

PALM BEACH COUNTY



PARKS & RECREATION

ANNUAL REPORT

2024





"Best in the State"

"Best in the U.S.A."

We create opportunities for healthy, happy living!



Mission

To provide opportunities for healthy, happy living through award-winning parks, inclusive experiences and environmental stewardship.



Core Services

Ensure access to beaches and water bodies

Facilitate health and wellness opportunities

Provide for youth enrichment, sports/athletic programming and facilities

Promote stewardship of natural, archaeological and cultural sites

Provide for trails, open space and picnic facilities



Vision

As a nationally recognized parks and recreation leader we will connect people and parks by:

- ✓ Engaging all members of our diverse community,
- ✓ Ensuring safe, functional and innovative amenities now and in the future,
- ✓ Continually developing a professional, well-trained staff that is reflective of our community,
- ✓ Being a leader in outdoor recreation tourism,
- ✓ Forming strategic relationships to ensure local access to green and blue spaces,
- ✓ Meeting the national average of park land per capita with a focus on lowering barriers to access; providing environmental equity; advancing economic vitality; and championing community health,
- ✓ Continuously improving service delivery and business practices through the incorporation of new technologies and the creation of enterprising partnerships to deliver desired services.



Core Values

A culture of teamwork

Excellent customer service

Demonstrating a high level of integrity & pride

Fiscally responsible & accountable

CONTENTS

October 2023 - September 2024



**Administrative Offices
located in John Prince Park**
2700 Sixth Avenue South
Lake Worth, Florida 33461

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**Palm Beach County
Board of County Commissioners**

Maria G. Marino, Mayor
Sara Baxter, Vice Mayor
Gregg K. Weiss
Joel G. Flores
Marci Woodward
Maria Sachs
Bobby Powell Jr.

County Administrator
Verdenia C. Baker

Assistant County Administrator
Tammy K. Fields

Parks and Recreation Department
Jennifer Cirillo, *Director*
Paul Connell, *Deputy Director*

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Palm Beach County Board of County Commissioners (L to R, Back Row)
Palm Beach County Board of County Commissioners: Gregg K. Weiss; Bobby Powell Jr.; Marci Woodward; Joel G. Flores

(L to R, Front Row) Palm Beach County Board of County Commissioners: Sara Baxter, Vice Mayor; Maria G. Marino, Mayor; Maria Sachs; County Administrator Verdenia C. Baker

**2024 PALM BEACH COUNTY
STRATEGIC PRIORITIES**



HOUSING
DEVELOPMENT



PUBLIC SAFETY



INFRASTRUCTURE



UNSHeltered
RESIDENTS



ENVIRONMENTAL
PROTECTION



ECONOMIC
DEVELOPMENT



SUBSTANCE USE & BEHAVIOR
DISORDERS



AT A GLANCE

Operating more than 110 parks and recreational facilities



80

baseball/
softball fields



145

playgrounds



5

nature/
interpretive
centers



398

campsites



7

swimming
pools



78

boat slips



52

multipurpose
fields



31

boat ramps

8

performing /
visual arts &
community
centers



93

championship
golf holes



DIRECTOR'S MESSAGE



Jennifer Cirillo
DIRECTOR

Palm Beach County Parks and Recreation had an incredible year of growth, achievement, and service. Our team is proud to present this Annual Report, a reflection of the collective efforts made to provide exceptional parks, programs, and services for our community. We serve the public with teamwork, fiscal responsibility, and a commitment to making sure everyone feels welcome in our spaces.

As we reflect on the past year and look to the future, I'd like to highlight three major milestones that demonstrate our Department's continued growth and long-term vision.

Providing opportunities for healthy, happy living is our mission every day. In 2024, the Board of County Commissioners approved the first long-range Parks and Recreation Master Plan through 2035. Developed with input from stakeholders, public meetings, and data-driven assessments, the plan identifies critical needs such as aging infrastructure, climate impact, expanded accessibility, increased safety, and a growing demand for indoor recreation. This plan serves as our blueprint to elevate parks and recreation services across Palm Beach County in the years ahead. To read the full plan, visit pbcparcs.com.

Equally exciting is the launch of the Parks Foundation of Palm Beach County, Inc., a 501(c)(3) nonprofit created by community members who understand the lifelong value of public parks. Through a formal agreement with the Board of County Commissioners, the Foundation now serves as the fundraising and support organization for our parks system. We are grateful to the volunteer board members who have stepped forward to champion this effort. Learn more at parksfoundationofpalmbeachcounty.org.

In 2024, our Department also earned national recognition for its therapeutic recreation programming—a testament to our team's dedication to creating barrier-free spaces and programs. We introduced nonverbal communication boards at several playgrounds to support more accessible play experiences for children and families. Internally, we reintroduced our Employee Onboarding and Orientation Program to ensure new team members feel connected to our mission from the start, and we remain committed to ongoing professional development at every level.

Thank you for taking the time to explore this report. We hope it inspires your greater connection to the work being done across Palm Beach County Parks and Recreation and the many ways our team creates opportunities for people to feel connected, supported, and empowered to live healthy, happy lives.

AWARDS & RECOGNITION



Living History Days at Loxahatchee River Battlefield Park



Loxahatchee Battlefield Listed in the National Register of Historic Places

On April 5, 2024, the National Park Service officially listed Loxahatchee Battlefield in the National Register of Historic Places, recognizing its historical significance within Loxahatchee River Battlefield Park in Jupiter. This designation highlights the site's deep cultural heritage, spanning over 5,000 years from Indigenous habitation to its role in the Second Seminole War, where Powell's Battle and Jesup's

Battle took place in January 1838.

The recognition was the result of a collaborative effort among the Seminole Tribe of Florida, Loxahatchee Battlefield Preservationists, Inc., Florida Black Historical



Research Project, Inc., Palm Beach County, the Town of Jupiter, and the State of Florida. "We are thrilled as the current stewards of this special place to see the designation on the National Register of Historic Places," said Jennifer Cirillo, Director of Palm Beach County Parks and Recreation.

PBC Parks Earns National Recognition for Blind Sports Day and Universal Accessibility

In October 2023, the Palm Beach County Parks and Recreation Department's Therapeutic Recreation Section hosted the inaugural Blind Sports Day at the Therapeutic Recreation Complex in John Prince Park. In partnership with Endless Possibilities for the Disabled, Inc., the event attracted 62 community members and 19 athletes, offering participants a unique experience with sports like beep baseball and goalball, all while blindfolded to simulate visual impairments.

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The event was also featured in the Sun Sentinel, highlighting its importance in raising awareness for adaptive sports.



Scan QR code for more details: <https://www.sun-sentinel.com/2023/10/20/blind-sports-take-center-court-to-raise-awareness-of-adaptive-games/>

Palm Beach County Recognized as Top Five Destination for Sporting Events by Sports Business Journal



Palm Beach County has been recognized as one of the elite sports destinations in the United States per the Sports Business Journal (SBJ). The SBJ focuses on destinations that are successful at attracting and hosting sporting events that are major economic drivers in the community.

The Palm Beaches ranked number five in the “Cities Without a Big Five Team” category, which represents destinations without a local sports franchise participating in the NFL, MLB, NBA, NHL, and MLS. This is

RANKED
#5

CATEGORY
Cities Without a Big Five Team

a testament to Palm Beach County’s commitment to sports development, events, marketing, and infrastructure, which is spearheaded by an award-winning Sports Commission and a Tourist Development Council that prioritizes sports tourism.

This recognition highlights Palm Beach County as a premier destination for sports tourism and its achievements of producing successful sporting events and its natural beauty that event attendees enjoy year-round.

Palm Beach County Ocean Rescue Competes at 2024 United States Lifesaving Association Championships



Palm Beach County Ocean Rescue showcased their lifesaving skills at the 2024 USLA South East Regionals and Nationals. At Regionals, Chase Robertson, Chase Gadbois, Tiffany LaCasse, Kim Robertson, and Kelly McConchie placed fourth overall, averaging 111 points per competitor, with four finishing in the Top 10. At Nationals, Gadbois, LaCasse, McConchie, Kim Robertson, and Chase

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For its impactful contributions, PBC Parks earned two prestigious awards in 2023. The National Association of County Park and Recreation Officials (NACPRO) recognized PBC Parks with the Universal Accessibility Award for the All Abilities Play Inclusion Program, and the NACPRO Park & Recreation Program Award for the success of Blind Sports Day. Additionally, Stacy Staebell and Renata Watson received the Golden Palm Award for their leadership in organizing the event.



Robertson secured second in the B Division for the Erik Jersted Award, with standout wins including first in the Surf Rescue Race for the second consecutive year. Palm Beach County Ocean Rescue’s success in these competitions reflects their expertise and commitment, directly enhancing their ability to ensure public safety on county-operated beaches.

Palm Beach County Proclaims May 2024 as Water Safety Month



From L to R: Tammy Fields, Assistant County Administrator, Paul Connell, Deputy Director Parks and Recreation, Kelly McConchie, PBC Ocean Rescue Captain and United States Lifesaving Association (USLA) Local Chapter, John Meskiel, Palm Beach County Ocean Rescue Chief, Commissioner Sara Baxter, Commanding Officer Richard Seymour, United States Coast Guard, Lake Worth Station, Jennifer Cirillo, Director Parks and Recreation, PBSO Marine Unit Representatives

During the Palm Beach County Board of County Commissioners meeting on Tuesday, May 7, the Board proclaimed May as Water Safety Month, recognizing the importance of promoting safe water practices. Palm Beach County also acknowledged National Safe Boating Week from May 18-24, 2024, and National Beach Safety Week from May 20-27, 2024, as essential times to reinforce these safety messages.



Paul Connell
DEPUTY DIRECTOR

Palm Beach County Proclaims May 2024 as Physical Fitness and Sports Month



From L to R: James Taylor, George Linley, Executive Director of the Palm Beach County Sports Commission, Emanuel Perry, Executive Director of Palm Beach County Tourist Development Council, Jennifer Cirillo, Director Parks and Recreation, Vice Mayor Maria G. Marino, Michael Zeff, Tammy Fields, Assistant County Administrator, Jackie Lambert, Recreation Program Supervisor, Paul Connell, Deputy Director Parks and Recreation, Oshane Lawrence, Recreation Specialist, Sports and Wellness, Jared Fleet

During the Palm Beach County Board of County Commissioners meeting on May 7, the Board proclaimed May as Physical Fitness and Sports Month, recognizing the importance of physical activity and the economic and youth development benefits of sports. This decision aligns with a national initiative promoting the importance of regular physical activity for health and well-being and is consistent with the President's Council on Fitness, Sports, and Nutrition's annual recognition of the month since 1983.

Palm Beach County Celebrates Park and Recreation Month, Honoring 52 Years of Community Impact



From L to R: Parks and Recreation Special Olympics Palm Beach County Director Rich Fleming, Parks and Recreation Special Olympics Athlete Leader Terrence Frelove, Parks and Recreation Department Director Jennifer Cirillo, Mayor Maria Sachs, Parks and Recreation Special Olympics Athlete Leader Jaqueline Applebaum, Parks and Recreation Programs Supervisor Jackie Lambert, Arts4All Florida - Palm Beach County Artist Almah Johnson, Beatrice Johnson, Parks and Recreation Administrative Assistant III Gladys Whigham

On July 2, the Palm Beach County Board of County Commissioners proclaimed July as Park and Recreation Month, recognizing the Palm Beach County Parks and Recreation Department's 52 years of service and its role in enhancing community health and wellness.

"Our parks foster health, happiness, and belonging," said Director Jennifer Cirillo. "We remain committed to promoting wellness through diverse programs, inclusivity, and environmental stewardship, enriching the community and supporting the local economy."

The department continues to provide award-winning parks, inclusive experiences, and recreational services that contribute to the well-being of the community.

