



SANDYPINES
RECREATIONAL COMMUNITY

FOOTPRINTS

NOVEMBER 2025

IN THE SAND



PHONE NUMBERS

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Kimberly Ext. 109
kim@sandypines.com

Park Inspector

Jim Buchanan &
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jimb@sandypines.com

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Emergency/

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Steve Deyarmond, Emergency
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Paul Schaaf, Security Services Manager
Fax Number..... 616.896.9182
security@sandypines.com

Park & Garden

Chet Ryan.....616.896.9334
parkgarden@sandypines.com

Recreation

Department..... 616.896.8315
Abby Greenfield.....Ext. 800
Recreation@SandyPines.com

Lake Monterey Golf 616.896.8118

Dave Ingles, Manager
www.lakemontereygolf.com
Golf@golflmgc.com

Laundromat Hours – Open 24 Hours

ADMINISTRATIVE TEAM

Jeff Sweitzer Park President
Kimberly Williams Finance & Accounting
Steve Deyarmond Emergency Services
Ben Ffelski 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 Kelly Johnson
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.massagebook.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)
Pat Doezeema.....(2026)
Kolyn Giebel(2028)
Ginny Hager, Treasurer(2027)
Kelly Johnson(2028)
Larry Munger(2027)
Craig Van Beek, Chairperson.....(2026)
Scot Wyman, Vice Chairperson.....(2027)

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

November is here, and it's time to give thanks. Blessings to all our members, staff, and board of directors. Although it is a good habit to give thanks every day throughout the year, November is the month we highlight our celebration of being thankful for everything in our lives.

Veterans Day

To all our veterans at Sandy Pines, within our great country and throughout the world, wherever you are, "Thank You for your service!" On behalf of our board of directors, staff, my family, and me, we are thankful for everything you have done and sacrificed for our country. This November 11th, please thank a veteran in your family, someone you may know, or someone in passing who may be wearing a military veteran hat or clothing for their service. Heroes are people who have given their lives to something larger than themselves. Our veterans are true heroes! Dad, Thank You for your service! God Bless all of you!

Northstar Point of Sale System

Thank you to all our members for your patience while we transition from our old point of sale and accounting system to our new Northstar system. The transition is going as planned. We have posted on the website instructions for members to access their member portal to review statements, check on recent payments or transactions, and make payments online. We continue to work on improving the overall member experience. Our staff is trained and ready to help if you have any questions. Please see our CFO, Kimberly's, article for more information.

Capital Investment Fund

We will continue working on this project this off-season. Member responses from our July 2025 survey revealed that "ongoing maintenance and improvements to facilities and infrastructure" ranked the most important. Following up from our July 2025 town hall meeting, surveys are being developed and reviewed. Please be on the lookout for these member surveys this month. Your input is critical to our park. It is important that our members have a voice in what the future will look like at Sandy Pines. Based on member responses, we will be working with our selected engineering firm, Wightman Engineering, and our Sandy Pines cross-functional team to develop rendering drawings, costs, and estimated timelines to achieve the identified projects.

The time is now to invest in our park's future!

Contractors and Park Inspector's Office

This is another reminder that our Park Inspector's office is winding down this month. Our park inspector's off-season hours which he will be unavailable, start from Thanksgiving to March

2026. If there is an emergent need, please contact our Member Service desk.

Contractors who need permits for projects will not be allowed to complete work during our park inspector's off-season hours. Contractors will be able to access the park during the off season hours to quote new projects for 2026.

Thank you to our contractors and members for another fantastic season.

Thanksgiving

We have many reasons to be Thankful this Thanksgiving! Thanksgiving can be traced back to the Holy Bible, where it represents a fundamental aspect of God's people. In both the Old and New Testaments, Thanksgiving emphasizes gratitude and praise to God for His many blessings. From my family to yours, wishing you a season filled with warmth, good food, and even better company. May your Thanksgiving be full of quiet moments, loud laughter, and lasting memories. Be Thankful for the magnificent as well as the simple things in your lives!

Thank you for allowing me and our staff to serve you, the members, and our park! We are truly blessed.

Happy Thanksgiving and God Bless!

