



**SANDYPINES**  
RECREATIONAL COMMUNITY

# **FOOTPRINTS**

**IN THE SAND**



**MAY 2026**

## PHONE NUMBERS

**Member Service** ..... 616.896.8315  
Nichole Milbocker .....Ext. 100

Fax Number..... 616.896.7409  
[MemberService@SandyPines.com](mailto:MemberService@SandyPines.com)

### Administration

Jeff..... Ext. 105  
[jeff@sandypines.com](mailto:jeff@sandypines.com)

Kimberly ..... Ext. 109  
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### Park Inspector

Jim Buchanan &

Steve Helmer..... 616.896.7286  
[inspector@sandypines.com](mailto:inspector@sandypines.com)  
[jimb@sandypines.com](mailto:jimb@sandypines.com)

**Sales Office**..... 616.896.8315 Ext. 118

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Emergency - Pumpout..... 616.896.8317

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**Public Safety**..... 616.896.9006

Steve Deyarmond, Emergency

Services Director

Paul Schaaf, Security Services Manager

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### Park & Garden

Chet Ryan.....616.896.9334  
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### Recreation

**Department**..... 616.896.8315

Abby Greenfield.....Ext. 800  
[Recreation@SandyPines.com](mailto:Recreation@SandyPines.com)

**Lake Monterey Golf** ..... 616.896.8118

Dave Ingles, Manager

[www.lakemontereygolf.com](http://www.lakemontereygolf.com)

[Golf@golflmgc.com](mailto:Golf@golflmgc.com)

**Laundromat Hours** – Open 24 Hours

## ADMINISTRATIVE TEAM

Jeff Sweitzer ..... Park President  
Kimberly Williams ..... Finance & Accounting  
Steve Deyarmond ..... Emergency Services  
Ben Fifelski ..... Maintenance  
Dave Ingles ..... Lake Monterey  
Golf Course

## MANAGEMENT TEAM

Janele Tomes ..... Camping  
Ian Mitchell ..... Communications  
Chet Ryan..... Park & Garden Manager  
Dale Yoder ..... Food Operations Manager  
Jim Buchanan..... Park Inspector  
Paul Schaaf ..... Security Services  
Abby Greenfield..... Recreation

## COMMITTEE CHAIRS

Finance..... Ginny Hager  
Golf Course ..... Joe Zomerlei  
Long Range Planning..... Kevin Hager  
Rules ..... Holly Malewski  
Safety & Security..... Rick Ives  
Lake Study..... Valerie Troschinetz  
Library..... Patience Pike

## OUR MISSION

We are dedicated to providing a fun and safe environment where families and friends create a lifetime of memories.



## RETAIL SERVICES

BBlessed316

Therapeutic Center..... 616-422-7909  
[www.messagebook.com/biz/blessed316sandypines](http://www.messagebook.com/biz/blessed316sandypines)

Dairy Dip ..... 616.405.5643

Park & Garden Store ..... 616.896.9334

Park & Garden

Rental Office ..... 616.896.9888

## BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Cory Berens.....(2028)  
Rick Day, Secretary .....(2026)  
Kolyn Giebel .....(2028)  
Ginny Hager, Treasurer .....(2027)  
Kelly Johnson .....(2028)  
Larry Munger .....(2027)  
Craig Van Beek, Chairperson .....(2026)  
Scot Wyman, Vice Chairperson.....(2027)  
Paul Peppel .....(2026)

## BOARD OF DIRECTORS ~ MISSION STATEMENT ~

The Sandy Pines Board of Directors will provide positive leadership and management direction so as to ensure the long term viability and success of Sandy Pines Wilderness Trails, Inc.



# PARK PRESIDENT NEWS

BY JEFF SWEITZER [Jeff@SandyPines.com](mailto:Jeff@SandyPines.com)

It's been said, "April showers, bring May flowers." After this past April, we should have fields and fields of plentiful flowers everywhere! We are blessed with many things at Sandy Pines.

## Mother's Day

"Happy Mother's Day to all the wonderful mothers, grandmothers, and maternal figures in our community!

Being a mother is truly a sacred calling—a role that goes above and beyond any other. A mother is the first to see the light in her children, nurturing their unique talents and gifts long before the rest of the world. As the saying goes, 'A mother is she who can take the place of all others but whose place no one else can take.'

We send a special blessing to you this month: May you feel deeply appreciated for the selfless love you give, and may your heart be filled with the same joy you bring to others.

Time is precious and moves in a heartbeat, so we encourage everyone to seize the moment this month. Give the mom in your life a special hug and a sincere 'Thank You' for everything they do."

## Memorial Day

This Memorial Day, Sandy Pines pauses to honor and remember the brave men and women who made the ultimate sacrifice in service to our nation. Their courage secured the freedoms cherished today.

As the saying goes, "The nation owes a debt to its fallen heroes that can never be fully repaid."

A special blessing is extended to our Sandy Pines community: May this be a time of humble reflection, giving thanks for the lives courageously given, and may peace surround the families who carry the memory of a loved one today. May the true cost of liberty never be forgotten.

While enjoying this time with friends, family and neighbors, keeping the true meaning of the day in heart honors those who gave their tomorrows so others could have today.

We extend an invitation to our entire community to join us at our Annual Sandy Pines Memorial Day Event. For more information, please see our online calendar

## Board Meeting

The board will be reviewing multiple rules changes impacted by the new EGLE letter released in March 2026. Recommendations from the Rules Committee regarding Storage Sheds/Golf Cart Shelters, Porch Enclosures and Shade Structures will be communicated and potentially voted on by the board. We have worked hard over the last two years to get clarity and favorability to the EGLE Structure Rules. The recommendations being brought forward will be more beneficial to our members.

Resolution 041726A was read by the board last month. This resolution adds language to the Camping Units section found on page 37 in the Sandy Pines Rules, Regulations and Handbook. Language used in the resolution is directly from the EGLE Structures letter released in March 2026. It will be

voted on this month. All proposed resolutions can be located at <https://sandypines.com/resolution-summaries/>.

## Propane Surveys

Be on the lookout this month for surveys from our marketing and communications team regarding propane services throughout the park. The cancellation of Keystone Propane services to approximately 200 Sandy Pines members sparked the request to better understand the needs of our community and if they are being met by the current propane providers. We will also explore the option of the park being more involved in the propane service at Sandy Pines by managing it altogether.

