

PARKS AND RECREATION

PARK POST



June 2025



The City of
SAN DIEGO
Park and Recreation Department

Parks and Recreation

SUMMER 2025 IS HERE!

Recreation Summer Camps

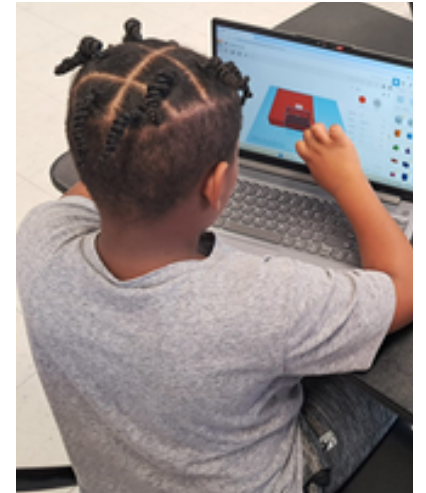


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The City of San Diego, Parks and Recreation Summer 2025 Season is here! It's time to make the most of summer with exciting events, camps, sports, outdoor fun, and unforgettable memories for all ages! Events and programing are starting strong including Recreational Summer Camps, Parks After Dark, Teen Nite, Movies In the Park, and more. Join neighbors, friends, and family for an unforgettable season of recreation, connection, and celebration.

Click [here](#) to view the Parks and Recreation Event Calendar.

*"Happiness is not by chance,
but by choice."*

-Jim Rohn

SUMMER 2025 IS HERE!

Continued

Parks After Dark



SUMMER 2025 IS HERE!

Continued

Movies In The Park



“Great things are done by a series of small things brought together.”

-Vincent Van Gogh

CITYWIDE RECREATION SERVICES

Parks After Dark

FREE! Family Events at five locations



**Total of 4,407
Participants
at 15 Events**

Music & Entertainment | Youth Sports
Activities | Inflatables Arts & Crafts |
Health & Fitness | Community Resources!



Dates:

- June 14 thru August 9, 2025

Time:

- 5:00 pm - 8:00 pm

Locations:

- Memorial Recreation Center (Plus June 13)
- Skyline Hills Recreation Center
- City Heights Recreation Center
- Linda Vista Recreation Center
- Silver Wing Recreation Center (June 14 - July 26 only)

[Recreation Links](#)

[Recreation Services](#)

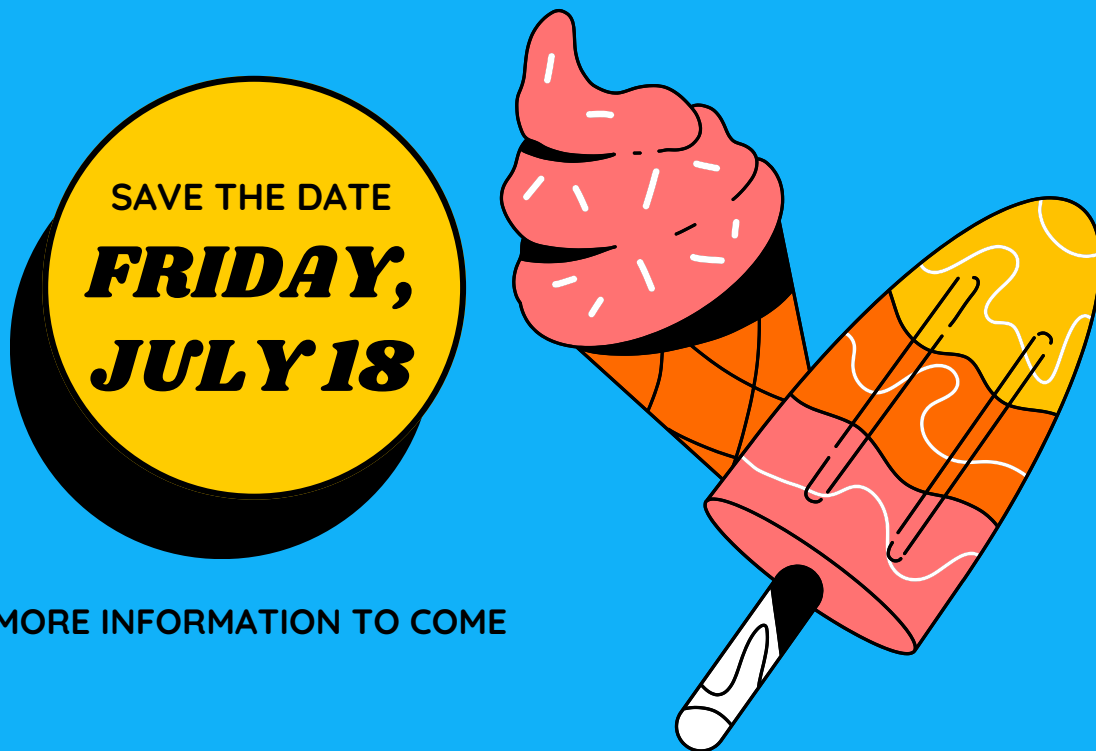
[P&R Event Calendar](#)

