



Recreation Services Newsletter

824 E. Gurley St. Prescott, AZ 86301

FROM THE DIRECTOR'S DESK



COMMUNITY, CONNECTION & A LITTLE SUNSHINE REMINDER *By Kristy Diaz-Trahan - Director*

First year under my belt!

This past year with the City has been both meaningful and energizing, and I continue to be grateful for the warm welcome from our community. One of the greatest parts of this role has been experiencing firsthand the people, programs, and partnerships that make Prescott Parks and Recreation so special.

Some of my favorite moments have been spending time with the Over the Hill Gang and seeing the friendships and laughter that recreation creates at every age. I also had the privilege of attending the rodeo dance with our special-needs adult community members — an evening filled with joy, music, dancing, and unforgettable smiles that perfectly reflect the heart of our community.

Another exciting highlight has been working alongside staff, volunteers, and community partners to plan our upcoming Fourth of July celebration, one of Prescott's signature traditions that brings residents and visitors together in such a meaningful way.

As we also progress through our Parks and Recreation Master Plan, I'm excited about the future and the opportunities ahead to continue enhancing parks, trails, programs, and community experiences. I look forward to another year of serving this incredible community and creating even more opportunities for connection, wellness, and fun.

NEED TO KNOW

WORLD CUP

**Live Streaming &
Moonlight Movie Night
June 12 - Gates Open 4PM
Live Stream - 6PM and
"Air Bud - World Pup" on
the big screen at sunset
Bounce Houses & Food
Trucks.**

**July 4th - Freedom Festival
Waterslides - Bounce
Houses
Live Music by The
Cheektones and
Ponderosa Grove -
Mechanical Bull - Adult
and Youth Games - Hot
Dog Eating Contest -
FREE Event - Free
Commerative T-Shirts for
the first 250 through the
gate!**

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[https://prescott-az.gov/rec-
services/contact/](https://prescott-az.gov/rec-services/contact/)

FEATURED PARK:

A.C. WILLIAMS GRANITE CREEK PARK WORLD CUP WATCH PARTY & MOONLIGHT MOVIE NIGHT

By Samara Rice - Recreation Coordinator

Nestled in the heart of Prescott, Arizona, A.C. Williams Granite Creek Park is the perfect gathering place for family fun, outdoor recreation, and community events. With its open green spaces, shaded picnic areas, playgrounds, and scenic views along Granite Creek, the park has become a favorite destination for residents and visitors alike. Whether enjoying a relaxing afternoon outdoors, attending a special event, or spending time with friends and family, the park offers something for everyone in a welcoming and energetic atmosphere.

This summer, the Recreation Services Department is excited to kick off the movie season with an unforgettable evening of entertainment and community spirit. The event begins with a live streaming of the World Cup match featuring the USA vs. Paraguay, giving soccer fans the opportunity to cheer on Team USA together under the evening sky. Following the match, families can enjoy the **first Moonlight Movie Night of the season featuring Air Bud: World Pup**, a fun-filled family movie that combines soccer action with everyone's favorite sports-loving dog.

The evening will also feature bounce houses for kids, delicious offerings from local food trucks, and interactive soccer fun hosted by AYSO and OJB. Families are encouraged to bring lawn chairs, blankets, and their team spirit for an evening packed with excitement and entertainment. Children can participate in soccer-themed activities and games while parents relax and enjoy the lively atmosphere of the park. Community events like this help create lasting memories while bringing neighbors together in a fun and positive environment.

As the sun sets and the movie begins, Granite Creek Park transforms into a vibrant outdoor theater experience where families of all ages can connect, laugh, and celebrate summer together. From soccer fans to movie lovers, everyone is invited to enjoy this unique combination of sports, recreation, and family entertainment. This special kickoff event promises to bring the community together for a memorable summer night at Granite Creek Park.

In addition to the evening's featured activities, local community organizations and volunteers will be on hand helping create a welcoming atmosphere for guests of all ages. The Recreation Services Department continues to provide opportunities that encourage outdoor recreation, healthy activities, and meaningful community connections throughout the summer season. Events like Moonlight Movie Night give families a chance to unplug, spend quality time together, and enjoy the beauty of Prescott's parks and public spaces.

The combination of live sports, family entertainment, and community partnerships makes this event a unique experience for both longtime residents and visitors. The excitement of the World Cup, paired with a family-friendly movie and interactive activities, creates an evening designed to appeal to all generations. With laughter, friendly competition, good food, and plenty of fun, A.C. Williams Granite Creek Park will once again serve as a central gathering place where the Prescott community can come together and celebrate the start of summer.