And on that day you will say, "Give thanks to the LORD, call on His name. Make known His deeds among the peoples; make them remember that His name is exalted." Praise the LORD in song, for He has done glorious things; let this be known throughout the earth.

Isaiah 12:4-5 (NASB)



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MEMBER SERVICE NEWS

BY NICHOLE MILBOCKER MemberService@SandyPines.com

Office Hours

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

Contact Information

Phone: 616-896-8315 x 0
Fax: 616-896-7409
Email: MemberService@SandyPines.com

Important Dates

November 1	Statement will be emailed
November 1	Seasonal Gates Close
November 1	Boat & Dock Removal Deadline
November 25	Member Balances Due
November 27 & 28	Administration Office Closed
November 27	Thanksgiving Day
November 30	All Contractor Work Must be Completed

CC Winter Hours

Open ALL winter	Open Until Snow Falls
• CC 2	• CC 4
• CC 5	• CC 7
• CC 12	• CC 8
• Water Park	*All Others CLOSED for Season
• North Shore Center	

Account Balances

All account balances must be at or below the **November Maximum Balance of \$1,697.03**. To avoid the 3% service fee, please make your payment directly at the Administration Office.
Friendly reminder: **Payments are due by the 25th of each month.**

We would like to thank you all for your patience and understanding as we continue to implement our new billing system. We recognize that this transition has led to longer wait times in the office, and we thank you for bearing with us during this improvement process.

Mail Room

A quick reminder, the Mailroom is now closed for the season. If a package ends up there, or if one was left behind, **the delivery carrier will pick it up and return it to the sender.** To avoid returned packages, please update your shipping address before placing any new orders.

Bullpen Storage

For all your storage needs, check out the bullpen rentals available. All storage is outside. Call Member Service for pricing and availability.

North Shore Center Rental

North Shore Center is still available in the off-season for all your gathering needs. Please contact Abby 616-896-8315 ext. 800 or via email Abby@SandyPines.com for all pricing and availability.

Vendor Market 2026

Members, please keep an eye open for some exciting changes for next season's Vendor Market. We will keep you updated with changes and when reservations open.

FINANCE & ACCOUNTING NEWS

BY KIMBERLY WILLIAMS Kim@SandyPines.com

As the season winds down, the Sandy Pines Finance/Accounting team is focusing on wrapping up the fiscal year and preparing the final year-end financial statements. Once completed, the FYE2025 Financial Statements will undergo an independent review by our external audit firm and will also be reviewed and approved by both the Finance Committee and the Board of Directors. Following these reviews, we will share a summary of the final financial results for the 2025 season in the January 2026 edition of Footprints.

New System (Northstar) Updates

We are pleased to share that the installation and kickoff of our new system, Northstar, on October 1st was a great success! Our team is becoming more confident with the new platform each day, and we're already seeing the benefits of its improved functionality and streamlined processes.

Please note that the most recent statement, which included the 2026 Annual Dues and Assessments and the final electric assessment for the 2025 season, was the last statement generated from our previous Point-of-Sale system. We encourage all members to keep a copy of this statement for your records, as it reflects your final balances from the old system.

When reviewing your October Statement in Northstar, you'll notice a balance transfer entry that carries your total balance forward from the old system into the new one. This ensures a smooth and accurate transition of all member account information.

One change you'll notice in Northstar is that Annual Dues and Assessments now appear as a separate Accounts Receivable (A/R) balance from your regular member charges. While this may look a bit different, we're continuing to adjust to this new structure with the goal of improving financial tracking and reporting—especially for those utilizing the six-month payment plan option.

That said, there are still a few nuances we're working through. If some of these challenges cannot be fully resolved, we may need to return to the previous format where all charges—including Dues and Assessments—appear under one Member Receivable balance. We'll be sure to keep members informed of any updates or changes as we move forward.

Overall, the transition to Northstar has gone very smoothly, thanks to the excellent support from the Northstar training team and the hard work and dedication of our staff. We truly appreciate everyone's patience and cooperation as we fine-tune processes and continue adapting to the new system.