[P&R Website](#)

PARK AND RECREATION PROFESSIONAL DAY!

ice cream social

As part of Park and Recreation Month, the Parks and Recreation Department wants to recognize you and say thank you for your hard work, passion, and commitment!



MORE INFORMATION TO COME

Dedicated park staff make our parks, programs, and communities stronger every day.

Let's take a moment to celebrate you and all that you do!

BALBOA PARK DIVISION

Bring Your Kids to Work Day



On Wednesday, June 25th, the Balboa Park Division Supervisors sponsored and hosted their annual Bring Your Kids to Work Day event. With help from the Park Ranger Division, activities included a planting and seeding station, an arts & crafts station, animal track plaster casts, and a scavenger hunt. Participants and staff were also treated to lunch.



BALBOA PARK DIVISION

Continued

Bring Your Kids to Work Day



BALBOA PARK DIVISION

Continued

Bring Your Kids to Work Day



SAN DIEGO PARKS FOUNDATION

Start the Summer with SDPF Style



The San Diego Parks Foundation in conjunction with the City of San Diego Parks and Recreation Department have had a very busy start to the summer programming with the following:

- Nature Camp kicked off on June 2nd and runs through August 8th at 16 parks city-wide.
- Citywide Soccer Championships at Cesar Solis Community Park were held on Friday, June 6th & Saturday, June 7th with over 2000 in attendance, and 36 teams advancing to tournament play.
- The 1st Annual City Spike Volleyball Tournament was hosted at Mt. View Park on Saturday, June 7th for the top 8 City teams in Community Parks II Division with 300 in attendance.
- Citywide Volleyball Championships were hosted at Balboa Park Activity Center on Friday, June 13th & Saturday, June 14th with over 1,200 in attendance, and 40 teams advancing to tournament play.
- Parks After Dark kicked off on June 14th at five locations, (City Heights, Memorial, Linda Vista, Skyline Hills and Silver Wing Recreation Centers). So far over 4,000 have attended 15 events. This program will run through August 9th from 5 PM to 8 PM every Thursday, Friday & Saturday night.
- Upcoming programs - Teen Nite 2025 at 10 parks throughout the City from 5 PM to 8 PM every Friday night starting on Friday, June 27th.
- Ribbon cutting for the new turf project at Rancho Bernardo Recreation Center on Tuesday, July 15th (TBA).



www.sandiegoparksfoundation.org

SAN DIEGO PARKS FOUNDATION

Continued



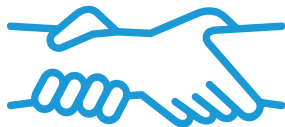
OPEN SPACE DIVISION

“T-Pier” Removal Team Supports Chollas Lake



The Chollas Lake Park community, our valued park patrons, Park Rangers, and the Chollas Lake staff would like to extend a heartfelt thank you to the Parks and Recreation staff who formed the Chollas Lake “T-Pier” Removal Team. We deeply appreciate the coordination, collaboration, and hard work demonstrated by the Open Space MADs, OS Canyons Rangers, Shoreline Rangers, and Chollas Lake Rangers in successfully removing the non-operational, out-of-service, and potentially hazardous “T-Pier” from Chollas Lake Park.

This pier removal project was a department-wide effort that brought together teams from the MADs, Shoreline Parks, and Open Space. The collaborative planning, coordination of resources, and smooth execution of this project was a true showcase of Parks and Recreation’s talent and teamwork. The team’s ability to adapt and overcome obstacles throughout the removal process further highlights the strength and professionalism within the department.