“Our parks foster health, happiness, and belonging,” said Director Jennifer Cirillo. “We remain committed to promoting wellness through diverse programs, inclusivity, and environmental stewardship enriching the community and supporting the local economy.”
- Director Jennifer Cirillo

Clean Beaches Week



From L to R: Friends of Jupiter Beach Board Member Mark Holbert, Pura Vida Divers Cleanups Coordinator Julie Blair, Environmental Resources Management Director Deborah Drum, Sea Turtle Adventures Care Program Associate Deena Chachkes, Pura Vida Divers Co-Owner Shana Phelan, Parks and Recreation Department Director Jennifer Cirillo, Vice Mayor Maria G. Marino, Beach Bucket Foundation Founder Andy Abbott, Friends of Jupiter Beach Executive Director Mary Aguiar, Friends of Jupiter Beach President Sophie Schneeberger, Office of Public Engagement Manager Chris Korbek, Loggerhead Marinelifelife Center Conservation Field Assistant Meghan Boone, Parks and Recreation Asst. Volunteer Coordinator Katy Tobin, Sea Turtle Adventures Outreach Coordinator Kaleigh Gucker

During the Palm Beach County Board of County Commissioners meeting on July 2, the Board proclaimed July 1-7, 2024, as Clean Beaches Week, recognizing the importance of maintaining clean and healthy coastal environments for both wildlife and people.

Clean Beaches Week is a national initiative designed to raise awareness about the impacts of pollution on marine life, oceans, and coastal habitats. Palm Beach County offers sixteen public beach parks, maintained to benefit both wildlife and visitors.

The Parks and Recreation and Environmental Resources Management departments work collaboratively with the community to remove trash and pollutants while preserving natural beach wrack, which includes seaweed and other beneficial materials, contributing to the beach ecosystem. Additionally, individuals and non-profit partners utilize self-directed Beach Bucket Foundation stations and organize cleanups where anyone can get involved.

Palm Beach County Proclaims September 2024 as Pollinator Month



From L to R: Daggerwing Nature Center Manager Alissa Koch, Community Services Department Deputy Director Taruna Malhotra, Assistant County Administrator Tammy Fields, Parks and Recreation Director Jennifer Cirillo, Commissioner Gregg Weiss, Parks and Recreation Deputy Director Paul Connell, Environmental Resources Manager Director Deb Drum, Cooperative Extension Director Ron Rice, Parks and Recreation Administrative Assistant III Gladys Whigham, Green Cay Nature Center Manager Bobby Seals, Parks and Recreation Division Director George LaCosta

During the Palm Beach County Board of County Commissioners meeting on September 10, the Board proclaimed September as Pollinator Month, joining the national Parks for Pollinators initiative to raise awareness of the vital role pollinator's play in supporting our environment and sustaining human life. "Pollinators are at the heart of the ecosystems that our parks protect and nurture. With more than 110 parks and facilities balancing native habitats with public recreation, we're committed to pollinator protection through initiatives like butterfly gardens, bat houses, bird nesting boxes, honey bee hives, and integrated pest management. These efforts not only support pollinator populations but also provide spaces for our community to connect with nature," said Jennifer Cirillo, Director of Palm Beach County Parks and Recreation.



Therapeutic Recreation Complex Designated as Veteran Safe Place



PBC Parks is proud to announce that the Therapeutic Recreation Complex has been officially designated as a Veteran Safe Place. As part of this initiative, all staff members have completed training through The Fire Watch's "Watch Stander" Veteran Suicide Prevention program. The program focuses on empowering community members to be vigilant in identifying the needs of veterans and directing them to appropriate support services. Believing that the solution to veteran suicide is community-based, The Fire Watch works to create a safer, more supportive environment for veterans.



Rich Fleming, Director of Special Olympics Palm Beach County, Inducted into the Palm Beach County Sports Hall of Fame

Rich Fleming, Director of Special Olympics Palm Beach County, was recently inducted into the Palm Beach County Sports Hall of Fame by the Palm Beach County Sports Commission. Rich has played a pivotal role in expanding Special Olympics programs, increasing athlete participation, and overseeing the development of the Therapeutic Recreation Complex. His efforts have impacted thousands of athletes, ranging from ages two to senior citizens, by growing opportunities and fostering camaraderie, improved confidence, and physical health. Rich's advocacy and passion have made an immeasurable difference in the lives of individuals and their families in the community.

PBC Parks Receives Excellence Award for Worker Safety at 27th Annual Safety Awards



Board members of the Safety Council stood in for a photo with Parks Operations Division staff. L to R Parks staff: Courtney Hanson, Debra Pearman, Angela Kilgore, Joseph Sophie and Paul Connell

PBC Parks was honored with the Excellence Award for Worker Safety at the 27th Annual Safety Awards & Auction, presented by the Safety Council of Palm Beach County, Inc. on April 11, 2024. This recognition highlights the Parks Operations Division's commitment to safety, achieving a 25% reduction in preventable accident reports from 2022 to 2023.

John Prince Golf Learning Center, Okeehellee Golf Course, and Southwinds Golf Course were named among the 2024 Top 50 Driving Ranges by the Golf Range Association of America.

Okeehellee Golf Course was named Best Public Golf Course in the 2024 Palm Beach Post Community Choice Awards.

Southwinds Golf Course received the BioBlitz 2024 Community Engagement Award from Audubon International for having the highest participation in the annual event, with 225 participants.

The award highlights efforts to promote environmental stewardship on golf courses among adults and children.

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Loggerhead Marinelife Center was named the #1 Best Free Attraction in the U.S. by USA Today's 2024 10Best Readers' Choice Awards, ranking above 20 other attractions, including San Francisco's Golden Gate Bridge and New York City's Central Park.

National Park Rx Day Celebration Encourages Outdoor Activity and Community Engagement

In honor of National Park Rx Day on April 20, the department's Office of Public Engagement launched a 30-day challenge, running through May 19, encouraging the community to visit a county-operated park and share their experience for a chance to win department swag. Participants were asked to provide details such as the park/facility visited, activities enjoyed, and how it made them feel.

On April 23, Office of Public Engagement Manager Chris Korbela spoke at the Youth Services Department's quarterly CBA meeting, sharing how PBC Parks partners with healthcare professionals to promote outdoor physical activities as part of a prescription for healthy living.

Therapeutic Recreation Complex Featured on WPTV's 'Shining A Light'



On November 9, 2023, WPTV's T.A. Walker filmed a segment at the Therapeutic Recreation Complex, highlighting its inclusive programs for individuals of all abilities. The segment showcased accessible recreation, sports, arts, and skill-building opportunities, including adaptive sports equipment like sports wheelchairs, handcycles, and goalball. Staff and program participants shared insights on the facility's offerings, which include partnerships with Arts4All FL-PBC and Special Olympics FL-PBC.

Scan QR Code for video/article:
<https://www.wptv.com/shining-a-light/palm-beach-county-gymnasium-caters-to-all-ages-and-abilities>



Scan QR code for video: Disabled offered adaptive sports at PBC Therapeutic Recreation Complex (YouTube) <https://youtu.be/a1z5tZl9cJM?si=uLdyTWEXc9l3MwHj>

PBC Parks Featured on Palm Beach Perspective, and iHeart Radio Public Service Show



In April 2024, Alissa Koch and Emilie Travis joined Deb Knepp on Palm Beach Perspective, an iHeart Radio public service show. They highlighted Earth Day events and programs at PBC nature centers, showcasing their role in environmental education and community engagement.



Scan QR code to listen to the full interview:
<https://www.iheart.com/podcast/486-palm-beach-perspective-28236857/episode/pb-pers-pbc-parks-earthday-166419964/>

Riverbend Park Featured on WPBF 25

In September 2024, PBC Parks Naturalist Jacquelyn Arell appeared on WPBF Channel 25 to showcase Riverbend Park's outdoor activities and highlight programs, including Pioneer Family Farmstead Day and Family Night Hikes.

COMMUNITY & CULTURAL EVENTS



The Nature Ninja Warrior program



Nature Ninja Warriors



initiative emphasized outdoor experiential learning and environmental recreation, with a focus on developing job and life skills. Through pre- and post-testing standards developed by the American Camp Association, participants enhanced their abilities in teamwork, independence, responsibility, competency, problem-solving, and friendship, fostering a deeper appreciation for nature.



The Nature Ninja Warrior program engaged participants from the Lake Worth Youth Empowerment Center and

four PBSO PAL locations, expanding their access to park and natural resource management. This



DuBois Pioneer Home 125th Anniversary

On December 5, 2023, PBC Parks celebrated the 125th anniversary of the DuBois Pioneer Home at DuBois Park. The DuBois Pioneer Home is the oldest wood-framed house in Palm Beach County that remains in its original location. It sits on top of an Indigenous monumental shell mound on the south side of Jupiter Inlet and serves as a significant historical landmark.

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COMMUNITY & CULTURAL EVENTS

The event featured guided tours, guest speakers, exhibitors, and pioneer-themed activities. Participants gained a deeper understanding of Jupiter Inlet's Indigenous and pioneer heritage. The event also highlighted the Department's future plans for Pineapple Packing House exhibits, preserving and showcasing the region's history.



World Water Safety Day



On May 11, about 200 people attended World Water Safety Day at North County Aquatic Complex. Activities included water safety presentations,

water rescue demonstrations, games, door prizes, meet-and-greets with Oakly, the PBC Parks and Recreation mascot and more! Multiple different agencies were also in attendance supporting the very important cause of promoting water safety.

Earth Day at PBC Parks



Daggerwing Nature Center



Daggerwing Nature Center welcomed over 600 visitors for its Earth Day celebration on April 27, 2024. Attendees participated in live animal presentations, story times, crafts, mural coloring, a ladybug release, scavenger hunts, interactive exhibits, an animal naming contest, and a wildlife release. A plant sale provided eco-friendly opportunities, and Oakly, the PBC Parks mascot, greeted guests and posed for photos.

an animal naming contest, and a wildlife release. A plant sale provided eco-friendly opportunities, and Oakly, the PBC Parks mascot, greeted guests and posed for photos.

“I have been to nearly all of the parks listed in the passport guide. I go to them frequently. I run, ride and kayak in quite a few of them. Among my favorites are Riverbend Park, Okeehetee Park and nature center, Dyer Park and Daggerwing nature center. Although I like doing the many physical activities, just being in nature and enjoying its beauty is one of my favorite experiences. There are none on the list that I would say that I wouldn't revisit. I look forward to many more visits.” – Donna Giglio

Okeehetee Nature Center



On April 20, 2024, over 1,500 participants attended Okeehetee Nature Center's Earth Day event, sponsored by Friends of Okeehetee Nature Center. Activities included live animal encounters, eco-friendly crafts, environmental presentations, guided nature walks, and a rehabilitated animal release by Busch Wildlife Sanctuary. Guests also engaged with raffles, food trucks, and environmental exhibitors and vendors, with proceeds benefiting Friends of Okeehetee Nature Center. Oakly made a special appearance, connecting with families throughout the event.



Wildlife Celebration Returns to Green Cay Nature Center and Wetlands



After a five-year hiatus, Wildlife Celebration returned to Green Cay Nature Center on November 11, drawing over 1,100 attendees for a day of nature and conservation. Sponsored by the Friends of Green Cay Nature Center, this free, family-friendly event featured guided boardwalk tours, environmental

exhibitors, animal ambassadors, scavenger hunts, face painting, and raffle prizes—all highlighting the importance of Florida's native wildlife.

The event, Green Cay's largest annual gathering, raised \$2,768.57 through gift shop sales, raffle tickets, and donations to support future conservation efforts. The Friends of Green Cay Nature Center were excited to welcome the community back for Wildlife Celebration 2024!



Educational Outreach at Delray Beach Courthouse



On June 7, Daggerwing Nature Center Manager Alissa Koch and Office of Public Engagement Manager Chris Korbek introduced court-involved youth to recreational opportunities in southern Palm Beach County. Accompanied by animal ambassador Benedict, a box turtle, they engaged the group in a meaningful discussion. Benedict's presence sparked curiosity, encouraging participation and even inspiring one youth to express interest in becoming a veterinarian.

4th of July Celebration at Sunset Cove Amphitheater



Palm Beach County Parks and Recreation hosted its largest annual event at Sunset Cove Amphitheater, drawing 7,000–8,000 attendees. The event featured a FunZone with bounce houses, games, and recreational activities led by staff. The department’s mascot, Oakly, engaged with attendees, while Daggerwing Nature Center provided educational experiences with live animals. The PBC Parks Office

of Public Engagement connected with almost 500 attendees, sharing information about park programs and resources.