PROGRAMMING

TEEN TASK FORCE *By Samara Rice - Recreation Coordinator*

On Saturday, May 16, the City of Prescott Recreation Services Teen Task Force joined the Prescott Audubon Society for an unforgettable “winged” adventure at Willow Peninsula near Willow Lake. Guided by the knowledgeable Audubon team, the group spent three hours exploring the area and discovering far more wildlife than expected.

Using the Merlin Bird ID app, many participants identified bird calls in real time, matching sounds to the birds they spotted. Within the first hour alone, the group encountered a Spotted Towhee, Yellow Warbler, and Common Yellowthroat—before one of the younger participants excitedly spotted a porcupine in a tree.

The adventure became even more memorable when the group entered a nesting area of Neotropic Cormorant, where the sounds and atmosphere felt straight out of Jurassic Park. At the far east edge of the peninsula, everyone enjoyed a true bird’s-eye view of a Great Blue Heron, other waterfowl, and a large gathering of turtles—an amazing day of nature, friendship, and discovery.

Looking ahead, excitement continues to build as registration remains open for two outstanding summer opportunities for local youth. The City of Prescott Recreation Services in partnership with J.G. Blodgett from Offtrail Pictures, brings an amazing opportunity for local youth. Summer Film Camp will take place July 20–24 and offers participants a unique hands-on experience in the world of filmmaking. Participants will have the opportunity to explore storytelling, acting, directing, filming, and editing while working together to create their own projects. Whether they are interested in being in front of the camera or behind the scenes, this camp provides a fun and creative environment to learn new skills and make lasting memories. Registration is open online.

In addition, registration is now open for the Annual Fashion and Talent Show, scheduled for July 25 at the Grace Sparkes Activity Center. This community event provides teens with a chance to showcase their creativity, confidence, and unique talents in front of family, friends, and the community. Participants can take the stage to display fashion creations, perform musical acts, dance routines, comedy, magic, and other special talents. The event celebrates self-expression, encourages personal growth, and provides a supportive atmosphere where participants can shine. Those interested in either program are encouraged to register early, as space may be limited.



When teens work together, they discover that their individual strengths become extraordinary when united by a common purpose.



Register by scanning QR code or by going online to:
<https://prescottaz.recdesk.com/Community/Home>

Teen Task Force is a great way for teens to get involved, build leadership skills, and make lasting connections. For more information, email teentaskforce@prescott-az.gov.

PARKS | LAKES | TRAILS

GOLDWATER LAKE: PAVING ENHANCEMENT

By: Gavino Martinez - Recreation Services Lakes Supervisor

Improvements Coming to Goldwater Lake

One of Prescott's most beloved outdoor destinations is receiving an important upgrade this summer. The City of Prescott Recreation Services Department is pleased to announce roadway improvements at Goldwater Lake that will enhance access, safety, and the overall visitor experience for residents and guests alike.

As part of the project, the entry and exit roads serving Goldwater Lake will be repaved, creating a smoother and more user-friendly route to this scenic recreation area. Whether visitors come to fish, picnic, paddle, hike, or simply enjoy the beauty of the pines and lake views, these improvements will help make each visit more enjoyable.

Preparatory work for the project began with a temporary closure on May 26, allowing crews to complete the necessary groundwork before paving operations commence. To safely complete the roadway improvements, Goldwater Lake and all public access points will be closed from Monday, June 15, through Friday, June 26, 2026. During this time, vehicle and pedestrian access will not be permitted.

GOLDWATER LAKE RAMADA RENTAL PROCESS

Planning a gathering at Goldwater Lake? The lake's ramada is available to rent for family reunions, birthday parties, company picnics, community events, and other special occasions.

To reserve the ramada, interested individuals should contact the City of Prescott Recreation Services Department or visit the City's reservation website to check availability. Reservations are accepted on a first-come, first-served basis and are not confirmed until all required paperwork and fees have been completed and submitted. Rental fees vary depending on hours of event and reservation details. Renters are responsible for following all park rules and regulations and for leaving the facility clean and in good condition following their event.

Because Goldwater Lake is a popular destination, advance reservations are recommended, especially during spring, summer, and holiday weekends. The ramada provides a beautiful setting surrounded by Prescott's pine forest and lake views, making it an ideal location for gatherings of all sizes.

For current availability, rental rates, and reservation assistance, please contact the City of Prescott Recreation Services Department at 928.777.1121.



While temporary closures can be inconvenient, the City appreciates the community's patience and understanding as these much-needed improvements are completed. Recreation enthusiasts are encouraged to explore Prescott's many other parks, trails, and outdoor destinations during the closure period.

We look forward to welcoming visitors back once the project is complete and are excited about the long-term benefits these upgrades will provide. The improved roadway will offer safer, smoother access to beautiful Goldwater Lake, helping ensure that this treasured community destination can be enjoyed for years to come. For additional information, please contact the Recreation Services Administration Division at 928.777.1121.