

JULY - DEC.



WILDWOOD
FLORIDA

2024

CITY OF WILDWOOD PARKS & RECREATION



PROGRAM & ACTIVITY GUIDE

MAIN OFFICE:
6500 POWELL ROAD
WILDWOOD, FL 34785

CONTACT US:
352-461-0134
PARKSANDREC@WILDWOOD-FL.GOV



WHY WILDWOOD?

Wildwood has a long history of being a remote city in the woods of Sumter County. Since the 1800s, it has grown significantly throughout the years to be a beautiful place to raise a family and enjoy the outdoors.

Conveniently located off the Florida Turnpike/US-301 and home to a portion of The Villages®, Wildwood is easily accessible. Come shop in the growing downtown, enjoy green spaces, tour the historic Baker House, or play a pickup game of soccer on one of the well-kept athletic fields. Wildwood is a city with a rich history of multigenerational families going back many decades as farmers and railroad workers. With a population that has nearly doubled in size over the past three years, Wildwood is building up its downtown and municipal infrastructure. Come live, work, and play in a city that values tradition, preservation, and innovation.

Wildwood's Parks & Recreation staff are a newly formed team of thriving professionals who are always ready and eager to serve the Wildwood community. With a full schedule of special events and programs for people of all ages to enjoy, the team strives to make Wildwood a place where you are proud to live, work, and PLAY!

OFFICE LOCATION AND HOURS



Wildwood Community Center
6500 Powell Road
Wildwood, FL 34785

Offices are open Monday through Friday, 8:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m., and closed on all major holidays.

This is the main administrative office where you can get assistance to create an online account, book a facility for your next party or special occasion, or register for any of our special events or athletic leagues.

CONTACT US:



352-461-0134



WILDWOOD FL PARKS AND RECREATION



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VISIT ONE OF OUR PARKS

MILLENNIUM PARK AND BARK PARK 1300 HUEY STREET

- Playground, athletic fields, concession stand, basketball court, restrooms, dog park

LAKE DEATON PARK & BOAT RAMP 5300 CR 155

- Boat ramp, fishing dock, restrooms

DR. MARTIN LUTHER KING JR. PARK 600 WALKER ROAD

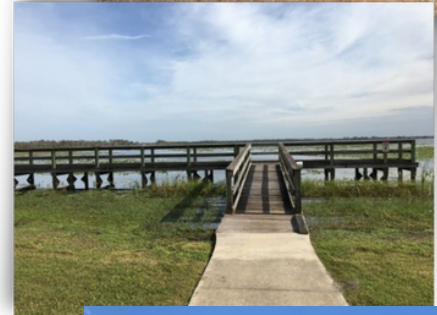
- Playground, pavilion, basketball court, athletic fields, restrooms, concession stand, splash pad

CLARKE PARK 605 WILSON STREET

- Community garden plots, basketball court

OXFORD PARK 4027 CR 106

- Pickleball courts



CONTACT US:

 352-461-0134

 WILDWOOD FL PARKS AND RECREATION

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 PARKSANDREC@WILDWOOD-FL.GOV



RENT ONE OF OUR FACILITIES

The City of Wildwood has three buildings to accommodate your rental needs. The main building is the Wildwood Community Center at 6500 Powell Road, with approximately 10,000 square feet of rental space that can be used as a whole or divided into five individual banquet rooms. The Wildwood Community Center can accommodate weddings, reunions, banquets, staff meetings, seminars, club meetings, and more.

The Oxford Community Center, located at 4027 CR 106, has approximately 2,300 square feet of space available and can accommodate up to 90 people.

The Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. Community Center is located at 101 Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. Avenue and can accommodate up to 70 people in approximately 1,800 square feet.

Reservations can be made by visiting the Parks and Recreation department, located in the Wildwood Community Center, 6500 Powell Road. Please call 352-461-0134 to schedule an appointment. Rental space is first come, first served; therefore it is recommended you reserve your event at least one month in advance. There is a refundable damage deposit due at the time of booking to ensure your space is reserved.

WILDWOOD COMMUNITY CENTER

6500 Powell Road

Capacity: 30 - 1150 people

Refundable Deposit: \$200.00

Amenities: Warming kitchen with refrigerators and freezers, an ice machine, multi-stall restrooms in each room

The 10,000 square feet of rental space can be used as a whole or divided into five individual banquet rooms, with ample parking and outdoor green space.