1st Annual Gopher Tortoise Gallop 5K



On March 22, 2024, Friends of Okeehetee Nature Center hosted the inaugural Gopher Tortoise Gallop 5K at Okeehetee Park in partnership with Victory Sports Management. The event raised awareness about the threatened gopher tortoise, a keystone species essential to the ecosystem. Since 1985–86, when 83 tortoises were relocated to the nature center, their population has grown significantly, with sightings extending beyond the preserve into recreational areas. The fundraiser provided an opportunity to educate the public on their presence and protection status while generating over \$500 with 87 participants, establishing a strong foundation for future events.

Peace Pole Dedication at Daggerwing Nature Center



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In partnership with Rotary Club Boca Raton West (District 6930), Palm Beach County officials and Rotary club members unveiled a Peace Pole at Daggerwing Nature Center in Burt Aaronson South County Regional Park on April 6. A Peace Pole is an internationally-recognized symbol of the hopes and dreams of the entire human family, standing vigil in silent prayer for peace on earth. Each Peace Pole bears the message May Peace Prevail on Earth in different languages on each of its four or six sides. There are an estimated over 250,000 Peace Poles in every country in the world dedicated as monuments to peace.

Riverbend Park and Loxahatchee River Battlefield Park

Riverbend Park and Loxahatchee River Battlefield Park hosted a variety of engaging programs in 2023 and 2024, offering educational and immersive experiences for visitors of all ages.

Family Pioneer Farmstead Day



On November 4, 2023, Riverbend Park welcomed over 400 guests to its annual Family Pioneer Farmstead Day. In partnership with the Joseph P. Cory Foundation, the event showcased pioneer life with antique sawmill demonstrations, farm animal encounters, kids' crafts, a working garden, a sugar cane press, a smokehouse, and more.

Seminole Maroon Remembrance



On January 14, 2024, Loxahatchee River Battlefield Park hosted the annual Seminole Maroon Remembrance event in partnership with the Florida Black Historical Research Project Inc. and the Loxahatchee Battlefield Preservationists. With 51 attendees, the event honored the history and bravery of the allied Seminoles and African American Maroons during the Seminole Wars through rituals, ceremonies, lectures, exhibitors, and vendors.

Loxahatchee Battlefield Reenactment



On January 26-27, 2024, Loxahatchee River Battlefield Park, in partnership with the Loxahatchee Battlefield Preservationists, hosted the annual Battlefield Reenactment events. The two-day program began with Education Day, where over 116 students participated in hands-on activities, tours, and lectures, engaging with reenactors to learn about the causes and impact of the Second Seminole War. The following day, more than 720 visitors attended the Battlefield Reenactment, featuring period-dressed reenactors, U.S. Army and Seminole camps, exhibitors, guest speakers, children's activities, battlefield tours, weapons demonstrations, and a reenactment of a key battle in Florida's history.

Water Safety Education for Belle Glade Students



PBC Parks partnered with the Drowning Prevention Coalition of Palm Beach County to offer Water Safety Education classes at Pioneer Park Aquatic Center, helping to prevent drowning and near-drowning incidents. The "Schools in Pools" program, last offered in 2016, was reintroduced for Gove Elementary students in the Glades, providing swim lessons to 175 students, including 40 with special needs, funded by the Drowning Prevention Coalition.

PBC Parks Hosts Glades Night Out Against Crime, Strengthening Safety and Engagement



PBC Parks proudly hosted Glades Night Out Against Crime at Glades Pioneer Park on October 26, 2023, reinforcing its commitment to community safety and engagement. This collaborative event, organized alongside PBSO, the Tri-Cities, and Guardians of the Glades, brought together multiple agencies, including the Florida Fish & Wildlife Commission, South Florida Water Management District, and Palm Beach County School Police. PBC Parks provided a welcoming space for PBSO Specialty Units such as Aviation, Canine, Marines, SWAT, Emergency Field Force, the Bomb Squad, Explorers, Mounted Patrol, and more to showcase their operations. Attendees also enjoyed entertainment from Digital Vibez and the PBSO Fun Mobile, creating an interactive and educational experience for the community.



PBC Parks Hosts 29th Annual Progressive Agriculture Safety Day, Promoting Safety Education for Local Youth



PBC Parks continued its tradition of promoting safety education by hosting the 29th Annual Progressive Agriculture Safety Day at Paul Rardin Park on November 2-3, 2023. Organized by the Palm Beach County Extension Service, this event engaged fourth-grade students with hands-on safety lessons in a fun and interactive setting. Over two days, PBC Parks welcomed approximately 600 attendees, including students, teachers, bus drivers, presenters, and volunteers. Having hosted this event at Paul Rardin Park for 26 of its 29 years, PBC Parks remains a proud partner in increasing safety awareness for local youth.

Special Facilities



Photo courtesy: Damon Higgs of the Palm Beach Post

John Prince Golf Learning Center hosted the 2024 African American Golf Expo and Forum Free Junior and Adult Clinic in August, bringing adults and children from across the county to learn the sport of golf and improve their skills.

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COMMUNITY & CULTURAL EVENTS



The Palm Beach Shakespeare Festival brought King Lear to life during their Shakespeare by the Sea XXXIV production at Seabreeze Amphitheater in Carlin Park. The event attracted around 2,300 attendees, offering a captivating experience under the open sky.



Springfest, the Bangladeshi and Indian Spring Festival, took place on February 10, 2024, at the Sunset Cove Amphitheater in Burt Aaronson South County Regional Park, drawing 2,000 attendees to welcome the start of spring. The celebration came to life

with dancers in bright yellow saris, music, food, and local vendors, creating a vibrant cultural experience for the entire community.



Morikami Museum and Japanese Gardens hosted A Taste of Asia, a culinary and cultural experience celebrating the vibrant flavors and rich traditions of Asian cuisine. Guests savored Asian-inspired dishes paired with fine wine, sake, and whiskey, while being entertained by a powerful Taiko drumming performance, J-Pop, and dance hits throughout the evening.



Shark Wake Park hosted the 2024 WWA Wake Park Nationals, inviting riders from across the country to represent their parks and celebrate the dynamic spirit of the sport. The event featured divisions for all ages and abilities, from seasoned

professionals to first-year riders. It provided a platform for participants to showcase their skills, forge connections, and foster camaraderie within the wake park community.

“My wife and I were married yesterday at Morikami. It was a delightful experience largely due to Alanna Keating. My wife and I will always have happy memories of a day to which Alanna contributed greatly.” - James Ciecka



Kathy Bolander
DIRECTOR,
RECREATION SERVICES

PARK IMPROVEMENTS



County officials celebrate the groundbreaking of Phase II of Canyon District Park



Canyon District Park Phase II

Construction of the second phase of Canyon District Park began in July. This phase includes additional infrastructure such as a baseball-softball quad, sports lighting, a concessions and restrooms building, two batting cages, a sports storage building, and a connected trail system. Other amenities include a destination playground, a large pavilion, two competitive sand volleyball courts with sports lighting, and associated restrooms and parking. The total project cost is approximately \$28 million.

“I want to thank you all for installing the fence along the road at the volleyball courts [at John Prince Park]. This has made a huge difference in playability, meaning, players rarely have to venture into the trees after each play and balls are no longer going anywhere near the road. – Chris Klest



Bert Winters Park Phase II Redevelopment

Planning, design, and permitting for the Bert Winters Park Phase II redevelopment project were completed in FY 2024. Project elements include a new canoe/kayak launch, three ADA-accessible picnic shelters, an open lawn area, a playground, expanded parking, and renovations to the existing day-use docks. The rowing club will also be relocated. Construction is expected to begin in early 2025 and take approximately one year to complete. The project is funded by an \$800,000 Florida Inland Navigation District grant, a \$200,000 Florida Recreation Development Assistance Grant, and Infrastructure Sales Tax and Impact Fee funding.

Burt Aaronson South County Regional Park – Bicycle, Pedestrian, and Equestrian Bridge to the Arthur R. Marshall Loxahatchee National Wildlife Refuge



In August, the Board of County Commissioners approved a Memorandum of Understanding between the County, South Florida Water Management District, and the National Park Service for a proposed bridge connecting Burt Aaronson South County Regional Park to the Arthur R. Marshall Loxahatchee National Wildlife Refuge. This bridge will provide access to 40 miles of shell rock trails. Environmental permits have been issued, and an agreement outlining responsibilities with the Refuge has been executed. The project also includes a trailhead accommodating vehicles and equestrian trailers. Design is expected to commence in 2025.

DuBois Park – Pineapple Packing House Restoration



Ethnohistoric records and local historians identify the Pineapple Packing House as the oldest wooden structure in Palm Beach County, dating back to the late 1800s. Originally used for packing pineapples, the structure was later relocated by Harry DuBois and served as his residence while he built the DuBois Pioneer Home. Exterior and structural



George LaCosta
DIRECTOR,
PARKS OPERATIONS

restoration was completed in summer 2023, with interior buildout expected in 2025. Once complete, the structure will serve as an educational facility highlighting the history of the DuBois family, the prehistoric Native American shell midden, and the Celestial Railroad.

Glades Pioneer Park Phase III Development



A new playground adjacent to the Orange Bowl Field was completed in summer 2024. The project includes covered swings, slides, climbing structures, and a globe spinner. The \$1.2 million project was funded through a Community Development Block Grant.

Mack Bernard Park – Neighborhood Center and Linear Park



Construction is underway for an approximately 11,000-square-foot neighborhood center at Mack Bernard Park. The \$12 million project is funded through multiple federal sources, with completion anticipated by summer 2025.



Lake Lytal Park – Aquatic Center & YMCA Development



Phase III design is underway for a new Aquatic Center at Lake Lytal Park. The facility will include a 70-meter competition pool with a dive well and other recreational water amenities. The project also includes new locker rooms, a training room, offices, concessions, and supporting infrastructure. Additionally, the department entered a

lease agreement with the YMCA to co-locate a new community center and skate park adjacent to the planned Aquatic Center. The YMCA will oversee construction and management of the community center and skate park, while the Parks and Recreation Department will be responsible for the Aquatic Center.

Green Cay Wetlands Phase II Development



A groundbreaking ceremony on March 7, 2024 marked the start of Green Cay Phase II, with County Commissioners, legislative staff, PBC department leadership, and Water Utilities Advisory Board members in attendance. PBC Mayor Maria Sachs, County Administrator Verdenia C. Baker, South Florida Water Management District Governing Board Member Charlette Roman, and Assistant County Administrator Todd J. Bonlarron delivered remarks.

In partnership with the Water Utilities Department, PBC Parks is leading the final phase of Green Cay Wetlands, which will expand passive recreational opportunities with walking paths, boardwalks, lakes, and other infrastructure, integrating seamlessly with the existing boardwalk system. Construction began in summer 2024 and is expected to take 18 months.

John Prince Park – Petanque Court Expansion

In 2023, renovations to the 12 existing petanque courts were completed, along with the addition of eight new courts, creating a 20-court facility. This expansion enables the South Florida Petanque Club to host regional and national tournaments. A group picnic pavilion is planned for early 2025.

Cam D. Milani Park Development



Design is underway for a new beach park on the 5.91-acre park parcel in Highland Beach. The site plan, previously approved by the Highland Beach Town Council in 2010, included 43 conditions of approval. Funding is sourced from Zone 2 and 3 Impact Fees.



James Davis
DIRECTOR, AQUATICS

North County Aquatic Center Renovations

Renovations and improvements are being designed for the North County Aquatic Center, including restroom and locker room upgrades, pool resurfacing, new shade structures, and the replacement of the baby pool with a destination water feature. Design completion is expected by mid-2025, with construction anticipated in late fall 2025.

Peanut Island – Coast Guard Dock Replacement



Design work is in progress to replace the docks serving the Coast Guard complex at Peanut Island Park. This project is partially funded by a \$175,000 Florida Inland Navigation District grant. Construction is expected to begin in fall 2025, pending permitting approvals.

Peanut Island – Coast Guard Complex Restoration



A Request for Proposal (RFP) has been issued for design services related to the restoration of the Coast Guard complex at Peanut Island. Restoration efforts could begin as early as late 2026, pending funding availability.



