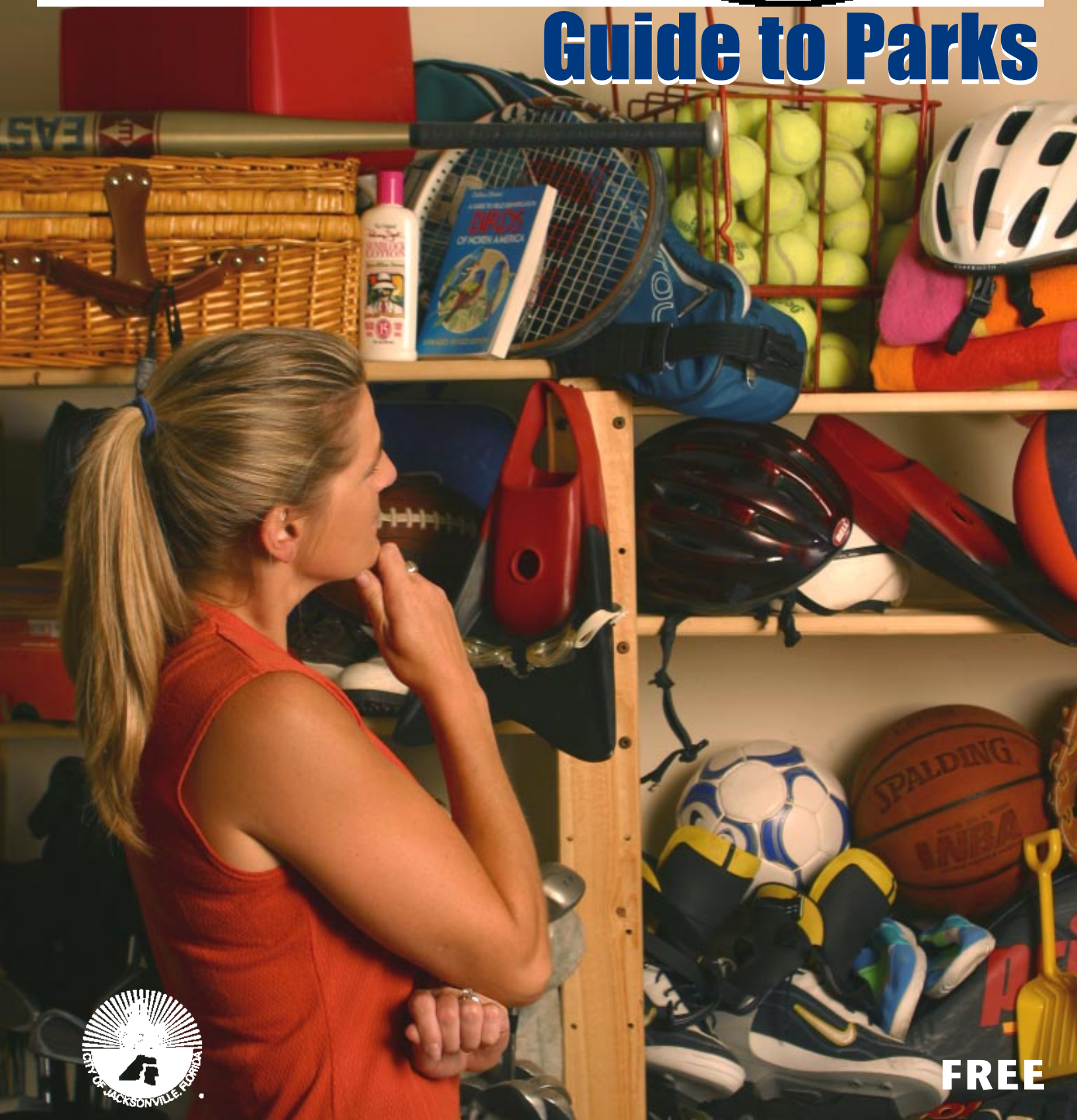


A Magazine for Jacksonville's Communities

# NEIGHBORHOODS

## Guide to Parks



**FREE**







A scenic view of a lake with a forested shoreline under a clear blue sky. The water is calm, reflecting the sky and the trees. The shoreline is covered in dense green and brown foliage. The sky is a clear, light blue.

# Dear Friends

*Jacksonville has the weather,  
we have the space,  
we have the water...we've got it all.*

*And I am inviting you to come out and play.*

Since 1995, we have invested more than \$71 million in park improvements. Everything from the most current playground design and equipment to upgraded pathways, lighting and landscaping – as well as new soccer fields, baseball parks and bike trails. The improvements are too long to list, but the end result is what I like to call DNPs – darn nice parks – all across Jacksonville. And it will keep getting better.

But that is only one chapter in Jacksonville's park story. Our network of parks has grown to such a grand scale that our city is now a national destination point for ecotourism. And its national reputation will keep getting better.

Not only can Jacksonville now declare that it is home to the largest park system of any city in the nation, but we can fairly say we also have the most unique parks. Through a co-management agreement, which is now a national model, with the National and State Parks and land purchases of more than 40,000 acres from the Preservation Project, Jacksonville's parks offer more than ever before. Corridors of linked parklands create, in some places, up to 50 miles of contiguous preserved natural areas for public use. And it is still growing.

If you are looking for swimming, boating, riding or hiking, you will find the space and amenities to do it here in Jacksonville. We have created this guide as a resource for citizens and visitors to access the wealth of one of our most valuable treasures, Jacksonville's parks.

John A. Delaney  
Mayor

**Mayor**

John A. Delaney

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**City of Jacksonville Mission Statement**  
Serving You,  
Meeting Today's Challenges,  
Focusing on the Future.

Clean, green, safe and fun... these aren't just words, they are the core of the City of Jacksonville Department of Parks, Recreation and Entertainment's mission.



As director of the department, it is my responsibility and privilege to make sure that our park system is one of the best, and it is my joy to work alongside a staff equally dedicated to the same.

In the past two years, city leaders have made it possible for us to complete hundreds of beautification projects in our parks. Our staff has added new signs, fencing and thousands and thousands of flowers. We also participated in a blizzard of ground-breakings, ribbon cuttings and grand opening ceremonies for new parks, playgrounds and community centers throughout the community.

Under Mayor John Delaney's Preservation Project Jacksonville, our park system now includes approximately 40,000 acres of protected lands. The addition of these lands brings our park system to over 73,000 acres, making it the largest urban park system in the nation. It also guarantees future generations the opportunity to enjoy the same natural habitats we enjoy today.

The Department of Parks, Recreation and Entertainment has also experienced tremendous growth in our recreational activities and specialty programs, thanks in part to the mayor's "Jax Parks – Get Out There" initiative. Our athletics department, community centers, after school programs and summer camps offer activities for every age and need, while our nationally recognized Gus and Goldie Learn to Swim program continues each year to teach thousands of children to swim and stay safe near water.

I began this message by saying that the words clean, green, safe and fun are the core of our mission statement. I want to close by saying that it is the children, adults, families and friends who visit our parks that make up the heart of our park system. I love what Jacksonville's parks have to offer to the community – places to take the family, play sports, learn crafts, swim, escape back to nature, meet new friends and create lasting memories. I make sure that my family and I take the time to enjoy the many recreation and leisure activities our park system has to offer, and I hope that you will do the same.

Sincerely,  
Debra J. Igou  
Director

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# Jacksonville Parks and Recreation:

Laughing children, cheering fans, splashing water, singing birds, pounding surf — the sounds of Jacksonville parks.

Green grass, blue water, orange sunrise, white sand, red brick, yellow submarine — the colors of Jacksonville parks.

Mown fields, cedar trails, spring flowers, grilled food, ocean breezes — the smells of Jacksonville parks.

Homerun blasts, playground games, soaring eagles, kids playing, bikes rolling, couples walking — the sights of Jacksonville parks.

Somewhere in the 73,000 acres that constitute the largest urban park system in the United States, there really is something for everyone.

"Parks and recreation play an important role in making Jacksonville a great place to live," said Parks, Recreation, and Entertainment Director Debra Igou. "Exciting programs, first-class facilities and customer service rank our parks among the best anywhere in the nation."

Since modest beginnings in 1925 when voters first approved a recreation program, Jacksonville's parks have kept pace with the growing demand for recreation

opportunities and leisure-time resources. A program with only 10 community centers and 11 ball fields in 1930 now boasts nearly 350 recreation sites and a unique co-management agreement with state and federal parks.

Beginning in 1999, Preservation Project Jacksonville added more than 40,000 acres of invaluable recreation land to be preserved in a natural state for future generations to enjoy. Combined with breathtakingly beautiful state and federal lands and property the city already owned, that translates to more than 73,000 acres of parkland or roughly 14 percent of the land in Duval County. Less than 20 miles from downtown, the Timucuan Trail State and National Parks—made up of Big Talbot Island, Little Talbot Island, the Timucuan

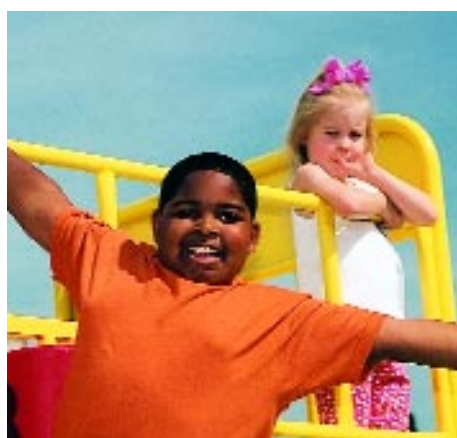
Preserve and city lands—offers unmatched ecological treasure and cultural heritage.

Water sport enthusiasts enjoy an almost endless number of opportunities to get wet and wild in Jacksonville. Four magnificent beachfront parks provide surfing, swimming and fishing. Weekend admirals can launch their craft at 21 boat ramps and spend a leisurely day cruising or sailing the beautiful St. Johns River. Anglers can practice their art at fishing piers on the river or at lakes brimming with scrappy bass and cagey catfish.

A single swimming pool at Lackawanna Park (now Mallison Park) provided welcome respite from the summer heat in 1930. Now 33 pools offer an ideal place to cool off and spend time with family. Each summer, thousands of youngsters learn to swim safely through the Gus and Goldie Learn to Swim Program. Kids of all ages splash at water parks with cannons, fountains and sprays of all kinds at Kids Kampus and Hanna Park. Jump in! The water's fine!

Explosions of youthful energy send balls of all shapes and sizes whizzing through the air at Jacksonville parks. Whether it's a national softball tournament or a picnic pickup game, the crack of a bat echoes across ball fields that host more than a thousand teams each year. Every fall, future





Jaguars suit up to perfect their gridiron skills during Pop Warner football and cheerleading on fields at dozens of parks. Tournament-quality soccer fields, designed for safe play for young and old alike, have recently been added at several parks, complete with concession stands and picnic tables. Oh, and you'll love our nearly 150 tennis courts, including three outstanding tennis centers featuring clay courts and professional instruction.

Community centers and neighborhood playgrounds provide year-round fun for kids and special opportunities for adults. Summer camps mean safe, organized play while school's out, and the popular Club Rec program offers children an after-school spot for play, homework help and mentoring. Adults find the community centers ideal for exercise programs, seasonal arts and crafts, ceramics and special programs designed with their interests in mind.

Want to just get away from the urban hustle and bustle? Well, in

Jacksonville, you don't have to leave the city to leave the city. Our parks feature shaded picnic areas where a basketful of goodies wonderfully transforms into an outdoor gourmet feast. Basket empty? Take a hike. More than a hundred miles of hiking trails wind through majestic oak stands and towering pine forests, with more trails planned for newly acquired Preservation Project land. Unique biking experiences include the Jacksonville-Baldwin Rails to Trails, a 14.5-mile hard-surface trail under a canopy of trees along an old railway line, and 15 miles of challenging off-road trails through the quiet woods at Hanna Park. Want to spend the night? Camp at the beachfront parks and enjoy nature's calming sounds and a spectacular sunrise over the Atlantic Ocean. Don't want to rough it? Try one of the new air-conditioned cabins at Hanna Park.

History? Have we got history. Go back in time with an excursion to Fort Caroline National

Memorial and learn about the area's earliest native inhabitants and the first European visitors. Wander through Kingsley Plantation and see what life was like in the early 19th century, including some of the few original slave quarters still standing. Explore Camp Milton, an important Civil War site that will feature a new interpretive center and restored battle positions. Or visit a post-Civil War farmhouse on the St. Johns River at the extraordinary Walter Jones Historical Park in Mandarin.

Skateboarding, kayaking, radio-controlled model airplanes, exercise circuits, BMX racing, disc golf, art classes, nature centers, barrier-free camping and fishing, golf . . . the list goes on. Still haven't found what you want? Keep looking, you're sure to find it in Jacksonville's parks.

"We want everyone to come to the parks and see why they make Jacksonville so special," said Igou. "Our parks really do have something for everyone."

# Something for Everyone





What do you get when you co-manage city, state and federal park assets in Duval County? You get Timucuan Trail State and National Park, a unique arrangement that provides a new level of cooperation between the National Park Service, the Florida Park Service and the City of Jacksonville.

Timucuan Trail is a logical outgrowth of Preservation Project Jacksonville, a program that used creative political and financial tools to preserve irreplaceable natural areas and help manage urban growth. Timucuan Trail stands as a groundbreaking agreement among the three levels of government to create a seamless recreational experience for visitors who hike, bike or paddle their way through national, state and city parklands.



# Jax Parks

Traditional city recreational facilities such as swimming pools, playgrounds and community centers remain under the single jurisdiction of the city's Department of Parks, Recreation and Entertainment. But the thousands of acres added to the city's impressive inventory of parklands through the Preservation Project will often be managed in cooperation with state and federal agencies, with the city helping to manage their park properties. This special arrangement ensures that these lands will be protected against future development and will instead play a crucial role in diversified urban planning and growth management.

Although many locations across the city are involved in this arrangement, perhaps the best example of large-scale cooperation is the Timucuan Ecological and Historic Preserve in Northeast Jacksonville. Covering 46,000 acres, the preserve is one of the last unspoiled wetlands on the Atlantic coast, rich in historic and prehistoric sites and replete with extraordinary natural resources. Land ownership in the preserve includes federal, state, city and private holdings. Barbara Goodman, NPS superintendent of the Timucuan Preserve, pointed out that "the only way to manage this special place is to do so inclusively." The result is a partnership called the Timucuan Trails State and National Parks, which will protect and preserve an invaluable environmental treasure while judiciously using taxpayer

resources. Equally as important, this formal partnership serves as a model for cooperative efforts.

The state and the city have collaborated in the JaxParks spirit by working together to plan sites that neither entity would have developed on its own. Camp Milton and the Jacksonville-Baldwin Rails to Trails on the Westside exemplify the success of JaxParks cooperation. City human and physical resources and state financial resources were effectively combined in a project that features adaptive reuse of an abandoned rail line, preservation of an important Civil War site and historic and environmental education.

Tracing its roots to 1999, JaxParks is a work in progress, a touchstone for future generations seeking to preserve the beauty of the land that attracts so many residents in the first place. It will also serve as a political and environmental model for other cities seeking to manage growth in a fiscally creative and ecologically responsible way.



# Regional Parks

Whether you're looking for a quiet hike among Florida's wild plant and animal life or a first-class facility to hold your next softball tournament, Jacksonville's regional parks have it all. Regional parks provide recreational opportunities on a larger scale to attract visitors from within a 10-mile radius or a 25-minute drive. They encompass green space, conservation easements and nature trails, as well as lighted athletic complexes, picnic shelters, playgrounds and recreational buildings that can accommodate large groups.

