



THE
Pelican
Watch

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Recreation District #1 OF ST. TAMMANY PARISH

PELICAN PARK®

Making a Difference in the Lives of Children & Adults!

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Board of Commissioners

Nixon Adams, *Chairman*
Majure Savell, *Vice-Chairman*
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Matt Bettencourt, *Facility Staff*

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Kevin Lewis, *Specialist*
Mike Keilly, *Maintenance*

Park Staff:

Ron Johnson, *Park Supervisor*
Jesse Williams, *Turf Supervisor*
Will Reed, *Park Foreman*

CONTACT US!

63350 Pelican Drive
Mandeville, LA 70448

985-626-7997

PelicanPark.com

Pelican Park Hours 24 Hour Hotline
7am - 9pm Daily 985-626-1444

Office Hours **Facility Staff**
8am - 5pm 4pm - 9pm
Mondays - Fridays 985-966-6645

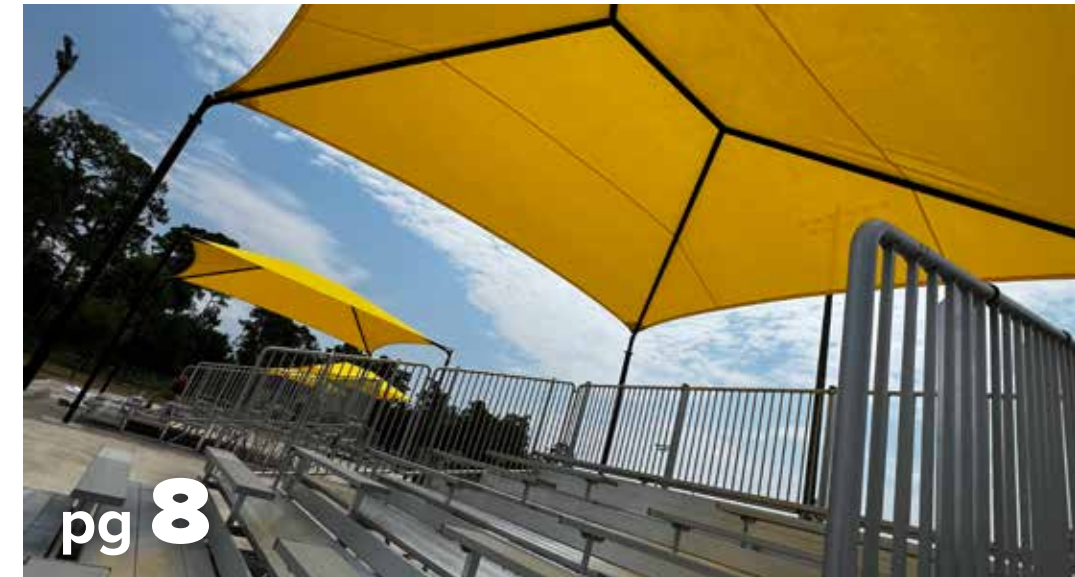
Follow Us On

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Recreation District #1 is a free-standing governmental agency. The District is supported by a property tax paid by the residents and businesses within the Recreation District. The general boundaries of the Recreation District are Lake Pontchartrain on the south side, the Tchefuncte River on the west side, Big Branch on the east side and Three Rivers Road on the north side. The District, which operates Pelican Park, is under the direction of a seven-member Board of Commissioners.

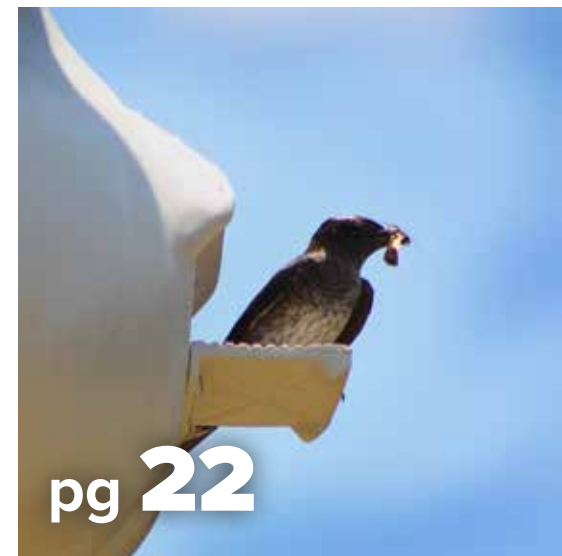
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Save the Dates for Upcoming Events in 2023

Pickleball Classic – September 23-24, 2023

Barktober Fall Fest – October 28, 2023

Breakfast with Santa – December 9, 2023

Santa Paws Pics – December 9, 2023

Director's Message

As this blistering hot and humid summer comes to a close, I look forward to my first Fall season at Pelican Park! It is hard to believe we are in the final months of 2023! Understandably, this is an incredibly busy and exciting time here at the Park and I cannot help but sing the praises of all of the talented staff who have been hard at work to make this season another memorable one for our community!

The Park staff have been especially busy staving off any threats to our lush fields. While they make it seem so effortless, few of us know how much pride and passion they have ensuring the grass is cut at the exact height, irrigated with literally millions of gallons of water, and battling fungi and all other sorts of parasites. I think if only I spent a little more time on my own lawn, I wouldn't leave the emerald green grass at Pelican Park to come home to the brown, sparse, embarrassing piece of land in front of my house! But Park staff do so much more. They keep our gyms, playground equipment, infrastructure, and all park amenities looking new and running like clockwork.

