



PARKS, RECREATION, OPEN SPACE, AND EVENTS

APRIL 2026
NEWSLETTER

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



Bench Press Competition

High School Hog Call Bench Press Competition

The Aquaplex recently revived a cherished tradition, largely thanks to the dedication of recreation staff, Brad Stricker. This weightlifting competition, once held when Recreation operated out of the Cogdill Center, has found new life and energy with a fresh group of participants. For the past year, Brad has been mentoring a group of high school students who meet with him after school in an informal setting. During these sessions, he shares guidance on strength training, exercise, and overall health and wellness, creating a space where students can learn, grow, and build confidence. The High School Hog Call event gave these students a chance to put their hard work to the test in a safe, encouraging, and fun environment. The results were impressive—many participants achieved personal bests, and two standout lifters surpassed the 200-pound mark. The excitement didn't end with the final lift. Recreation staff are already planning future events, inspired by the enthusiasm of the students—many of whom were asking about the next competition before this one had even wrapped up. It's clear that this renewed tradition is not only building strength, but also a lasting passion for fitness.



Staff & participants group photo



PARKS

Parks Staff Earn New Certifications

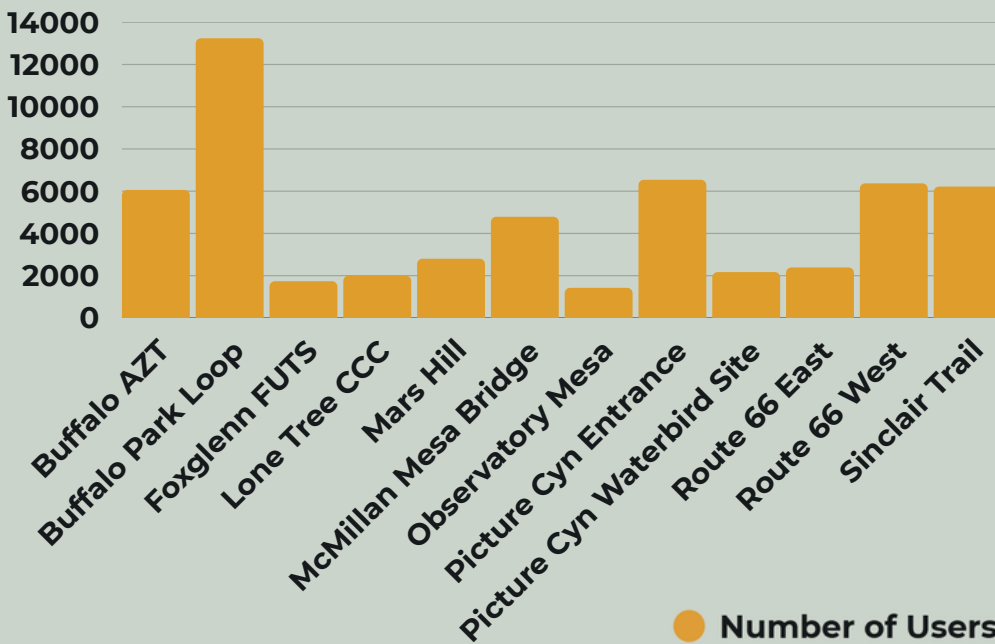
Congratulations to our Parks team members who earned new professional certifications in April. Lynold Herder, Ko-Bar-Li Gillan, Robert Hewat, Devin Todd, and Nathan Sahmie achieved their ALCA Certified Irrigation Technician credentials. This certification strengthens our team’s ability to maintain efficient, sustainable irrigation systems across our parks.

Jonathan Guetter and Israel Armenta became IAPMO Certified Backflow Testers. Their new skills help ensure the safety and integrity of our water systems.

Thomas McKenna earned the Arizona State Certified Pesticide Applicator – Aquatics Endorsement. This certification enhances our team’s stewardship of waterways and aquatic

environments. We are proud of their dedication to advancing their skills and strengthening our department’s expertise.

March 2026 Trail Counts





Daddy Daughter Ball

RECREATION

Daddy Daughter Ball

This year's Daddy Daughter Ball was a wonderful success, with families filling the room for an evening of magic and memories. Guests enjoyed creating charming take-home crafts, sharing a delicious dinner, and dancing the night away—from upbeat favorites like the Macarena to sweet slow dances full of spins and twirls. Staff truly outdid themselves with whimsical décor that brought the "Tennis Shoes and Tiaras" theme to life, making the entire event feel playful, enchanting, and absolutely adorable.