## Westside

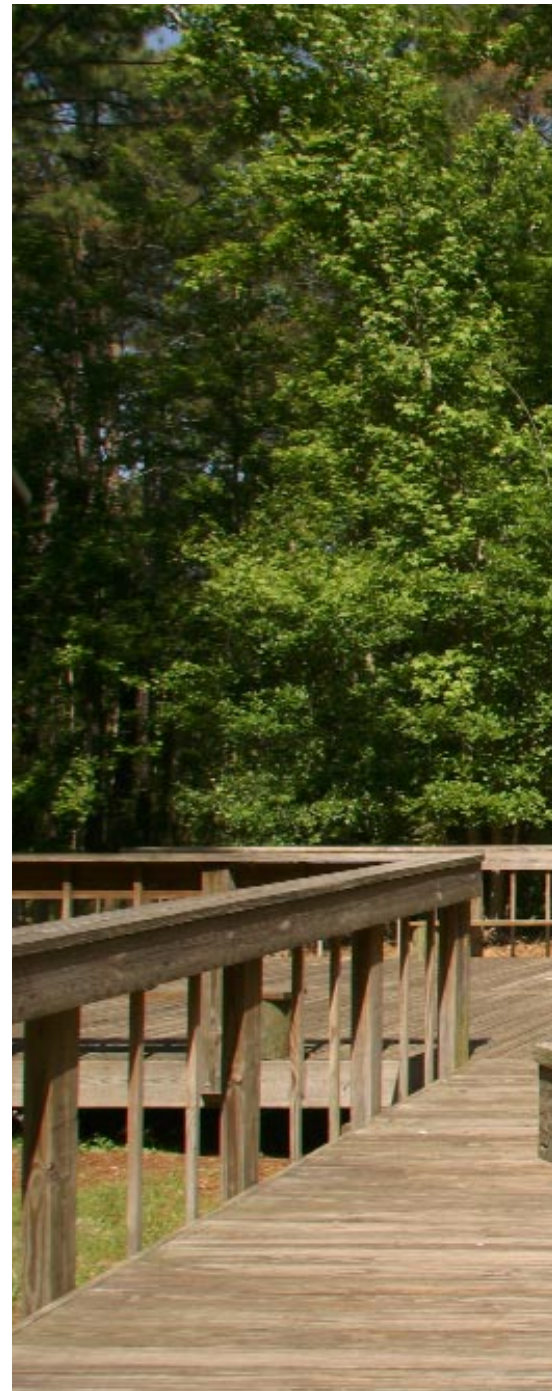
With 509 acres, Westside Regional Park at 7000 Roosevelt Blvd. not only provides visitors a chance to run off some energy on play equipment and in open fields, but is also an excellent stage highlighting Northeast Florida's natural beauty.

Nature programs are definitely the highlight of any trip to Westside Regional. Any excursion should begin with a quick stop at the Nature Center, home of the city's park naturalist. All of the park's hands-on classes are taught in this building and on the trails. Monthly classes include trail walks, special evening programs, slide shows, owl prowls, hands-on history classes, wee workshops for the youngest explorers, beginning naturalist programs for children ages 5 through 13, workshops on outdoor rustic living and dining

skills, volunteer programs and several special sessions announced at least one month ahead of time. In addition, Westside Regional hosts an environmental camp in three separate sessions throughout the summer.

This regional park beckons the most avid nature enthusiasts with five-plus miles of nature trails. Theme walks, with topics ranging from insects and edible plants to Florida's natural history, and discovery walks, featuring an exploration of native creatures, are extremely popular and may be arranged through the park naturalist.

The park naturalist will gladly arrange a nature walk or program for any organized group of at least 10 people. All programs are free and may be scheduled by calling 573-2498.





# Arlington/Beaches

In Arlington, head to District II Regional Park, also known as The Dunes. With baseball fields, football fields and soccer fields, this 144-acre park is home to many youth sports teams.

The Dunes, at 11751 McCormick Road, is leased to PAL, the Police Athletic League.

PAL recently opened a 38,000-square-foot building on the property, allowing the group to expand its education, mentoring and athletic programs for area children. The new building is equipped with a woodshop, medical clinic, cafeteria, resource center and indoor basketball court.

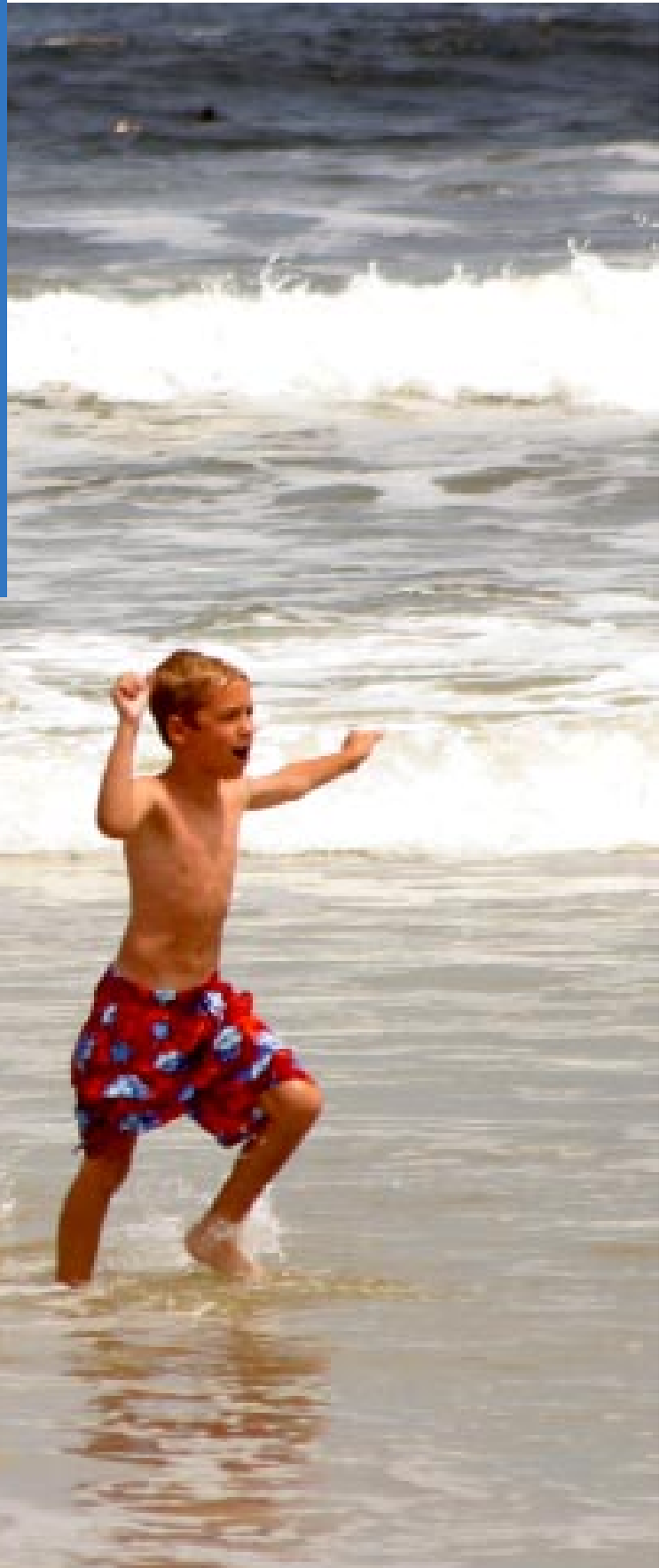
PAL offers several programs including flag and tackle football, cheerleading, basketball, karate, volleyball and after-school homework assistance at the park.

For more information on any of these programs, contact PAL at 355-3308.



# Wet and Wild

Too hot? Want to cool off? Splish-splash in Jacksonville's parks. Take a refreshing dip in a pool. Kick up your heels in the ocean waves. Or set sail in your boat and drift along Jacksonville's waterways.





# Waterfront Parks

When it comes to waterfront parks, Jacksonville boasts an abundance of options. In fact, four parks along the Atlantic Ocean offer lots of activities, all within easy driving distance from downtown Jacksonville. Visitors can play in the ocean waves, fish in a freshwater lake, observe wildlife in natural habitats, camp under the stars, hike through forests and salt marshes or enjoy a number of other activities.

## Kathryn Abbey Hanna Park

Hanna Park, a 450-acre nature lovers' paradise, is situated along a mile and a half of white sandy beach near the Mayport Naval Station. The park offers a great variety of outdoor activities from camping and mountain biking to freshwater fishing in a 60-acre lake to surf fishing in the ocean. Its campground includes 293 full hookup sites scattered among live oak and palm trees along paved roads. The gated campground offers a picnic table and fire ring with grill at each site. The park accommodates 90,000 to 110,000 campers annually. Daily admission to the park is \$1 per person age 6 and older.

In addition to the campground, Hanna Park offers overnight visitors the option of staying in four Cozy Cabins equipped with lights, ceiling fan, electrical outlets, smoke detector, fire extinguisher and air conditioning. The 12-by-18-foot rustic log cabins sleep four and can be rented for \$33.90 a night with a two-night minimum.

More than 20 miles of mountain biking trails – marked for beginning, intermediate and expert riders – add an additional outdoor dimension to the park. Another is the 60-acre freshwater lake, which is perfect for fishing, bird watching, kayaking, paddleboating and canoeing. All of these aquatic vehicles, including small boats, can be rented. Lakeside tables and grills are available for picnics or cookouts. The lake area includes a seasonal water playground with colorful fountains, playful squirting devices and sprayers. Another of the park's special features is Dolphin Plaza, an oceanfront meeting facility that holds up to 125 people. Its nearly

2,000-square-foot, climate-controlled room can be used for wedding receptions, corporate retreats, family reunions or parties.

For additional information on Hanna Park, call 249-4700.

## Huguenot Memorial Park

Also referred to as the Big Jetties or the North Jetties, Huguenot Park is a 450-acre horseshoe-shaped peninsula surrounded by the Fort George Inlet, the St. Johns River and the Atlantic Ocean. Fishermen can access about one mile of the jetties, huge rocks that guide ships into the mouth of the St. Johns River.

Activities at Huguenot Memorial Park include fishing, windsurfing, surfing, kayaking, birdwatching and wildlife watching. Windsurfing experts say the shallow waters of the inlet make it "a perfect place to learn to windsurf."

The park attracts large numbers of birds. The long spit of sand jutting out into Fort George Inlet is known as Ward's Bank by the birdwatchers who come out to see the thousands of terns and gulls that gather at its northern tip.

The ocean side of the park affords even the inexperienced fisherman the opportunity to reel in red bass, black drum, whiting or flounder. And the serene backwaters of the park are ideal for intimate exploration by kayak or canoe.

Additionally, Huguenot offers about 70 primitive waterview campsites, an observation deck, picnic pavilions with grills, public bathhouses and park naturalist-led programs.

Daily admission is 50 cents for people age 6 or older. For additional information, call 251-3335.





## Big Talbot Island State Park

Big Talbot Island State Park is on one of the sea islands unique to Northeast Florida. On Florida A1A about 20 miles from downtown Jacksonville, Big Talbot offers rich and diverse habitats. Fishing and sunbathing on the Nassau Sound shoreline contrast with more active pursuits along the park's historic hiking trails and canoe and kayak routes. This is a premier place for those who enjoy nature study, birdwatching and photography.

For fishing and boating enthusiasts, Big Talbot's boat ramp is the key to bountiful fishing grounds. A deep-water ramp provides easy access to the Intracoastal Waterway, Nassau Sound or the Atlantic Ocean. A \$3 fee is required to launch a boat. Admission to the park is \$1 per person.

Great egrets, snowy egrets, great blue herons and green herons can be found at Spoonbill Pond on the north end of Big Talbot. During various times of the year, shorebirds and passerines, such as the colorful painted bunting, visit the island and delight bird-watchers. Bobcats, raccoons, river otters, a few alligators and other reptiles also make Big Talbot their home.

For more information on Big Talbot Island State Park, call 251-2323.

## Little Talbot Island State Park

Little Talbot Island State Park's maritime forests, desert-like dunes and salt marshes behind the island allow endless hours of nature study and relaxation.

More than five miles of wide sandy beaches, salt marshes and dunes have been preserved in this park, which is located 17 miles northeast of downtown Jacksonville along Florida A1A.

The ocean surf provides excellent fishing, as do the tidal streams behind the island. Camping, hiking, picnicking, surfing and swimming are available in the park.

Little Talbot is an Atlantic barrier island on the coast between Fernandina Beach and Jacksonville. On the sheltered side of the island, tidal creeks wind through extensive salt marshes. There are nature trails and an observation deck/pier. Shorebirds frequent the sandy beach on which loggerhead sea turtles lay their eggs in the summer. The coastal hammock is a good place to find snakes, gopher tortoises, painted buntings and migratory birds.

For additional information, call 251-2320.



# Swimming Pools

Jacksonville’s summers are synonymous with heat and humidity. Luckily, the Parks, Recreation and Entertainment Department operates 33 public pools, 18 of which are at Duval County schools. All are free and open to the public from May to September.

The pools offer something for everyone, including lessons, swim meets, evening hours set aside for family swims and plenty of space to lie out in the sun.

Over the past eight years, more than 30,000 children have participated in the Gus & Goldie Learn to Swim Program, which offers two-week sessions throughout the summer for 5- to 12-year-olds. All

pools offer Gus & Goldie as long as there is a demand. For advanced swimmers, each pool has a swim team that competes in three different age groups – 9 and under, 11 to 12 and 13 to 14 – in Saturday morning meets with individual and team events. Young lifeguard wannabes ages 9 to 15 can test their mettle in the Junior Lifeguard Summer Enrichment Program at Kathryn Abbey Hanna Park, which features three sessions throughout the summer. Call the Aquatics Office at 745-9630 for more information.

## Jacksonville Pools

- Adolph Warren (Sans Souci)**  
2115 Dean Road .....724-8218
- Andrew Jackson High School**  
3816 Main St. ....630-0281
- Baldwin High School**  
345 N. Chestnut St. ....266-2478





## Jacksonville Pools (Continued)

<b>Blue Cypress Park</b>	
4012 University Blvd. N.	744-3494
<b>Carvill Park</b>	
1302 Carvill Ave.	764-5194
<b>Charles “Boobie” Clark Park</b>	
8793 Sibbald Road	768-6422
<b>Clanzel T. Brown Park (Golfair)</b>	
4575 Moncrief Road	768-1330
<b>Ed White High School</b>	
1700 Old Middleburg Road	783-4958
<b>Emmett Reed Park</b>	
1093 W. Sixth St.	630-0829
<b>Englewood High School</b>	
4412 Barnes Road	448-6895
<b>Eugene Butler Middle School</b>	
900 Acorn St.	630-0322
<b>Fletcher High School</b>	
700 Seagate Ave.	247-6327
<b>Forrest High School</b>	
5530 Firestone Road	573-2485
<b>Fort Caroline Club</b>	
4131 Ferber Road	744-5612
<b>Grand Park</b>	
2500 W. 20th St.	630-0282

<b>Highlands Middle School</b>	
10913 Pine Estates Road	751-1533
<b>Jefferson Street Park</b>	
1359 Jefferson St.	630-0994
<b>Lake Shore Middle School</b>	
2519 Bayview Road	387-1772
<b>Mallison Park</b>	
441 Day Ave.	388-2639
<b>Mandarin High School</b>	
4831 Greenland Road	292-1541
<b>Oceanway Center</b>	
12215 Sago Ave. W.	757-8704
<b>Paxon High School</b>	
3239 W. Fifth St.	783-0377
<b>Pine Forest Park</b>	
2335 Gattis Lane	398-0591
<b>Raines High School</b>	
3663 Raines Ave.	765-0920
<b>Ribault High School</b>	
3701 Winton Dr.	766-5319
<b>Robert E. Lee High School</b>	
1200 S. McDuff Ave.	387-6959
<b>Robert F. Kennedy Center</b>	
1139 Ionia St.	630-0939
<b>Sandalwood High School</b>	
2750 John Prom Blvd.	642-5900
<b>Sunny Acres Park</b>	
9424 Fort Caroline Road	996-0344
<b>Terry Parker High School</b>	
7301 Parker School Road	723-6144
<b>Thomas Jefferson Elementary</b>	
320 Jackson St.	783-2540
<b>Warrington Park</b>	
325 Bowlan St.	724-6169
<b>Wolfson High School</b>	
7000 Powers Ave.	448-6894



# Boat Ramps

From the day the Sisters Creek boat ramp opened, it became the city's busiest boat ramp, in part because it has ample parking.