The Recreation staff have been busy with sports registrations, evaluations, and team formations for the variety of leagues offered this fall. While from the outside, it looks like the most fun job ever—staff get to wear shorts to work, be outside much of the time, and be a part of the sports they love—I now realize the diverse challenges they face and that it is not always sunshine and roses. There is constant pressure to enhance our programs and services. They are also often tasked with checking equipment, managing resources, ordering uniforms and jerseys, implementing a new software system for evaluation, as well as balancing the needs of players, parents, coaching, and officials to ensure everything runs safely and smoothly!

The Castine Center staff have been working tirelessly to accommodate a wide variety of events at our newly renovated facility and maintaining the facilities in show condition. They help make sure there is something for everyone to enjoy at the center of our community with events ranging from birthday parties, weddings (thanks especially to our new courtyard!), trade shows, Mardi Gras balls, fundraisers, an assortment of leisure programs, and special pops bingo. Our Castine Staff demonstrate such a high level of attention to detail, customer service, multi-tasking, and performing under pressure! With new events on the horizon, I suggest everyone bookmark our calendar from the website at www.pelicanpark.com!

The Administrative and Office staff have been busy tackling many of the other day-to-day responsibilities, while also spending a lot of time planning, planning, and more planning to prepare for the future of Pelican Park! We are optimistic and on track to complete a number of projects within the next year including a new Events Stage in the Groves, a new Skatepark and Pump track, a new Water Well, as well as expanded Pickleball and Sand Volleyball Courts...to name a few! We are also very excited to work with St. Tammany Parish and the City of Mandeville to finally realize a bypass road that will lead to greater access to our park! This will link Hwy. 1088 and 190 providing two access points into the Park and greatly alleviate the traffic we all face on Hwy. 190.

As Fall is symbolic of change, Pelican Park also has new staff faces, projects, events, and programs to look forward to. We end this year with much that is changing. But while change can be challenging, it also leads to hope and new possibilities and opportunities that were not there before. I would love to hear your feedback, so you can always reach out to the Park at (985) 626-7997 or to me directly jenniferdexter@pelicanpark.com.

Jenny Dexter
Jenny Dexter
Executive Director



Employee Spotlight



Doug McLemore

Congratulations Doug McLemore, on 25 years of service at Pelican Park!

When did you first start working at Pelican Park and what was your job title?

On June 7, 1998 as a Park Foreman

What are your responsibilities today? Prepare and implement annual budget, write bids and spec them out for purchases, manage two Supervisors, two Foreman and 20 employees, interview potential employees, hire, discipline, perform annual evaluations, oversee staff safety training, write procedures, maintain sewer and water license for the parks sewer and water systems, oversee the rebuilding of fields, construction of new facilities, as well as repairs of existing facilities, oversee the Turf department and help assess and make recommendations for repairing damaged fields, and eradicating insects and fungus outbreaks.

How would you describe the culture at Pelican Park? Goal oriented! We are a TEAM and my staff has to perform rigorous tasks in the heat, cold, rain and shine. They understand that although their job is extremely demanding their TEAMWORK is the reason this park exists for the adults and children that use these facilities.

How do you maintain the majority of the staff as long as you do? I believe the main reason for longevity is that our employees see the benefits just as I did, as the park provides benefits rarely seen anymore, such as health insurance, sick leave, vacation, uniforms and especially a pension, as a wonderful thing to look forward to at retirement.

What motivates you? I was raised by a single mother and we never had much, so I learned at an early age (12) that one must work to meet the basics of life. I saw my mother work long hours on her feet as a Beautician (hair stylist these days) to provide for her family and I always admired her strength and family focus. This was what motivated me to be a good provider for my family and to pass that example on to my children and grandchildren.

What is your proudest moment at Pelican Park? I actually have two, being promoted to Assistant Director and making 25 years at the park are two moments that I will always hold on to.

How do you see Pelican Park in the near and far future? I have watched this park grow from one gym, four baseball fields, and four soccer fields to what is today. I can say that the vision of this Board of Directors and our Executive Director is one filled with wonderful things for the patrons of Recreation District #1. The commitment the tax payers have made to this facility and the trust they have placed in our Board is going to yield wonderful facilities to not just sports, but all types of recreational activities for young and old alike. I see this park as being the CROWN JEWEL of Louisiana!

What are your hobbies? Golfing, writing and playing music, boating, deer hunting, and socializing through Mardi Gras clubs.

What is the top of your bucket list? Raising my grandson is my top priority. My wife and I have had him since he was 6 months old. He is now 10 and a straight A student. He plays baseball, basketball, runs track, plays golf and drums, so my bucket list is to see him grow to be a good Christian man, graduate high school, go to college and make a difference in this world! There is no better bucket list item one can have.