Indira Persaud
DIRECTOR, SPECIAL FACILITIES

Villages of Windsor Park – New Park Development



Design is underway for the first phase of Villages of Windsor Park. Planned amenities include a five-pen dog park, an exercise trail with fitness stations around the lake, picnic facilities, a maintenance area, an ADA-accessible restroom, paved parking, lighting, and landscaping. Additionally, a 10-court pickleball facility with associated parking is included. The project is funded through a \$1.5 million Land and Water Conservation Fund grant and Zone 2 Impact Fees. Construction is expected to begin by mid-2025, pending final project costs

Live Underwater Pier Camera at Juno Beach Pier



Loggerhead Marinelifelife Center installed an underwater pier camera at Juno Beach Pier for live streaming, allowing viewers from around the world to enjoy the feed on YouTube. The camera is generously sponsored by the Morse Hill Foundation.



Scan QR code for the link to the Juno Beach Pier Underwater Camera: <https://marinelife.org/juno-beach-pier-cam/>

“**Sadly, Bentley and I depart South Bay RV Campground tomorrow after 4 months of peaceful relaxation. We do intend to return to your pristine campground next February. A special thanks to your entire staff.** – Jeff Bruce

Park Operations Division: Enhancing Facilities and Infrastructure for a Better Park Experience



- ✓ A permanent artificial turf cricket pitch was installed at John Stretch Park, in collaboration with the Bengal Tigers Palm Beach, enhancing the park's offerings for local sports enthusiasts.
- ✓ Significant upgrades were made to the South Bay RV Campground, including resurfacing of shower and restroom floors and upgrading all campground sites to 100-amp service, providing patrons with improved utilities and a more comfortable experience.
- ✓ Public restrooms at several parks, including John Prince Campground, Lake Lytal, Lawton Chiles, Loggerhead, Loxahatchee Groves, Ocean Cay, Peanut Island, Phil Foster, South Bay RV, West Boynton, and Seminole Palms, received resurfacing to improve both aesthetics and functionality, while reducing the need for harsh chemicals in cleaning.
- ✓ The electric panels and switchgears across all parks and park facilities were thoroughly inspected, with 26 defective surge protection devices replaced and 32 additional protective devices installed to strengthen the electrical infrastructure, ensuring greater safety for both employees and visitors.
- ✓ Over 5,700 cubic yards of materials, including shell rock, mulch, dirt, and sand, were distributed across parks countywide, enhancing the park grounds and infrastructure.

“I wanted to let you know what an outstanding job Craig Perry and his staff do at North County facility in Jupiter. Thanks to Craig and his crew, the pool, in my opinion, has never looked better in the 10 years I've been swimming there. – Kenneth Nichols

County Enhances Accessibility with Communication Boards in 14 Park Locations



Palm Beach County has installed communication boards with pictures and symbols at playgrounds in fourteen county-operated park locations to help non-verbal, speech-challenged and early-learning individuals communicate with friends and caregivers.

Supported by donations, the communication boards were installed at Limestone Creek Park, Cabana Colony Park, Westgate Park, Haverhill Park, Lake Lytal Park, Seminole Palms Park, Glades Pioneer Park, John Prince Park (Boundless Playground), San Castle Community Park, West Boynton Park, Caloosa Park, Lake Ida West Park (All Abilities Playground), Burt Aaronson South County Regional Park (All Abilities Playground), and Loggers' Run Park.



Bob Hamilton

DIRECTOR, PARK PLANNING,
RESEARCH & DEVELOPMENT

BUILDING A BETTER FUTURE

STRATEGIC PLANNING, INNOVATION, & NATIONAL ACCREDITATION

The Path to Accreditation

Now more than ever, documenting and continuously improving best practices is critical. CAPRA Accreditation places our department among the top park and recreation agencies in the country, demonstrating excellence, accountability, and a strong return on taxpayer investment. It strengthens stakeholder confidence, ensures our staff is recognized among the best, and prepares us for the future of our park system and community.

Since 2021, our department has been on a nearly three-year journey toward CAPRA accreditation, gathering and developing 895 evidence-of-compliance documents—spanning policies, plans, trainings, and procedures—to meet 154 rigorous standards. This effort, supported by representatives from every division, ensures we not only meet national benchmarks but also build a foundation for ongoing excellence.

“I was surprised by the depth of collaboration required. It’s more than just meeting standards; it’s about teamwork and continuous improvement. My work with other divisions, County departments and Park agencies, was eye-opening and rewarding. Collaboration across these groups not only broadened my perspective but also led to innovative solutions and stronger community ties.”

– Mike Szakacs

What is CAPRA?



The National Recreation and Park Association (NRPA) Commission for Accreditation of Park and Recreation Agencies (CAPRA) is the only national accreditation for

park and recreation departments. It provides a quality assurance and operational management system that improves infrastructure, increases efficiency, and demonstrates accountability within communities. CAPRA accreditation strengthens teamwork, embeds best practices into internal culture, and establishes a mindset of continuous improvement for all department activities.



For more information on the various standards, scan this QR Code:

<https://www.nrpa.org/certification/accreditation/CAPRA/>

“The CAPRA application process reflects our shared dedication to excellence and reinforces our commitment to providing the best services to Palm Beach County residents.” – from Jennifer Cirillo and Paul Connell

What is the Impact of Being CAPRA Accredited?

For the Community:

- ✓ Ensures PBC Parks meets national standards of excellence.
- ✓ Enhances the county's reputation and strengthens funding opportunities.
- ✓ Demonstrates responsiveness to community needs.

For PBC Parks:

- ✓ Validates professional excellence to stakeholders and decision-makers.
- ✓ Improves efficiency, operations, and teamwork.
- ✓ Creates a culture of continuous evaluation and improvement.

What's Next?

The next phase of the process includes a spring 2025 multi-day, in-person visit from a team of national park and recreation experts. This team will tour parks, engage with staff, and review evidence developed throughout the accreditation process. The final decision will be announced at the September 2025 NRPA Annual Conference in Orlando.

Planning & Development Initiatives

Parks and Recreation Department 2035 Master Plan

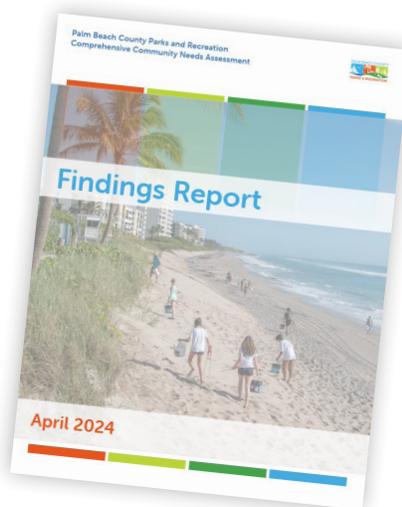


The Planning, Research, and Development Division has completed a comprehensive Master Plan to guide the department's recreation facilities development over the next decade.

Scan this QR code to view the documents: <https://discover.pbcgov.org/parks/General/Master-Plan.aspx>



Parks and Recreation Department Needs Assessment



In collaboration with AECOM, the department conducted a needs assessment to gather community input on park and recreational space expectations. This process included:

- Nine focus groups
- Eleven stakeholder interviews
- Four public meetings
- Statistically valid mail surveys
- Online surveys and a virtual open house

Findings from this assessment have informed the Master Plan, budget priorities, and the department's commitment to inclusive, well-maintained, and sustainable parks. The final report was received in April 2024.

Parks and Recreation Department ADA Transition Plan

The department collaborated with WT Group to develop an Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) Transition Plan for 98 parks. Each site was thoroughly assessed, and a comprehensive plan was created to enhance infrastructure, accessibility features, and amenities. The final report was delivered in September 2024.

“Going through the accreditation process allowed us to capture not only what we do as a department but also who we serve and how we can enhance our work. One of the greatest benefits of this process has been the strong sense of teamwork it fostered.” – Chris Korbela

PARTNERSHIPS



Job seekers attended the County's second Let's Talk Trades Job Fair at the Vista Center

County Tree Planting Event Enhances Park Environmental Protection Efforts



150
NATIVE SHADE
Trees planted

On June 1, 150 native shade trees were planted at John Prince Park in Lake Worth, in collaboration with the Palm Beach County Parks and Recreation Department, Community Greening, and the Florida Forest Service. This effort supports the County's Environmental Protection priority and engages volunteers to enhance the local ecosystem. The trees will beautify the park, improve air quality, boost biodiversity, and increase climate resilience. Additionally, over 550 plants and trees were planted across other parks, further contributing to the County's greening and environmental initiatives.

Fall Prevention Program at South County Civic Center



Photo courtesy: Health Care District of Palm Beach County

PBC Parks partnered with the Health Care District of Palm Beach County to launch the Fall Prevention Program at the South County Civic Center's Governor Lawton Chiles Pavilion. Now celebrating its one-year anniversary, this initiative focuses on reducing falls among county residents, addressing the leading cause of traumatic injury in Palm Beach County. Free classes, held on weekday mornings, help participants improve balance, strength, and overall safety.

Morikami Museum Hosts K3 'Kizuna' Council Event, Connecting Global Leaders on U.S.-Japan Partnership



Philip M. Darivoff, Ted Deutch, Jim Yamaguchi, Adv. Zvi Hauser, Dr. Joshua W. Walker



Bonnie LeMay, Museum Director and Park Administrator, Morikami Museum with Dr. Joshua Walker, President and CEO, Japan Society



Consul-General Kazuhiro Nakai, Consulate General of Japan in Miami, Ted Deutch, CEO American Jewish Committee, Palm Beach County Commissioner Gregg K. Weiss

Morikami Museum and Japanese Gardens hosted over 200 guests at the K3 "Kizuna" Council event, bringing together thought leaders from the U.S., Japan, and Israel to discuss strengthening the U.S.-Japan partnership in the Middle East. The event covered a range of topics, including alternative energy, quantum computing, AI, natural and manufactured resources, informatics, cybersecurity, and climate change.

PBC Parks Partners with Arts4All Florida to Boost Inclusive Arts Programming

PBC Parks strengthened its partnership with Arts4All Florida – Palm Beach County by supporting its growth and financial sustainability. Funding increased by 130%, from \$34,504 in FY23 to \$79,493 in FY24, through grants from the Community Foundation of Palm Beach and Martin Counties, H.E. Hill Foundation, Cultural Council for Palm Beach County, June Hirsch Jones Foundation, Lattner Foundation, and Taft Foundation. This support enhances inclusive arts programming for individuals of all abilities in Palm Beach County.

+130% ↑

FY23 - FY24
Funding increased

Westgate Recreation Center Hosts Engaging Youth Programs and Community Events



continued on next page

PARTNERSHIPS



In partnership with the Palm Beach County Sheriff's Office Police Athletic League, PBC Parks supports youth and teens ages 8-17 through an after-school program at Westgate Recreation Center. This thriving collaboration offers participants a safe and engaging environment, providing activities Monday through Friday from 2pm to 7pm. The program also includes various sporting activities and field trips, enriching the lives of local youth and fostering community engagement.



The Annual Bike Rodeo returned to Westgate Recreation Center for the first time since before the COVID pandemic, bringing fun, music, and valuable bicycle safety education to the community. Hosted in partnership with the Palm Beach County Sheriff's Office Bicycle Unit, the event featured an interactive obstacle course where participants learned essential traffic rules, the importance of wearing a helmet, and how to stay safe while riding. As a highlight, attendees had the chance to win a free bicycle donated by "Jack the Bike Man," making the event both educational and rewarding for the Westgate community.

continued on next page

Scholarships

Friends of Daggerwing Nature Center – Scott Cowan Memorial Scholarship



The Friends of Daggerwing Nature Center, Inc. awarded the \$500 Scott Cowan Memorial Scholarship for 2024 to volunteer Kaelie Lam. Kaelie is enrolled in Florida Atlantic University's dual enrollment program, earning both her high school diploma

and undergraduate degree simultaneously. She is studying biochemistry with the goal of pursuing a career in pharmaceutical sciences. A Dean's Honor Roll student and dedicated volunteer at Daggerwing Nature Center, Kaelie exemplifies academic excellence and community commitment.

Friends of Green Cay Nature Center – Annual Scholarship



In June 2024, the Friends of Green Cay Nature Center awarded a \$4,000 scholarship to Keira Stolowitz, a Jupiter Community High School graduate pursuing an Environmental Science degree. Keira completed the school's Environmental Research

and Field Studies Academy, a rigorous four-year honors program focused on environmental, biological, and Earth sciences. Her dedication to conservation and scientific research earned her this prestigious scholarship.