Dinner at Daddy Daughter Ball

Chillin' in the Pines Hockey Tournament

Jay Lively Activity Center proudly hosted the 10th Annual Chillin' in the Pines Hockey Classic. This year's tournament featured two competitive divisions and a total of ten teams, showcasing impressive talent across both the B and C levels. Remarkably, two first-year teams skated away with championship titles: the Icy Hot Boys, a team made up of players traveling from across the country—including as far as Minnesota—claimed the B Division title, while F.G.S., a group of athletes from our local adult hockey league, earned the C Division championship. Both teams will have their names added to their division trophies, and players received custom championship hats to commemorate their hard-earned victories. The tournament continues to grow each year, and excitement is already building as we expand to 10 additional teams across two new divisions this coming May. We are thrilled to see this beloved event thrive and look forward to another fantastic tournament next year as Northern Arizona's premier adult hockey competition.



Father & daughter slow dancing



Hockey players



OPEN SPACE

Students hiking at Buffalo Park



Community & Student Engagement Highlights

The Open Space education team organized a month filled with field trips and community events, including:

- Flagstaff High School students learning about ethnobotany at Picture Canyon.
- Sechrist Elementary students rotating through land management and geology activities on McMillan Mesa.
- Flagstaff Junior Academy students participating in a kestrel Citizen Science project with habitat hikes.
- Marshall Elementary fourth graders measuring trees they planted, celebrating growth with observations and poetry.
- Preschool and kindergarten students from Flagstaff Cooperative Preschool hiking at Picture Canyon.
- Earth Day activities where students from all Flagstaff high schools removed invasive weeds and engaged with STEM professionals, alongside an Open Space booth featuring educational activities.



Students at Picture Canyon



Person examining a yucca plant



Outdoor classroom

Celebrate Trails Day

Open Space partnered with High Country Adaptive Sports to host an inclusive Celebrate Trails Day event, allowing participants of all abilities to try adaptive cycles on the McMillan Mesa Loop Trail. For some participants, it was their first chance to enjoy the Mesa in years due to previous accessibility barriers. The partnership was vital in making this empowering event possible.



Person on an adaptive cycle

EVENTS, MARKETING & ATHLETICS



CITY OF FLAGSTAFF
CONCERTS
IN THE PARK
2026

6.3	The Flag 5 Jim Cullen Memorial Park	7.1	Holly Kirsten Cheshire Park
6.10	The Stellar Jays Peaks View County Park	7.8	The High Standards Smokerise Park
6.17	Optimal Delusion Murdoch Park	7.15	The Pocket Limes Mobile Haven Park
6.24	Big Daddy D and the Dynamites Raymond County Park	7.22	Ryan Biter Bushmaster Park
		7.29	The Coveralls Jim Cullen Memorial Park

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

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

Concerts in the Park Line-Up!

Events and Marketing is excited to share the lineup for this year's Concerts in the Park, featuring a fresh mix of new solo artists and bands.

June 3rd – The Flag 5 at Jim Cullen Memorial Park

June 10th – The Stellar Jays at Peaks View County Park

June 17th – Optimal Delusion at Cleo Murdoch Park

June 24th – Big Daddy D and the Dynamites at Raymond County Park

July 1st – Holly Kirsten at Cheshire Park

July 8th – The High Standards at Smokerise Park

July 15th – The Pocket Limes at Mobile Haven Park

July 22nd – Ryan Biter at Bushmaster Park

July 29th – The Coveralls at Jim Cullen Memorial Park

Flagstaff Regional Plan 2045

On May 19, City of Flagstaff voters will choose whether to ratify or not ratify the Flagstaff Regional Land Use Plan 2045. The election is a vote-by-mail only election. There will be no polling places on election day. **Ballots must be received by 7:00 PM on Tuesday, May 19th.**

To learn about the Regional Plan, visit www.flagstaff.az.gov/regionalplan2045. For election information, visit [City of Flagstaff Elections](#) | [City of Flagstaff Official Website](#).



Upcoming Events & Programs

Mountain Mash Up

Friday, July 17th - 19th | Jay Lively Activity Center

Lace up those skates and register now to be part of this draft-style tournament. Space is limited to the first 48 skaters and 4 goalies, so secure your spot today! Registration is based on skill level for ages 18 and older. All skill levels are welcome. Goalies will draft the teams, and each player will receive a unique jersey. Teams will consist of 12 players and a goalie, with four games guaranteed. It's a great opportunity to meet new people and have fun!