Employment Opportunities

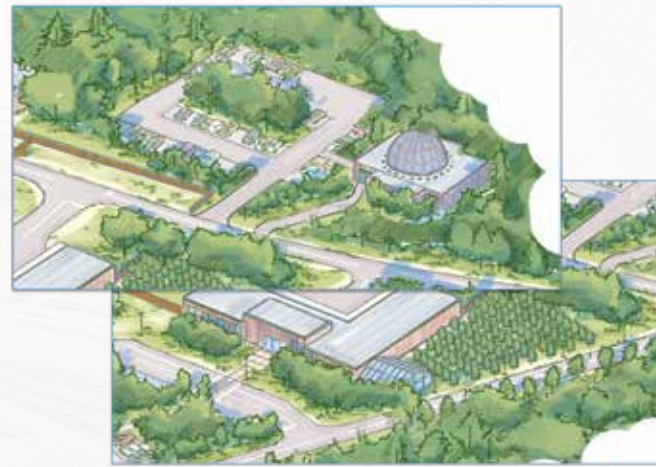
We have both full and part-time positions available. For full details about the following positions or to fill out an employment application, please visit our website at: pelicanpark.com under [About/Employment/HR](#) or you can apply at the Pelican Park office, inside of the Castine Center at: 63350 Pelican Drive, Mandeville, LA. Monday - Friday, 8am - 5pm.

Park Updates and Master Plan!

Your New Castine Center!

Call us to schedule a tour! 985-626-7997

COMING 2025! | NEW EVENT STAGE IN THE GROVES



The Groves at Pelican Park will have a new finished addition next year! A covered event stage that will host a long line of bands, musicians, orchestral concerts, awards ceremonies, books and poetry readings, plays, movie nights and much more.

Are you or your company having an event soon and looking for a perfect place to have it? The Castine Center is ideal for any size event including: Mardi Gras balls, award ceremonies, dance recitals, fundraisers, holiday events, board meetings, educational classes, conventions, festivals, and even dance, cheer or gymnastic competitions. The options are endless and our staff is ready to book your next great event here at the Castine Center. The arena offers 28,000 square feet of clear span area that can be subdivided. The Castine Center also offers a 3,400 square foot concourse, 625 square foot conference rooms and 3,000 square foot outdoor courtyard which can all be used as additional space for events for registration, additional seating, preparation rooms, ceremonies and much more.

Call us to schedule a tour! 985-626-7997



Come join us for this initial public input meeting to learn about an exciting project to transform our existing skatepark facility into a modern skatepark & pump track! All wheels are invited, so whether you skateboard, roller-skate, ride scooters, or BMX feel free to come out and provide your take on what this space can become.

This event will be held from 6:30pm-8:30pm on Tuesday, September 19th in Hall A of the Castine Center.



PELICAN PARK®

DESIGN INPUT MEETING #1

TUESDAY, SEPTEMBER 19TH
FROM 6:30 PM TO 8:30 PM

CASTINE CENTER - HALL A
63350 PELICAN DR, MANDEVILLE, LA 70448



SURVEY

<https://tinyurl.com/Pelican-Meeting-1>
USE LINK OR QR CODE TO GIVE INPUT FOR THE CONCEPT DESIGN DEVELOPMENT





Gold Upgrades

The Park recently installed four new 24' L x 24' W x 14' H shade structures that have been added at the Gold fields complex. Underneath the shade structures are four brand new 19' x 19' x 8 row aluminum bleachers with aisles and handrails as well as side and rear rails. Each set of bleaches can seat (83) people. There are two set for Gold field #1 and two sets for Gold field #2. These bleachers were purchased by the Park by monies that were received from FEMA after Hurricane Ida destroyed the original bleachers.

Friends of Pelican Park



Introducing Our Friends of Pelican Park Board!

The current volunteer board consists of President, Bobby McKinney; Treasurer, Alex Balducci; Secretary, Jennifer Messina and board members, Sue McGuire, Walker Liddell, Chris Tissue and Heath Jones (past President).

The Friends of Pelican Park, in existence since 1998, is a 501c3, non-profit organization dedicated to raising funds to enhance Pelican Park's facilities and programs.

Past projects include the playground at the Orange complex, the 12 station health trail located along the park's paths, resurfacing of playground surfaces, purchasing trees as part of the District's reforestation project and supporting scholarships.

These projects were made possible through the generous donations of the District's residents. Donations can be made when registering for any program or sent directly to the park made payable to Friends of Pelican Park. Additionally, your employer may have a program that allows you to make contributions through payroll deductions. Some employers will even match their employees' donations!

Frequently Asked Questions

What are Scholarships?

Scholarships are offered to In-District residents. They can be a partial scholarship or a full, whichever fits your needs. Scholarships are to allow children whose family need financial assistance to be able to participate in our sports. To qualify for a scholarship, you will need to visit the front office and fill out the scholarship form. You will also need your driver's license and your approval letter from the state (ex. Food Stamps, Medicaid).

Fun Facts:

- ! Americans put away seven billion hot dogs during peak season (between Memorial Day and Labor Day).
- ! National Nacho Day is celebrated on November 6.
- ! Popcorn Kernels can pop up to three feet in the air.

When does Soccer registration open?

Soccer is through Mandeville Soccer Club 985-624-8080

Lost & Found:

All Lost & Found items with the exception of items of high value (phones, jewelry, purses, wallets, etc.) may be found at the Brown Gym office. All high value items will be turned into the front office. Park staff collects items daily and brings them to the lost and found. Facility Staff will attempt to call the owners if a number is on the item for pickup. After an item is left in the lost & found for 30 days, they will be dropped off at a local donation site. For any questions on lost & found you may call the Pelican Park Front Office at **(985) 626-7997**.