RESERVATIONS: Bookings are done in person only. Please call 352-461-0134 to make an appointment.



RENT ONE OF OUR FACILITIES

OXFORD COMMUNITY CENTER

4027 CR 106

Capacity: 90 people

Refundable Deposit: \$100.00

Amenities: Kitchen with refrigerator and freezer, restrooms, and parking

The 2,300 square feet of rental space has an open floorplan and grass lot for parking located across the street.



DR. MLK JR. COMMUNITY CENTER

101 Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. Avenue

Capacity: 70 people

Refundable Deposit: \$100.00

Amenities: Kitchen with refrigerator and freezer, restrooms, and parking

The 1,800 square feet of rental space available has an open floorplan and is located in the heart of the Wildwood community.



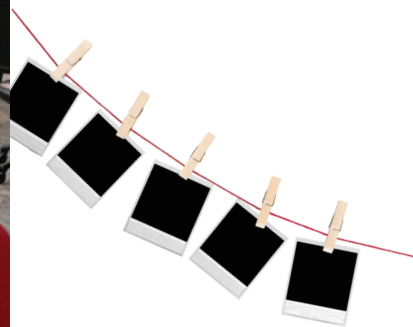
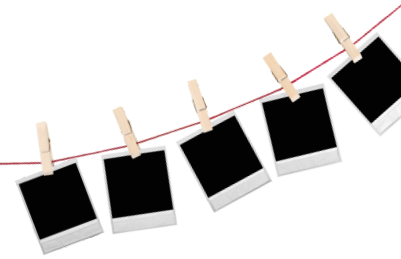
RESERVATIONS: Bookings are done in person only. Please call 352-461-0134 to make an appointment.



WE ARE WILDWOOD PARKS & RECREATION!



Let's PLAY!




**UPCOMING
EVENTS**





SPECIAL EVENTS

JULY- DECEMBER, 2024

HAPPY BIRTHDAY, AMERICA CELEBRATION BACK-TO-SCHOOL EVENTS



Date: July 3, 2024
Time: 5:00 p.m - 9:00 p.m.
Cost: Free
Age: All ages welcome
Location: Millennium Park
Description: Join the City of Wildwood at our Happy Birthday America celebration. Live music, beer garden, carnival games, rock wall, vendors, food, and fun! No reservations required.



Date: July 20, 2024
Time: 11:00 a.m. - 1:00 p.m.
Location: Wildwood Community Center
Age: K-12th grade students
Description: School supplies, backpacks, school shoes, and health screenings! Reservations required.



Date: July 27, 2024
Time: 2:00 p.m. - 4:00 p.m.
Location: Dr. MLK Jr. Park
Age: K-12th grade students
Description: Back to School Community Extravaganza! School supply give-a-ways, live DJ, and more!

FAMILY FUN DAY



Date: August 3, 2024
Time: 10:00 a.m. - 12:00 noon
Cost: Free
Age: All ages welcome
Location: Millennium Park
Description: What can you do to beat the central Florida heat? Come to a water-based family fun day! Waterslides, slip-and-slide kickball, water balloon toss, and water-soakers. This event is open to all ages. Bring your friends!

GIRLS' NIGHT OUT



Date: August 17, 2024
Time: 6:00 p.m. - 9:00 p.m.
Cost: Free to attend; various services require a reservation
Age: 21+
Location: Wildwood Community Center
Description: Plan a girls' night with your best gal-pals! There will be makeovers, spa treatments, wine tasting, vendors, and door prizes. This is an event you don't want to miss!

REGISTRATION:

To register for any of our programs or events, please make an account on wildwood-fl.gov/parksrec under "REGISTER/RENT" or call 352-461-0134.



SPECIAL EVENTS

JULY - DECEMBER, 2024

SOCK HOP



Date: September 7, 2024
Time: 6:00 p.m. - 9:00 p.m.
Cost: \$10/person
Age: 21+
Location: Warfield Auditorium
Description: Gals, put on your favorite poodle skirt and guys, break out that leather jacket and meet your friends at the Warfield Auditorium for a night of '50s style music, food, and fun!

COMEDY CLUB



Date: September 21, 2024
Time: 5:30 p.m. - 9:00 p.m.
Cost: \$15/person
Age: 21+
Location: Warfield Auditorium
Description: A laugh-out-loud, side-splitting, hilarious, comedy show! Dinner and adult beverages will be available for purchase. Doors open at 5:30 p.m. Show begins at 6:30 p.m. Reservations required.