Registration: \$150/ per player



Jay Lively Activity Center

MOUNTAIN MASH UP

HOCKEY TOURNAMENT

July 17th - 19th

\$150 per player

Draft evening of July 17th

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
Space is limited to first 48 skaters and 4 goalies

CLICK HERE TO REGISTER

CITY OF FLAGSTAFF PROSE (928) 213-2344

Wednesday Weed Pulls

Every other Wednesday May 13th - September 2nd | 7:00 AM - 10:00 AM | Picture Canyon

Join the Open Space team at Picture Canyon for one of these upcoming volunteer events where you'll learn how to identify invasive plants, practice effective removal techniques, and help restore the landscape with native seed mixes. Whether you are looking for meaningful conversations with fellow volunteers or hoping to zone out in a peaceful, meditative activity, this is a great way to connect with nature and support the health of our local ecosystem.

City of Flagstaff Open Space

WEDNESDAY WEED PULLS

Every Other Wednesday
May 13th - September 2nd

May 13

June 24

August 5

May 27

July 8

August 19

June 10

July 22

September 2

7:00 AM - 10:00 AM

Picture Canyon

CLICK FOR DETAILS & REGISTRATION



Flagstaff Aquaplex



SUMMER DAY CAMP



Ages: 5 - 12

Monday - Friday

8:00 AM - 5:00 PM

One-Week Sessions

June 1 - 5	July 13 - 17
June 8 - 12	July 20 - 24
June 15 - 19	July 27 - 31

CLICK HERE TO REGISTER



Member Price:

\$120

Non-Member Price:

\$150

928-213-2300



Aquaplex Summer Camp

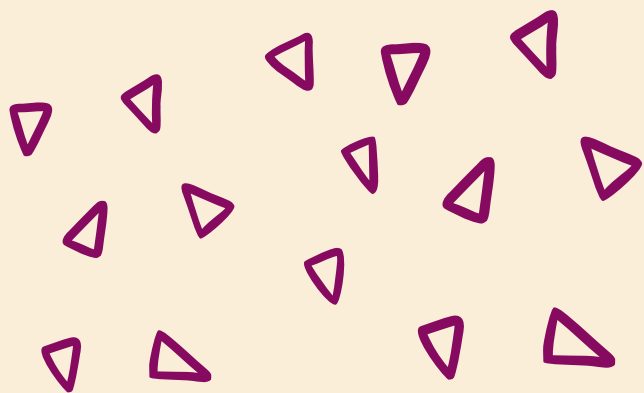
Select weeks throughout June & July |
Monday - Friday | 8:00 AM - 5:00 PM |
Ages 5-12

Summer is just around the corner and the Aquaplex is gearing up for some fun filled weeks packed with swimming, games, arts and crafts, and more!

Member Price: \$120

Non-Member Price: \$150

Register Online or at the Aquaplex front desk.



Adult Summer Softball - Second Session

Games begin July 10th!

Registration for the second session Adult Softball is now open!

**Registration:
\$350/ Team**

City of Flagstaff Athletics ADULT SUMMER SOFTBALL

SECOND SESSION

Games begin July 10th

CLICK HERE TO REGISTER



928-255-8135

CITY OF FLAGSTAFF RECREATION

SUMMER SPORTS CAMP

June 22 - 26

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

\$75
REGISTRATION

YOUTH GRADES
4th - 8th

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

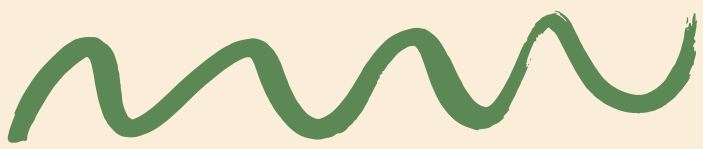
CLICK HERE TO REGISTER
928-213-2346

Summer Sports Camp

June 22 - 26 | 8:00 AM - 3:30 PM | Hal Jensen Recreation Center

Join the PROSE staff this summer for a fun and active sports camp! Campers will learn the basics of a wide variety of games while developing teamwork, confidence, and new skills. We will also introduce participants to exciting new sports and activities throughout the week.

Registration:
\$75/ Camper



Grass Volleyball

June 16 - July 28 | Thorpe Park Softball Complex | Ages 18+

Summer is just around the corner, which means volleyball on the grass! All skill levels are welcome.

Registration:
\$275/ Team

FOLLOW US ON SOCIAL MEDIA

City of Flagstaff Athletics

GRASS VOLLEYBALL

June 16th - July 28th

Register by June 6th
\$275/ Team

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

928-255-8135

CLICK HERE TO REGISTER