SPONSORSHIPS



CGB/Zen-Noh Grain Partner with Pelican Park Through Four-Year Sponsorship Agreement

Mandeville, La. – Recreation District #1/Pelican Park is pleased to announce a new sponsorship agreement with CGB Enterprises, Inc. (CGB), and its affiliated company, Zen-Noh Grain Corporation (Zen-Noh). The four-year agreement gives CGB/Zen-Noh

exclusive naming rights to the Pelican Park Green Complex, which features four diamond fields used primarily for youth baseball.

"CGB and Zen-Noh are proud to be a sponsor of Pelican Park. Pelican Park is a premier multi-purpose complex that provides wonderful opportunities for children and adults alike. CGB and Zen-Noh's family of employees have, and will continue, to use these facilities for many years to come. We look forward to supporting a wonderful complex located in the hometown of our company's headquarters," explained Lance Rase, Senior VP at CGB.

CGB has been an innovative and progressive leader in the grain and transportation industries since 1969. Headquartered in Covington, LA, CGB delivers solutions that include everything from buying, storing, selling and shipping of agricultural products, to global supply chain solutions. CGB has grown into an enterprise with more than 2,000 employees overseeing a diverse family of businesses.

Zen-Noh was established in New Orleans in 1979 with the goal of establishing a safe and stable supply of U.S. foodgrains and soybeans for the production of compound feed by Zen-Noh's feed mills in Japan.

In addition to the financial support the CGB/Zen-Noh sponsorship provides to Pelican Park, it also honors longtime Pelican Park supporter Larry Rase. Larry, who enjoyed a 26-year career with CGB/Zen-Noh, was president in the 1980's of the Fourth Ward Recreation Association, a volunteer group of local recreation advocates who first acquired the property and funding for Pelican Park's construction. Larry, who passed away in 2022, also led the effort to establish the Park's first – and current – sponsorship program.

"On behalf of the board and staff of Recreation District #1 / Pelican Park, I would like to express our sincere gratitude for the generous sponsorship from CGB Enterprises, Inc. and Zen-Noh Grain Corporation for the Green Triplex fields," Pelican Park Executive Director Jenny Dexter said. "We also recognize Larry Rase for his constant support of Pelican Park as an advocate and volunteer coach beginning with the park's inception in the 1980s and lasting until his passing. Pelican Park is honored to partner with CGB/Zen-Noh through this sponsorship as they are such great pillars in our community. We look forward to building new youth baseball programs and future memories in the CGB/Zen-Noh Green Complex."



For more information about Pelican Park or its sponsorship program, please visit www.pelicanpark.com.



Free Sunscreen with a Purpose

Pelican Park is excited to have two FREE SunStop sunscreen kiosks for our patrons to protect their skin. One kiosk is located at the Pelican Park Bark Park and we have a second location at the Pickleball courts by Pelicans Landing.

SunStop's mission is to help people avoid the harmful effects of unprotected exposure to the sun. Thier goal is to prevent everything from simple sunburns to cases of skin cancer as well as long-term skin damage.

In collaboration with local companies, SunStop provides communities with sunscreen at a variety of outdoor locations like Pelican Park - FREE of charge.

For more information or to sponsor another SunStop Kiosk at Pelican Park, you can contact Patrick at: patrick@sunstopkiosks.com



Pelican Park Facilities



Our 2 Dog Parks

Nature's Playground for All

Nature and play come together at our dog parks, benefiting both dogs and humans. Watch your pup run, socialize, and expend energy while you both enjoy the outdoors. It's a win-win that strengthens your bond and well-being. Dog parks can also help by fostering good behavior through exercise and socialization. Regular playtime gets rid of that pent-up energy, leading to happier, better-behaved dogs. Plus, it's a chance to enhance their listening skills in a social setting.

Being responsible for your pets ensures a pleasant experience for all. **Please make sure to familiarize yourself with the rules and do your part in maintaining a safe and welcoming environment.**

Skate Park

Located at the north end of Pelican Park, our Pelicans Nest skate park is a haven for adrenaline junkies of all ages. From gravity-defying tricks to mastering smooth rides, there's something for everyone to enjoy. Plus, the park comes to life after sunset with well-lit facilities for night-time riding.

DAILY HOURS: 7 a.m. – 9 p.m.

We're all about the thrills, but safety comes first. Helmets, knee pads, and elbow pads are your trusty companions for safety. We strongly encourage you to gear up, ensuring a secure and enjoyable experience for everyone.

Disc Golf

Find some time to learn a new sport like disc golf. It is a very relaxing sport for all ages, and it's growing in popularity because it's a lot of fun, too! You can play a quiet round of disc golf by yourself, with the family or a group of friends to de-stress, enjoy the scenery and get some exercise in our beautiful park. The sport is played using discs (frisbees®) and is similar to golf; however, one throws a disc instead of hitting a ball. Players complete a hole by throwing a disc from the tee area toward a target which is called the basket. The player with the lowest number of total throws at the last hole wins.