International Coastal Cleanup



The International Coastal Cleanup took place on September 16 and September 23 at 9 parks and beaches throughout Palm Beach County. Sponsored by Keep Palm Beach County Beautiful, in coordination with Palm Beach County, the event not only raises awareness regarding marine debris, but aspires to determine its sources through analyzation of collected data. In total, about 430 volunteers from local businesses and schools collected more than 1,000 pounds of trash from the beaches, trails and playgrounds.



In partnership with the Westgate Community Redevelopment Agency, PBC Parks hosts two events each year at the Westgate Recreation Center: Celebrate Westgate and Hoops for Turkeys. These events celebrate the residents of the

Westgate community by offering fun-filled activities, games, music, food, and live entertainment, all free of charge to participants. Through this collaboration, PBC Parks helps foster community connection and provides opportunities for local residents to come together and enjoy these exciting, inclusive celebrations.

PBC Parks Attends Let's Talk Trades Job Fair

On March 2, 2024 job seekers attended the County's second Let's Talk Trades Job Fair at the Vista Center. The event, focused on trades and entry-level positions, featured representatives from several County departments, including Parks and Recreation. Promoted by the department's Office of Public Engagement, the fair provided participants opportunities to meet with Parks and Recreation staff to learn about career opportunities and benefits, while a representative from Human Resources provided access to online applications.



20

CERTIFIED & TRAINED
Lifeguards



2,820

SWIM
Lessons



6

MULTI-AGENCY
Trainings

Through a partnership with the Children's Services Council, PBC Parks and Recreation provided free certification courses, leading to the hiring of 20 certified and trained lifeguards.

PBC Parks and Recreation provided 2,820 swim lessons, with 811 individuals receiving free or reduced-cost lessons through partnerships with the Drowning Prevention Coalition and the American Red Cross.

PBC Ocean Rescue participated in six multi-agency trainings focused on Rescue Water Craft operations, helicopter operations, and emergency response at inlets, jetties, and piers, enhancing coordination and readiness for complex rescues.

PBC Ocean Rescue co-hosted the United States Lifesaving Association Training Officer Academy, facilitating critical drills at Juno Pier and Ocean Inlet to advance lifesaving training.

NATURAL AREAS



Enhancing Park Health and Safety through Prescribed Burns and Wildfire Mitigation

In partnership with the Florida Forest Service, Parks Operations Division staff completed a successful 15-acre prescribed burn at Okeehetee Park South. Additionally, 46.57 acres were treated with wildfire mitigation chopping, improving the health and safety of the park's natural areas.



15
ACRE
Prescribed burn

46.57
ACRES
Wildfire mitigation chopping

Sports & Wellness Enhances Beach Volleyball and Wellness Programs across PBC Parks

Sports & Wellness partnered with People of Purpose to host a Wellness Retreat and Pickleball Summer Camp in collaboration with the Discovery Team.

PBC Parks' Sports & Wellness staff supported beach volleyball by collaborating with 7 schools, 8 teams, and 220 participants to provide space for the sport at various PBC parks. Notable achievements included the Palm Beach State College Beach Volleyball team winning their first-ever FCSAA/Region 8 Beach Volleyball Championship, as well as the Dr. Joaquin Garcia High School's Inaugural Bulldog XC Invitational in 2023. Additionally, Jupiter High School's Sand Volleyball team advanced to the 2023 Beach Volleyball State Championship Play-In Games, further highlighting the success of the program in fostering competitive beach volleyball across the county.

ADOPT-A-PARK PARTNERS

FY 2023-24

GROUP/ORGANIZATION	PARK
Amazon Logistics	Gulfstream
Atlantic Christian Academy NHS	Okeeheelee, R.G. Kreusler
Atlantic National Honor Society	Gulfstream
Beach Bucket Foundation	DuBois, Ocean Inlet, Ocean Reef, R.G. Kreusler, South Inlet
Beach Keepers	Ocean Inlet
Carrier	Juno Beach
Chosen Generation, St. John Fisher	R.G. Kreusler
Christa McAuliffe Middle School	Gulfstream
Church of Christ	Lake Lytal
Clerk of County Circuit Court	Dyer Park
Els for Autism Adult Day Training Program	DuBois
Fern House	DuBois
F.O.R.C.E.	Dyer
Friends of Jupiter Beach	Ocean Cay
Geocaching	Caloosa
Good Karma Squad	Ocean Inlet, R.G. Kreusler
Greater Palm Beach Delta Gamma Alumnae	Carlin
Hidden Oaks Env. Club	Gulfstream, Ocean Inlet
Keller Williams Palm Beach East	R.G. Kreusler
Latinos In Action	West Boynton Park
Loggerhead Marinelife Center	Loggerhead
Lynn Univ. Women's Lacrosse	South Inlet
Mint Eco Car Wash	Ocean Reef
NextEra	Jupiter Beach, Juno Beach
Palm Beach Pack and Paddle	John Prince Park

GROUP/ORGANIZATION	PARK
Park Vista Environmental Club	Ocean Inlet
Parrot Heads for the Palm Beaches	R.G. Kreusler
Path To College	John Prince Park
PBC Courts	Ocean Cay
PBC Parks (World Ocean Day)	Ocean Inlet
PGA of America	Carlin Park
Planet Kids	Ocean Reef
Progressive Insurance	Ocean Reef
Publix District 21	Okeeheelee
Pura Vida Divers	Phil Foster
Repair The Sea	Ocean Reef
Reworld	Juno Beach, Ocean Reef
River Center	Coral Cove
Royal Palm Beach HS	Ocean Reef
RWorld Realtors	John Prince Park
Sea Turtle Adventures	Gulfstream
SF Spearfishing Club	South Inlet
SLAM Palm Beach HS	Ocean Cay
Surface 71	Ocean Cay, Ocean Reef
Surfrider Foundation	Ocean Cay, Phil Foster
SWAT	DuBois
Target	Ocean Inlet
The Greene School	R.G. Kreusler
The Kings Academy	R.G. Kreusler
TR Adventure Club	Gulfstream
UCF Palm Beach	Ocean Reef
#Unlitter	DuBois
World Mission Society Church of God	John Prince Park
WPB Sai Center	Okeeheelee Park

PERFORMANCE

AQUATICS

OCEAN RESCUE



GRAND TOTALS (North & South Districts)

Attendance	5,279,266
Preventive Actions	99,278
Minor Medical calls	13,376
Major Medical calls	80
Rescues	135
Bather Assists	563
Hazard Closing	384

✓ LIEUTENANT PROMOTIONS:

Palm Beach County Ocean Rescue completed a Lieutenant promotional process in 2024, promoting Sara Williamson and Josh Davis to strengthen leadership within the team.

✓ EMT CERTIFICATION:

Four personnel completed EMT certification, increasing the department's medical response capabilities.



✓ DUNE LINE PRESERVATION:

Initiated dune line preservation efforts at Gulfstream, South Inlet, R. G. Kreuzler, and Ocean Reef by installing posts and ropes to prevent unauthorized access, protecting the coastal ecosystem while maintaining public safety.

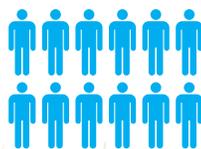


WATERPARKS

GRAND TOTALS (Calypso Bay & Coconut Cove Waterparks)

ATTENDANCE

General Admission	112,560
Swimming Lessons	746



Calypso Bay Waterpark set a record for swim lessons, teaching 548 participants in one season.



Coconut Cove Waterpark reached a record-high attendance in July, welcoming 31,560 visitors, surpassing the previous record of 28,905 set in 2022.

POOLS

2,074+
INDIVIDUALS
taught to swim



A full season of group swim lessons was successfully planned, coordinated, and executed, teaching over 2,074 individuals at County-operated swimming pools.

114
CHILDREN RECEIVED
water safety education



Drowning Prevention Coalition-funded camp lessons provided critical water safety education to 114 children.

697+
CHILDREN RECEIVED
swim instruction



More than 697 children received swim instruction through the Drowning Prevention Coalition voucher program.

10,500
INDIVIDUALS RECEIVED
water safety presentations



Water safety presentations provided education to 10,500 individuals, reinforcing the importance of drowning prevention throughout the community.

130
CHILDREN/YOUNG ADULTS
familiarized with water



A continued partnership with Connections Education School for Autism helped 130 children and young adults become more comfortable in and around the water.

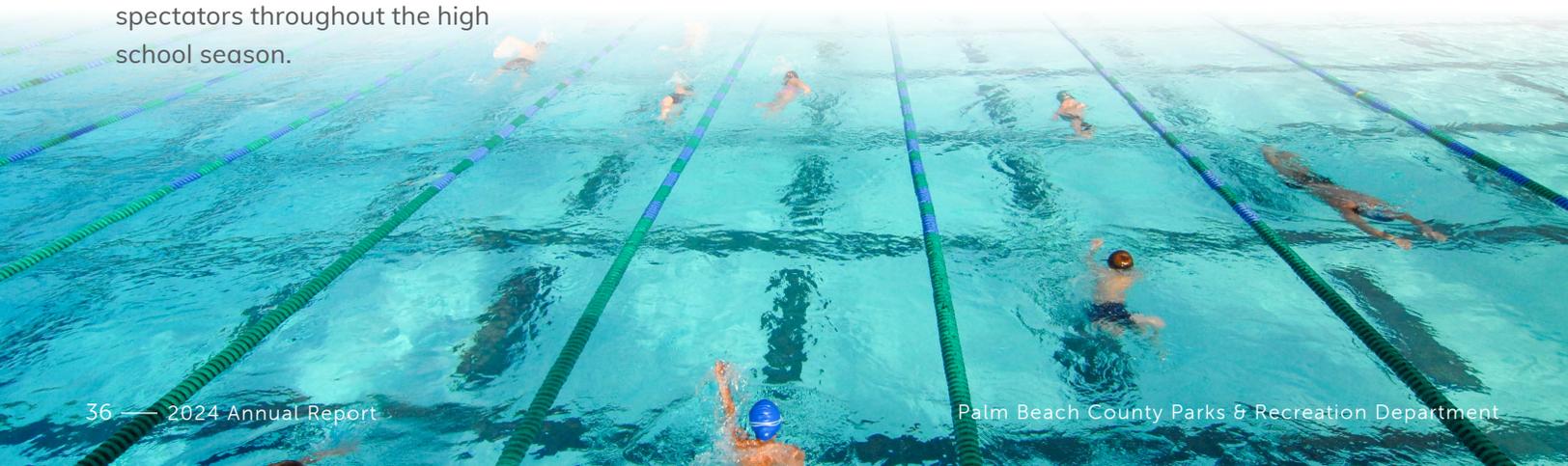
12
HIGH SCHOOL
swim teams

County pools hosted 12 high school swim teams from both public and private schools, providing a venue for training and competition.

3,000+
SWIM
competitors

Two county aquatic facilities hosted Florida High School Athletic Association (FHSAA) competitive swim meets, drawing over 3,000 competitors and more than 6,500 spectators throughout the high school season.

FACILITY	EXPENDITURE	REVENUE	COST RECOVERY
Lake Lytal	\$1,137,371.00	\$359,927.07	32%
Aqua Crest	\$876,523.00	\$273,758.58	31%
North County	\$1,265,464	\$622,841.99	49%
Santaluces	\$135,209.00	\$17,438.85	16%
Pioneer Park	\$138,913.00	\$13,566.73	9%



PARKS OPERATIONS

Park Rangers continued to play a crucial role in maintaining safety and service across PBC Parks. Despite increasing public use, they managed park activities and ensured a positive experience for visitors. Here's a snapshot of their performance in FY24 compared to FY23.

PARK RANGERS		FY 24	FY 23
Ranger Service Calls		3,087	2,824
Field Management – permit compliance		1,540	1,153
Field Management – lights shut off for electrical savings		262	330
Patron Contacts		408,389	508,424
Restroom Safety Checks		123,010	115,595



SPECIAL FACILITIES

GOLF COURSES



golf revenues exceeded
\$16.6
 MILLION

319,000+
rounds played
 AT THE 4 GOLF COURSES

98%
customer service
 APPROVAL

97%
affordability
 APPROVAL

SPECIAL EVENTS & AMPHITHEATERS EVENT SNAPSHOT



216
special event & amphitheater rentals
 PERMITTED

16
direct programs
 3 SPECIAL EVENTS
 13 AMPHITHEATERS

32
partner programs

350K+
participants

1,130
public assembly days
 PERMITTED

29
public assembly permits
 ISSUED

Recreational Growth Across West Boynton, West Jupiter, and Westgate Parks



West Boynton Recreation Center expanded its offerings in FY24 with the launch of indoor pickleball and open gym hours, generating \$7,665 in revenue from 1,533 participants. The center also strengthened its partnership with the YMCA of the Palm Beaches for summer camp and hosted youth volleyball and basketball leagues, both reaching high participation levels. New youth sports clinics attracted 58 basketball and 135 volleyball participants.