But go to any of Jacksonville's boat ramps on a weekend and you'll find plenty of nautical company. Go early or you may have trouble finding a parking space.

Jacksonville is home to more than 30,000 boats that can be towed with a trailer. Sisters Creek, the most recent addition to the list of boat ramps, opened in 2001 after the city acquired the land that was once used as a marina. Two other ramps experiencing a high level of activity due to adequate parking are at Mayport and at the Arlington Lions Club ramp on Gatlin Road.

In addition to adequate land for a ramp and plenty of parking, there are other considerations when searching for ramp locations, according to Capt. Steve Nichols, Jacksonville's waterways coordinator and dockmaster. The water at a proposed location must be deep enough to enable a boat to slide off its trailer and float. In addition, Nichols said, manatee protection laws and environmental and wetlands issues are all involved in the permitting process.



## Public Boat Ramps

### **Arlington Boat Ramp**

5130 Arlington Road

### **Arlington Lions Club Boat Ramp**

4322 Richard D. Gatlin Road

### **Beach Boulevard Boat Ramp**

8505 Beach Blvd.

### **Bert Maxwell**

680 Broward Road

### **County Dock**

2400 County Dock Road (hand launch ramp; dock only)

### **Dinsmore Boat Landing**

11101 U.S. 1

### **Fulton Boat Ramp**

5000 Fulton Road

### **Harborview Boat Ramp**

4100 Harborview Drive

### **Hood Landing**

12925 Hood Landing Road

### **Huguenot Memorial Park**

10980 Heckscher Drive

### **Intracoastal Waterway**

2501 Second Ave.

### **Joe Carlucci (Sisters Creek)**

8414 McKenna Drive

### **Lighthouse Marine Boat Ramp**

5434 San Juan Ave.

### **Lonnie Wurn**

4131 Ferber Road

### **Mayport Boat Ramp**

4870 Ocean St.

### **New Berlin Boat Ramp**

Frederick Street at Apollo Avenue

### **Oak Harbor**

2428 Seaway St.

### **Sisters Creek Marina**

8203 Heckscher Drive

### **St. Johns Marina**

901 Museum Circle

### **T. K. Stokes**

2120 Riverview Ave.

### **Wayne B. Stevens**

4555 Ortega Farms Blvd.

# Games People Play

Let your competitive spirit loose in Jacksonville's parks. Whether your game is tennis, golf, baseball, softball, basketball, football or soccer, Jacksonville has a park for you. The city also runs an assortment of adult athletic leagues for those interested in organized play.





# Ball Field Complexes

The city's ball field complexes provide a great place for a friendly game of baseball, softball, football, soccer, tennis and other sports. In fact, many sports leagues comprising countless teams for adults and youths compete on city fields every year. Most of the complexes also include restrooms and picnic facilities, so that families can make a day out of a trip to the ball field.

To reserve a ball field, call 630-3578. All other amenities are first-come, first-served.

## **Baker-Skinner Park**

7641 Powers Ave. ....737-1177

Hours: 5 a.m. – 10 p.m.

*Amenities:* Six ball fields, restrooms and concession stand.

## **Burnett Park**

3740 Burnett Park Road ....268-7510

Hours: 10 a.m. – 8 p.m.

*Amenities:* Six ball fields, concession stand, picnic shelter, playground equipment, tennis courts, restrooms and community center.

## **Cecil Field Gymnasium and Fitness Center**

13531 Lake Newman Drive ....778-5498

Hours: 7 a.m. – 8 p.m., Monday through Friday; 9 a.m. – 6 p.m., Saturday and Sunday

*Amenities:* Gymnasium with basketball court, racquetball court, fitness center, locker rooms and sauna, six picnic pavilions with restrooms, two ball fields, playground equipment and community meeting facility. Staff is on-site for assistance.

## **District II Regional Park** (The Dunes)

11751 McCormick Road ....645-3565

Hours: 5 a.m. – 10 p.m.

*Amenities:* Four ball fields, disc golf course, community center, concession stand, picnic shelter, playground equipment, soccer fields, restrooms and walking trails.

## **Drew Park**

6621 Barnes Road S. ....731-8477

Hours: 5 a.m. – 10 p.m.

*Amenities:* Five softball fields, concession stand, grills, picnic tables, restrooms, playground equipment and walking trail.

## **Greenland Park**

11808 Fayal Drive ....268-4829

Hours: 5 a.m. – 10 p.m.

*Amenities:* Five ball fields, concession stand, two football fields, grills, restrooms and picnic shelter.

## **Normandy Park**

1728 Lindsey Road ....783-8147

Hours: 5 a.m. – 10 p.m.

*Amenities:* Six ball fields, concession stand, picnic shelter, restrooms and playground equipment.

## **Ray Greene Park**

2149 Leonid Road ....751-4907

Hours: 5 a.m. – 10 p.m.

*Amenities:* Five softball fields, concession stand, picnic shelter, playground equipment, tennis courts, restrooms and BMX track. There is a charge of \$5 per hour for the use of lights for practice.

## **Ringhaver Park**

5198 118th St. ....779-1519

Hours: 5 a.m. – 10 p.m.

*Amenities:* Four softball fields, soccer fields, concession stand, picnic shelter, playground equipment, restrooms and tennis courts. There is a charge of \$5 per hour for the use of lights for practice.

## **Yancy Park**

3352 Soutel Drive ....766-6474

Hours: 5 a.m. – 10 p.m.

*Amenities:* Five ball fields, concession stand, basketball court, tennis court, restrooms and playground equipment.



# Tennis Courts

Whether you want to play a competitive game of tennis or volley the ball to a friend, Jacksonville has a facility for everyone. The Parks, Recreation and Entertainment Department maintains about 150 tennis courts throughout the city, many available on a first-come, first-served basis. The following three facilities are fully supervised with teaching pros, lessons, lighted courts and league play.

## Boone Park

The city's largest tennis complex is Boone Park, just off Roosevelt Boulevard in historic Avondale. The tree-lined park includes 14 clay courts, two hard courts and two beat walls for those who don't have a playing partner. All courts are lighted for night play, and the courts and beat wall are wheelchair accessible. The park has plenty of leagues, teams and events for people of all ages and abilities, but if you want to improve your skills, you can sign up for lessons with a professional. Junior instruction is also available during the summer.

For just a \$1 court fee, you can enjoy 90 minutes of play. Avid players might consider paying an annual fee, as the park offers family, adult, senior and junior memberships. Boone Park is equipped with a clubhouse for relaxation after a tough match and a staff that can restring a worn racket. The facility also includes water fountains, drink machines, bike racks and a playground next to the courts. For more information, call 384-8687.

## Clanzel T. Brown Tennis Complex

The Clanzel T. Brown Tennis Complex off Moncrief Road on the city's Northside features all the amenities a player of any ability would need. The facility has eight hard courts, bleacher seating, a beat wall and a clubhouse with restrooms, showers and lockers. The courts have benches for relaxing and are lighted and wheelchair accessible.

The complex has a variety of teams, such as the



working women's league, the men's 4.0 team and the two mixed doubles leagues. Lessons are available for adults and children, and there is a separate Summer Enrichment Camp for kids at the community center next door. After a game, you can cool off in the Clanzel T. Brown swimming pool, relax in the nearby playground or picnic under one of the shade trees in the park. For more information, call 768-2120.

## Southside Tennis Complex

The Southside Tennis Complex near San Marco is dedicated strictly to tennis and has six hard courts and six clay courts. All are lighted for evening play and wheelchair accessible. Use of the clay courts costs \$1 for 90 minutes of play; the hard courts are free. The facility has an on-site ice machine, water fountain and beat wall for individual practice.

The complex has a clubhouse, where you will find staff members working hard booking reservations, stringing rackets and answering questions. There is also an onsite tennis professional to give personal lessons and work with the various teams. The facility has a number of men's, women's, children's and mixed doubles' teams and offers a Summer Enrichment Camp for juniors. The facility offers annual memberships for families, adults, seniors and juniors. For more information, call 399-1761.



# Adult Athletic Associations

The Department of Parks, Recreation and Entertainment offers many sport leagues for adults. More than 700 teams participate in basketball, softball, baseball, tennis and soccer. The department also offers officials' clinics and table tennis programs. Unless otherwise noted, participants in all adult athletic associations must be at least 18 years old. For more information on all sports leagues, call the department's Athletics Office at 630-3578, unless otherwise noted below.

## Basketball

The Department of Parks, Recreation and Entertainment offers its adult basketball program each year during February, March and April, with registration in January. The program includes open leagues, which are open to everyone; industrial leagues, where all players on the team work for the same company; and church leagues, where all team players are members of the same church. Teams usually play two games per week in school gyms throughout Duval County.

## Softball

There are three adult softball programs: spring, summer and fall. Leagues include men's open, men's industrial, men's church, women's open and co-ed. Spring softball begins in March, summer softball begins in June and fall softball begins in late September. The summer program concludes with metro, regional and national tournaments.

## Baseball

The adult baseball program begins in May and plays through August. Participants may play in the open league or the 30 and over league.

## Table Tennis

The department conducts two table tennis championship tournaments annually, one in the spring and one in the fall. With 100 to 150 participants, the tournaments are broken down into skill level classifications. Adults and children age 6 and over are welcome to participate.

## Tennis

The department maintains approximately 150 tennis courts throughout Jacksonville. Three tennis facilities – Boone Park, Clanzel T. Brown and the Southside Tennis Complex – feature tennis pros and are supervised year-round. These sites offer open tennis by reservation, tournaments and lessons. For more information, call 630-3572.

## Soccer

The department's athletics staff works very closely with numerous independent soccer associations, assisting them with game sites and practice sites. Adult soccer is played in the fall and spring in various county fields.

## Officials' Clinics

The department conducts officials' clinics for all city-sponsored sports programs. The clinics are open to all adults interested in officiating or umpiring sports such as baseball, softball, football and basketball.



# Golf Courses

More than 50 golf courses dot Jacksonville's landscape. The city owns three of those, with a fourth currently under construction, and has arranged for golf experts to maintain and operate them.

In a unique relationship, the PGA Tour manages the 18-hole city-owned Golf Club of Jacksonville at 10440 Tournament Lane on the Westside. This award-winning Bobby Weed/Mark McCumber-designed course is the only Audubon certified sanctuary golf course in Duval County.

Located on the Northside, First Tee of Jacksonville features an affordable nine-hole course, a driving range and a short game area

designed by PGA Tour Design Services. The course was originally part of an 18-hole course designed by famed golf course architect Donald Ross. First Tee is a national program created by the World Golf Foundation to introduce golf to young people and promote the values intrinsic to the game.

Fiddlers Green Golf Club, located at 13715 Lake Newman St., originally served military personnel when Cecil Field was a U.S. Navy facility. The course became part of the Cecil Commerce Center recreation facilities when the base closed. Managed by Meadowbrook Golf and maintained by IGM, this 18-hole course offers an affordable round of golf, a driving range and a fully stocked golf shop.

Slated for completion in fall 2003, a nine-hole course at Blue Cypress Park will serve the Arlington area. Completely rebuilt on a former golf course, the Blue Cypress facility will provide golfing opportunities just minutes from downtown.





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"No two days at Hanna Park are ever the same," said Claudia Waldo, who has worked for the city and lived at Jacksonville's premier oceanfront park since 1998. "Reuniting lost parents and children, relocating an alligator or helping stranded sea creatures make my job interesting and keep it fun."

With the official title of "assistant management improvement officer for Kathryn Abbey Hanna Park and Huguenot Memorial Park," Waldo's job is truly a 24-hour-a-day, seven-day-a-week responsibility. But talk with her for just a brief time, and you'll learn why she and the park she calls home are such a good match.

"This really is hands-on management," she said. "I've learned nearly every nook and cranny of the park, every back trail and most of the alligator hiding places. I'm always on the go, and there's always something going on."

It's hard to tell whom Waldo likes most: the animals that live in the park or the thousands of visitors who enjoy the beach and trails every year. But it's clear she likes them all.

"The opening of Dolphin Plaza gives us the chance to do some really special things like beach weddings and reunions," she said. "People use the park for family events they'll remember the rest of their lives. Everyone can't live in the park like I do, but they can take home wonderful memories."

When you visit Hanna Park and watch the waves wash the beach or stroll peacefully down a tree-canopied path, you may run into Waldo as she goes about the business of protecting this fragile ecosystem for future generations. If you meet her, be prepared to hear great stories about the people and the animals that inhabit her 450-acre backyard.

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## Staff Profile:

Claudia Waldo

"No two days at Hanna Park are ever the same."



# Fun For Kids

Let's not forget about fun for the little ones! Jacksonville's parks offer plenty of recreational choices for youngsters, including summer camps, athletic associations and Kids Kampus, a fun and educational park designed especially for kids.





# Youth Athletic Associations

The Department of Parks, Recreation and Entertainment offers competitive sports for kids ages 5 to 18 throughout the year. In fact, more than 1,000 teams participate in football, cheerleading, baseball, softball and basketball. For more information on youth athletic associations, call 630-3578.

## Football and Cheerleading

Pop Warner football, which serves youths ages 5 to 15, runs from late summer through the fall months. Football signups start in April at various athletic associations throughout the city. Players are assigned to one of five divisions based on their age and weight. For children ages 5 to 7 who may not be ready to play tackle football, the city also operates flag football leagues. In addition, Pop Warner cheerleading operates simultaneously with the football programs. Signups for cheerleading begin as early as March.

### **Arlington Football Association**

Arlington Lions Club

### **Leroy Butler Foundation**

Panama Park

### **Eastside Lions Athletic Association**

Eastside Park

### **Forestview Athletic Association**

Yancey Park

### **Grand Park Athletic Association**

Paxon High School

### **Inner City Athletic Association**

Scott Park

### **Lakeshore Athletic Association**

Criswell Park

### **LaVilla Sportsman Club**

Singleton Park

### **Mandarin Athletic Association**

Burnett/Greenland Park

### **Normandy Athletic Association**

Normandy Park

### **North Florida Athletic Association**

Charles Clark Park

### **North Jacksonville Sports Association**

Turtle Creek Park/First Coast High School

### **Pine Forest Athletic Association**

Pine Forest Park

### **Pablo Creek Athletic Association**

Patton Park

### **Southside Football Cheerleading**

Cuba Hunter Park

### **Sweetwater Athletic Association**

Wiley Road Park

### **Westside Football League**

Wesconnett Park

## Baseball and Softball

Youth baseball and softball are played in spring and early fall. Athletes compete in five age divisions ranging from 8 to 17 years old. Spring registration begins in January and continues through mid-February at most local athletic associations. Fall baseball season registration is in August with games played September through October.