Go to our website for more information at: pelicanpark.com/Pelican Park/Facilities

Sand Volleyball Courts

Sand volleyball is more than just a game – it's an experience that combines athleticism, strategy, and teamwork. The challenging sandy surface adds an extra layer of complexity to every move, from the precise digs to the powerful serves. And let's not forget those gravity-defying spikes that elicit cheers and applause from players and spectators alike!

The sand courts are open on a first-come, first-served basis and include a washing station for your hands and feet when you are done. Grab a volleyball and head out for some fun in the sun or spend some time practicing your serves and skills.



The Groves at Pelican Park

Step into The Groves at Pelican Park. This outdoor area is an unforgettable blend of leisure, competition, and family bonding. From the Pelicans Landing pavilion to heart-pounding pickleball courts, walking boardwalks to the outdoor fitness equipment, and everything in between – The Groves is your go-to destination for an array of fun family experiences.

The heart of The Groves pulsates with an energy that's perfect for families and friends seeking memorable moments together. In the near future, there will also be a state of the art stage being built to hold local concerts and events.

Pelicans Landing

Pelicans Landing isn't just an open-air pavilion; it's an event space waiting to host your next special occasion. Whether it's a daytime gathering or an enchanting evening event, the versatile Pelicans Landing can be transformed to suit your needs. Birthdays, office parties, team celebrations – the possibilities are limitless.

If you are interested in finding out more information or would like to book a birthday party, event, office get together or a team party etc. you can email carlyarthur@pelicanpark.com or call the office at 985-626-7997.

Pickleball | Bringing the Buzz of Pickleball to Our Community

Greetings, pickleball enthusiasts and sports aficionados! Nestled right in the heart of The Groves in Pelican Park sits our pristine pickleball courts that have become the headquarters for friendly competition, camaraderie, and an active lifestyle for all ages. One of the most exciting aspects of pickleball is the sense of community it fosters. The courts have become a hub where neighbors, friends, and even strangers come together to share laughter, challenges, and triumphs. The inclusive nature of the game encourages players to mix and mingle, forming connections that extend beyond the bounds of the court. While the thrill of the game is undeniable, pickleball also brings a myriad of health benefits. The swift movements, strategic shots, and quick reflexes provide an excellent cardiovascular workout. Engaging in regular pickleball sessions can enhance agility, balance, and coordination, contributing to a healthier and more active lifestyle.

Pelican Park has 8 pickleball courts that are open from 7am-9pm daily, including Saturdays and Sundays with lights for night time games, too. The courts are available on a first-come, first-served basis, seven days a week, excluding the times scheduled for park programming, facility rentals, and tournaments. Definitely come by and join our pickleball community at the Pelican Park Pickleball Facility located in The Groves at Pelican Park. For more information visit our website at pelicanpark.com Pelican Park / Facilities / The Groves

Make sure to register for our Pelican Park Pickleball Classic on Saturday and Sunday, September 23rd & 24th at PelicanPark.com. Registration ends on September 11th, so register NOW!

Adult Exercise Equipment

The newly covered adult exercise section at The Groves has introduced an exciting addition to its collection: a bicep curling machine designed to complement your inclusive workout routine. This designated area now features a total of 10 specialized apparatus, crafted to enhance endurance, as well as work on your upper and lower limbs. These outdoor exercise machines use your own body weight to provide effective resistance for a full body workout.



RECREATION DISTRICT #1

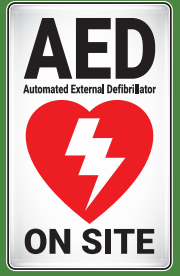


THE GROVES INCLUDES:
 8 PICKLEBALL COURTS
 9 FITNESS STATIONS
 2 BOCCE BALL COURTS
 2 SHUFFLE BOARD COURTS
 2 HORSESHOE COURTS
 POND, WALKING TRAIL, GRILLS,
 & PICNIC TABLES

- RESTROOM
- CONCESSIONS
- PARKING Handicap parking available at every complex.
- VENDING
- PLAYGROUND
- PAVILION
- AUTOMATED EXTERNAL DEFIBRILLATOR (AED) located at each Complex

PARK UPDATES AND FIELD CONDITION HOTLINE 985.626.1444
CASTINE CENTER OFFICE 8:00AM - 5:00PM 985.626.7997
FACILITY STAFF 5:00PM TO CLOSE 985.966.6645

PELICAN PARK - THE CASTINE CENTER
 63350 PELICAN DRIVE • MANDEVILLE, LA
 985.626.7997 • WWW.PELICANPARK.COM



Recreation District #1 Pelican Park has 18 AED's (Automated External Defibrulators) on campus.

This symbol shows where each one is located along with NARCAN for emergencies.



Safety

Pelican Park strives itself on providing fun experiences to our public. In order to create a secure environment, Pelican Park provides a St. Tammany Parish Sheriff Detail during evening programming and weekend events. Please contact Facility Staff if you feel a Sheriff is needed at your facility inside the park. The District asks that you please protect your belongings and leave valuables at home.

New Coca-Cola Drink Vending Machines

The Park and our drink supplier Coca-Cola, have added three NEW drink vending machines to the main complexes. Be on the lookout for the new vending selections that may include; water, sports hydration drinks, sodas, juice, teas, energy drinks and muscle milk protein shakes. You will find these three vending machines at the Castine Center by the conference rooms, the Brown Gym Lobby and at the White Gym at the Court 3 entrance.