West Jupiter Recreation Center offers indoor badminton, pickleball, basketball, and volleyball, with 40 participants for badminton and 10-20 for pickleball in the summer. The center also features consistent adult programs and space rental opportunities.



At Westgate Park & Recreation Center, participation has grown in open gym programs such as pickleball, volleyball, and basketball. The introduction of an indoor beginner's archery program has further expanded the center's recreational offerings.



Rebecca Schnirman
DIRECTOR, FINANCIAL & SUPPORT SERVICES

“I stop at John Stretch Park often on my way between the east coast and the west coast. My late husband and I always stopped here to have a picnic. The restrooms are always clean and the park always looks so nice. Clive Dixon (District Caretaker) has done a very good job. They all do a great job - I'm very impressed by the entire park system you have here. We feel safe stopping here.”
– Sally Alice Smith and Wade Speir



OFFICE OF PUBLIC ENGAGEMENT

59 OUTREACH EVENTS & SPEAKING ENGAGEMENTS

627 INBOUND TELEPHONE INQUIRIES ANSWERED

565 DEPARTMENT EMAIL INQUIRIES ANSWERED

74 NEWS RELEASES/CALENDAR NOTICES CREATED & DISTRIBUTED

123,116 TOTAL VOLUNTEER HOURS

189 TOTAL ADOPT-A-PARK CLEANUPS CONDUCTED

323 TOTAL VOLUNTEER APPLICATIONS PROCESSED

501 WEBSITE EDIT REQUESTS COMPLETED

183 MARKETING PROJECTS REVIEWED/APPROVED

108 GRAPHIC DESIGN REQUESTS COMPLETED

SOCIAL MEDIA VIEWS

119,750	87,973	18,768	76,594

2.4 MILLION WEBSITE VISITORS

OCTOBER 2023 - SEPTEMBER 2024



READERSHIP

225,889 | E-Newsletter Subscribers

1,416 | Online Publication Views



Chris Korbek
MANAGER, OFFICE OF PUBLIC ENGAGEMENT

“I recommend outdoor exercise to promote balance and prevent injury. Park Rx is a great resource for healthcare providers to prescribe outdoor physical activities in local parks, like the Health Care District’s free balance classes.” - Joel Rosales, Trauma Agency Nurse Manager, Health Care District of Palm Beach County

Bird Conservation Efforts at PBC Parks



PBC Parks continues to support native bird conservation through dedicated monitoring and habitat management at multiple locations. From Purple Martins to Wood Ducks, staff and volunteers ensure these species have safe nesting sites and the resources they need to thrive.

Green Cay Nature Center



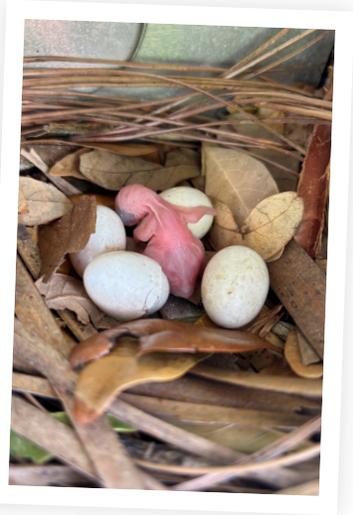
With assistance from Shelly Rozenberg of Audubon Everglades, Green Cay Nature Center successfully hatched and fledged an estimated 130 Purple Martins from its 36 gourd houses. Each season, the houses are cleaned, fresh wood shavings are added, and weekly nest checks are conducted to support the colony.

Daggerwing Nature Center



Now in its sixth season of monitoring Purple Martins, Daggerwing Nature Center recorded its most successful year yet. The first bird arrived on February 1, 2024, with the first egg laid on March 29. A total of 128 eggs were laid, resulting in 100 successful fledglings—an impressive 78% success rate. For the first time, additional nests were laid in June, extending the season. The data collected is reported to the Purple Martin Conservation Association as part of a national citizen science project. Staff and volunteers hope to install new gourd houses next year to support the growing population.

Riverbend Park



In its third season of monitoring, Riverbend Park observed a rise in Purple Martin activity. Nesting houses near Cow Pen Lake provided an ideal environment, with the first Purple Martin sighted on January 26, 2024. A total of 52 eggs were laid, with 35 hatching and 27 successfully fledging. While a mite infestation impacted some chicks, staff quickly addressed the issue to minimize losses.

Riverbend Park is also home to an active Wood Duck conservation program. Dedicated volunteers, Lynn and Steve Desy, monitored and maintained 20 duck boxes throughout the park. This season, they recorded 18 active nests, contributing to the continued success of the Wood Duck population in the area.

These conservation efforts across PBC Parks provide critical nesting sites and research opportunities while helping sustain local bird populations for future generations.



ECONOMIC IMPACT

\$35,592,000
CONTRIBUTED IN
economic impact

47,456
room nights

30
events

The Parks & Recreation Department played a significant role in our economy in FY24. In partnership with the Palm Beach County Sports Commission, the Department contributed \$35,592,000 in economic impact, along with 47,456 room nights and the coordination of 30 events. Notable highlights included the Perfect Game World Wood Bat Association (WWBA) World Championship and Freshman World Series at the Santaluces Athletic Complex and the Palm Beaches Spartan Sprint Weekend at Burt Aaronson South County Regional Park.

Expanding Access to Sports & Wellness in Western Palm Beach County



57 PROGRAMS	26 SPECIAL EVENTS	8,941 PARTICIPANTS
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PBC Parks' Sports & Wellness staff successfully facilitated 57 programs, 26 special events, and reached a total of 8,941 participants in the western communities, including the Glades region. Highlighted events included the first-ever Cross Country Meet, which featured the creation of a new course, as well as the inaugural Boca Bowl Football Fun Fest, which will now be an annual event. In the Glades, wellness-focused programs engaged the community with 55 classes and 10 programs offered across six locations, serving a total of 233 participants. These efforts in both the western communities and the Glades emphasized the importance of health and wellness, encouraging residents to participate in activities that promote physical and mental well-being.

SPORTS & WELLNESS

FY24 SECTION SUMMARY

258
Programs

\$18,407,900
Economic Benefit to
Palm Beach County

4,819
Teams

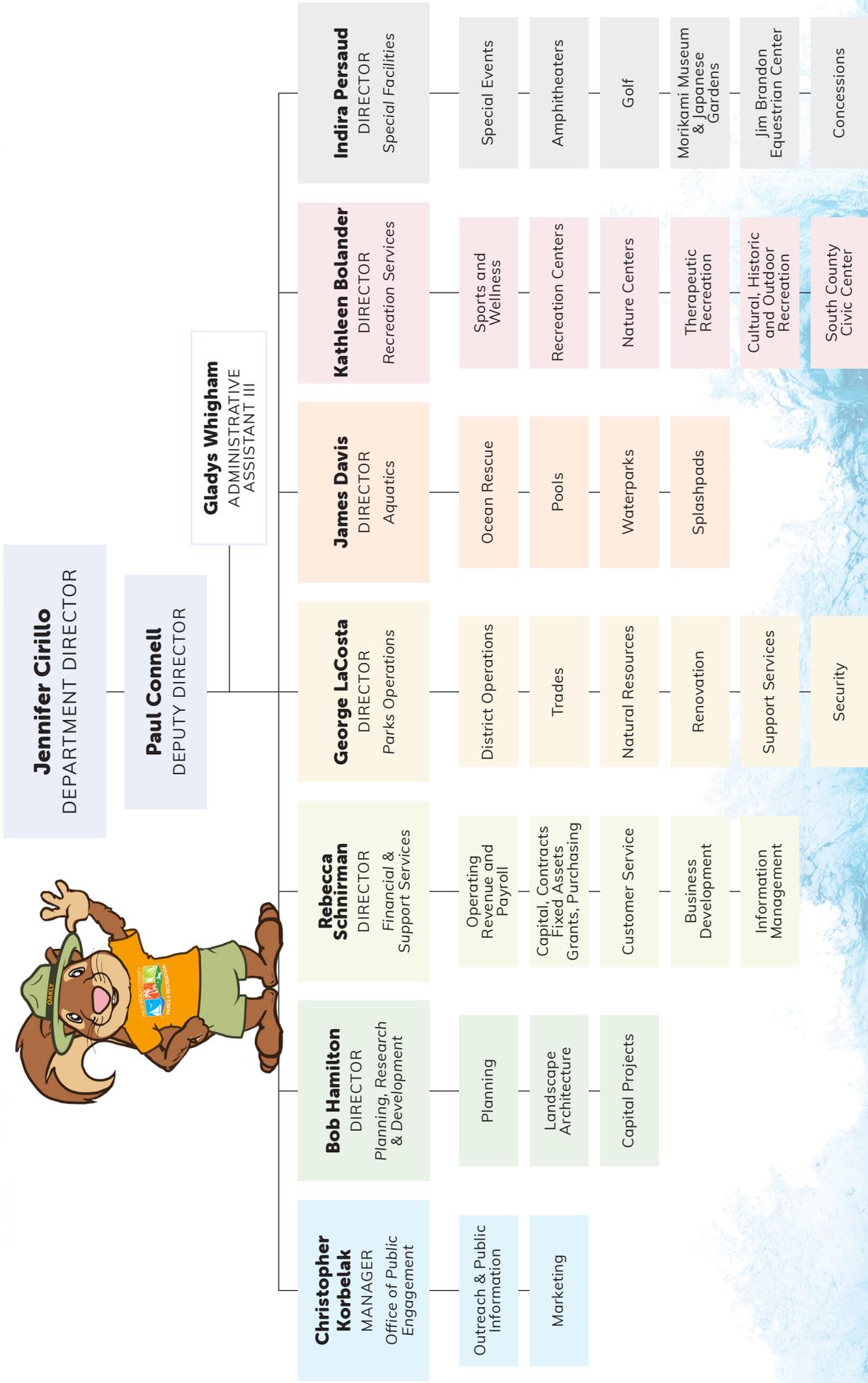
78,520
Participants

143 Special
Events

212 Partner
Agencies



DEPARTMENT OVERVIEW ORGANIZATION CHART



PERFORMANCE METRICS (2024)

Percentage of trails, paths and roadways maintained in accordance with standards	90%
Percentage of residents/visitors rating participation in recreation as important to them	90%
Operating costs per round of golf as a percentage of revenue	85%
Percentage of residents within a 10-minute walk of a park (1/2 mile)	71%
Percentage of recreation facilities maintained in accordance with standards	90%

HOW WE COMPARED NATIONWIDE IN 2024

	National Avg.	Palm Beach County
Operating expenditure per capita	\$99.47	\$57.22
Percentage revenue to operating expenditures	25.2%	32.4%
Acreage of parkland per 1,000 population	10.6	5.2
Operating expenditure per acre of land	\$8,260	\$11,077
Revenue generated annually per capita	\$22.58	\$18.55
Parks & Recreation FTE per 10,000 residents	8.9	4.6