We'll keep you updated as we move forward and continue exploring ways Northstar can enhance our members' experience at Sandy Pines.

Continued on Page 5

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INSURANCE

Financial News/ Continued From Page 4

Final Electric Assessments

At the end of September, the final electric assessments for the year were billed. While Sandy Pines does not resell electricity, each member's bill is based on an estimated seasonal usage as part of an assessment process that was established in coordination with, and approved by, the Michigan Public Service Commission.

Each member's annual electric assessment is divided into four parts, with quarterly amounts billed in December, March, and June, and the final reconciliation in September. Electric meter readings are taken at the beginning of September with the help of our dedicated volunteers. The final payment reflects your actual usage category, with prior quarterly payments credited toward the total.

Even with this structured approach, the year-end balance can occasionally be higher or lower than expected—especially if usage has changed throughout the season. To help prevent surprises, we strongly encourage members to regularly review their electric usage history in the online portal. If possible, record your own meter readings and dates during the season—or even during the off-season if you visit your site. This simple step can help you track ongoing kWh usage and spot any unusual fluctuations that may signal a problem or increased consumption.

Our Accounting and Maintenance Teams continually monitor for significant outliers, but with thousands of meters across the park, it's impossible to catch every issue immediately. Common causes of increased usage include older or inefficient appliances, the addition of new equipment or golf carts, and trailer improvements. Unfortunately, once higher usage is detected, it's often too late to offset the electricity already consumed.

We encourage all members to be proactive in monitoring their meter readings and addressing any unexpected changes as soon as they occur. If you notice a sudden spike or irregularity, please reach out to the Maintenance Team to verify your meter's functionality or check for external issues. You may also consider contacting a contractor to inspect your trailer and identify any appliances or systems drawing excessive power.

By staying informed and regularly tracking your usage, you can help avoid surprises and ensure a smoother year-end assessment.

Annual Dues and Assessments

For members who have chosen to pay their Annual Dues and Assessments through monthly installments, below is the payment schedule for the 2025–2026 cycle.

Your monthly payment is \$440.28, due on the 25th of each month from October 2025 through March 2026. This payment plan applies only to annual dues and assessments. To remain current, your account balance should reflect the amounts shown below at the end of each month:

• October 25	\$2,105.72
• November 25	\$1,697.03
• December 25	\$1,282.20
• January 25	\$ 861.15
• February 25	\$433.79
• March 25	\$0.00— All dues and assessments paid

Please note that any additional member fees or charges—such as services, electricity, or state unit tax—are not included in this installment plan. These charges are due by the 25th of the month following the billing date. To stay on track, please remember to add any additional amounts to your monthly payment as needed.

Payments can be made:

- Online via our website
- By mail

- Through the Admin Office drop box
- In person at the Administration Office during regular business hours
- At the Rangers' Office after hours

A 3% convenience fee applies to credit card payments made online or over the phone.

If you have any questions or need assistance during the off-season, please don't hesitate to reach out to us.

Thank you for your continued commitment to your membership and for being a valued part of the Sandy Pines community!

CAMPING NEWS

BY JANELE TOMES Janele@SandyPines.com

Contact Information

Phone: 616.896.8315 x 103

Email: Janele@SandyPines.com

Hello Sandy Piners! What a beautiful fall we have had. It has been great weather to be out and about in the park doing inventory on the cabins and trailers. The scenery around the park was absolutely stunning with the leaves changing colors, and the lake so peaceful, looking like glass. We really are surrounded by such amazing beauty in the park. I hope you all have a blessed Thanksgiving this year!

2026 camping reservations are now OPEN! Please spread the word to your family and friends. We love to share our happy place!

Campsites costs are \$80-\$90 per night

Cabin costs are \$125-\$140 per night

Trailer costs are \$190-\$275 per night

Sandy Pines offers a variety of accommodations, ensuring that every guest can find the perfect fit for their camping experience. They can easily 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.

Sandy Pines offers spacious campsites designed for traditional camping. Whether you're bringing your own tent or RV, these sites provide the perfect base for outdoor adventures and many memories.