We wish to recognize the people who assisted with this project:

Name	Division
Lauren Baker	OS
Marlon Bautista	OS
Rene "Angel" Chavarin	OS
Heidi Couture	PR
Gilbert Herrera	OS
Najja Lyon	OS
Andrew Martin	OS
Lamont Morris	OS
Devon Reid	OS
Jesus Reyes	OS
Daniel Ruiz	OS
Fernando "Bam" Sandoval Jr	OS
Charled "Scott" Seyfried	OS
Ingmar Sorensene	OS
Moises Vasquez-Calderon	OS

“Unity is strength. When there is teamwork and collaboration, wonderful things can be achieved.”

-Mattie Stepanek

"T-Pier" Removal Team Supports Chollas Lake

The "T-Pier" has been an iconic feature of Chollas Lake Park for many years. Unfortunately, due to unreparable damage to critical structural components, the pier had become unstable and unsafe for public use. After thorough evaluation, removal was identified as the best and safest solution.

Working collaboratively, the team developed a comprehensive plan to safely deconstruct the pier, bring its sections ashore, and remove them for proper recycling and disposal. Over a scheduled two-day period, the team displayed excellent communication and teamwork, completing the removal smoothly and without incident.



"We rise by lifting others."

-Robert Ingersoll

"T-Pier" Removal Team Supports Chollas Lake



The successful completion of this project marks a significant improvement to both the safety and appearance of Chollas Lake Park. It has been a highly anticipated update, welcomed by the community and Community Recreation Group members alike, especially as we enter the busy summer season.

Thank you to every individual who played a role in this important and much-appreciated safety enhancement. Your efforts have made Chollas Lake Park safer, more scenic, and better enjoyed by all.



A Heartfelt Thank You to the Chollas Lake "T-Pier" Removal Team

OPEN SPACE DIVISION

Continued

Collaboration with San Diego Mountain Biking Association

Work at South Fortuna Trail at Mission Trails RP



On Sunday, June 1st, Park Ranger, **Cristian Navarro**, worked with volunteers from the San Diego Mountain Biking Association to maintain sections of the South Fortuna trail within Mission Trails Regional Park.

-Submitted by Edward Christensen,
Supervising Park Ranger



Trail Work at Marian Bear Memorial Park

In collaboration with San Diego Mountain Biking Association, Tri-Canyons Park Ranger, **Austin Lane**, worked with volunteers to clear overgrown trails in Marian Bear Memorial Park on Sunday, June 1st.

-Submitted by Edward Christensen, Supervising Park Ranger



“Difficult roads often lead to
beautiful destinations.”

-Zig Ziglar

Thank you to the San Diego Mountain Biking Association for supporting our Park Rangers to keep our trails a safe place to recreate.

NATURE EXPLORATION AREA UPDATE

Marie Widman NEA is Welcoming and Accessible for All

Parks and Recreation is excited to announce the completion of revitalization efforts at Marie Widman Memorial Park, following damage from the January 22, 2024 floods. The improvements include a fully restored playground, a new accessible walkway, repaired fencing, and a brand-new nature exploration area—delivered just in time for summer events.

Visit the newly updated
Nature Exploration Area

**Marie Widman
Memorial Park**
449 Ritchey Street,
San Diego, CA 92114



The flooding caused extensive damage to the park, including the accessible bridge leading into the site. In response, a new concrete path of travel was constructed, providing accessible entry from the intersection of Imperial Avenue and Woodman Street.



NATURE EXPLORATION AREA UPDATE

Continued

Marie Widman NEA is Welcoming and Accessible for All

The playground revitalization included replacing three pieces of flood-damaged equipment and the worn rubberized surfacing. The existing swing set remained in place but was refreshed by the Citywide Maintenance Services Division with new belt seats and chains. The sand surfacing was also replaced with engineered wood fiber to enhance safety and accessibility.