FASHIONABLY PINK FASHION SHOW



Date: October 10, 2024
Time: 6:00 p.m. - 9:00 p.m.
Cost: \$10 suggested donation
Age: 21+
Location: Wildwood Community Center
Description: Join us in raising money to help Angel Wigs of Hope donate wigs to women in need in our area. Dinner and silent auction begin at 6:00 p.m. Fashion show at 7:00 p.m. with special guests from the police and fire departments.

SPOOKTACULAR



Date: October 25, 2024
Time: 6:00 p.m. - 8:00 p.m.
Cost: Free
Age: All ages welcome
Location: Millennium Park
Description: Bring your little ghost or goblin to our Halloween Spooktacular. We have a trunk-or-treat, costume contest, inflatables, vendors, hay rides, food, and fun!

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SPECIAL EVENTS

JULY - DECEMBER, 2024

COMEDY CLUB



Date: November 9, 2024
Time: 5:30 p.m. - 9:00 p.m.
Cost: \$15/person
Age: 21+
Location: Warfield Auditorium
Description: Join us for an evening of side-splitting laughter. We will have food and adult beverages available for purchase. Doors open at 5:30 p.m. Show begins at 6:30 p.m. Reservations required.

WINTERFEST AND LIGHT UP WILDWOOD PARADE



Date: December 6, 2024
Time: 6:00 p.m. - 9:00 p.m.
Cost: Free to attend
Age: All ages welcome
Location: Wildwood City Hall
Description: Two events in one! Parade begins at 6:00 p.m. and the tree lighting is at 7:30 p.m. There will be a snow slide, toy giveaway, music, vendors, food and fun!

COOKIES WITH SANTA



Date: December 20, 2024
Time: 6:00 p.m. - 8:00 p.m.
Cost: Free to attend
Age: All ages are welcome
Location: Wildwood Community Center
Description: Santa is coming to town! He will be at the community center at 5:00 p.m. for a sensory friendly meet and greet and cookie decorating. All others are welcome at 6:00 p.m. Bring your Christmas list and some friends for a wonderful start to the holiday!

HAPPY NEW YEAR CELEBRATION



Date: December 27, 2024
Time: 6:00 p.m. - 9:00 p.m.
Fireworks: 9:00 p.m.
Cost: Free to attend
Age: All ages are welcome
Location: Wildwood Community Center
Description: The City of Wildwood is presenting its 2nd annual Happy New Year Fireworks celebration! Come ring in 2025 with our live band, vendors, kids zone, and fabulous fireworks display!

REGISTRATION:

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RECREATION PROGRAMS

KUNG FU FOR KIDS



Date: Mondays, July 15 - August 5, 2024
Time: 9:30 a.m. - 10:30 a.m.
Ages: 5 - 8
Date: Wednesdays, August 12 - September 2, 2024
Time: 6:30 p.m. - 7:30 p.m.
Cost: \$40/4 week session
Ages: 9 - 12
Location: Warfield Auditorium
Items needed: Water, closed-toed shoes, comfy clothes.
 Reservations required.

CHAIR YOGA BY JEANNE



Date: Mondays, Oct. 7 - April 28, 2025
Time: 10:00 a.m. and 11:30 a.m.
Cost: Free
Age: 21+
Location: Wildwood Community Center
Items needed: Water, small towel, and yoga mat.
 Please call Parks & Recreation for schedule and availability. 352-461-0134.
 Reservations required.

JUNIOR MASTER GARDENER



Date: Saturdays
Session 1
 August 3 - August 31, 2024
Session 2
 September 7 - October 5, 2024
Time: 10:30 a.m. - 12:00 p.m.
Cost: Free
Age: 1st - 5th grade students
Location: Warfield Auditorium
Items needed: Water, closed-toed shoes, comfy clothes.
 Reservations required.

SQUARE DANCE LESSONS



Date: September - November
Time: Mon-Tues 6:30 p.m. - 8:00 p.m.
Cost: \$35/session
Location: Warfield Auditorium
Items needed: Water, closed-toed shoes, comfy clothes. Free trials available. Reservations required.



Date: September - November
Time: Sunday, 2:00 p.m. - 3:00 p.m.
Cost: \$21/person
Ages: 18 and under
Location: Warfield Auditorium
Items needed: Water, closed-toed shoes, comfy clothes. Free trials available. Reservations required.
 *Must be accompanied by a guardian or caretaker.