If you're looking for a more comfortable camping experience, Sandy Pines rustic cabins provide the ideal blend of outdoor charm and indoor convenience. These cozy cabins feature all the essentials including comfortable sleeping arrangements, lighting, air conditioning, and a minifridge. The cabins are perfect for those who want to enjoy the camping experience without sacrificing too much comfort.

For those seeking an even more comfortable stay, Sandy Pines park model trailers offer a fantastic option. These fully equipped trailers include modern amenities such as air conditioning, and full kitchen and living area, ensuring that your stay is 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.

We have a 10% discount for associate members and a 10% military discount for those who are currently serving or have served in the military. Thank you for your service! To apply these discounts, please contact the camping department directly. You can make reservations via our website at www.SandyPines.com, or give me a call at 616-896-8315 ext. 103 - I'd be happy to assist you. See you soon!

SECURITY NEWS

BY PAUL SCHAAF Paul@SandyPines.com

Office Hours

Emergency Security Staff is onsite 24 hours/day.

September 2025 Call Stats

In September 2025, Public Safety responded to 84 calls for service. The breakdown of the calls are:

Abuse of Staff	1	Medical	12
Animal Complaint	2	Noise	1
Assist	24	Open Door	23
Conduct	1	Parking	2
Damage	2	Suspicious Situation	5
Harassment	1	Traffic	1
Illegal Dumping	1	Vandalism	1
Illegal Entry	3	Watercraft	2
Lost/Found	1	Welfare	1

Leaf Clean Up

As you clean your site this fall, please remember that Leaves, pine needles, brush, tree limbs, tree trunks and vegetation may not be disposed of in trash receptacles or in green areas. This also means that you can't blow leaves into the roadways or onto sites of others.

Watercraft

Watercrafts must be out of the water by November 1. If your boat is still in the water it could start to accrue fines. The Public Safety boat will be coming out of the water and unavailable for water issues.

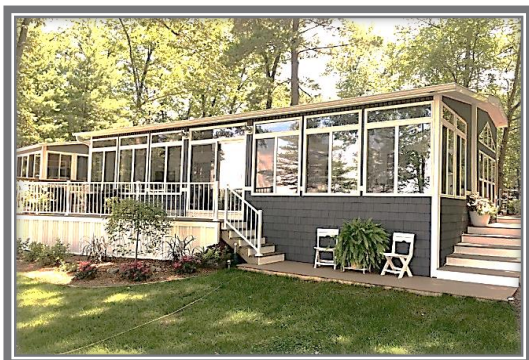


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COMMUNICATIONS NEWS

BY IAN MITCHELL Ian@SandyPines.com

Advertising Opportunities for 2026

Looking to promote your business to a highly engaged and loyal audience? Sandy Pines offers a variety of advertising opportunities across our communication platforms, including:

- Monthly Footprints Magazine
- Member E-News
- Weekly Weekend Flyer (Memorial Day through Labor Day)

These channels are a great way to reach thousands of members, guests, and visitors every week during the season.

Need help creating your ad? No problem! We're happy to assist with layout and design for those who don't have in-house creative support.

To learn more or get started, email: Communications@SandyPines.com

2026 Wall Calendar Photo Submissions

We're putting the finishing touches on our 2026 Wall Calendar, and we're still looking for a few more great photos to feature!

Send us your best photos that showcase the beauty and joy of life at Sandy Pines. Whether it's a quiet moment on the lake, a lively holiday event, or a stunning sunset, we want to see it!

How to Submit:

Email your photo(s) to Communications@SandyPines.com with the subject line "2026 Calendar Photo." Be sure to include your name, site number, and the month you think your photo best represents.

If your photo is selected, you'll receive a FREE copy of the calendar!

And if you've taken great pictures at any recent park events or activities, we'd love to see those too!

2026 Event Calendar Rollout

We're excited to announce that events for the 2026 season are being added to the online calendar daily! A huge thank you to Abby, our Recreation Manager, for all her hard work in building next year's schedule.

You can view the updated calendar anytime at: www.sandypines.com/calendar/

Keep checking back—we're adding more fun every week!

