desk, are the locations of FUTS trail segments taken into consideration. Councilmember Spence replied that by the time those plans get to City Council, they are nearly a done deal when they have already taken into consideration items such as climate action, affordable housing, trails, and meeting city codes for sidewalks and storm drainage.

## **8. Reports -- Monthly highlights of Parks and Recreation, Open Space, and Events**

### **A. PROSE Monthly Newsletter: [January 2026](#)**

There were no questions on the monthly newsletter.

## **9. Informational items to and from Commissioners and Staff**

Commissioner Norton shared that on the upcoming Wednesday the Planning and Zoning Commission would be hearing a rezoning case for Mill Town. This development focuses on the land across from the junction of University Dr. and S. Milton Rd, the location of a former ADOT building.

## **10. Potential Future Agenda Items**

Commission meetings in March:

- Both Commissions:
  - Work on definitions for FUTS
  - Decide whether they would like to meet with the master plan contractor in a joint meeting or separately.
- Open Spaces Commissioners:
  - May research and share specific action items related to open spaces that they would like to see in the master plan.

## **11. Adjournment**

Chair Thomas requested a motion to adjourn the meeting at 6:19 pm. Commissioner Lamberson motioned to adjourn the meeting and Commissioner Joyce seconded the motion.



**Parks & Recreation**

6. A.

**From:** Amy Hagin, Assistant Parks and Recreation Director

**DATE:** 03/16/2026

**SUBJECT:** Parks Maintenance Updates

---

**STAFF RECOMMENDED ACTION:**

Informational and discussion

**Executive Summary:**

The Parks Section will provide updates on the small projects completed in park grounds, the upcoming seasonal switch on operations and transition to the athletic season.

---



**Parks & Recreation**

6. B.

**From:** Amy Hagin, Assistant Parks and Recreation Director

**DATE:** 03/16/2026

**SUBJECT:** Recreation center updates

---

**STAFF RECOMMENDED ACTION:**

Informational and discussion

**Executive Summary:**

The Recreation team will discuss the upcoming maintenance at two centers, the new gaming room at Hal Jensen Recreation Center and information about the youth basketball program that just ended.

---



**Parks & Recreation**

6. C.

**From:** Amy Hagin, Assistant Parks and Recreation Director

**DATE:** 03/16/2026

**SUBJECT:** Events and Athletics Updates

---

**STAFF RECOMMENDED ACTION:**

Informational and discussion

**Executive Summary:**

The Events team will discuss the upcoming Athletics season which has a minor change to processes through the allocation, the upcoming concerts in the park series, and the upcoming drone show for 2026.

---



**Parks & Recreation**

7. B.

**From:** Lori Reynolds, PROSE Admin Specialist

**DATE:** 03/16/2026

**SUBJECT:** PROSE Monthly Newsletter ([February 2026](#))

---

**STAFF RECOMMENDED ACTION:**

**Executive Summary:**

---

**Attachments**

PROSE February 2026 Newsletter

---



# PARKS, RECREATION, OPEN SPACE, AND EVENTS

FEBRUARY 2026  
NEWSLETTER

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

Photos: action shots from the last game  
of the season at Sinagua Middle School



## Another Great Season for Youth Basketball

Youth Basketball concluded another successful and well-organized season this year, bringing together 23 teams and 230 registered participants. With 10 players per team, athletes built skills and confidence over the course of the eight games.

Saturday games took place at Sinagua Middle School, while additional Thursday games were hosted at Hal Jensen Recreation

Center. A highlight of the season included two Jr. Suns Nights at the NAU Skydome during Northern Arizona Lumberjacks men's basketball games. Players who wore their team jerseys received free admission, and families were able to purchase discounted tickets. Chick-fil-A also supported the program by providing each participant with a coupon card for a free sandwich. We appreciate the continued support of our coaches, families, and community partners who helped make the season a success.





Parrish Jonen

# PARKS

## Welcome Parrish Jonen - Parks Maintenance Worker

Parrish Jonen has officially joined PROSE as a full-time Parks Maintenance Worker after serving several months as temporary staff.