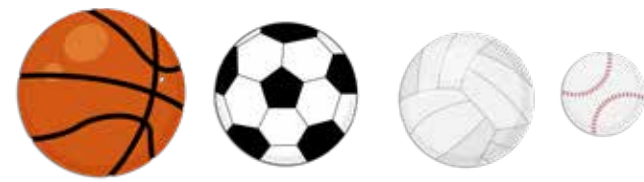


Life Just Got a Little Easier

The Castine Center recently installed an automatic door for easier access to those who need an extra hand for entering and exiting the building. There are clearly marked indoor and outdoor access buttons that will automatically open the door. This is sure to make it a little easier to enter and exit the building.



Youth Sports



WINTER SPORTS

Winter Basketball

Registration: September 25th – October 10th
 Evaluations: October 12th, 14th, 16th, & 17th
 Team Formations: October 23rd – 26th
 Practices Start: October 30th
 Games Start: November 11th
 Tournaments Start: January 13th – 20th



Boys Winter Basketball

Age as of date September 1st, 2023
 Ages 6-12

Girls Winter Basketball

Age as of date September 1st, 2023
 Ages 7-12



EARLY SPRING SPORTS

Early Spring Basketball & Volleyball

Registration: December 25th – January 9th
 Evaluations: January 11th, 13th, 15th
 Team Formations: January 16th – 18th
 Practices Start: January 20th
 Games Start: January 27th
 Tournaments Start: March 18th – 27th



Girls Early Spring Volleyball

Age as of date September 1st, 2023
 Ages 7-18

Older Boys Early Spring Basketball

Age as of date September 1st, 2023
 Ages 13-18



BE ON THE LOOKOUT FOR THESE UPCOMING SPORTS CLINICS

Softball Fastpitch Clinic (TBD) ♦ Baseball Clinic (TBD) ♦ Fencing Clinic (TBD)

Follow us on Facebook and Instagram to keep up-to-date on all of our leagues, programs, camps, clinics and events at Pelican Park.



Player Evaluations: Pelican Park is upgraded the traditional player evaluations by incorporating a new software called Team Genius. Coaches and Volunteers no longer have to use paper and pen to track players' skills. This system allows real time input of evaluations and provides the most accurate rating of players. Make sure you check out our next evaluations to see the software in action.

MSC Soccer Information: Pelican Park and Mandeville Soccer Club are proud to continue their partnership by providing excellent soccer programming to the District.

Please contact admin@mscsoccer.org for more information.

IMPORTANT - REFUND POLICY: Until the draft, refunds are given upon request, less \$5.00 handling fee. Between the draft and the second game, a refund request is not guaranteed. However, we will issue a refund during this time if a child from the waiting list accepts the open spot. When the waiting list child is registered, we will issue a refund to the child dropping from the league less the \$5.00 handling fee once the uniform has been returned (if already issued). After the second game of the season is played, we do not issue refunds for ANY reason.

Thank You to our COACHES!

Pelican Park has always thrived on the volunteers and parents that continue to serve their district as coaches. We would not be able to continue our work without their support. We thank all coaches for their hard work and dedication, and please contact our office if you wish to volunteer as well.

Coach Standouts

Based on Evaluations and Comments from Parents

Alexis Barden – Softball

Heather Beacom – Softball

Arthur Coste – Baseball

Brett Gibson – Baseball, Basketball



Thank you for participating:

John Neill Basketball Clinic | Summer Volleyball Camp | Fall Volleyball Camp



Adult Sports & Leisure Programs

Adult Sports Session 4 of 2023

Captain's Only Registration:
October 30th – November 3rd
Players Registration: November 4th – 10th
Games Start: November 30th

Adult Sports Session 1 of 2024

Captain's Only Registration:
January 29th – February 2nd
Players Registration: February 3rd – 9th
Games Start: February 25th



Wire Art Jewelry Making

Tuesdays, 9/5, 9/19, 10/3, 10/17, 11/7, 11/14, 12/5, 12/19
1:00pm-3:00pm

PERSONAL DEVELOPMENT

Starting & Marketing a Business

Mondays, 9/25, 11/6
6:00pm-8:00pm

Mindful Eating to Ditch Dieting

Mondays, 9/11 & 9/18
6:30pm-8:00pm

DANCE

Hip Hop Fitness

Mondays, 9/11 - 10/16
7:00pm-8:00pm



ARTS & CRAFTS

One of a Kind Cards

Wednesdays, 8/20-12/20... Skip 9/27
1:00pm-3:00pm

Painting With Michelle

10:00am: 9/11, 9/18, 10/16, 10/23, 10/30, 11/6, 11/13, 11/27, 12/4, 12/18
1:00pm and/or 6:00pm dates with *:
*9/21, *9/26, *10/24, *11/30, *12/12

Quilling

Thursdays, *9/12 (Tues), 10/12, 11/9, 12/7
1:00pm-3:00pm

Scherenschnitte Paper Cutting

Thursdays, 8/31, 9/14, 10/26, *11/30 (10am), 12/14
1:00pm-3:00pm, *10:00am-12NOON on 11/30