SALES NEWS

BY KENT LIVINGSTON Kent@SandyPines.com

After Labor Day, sales traditionally begin to slow down — and while the last couple of years have been exceptions, this year has returned to a more typical pace. Our Sales Department has been finalizing and wrapping up a few late-season transactions, but schedules are beginning to open up as we transition into the off-season. During this time, our team focuses on improving processes and preparing for another strong year ahead.

We continue to work through closings and new listings, experiencing the usual ups and downs of seasonal interest. I've had the pleasure of working on several new listings recently, and we're continually adding more to our website. If you have friends or family interested in purchasing at Sandy Pines, please encourage them to explore our current listings at www.sandypines.com.

Our Sales Team remains active throughout the winter, assisting with both buying and selling needs. Wishing you all the best this off-season — God bless.

PARK INSPECTOR NEWS

BY JIM BUCHANAN Inspector@SandyPines.com

Maintenance & Green Space Reminders

As we wrap up the season, we want to extend a sincere thank you to all members and contractors who have helped improve efficiency throughout the year. We truly appreciate your support!

As you prepare for the off-season, please keep the following important reminders in mind:

Green Space Regulations

We are continuing work on the Green Space around the lake, and your help is essential.

The **only** item that may remain in the Green Space is your dock — **clearly labeled with your name and lot number**. Docks must also be positioned **at least 10' (feet) above and past the steel boat stake markers**.

Please remove:

- Steps
- Kayaks
- Paddleboats
- Any other personal items left in the Green Space

**Any remaining materials will be removed and disposed of.*

Help Keep the Lake Clean

Please remember: **Do not dump your leaves in the lake**. This small action goes a long way in protecting water quality.

Permit Work Timeline

Permit-related construction may continue **through Thanksgiving Weekend**.

All permit building must stop after that time
Work may resume on **March 9, 2026**

Off-Season Contact Information

Our staffing is limited during the winter months, which may result in delayed responses.

The best way to reach the Park Inspector: JimB@SandyPines.com

Thank you again for your cooperation and continued support.
May you all have a very Blessed Fall & Winter!

SAFETY NEWS

BY STEVE DEYARMOND Steve@SandyPines.com

RAVE Communications

Sandy Pines will be automating the upload of member contact information in the RAVE software program.

The primary purpose of RAVE is to alert the membership of impending threats such as weather events or other emergency situations. Rave is also used to alert the membership of closings of facilities, events, electrical failures, and maintenance repairs such as water line repairs.

Rave utilizes unique email addresses in the upload process. If you share an email with a spouse or co-owner of a membership, only one person on the membership will receive notification. To ensure that the primary and secondary member receives alerts, please provide Member Services with a unique email and phone number for yourself and the secondary member/owner. At present, over 200 sites share the same email and phone numbers in the membership database. Shared/non-unique will result in people not receiving emergency alerts. Please contact member services if you are not receiving RAVE alerts

RECREATION NEWS

BY ABBY GREENFIELD Abby@SandyPines.com

Winterfest

Winterfest is going to be on February 7, 2026 this season. While the event is still in the works of being planned, the main events — polar plunge, dog sled demonstrations, and hot chocolate bar — will be there. If anyone has any ideas of activities or games, please reach out, we are always open for suggestions. Additionally, we will need volunteers for this event. If you are interested, please reach out to abby@sandypines.com.

Weight Room

Just a reminder that the weight room is open year-round. To access the building, you will need your member card. We ask that you clean up after yourself.

Activities for Next Summer

We are working on adding the events for next season to the online calendar, so please keep an eye open for them. If anyone has any ideas or suggestions for events, feel free to reach out to abby@sandypines.com.

Adult Activities

There are a ton of card games, board games, and lessons already organized for adults only. We need volunteers to lead or help with adult events, since our staff is already stretched thin with everything else planned. If you are interested in helping or have ideas of events, please reach out.

Hiring Opportunities

Applications are always available on the Sandy Pines website. However, the hiring process does not officially begin until spring. We begin hiring potential employees at the age of 15, but those spots are limited. As always, we encourage people of all ages to apply, for we are always in need of lifeguards. Lifeguards must be 16 or older.

Edward Jones

> edwardjones.com | Member SIPC



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