Parrish moved to Flagstaff nearly ten years ago to earn his degree in Parks and Recreation from NAU and has made the community his home ever since.

He is excited to continue expanding his skills in this new role while working throughout the city's beautiful parks. Outside of work, Parrish enjoys biking around town, rock climbing, and staying actively engaged as an informed community member.

## New Equipment - The Snow Rhino

Parks was excited to deploy a new specialized piece of snow-removal equipment during the most recent storm: the Snow Rhino. The Snow Rhino is a compact, stand-on snowplow designed for tight or heavily trafficked areas. This equipment enhances the efficiency of downtown snow-removal operations while allowing shovel teams to be reassigned to other high-priority locations.



Snow Rhino

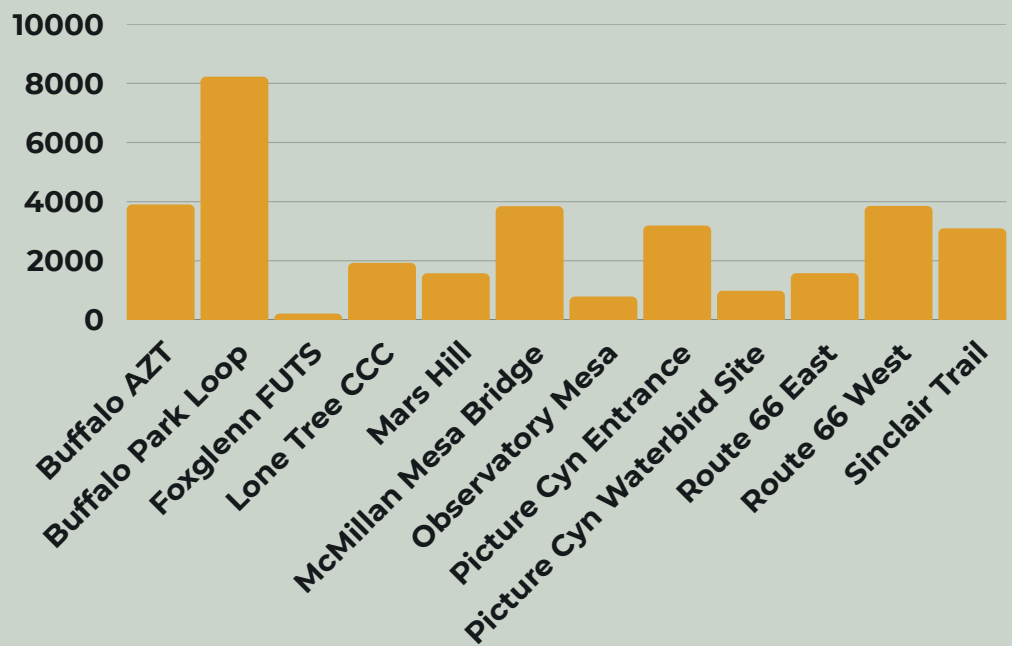
## Continental Park Dugout Roof Replacements

The Parks team recently completed the roof replacement project on the dugouts at the Continental Sports Complex, removing the old wooden structures and installing durable, steel-reinforced roofs built to withstand the elements.



New dugout roof

## January 2026 Trail Counts



# RECREATION

## Josh Conway Promotion to Aquatics Coordinator II

We are thrilled to announce Josh Conway's promotion from Head Lifeguard to his new role as Aquatics Coordinator II. Josh brings to PROSE 13 years of experience in U.S. Naval Special Warfare, where one of his primary duties was serving as a Special Operations Combat Medic. In that role, he developed advanced lifesaving skills and a strong commitment to discipline and excellence. He is especially inspired by the City of Flagstaff's mission to "protect and enhance the quality of life for all," and looks forward to carrying that ethos into his role at the Aquaplex. Josh has lived in Flagstaff for nine months and enjoys hiking and climbing with his wife and two children.