REGISTRATION:

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WILDWOOD CAMPS



Date: June 3 - August 2, 2024

Time: 7:30 a.m. - 5:30 p.m.

Cost: \$90/week per child or \$20/day per child

Age: 5 - 12 years old

Location: Jackson Street Community Center
610 Jackson St.

There will be no camp July 3 & 4, 2024.

Date: Dec 23, 26, 27, 30, 2024

Jan 2, 3, 6, 7, 2025

Time: 7:30 a.m. - 5:30 p.m.

Cost: \$90/week per child or \$20/day per child

Age: 5 - 12 years old

Location: Jackson Street Community Center
610 Jackson St.

- **Camp hours** are Monday - Friday, 7:30 a.m. - 5:30 p.m. Please drop your child off no later than 9:00a.m., so as not to interfere with planned activities. Planned activities will end at 4:00 p.m. Late pick-up charges will accrue at a rate of \$1.00/minute after closing until the child is picked up.
- Children **must be potty-trained** and must have completed kindergarten.
- Children are **required** to wear closed-toed shoes and must bring with them to camp the following items each day: a refillable water bottle, lunch, 1 - 2 snacks, and pool attire to change into on swim days (sandals, swim clothes, towel, and sunscreen).
- Field trips and pool trips are **included** in the cost of camp.
- All movies shown during camp are rated G or PG.

For the safety of your child and others, identification is required to pick up your child. Staff will not release a child to their parent or guardian if a photo ID is not presented at the time of pick-up.

FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE IS AVAILABLE

Financial assistance is available to residents of the City of Wildwood who qualify. You must provide a copy of the following items:

- Florida Driver License
- Proof of WIC/Medicaid/government assistance



REGISTRATION:

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THE HISTORIC BAKER HOUSE

COME TAKE A TRIP THROUGH HISTORY BACK TO 1890...

The Historic Baker House, built by Senator David Hume Baker in the community of Orange Home, is now a historic landmark in Wildwood, Florida. David Hume Baker, his wife Mary, and son David Matthis relocated here from their native Kentucky home in 1886. He became one of the most successful citrus growers in the area.



David Hume Baker was elected to the Florida House of Representatives in 1897 and the Senate in 1899 for several terms. The senator passed away in 1917 and was laid to rest, along with his wife, in Arlington Cemetery. Many more details of his life, the Baker family, and this beautiful home are revealed during house tours.

While here, come and explore this exquisite 1890s home restored to its original splendor as one of the finest homes in the area. Learn about the five generations of Bakers who inhabited the home. And lastly, enter this time capsule of another era by attending one of our special events.



VOLUNTEER WITH US

The Baker House is always looking for volunteers to help with historical tours, research, woodworking, house repairs, fundraising, landscaping, decorating, and public relations. Please email ParksandRec@wildwood-fl.gov to apply.

BAKER HOUSE TOURS

Regular Tour:
\$10/person
Thursdays at 10:30 a.m. and 12:00 noon

Private Tour (minimum 10 people):
\$15/person
Please call 352-461-0134 for reservations.



BAKER HOUSE EVENTS 2024

HISTORICAL HOUSE TOURS

Dates: Thursdays
October 10, 17, 2024
November 7, 14, 2024

Times: 10:30 a.m. and 12:00 noon

Cost: \$10/person

Location: Baker House

Description: Take a trip back to the 1890s. This beautiful historic home has been gorgeously maintained since the Victorian era. All ages are welcome to attend. Reservations required.



SPIRITED LADIES TOUR

Date: October 24, 25, 31, 2024

Times: 4:00 p.m. and 6:00 p.m.

Cost: \$20/person

Location: Baker House

Description: Join us as we share the ghostly spirit stories from the lives of women who once resided in the historic Baker House. Take a tour and get to know Mary, the Floridian Baker; Lorena, the soulful sister; and Gladys, the 3rd generation Baker. All ages are welcome to attend. Reservations required.



MURDER MYSTERY "MAIL ORDER BRIDE MAYHEM"

Dates: September 30, October 2, 4, 2024

Times: September 30, October 2, 5:00 p.m.
October 4, 4:00 p.m. and 7:00 p.m.