## Capital Investment Project – Focus for 2026

Our Capital Investment Project remains one of our top focal points for 2026. We are committed to transparency throughout this process, and you can find the Survey Results, Transparency Report, and a Snapshot One-Pager on our Sandy Pines website. Simply scroll to the bottom of the homepage, click on the Finance button, and look for the Capital Investment Fund Information section.

Link: <https://sandypines.com/finance/>

Last month, information was presented to the Board of Directors based on your feedback, recommendations from our cross-functional project team and our third-party engineering firm, Wightman Engineering.

To give you an idea of the massive amount of feedback we are reviewing:

*Continued on Page 4*

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## Park President / Continued From Page 3

- 1,271 member responses (a 58.8% participation rate!)
- 900 member comments
- 67.4% of the membership supports renewing the funding
- Lake items were ranked as the #1 category of importance. Close to 700 lines of data and 9 different scenarios are currently under evaluation
- Next Steps:
  - o May 4th: Board of Directors Workshop (Deep dive into data/scenarios)
  - o May 16th: First Member Town Hall to discuss findings and future next steps

We look forward to seeing you on May 16th as we plan for the future of our community!

### Committees

May is the time our committees start to meet. Committees serve as an advisory to the board of directors. This year's board liaisons by committee are below:

- o Finance Committee – Ginny Hager
- o Golf Course Committee – Cory Berens
- o Lake Committee – Paul Peppel
- o Library Committee – Kelly Johnson
- o Long Range Planning Committee – Scot Wyman
- o Rules Committee – Rick Day & Kolyn Giebel
- o Safety and Security Committee – Larry Munger

If you have any questions or feel the passion in serving on a

Sandy Pines Committee, please reach out to Janele in our Administration Office or one of the board liaisons.

### Boating on Lake Monterey

Spring brings sun! Sun brings warm weather! Warm weather brings boating activity! Boating activity brings a busy Lake Monterey! This time of year, is always a good time to refresh ourselves with the rules surrounding our lake.

Boats must have current registrations on file with Member Service matching the proper boat lengths (24' deck length for pontoons and 20' deck length for power boats). While on the water, the current 2026 boat stickers must be applied to your boats prior to enjoying the lake fun. Lastly, for all our members' safety and the Lake Monterey shoreline, usage of any ballast function or alteration of your boat to produce waves is prohibited as well as all wake surfing or foiling. Enjoying Lake Monterey while adhering to the regulations will avoid a visit from our lake patrol. Have fun and be safe!

Thank you for allowing our team and me to serve the membership and Sandy Pines.  
God Bless!

### John 15:13 (NIV):

"Greater love has no one than this: to lay down one's life for one's friends."

### Proverbs 31:28 (NIV):

"Her children arise and call her blessed; her husband also, and he praises her."

**Leppinks**  
Food Centers

*Dick's*  
Sausage Shop

**GRILLED BRATWURST**  
ON A BUN  
**\$3.00** EA  
**\$1** CANNED POP OR BOTTLED WATER  
**\$1 CHIPS**  
CASH OR CREDIT ACCEPTED

JOIN US FOR OUR ANNUAL  
**KICKOFF TO SUMMER BRATWURST COOKOUT**  
AT LEPPINKS FOOD CENTERS  
FRIDAY **JUN 5 11-2 PM**

1623 142ND AVE | DORR, MI  
OPEN EVERY DAY | 7AM - 10 PM

...and don't miss  
**Ribfest**  
11AM TO 6PM  
happening alongside the cookout!

# MEMBER SERVICE NEWS

BY NICHOLE MILBOCKER [MemberService@SandyPines.com](mailto:MemberService@SandyPines.com)

## Office Hours

Monday – Friday: 8 am to 4 pm  
Saturday & Sunday: Closed

Welcome back, Sandy Pines friends! It is nice to welcome back all your smiling, happy faces. As the season kicks off, here are a few helpful reminders and important dates.

## Important Dates

MAY 5	Cinco De MAYo
MAY 9	Member Service Saturday hours begin (8 am-noon)
MAY 10	Mother's Day
MAY 11	Music Bingo at LMGC
MAY 15	Board of Directors Meeting
MAY 16	Town Hall Meeting
MAY 16	Park & Garden Flower Sale
MAY 22	Scavenger Hunt #1 Begins
MAY 22 - 25	Holiday Tournaments
MAY 22 - 25	Weekend-Only Pool Hours Begin
MAY 23	Pancake Breakfast
MAY 23	Craft & Vendor Show
MAY 23	Holiday Tournaments
MAY 25	Administration Office Closed
MAY 25	Memorial Day Service
MAY 25	Member Account Balances Due
MAY 25	Music Bingo at LMGC
JUNE 10	Site Clean-Up

Let us all take a moment to welcome back and be thankful to all the wonderful faces who make our "happy place" happy.

Not only do we want to welcome back all of our amazing members, but we also want to recognize and welcome back all of our great staff who help keep this place fun and exciting! Speaking of exciting, check out all of the new activities we have planned, easily accessible in the new online digital calendar. It's so easy to navigate with helpful new buttons and filters. Thank you to our staff who work tirelessly to get these activities planned and added to the calendar for our summer fun.

## Renewal Stickers

If you have not yet picked up your 2026 stickers. Please stop by the administration office to get to them. Only primary members are permitted to pick up stickers so please bring your member card or valid ID with you.

## Storage Rentals

If you need storage for any of your larger items, check out our bullpen space. We have two different size options available; you can find the rental/pricing form online or by visiting the Member Service office. All spaces are available on a monthly, quarterly, or yearly basis. This area is gated and PIN code accessible for members with an active rental. It is located conveniently behind the Ball field/Carwash. Call now to reserve, spaces are filling up fast.

## Mail Room

If you are looking for mail/package deliveries, make sure to reach out for mailbox rental. ONLY members with a mailbox rental may receive mail or package deliveries to the mail room. Units are available. Call today.

# BOARD OF DIRECTORS UPDATE

BY CRAIG VAN BEEK [BoardOfDirectors@SandyPines.com](mailto:BoardOfDirectors@SandyPines.com)

## Welcome Back to Another Season at Sandy Pines!

The start of another year at Sandy Pines is here—who is excited? I know I am. One of the things I always look forward to most is seeing friends return from down south and from around the area. There is something special about catching up after the winter months and hearing everyone's stories. This weekend I'll be heading out to hook the water up to my trailer, and as I started thinking about opening things up for the season, it made me reminisce about years past at Sandy Pines.