Josh Conway

## Aquaplex Winter Sports Pick-Up Game & Tournament Series

The Aquaplex's new Winter Sports Pick-Up Game and Tournament Series is off to a fantastic start! The series features pick-up games for Basketball, Futsal, and Volleyball on Mondays and Wednesdays, culminating in a tournament for each sport. Basketball recently wrapped up with an impressive turnout. The pick-up games averaged 20 participants per night, and the tournament was a success with a six-team 5v5 competition. Each team played three games in a round-robin format, followed by a championship game between the top two teams. This

program has brought together both after-school regulars and new participants, creating a fun, energetic environment and increased engagement at the facility.



Winning Team



Basketball Tournament

## Volunteer Clean-Up

Hal Jensen Recreation Center partnered with the city's Sustainability Stewards program to host a volunteer cleanup at the Thorpe Park Disc Golf Course. Five kids volunteered their afternoon and enjoyed exploring the park as they collected litter. After the clean-up, participants were treated to pizza and soda as a thank-you for their hard work and enthusiasm.



Volunteers bagging trash



Volunteers from Hal Jensen

# OPEN SPACE

## Open Space Maintenance & Volunteer Efforts

Open Space staff installed new 'No Camping' signs throughout McMillan Mesa Natural Area. Areas where signs had previously been placed have already seen a noticeable decrease in illegal camping activity.

Volunteers also took advantage of a break in the weather to remove old tires, ceramic floor tiles, and other debris from the interior of Picture Canyon, helping to keep the area clean and welcoming for visitors.