Cost: \$35/person

Location: Baker House

Description: Mail Order Bride Mayhem: A Sinister Sweetheart of a Murder! Florida's 1800s Orange Fever. Times were hard. A man needed a wife. However, one too many brides mysteriously arrived. What was a man to do? Who lived? Who died? Ask HIS wives. Put your cowboy boots on and join us for a rootin' tootin' who-dun-it good time! Costumes welcome. Reservations required.



BAKER HOUSE CHRISTMAS TOURS

Dates: December 5 - 29, 2024

Times:
Sundays: 1:00 p.m. and 2:00 p.m.
Tuesdays, Thursdays, Saturdays:
4:00 p.m., 5:00 p.m., and 6:00 p.m.

Cost: \$10/person

Location: Baker House

Description: Travel through time with us as we take you room to room full of various Christmas decorations through the years of the Baker House. Each room is decorated by a local business or civic group. Reservations required.



Private Historical Tours Available: Tuesdays at 10:30 a.m.
\$15/person

Call today to book your group for a private tour. 352-461-0134



WILDWOOD POLICE DEPARTMENT

WILDWOOD POLICE DEPARTMENT COMMUNITY OUTREACH EVENTS

The Wildwood Police Department works hard each day to make certain that all residents are safe and secure. However, did you know that they are also involved in giving back to the community by sponsoring events for the residents of Wildwood?

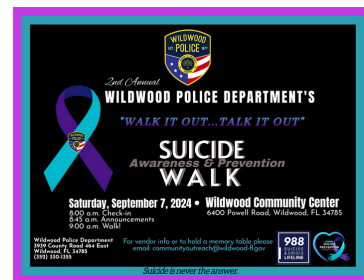
Each year, the team of dedicated police officers is involved with several large community outreach projects, as well as many smaller projects. The Wildwood Police Department takes great pride in making a difference in the community.

“It’s not about the recognition - it’s about the feeling of being part of something that makes a difference. Not for our benefit, but for the benefit of our citizens. Our hope is that you’ll join us in our efforts to make this community its very best.” -WPD



UPCOMING EVENT DATES

- July 19, 2024 - Pack a Cruiser- Back-to-School Drive
- September 7, 2024 - Suicide Prevention Walk
- September 11, 2024 - 9/11 Memorial Stair Climb
- November 11, 2024 - Golf Cart Parade
- November 23, 2024 - Thanksgiving Dinner



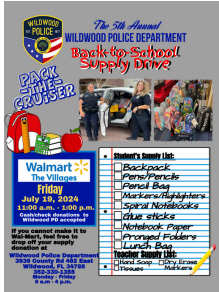
For more information, contact:
Roni Wood, Community Outreach Specialist
Officer C. Acevedo

3939 County Rd 462E
Wildwood, FL 34785
352-330-1355



COMMUNITY OUTREACH EVENTS

BACK TO SCHOOL SUPPLY DRIVE



Date: July 19, 2024
Time: 11:00 a.m. - 1:00 p.m.
Cost: Free
Location: Walmart-Wedgwood Lane
Description: Help a child get his/her much needed school supplies. Come help us PACK THE CRUISER. If you can't make it to Walmart, drop off your supplies at the Wildwood Police Department.

ONGOING DONATIONS ACCEPTED



Date: Ongoing
Time: Monday - Friday
 8:00 a.m. - 4:30 p.m.
Location: Wildwood Police Department
Description: Accepting ongoing donations of new/unopened hygiene products and monetary donations to create community care packs. WPD is also collecting cell phones in all conditions to be distributed to domestic violence and human trafficking victims.



SAFETY COALITION MEETING



Date: August 15, 2024
Time: 10:00 a.m.
Cost: Free
Location: Rock of Ages Church
 4957 East County Road 462
 Wildwood, FL 34785
Description: This ongoing bi-monthly lunch 'n learn will include a different speaker and free lunch. To reserve your seat, please email communityoutreach@wildwood-fl.gov.

THANKSGIVING MEAL



Date: November 23, 2024
Time: 11:00 a.m. - 1:00 p.m.
Cost: Free
Location: Wildwood Community Center
Description: Join Officer Acevedo in our 2nd annual Thanksgiving Dinner. Pre-registration is required. Call WPD for more information.