This project was a true collaboration across many divisions of the Parks and Recreation Department. The restored playground and accessible walkway were designed by the Asset Management Division and initiated and managed by Community Parks II, with construction support from the Citywide Maintenance Services Division. Asset Management also provided the design for the new nature exploration area, which was constructed entirely in-house by the Citywide team using salvaged logs and stumps from City parks to create a unique and sustainable outdoor experience. Together with Community Parks II, they refined the surrounding landscape by leveling uneven ground and applying fresh mulch to provide a clean and finished appearance around the improved amenities.



NATURE EXPLORATION AREA UPDATE *Continued*

Marie Widman NEA is Welcoming and Accessible for All



The Stormwater Department also contributed by repairing damaged fencing along the channel that runs through the park, helping to restore both safety and aesthetics.



Thanks to this cross-divisional and cross-departmental effort, the community once again has a vibrant, welcoming, and accessible space to gather, play, and explore.

SAFETY AND TRAINING

Safety Tip: Electrical Safety



Did you know that electrical hazards can cause serious workplace injuries? Here are three quick tips for electrical safety:

- **Inspect Cords & Outlets:** Replace damaged cords and avoid using frayed wires.
- **Don't Overload Circuits:** Plug only one high-power device into an outlet at a time.
- **Stay Away from Water:** Keep electrical equipment dry and away from wet areas.
- **By practicing caution around electricity, we can prevent shocks and fires!**

"A leader is one who knows the way, goes the way, and shows the way."

-John C. Maxwell

Upcoming Trainings

July Training Schedule

<i>Due Date</i>	<i>Name</i>
7/01/25	NeoGov Functionality Training (TEAMS)
7/10/25	Defensive Driving (Rose Canyon)
7/16/25	New Employee Training
7/22/25	AED Liaison Training
7/24/25	Interview & Resume Workshop
8/31/25	Summer Tailgates Due

Register for all trainings in Success Factors.

**Training Office
is located at
9485 Aero Drive**



ADMINISTRATION

Meet the Payroll Team and Support Staff



From left to right: Carolyn Galvan, Rosa Abrego, Addie Arias, Tatiana Willis, Rochelle San Nicolas, Lakisha Alomar, Salina Villegas, Dianna Di Giulio, Rosa Moore.

“Hard work beats talent when talent doesn’t work hard.”

-Tim Notke

Helpful P&R Links

[CityNet](#)

[Personnel](#)

[Inside SD](#)

[Get-It-Done](#)

City Job Links

[Open Jobs](#)

[Transfer Opportunities](#)

[Promotional Jobs](#)
for City Employees Only

Volunteer and Intern Office Updates



Department Picture Contest

Congratulations to the Picture Contest’s June winner, **Nicole Otjens**, Recreation Center Director 3.

Volunteer Fingerprinting

Please remind all potential volunteers that they need to bring a paper copy of [this](#) fingerprint form with them to the Live Scan.

For more information on the **Internships**, **Park Post submissions**, **CalFresh Volunteer Program**, and **Volunteer Maintenance Support** email SDVolunteer@sandiego.gov.

**June 2025
Contest Winner**

Nicole Otjens
CPI

Discretionary Time
awarded to winner.

NEW Department Picture contest

Capture the essence of Parks and Recreation.

Submit to SDVolunteer@sandiego.gov.

Title submission: “Picture Contest”

Include full name, date, and division.

Due by 15th of each month.

Volunteer Links

[City Internship Program](#)

[Better Impact](#)

[Volunteer Page](#)