The city also offers T-ball for children ages 5 to 7 in the spring and early fall. Registration begins at most local neighborhood athletic associations in January continuing through mid-February. Practice begins in February with preseason games and tournaments played in March. Official league play begins in April.



**Argyle Athletic Association**

Argyle/Jacksonville Heights

**Arlington East Athletic Association**

Brookview Elementary School

**Assumption Athletic Association\***

Assumption Catholic School

**Baldwin Athletic Association**

Bryceville

**Carver Lincoln Youth Association**

Nip Sams Park

**Cedar Hills Athletic Association**

Cedar Hills Park

**Christ the King Athletic Association\*\***

Christ the King Catholic Church

**Dinsmore Sports Association**

Dinsmore Park

**Eastside Lions Athletic Association**

Eastside Park

**Forestview Athletic Association**

Yancey Park

**Fort Caroline Athletic Association\*\***

The Dunes Regional Park

**Grand Park Athletic Association\*\***

Paxon High School

**Hendricks Ave. Community Athletic Assoc.\*\***

Hendricks Baptist Church

**Inner City Athletic Association\*\***

Scott Park

**Jacksonville Beach Athletic Association\*\***

Wingate Park

**Julington Creek Athletic Association**

Mills Field

**Lake Lucina Youth Association**

Lake Lucina Elementary School

**Lakeshore Athletic Association\*\***

Criswell Park

**LaVilla Sportsman Club\*\***

Singleton Park

**Mandarin Athletic Association**

Burnett/Greenland Park

**Mandarin Sports Association**

Alberts Field/Flynn Park

**Marietta Bullsbay Athletic Association**

Thomas Jefferson Park

**Maxville Civic Association**

Maxville Park

**Murray Hill Athletic Association**

Murray Hill Park

**Normandy Athletic Association**

Normandy Park

**North Florida Athletic Association**

Charles Clark Park

**Northside Athletic Association\*\***

Tom Marshall Park

**Northside Athletic Association\***

Northshore Field

**Paxon Improvement Association**

Hammond Park

**Pine Forest Athletic Association\*\***

Pine Forest Park

**River City Softball Association\***

Victoria Park

**Rondette Athletic Association\*\***

Rondette Park

**San Jose Athletic Association\*\***

Baker-Skinner Park/Beauclerc

**San Mateo Women's Athletic Association\***

San Mateo Elementary School

**Sans Souci Athletic Association\*\***

Fletcher Morgan/Sans Souci Park

**Southside Estates Athletic Association\*\***

Southside Estates Elementary School

**Southside Youth Athletic Association**

Glynlea Park/Holiday Hill

**Wesconnett Athletic Association**

Jeb Stuart Park

**West Duval Youth Association**

Wheat Road Park

**Westside Athletic Association**

Wesconnett Park

**Whitehouse Civic Association**

Whitehouse Park

**Windy Hill Athletic Association**

Windy Hill Elementary School

\*Softball only

\*\*Baseball only



## Basketball

Youth basketball is played in January, February and March of each year. The program serves youths ages 8 to 18, divided into different age groups. Registration is held in December at the various neighborhood athletic associations. The season ends with county championship tournaments in each division.

### **Carver Lincoln Youth Association**

Nip Sams Park

### **Eastside Lions Athletic Association**

Eastside Park

### **Forestview Athletic Association**

Yancey Park

### **Grand Park Athletic Association**

Paxon High School

### **Inner City Athletic Association**

Scott Park



### **Lakeshore Athletic Association**

Criswell Park

### **North Florida Athletic Association**

Charles Clark Park

## Soccer

Soccer is played in the fall and spring at numerous sites throughout the city. The Department of Parks, Recreation and Entertainment's athletic staff works closely with numerous private soccer associations, assisting them with game sites and practice sites.

## Kids Kampus

Developed with local educators, Kids Kampus allows children to indulge their natural curiosity while enjoying its engaging playscapes and miniature Jacksonville landmarks. Children can climb, slide, dig and ride while learning how to use telescopes, signal kits, mechanical diggers, a sundial, compass and an interactive wind machine. Play equipment mimics real-life machines and historical sites.

In "Safe City," children can learn tricycle safety while riding through a miniaturized four-block area of Jacksonville's downtown. The interactive exhibit also teaches water safety and stranger danger. Kids Kampus includes several water features, such as "Three Friends," a large boat and play structure surrounded by water cannons, and "Bayou, Bogs & Frogs," a non-skid, sculptured rug that depicts Florida's wetlands and includes benches and water jets for wet and wild fun.

Kids Kampus also offers two open-air seating areas, just the right size for educational field trips and group tours. A 150-child capacity pavilion has a moveable stage and bleachers. An outdoor, 50-child capacity amphitheater sits on a grassy hill overlooking the "Mayport Signal Hill."

Kids Kampus is at 1410 Gator Bowl Blvd. Call 630-KIDS for more information.

# Summer Camps

What can Jacksonville kids do each summer? You name it, and the Parks, Recreation and Entertainment Department has probably developed a program for it.

The city offers camps on crafts, art, games, tournaments, field trips, tennis and environmental education for children ages 6 to 18, as well as a special camp for children ages 4 to 5. All summer camps are available in two-week sessions, with before and after day care available at select locations. Space is limited, and requests for most camps exceed available spaces each year. Camp registrations are accepted on a first-come, first-served basis. For more information on summer camps, call 630-4100.



## Summer Enrichment Camp

Traditional summer camps are held at 16 locations across the city. Arts and crafts, outdoor games, indoor activities, tournaments and field trips, all under the direction of the department's professional recreation leaders, are offered for kids ages 6 to 12.

## Art Camp

Art Camp for ages 8 to 17 at the Murray Hill Art Center on Kerle Street offers pottery, painting and drawing.

## Tennis Camp

Young tennis players ages 8 to 18 enjoy the instructional tennis camps offered during two-week sessions at the Southside Tennis Complex, 1539 Hendricks Ave., and Crystal Springs Park, 9800 Crystal Springs Road.

## Enviro Camp

Like bugs and other creepy-crawly things? Then check out the Enviro Camp for ages 7 to 12 at Westside Regional Park, 7000 Roosevelt Blvd. The city's park naturalist leads field trips, nature crafts and educational activities designed to develop a greater appreciation of nature at this outstanding facility featuring a nature center and outdoor classroom.

## Teen Power Camp

Teen Power camps offer kids ages 13 to 15 a chance to learn how camps work by teaming up for some on-the-job-training with a staff member at one of the summer camps.

## Kids Kamp

Kids Kamp for children ages 4 to 5 is held at the Normandy Center, 1751 Lindsey Road. Age-appropriate activities include field trips to locations sure to delight the active child.





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John Kelly feels "a great satisfaction knowing that our athletic programs help create good citizens. Playing organized athletics teaches kids sportsmanship and respect that stays with them the rest of their life."

Kelly, a 25-year veteran of the Department of Parks, Recreation and Entertainment and current superintendent of Recreation Services for Athletics and Aquatics, played at Woodstock Park growing up and speaks from experience.

"Next to my parents, the most important influence on my life while I was growing up was Ken Harper, the director of Woodstock playground when I was a kid," Kelly said. "Beginning when I was 8 years old, I played baseball, softball, basketball and flag football under his direction. His influence guided me into recreation as a career."

Before joining the department full time in 1978 as a recreation leader at the park near his childhood home, Kelly umpired city baseball and softball leagues for three years.

"Umpiring more than 100 games a year was good training for dealing with people and making tough decisions," he said with a smile.

Kelly has seen the department and its offerings grow remarkably in the last 25 years. He now oversees programs that teach more than 4,000 children how to swim each year and that boast nearly 1,000 youth athletic teams and more than 700 adult teams.

"People take recreational athletics very seriously today," he said. "We're always looking for ways to host more tournaments and to provide more opportunities for kids to play."

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## Staff Profile:

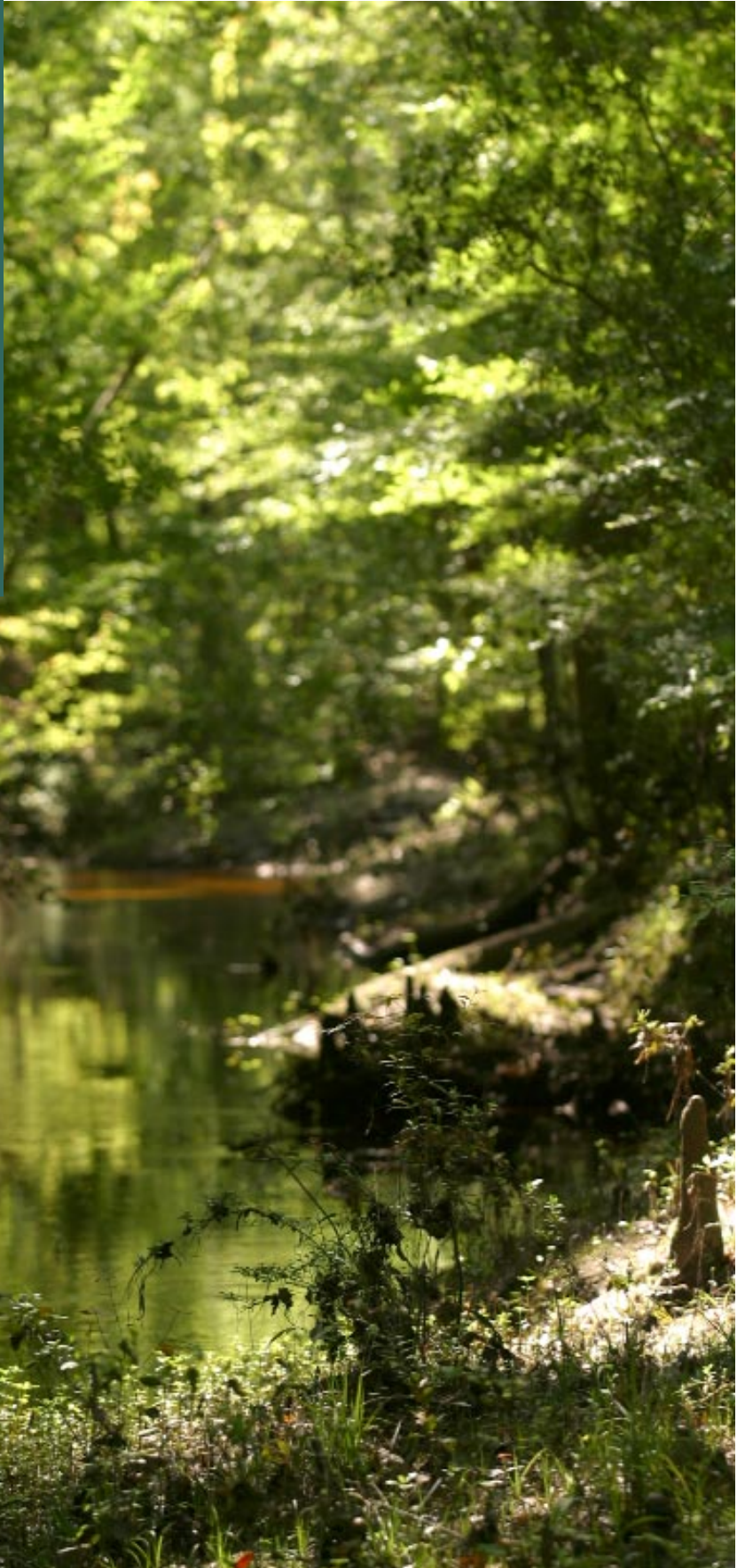
John Kelly

"We're always looking for ways to host more tournaments and to provide more opportunities for kids to play."



# Walk on the Wild Side

Discover Jacksonville's natural beauty in the city's parks. A multitude of trails and nature parks offer breathtaking scenery and glimpses of wildlife. Come breathe the fresh air and enjoy the outdoors.





# Hiking and Biking Trails

Jacksonville has more than a dozen parks where residents can go hiking or biking. From rustic forest paths to paved walking trails, there is something for just about anyone looking for a little adventure.

One of the most popular yet still serene spots is Kathryn Abbey Hanna Park located south of Mayport at Atlantic Beach. Among its many amenities, the park offers a variety of trails for hiking but is best known for its off-road bike trails. Its more than 20 miles of looping single and double tracks are generally flat with small hills and lots of twists. With colorful names like "Grunt," "Devil Stick" and "Logjam," the park's trails range in degree of difficulty from beginner to advanced, offering something for everyone.

Touted as one of the best spots around for mountain biking, the park is diverse in its landscape and wildlife. Whether on foot or a bike, park-goers can travel in minutes from shaded forests of palmetto, sweet gum and oak to one and a half miles of sandy beaches. Visitors might see raccoons and possum scamper through the woods and dolphins, pelicans and ghost crabs play along the ocean shore.

While Hanna Park certainly provides the bumpy ride that many want, bikers who prefer a gentler ride may want to hit the Jacksonville-Baldwin Rails to Trails, a 14<sup>1/2</sup>-mile path on the Westside winding through wetlands, fields and forests. The trail was built along an abandoned railway line and is ideal for walkers and bikers.

On the Southside, the 21-acre Camp Tomahawk provides a much-needed retreat to nature in the heart of a very busy and developed corridor. Considered a diamond in the rough, Camp Tomahawk features a one-mile nature trail along

Goodby's Creek alive with blue herons, egrets and turtles.

And for an even wilder experience, adventurous residents will want to check out the new Ortega Stream Valley Park, located behind Ringhaver Park off I 18th Street. On the two miles of nature trails, it is not unusual for hikers to see deer or turkey or even an alligator sitting on the banks of a pond.

In Mandarin, residents can hike one of the city's most unique nature trails at Mandarin Park or take a walk into the past at a very special historic park. At Walter Jones Historical Park, which abounds in century-old oak and cypress trees, residents can take a walking tour of some of the few 19th-century structures that still remain in Mandarin.

Constructed around 1875, the farmhouse, barn and servants quarters reflect Mandarin's rural history of citrus farming and steamboat transportation at the turn of the century. The park includes trails, boardwalks and observation platforms along the river.

Nature lovers are sure to enjoy the diversity of Mandarin Park's nature trail. The one-mile trail is particularly inviting because it travels through five very distinct plant communities in a relatively short distance. Hikers will walk from uplands to a swamp followed by a scrub hammock, which leads to a laurel oak hammock and then into a turkey oak sand hill.

## Jacksonville-Baldwin Rails to Trails

Once a part of the CSX railway line, this unique park provides a 14.5-mile paved greenway between



Imeson Road and County Road 121, just past the town of Baldwin. Along the greenway, observe diverse natural habitats, including pine flatwoods, wetlands and hardwood uplands that attract songbirds, hawks, wild turkey and white-tailed deer. The dense canopy covering most of the trail provides shade on a sunny day and, in certain locations, gives the illusion of traveling in a tunnel. Rest areas with benches are provided along the route for walkers and bikers. An equestrian trail is under construction.