When I was a kid here in the late 1970s, the park looked quite different than it does today. All the roads were gravel, most of the golf carts had three wheels, and there were actually two trees standing in the road just past CC8 heading toward the Golden Onion. Kids—and maybe a few adults—would try to drive their golf carts right between them.

I remember when a few sites were able to get phone lines run to their trailers. At the time, it was considered quite a luxury and came at a premium cost. Today, of course, those phones and phone lines have mostly disappeared as technology has changed.

Some of my favorite memories from those early years include fishing as a kid and riding my bike all over the park. We would check out shuffleboard equipment, and even bows and arrows to shoot at straw bales that were set up for archery. We watched movies on the beach by the Golden Onion, and I learned to swim in the indoor pool.

I also attended Vacation Bible School at the Chapel, and I'm pretty sure I still have one of the crafts I made back then!

The trailers were much smaller in those days—pop-up campers and small travel trailers. I remember seeing the first park model come in. I was amazed at how large it was! Most sites didn't have three-season rooms yet.

What is now the ice cream shop used to be a laundromat, and if you wanted ice cream, you went to the Lakeside Café. The lake looked different too. It seemed like there were always several catamarans out on the water, along with pontoons and speedboats—but there were a lot of sailboats back then as well.

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## Board News / Continued From Page 5

I also remember the lake pump by the Golden Onion. It started as a partial pipe on the ground and then transitioned into a cement half-round pipe. As kids, we used to try to slow the water down by piling sand in front of it—though it never really worked!

Did you know there used to be wood docks out in the lake in front of the Golden Onion and the Phase 1 Pavilion? Those were taken out long ago for safety reasons.

Through all the changes over the years, one thing has remained the same: Sandy Pines has always been a place people are excited to come to. In many ways, the park feels like a place of peace and refuge in a world that often seems to move at 100 miles an hour.

My hope is that Sandy Pines continues to be that special place for all of us—a place where families gather, friendships

grow, and memories are made.

So as the season begins, I encourage you to make the most of it:

*Spend time with your neighbors and family*  
*Play some golf*  
*Enjoy the lake*  
*Grab some ice cream*  
*Go for a golf cart ride*  
*Watch a sunset*  
*Enjoy the fireworks*

And most importantly—have fun making memories that will last a lifetime.

Welcome back to Sandy Pines. I'm looking forward to a great season together.

## FINANCE & ACCOUNTING NEWS

BY KIMBERLY WILLIAMS [Kim@SandyPines.com](mailto:Kim@SandyPines.com)

Welcome members, campers, and guests—we are excited to kick off another great summer season at Sandy Pines!

### 2026 Seasonal Renewals

Renewal statements, including annual billing charges, were included with your March statement.

If you have not yet picked up your renewal stickers, they are available at the Administration Office. Stickers must be picked up in person by the member listed on the account, and a valid photo ID and signature will be required.

### Retail Gas Pump Reminder

The gas pump near the retail center is available for vehicle and golf cart use and includes pay-at-the-pump credit card processing. Hours align with the Country Store.

An attendant must be present at the Country Store during usage to comply with safety protocols and state regulations. The pump will indicate when service is available. Please use the pump responsibly and follow all posted guidelines.

This is a great onsite service available for our members and guests and therefore we are excited to remind you of its availability.

### Understanding Member Electric Assessments

We continue to receive questions regarding electric billing and appreciate the opportunity to provide clarity.

### Sandy Pines Is Not a Utility Provider

Sandy Pines does not sell electricity. Our assessment process was reviewed and approved by the Michigan Public Service Commission (MPSC) in 1990 to ensure compliance with regulatory requirements.

### Usage Grouping System

Electric usage is calculated using 301 tiered groups, each representing a 50 kW range.

For example, usage between 1,000–1,049 kW falls into Group 021 and is assessed using a 1,025 kW median.

Current Rates:

- Energy: \$0.205 per kW
- Maintenance: \$0.02 per kW
- Combined Rate: \$0.207 per kW

All members within the same group receive the same annual assessment.

### Billing & Reconciliation

Electric is billed quarterly as estimated pre-payments based on prior-year usage. Final meter readings occur each September, with adjustments reflected on the final statement as either a credit or an additional charge.

### New or Low-Usage Members

Members with limited usage or new accounts may be billed \$50 per quarter and then adjusted with the final fiscal year end reading, until a full year of usage is established.

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3350 Chicago Dr SW, Grandville, MI 49418 [www.crswater.com](http://www.crswater.com)

## Finance / Continued From Page 6

### Managing Usage

\*\*Note: Members are encouraged to monitor usage throughout the season. Tracking monthly meter readings can provide helpful insight into consumption patterns.

Keep in mind that park models are not insulated like traditional homes, and heating, cooling, and continuous appliance use can significantly impact energy consumption.

### Why This System Works

Because Sandy Pines does not own the electric grid, costs cannot be evenly distributed among members. The grouping system ensures a fair, consistent, and compliant method of allocating costs based on usage.

### Financial Update – March 2026 Year-to-Date

Sandy Pines Wilderness Trails, Inc.

Sandy Pines remains in a strong financial position as we begin the 2026 season.

- **Net Income:** \$3.12M (up from \$2.83M prior year)
- **Revenue:** 71.6% of budget, driven by October dues/assessments and March renewals
- **Expenses:** 40% of budget, with higher expenses expected during peak season

### Cash & Liquidity

- Total Cash & Investments: \$9.06M
- Operating Cash: \$7.47M
- Capital Reserve: \$1.47M

### Days Cash in Reserve

- Daily Operating Expense: approximately \$22,975
- Days Cash in Reserve: 325 days

Operational cash levels are intentionally higher at the beginning of the season to ensure sufficient liquidity. Over the course of the year, this typically normalizes to a range of 120–180 days.

### Revenue & Expense Trends

- **Revenue increases:** Resort Services, Maintenance, and Public Safety
- **Revenue decreases:** Sales/Hospitality, Member Services, and Rentals
  - o Sales activity has softened, but efforts are underway to strengthen performance through targeted marketing initiatives
- **Expenses:**
  - o Professional services increased due to system implementations and regulatory projects
  - o Insurance, property taxes, and depreciation reflect industry trends and infrastructure investments
  - o Postage expense has decreased by approximately \$3,500 year-to-date due to the transition to electronic statements

### Lake Monterey Golf Course LLC Update

Lake Monterey Golf Course also enters the 2026 season in a solid position.