Staff installing 'No Camping' signs



Field trip at McMillan Mesa

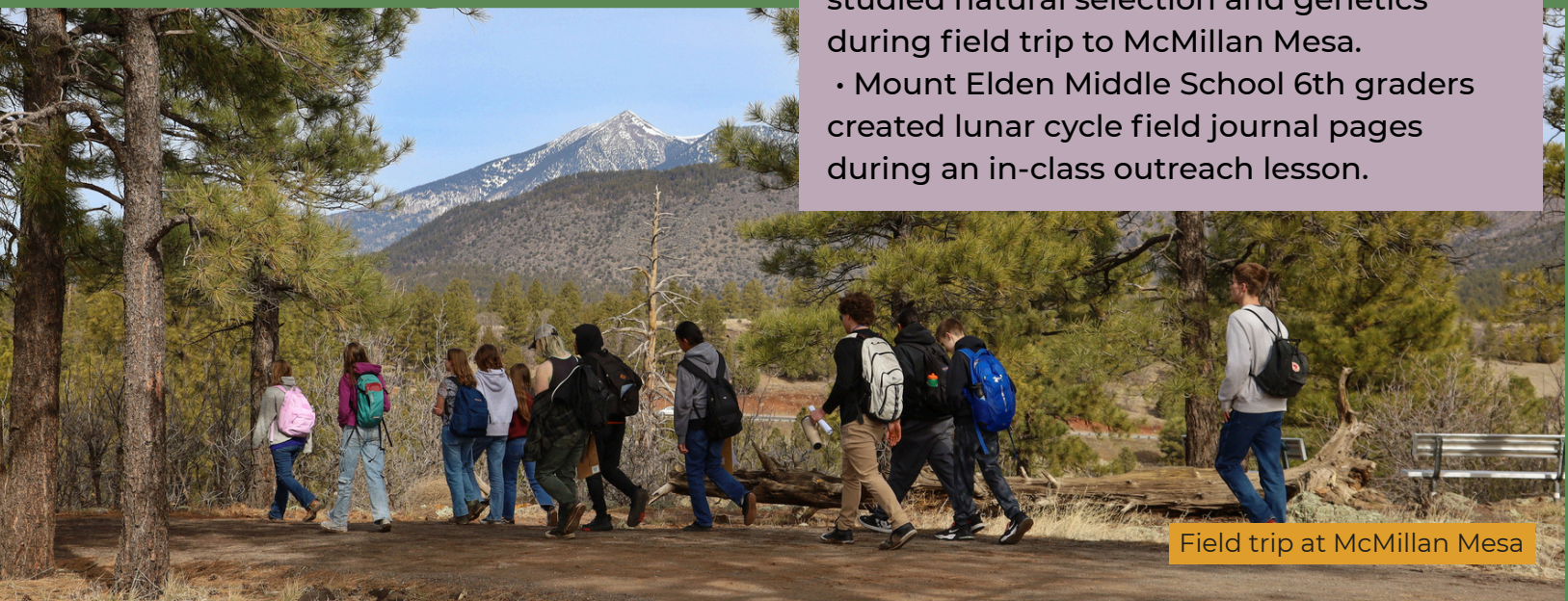
## Outdoor Education

Open Space has been especially busy this winter, welcoming students from various schools and after school programs for hands-on field trips and classroom programs. These experiences give kids a much-needed chance to get outdoors, explore local natural areas, and stay connected to the environment even during the colder months. From wildlife tracking to navigation skills and ecology lessons, each visit helps spark curiosity and builds confidence through real-world learning.



## Field Trips & Classroom Lessons

- Summit Alternative High School visited Picture Canyon for photography and orienteering activities.
- FACTS after-school programs explored wildlife tracking through track and scat investigations.
- Mount Elden Middle School 8th graders studied natural selection and genetics during field trip to McMillan Mesa.
- Mount Elden Middle School 6th graders created lunar cycle field journal pages during an in-class outreach lesson.



Field trip at McMillan Mesa



# EVENTS, MARKETING & ATHLETICS

## Basketball Second Session Wrap Up

The second session of Adult Winter Basketball has come to an end!

### Winning Teams:

- Mon/Wed Division: Winner – Mike & Ronda’s West, Runners-up – Ratt n Roll, Yetis, and 51’s (three-way tie!)
- Tues/Thurs Division: Winner – 86ers, Runner-up – Mutton Busters

## Spring Indoor Volleyball Now in Session

Adult Spring Volleyball is in full swing, with games held every day except Fridays and Saturdays.



## Adult Summer Softball - First Session Registration Now Open

Registration for Adult Summer Softball leagues is now live online. Teams can sign up for \$350, and games will begin at the end of April.



Click Here to Register Online



## HAL JENSEN RECREATION CENTER

# SPRING BREAK ACTIVITY SCHEDULE

Monday 3/9

2:00 PM - Arts and Crafts  
3:00 PM - Dodge Ball

Tuesday 3/10

2:00 PM - Arts and Crafts  
3:00 PM - Whiffle Ball

Wednesday 3/11

11:30 AM - Movie in the Gymnasium  
2:00 PM - Arts and Crafts  
3:00 PM - Kickball

Thursday 3/12

2:00 PM - Arts and Crafts  
3:00 PM - Basketball

Friday 3/13

11:30 AM - Cooking Class  
2:00 PM - Arts and Crafts  
3:00 PM - Field Day!

## Upcoming Events & Programs

### Spring Break Activities at Hal Jensen Recreation Center

Spring Break is just around the corner and fun plans are coming together at Hal Jensen! Stop by for one of our regularly scheduled activities or pop by the facility to just hang out. All activities are free and open to all ages. For more information call: 928-213-2761 or stop by the facility!

### Spring Break Kids Day Camp at the Aquaplex

Looking for an exciting Spring Break activity for your kids? Join us at the Flagstaff Aquaplex for a week full of fun! Kids will enjoy swimming, rock climbing, games, crafts, and more in a safe and active environment.

- March 9-13
- 7:00 AM - 5:00 PM
- Ages: 5-11
- Members: \$120 | Non-Members: \$150

Register online or call the Aquaplex front desk: (928) 213-2300

## Flagstaff Aquaplex

# Spring Break KIDS DAY CAMP

**MARCH 9 - 13**

**Ages 5 - 11**

**7:00 AM - 5:00 PM**

**Member Price:  
\$120**

**Flagstaff Aquaplex**

**Non-Member Price:  
\$150**

CLICK HERE TO REGISTER





**CONCERTS IN THE PARK**  
**Call for Musicians**

**FAMILY FRIENDLY**  
**Performances on Wednesday nights in June & July**

Send your demo to  
[SpecialEvents@flagstaffaz.gov](mailto:SpecialEvents@flagstaffaz.gov)

Deadline to Submit:  
 March 20<sup>th</sup>

CITY OF FLAGSTAFF  
**PROSE**

## Concerts in the Park - Call for Musicians

Want to share your music with the community in a local park this summer? PROSE is on the lookout for family-friendly musicians to perform a 2-hour set on a Wednesday evening in June or July as part of the annual Concerts in the Park series. Please send the following to: [SpecialEvents@flagstaffaz.gov](mailto:SpecialEvents@flagstaffaz.gov) by March 20th:

- Link to demo / previous performance
- Genre of music
- Availability (Wednesdays in June & July)

Specific dates and park locations will be confirmed after selection. Concerts are every Wednesday in June and July. The band must be available from 4:00 PM - 7:30 PM.