#### **Directions to Imeson Road Trailhead**

From Jacksonville, take Interstate 10 west to Exit 356 (old Exit 53) for Interstate 295. Head north on I-295 to Commonwealth Avenue (Exit 9). From Exit 9, head west on Commonwealth Avenue approximately one mile to Imeson Road. Take a right on Imeson Road (heading north) and continue to the trailhead.

## Nature Center at Westside Regional Park

Westside Regional Park has a nature center with changing displays, a butterfly garden, an outdoor classroom and self-guided nature walks. A park naturalist is available for special programs on Northeast Florida's marvelous natural resources, with many programs especially designed for small children. The park conducts three "Envirocamps" for various age groups during the summer in day-long sessions lasting two weeks each.

The park is at 7000 Roosevelt Blvd. Call 573-2498 for more information.

## Tree Hill Nature Center

Tree Hill Nature Center, Jacksonville's center of excellence for environmental education, conservation and awareness, offers programs, facilities and access to natural areas, which promote understanding of and respect for our natural world. Tree Hill is a non-profit wildlife preserve conveniently located in the midst of a city suburb. The center has been an integral part of the environmental landscape in Northeast Florida for three decades. Take the time to visit and learn about nature, walk among the massive oaks, observe a quiet stream and wonder at life's creations.

Tree Hill is at 7152 Lone Star Road. Call 724-4646 for more information.

## Where to Watch Wildlife

Although the 2000 census ranks Jacksonville as the nation's 14th largest city, relaxing escapes to peaceful parks and pristine natural areas are only a few minutes away. City parks, state parks and the federally designated Timucuan Ecological and Historic Preserve provide habitat for thousands of species of plants and animals. The parks are also a refuge for urban-weary visitors who can relax and enjoy Northeast Florida's rich ecological bounty, thoughtfully protected and preserved, often in conditions that existed hundreds of years ago. Enjoy the natural setting and its inhabitants, but please observe all posted rules to avoid damage to fragile ecosystems.





## City Parks

The Department of Parks, Recreation and Entertainment maintains more than a dozen nature parks among its more than 300 parks and playground sites. Nearly 100 miles of nature trails, ranging from a quarter-mile stroll to a 14-mile hike, wind through verdant forests, lush grasslands and unique estuaries. Among the most popular nature parks are Kathryn Abbey Hanna Park, Huguenot Memorial Park and Westside Regional Park. Hanna Park and Huguenot Memorial Park, each offering breathtaking views of the Atlantic Ocean, were designated Great Florida Birding Trail sites in 2002, thanks to the abundance of egrets, herons, loons, cormorants and migratory songbirds. Hanna Park features more than 20 miles of trails where hikers can encounter a nice mix of forest, wading and shorebirds. Plovers, terns, sandpipers, skimmers and pelicans wade along or soar above the 1.5-mile beach.

Westside Regional Park boasts a nature center and outdoor classroom and offers five miles of easily traversed trails and wooden walkways. The park also has an elevated watchtower for viewing bald eagles that nest in the area.

## State Parks

Big Talbot Island State Park offers a glimpse of Northeast Florida as it was hundreds of years ago. Bobcats, raccoons, river otters, a few alligators and other reptiles make Big Talbot Island their home. Birdwatchers frequently spot great egrets, snowy egrets, great blue herons, green herons, painted buntings and shorebirds at locations scattered across this undeveloped barrier island.

Little Talbot Island, with its white sandy beaches, salt marshes and vegetated dunes, is a 2,500-acre island state park. One of the special inhabitants of Little Talbot Island is the gopher tortoise, a protected species that grows to approximately 12 inches in diameter. During the summer, loggerhead, green and leatherback sea turtles lay eggs on the beach. Inland, look for raccoons, opossums, bobcats and river otters. Owls, hawks, peregrine falcons, ospreys and a large variety of shorebirds and songbirds can be observed throughout the year.



## Timucuan Ecological and Historic Preserve

The 46,000-acre Timucuan Ecological and Historic Preserve was established in 1988 to protect one of the last unspoiled coastal wetlands on the Atlantic Coast. The preserve includes federal, state, city and private lands and represents a unique cooperative partnership to manage this invaluable natural resource.

In addition to Hanna Park, Huguenot Memorial Park and Big and Little Talbot Islands, the preserve includes several other significant resources. Kingsley Plantation, which dates to 1792, gives a glimpse of life on an antebellum plantation. The Theodore Roosevelt Area features 600 acres of hardwood forest, wetlands and scrub vegetation where visitors enjoy miles of peaceful nature trails and a vast grassland that supports water and land animals. Cedar Point, 400 acres of undeveloped land, harbors large areas of oak hammock and pine plantation, perfect for hiking, birding and photography. The three Broward Islands can be reached only by boat, presenting one of the most remote but accessible locations in the preserve. The Fort Caroline National Memorial Complex includes the Spanish Pond area for nature viewing of a freshwater habitat and a near life-size model fort and interpretive center focusing on the brief 16th-century French presence in Northeast Florida.

Ready to get away from it all? Looking for a refuge from the stress of urban living? Jacksonville's parks and recreation areas are a natural solution.

# Campgrounds

Ready for a nature escape? Jacksonville presents some of the finest camping opportunities around for tent campers, RV campers and even campers who prefer a hint of luxury.

Kathryn Abbey Hanna Park and Huguenot Memorial Park, North Florida's premier oceanfront parks, offer camping, hiking, kayaking, fishing, biking or just plain relaxing, and both have been designated as Great Florida Birding Trail sites.

Hanna Park, 500 Wonderwood Drive, is 14 miles from downtown Jacksonville. The park provides 293 full hookup campsites, 15 of which are designated for tents only. All sites are just a short walk to either the 60-acre freshwater lake or the beautiful white-sand beach. Cyclists will enjoy 15 miles of challenging trails crisscrossing the park. For those who prefer their camping a little less rugged, four unfurnished "Cozy Cabins" have been added, each with climate control, screened porch, ceiling fan and picnic table. Nearby bathhouses offer hot showers, sinks and electrical outlets. Call 249-4700 for additional information or to reserve a site.

Huguenot Memorial Park, 10980 Heckscher Drive, boasts more than 70 primitive campsites. A dump station is provided. Several of these campsites face the ocean or the inlet, offering spectacular sunrise and waterfront views. Call 251-3335 for additional information or to reserve a site.

Part of the JaxParks program, the Florida Park Service's Little Talbot Island State Park offers 40 campsites, all with water and electric hookups. There is a 30-foot limit on motor homes. Call 251-2320 for additional information or to reserve a site.





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"I planted a little oak tree in 1973, one inch in diameter. Now it would take you and me together to put our arms around it," said Park Maintenance Superintendent Ronald C. "R.C." Nasworthy, reminiscing about changes he's seen in his 40 years with Jacksonville parks.

Nasworthy not only watched trees he planted in the parks grow, he's watched the Department of Parks, Recreation and Entertainment grow, along with the City of Jacksonville. When anyone in the department has a question about a park's past, Nasworthy is likely to have an answer – and probably a story to go along with it.

"There's been a lot of changes since I began on April 23, 1962," Nasworthy said with precision. "When I started working, the city and county hadn't consolidated yet, and the City of Jacksonville had separate departments for parks and recreation. Now we take care of parks, community centers and swimming pools. We even have a state-of-the-art sign shop where we make signs for the parks."

Nasworthy said he has enjoyed watching new parks develop.

"I've been to a lot of dedications for new parks," he said, noting several major projects including Friendship Fountain, Treaty Oak Park and the Riverwalk. "I remember when the area around the MOSH [Museum of Science and History] was just pasture land. I used to mow it."

The stately oaks he planted in the parks and the dynamic city he loves will continue to grow, and Nasworthy will no doubt continue to take pleasure in watching both.

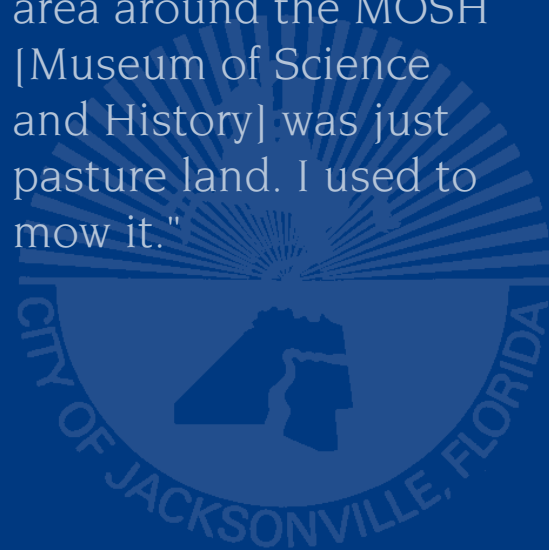
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## Staff Profile:

R.C. Nasworthy

"I remember when the area around the MOSH [Museum of Science and History] was just pasture land. I used to mow it."



# Way Back When

Fort Caroline. San Nicolas. Wakka Pilatka. Cowford. The area now known as Jacksonville has had many names, echoing its Native American, French, Spanish and British influences. Visit the city's historical parks to find out more about Jacksonville's intriguing past.





# Historical Parks

A visit to one of Jacksonville's many historical parks will reveal not only Jacksonville's breathtaking beauty, but also its rich history. One can stroll through wooded trails overlooking the river or tour historical buildings to see the heritage that influenced the city, whether Native American or European inspired.

Walter Jones Historical Park at 11664 Mandarin Road provides one such experience. Around 1875, Union Maj. William W. Webb started an orange, strawberry and vegetable farm on the property, and Walter Jones, an immigrant from England and post-master of Mandarin, purchased it around 1902. The 10-acre park boasts a mile-long boardwalk and a 1,000-foot pier extending into the St. Johns River that was once used to sell the produce to passing steamships. Nature trails meander through the centuries-old oak and cypress trees, and observation decks allow visitors to explore the natural beauty. The park includes the original farmhouse, which has been refurbished, and a barn that is scheduled for renovation.

The city, which purchased the property in 1994, plans to open a new 2,500-square-foot museum and visitor center that will have educational programs and provide artifact storage and display. The park is open from dawn till dusk and is equipped with restrooms and two picnic pavilions with charcoal grills. Reservations are not needed, but call 260-9983 or 287-0452 to schedule tours.

Across town at the Fort Caroline National Memorial, patrons can experience the short-lived French presence of 16th-century Florida and the history of the Timucua Indians, who inhabited the land more than 4,000 years before the first Europeans arrived. Once a French colony named la Caroline, Spanish forces overran the area in 1565, destroying the settlement.

Today visitors can stroll a nature trail to get a close-up view of the environment, including the

salt marsh and hardwood forest, as it may have existed when the first Europeans arrived. The Fort Caroline National Memorial Visitor Center includes "Where the Waters Meet," a series of exhibits illustrating the ecology of the marine estuarine environment, the Timucuan's interaction with the environment and artifacts from the Timucuan and early European periods. The park is part of the Timucuan Trail State and National Parks, a co-op between the city, state and National Park Service to preserve the area's rich historic and prehistoric sites.

At the Kingsley Plantation, overlooking the Fort George River on historic Fort George Island, visitors can get a sense of stepping back into 19th-century Florida. The plantation, surrounded by ancient live oaks and stately palms, is also part of the Timucuan Trail State and National Parks. It once belonged to Zephaniah Kingsley, a wealthy English planter, and his wife, whom Kingsley purchased as a slave. The history also includes the men, women and children who lived on the property as slaves.

The plantation contains the original planter's residence, kitchen house, barn and 25 tabby slave cabins. The National Park Service has managed the property since 1991. Visitors can explore the plantation through exhibits, ranger programs and tours.

During October, the National Park Service annually hosts the Kingsley Heritage Celebration at Kingsley Plantation. The event is free and open to the public and features musical performances, living history, craft demonstrations and talks by visiting historians. For information, call Kingsley Plantation at 251-3537.



# Meet and Greet Community Centers

Jacksonville's more than 30 staffed community centers offer activities and events for the whole family. Activities vary from center to center, but many offer indoor activities such as arts and crafts, games and table tennis and outdoor activities like basketball, horseshoes and volleyball.

Many of the community centers host summer camps and regularly scheduled community meetings, and 23 of them also offer the Club Rec after school program from September to May.

Most community centers can be rented for community meetings, wedding receptions, family reunions and birthday parties. Call any community center directly for more information.

## **Balis Community Center**

1513 LaSalle St. . . . . 306-2148

## **Beachwood Center and Playground**

11758 Marina Drive . . . . . 928-0917

## **Bethesda Park**

10790 Key Haven Blvd. . . . . 764-5531

## **Beverly Hills Center and Playground**

4511 Portsmouth Drive . . . . . 765-6753

## **Blue Cypress Community Center**

4012 University Blvd. N. . . . . 745-5466

## **Burnett Center and Playground**

3740 Burnett Park Road . . . . . 268-7510

## **Carvill Center and Playground**

1302 Carvill Ave. . . . . 764-5194

## **Cecil Field Gymnasium**

13531 Lake Newman St. . . . . 778-5498

## **Charles B. Clark Center and Playground**

8793 Sibbald Road . . . . . 924-5351

## **Clanzel Brown Center and Playground**

4575 Moncrief Road . . . . . 765-5282

## **Julian W. Barrs Center and Playground**

10151 Crystal Springs Road . . . . . 693-4909

## **Dinsmore Center and Playground**

7126 Civic Club Drive . . . . . 768-2735

## **Edith Brown Ford Center**

2839 W. Beaver St. . . . . 388-2640

## **Emmett Reed Gymnasium and Recreation Complex**

1093 W. Sixth St. . . . . 630-0958

## **Forestview Center and Playground**

4203 Kennel Road . . . . . 765-1109

## **Fort Caroline Club**

4131 Ferber Road . . . . . 743-1698

## **Glen Myra Community Building and Playground**

1429 Winthrop St. . . . . 630-0537

## **Grand Park Center and Playground**

2500 W. 20th St. . . . . 630-0321

## **Henry T. Jones Sr. Center** (Pine Forest)

3856 Grant Road . . . . . 399-0615

## **Joseph Lee Community Center**

5120 Perry St. . . . . 630-0307

## **Mallison Center and Playground**

441 Day St. . . . . 381-1101

## **Mary Lena Gibbs Gymnasium Center**

6974 Wilson Blvd. . . . . 573-3153

## **Mitchell Center and Playground**

1010 Acorn St. . . . . 630-0331

## **Murray Hill Art Center**

4327 Kerle St. . . . . 384-8039

## **Oceanway Center and Playground**

12215 Sago Ave. W. . . . . 751-3386

## **Robert F. Kennedy Community Center**

1133 Ionia St. . . . . 630-0933

## **Simonds-Johnson Center and Playground**

3730 Moncrief Road . . . . . 768-8525

## **Sunny Acres Playground and Center**

9424 Fort Caroline Road . . . . . 642-1930

## **Westside Regional Park**

7000 Roosevelt Blvd. . . . . 573-2498

## **Windy Hill Community Center**

10445 Anders Blvd. . . . . 565-2669

## Dolphin Plaza

Imagine holding your next special occasion against the striking backdrop of sand dunes, sea oats and waves lapping a pristine shoreline. Dolphin Plaza, a beautiful oceanfront rental facility in Hanna Park, offers an ideal place for events such as wedding receptions, family reunions and birthday parties. The 1,937-square-foot facility features a large, open meeting room, air conditioning, warming kitchen, outdoor grill, banquet tables and chairs, professional landscaping and seating for up to 125 people.