### Cash & Planning

Operational and capital reserves have increased as part of a strategic plan to support the upcoming irrigation system project, anticipated for Fall 2026. A material purchase of approximately \$270,000 is expected in the coming months to secure pricing.

### Revenue

Overall revenue has decreased slightly due to the reduction in the Sandy Pines Golf Assessment:

- Reduced from \$150 to \$125 per member
- Total annual impact: approximately \$54,075

Green fee revenue has increased and is helping offset this change.

### Operations

- Expenses remain well-managed and slightly below prior year levels
- Repair and maintenance spending has been intentionally limited to short-term needs in preparation for the irrigation project

### Additional Updates

The team is finalizing approval for the Class C Liquor License following the successful on-site interview and submission of final documentation.

Sandy Pines Wilderness Trails and Lake Monterey Golf Course are entering the 2026 season in a strong financial position.

We look forward to a great season ahead!

# Follow Us on Social Media!

GET CONNECTED FOR ALL OF OUR LATEST NEWS & UPDATES!

-  on Facebook @SandyPinesWildernessTrails
-  on Instagram @SandyPinesOfficial
-  on YouTube @SandyPinesWT
-  on Twitter @SandyPinesWT

# RECREATION NEWS

BY ABBY GREENFIELD [Abby@SandyPines.com](mailto:Abby@SandyPines.com)

## Starting the Season

As the season begins, be sure to check out the calendar for all the events and activities happening around the park. Spoiler alert: there's a lot to look forward to.

## Spring Event – May 2

Join us at the golf course for our Spring Event on May 2. The day will feature a cornhole tournament, games, activities, and flower pot decorating.

There will also be a special giveaway held after the event on social media involving the decorated plant pots, so be sure to watch the website and social channels for full details.

## Staff Orientation – May 9

May 9 is staff orientation day. Returning team members and new hires will be on-site learning and preparing for the summer season.

In the following weeks, you will likely see staff training in the pools for in-water certification and throughout the park on the ropes course as we get ready for a busy summer.

## Pools Open – May 22

May 22 marks the opening day for the pools.

Pools will operate on weekends only (with the exception of the adult pool) until June 8, when most of our seasonal staff are out of school and full summer operations begin.

Please be patient with our team early in the season, as many new staff members are learning the park and getting comfortable in their roles.

## Memorial Day Weekend

Memorial Day Weekend will be packed with activities, events, and tournaments.

The Craft & Vendor Show is full with more than 70 vendors offering everything from flowers and handmade goods to custom leather purses and fire poker. There will truly be something for everyone.

Be sure to also check out the Youth Vendor Section, which still has a few spots available for young entrepreneurs interested in participating.

A full vendor map will be posted in the coming weeks.

## Memorial Day Blood Drive

Give back this Memorial Day Weekend by participating in our Blood Drive at Sandy Pines. Donating blood is a simple way to make a meaningful impact and support those in need.

The drive will take place on **Saturday, May 23**, from **10:00 am to 3:00 pm at the Phase 1 Indoor Pavilion**.

All donors will receive a **\$25 e-gift card** as a thank you. Appointments are preferred and tend to fill quickly, so we encourage you to reserve your spot in advance.

**Sign Up Here:** [https://donateblood.versiti.org/donor/schedules/drive\\_schedule/11637774](https://donateblood.versiti.org/donor/schedules/drive_schedule/11637774)

Sponsored by Versiti Blood Center.

## Library Book Club

Join the Library Committee on June 8 for their first meeting of their Summer Book Club! Monday, June 8 at the North Shore Center. Find information on the book to read for our June discussion on our website!

## Pool & Recreation Hours

Ropes Course hours will be listed in the Weekend Flyer for each specific weekend.

## Friday, May 22

- Waterpark: 5:00 pm – 9:00 pm
- Phase 2 Pool: 5:00 pm – 9:00 pm
- Phase 3 Pool: 5:00 pm – 8:00 pm
- Happy Shack: 5:00 pm – 8:00 pm
- Rec Office / Mini Golf: 11:00 am – 9:00 pm

## Saturday, May 23

- Waterpark: 11:00 am – 9:00 pm
- Phase 2 Pool: 11:00 am – 9:00 pm
- Phase 3 Pool: 1:00 pm – 8:00 pm
- Happy Shack: 11:00 am – 8:00 pm
- Rec Office / Mini Golf: 11:00 am – 9:00 pm

## Sunday, May 24

- Waterpark: 11:00 am – 6:00 pm
- Phase 2 Pool: 11:00 am – 6:00 pm
- Phase 3 Pool: 1:00 pm – 5:00 pm
- Happy Shack: 11:00 am – 6:00 pm
- Rec Office / Mini Golf: 11:00 am – 6:00 pm

## Monday, May 25

- Waterpark: 11:00 am – 5:00 pm
- Phase 2 Pool: 11:00 am – 5:00 pm
- Phase 3 Pool: 1:00 pm – 5:00 pm
- Happy Shack: 11:00 am – 5:00 pm
- Rec Office / Mini Golf: 11:00 am – 5:00 pm

## Tuesday, May 26 – Thursday, May 28

- Closed

## Friday, May 29

- Waterpark: 5:00 pm – 9:00 pm
- Phase 2 Pool: 5:00 pm – 9:00 pm
- Phase 3 Pool: 5:00 pm – 8:00 pm
- Happy Shack: 5:00 pm – 8:00 pm
- Rec Office / Mini Golf: 11:00 am – 9:00 pm

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## Recreation News / Continued From Page 8

### Saturday, May 30

- Waterpark: 11:00 am – 9:00 pm
- Phase 2 Pool: 11:00 am – 9:00 pm
- Phase 3 Pool: 1:00 pm – 8:00 pm
- Happy Shack: 11:00 am – 8:00 pm
- Rec Office / Mini Golf: 11:00 am – 9:00 pm

### Sunday, May 31

- Waterpark: 11:00 am – 6:00 pm
- Phase 2 Pool: 11:00 am – 6:00 pm
- Phase 3 Pool: 1:00 pm – 5:00 pm
- Happy Shack: 11:00 am – 6:00 pm
- Rec Office / Mini Golf: 11:00 am – 6:00 pm

## COMMUNICATIONS NEWS

BY IAN MITCHELL [ian@SandyPines.com](mailto:ian@SandyPines.com)

### 2026 Weekend Preview Has Arrived

Last month, we shared that the Weekend Flyer will return later this month for Memorial Day Weekend and continue throughout the summer season.

While you wait, we're excited to announce that our 2026 Sandy Pines Weekend Preview is now available.