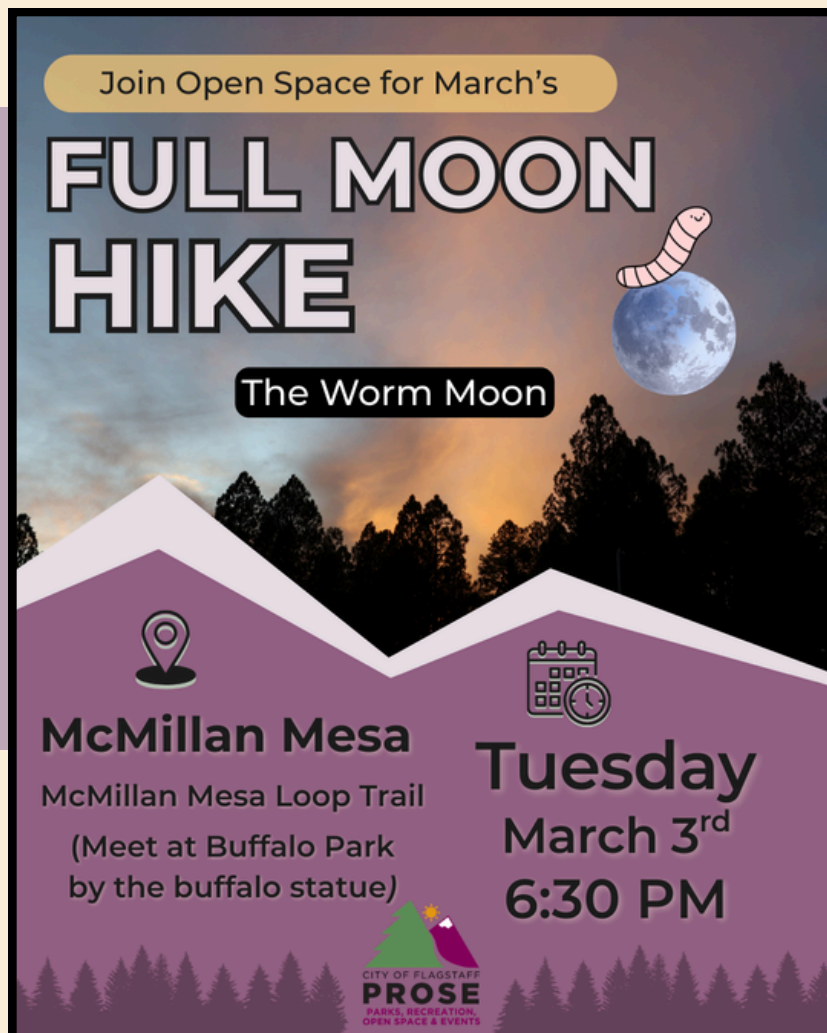
\*Audio will be provided by Peaks Entertainment



## March Full Moon Hike

Join Open Space for a nighttime hike under March's full moon.

- Tuesday, March 3 | 6:30 PM
- McMillan Mesa, McMillan Mesa Loop Trail (Meet at Buffalo Park by the buffalo statue)
- Please wear hiking shoes, dress for the weather, and bring water, a flashlight or headlamp, and hiking poles if needed (extra gear provided).



Join Open Space for March's

# FULL MOON HIKE

The Worm Moon

**McMillan Mesa**  
 McMillan Mesa Loop Trail  
 (Meet at Buffalo Park by the buffalo statue)

**Tuesday**  
**March 3<sup>rd</sup>**  
**6:30 PM**

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

Stay connected!