Dolphin Plaza is the only oceanfront meeting facility within a city park. The rental fee is \$426 for four hours. To reserve Dolphin Plaza, call Hanna Park at 249-4700.



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"It's fun watching kids you know from one of the centers develop into fine young men and women," said Danny Bell, a 26-year employee of the Department of Parks, Recreation and Entertainment. That process could apply to Bell himself, who grew up playing almost every day at Jones Street Park and who now supervises that park and scores of others as a recreation services supervisor.

"The park was sort of in my backyard. All I had to do was hop the fence, and I was there," he said. "The park was the place where you met your friends, where everyone went before they started going to malls and playing video games."

Traveling to other areas of town was also part of the lure of the parks. "We went to other parks to play their teams in baseball or flag football. It was a great chance to meet new kids."

When he was seven, Bell recalls proudly, the Jones Street Park team that he and two older brothers played on won the 1961 flag football city championship.

Bell believes city parks are a great place to shape character. "We do a lot at the parks besides provide a place to play. We help with homework; we mentor; we give kids a safe place to go. Sometimes, for some of them, we become father or mother figures. And it's worth it when you watch them graduate from high school and go on to college or join the military. Sometimes they say thanks. Sometimes they just smile at you, and you know why."

Bell and his Fun Expert colleagues strive to make sure children today have the same great experiences he had growing up in Jacksonville's city parks.

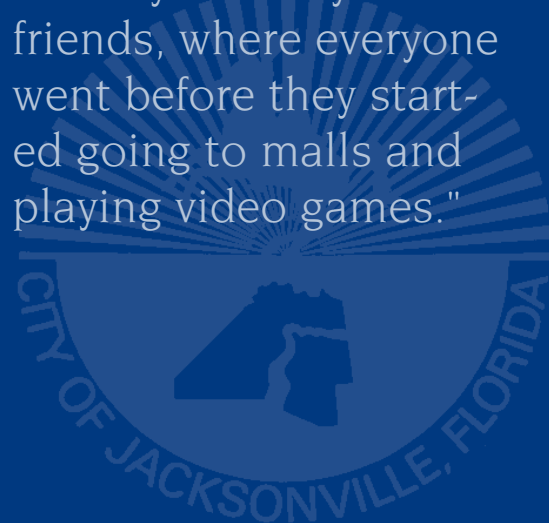
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## Staff Profile:

Danny Bell

"The park was the place where you met your friends, where everyone went before they started going to malls and playing video games."



# You Name It, We've Got It

Looking for something a little bit more offbeat? Jacksonville offers several specialty parks for those with special interests. From skateboarders to disc golfers, Jacksonville's parks have something for everyone.





## Skateboard Park at Cuba Hunter

Hey, dude! Check it out! Cuba Hunter Park's new skateboard facility has several exciting features, including a half pipe, quarter pipe, jump box, adjustable square rail and bank ramp with a partial pyramid. Cuba Hunter Park also includes two playscapes, a multi-use athletic field, a quarter-mile boardwalk winding through more than 3 1/2 acres of wetlands and a covered pavilion with three picnic tables and two grills. The park is open 5 a.m. to 10 p.m. Future plans include a gymnasium with an upper-level walking track and a community meeting room with food preparation areas.

The park is at 3620 Bedford Road.

## Radio Control Model Airplanes At Lannie Road Park

Want to be a pilot? Can't afford a 757 or an F-15? Take a look at the radio control model airplanes flown at the Lannie Road Park Radio Control Flying Field. The site, which is home to the Gateway Radio Control Club, has a covered pavilion with picnic tables, workbenches, taxiways, a runway and a clubhouse. Fliers must have Academy of Model Aeronautics (AMA) insurance coverage or its equivalent. The 60-acre park, which also has athletic fields and playground equipment, is open 5 a.m. to 10 p.m.

The park is at 3461 Lannie Road.

## Handicapped Access Fishing and Overnight Stays at Bethesda

Operating year-round, Bethesda Park is completely accessible and barrier-free, providing easy access to the outdoors for everyone. This specialty park provides recreational opportunities for individuals with disabilities and the general public. The Florida Game and Fresh Water Fish Commission maintains the park's 20-acre lake and stocks it for fishing. A fishing license is required for all anglers age 16 to 64. Complementing the park's natural setting are 1,400 feet of nature trail boardwalks and picturesque picnic facilities. The park is open 8 a.m. to 4:30 p.m.

In addition, the Bethesda Park Lodge offers a full kitchen and restrooms for groups of up to 205. For overnight stays, enjoy one of the park's four cabins.

Each includes four bunk beds, a restroom and kitchenette.

Bethesda Park is at 10790 Key Haven Road. Call 764-5531 for more information.

## Disc Golf at Dunes (District II Regional Park)

Among the amenities at this large Arlington park is the city's top disc golf course. Also known as the "Fore Palms Disc Golf Club," this 18-hole layout includes open and tree-lined fairways through the park on a course carefully designed to challenge all levels of players. Tournaments and weekly events are available for more advanced players, while beginners of all ages can learn the game and the techniques from advanced players and disc-golf professionals who frequent the course.

The park is open 5 a.m. to 10 p.m. The Dunes is at 11751 McCormick Road.

## BMX at Ray Greene Park

Operated under an agreement between the city and JAX BMX, a not-for-profit corporation, the BMX track at Ray Greene Park offers a fully developed BMX course for off-road bicycle racers and BMX riders who want to improve their off-road skills. The track is open 5 a.m. to 10 p.m. seven days a week, but is open only to JAX BMX members on Tuesday and Friday evenings.

Ray Greene Park is at 2149 Leonid Road.



## Annual Special Events

The Office of Special Events and Department of Parks, Recreation and Entertainment host fun and family-friendly events throughout Jacksonville all year long. From music to sports to culture to patriotism, city events cover the gamut of interests. So put on your party hats and come join the fun!

### Jacksonville Jazz Festival

**April, Metropolitan Park, The Jacksonville Landing and additional venues**

The Jacksonville Jazz Festival is larger and better than ever, with a variety of jazz genres, an expanded lineup, multiple locations and exciting new components. For more information, call 630-3690, e-mail [events@coj.net](mailto:events@coj.net) or visit [www.coj.net](http://www.coj.net).

### Blessing of the Fleet

**April, Northbank Riverfront Park**

The Office of Special Events and Captains' Club join together to present the annual "Blessing of the Fleet" at Northbank Riverfront Park. Bring the whole family to the downtown riverfront to witness many of the First Coast's finest vessels as they participate in the visually stunning blessing ceremony. For more information on participating with your boat, call Gordy Millar at 268-3419. For event information, call 630-3690, e-mail [events@coj.net](mailto:events@coj.net) or visit [www.coj.net](http://www.coj.net).

### World of Nations Celebration

**April, Metropolitan Park**

Join your friends and neighbors on an exciting trip around the globe at the annual World of Nations Celebration. Journey with us as we celebrate the rich cultural traditions and unique heritage of people from around the world. As you travel through the World of Nations, you will have the opportunity to experience the cuisine, artistry and customs from lands near and far. Grab your passport and join us at Metropolitan Park for a great trip! For more information, call 630-3690, e-mail [events@coj.net](mailto:events@coj.net) or visit [www.coj.net](http://www.coj.net).



### Sail Jacksonville

**May, Downtown Riverfront**

Jacksonville's downtown riverfront comes alive with the beauty of tall ships from around the world. The three-day festival features in-the-water events such as the Parade of Sail, landside demonstrations, boat building, port operations, music, seamanship demonstrations and performance artists. For more information, call 630-3690, e-mail [events@coj.net](mailto:events@coj.net) or visit [www.coj.net](http://www.coj.net).

### Spring Music Festival

**May, Metropolitan Park**

A Memorial Day Weekend tradition in Jacksonville, the Spring Music Festival offers a great free concert starring a national recording artist. Past concerts have featured Bonnie Raitt, The Neville Brothers, The Bacon Brothers, Four Tops, Chaka Khan, Commodores, Collective Soul, Train, Faith Hill, Jackson Browne and many others. For more information, call 630-3690, e-mail [events@coj.net](mailto:events@coj.net) or visit [www.coj.net](http://www.coj.net).



## Freedom, Fanfare and Fireworks

### **July 4, Downtown Jacksonville and Metropolitan Park**

Happy Birthday, America! One action-packed day celebrating our great nation's birth features the annual Independence Day Parade downtown and a free concert by a national recording artist at Metropolitan Park. Past concert performers to join us for this patriotic birthday bash include Clint Black, Brad Paisley, Chuck Berry, Wynonna, BlackHawk, Lonestar, Mark Wills, Deana Carter, Trace Adkins, SHeDAISY and Randy Travis. The day ends with Skyblast, the First Coast's biggest and most spectacular Fourth of July fireworks display over the St. Johns River. For more information, call 630-3690, e-mail [events@coj.net](mailto:events@coj.net) or visit [www.coj.net](http://www.coj.net).

## Joseph Lee Day

### **July, Drew Park**

In honor of the man who is known as the father of the American playground, the city's children celebrate Joseph Lee Day each July. Activities include games, talent shows and arts and crafts exhibits. The event is free and open to the public. For more information, call 630-4100.

## Wacky Olympics

### **July, Willowbranch Park**

Summer wouldn't be the same without the wild and fun Wacky Olympics. Events include a pie-eating contest, ice cream relay, tug-of-war, sack race, three-legged race and water balloon toss. For more information, call 630-4100.

## Florida-Georgia Weekend Festivities

### **Last weekend in October/First weekend in November, Sports Complex**

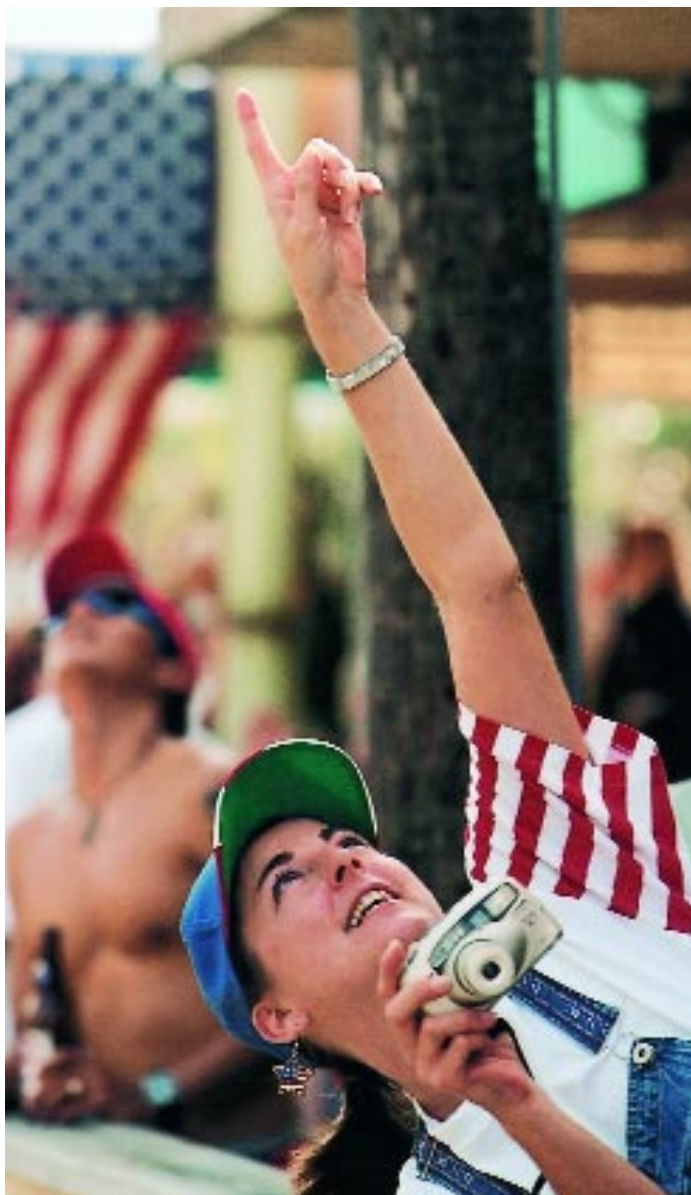
A great time for Bulldogs, Gators and everyone else! Come join the celebration that attracts fans from far and near. Don't miss RV City, a free concert Friday night by a legendary super group at Metropolitan Park or Championship Dreams Festival, which features interactive games, autograph sessions with former Bulldog and Gator play-

ers and other sports celebrities, the Georgia-Florida Hall of Fame Ceremony and more. For more information, call 630-3690, e-mail [events@coj.net](mailto:events@coj.net) or visit [www.coj.net](http://www.coj.net) or [www.flga.org](http://www.flga.org).

## Jacksonville Sea and Sky Spectacular

### **October/November, NAS Jacksonville and Downtown Riverfront**

This multi-location super event features a dynamic Sky Show with the Blue Angels and other daring flight teams, a chance to tour Navy ships, Navy aircraft on display, concerts, interactive displays and more. Call 542-3577 for Sky Show information or 270-7400 for Sea Show information.



## Veterans Day Parade

**November 11, Downtown Jacksonville**

Don't miss this chance to celebrate America's freedom and salute all those who gave of themselves to secure our liberty. For more information, contact the city's Veterans Services Division at 630-3680.

## New Year's Eve Celebration

**December 31, Downtown Jacksonville**

Ring in the New Year in style with Jacksonville's biggest New Year's bash downtown, featuring food, multiple stages with local and regional entertainment, Gator Bowl team pep rallies, fireworks and more. This is one party you'll remember until next year! For more information, call 630-3690, e-mail [events@coj.net](mailto:events@coj.net) or visit [www.coj.net](http://www.coj.net).

## FAM JAM Family Fun Jamborees

**Held at several sites throughout the city and throughout the year**

FAM JAMs offer family-friendly recreation in a community-centered atmosphere. Most feature local, live entertainment, games, contests, music and

recreation. Each event is tailored to the local community. For more information, call 630-4100.

## Jacksonville Light Parade

**November, Downtown Waterfront  
(Northbank and Southbank)**

What better way to kick off the holiday season than to join in the fun and magic of the annual Jacksonville Light Parade? The St. Johns River is transformed into a sparkling cavalcade of holiday spirit as the First Coast's finest boats and captains parade down the river. This enchanted night is topped off by an unbelievable fireworks display over the river, featuring our signature bridge "waterfalls." Admission is free, but no scrooges allowed! For more information, call 630-3690, e-mail [events@coj.net](mailto:events@coj.net) or visit [www.coj.net](http://www.coj.net).