This special preview highlights all of our themed weekends along with many of the major events planned throughout the season—giving you an early look at the fun ahead and helping you start planning your summer now.

Printed copies are available to pick up at Member Service and Public Safety.

**View the Weekend Preview online:** <https://sandypines.com/wp-content/uploads/2026-Weekend-Flyer-Preview.pdf>

From holiday weekends and tournaments to family activities, entertainment, and new themed experiences, the 2026 season is shaping up to be one to remember.

As always, the online calendar remains the official source for all events, times, updates, and details throughout the season.

**View the full calendar:** <https://sandypines.com/calendar/>

### Spring Kickoff + Social Media Challenge

As mentioned in the Recreation section, we will be hosting our Spring Kickoff on Saturday, May 2 from 1:00 – 4:00 PM at Lake Monterey Golf Course.

We are also running a fun social media challenge on our official Sandy Pines Facebook page for the event.

#### How It Works:

1. Decorate your plant pot at Spring Kickoff
2. Take your plant home and style it in your “happy place” — porch, camper, patio, garden, by the lake, etc.
3. Post a photo on Facebook or Instagram
4. Tag Sandy Pines and use **#SandyPinesSpringKickoff**

### Hiring Needs

We are still hiring lifeguards for the summer season.

If you—or someone you know—is 16 years or older and interested in working this summer, please visit the website to complete an application.

We are especially looking for team members available on weekends throughout August. Our goal is to keep the Waterpark and Happy Shack open Friday through Sunday through the end of August.

That goal depends on staffing levels and weather, so if you are interested and available, we would love to hear from you.

#### 5. Encourage friends to like your photo

Be sure to check out full event details and more information about the challenge here: <https://sandypines.com/event/spring-kickoff/>

Prizes will be announced online!

### Help Us Grow on Social Media

Last month, we asked for your help by leaving a Facebook review or sharing photos from around the park—and we truly appreciate everyone who took the time to support us.

As more members return for the season, we would still love your help spreading the word about Sandy Pines.

If you enjoy your time here, please consider leaving us a review on Facebook. Positive reviews help others learn what makes Sandy Pines such a special place and give future guests and members a better sense of our community.

Leave a review here: <https://www.facebook.com/SandyPinesWildernessTrails/reviews>

If you are not already following us on Facebook, be sure to do that as well. We regularly share updates, photos, videos, event reminders, and important announcements throughout the season.

### Share Your Sandy Pines Memories

We are always looking for member-submitted photos and videos that help showcase the fun, beauty, and community spirit of Sandy Pines.

Whether it is a sunset on the lake, family time at the pool, golf cart rides, fishing, campfires, event photos, or great memories with friends—we would love to see it.

Member photos and videos are one of the best ways to show others what makes Sandy Pines special.

For best quality, please email original files anytime to: [Communications@SandyPines.com](mailto:Communications@SandyPines.com)

You can also tag us on social media when posting your own Sandy Pines moments.

# PARK INSPECTOR NEWS

BY JIM BUCHANAN [Inspector@SandyPines.com](mailto:Inspector@SandyPines.com)

With the official opening of the park last month, many members are excited to begin their 2026 improvement projects around their sites. We know many of you have already applied for permits and are ready to get started. We would like to remind everyone that the following projects are commonly overlooked when it comes to permit requirements:

1. Re-topping decks and steps requires a permit
2. **Anything** done in the green space requires a permit
3. All fences require a permit
4. All electrical work requires a permit

Please review the Rule Book and contact the Park Inspector's Office if you have questions or are unsure how to proceed with a project.

Please do not begin work without the proper permit. We are here to help keep the park compliant with local township (PCI), County Health Department, and EGLE (State) laws and regulations, which can impact our campground license.

## June Lot Clean-Up Reminder

Coming up in June is the annual Lot Clean-Up.

It is every member's responsibility to help keep their site neat, safe, and in compliance. To avoid notices or fines, please make sure your lot meets park requirements by the June 10 deadline.

A Lot Clean-Up Checklist can be found in the Rule Book or by visiting the link below: <https://sandypines.com/wp-content/uploads/Site-Violation-Checklist.pdf>

This checklist outlines the items reviewed during inspections throughout the park.

Remember, the better the park looks, the more value your lot holds for future generations. A clean and well-kept community also helps attract new members who want to become part of Sandy Pines.

## Leaf Dump Reminder

Reminder: Leaves must be bagged and brought to the Leaf Dump. Leaves are not to be placed in the green space.

Thank you!

# SECURITY NEWS

BY PAUL SCHAAF [Paul@SandyPines.com](mailto:Paul@SandyPines.com)

## Office Hours

Emergency Security Staff is onsite 24 hours/day.

## March 2026 Call Stats

In March 2026, Public Safety responded to 42 calls for service. The breakdown of the calls are:

Assist.....	13
Lost Child.....	1
Open Door.....	12
Property Damage.....	2
Tree Down.....	12
Watercraft.....	2

## Micro Mobility Devices

The season is underway, and members are back in the park enjoying all Sandy Pines has to offer. Many people will be using micro mobility devices such as stand-up scooters, Onewheels, and electric skateboards.

While these devices can be fun and convenient, they also raise important safety concerns.

When operating one of these devices—or allowing your child to operate one—please remember that the same traffic rules apply as they do for cars and golf carts.

Users must:

- Follow posted speed limits
- Stop at stop signs
- Travel responsibly and predictably
- Avoid weaving in and out of traffic

There have been increasing concerns regarding the unsafe use of these devices. Please operate them responsibly so we can avoid future discussions about restricting or banning them in the park.

## Hands-Free Reminder

Please remember that Sandy Pines is a hands-free zone when it comes to cell phone use while operating a vehicle. This follows the same standard as Michigan road laws: *“An individual shall not hold or use a mobile electronic device while operating a vehicle.”*

If you need to use your phone, please safely pull over and park your vehicle first.

## Fireworks

Fireworks, along with any explosive or incendiary devices, are prohibited unless specific park approval has been granted for special events, such as park-sponsored fireworks

*Continued on Page 11*

## Security / Continued From Page 10

displays from the island.

Sparklers are permitted only when used safely under adult supervision and properly disposed of afterward.

### Boats & Watercraft

As boats return to the lake this season, please make sure your watercraft is properly registered and compliant.

Please confirm that you have:

- A current Sandy Pines boat sticker
- A valid State of Michigan registration sticker

Please also note the following length limits:

- Boats: **20 feet or shorter**
- Pontoons: **24 feet or shorter**

If your watercraft exceeds these limits, it must be removed from the lake.