For more information, contact:
 Roni Wood, Community Outreach Specialist
 Officer C. Acevedo

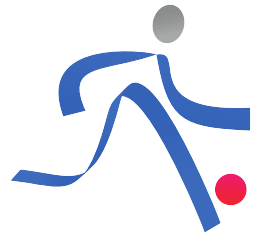
3939 County Rd 462E
 Wildwood, FL 34785
 352-330-1355



ATHLETIC LEAGUES



ADULT CO-ED KICKBALL



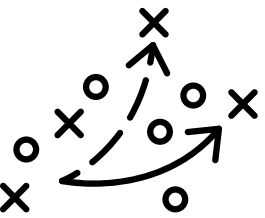
Registration opens July 1, 2024
Deadline: August 23, 2024
Season: September 3, 2024 - October 3, 2024
Cost: \$100/team
Ages: 18+
Games: Tuesdays and Thursdays



FLAG FOOTBALL



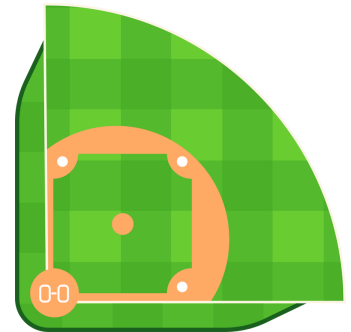
Registration open July 29 - August 4, 2024
Season: October 26- December 14, 2024
Cost: \$50/player
Ages: 5-15
Deadline: October 4, 2024
Parent Meeting: October 7, 2024
Evaluations: October 8, 10 (6:00 p.m. - 8:00 p.m.)
Games: Saturday mornings



SPRING BASEBALL/SOFTBALL



Registration opens November 4, 2024
Deadline: January 18, 2025
Opening Day: (Schedule TBD)
Cost: \$60/player
Ages: 5-12
Location: Millennium Park Ballfields (1300 Huey St.)
 Parent information packet provided on day of evaluations.
 Questions? Please call 352-461-0134 or email ParksandRec@wildwood-fl.gov.



Coaches' kids play FREE (one child per coach).

For the safety of the children, all coaches and volunteers are subject to a Level 2 background check.

Questions? Please call 352-461-0134 or email ParksandRec@wildwood-fl.gov

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SPLASH-PAD

Wildwood's splash pad is open
April 1st through October 1st, contingent upon weather conditions.

HOURS OF OPERATION

Monday - Friday 12:00 p.m. - 6:00 p.m.
Saturday - Sunday 12:00 p.m. - 8:00 p.m.



Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. Park
600 Walker Road
Wildwood, FL 34785



352-461-0134



ParksandRec@wildwood-fl.gov



VOLUNTEER WITH US

WHY SHOULD YOU VOLUNTEER?

It truly takes a village to raise a family, and it takes a city to raise a community. While we have staff to host and plan events, we are always looking for volunteers to join our team. Volunteering can really help our local communities. Whether you can volunteer your time or your resources, we would like to hear from you.

We always welcome volunteers for any of the following programs:

- Historic Baker House (tours or house rehabilitation)
- Special events
- Athletic leagues
- Classes at our facilities
- Clean-up days
- Community outreach programs



This is also a great opportunity for your teen to earn Bright Futures hours for college!

HOW TO VOLUNTEER:

Step 1:

Send us an email that you are interested in becoming a Wildwood volunteer.

Step 2:

Fill out the background check authorization form and volunteer contact information form and send them back to us.



Step 3:

Come introduce yourself and let us know how we can work together for events, programs, and community outreach.



352-461-0134



ParksandRec@wildwood-fl.gov



SPONSORSHIP OPPORTUNITIES

SUPPORTING OUR PROGRAMS IS AN INVESTMENT IN WILDWOOD'S FUTURE

Whether it is sponsoring a team or donating prizes for our annual egg hunt, there are many opportunities for any local business or individual donor to support the city's programming. Your contribution will help us keep program costs down for the children and families of this community.

From browsing online to driving by our ballfields and parks, you will see our donors and sponsors proudly recognized for all they do to help Wildwood grow bigger and better each year.

If you are interested in making a one-time tax-deductible donation or becoming a program sponsor, please contact us at ParksandRec@wildwood-fl.gov or call 352-461-0134 to speak with a staff member to see how you can support the future of this great city.

@Wildwood FL Parks and Recreation



Be sure to follow and like us on
Facebook



NOTES:



COMMENTS & SUGGESTIONS:

Do you have an idea for a new program or event? Do you have suggestion for how our team can better serve you and your family? Let us know! Please fill out the section below and return it to our staff.



352-461-0134



ParksandRec@wildwood-fl.gov