## Holiday Parties

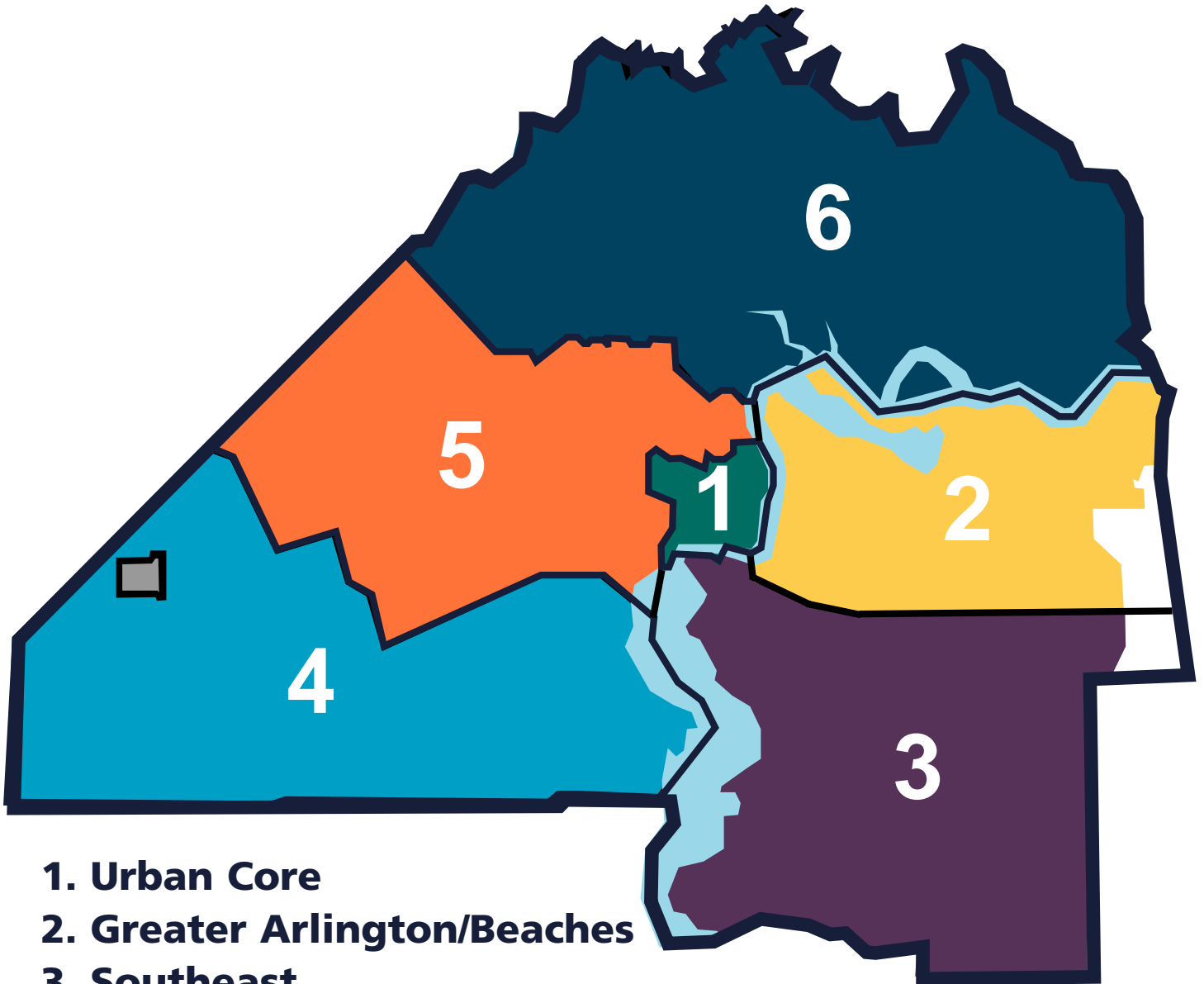
Celebrate Halloween, Christmas and Easter with traditional foods, games, songs and stories at community centers throughout the city. Call 630-4100 for more information.





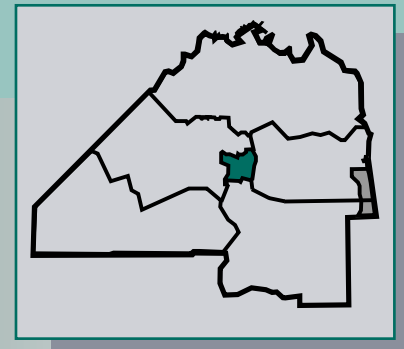
# ***PARK DIRECTORY***

## ***BY PLANNING DISTRICT***



- 1. Urban Core**
- 2. Greater Arlington/Beaches**
- 3. Southeast**
- 4. Southwest**
- 5. Northwest**
- 6. North**

# URBAN CORE



## Planning District 1


### Urban Core Boundaries

- North:** Moncrief Creek to Golfair Boulevard to Pearl Street to CSX RR to Winona Drive to Evergreen Avenue to Long Branch Road to St. Johns River
- South:** I-95 to Bee Street to St. Johns River
- East:** St. Johns River
- West:** Margaret Street to I-10 to I-95 to Myrtle Avenue to Kings Road, to Spires Avenue to 13th Street to Fairfax Street to CSX RR to Spires Avenue to Moncrief Creek to Golfair Boulevard to Pearl Street to CSX RR to Winona Drive, to Evergreen Avenue to Long Branch Road to St. Johns River




# Urban Core District 1

**Andrew Jackson Pool**, 3816 Main St. 

**Armory Building**, 851 N. Market St. 



**Brooklyn Park**, 1201 Jackson St.   

**Buster Ford Checkerboard Park**, 804 A. Philip Randolph Blvd. 


**Catherine Hester McNair Park**, 551 W. 25th St.        

**Cemetery Park**, 4502 Evergreen Ave.

**Confederate Park**, 956 Hubbard St.

**Confederate Playground**, 949 Hubbard St.  

**Eastside Park**, 1051 Franklin St.          

**Edwards Park**, 1221 E. 11th St. 

**Emmett Reed Park**, 1093 W. Sixth St.        



**Florida C. Dwight Park**, 1199 W. Church St.      

**Friendship Fountain**, 1015 Museum Circle 

**Gateway Park**, 526 W. Eighth St.

**Glen Myra Park**, 1429 Winthrop St.       


**Grunthal Park**, 1660 W. 13th St.     

**Henry J. Klutho Park**, 635 Third St.  

**J.S. Johnson Park**, 1112 Jackson St.   

**1 James P. Small Park**, 1701 Myrtle Ave.    

**Jefferson Street Park**, 1359 Jefferson St.       



**Jessie Ball DuPont**, 1123 Prudential Drive 

**Joe James CommunityCenter**, 1631 Hurst Place


**Jones Street Park**, 3800 Jones St.      

See page 65 for legend

**2 Kids Kampus**, 1410 Gator Bowl Blvd.    

**Kooker Park**, 1400 E. 20th St.      

**Liberty Park**, 1938 Liberty St.    

**Longbranch Park**, 4110 Franklin St.    

**Manson Bull Felder Park**, 1045 Fuller Lane 

**Marjenhoff Park**, 1955 Southhampton Road   



**May Mann Jennings**, 628 Winona Drive

**Memorial Park**, 1620 Riverside Ave. 

**3 Metropolitan Park**, 4110 Gator Bowl Drive     

**Myrtle Avenue Park**, 217 Myrtle Ave.   

**4 Northbank Riverwalk**, 201 E. Coastline Drive  

**Oakland Park**, 657 E. Union St.  

**Riverside Park**, 753 Park St.   

**Robert F. Kennedy Park**, 1133 Ionia St.        

**Simond Johnson Park**, 3730 Moncrief Road       

**S-Line Rail Trail**, Main Street 

**5 Southbank Riverwalk**, 1001 Museum Circle  

**Spires Street**, 3011 Spires St.   

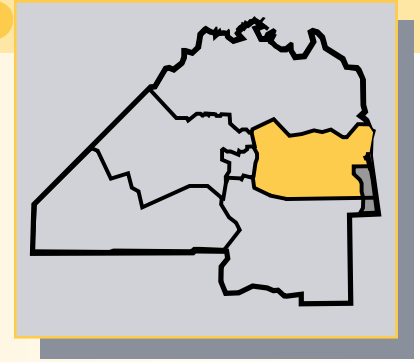
**St. Johns Marina**, 901 Museum Circle  

**Warren W. Schell Jr. Memorial Park**, 510 W. Sixth St.  

**Wigmore Park**, 1805 Wigmore St.    



# ARLINGTON/ BEACHES



## Planning District 2

### Greater Arlington/Beaches Boundaries

- North:** St. Johns River
- South:** Beach Boulevard
- East:** Intracoastal Waterway,  
Church Road, Atlantic Beach  
municipal boundary
- West:** St. Johns River


This section includes the Beaches communities.


# Arlington/Beaches District 2

**Alimacani Elementary**, 2051 S. San Pablo Road      







**Arlington Boat Ramp**, 5130 Arlington Road   

**Arlington Lions Club Park**, 4322-1 Richard Denby Gatlin Road        

**Arlingwood Park**, 1537 Millcreek Road 

**Atlantic Highlands Park**, 1725 Sunnyside Drive 

**Bayorcor Property**, St. Isabel Drive East 

**Beachwood Center & Park**, 11758 Marina Drive      



**1 Blue Cypress Park**, 4012 University Blvd. N.      

**Brookview Elementary Park**, 10441 McAleer Road      

**Bruce Park**, 6549 Arlington Road       





**Buck Park**, 11128 McCormick Road   

**Carol Road Park**, 10240 Carol Ave.

**Castaway Island Preserve**, San Pablo Road  


**Cesery Park**, 2601 Cesery Blvd.  



**Cradle Creek Preserve** 

**David Wayne Pack Park**, 4871 Ocean St.    





**2 District II Regional Park**, 11751 McCormick Road      

**Dutton Island Park and Preserve**, 2001 Dutton Drive     

**Exchange Club Island**, Under Mathews Bridge 

**Fletcher High School Pool**, 700 Seagate Ave.  


**Fort Caroline Club**, 4131 Ferber Road    

**Fort Caroline National Memorial**, 12713 Fort Caroline Road    

**Fort Caroline Playground**, 6629 Fort Caroline Road   

**Fulton Road Landing** 5000 Fulton Road 

**Gamewell Tot Lot** Terry Parker Drive S. 

**Glynlea Park**, 6801 Altama Road      




**Holiday Hill Playground**, 6900 Altama Road    








**Huffman Boulevard Park**, Huffman Blvd.

**Intracoastal Boat Ramp**, 2501 Second Ave.     

**Jacksonville Beach Golf Course**, 605 South Penman Road 



**Justina Road Elementary**, 3143 Justina Road   





**3 Kathryn Abbey Hanna Park**, 500 Wonderwood Road           




**Lake Lucina Elementary Park**, 6527 Merrill Road     

**Leonard Abess Park**, 12743 Leonard Abess Blvd.        





**Little Jetties Fishing Park**, 3600 SR A1A 





**Lonnie Wurn Boat Ramp**, 4131 Ferber Road      

**Michael B. Scanlon Boat Ramp**, 4870 Ocean St.    


**Modesky Park**, 1162 Green Cay Ave.    

**4 Norman Studios**, 2428 Seaway St.

**Oak Harbor Boat Ramp**, 2428 Seaway St.    

**Parkwood Heights Elementary Park**, 1709 Lansdowne Road    




**Patton Park**, 2850 Hodges Blvd.     

**Ray Owens Park**, 1520 Sprinkle Drive    






**Reddie Point Preserve**, Yachtsman Way   

**Rondette Park**, 3500 Rondette Lake Road    

**San Pablo Elementary**, 801 18th Ave. N.   

**Sandlewood Jr./Sr. High Pool**, 2750 John Prom Blvd.   

**Saratoga Lake Park**, University Blvd. & Robbins Circle 

**Southside Estates Elementary Park**, 9827 Jupiter Court N.     

**Sunny Acres**, 9424 Fort Caroline Road        

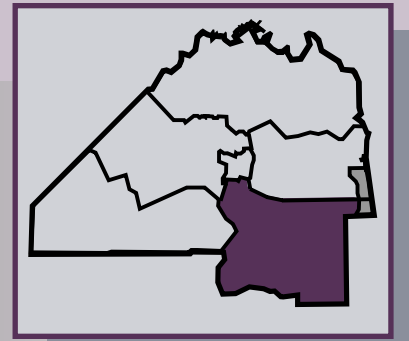
**Terry Parker Pool**, 7301 Parker School Road  

**Tidewater Lots**, 7140 Berry Ave.

**5 Tree Hill Nature Center**, 7152 Lone Star Road    

**Victory Park**, 3781 University Club Blvd.       

**Warrington Park**, 325 Bowlan St.       



## Planning District 3

### Southeast Boundaries






- North:** Beach Boulevard
- South:** St. Johns County line
- East:** St. Johns County line,  
Intracoastal Waterway
- West:** St. Johns River



# Southeast District 3

**Adolph Wurn Park**, 2115 Dean Road      

**Alberts Field**, 12073 Brady Road      




**Alejandro Garcia Camp Tomahawk**, 8419 San Ardo Road     

**Angelina Denese Park**, 3310 St. Augustine Road  





**Baker-Skinner Park** 7641 Powers Ave.    

**Balis Park**, 1999 San Marco Blvd.

**Baymeadows-9A Park**, Baymeadows Road

**Beach and Peach Preserve**, Beach Blvd.   

**Beach Blvd. Boat Ramp**, 8505 Beach Blvd.    

**Beauclerc Elementary Park**, 4555 Craven Road    

**Bee Street Park**, 701 Southside Road

**Belmonte Park**, 1440 Belmonte Ave.

**Bishop Circle**, 5661 Bishop Circle

**Brackridge Park**, 8650 Newton Road      

**Brown Whatley Park**, 1215 Jackson St.

**Burnett Park**, 3740 Burnett Park Road       

**Chapelgate Park**, Chapelgate Road

**Chuck Rogers Park**, 11950 San Jose Blvd.     

**Clinton Avenue Park**, 4603 Clinton Ave.

**Colonial Manor Lake**, 3625 San Jose Blvd.



**County Dock**, 2400 County Dock Road   



**Crabtree Park**, 1704 University Blvd. W.    

**Cuba Hunter Park**, 3620 Bedford Road     

**Deerwood Rotary Club Park**, 7901 Baymeadows Road E.   




**Drew Park**, 6621 Barnes Road S.      


**Earl Johnson Memorial Park**, 5308 St. Augustine Road  

**Englewood High School Pool**, 4412 Barnes Road  



**FEC Park**, 1620 Marco Place

**Ferngully Preserve**, Tymber Hammock Road 

**Fletcher Morgan Park**, 6736 Beach Blvd.   

**1 Fletcher Park**, 1652 Atlantic Blvd. 

**Flynn Park**, 2738 Orange Picker Road     

**Forestry Tower Park**, 10430 Beach Blvd.   

**Genovar Park**, 12810 Genovar St.   

**Goodbys Creek Boat Ramp**, 9020 San Jose Blvd.



**Goodbys Creek Preserve**, San Jose @ Beauclerc Road 

**Granada Park**, 3960 Alcazar Ave.  

**Greenland Park**, 11808 Faval Drive     

**Greenridge Road Park**, 3758 Hendricks Ave.

**Henry Jones Center**, 3856 Grant Road    

**Hood Landing Boat Ramp**, 12925 Hood Landing Road   

**Huguenot Park**, 3145 Nain Road  


**Huntington Forest**, 10106 Huntington Forest Blvd. 

**Isle of Palms Park**, Eunice Road     

**Jerusalem and White**, White Avenue

**Joe & Lillian Davin Park**, 2311 River Road

**Joe Davis Memorial Park**, 2545 Larsen Road    


**Julington-Durbin Creek Preserve**, St. Augustine Road   



**La Vaca Park**, 2001 LaVaca Road 


**Landon Park**, 1800 San Marco Blvd. 

**Largo Well Park**, 1964 Largo Road

**Lillian Saunders Center**, 2750 Bartley Circle 

**Loretto Nature Center**, Loretto Road @ Loretto Elementary

**Lovelace Park**, 6401 Barnes Road    




**Mandarin High School Pool**, 4831 Greenland Road 

**Mandarin Park**, 14780 Mandarin Road        

**Pablo Creek Preserve** 

**Pickwick Park**, Crystler Drive

**Pine Forest Elementary Park**, 3939 Grant Road     

**Pine Forest Park**, 2335 Gattis Lane    

**River Oaks Park**, 1000 River Oaks Road

**San Jose Elementary Park**, 5805 St. Augustine Road    

**San Jose Park**, 3850 San Jose Blvd.

**Southeast Regional Park Phase I**, Hood Road Extension

**Southeast Regional Park Phase II**, Greenland Road







**Southside Park**, 1541 Hendricks Ave.    

**St. Nicholas Park**, 3501 Luce St.

**St. Nicholas Playground**, 2260 Spring Park Road    




**Times Square Park**, 1972 Kings Ave.



**Verona Park**, 7155 San Jose Blvd. 

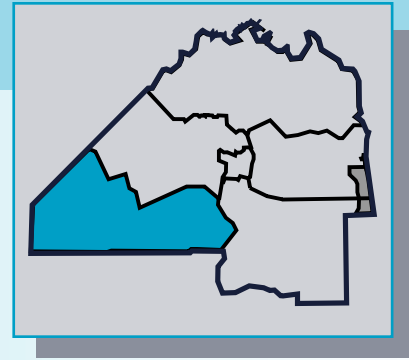
**Victoria Park**, 2948 Knights Lane W.      