## SAFETY NEWS

BY STEVE DEYARMOND [Steve@SandyPines.com](mailto:Steve@SandyPines.com)

### Golf Cart Safety

Golf carts remain the most common form of transportation within Sandy Pines. With many memberships owning two golf carts, there are more than 3,000 golf carts operating throughout the park.

When combined with cars, bicycles, scooters, mobility devices, and pedestrians, our roads can become very active and crowded—especially during busy weekends.

### Why Safety Matters

Our history of accidents involving injuries within the park averages fewer than 20 per year. Common contributing factors include carelessness, recklessness, horseplay, inattentiveness, distractions, and inexperience.

Twenty accidents may not seem like many, but as precious as life is, only one serious incident can result in loss of life and a traumatic event for a family—something none of us want to see happen.

Nationally, yearly injury estimates range from 15,000 to 35,000 requiring emergency room visits. National average fatalities are approximately 600 per year.

### Common Causes of Injuries

Injuries are often caused by people falling out of golf carts (38–50%), followed by collisions and rollovers.

Sharp turns, collisions with stationary objects or other vehicles, can cause occupant ejections and rollovers. Jumping on or off while a golf cart is in motion is also a common cause of injuries.

A review of accidents within the park also reflects incidents involving guests driving golf carts who are inexperienced in golf cart operation.

### Member Responsibility

Please take the time to instruct and remind anyone operating your golf cart to drive appropriately.

As a member of the park, it is your responsibility to ensure

that your golf cart is operated properly by members or guests from your site. Oversight is the responsibility of each member when allowing others to use their golf cart.

Sandy Pines requires golf carts to carry liability insurance. It is also suggested that you carry insurance covering damage to the golf cart in the event of an accident.

### Youth Golf Cart Testing

Youth wishing to operate a golf cart in the park must take the golf cart safety test. A golf cart safety packet may be downloaded for youth to study. The study packet is located on the Sandy Pines website under the Public Safety page: <https://sandypines.com/wp-content/uploads/Golf-Cart-Study-Guide.pdf>

Members are encouraged to read the golf cart safety booklet as well.

After a twelve-year-old youth (or older) studies the golf cart safety packet, they may take the test. The test consists of 61 multiple-choice questions. Youth may miss up to 12 questions and still pass.

If the youth does not pass, they may return after additional study and retake the test.

### Youth Driving Requirements

Youth age 12 who pass must drive with an adult for one year. Youth age 13 or older must drive with an adult for three weeks.

It is always the responsibility of the parent or guardian to determine if the youth is ready to operate the golf cart independently after the probationary period.

### Final Reminder

Operation of a golf cart carries great responsibility and liability for the owner. Please do not underestimate the responsibility involved in allowing others to operate your golf cart.

Ensure that anyone using your golf cart is responsible in its operation and that you have adequate insurance coverage to protect your investment and financial liability.

# CAMPING NEWS

BY JANELE TOMES [Janele@SandyPines.com](mailto:Janele@SandyPines.com)

## Contact Information

Phone: 616.896.8315 x 103

Email: [Janele@SandyPines.com](mailto:Janele@SandyPines.com)

The weather is finally warming up, and our community is coming back to life. From campfires and morning coffee by the lake to weekend activities and family fun, there is something special about this time of year.

We are kicking off a new season full of fresh air, connection, and unforgettable memories. Please be sure to check out the online calendar for all of the activities happening this month.

Let the camping adventures begin!

## Season Kickoff Special

To help start the season, I am offering 50% off campsites through May 17. Please help spread the word!

Also, keep an eye out for a June weekend cabin giveaway. More details will be shared on social media.

## Regular Season Rates

- Campsites: \$80–\$90 per night
- Cabins: \$125–\$140 per night
- Trailers: \$190–\$275 per night

## Accommodation Options

Sandy Pines offers a variety of accommodations, making it easy for every guest to find the perfect fit for their camping experience.

Guests can reserve a campsite, rustic cabin, or park model trailer online through our website. With flexible dates and a range of options, booking your stay is quick and simple.

## Campsites

Our spacious campsites are designed for traditional camping. Whether you are bringing a tent or RV, these sites provide the perfect base for outdoor adventures and lasting memories.

## Rustic Cabins

If you are looking for a more comfortable camping experience, Sandy Pines rustic cabins offer the ideal blend of outdoor charm and indoor convenience.

These cozy cabins include comfortable sleeping arrangements, lighting, heat, air conditioning, and a mini fridge. They are perfect for guests who want to enjoy camping without sacrificing too much comfort.

## Park Model Trailers

For those seeking an even more comfortable stay, Sandy Pines park model trailers are a fantastic option.

These fully equipped trailers include modern amenities such as air conditioning, a full kitchen, and living area—helping make your stay both comfortable and convenient.

Park model trailers are perfect for families who want to enjoy all the benefits of camping with the added comfort of home.

## Discounts Available

We offer a 10% discount for associate members and a **10% military discount for those currently serving or who have served in the military.**

Thank you for your service.

To apply these discounts, please contact the Camping Department directly.

You can make reservations online at [www.SandyPines.com](http://www.SandyPines.com), or give me a call at **616-896-8315 ext. 103**. I would be happy to assist you.

See you soon!

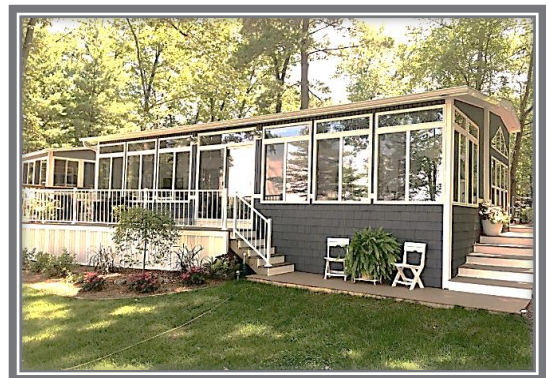


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# SALES NEWS

BY KENT LIVINGSTON [Kent@SandyPines.com](mailto:Kent@SandyPines.com)

As we move further into the season and the energy around Sandy Pines continues to build, one thing has become very clear—there is an abundance of opportunities available right now for those looking to become part of our incredible community.

We are currently seeing a strong number of listings across the park, offering a wide range of options for prospective buyers. Whether someone is searching for a cozy weekend retreat, a waterfront view, or a centrally located site close to amenities, there truly is something for everyone.