Stamping Cards

Mondays, 8/7-12/18... Skip 9/4 & 12/11
1:00pm-3:00pm
Wednesdays, 9/6 & 12/13
10:00am-12NOON

Techniques With Robin

Wednesdays, 9/13, 10/11, 10/25, 11/8, 12/6
10:00am-12noon

HEALTH & WELLNESS

Pilates

Mondays: 8/21-10/16 (Skip 9/4) & 10/23-12/18 (Skip 11/20)
Wednesdays: 8/30-10/25 & 11/1-12/27
6:00pm-7:00pm

Yoga

Tuesdays: 8/22-10/10 & 10/17-12/19
Thursdays: 9/21-11/16 (Skip 9/28)
6:00pm-7:00pm

SOCIALS

Canasta

Every Wednesday... Skip 9/27
9:00am-12noon

Special Populations BINGO

Every Wednesday
3:30pm-4:30pm

Special Populations



Baseball and Basketball Special Pops programs will be registering soon!



Thank you to all of our Special Population participants and coaches for being part of such an amazing program! Being associated with Special Olympics has given us the opportunity to offer many different sports and programs to our families with different abilities. Currently at Pelican Park, we offer Special Populations softball, basketball, volleyball and bingo! We cannot wait to see what the next season will bring!

Upcoming Events

Disclaimer: All event dates, times, and locations are subject to change due to availability, weather, or other unforeseen circumstances. Established Covid-19 regulations for the determined date will be enforced for each event listed below. Please be sure to monitor our events at www.pelicanpark.com for the most up-to-date information regarding each of our events.



Pickleball Classic

September 23 & 24, 2023

Pelican Park Pickleball Courts

Would you like to be a vendor for this event? We are looking for:

- Food Vendors
- Equipment Vendors



Barktober Fall Fest

Saturday, October 28, 2023 | 2:00pm-4:00pm

Pelican Park Bark Park

Would you like to be a vendor for this event? We are looking for:

- Food Vendors
- Pet Vendors
- Pet Accessory Vendors



Breakfast with Santa

Saturday, December 9, 2023

Seating A: 8:00am or Seating B: 9:30am

Registration Opens: District – Monday, 10/2; Non-District – Monday, 10/23

Castine Center



Santa Paws Pics

Saturday, December 9, 2023 | 1:00pm-3:00pm

Castine Center



Be Well Bus

Be on the lookout for the St. Tammany Health System and Ochsner Health systems “Be Well Bus” at some of our upcoming events. St. Tammany Health System and Ochsner Health are united in their commitment to bring exceptional cancer care to our community through St. Tammany Cancer Center, A Campus of Ochsner Medical Center. During the month of October, St. Tammany Hospital Foundation offers the community an opportunity to unite in support of the work of the cancer center, the Be Well Bus and the STHS Women’s Pavilion through ST. TAMMANY UNITED IN PINK, an awareness and fundraising campaign for breast cancer care and – new this year – the importance of early detection for both breast cancer and lung cancer. The campaign will feature mammograms and lung cancer risk assessments on the Be Well Bus, the opportunity to sign the pink-wrapped St. Tammany Parish Sheriff’s Office vehicle, community business Give Back event, 2023 official t-shirt sales and more!

SAVE THE DATE Events at a Glance for 2024

Castine Family Campout

February 16-17, 2024

Paddles on Paddy’s Day Pickleball

March 16-17, 2024

Hoppy Paw Pics

March 22, 2024

Twilight Eggstravaganza

March 23, 2024

Disclaimer: All event dates, times, and locations are subject to change due to availability, weather, or other unforeseen circumstances. Please be sure to monitor our events at www.pelicanpark.com for the most up-to-date information regarding each of our events.

Are you interested in being a vendor for one of our upcoming events? Great! Please see the opportunities listed below to assess which might be the best fit for you. Vendors are determined by a first come, first serve basis and will only be considered for an event once all necessary paperwork, payment and applications have been received.

Pelican Park does its best to limit competing vendors and/or conflicts with its own concessions sales. Due to this effort, all vendors will be required to list all sale items on their event application forms. No other items will be permitted, and all items are subject to Pelican Park approval. Vendor fees may vary by event, requested space and/or sale type.

If you are interested, send us your name, contact number, and a working email address to laceygill@pelicanpark.com or call Pelican Park at (985) 626-7997.

Thank you for your help and we look forward to seeing you for our event!

Volunteer Opportunities

Want to make a difference? Are you interested in volunteering at Pelican Park? Volunteers certainly make a difference in our community and are great additions to our events and programs. We have a variety of upcoming opportunities in need of volunteers of all ages. These opportunities are quickly approaching and we are looking for volunteers like you to be a fundamental part during these events and programs. We do provide service hour forms for any of those who may need them for academics, school or community groups, such as Boy or Girl Scouts. Visit our website www.pelicanpark.com for more information.

If you are interested, visit our [website to register](#) or call Pelican Park Main Office at (985) 626-7997 for assistance.

Thank you for your help and we look forward to seeing you for our event!

Do you or your child need service hours for work, church groups or school? Pelican Park has many opportunities throughout the year to earn service hours by helping at events, programs or during .

Summer Fun at the Park!