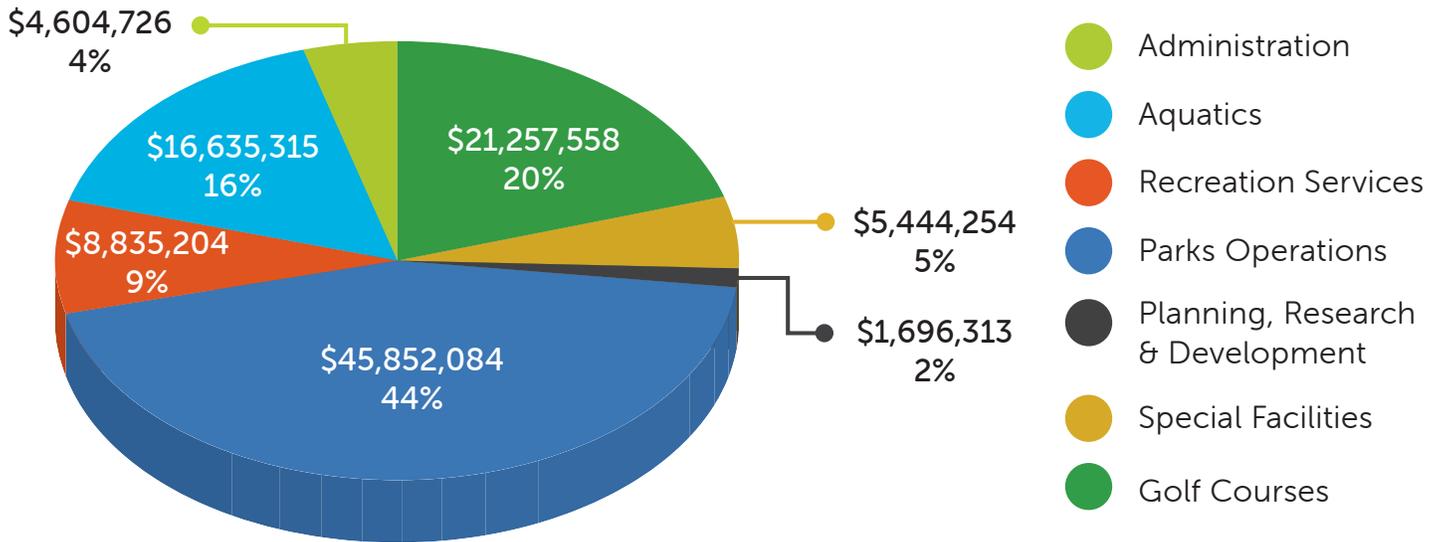
NON AD-VALOREM ACTUAL REVENUE



	2021	2022	2023	2024
Golf Courses	12,838,934	14,571,561	16,081,752	16,145,521
General Fund	9,626,720	11,929,105	12,849,529	12,554,960

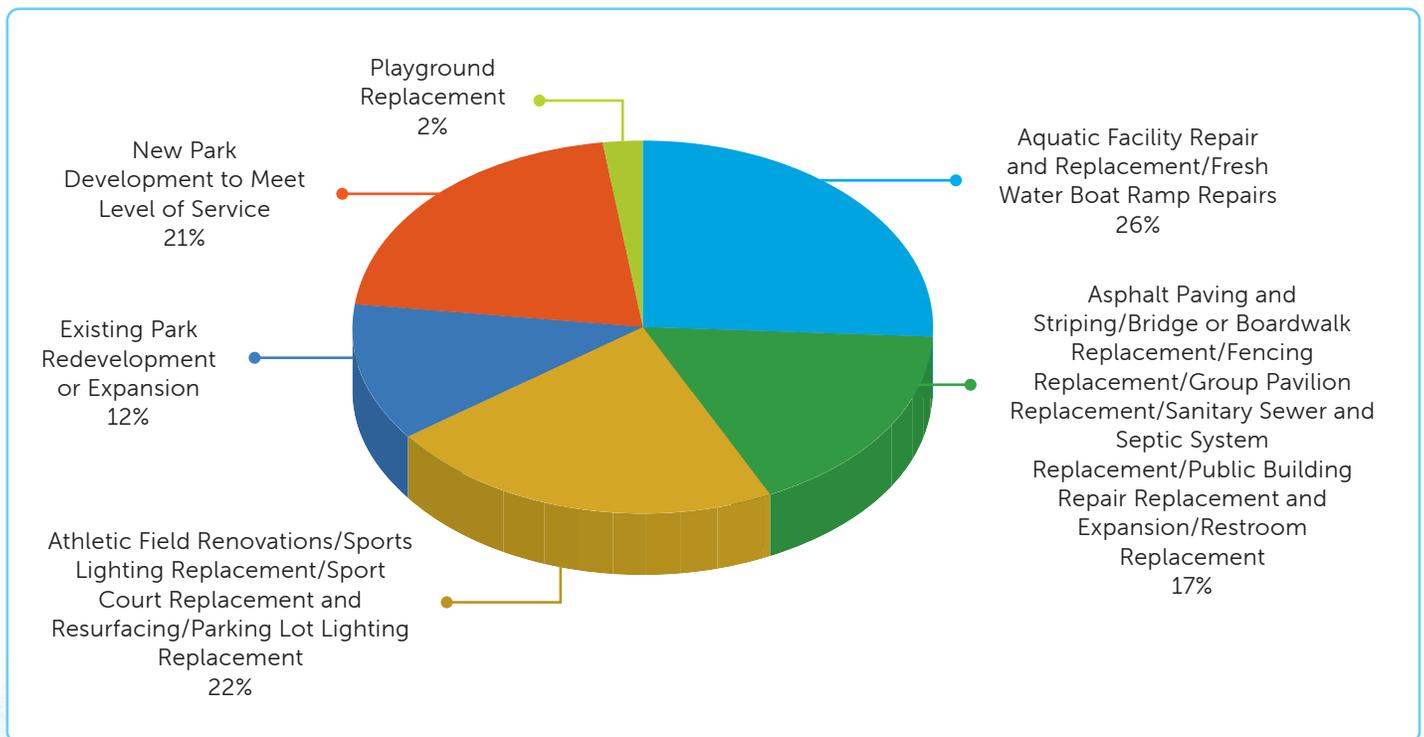
FINANCIAL SNAPSHOT

2024 ADOPTED BUDGET



INFRASTRUCTURE SURTAX PROJECTS

2017-2026: \$239,599,122



VALUED PARTNERS

#Work21

A Child is Missing

ACHIEVE Coalition, Palm Beach County

Achievement Centers for Children and Families

Acreage Athletic League

All Metro Healthcare, Inc.

ALL NETS Basketball

Alliance of Delray Beach

Aloha Surf School

Alpert Jewish Family Services

Al Ritmo with Claudia

Amazing Athletes

Amelia's Smarty Plants

American Association of Museums

American Heart Association

American Heritage School

American Legion Post #164

American Red Cross

Animal Eye Specialty Clinic

ANS Houses

Anthony Talton, Vocal Lesson/Musical

Applebee's

Area Agency on Aging (RSVP)

Army Corp of Engineers

Arthur Gibson, Basketball Official

Arts4All Florida

Astellas

Aspira of Florida

Atlantic Christian Academy

Audubon Everglades

Audubon International, Inc.

AYSO Soccer Region #345

AYSO Soccer Region #1370

AYSO Soccer Region #1521

AYSO Soccer Region #1639

Bat Conservation International

Beach Bucket Foundation

Beaches Adult Soccer League

Beachwife Life

Belle Glade Baby Raiders Youth Sports Club

Bengal Tigers Palm Beach Inc.

Benzaiten Center for Creative Arts

Berean Christian School

Big Brothers & Big Sisters of Palm Beach and Martin Counties

Birding Adventures

Blue Lake Track

Blue Water School of Surfing

Bob Carter's Actor's Workshop

Boca 2000 Petanque Club

Boca Flag Football and Cheerleading

Boca Palms Animal Hospital

Boca Raton Amateur Radio Association

Boca Raton FC

Boca Raton High School Environmental Club

Boca Raton Juniors Soccer Club

Boca Raton Synagogue

Boca Save Our Beaches

Boca Senior Softball League

Boca Warriors Track Club

Boot Camp Fitness B.G.

Boynton Beach Lacrosse, Inc.

Boynton Beach Rugby

Boy Scout Troop #125

Boy Scout Troop #308

Boy Scout Troop #1319

Braille Club of Palm Beach County, The

Brazilian Boca Soccer

Breakthru Athletics

Briana Marie Cox Foundation

Bridging Communities

Broward County Crime Commission, Inc.

Building Up Sports Academy

Burt Reynolds Institute for Film Theater (BRIFT)

Busch Wildlife Sanctuary

Cabana Colony YDC (PBSO)

Camp Gladiator

Capoeira Martial Arts

Caroline Andre, Cheerleading Instructor

Caribbean Baseball Organization

Caridad Center

Center for Creative Education

Center for Youth Activity

Channel 20

Children's Golf Foundation

Children Services Council

Christ Fellowship

Christa McAullife NJHS

City of Belle Glade

City of Boca Raton

City of Boynton Beach

City of Delray Beach

City of Greenacres

City Kickball

City of Lake Worth

City of Pahokee

City of Riviera Beach

City of South Bay

City Soccer FC

Clean and Sober Sports Inc.

Clearwater Marine Aquarium Research Institute

Cobra Varsity Baseball League

College Preparatory Invitational

Colonial Dames

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VALUED PARTNERS

Community Connection, Inc.
Community Greening
Connections Education (Autism Spectrum)
Consul General of Japan (Miami)
Coalition of Boynton West Residential Associations
Creators Game
Cub Scout Pack #212
Cub Scout Pack #224
Cub Scout Pack #280
Cub Scout Pack #296
Cultural Council for Palm Beach County Custom Fitness
Delray Beach Athletic Club
Delray Beach Playhouse
Democratic Club of Boynton/Delray
Department of Juvenile Justice
Digital Vibez, Inc.
Diocese of Palm Beach
Disabled American Veterans
Discovery Team, The
Diva and Dues Soccer Inc.
Dixie Landscaping
Don Law Golf Academy (Dondee Golf Enterprises, Inc.)
Donna Klein Jewish Academy
Drowning Prevention Coalition of Palm Beach County
DS Sports Ventures
DuBois Family
East Boynton Beach Little League
East Coast Aquatic Club
EMS Advisory Council
Endless Possibilities for the Disabled, Inc.
Fairchild Tropical Garden
Faith's Place Center for Arts Education, Inc.
FAU Pine Jog Flora
FC Boca Predators
Federal Highway Administration
Federation-Families Florida
Feeding South Florida
Fellowship of Christian Athletes
FedEx Ground
First Tee of Palm Beach County
First United Methodist Church
Florida Arts and Culture, Division of Cultural Affairs
Florida Association of Landscape Architects
Florida Atlantic University
Florida Atlantic University Rugby Alumni Foundation
Florida Atlantic University School of Nursing
Florida Aquatics Council
Florida Bat Conservancy
Florida Beach Patrol Chiefs Association
Florida Black Historical Research Project
Florida Community Trust
Florida Department of Children and Families
Florida Department of Environmental Protection (DEP)
Florida Department of Health
Florida Department of Justice
Florida Department of Law Enforcement
Florida Department of Transportation
Florida Fish and Wildlife Conservation Commission
Florida Flywheelers
Florida Forest Service (FFS)
Florida Free Divers
Florida Golf Association (Can Am Golf Group, LLC)
Florida Half Century
Florida Hurricanes Platinum
Florida Inland Navigation District (FIND)
Florida Lacrosse Festival
Florida Launch Lacrosse
Florida Nursery Growers & Landscape Association
Florida Off Road Cycling Enthusiasts (FORCE)
Florida Public Archaeology Network
Florida Recreation & Park Association (FRPA)
Florida Sports League, Inc.
Florida State University
Florida Trail Association (FTA)
Florida Youth Conservation Centers Network (FYCCN)
Florida Youth Rugby Association
Food Truck Invasion
Forest Hill High School Tourism and Hospitality Magnet Program
Friends and Family of George T. Ringo
Friends and Family of Samson Joseph
Friends of Daggerwing Nature Center
Friends of Dyer Park
Friends of Foster Children
Friends of Green Cay Nature Center
Friends of Jupiter Beach
Friends of Okeehetee Nature Center
Funky Fish Snorkeling
Furry Friends Adoption
GBYSA Adult Mixed Soccer League
Girly LAX, Inc.
Glades Day
Glass Productions
Glades Youth Empowerment Center

continued on next page

VALUED PARTNERS

Go with Gabe, Pickleball Instructor
Gold Coast Archers
Gold Coast Down Syndrome Organization
Gold Coast Dressage
Gold Coast Gymnastics, Inc.
Golden Years Softball League
Golf Clubs Unlimited dba Custom Fit Golf
Golf Professional Services, Inc.
Grand Ledge Bullpen Association
Grand Slam Productions
Greater Boca Youth Soccer Association
Greater Delray Beach Chamber of Commerce
Greenacres Christian Academy
Grimes Events & Party Tents
Health Care District of Palm Beach County
Healthier Glades
Healthier Jupiter
Healthy Kids Running Series
Henderson Behavioral Health
High Ridge Family Center
Home Safe of Palm Beach County
Homeless Coalition of Palm Beach County
Huddle Touch, Inc.
Huntington Pointe Senior Softball Association, Inc.
Indian River Lagoon License Plate (grants managed by DEP)
Indian Trails Improvement District
International Kickball Foundation
International Slow Pitch Softball
International Soccer League
Interscholastic Equestrian Association
Into Action
Japan American Society
JCD Caribbean, Inc.