This variety creates a unique window of opportunity that we do not always see, making it an excellent time for buyers to step in and find the right fit.

## We'd Love Your Help

Many of the best new members at Sandy Pines come through referrals—friends, family, and acquaintances who have experienced the park through you.

If you know someone who has talked about wanting a summer getaway, a place to relax, or a community to be part of, now is the perfect time to invite them to take a closer look. A simple conversation or invitation to visit can go a long way.

## More Than a Place to Stay

Sandy Pines has always been more than just a place to stay—it is a place where memories are made, traditions are built, and connections grow stronger year after year.

There is something special about sharing that experience with the people you care about.

## Here to Help

If you or someone you know is interested in learning more about current listings, I am always happy to help guide them through the process and find the right opportunity.

Let's keep growing this amazing community together.

# CHAPEL NEWS

BY DAVE VAN NOORD

## Sandy Pines Lakeside Chapel Schedule for May

**May 10** | 10:00 am Worship at the North Shore Building

**May 17** | 10:00 am Worship at the Lakeside Chapel led by Dave Van Noord

**May 23** | Pancake Breakfast at the Flea Market Area. Serving from 8:00 am to 11:00 am. Join us for pancakes, sausages, and beverages. Don't miss it!

**May 24** | 10:00 am Worship at the Lakeside Chapel led by David Beelen from Coram Deo.

**May 24** | 6:00 pm Concert with Phil Cross and Poet Voices

**May 31** | 10:00 am Worship at the Lakeside Chapel with Rev. John Bookshaw

May 31 | 6:00 pm Concert with Walt Williams Jr.

## Mark Your Calendar – VBS

Vacation Bible School will take place July 27 through July 31.

Registration is now open for both volunteers and children.

Register online at: [sandypines.com/chapel](http://sandypines.com/chapel)

We are also looking for two tents for that week, approximately 20 feet x 30 feet.

If you know of any available tents, please email Dave at [davevan Noord@yahoo.com](mailto:davevan Noord@yahoo.com)

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# LAKE MONTEREY GOLF NEWS

BY DAVID INGLES [David@GolfLMGC.com](mailto:David@GolfLMGC.com)

It's go time. Another new season with lots of excitement. Plenty of new things planned for the season and looking so forward to seeing everyone again. We will be celebrating Mother's Day on the 10th with free golf for all the moms. Also will be remembering our veterans this month. Read on for all the news about Lake Monterey Golf Course!

## League and Outings

Most of our leagues have already started. If you come down to play on a weekday evening you will see all the activity. If you are interested in hosting an outing, please contact us and we can get you all the information you need.

## Homecoming Party

On May 23rd we will be having a Homecoming Party! This will be similar to the 80's Party we had last fall. You can buy your tickets at the LMGC clubhouse. Your ticket will get you into the party and also include the buffet style food for the evening. There will be dancing, contests and all kinds of fun. You are encouraged to wear your High School jacket, sweater, shirts, etc... as this will be like your high school homecoming. We think this is also a great way to welcome everyone home for the summer here at LMGC and Sandy Pines.

## Music Bingo

Our highly popular Music Bingo is back for the fourth year! We are starting on May 11 at 7:00pm. Get here early to make sure you get a seat! Food and drink specials will be available (food starts at 6:00pm).

## Memberships

We have updated our pricing for golf memberships for 2026 on our website. Also, please take note that the 9 hole rate for members has gone to \$8 and for associate members it is now \$11. The 18 hole rate has stayed the same for both.

## Special Promotion

We have become a major distributor of Srixon Golf Balls and more. They are allowing us to give away an incredible Srixon Staff Golf Bag (\$550 value)!! Every time you buy a dozen Srixon golf balls you will receive a ticket, and one lucky person will win an incredible golf bag.

We will have a great opportunity for golfers this year on hole 7. We are going to have cameras set up on the tee and behind the green. You will be given the option to win money if you hit

a hole-in-one on that hole. There will be a sign as you pull up to the tee box that will give you all the information. You can buy a year long pass for the hole-in-one contest for just \$85, this would win you \$2000 for a hole-in-one on hole 7.

## Golf Lessons/Junior League

Our free golf lessons and our Junior League will begin in June. Get more information on our website or at the clubhouse. Private lessons will be done through David Ingles at the golf course. Please call to schedule your time.

## Please Take Note

When you play on Weekends and Holidays, if you have less than four players, there is a good chance you will be paired up with other people.

The golf course is not the best place to try and teach someone how to golf, especially on a busy morning or a weekend. This holds up play and causes a back-up. Please use the range to teach someone to golf.

## Golf Course Rules

Please be mindful of the following rules of the golf course:

- Absolutely no personal coolers or bringing alcohol or beer to the course. But please check out our new selection of drinks that we are bringing in.
- Always bring your Sandy Pines member or associate card to be shown.
- Knobby tires and six-seater golf carts are not permissible on the golf course.
- Every player must have their own set of clubs. If you do not have clubs, you can rent some in the clubhouse.
- Proper golf attire is required. No tank tops allowed. Men's shirts must have sleeves. Women's tops must be golf attire.
- Groups of 5 players or more are not allowed without prior permission.

Let's make golf fun for everyone by following these rules. We appreciate your cooperation.

We are excited and looking forward to seeing everyone and the time when we can say it again, "Let's go golfing!!!"

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# 20 SANDYPINES WEEKEND PREVIEW 26

## MEMORIAL DAY WEEKEND | MAY 22 - 25, 2026

DATE	TIME	EVENT	LOCATION
Fri, May 22	Any Time	Park Wide Scavenger Hunt #1	Park Wide
May 22 - 25	All Weekend	Holiday Tournaments	Park Wide
Fri, May 22	6 pm	Poppies & Pages	North Shore Center
Sat, May 23	8 - 11 am	Pancake Breakfast	Flea Market Pavilion
Sat, May 23	10am-3pm	Blood Drive	Phase 1 Pavilion
Sat, May 23	12 - 6 pm	Craft & Vendor Show	Flea Market Area
Sat, May 23	4 - 7 pm	Kids Zone	Phase 1 Pavilion
Sun, May 24	6 - 9:30 pm	Memorial Jar Painting	Recreation Station
Mon, May 25	All Day	Administration Offices Closed	Admin Offices
Mon, May 25	9 - 10 am	Memorial Day Service	Veteran's Memorial