PERSONNEL

Service Awards

Division	Name	Classification	Years of Service	
Golf	Victor Acosta	Equipment Operator 1	20	★
CP II	Fabian Alvarez	Swimming Pool Manager 1	10	★
OS	Gregory Armstead	Grounds Maintenance Manager	20	
CP II	Joel Bird	Public Information Clerk	5	
CP II	Daniel Blankevoort	Grounds Maintenance Worker 3	20	★
CP II	Gabriella Burgess	Pool Guard 2	5	
BP	Maria Castillo	Grounds Maintenance Worker 2	30	
CP II	Misael Chinchilla Coronado	Pool Guard 2	10	★
CP II	Jorge Clayton	Swimming Pool Manager 1	10	★
CP II	John Cofield III	Pool Guard 2	5	
MBSL	America Diaz	Grounds Maintenance Worker 2	20	★
OS	Erika Ferreira	Deputy Director	35	★
CP I	Warren Gilliard	Recreation Leader 1	15	
CP II	Jacqueline Hernandez	Recreation Center Director 1	35	★
Golf	Su Huynh	Equipment Operator 1	30	★
CP II	Ryan Megliola	Pool Guard 2	5	
OS	Julio Morales	Grounds Maintenance Manager	10	
CP II	Jenelle Nelson	Swimming Pool Manager 3	10	★
CP I	Nicole Otjens	Recreation Center Director 3	25	
CP II	Melissa Pitcher	Swimming Pool Manager 1	20	
CP II	Tagiaia Savaiinaea	Grounds Maintenance Worker 2	5	
CP II	Ashley Soto-Jimenez	Swimming Pool Manager 2	10	
CP II	Kassandra Tizoc	Recreation Aide	5	
CP II	Xitlaly Uribe	Pool Guard 2	10	
CP II	Alexander Uribe Valenzuela	Swimming Pool Manager 1	10	
CP I	Sheldon Zemen	Recreation Leader 1	10	

"Your present circumstances don't determine where you can go; they merely determine where you start."

-Nido Qubein

PERSONNEL

Continued

New Hires

Division	Name	Classification
CP II	Luiza Da Silva Azevedo	Pool Guard 1
CP II	Kaitlyn Dennis	Pool Guard 1
Golf	Jessica Fisher	Golf Operations Assistant
CP II	Aaron Gonzalez Chavez	Pool Guard 1
CP II	Sienna Guillermo	Pool Guard 1
CP II	Padraig Jensen	Pool Guard 1
CP II	Julia Sanchez	Water Safety Instructor
CP II	Zyra Wansley	Pool Guard 1
CP II	Evan Ye	Pool Guard 1



Promotions

Division	Name	Classification
CRS	Mike Mangarelli	Recreation Specialist
CRS	Michael Naccarato	Therapeutic Recreation Leader



Congratulations!



*"Your work is going to fill a large part of your life,
and the only way to be truly satisfied is to do what
you believe is great work."*

-Steve Jobs

EMPLOYEE KUDOS

KUDOS to Park Ranger Megan Delaney for Reuniting Lost Dog with His Family

While on patrol in the Los Peñasquitos Ranger District, Park Ranger Megan Delaney was flagged down by a concerned neighbor who had spotted a loose dog roaming the area. Acting quickly, Ranger Delaney located and safely secured the dog—a friendly Siberian Husky without a collar—placing him in her patrol truck. Unable to immediately identify the dog’s owner, Ranger Delaney took a proactive approach. Driving through the nearby neighborhood, she used her vehicle’s PA system to announce that a lost dog had been found. A helpful resident responded and directed her to a nearby home where the dog might belong, but no one was home at the time. The neighbor then offered to post on the Nextdoor app to alert the community and shared that the dog would be taken by Ranger Delaney to the Humane Society for safekeeping. Thanks to this combined effort and Ranger Delaney’s compassion and quick thinking, the Husky—named Pororo—was reunited with his family the very next day. A big thank you to **Ranger Delaney** for going above and beyond to ensure a happy ending for Pororo and his family!



-Submitted by Supervising Park Ranger, Carey Goldstein

KUDOS to Celina Thibeault, Office Support Specialist

I want to express my heartfelt appreciation for **Celina Thibeault's**, Office Support Specialist, exceptional work ethic and professionalism as a valued member of our Open Space administrative team. Her ability to take initiative and resolve issues with lightning speed is truly impressive. Working alongside someone with such a positive, CAN Do attitude is both uplifting and inspiring. I especially value her thoughtful understanding of the diverse responsibilities park rangers juggle - both in the field and in the office. Thank you, Celina, for being such a wonderful support to OVRP operations in FY25. Your contributions truly make a difference, and we're lucky to have you on the team!

-Submitted by Senior Park Ranger, Mika Shimada

“Let us be grateful to the people who make us happy; they are the charming gardeners who make our souls blossom.”

-Marcel Proust

EMPLOYEE KUDOS

CityNet Recognizes Parks and Recreation

Torrey Pines Golf Course Hosts Third Annual Adaptive Golf Championship

Click [here](#) to learn
more about
U.S. Adaptive Golf Alliance



Click [here](#) to learn
more about the
Golf Division.