Jewish Community Center of the Greater Palm Beaches
Jim Abernethy's Scuba Adventures
JJJ Senior Softball Association
JoAnn's Outreach, Inc.
Joseph P. Cory Foundation
JSG Amateur Sports
Junior Golf Foundation of America, Inc.
Juno Beach Prep School
Jupiter Christian School
Jupiter Community Group
Jupiter Dive Center
Jupiter Diving Parent Club, Inc.
Jupiter Dragons Parent Club
Jupiter Elks Lodge
Jupiter Farms Community Association
Jupiter Farms Community Parade and Events, Inc.
Jupiter Farms Residents, Inc.
Jupiter High School Environmental Academy
Jupiter Inlet District
Jupiter Middle School Treehuggers Club
Jupiter NEAteam
Jupiter Outdoor Center
Jupiter Petanque Club
Jupiter/Tequesta Athletic Association
Jupiter Horsemens Association
Jupiter Youth Rugby Club
KABOOM!
Kayak King Watersports, Inc.
Keep Palm Beach County Beautiful
Kickball 365
Kids Cancer Foundation
Kings Academy
Ladies Professional Golf Association

Lagoon Keepers
Lake Lytal Lassie League
Lake Lytal Lightning Booster Club
LaLa Land Productions
Lake Lytal/Santaluces Baseball League
Lake Worth Drainage District
Lake Worth Lagoon Initiative
Lake Worth Sharks
Lake Worth Spanish Seventh Day Adventist Church
Lake Worth West Community Group
Lake Worth Youth Empowerment Center
Latinos in Action
Lauren Schaller, Yoga Instructor
Law Office of Wood & Pravato
Lazy Loggerhead Café
LC Swain Middle School National Jr. Honors Society
Leadership Palm Beach County
LETCO Community Development, Inc.
Let's Go
Leukemia and Lymphoma Society
Levis Jewish Community Center
LexisNexis
Lighthouse for the Blind of the Palm Beaches
Lime Digital Agency Services
Limestone Creek Community
Little Deeper Charters
Loggerhead Marinelifelife Center
Loggers' Run Inc.
Loxahatchee Battlefield Preservationists
Loxahatchee Guild
Loxahatchee River District
Loxahatchee River Control District
Loxahatchee River Coordinating Council

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VALUED PARTNERS

Loxahatchee River Historical Society
Loxahatchee River Preservation Initiative (grants managed by DEP)
Lutheran Services Florida
Marine Industries Association
Media Ops, Inc.
Metropolitan Planning Organization
Military Adaptive Court Sports
Michael Alford, Basketball Official
Modern Bujutsu Karate Florida, Inc.
Morikami Inc.
Move United
M. Regina Rodrigues, Yoga Instructor
Muck Athletics, Inc.
Muck City Gators
Murphy Construction
Natalie Galliano, Yoga Instructor
National Croquet Center, The
National Endowment for the Arts
National Endowment for the Humanities
National Garden Clubs, Inc.
National Golf Association
National Kidney Foundation
National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration
National Park Service
National Recreation & Parks Association (NRPA)
National Weather Service (NWS)
Nexstar Lacrosse
New City Church
North American Butterfly Association (NABA)
North Palm Beach County Little League
North Everglades Trail Association (NETA)
North Palm Beach Rowing Club
Northern Palm Beach Chamber of Commerce
Norton Museum of Art
Nostalgic America, Inc
Nostalgic Magazine
N-Zone Sports
Office Depot Foundation
Office of Greenways & Trails
Okeeheelee Baseball Association
Okeeheelee BMX Parents Council
Okeeheelee Disc Golf Club
Okeeheelee Senior Softball Association
Okeeheelee Youth Baseball Inc.
Old School Square, Inc.
Orange Bowl Youth Sports, LLC.
Ottawa Nepean Canadians Baseball Club
Over Thirty Five IFC, Inc.
Oxbridge Academy
Pahokee Pride
Palm Beach Baseball
Palm Beach Breakers
Palm Beach Broadcasting
Palm Beach Coralytes Synchronized Swim Team
Palm Beach County 4-H
Palm Beach County Astronomical Society
Palm Beach County Animal Care and Control
Palm Beach County Bee Keepers Association
Palm Beach County Cooperative Extension Service
Palm Beach County Cultural Council
Palm Beach County Department of Airports
Palm Beach County Department of Community Services
Palm Beach County Department of Environmental Resources Management (ERM)
Palm Beach County Department of Engineering and Public Works
Palm Beach County Department of Facilities Development & Operations
Palm Beach County Film Commission
Palm Beach County Fire Rescue
Palm Beach County Health Department
Palm Beach County Department of Housing and Economic Development
Palm Beach County Library System
Palm Beach County Office of Community Revitalization
Palm Beach County Sheriff's Office
Palm Beach County Sheriff's Office Police Athletic League (PAL)
Palm Beach County Solid Waste Authority
Palm Beach County Sports Commission
Palm Beach County Supervisor of Elections
Palm Beach County Tourist Development Council
Palm Beach County Woodturners, Inc.
Palm Beach County Youth Football and Cheerleading
Palm Beach County Youth Services Department
Palm Beach Elite Soccer
Palm Beach Gardens Predators Soccer
Palm Beach Hindu Mandir
Palm Beach Lacrosse
Palm Beach Lightning
Palm Beach Maritime Institute
Palm Beach Masters Swimming
Palm Beach Pack and Paddle

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VALUED PARTNERS

Palm Beach Panthers Soccer Club, Inc.
Palm Beach Panthers Rugby
Palm Beach Post
Palm Beach Premier FC
Palm Beach Radio Control Association
Palm Beach RC Power Boaters
Palm Beach Rugby
Palm Beach Senior Softball Association
Palm Beach Shakespeare Festival Inc.
Palm Beach State College
Palm Beach State College Science Club
Palm Beach Tiger Sharks, Sled Hockey
Palm Beach Tigers Sporting Club
Palm Beach Titans Cricket Club
Palm Beach Yard Dogs
Palms West Chamber of Commerce
Palm Tran
Partners for Environmental Education
Partnership for Environmental Education (JERFSA)
People to People - Palm Beach Delegation
Perfect Game
PGA of America
PGA Tournament Organization
Pine Crest School
Pinkball Inc.
Plumosa Elementary School of the Arts
Port of Palm Beach
Power Soccer School
Prime Time Senior Softball, Inc.
Prime Time Palm Beach County ProBall Baseball
Prodigy Field Hockey
Professional Concessions, Inc.
Project Learning Tree
Project Wild
Prospect Wire, Inc.
Prospect Select, Inc.
PSG Academy Palm Beach
Pura Vida Divers
Pure Revenge Fitness, LLC
Quality Sports Inc.
Quantum Foundation
Race Time Sports
R.C. Bush Pilots
Ridge Grand Prix
Rise and Grind Sports
Riverbend Trail Riders
River Bridge Animal Hospital
Riviera Beach Gators
Pathfinders Club
Robert Caullett, Karate Instructor
Rosarian Academy
Royal Palm Beach Senior Softball Association
Sandoway House
Saturday Senior Softball Association
School Board of Palm Beach County
Schulz Academy
Sea Turtle Adventures
Self Made Athletes, LLC
Seminole Tribe of Florida
Sharks FCA
Shred Shed
Sideout Sand Volleyball
Sierra Club
Sister Cities
Ski Club of the Palm Beaches
SLAM Boca
SLAM West Palm Beach
Society of Women Engineers
SoFlow Lacrosse
Solid Waste Authority of Palm Beach County (SWA)
Somerset Academy Canyons Middle/High Schools
Somerset Academy Lakes
Sons of the Union Veterans of the Civil War
South Bay Jaguars
South Florida Amateur Athletic Association
South Florida Collegiate Baseball League
South Florida Cricket Alliance
South Florida Dirt Oval R.C. Inc.
South Florida Fitness, LLC
South Florida Herpetological Society
South Florida Interagency Fire Management Council
South Florida Lacrosse
South Florida Paddle
South Florida Petanque Club
South Florida Premier Cricket League
South Florida Rattlers
South Florida Science Museum
South Florida Wakeboard Club
South Florida Water Management District
South Florida Wicked Fastpitch
South Florida Wildlife Care Center
South Indian River Water Control District (SIRWCD)
Southeast Florida Invasive Plants Working Group
Special Olympics Florida
St. Mary's Medical Center / Palm Beach Children's Hospital
State of Florida (TIITF)
Stuart Scuba
Sun Sentinel
Sunshinelax

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VALUED PARTNERS

Sweatshop NBS Track, Inc.
Swing with the King, Inc.
TAB Development, Inc.
Taxology
Team First Soccer Academy
Team Services Florida, Inc.
Telangana Association of Florida, Inc.
The Arc of Palm Beach County
Thresher Aquatics, Adaptive Scuba Diving
Torah Academy of Boca Raton
Town of Haverhill
Town of Juno
Town of Jupiter
Town of Lantana
Town of Manalapan
Town of Ocean Ridge
Town of Palm Beach
Town of Palm Beach Shores
Trash Free Vision for Ocean Conservation
Trinity Christian Academy
Trustbridge Hospice
Trust for Public Land
Tru Skillz Academy All Stars
UF/IFAS
U.S. Army Corps of Engineers
U.S. Coast Guard
U.S. Coast Guard Auxiliary
U.S. Department of Agriculture
U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs
U.S. Firefighter Games
U.S. Forestry Service
U.S. Lax Events
U.S. Sailing
U.S. Synchronized Swimming
University of Florida
United South County Democratic Club
United States Association of Blind Athletes
United States Lifesaving Association
United States Masters Swimming
United States Wheelchair Rugby Association
United States Specialty Sports Association
United States Wheelchair Rugby Association
United Way
United Way Emerging Leaders Society
USA Boccia
USA Diving
USA Lacrosse
USA Swimming
USA Track and Field
USA Wake Board
USA Water Ski
USSSA
VCMG Live/ Oldies 96.9
Veterans Coalition of South Florida
Veterans of Foreign Wars (VFW) Post #10556
Victoria Limauro Yoga Classes
Victory Sports Management
Village of Palm Springs
Village of Royal Palm Beach
Village of Tequesta
Village of Wellington
Villagio Seniors Softball
Vinceremos Therapeutic Riding Center
Voters Coalition
VSA Lady Lions
Walmart Foundation
Wawa Fitness
Weinbaum Yeshiva High School
West Boca Basketball League
West Boca Flag Football and Cheer
West Boca Panthers Travel Baseball
West Boca Premiere Adult Softball League
West Boca Raton Community Council
West Boca Raton Adult Softball Association
West Boca Raton Youth Softball Association
West Boca Youth Baseball
West Boynton Flag Athletic Association
West Boynton Football League
West Boynton Girl's Fastpitch Softball
West Boynton Little League Baseball
West Boynton Travel Baseball League
Westgate/Belvedere Homes CRA
West Jupiter Community Group, Inc.
West Lantana Soccer Association
West Palm Beach Football Club
West Palm Beach Veterans Affairs Medical Center
White Foundation
Within Your Reach Foundation
Wheelchair Lacrosse USA
World Adult Kickball Association
World Bonsai Friendship Federation
Xcel Strategies Inc., Mentoring Network
Yesteryear Village
YMCA of Boca Raton
YMCA of the Palm Beaches
YMCA of South Palm Beach County
Youth Empowerment Inc.

Key Findings of the 2024 Engagement With Parks Report



More than **276 million** people in the United States visited a local park or recreation facility at least once during the past year.



Being with family and friends is the **top reason** respondents use park and recreation facilities.



97% of visitors report some feelings of inclusion or belonging at their park and recreation spaces.



91% of people agree that parks and recreation is an important service provided by their local government.



93% of U.S. adults support the use of automated technology by their local park and recreation agency — especially for crime prevention, understanding park use and increasing community members' access.