**2 Walter Jones Historical Park**, 11964 Mandarin Road      

**Windy Hill Center**, 10445 Anders Blvd.   

**Windy Hill Elementary Park**, 3850 Skycrest Drive    

**Wolfson High School Pool**, 7000 Powers Ave.  



## Planning District 4

### Southwest Boundaries


















































































**North:** Old Plank Road to McGirts Creek to Normandy Boulevard to Cassat Avenue to Kingsbury Street to CSX RR to Edgewood Avenue to St. Johns River

**South:** Clay County line





**East:** St. Johns River



**West:** Baker County line

# South West District 4

- 1 103rd Street Sports Complex**, 10244 103rd St.  
- Argyle Forest Park**, 6950 Argyle Forest Blvd.      
- Baldwin Middle-High School Pool**, 345 N. Chestnut St.    
- Bennett Property**, San Juan Ave.
- Bettes Park**, 3800 Bettes Circle
- Bishopwood Park**, Argyle Forest Blvd.
- Boone Park**, 3700 Park St.     
- Branan Field Park**, 7809 Forest Trail Road
- Camp Milton Historic Preserve**, 11921 Old Plank Road 
- Cardinal Park**, 4715 Cardinal Blvd. 
- 2 Cecil Field**,            
- Cecil Field Connector**
- Cedar Hills Park**, 6709 Watoma St.     
- Columbus Park**, 2850 Iroquois Ave.
- Cortez Park**, 4260 Baltic St.
- Criswell Park**, 5372 Park St.     
- Desoto Park**, 3970 Baltic St.
- Ed White School Pool**, 1700 Old Middleburg Road   
- Fishweir Park**, 3925 Vallengia Court     
- Forrest High School Pool**, 5530 Firestone Road  
- Golf Club of Jacksonville**, 10440 Tournament Lane 
- Gregory Drive Elementary School Park**, 7800 Gregory Drive   
- J.E.B. Stuart School Park**, 4717 Wesconnett Blvd.  
- Jacksonville Heights Park**, 6200 Old Middleburg Road    
- 3 Jacksonville-Baldwin Rails to Trails**, 849 N. Center St.    
- Jammes Road Park**, 6382 118th St.
- Jax Heights Elementary Playground**, 7701 Wheat Road    
- Jefferson Davis Middle School**, 7050 Melvin Road 
- Jennings State Forest**, Normandy @ Manning Cemetery Road
- John Stockton Elementary Park**, 4827 Carlisle Road     
- Lakeshore Middle School Park**, 2519 Bayview Road    
- Lakeshore Middle School Pool**, 2519 Bayview Road  
- Lakeside Park I & II**, 4190 Lakeside Drive



**Lighthouse Marine Boat Ramp**, 5434 San Juan Ave.    

**Lynn Park**, 5109 Lambing Road   

**Mary Lena Gibbs Community Center**, 6974 Wilson Blvd.  

**Maxville Park**, 18065 Pennsylvania Ave.     





**McGirts Creek Park**, Western terminus of 118th St.

**McGirts Creek Park Expansion**, Shindler Road

**Melvin Park**, 7401 Melvin Road  

**Murray Drive Playground**, 1187 Murray Drive 

**Murray Hill Playground**, 4208 Kingsbury St.       

**Normandy Boulevard Sports Complex**, 10851 Normandy Blvd.    

**Normandy Park**, 1728 Lindsey Road     

**Oak Hill Elementary**, 6900 Daughtry Blvd.   

**Ortega Hills Park**, 4791 Ortega Hills Drive

**Ortega Hills Tot Lot**, 5000 Greenway Drive    

**Otis Road Trailhead**, Otis Road @ Rail Trail


**4 Pope Duval Park**, 13500 W. Beaver St.      

**5 Ringhaver Park**, 5198 118th St.       

**Sal Taylor Creek Preserve**, Nathan Hale Road 


**Seminole Park**, 4170 McGirts Blvd.

**Stinson Park**, 450 San Juan Ave. 

**Stockton Park**, 4021 Ortega Blvd.  






**Sweetwater Playground**, 7220 Esther St.    



**Tara Woods**, 4824 Lofty Pine Circle E.

**Timuquana Park**, 4541 Timuquana Road    

**Venetia Elementary**, 4300 Timuquana Road      

**Wayne B. Stevens Boat Ramp**, 4555 Ortega Farms Blvd.     

**Wesconnett Elementary Playground**, 5869 105th St.     

**Wesconnett Park**, 6045 105th St.  

**West Jax Greenway Connector**

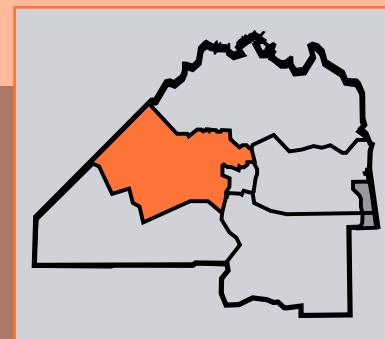
**6 Westside Regional Park**, 7000 Roosevelt Blvd.        

**Westwood Park**, 5900 W. Tampico Road   

**Wheat Road Park**, 7706 Wheat Road     

**Wiley Road Playground**, 2150 Lane Ave.       

**Yerkes Park**, 3225 McGirts Blvd.










## Planning District 5

### Northwest Boundaries

- North:** Garden Street to CSX RR to I-295 to Trout River to St. Johns River
- South:** Old Plank Road to McGirts Creek to Normandy Boulevard to Cassat Avenue to Kingsbury Street to CSX RR to Edgewood Avenue to St. Johns River
- East:** Margaret Street to I-10 to I-95 to Myrtle Avenue to Kings Road to Spires Avenue to 13th Street to Fairfax Street to CSX RR to Spires Avenue to Moncrief Creek to Golfair Boulevard to Pearl Street to CSX RR to Winona Drive, to Evergreen Avenue to Long Branch Road to St. Johns River.
- West:** Otis Road and Old Plank Road

# Northwest District 5

**Arques Park-Normandy Elementary**, 6803 Arques Road    

**Barney Browning Park**, 6014 Norwood Ave.   

**Beverly Hills Park**, 4511 Portsmouth Ave.       

**Biltmore Elementary**, 2101 Palm Ave.   

**Bulls Bay Preserve**, Imeson Road

**Caleb Field**, 10312 Old Gainesville Road  

**Cameron Park**, 1055 Day Ave.

**Carvill Park & Pool**, 1302 Carvill Ave.       

**Central Riverside Park**, 2801 Myra St.

**Charles (Boobie) Clark Park & Pool**, 8793 Sibbald Road        

**Charles Reese Memorial Park**, 1200 Ken Knight Drive    

**Cherry Street Park**, 1865 Cherry St.



**Cisco Gardens Park**, 4238 Jones Road      

**Clanzel T. Brown Park**, 4575 Moncrief Road       

**Concord Park**, 7932 Concord Circle E.   

**Crystal Springs Road Park**, 9800 Crystal Springs Road        

**Elizabeth Park**, 1886 Elizabeth Place

**Eugene Butler Pool**, 900 Acorn St.  

**Forest Center & Park**, 2039 Forest St.      

**Forestview Park**, 4203 Kenndle Road      

**Grand Park Center, Park & Pool**, 2500 W. 20th St.          

**Hammond Park**, 2142 Melson Ave.      

**Harborview Boat Ramp**, 4100 Harborview Drive      

**Hema Road**, 6648 Hema Road

**Hollybrook Park**, 319 Cherokee St.    



**Home Gardens Park**, 6367 Mockingbird Road     

**J. Gardner Nip Sams Memorial Park**, 7000 Richardson Road       

**James & Downing Park**, 1061 James St.

**James Fields Park**, 3327 Lane Ave.    

**Jasmine Park**, 4030 College St.

**John D. Liverman**, 6680 Grace Lane 

**Joseph Lee Center**, 5120 Perry St.     

**Joseph Stilwell Middle School**, 

**Lake Forest Elementary**, 901 Kennard St. 

**Lem Merrett Park**, 845 Ellis Road       

**1 Lonnie C. Miller Park**, 7689 Price Lane       



**Mallison Park & Center**, 441 Day Ave.         

**Marion Park**, 840 Marion Circle     

**McCoy's Creek Boulevard**, 2805 McCoy's Creek Blvd.





**Mitchell Center & Park**, 1010 Acorn St.     


**Monticello Wildlands**

**2 Murray Hill Art Center**, 4327 Kerle St.  

**Murray Hill Four Corners Park**, 4620 Lawnview St.  


**Native Park 1 & 2**, Avondale and Robinson Ave.

**Northshore Elementary Park**, 5701 Silver Plaza    

**Northshore Park**, 7901 Pearl St.    

**Norwood Park**, 6919 Norwood Drive

**Panama Park**, 6912 Buffalo Ave.      

**Paxon High School Pool**, 3239 W. Fifth St.   

**Peace Memorial Park**, 1515 Mallory St.

**Powers Park**, 3153 Green St.

**Raines High School Pool**, 3663 Raines Ave.   

**Ribault High School Pool**, 3701 Winton Drive



**Ribault River Preserve**, Clyde Drive



**Riverview Park**, 9555 Water St.



**Robert E. Lee High School Pool**, 1200 S. McDuff Ave.



**Rolliston Park**, 7505 Rolliston Road



**Royal Terrace**, 5630 Benedict Road



**Ryder Park**, 2332 Automobile Drive



**S. A. Hull Elementary School Park**, 7528 Hull St.

**Scott Park**, 2745 Hamilton Circle



**Signet Park**, 197 W. 67th St.



**Singleton Park**, 7000 Richardson Road



**T. K. Stokes Boat Ramp**, 2120 Riverview St.



**Tallulah Park**, 336 Tallulah Ave.



**Terrace Park**, 657 Edgewood Ave. N.



**Thomas Jefferson Park**, 320 Jackson St.



**Westbrook Center & Park**, 905 Westbrook Circle



**Westside Park**, 1601 Line St.



**Whitehouse Park**, 11100 General Ave.



**Willowbranch Park**, 2870 Sydney St.



**Willowbranch Rose Garden**, 2840 Park St.

**Winton Drive Park**, 3620 Winton Drive



**Woodstock Park**, 2839 W. Beaver St.



**Yacht Basin Park**, 2941 St. Johns Ave.

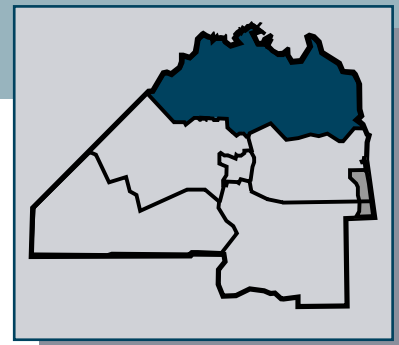
**Yancy Park**, 3352 Soutel Drive



**Yellow Water Trailhead**

**Zeta Phi Beta Park**, Owens Avenue

# NORTH



## Planning District 6

North Boundaries

**North:** Nassau County line

**South:** Garden Street to CSX RR to  
I-295 to Trout River to St. Johns River


**East:** Nassau County line and ocean

**West:** GS&F Railroad



# North District 6

**Alimacani Boat Ramp**, 11086 Heckscher Drive     

**Alimicani Park**, 11086 Heckscher Drive 

**Bert Maxwell Boat Ramp**, 680 Broward Road     

**Bethesda Park**, 10790 Key Haven Blvd.        

**Betz Tiger Point Park**, Spring Hammock Road  


**Big Talbot Island State Park**, Heckscher Drive     

**Black Hammock Island Park**, 15770 Sawpit Road       

**Cary/Jennings Connector** 

**1 Cedar Point**, Cedar Point Road  

**Dames Point Park**, 2257 McDowell St.     


**Dinsmore Boat Ramp**, 11101 U. S. Highway     

**Dinsmore Center & Park**, 7126 Civic Club Road      


**Dinsmore Playground**, 10632 Old Kings Road       



**Fort George Island State Cultural Site**   

**Garden City Elementary Playground**, 2814 Dunn Ave.      






**Garden City Park**, 11246 Lem Turner Road 

**Half Moon Park**, US Highway 17

**Heckscher Drive Center**, 9350 Heckscher Drive 

**Highlands Middle School Pool**, 10913 Pine Estates Road  

**2 Huguenot Memorial Park**, 10980 Heckscher Drive          

**Joe Carlucci (Sisters Creek) Boat Ramp**, 8414 McKenna Drive     

**3 Lannie Road Park**, 3461 Lannie Road      

**Little Talbot Island State Park**, Heckscher Drive         

**4 New Berlin Model Airplane Field**, 10525 Island Drive   

**New Berlin Road Boat Ramp** 

**Oceanway Center & Park**, 12215 Sago Ave.            

**Pumpkin Hill Creek State Buffer Preserve**    

**Ray Greene Park**, 2149 Leonid Road       

**San Mateo Elementary Park**, 600 Baisden Road      

**Sisters Creek Marina**, 8203 Heckscher Drive       

**Thomas Creek Preserve**, Ethel Road  

**Timucuan Preserve**   

**Tom Marshall Park**, 1471 Elmar Road     

# Park Directory Legend



Baseball/Softball



Football



Shuffle Board



Basketball



Grills



Soccer



Beach Access



Golf



Swimming Pools



Boat Docks



Gymnasium



Tennis



Boat Ramps



Handball



Trails



Camping



Picnic Shelters



Visitors Center



Canoe-Kayak Launch



Picnic Tables



Volleyball



Community Center



Playground



Water Features



Fishing



Restrooms



Wildlife Observation

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Metropolitan Park . . . . .	1	Sandlewood Jr./Sr. High Pool . . . . .	2	Yacht Basin Park . . . . .	5
Michael B. Scanlon Boat Ramp . . . . .	2	Saratoga Lake Park . . . . .	2	Yancy Park . . . . .	5
Mitchell Center & Park . . . . .	5	Scott Park . . . . .	5	Yellow Water Trailhead . . . . .	5
Modesky Park . . . . .	2	Seminole Park . . . . .	4	Yerkes Park . . . . .	4
Monticello Wildlands . . . . .	5	Signet Park . . . . .	5	Zeta Phi Beta Park . . . . .	5
Murray Drive Playground . . . . .	4	Simond Johnson Park . . . . .	1		