Click [here](#) to learn more
about Therapeutic
Recreation Services.

City employees click [here](#) to see the full article.

KUDOS to Devon Reid, Ground Maintenance Worker 1

KUDOS to **Devon Reid** GMW I, **Fernando Sandoval** GMW I, and **Lamont Morris**, GMW II! Despite a dangerous situation on day one and your supervisor being away, you showed initiative, learned fast, and tackled over 20 acres of dry weed abatement. Because of your quick action, a recent vegetation fire in a high-risk area was stopped from spreading—protecting both public safety and critical habitat. Your hard work made a real impact! Thank you for embracing OVRP's mission from the start. We're excited to have you on board and look forward to building our team with you!

-Submitted by Senior Park Ranger, Mika Shimada

CityNet Recognizes Parks and Recreation

Parks After Dark Provides Free Family Fun All Summer Long

Click [here](#) to learn
more about
Parks After Dark Events



Click [here](#) to learn
more about the
San Diego Parks
Foundation.

Click [here](#) to view the
Parks and Recreation
Event Calendar.

City employees click [here](#) to see the full article.



AROUND THE DEPARTMENT

Community Parks I: South Clairemont Rec., Play is Fun for All Ages

South Clairemont Recreation Center, as with all recreation centers, works to ensure all participants are enjoying their time with the Parks and Recreation Department. These images provide a snapshot of park staff at work on a typical Wednesday. Shown are Recreation Leader, **Isaac Avila** and Center Director, **James DeSimone**. Kudos to **South Clairemont staff** for making a day at the park fun.

-Submitted by Assistant Center Director, Jennifer Walsten



Smythe Elem. Bridge to the Pool Water Safety Day: May 28





AROUND THE DEPARTMENT

Open Space Division: Brush Management Overview for City Employees



Tecolote Shores Concrete Ponding



The Citywide Maintenance Services team completed the work at the Tecolote Shores to fix an issue with concrete ponding. The cobble was installed and a few other issues with drainage and irrigation were addressed.





AROUND THE DEPARTMENT

Open Space Rangers, the San Diego River Foundation and The North Face Team Up



On Saturday, May 30th, staff from The North Face joined Park Rangers and volunteers from the San Diego River Park Foundation to clean up “the Island” near Friars and the I-5. Together they were able to remove 1,785 lbs of trash from the San Diego River, helping to improve the health of this critical habitat!

-Submitted by Senior Park Ranger,
Tiffany Swiderski



Rangers at Helo Training



Park Rangers were invited to attend an orientation with San Diego Fire Rescue highlighting air operation procedures in Open Space areas and around the City of San Diego.

-Submitted by Senior Park Ranger, Robert Wheeler



AROUND THE DEPARTMENT

Community Parks I: T-Ball at Nobel Recreation Center



*“Leadership is not about titles, positions, or flowcharts.
It’s about one life influencing another.”*

-John C. Maxwell

RECOGNIZED EMPLOYEE ORGANIZATIONS



Employee Organizations

EAP

Benefits



Municipal Employees Association (MEA)

9620 Chesapeake Dr Ste 203
San Diego, CA 92123

Phone: 619-264-6632

Fax: 858-300-3898

Web: www.sdmea.org

American Federation of State, County and Municipal Employees (Local 127)

3737 Camino Del Rio South Ste 400
San Diego, CA 92108

Phone: 619-640-4939

Fax: 619-640-8171

Web: <http://www.afscme127.org>

MY SAN DIEGO

San Diego Public Employee Benefit Association

9620 Chesapeake Dr., Suite #104, San Diego, CA 92123

Main: (888) 315-8027 | Fax: (619) 431-3078

support@sdpeba.org

info@sdpeba.org

Monday - Thursday 9:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m.

Friday 10:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m.

San Diego City Employees' Retirement System

401 West A Street, Suite 800, San Diego, CA 92101

Phone: (619) 525-3600

Toll Free: (800) 774-4977

FAX: (619) 595-0513

Monday - Friday

9:00 a.m. to 12:00 p.m. and 1:00 p.m. to 4:00 p.m.



Additional Links

[SDPEBA](#)

[Fiscal/Annual Calendar](#)

[SDCERS](#)





THANK YOU FOR ALL YOU DO!