## PIRATE WEEKEND | MAY 29 - 31, 2026

DATE	TIME	EVENT	LOCATION
Fri, May 29	6 - 8 pm	Paper Boat Races	Recreation Station
Sat, May 30	11am-2pm	Shipwrecked Party	Phase 1 Pavilion
Sat, May 30	1 - 2 pm	Treasure Dig	Phase 1 Volleyball
Sat, May 30	4 - 6 pm	Treasure Hunt	Recreation Station
Sat, May 30	7 - 9 pm	Capture The Flag	Flea Market Area
Sun, May 31	2 - 4 pm	Sand Art Necklaces	Recreation Station

## SUPERHERO WEEKEND | JUNE 5 - 7, 2026

DATE	TIME	EVENT	LOCATION
Fri, June 5	6 - 8 pm	Gemstone Hunt	Recreation Station
Sat, June 6	9 - 10:30 pm	Youth Golf Cart Testing	North Shore Center
Sat, June 6	11am-1pm	Cape Making	Recreation Station
Sat, June 6	2 - 4 pm	Superhero Training	Phase 1 Pavilion
Sat, June 6	5 - 7 pm	Heroes vs Villains Tag	Flea Market Area
Sat, June 6	9 pm	Movie on the Grass	Recreation Station
Sun, June 7	2 - 4 pm	Superhero Bingo	Phase 1 Pavilion
Mon, June 8	All Day	Recreation Lessons Begin	Park Wide
Mon, June 8	9:30 am	Swim Lessons Begin	Phase 3 Pool
Mon, June 8	K:1 T:2:45pm	Kids/Pre-Teen Clubs Begin	Recreation Station
Wed, June 10	All Day	Site Clean-Up Deadline	Park Wide

## DECADES WEEKEND | JUNE 12 - 14, 2026

DATE	TIME	EVENT	LOCATION
Fri, June 12	5 - 8 pm	Board Game Making	Recreation Station
Fri, June 12	9 pm	Movie on the Beach	Phase 4 Beach
Sat, June 13	8am - 5pm	Boater's Safety	North Shore Center
Sat, June 13	10am-1pm	Rock Painting	Phase 1 Pavilion
Sat, June 13	11am-2pm	Through The Decades	Phase 1 Pavilion
Sat, June 13	2 - 4 pm	60s Tie Dye	Recreation Station
Sat, June 13	5 - 8 pm	The Amazing Race	Start @ Chapel
Sat, June 13	9 - 11 am	Glow Night	Recreation Station
Sun, June 14	2 - 4 pm	CD Art	Recreation Station

### Want to Help Make Sandy Pines Awesome?

We're always looking for volunteers to help with events around the park.  
Reach out to the Rec Team if you'd like to get involved!  
Email: [Abby@SandyPines.com](mailto:Abby@SandyPines.com) Phone: 616-896-8318

## FATHER'S DAY WEEKEND | JUNE 19 - 21, 2026

DATE	TIME	EVENT	LOCATION
Fri, June 19	6 - 7:30 pm	Board of Directors Meeting	North Shore Center
Fri, June 19	6 - 8 pm	Wiffle Ball	Softball Field
Sat, June 20	9 - 10 am	Town Hall Meeting	North Shore Center
Sat, June 20	11am-2pm	Kickball Tournament	Softball Field
Sat, June 20	2 - 4 pm	Poker Run	Phase 2 Pavilion
Sat, June 20	4 - 7 pm	Summer Concert Series	Flea Market Area
Sat, June 20	4 - 7 pm	Car Show	Flea Market Area
Sat, June 20	7 - 9 pm	Summer Concert Series	Phase 1 Pavilion
Sun, June 21	1 - 3pm	Cornhole Tournament	Softball Field
June 22 - 26	6 - 7:30 pm	Soccer Camp	Soccer Field

## GARAGE SALE WEEKEND #1 | JUNE 26 - 28, 2026

DATE	TIME	EVENT	LOCATION
June 26 - 27	All Day	Garage Sale Weekend	Phases 3, 5, & 6
Fri, June 26	6 - 8 pm	Tote Bag Decorating	Recreation Station
Sat, June 27	10am-2pm	Sidewalk Chalk Contest	Phase 1 Pavilion
Sat, June 27	1 - 3 pm	Pet Rock Adoption	Phase 1 Pavilion
Sat, June 27	4 - 6 pm	Tie Dye Saturday	Recreation Station
Sat, June 27	7 - 10 pm	Karaoke Night	Lake Monterey Golf
Sat, June 27	9 pm	Drive-In Movie	Chapel
Sun, June 28	1 - 3 pm	Ultimate Uno	North Shore Center

## 4th OF JULY WEEKEND | JULY 3 - 5, 2026

DATE	TIME	EVENT	LOCATION
Fri, July 3	All Day	Administration Offices Closed	Admin Offices
Fri, July 3	Any Time	Park Wide Scavenger Hunt #2	Park Wide
July 3 - 5	All Weekend	Holiday Tournaments	Park Wide
Fri, July 3	6 - 8 pm	Patriotic Tie Dye	Recreation Station
Fri, July 3	8 - 11 am	Pancake Breakfast	Flea Market Pavilion
Sat, July 4	8:30 am	4th of July Parade	Start @ Rec Station
Sat, July 4	12 - 6 pm	Craft & Vendor Show	Flea Market Area
Sat, July 4	4 - 7 pm	Kids Zone	Phase 1 Pavilion
Sat, July 4	10 pm	4th of July Fireworks	Park Wide
Sun, July 5	1 - 3 pm	4th of July Bingo	Phase 1 Pavilion

## HALLOWEEN WEEKEND | JULY 10 - 12, 2026

DATE	TIME	EVENT	LOCATION
Fri, July 10	6 - 8 pm	Halloween Jeopardy	Phase 1 Pavilion
Fri, July 10	9 - 10 pm	Halloween Bike Parade	Start @ Water Park
Sat, July 11	10am-12pm	Softball Tournament	Softball Field
Sat, July 11	11am-1pm	Face Painting	North Shore Center
Sat, July 11	3 - 4 pm	Inflatable Costume Race	Chapel
Sat, July 11	4 - 5 pm	Mask & Treat Bag Decorating	Chapel
Sat, July 11	5 - 5:30 pm	Costume Contest	Chapel
Sat, July 11	5 - 5:30 pm	Trunk or Treat Decoration Contest	Chapel
Sat, July 11	5 - 6:30 pm	Trunk or Treat	Chapel

### Dates are subject to change.

Please view the online calendar for full event details.



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