Environmental Education



Our Nature Explorers Camp was back in full swing at the park this summer for its second year! Focused on environmental education, it was attended by 159 campers ages 6-12 for six fun-filled weeks. It was indeed fun, but it also kept the kids constantly active and engaged, learning important things about the natural world they live in.

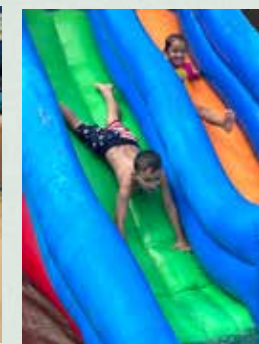
Weekly themes this year included “Soil Detectives,” “Signs in Nature,” “The B’s of Louisiana,” “Swamp Critters,” “The Wonders of Water,” and “Secret World of Plants. This environmentally based program was planned and coordinated by our great camp co-directors, Jan Mistich and Eva Sanford. Jan brought her vast knowledge of environmental education and 30+ years’ experience as a science teacher to our campers. Jan wrote the entire curriculum for camp this year and taught daily lessons. Eva brought her many years’ experiences in Montessori education, coordinated daily activities and taught daily lessons. We are so thankful and appreciative of their dedication to all the kids. A shout-out also to our head counselors, Kimberly Lamane and Danielle Chabreck, who kept all our explorers busy with activities, nature walks, and trail excursions. And to our other counselors, Jacob Carbajal, Julianna Scholl and Mackenzie Chabreck, who helped ensure that everyone attending had a true nature experience. Thanks also to Cindy Taylor, who was always ready to volunteer to help staff do anything that needed to be done and to Park staff, Lacey Gill and Carly Arthur. Also, to the City of Mandeville for loaning the trailer/covered wagon for our explorers to go on excursions within Pelican Park. Finally, a special thank you to Jinx Vidrine of the World of Wonder Foundation (WOW) which sponsored scholarships for campers.

As they say, it takes a village....and we could not have had a successful camp without all of our speakers who made camp so fun and interesting – sometimes a hard task to hold their attention during the hot summer days. We had quite a few this year. Lori Delouise brought “Skulls and Skats,” and Becky Larkins added to learning all about scat with a fun exercise of “making scat” with food. Jane Schauer brought a king snake. To help learn all about bees, Andrew Havard brought a demonstration honeybee hive, and the kids could watch honey bees at their daily work inside the hive. They tasted honey from both fall and spring to learn about the different flavors. Jennifer, who is involved in mosquito abatement, came and talked about her work. She and the kids all got nets and went on a bug hunt. The LSU raptor rehab unit brought owls, hawks, and other birds of prey. Cindy Taylor brought host plants so the campers could learn all about the secret world of plants, and which plants butterflies lay their eggs on. Kelly McGee brought elderberry syrup - a tasty treat.

In summary a fun, educational time was had by all, and we hope to have another great Nature Explorers Camp next year.

Louisette L. Scott

Louisette L. Scott, AICP, CFM
Park Planner/Environmental Educator



Louisiana Iris Conservation Initiative (LICI) Update

There have been about 1000 irises planted over the last year in Pelican Park by the Louisiana Iris Conservation Initiative (LICI). They have been planted in the back of the park, in the drainage area near Silver and in a bog area nearby.

After inspection by Gary Salathe, Founder of LICI, in early August, he reported that the irises look great and are multiplying. New offshoots are beginning to show, meaning the irises will likely double in number by next spring. This time of year, the irises are cut down to about 8" high to control the weed competition, so don't be concerned if you see the park crew cutting the bog. It will help when the irises start growing in September. The grass cuttings also help build up the soil as it rots.

LICI will have more irises available for both locations this fall/winter to plant. Combined with the natural growth of the irises already planted, next spring, the irises will put on quite the show when they bloom. (You may have noticed that the bloom this past April was muted because the late March freeze we experienced killed about 60% of the flower buds.)

The yellowing on the leaves is natural when they go dormant for the summer, as they are now.

LICI is a Louisiana non-profit formed by individuals interested in preserving and restoring the Louisiana iris in habitats where it once grew in abundance. The group relocates wild, native irises threatened with destruction to area refuges and nature preserves, typically in locations where they can be viewed by the public when they bloom.

More information about LICI can be found on their Facebook page or website: <https://www.lisaveirises.com/news>



Purple Martins are a Beautiful Addition to Our Pelican Park Wildlife

Purple martins once relied on natural tree cavities, but now are raised in man-made housing, such as the 24-unit gourd system that was installed at Pelican Park in the Spring of 2022. The staff were excited to have just completed our second successful season and watch their population grow.

If you are not familiar with these intriguing birds, Purple Martins are the largest of the swallow family, and pass through this area twice a year on their great migratory adventure, a flight for some that can be 8,500 miles. Wintering in South America, they begin their journey northward right around the first of the year. They usually arrive along the Gulf Coast from late January to early February. In addition to their beautiful song and graceful flight, they also help



humans by consuming thousands of tons of flying insects per year – definitely a great asset for Pelican Park!

The adult males have beautiful iridescent purple feathers covering their entire body. Female Purple Martins are duller in color with grey on their head, chest and lower belly.

Purple Martins nest from late March to early July. Female martins typically lay 3-5 eggs, which hatch in about 14 days. This season, we had two full nests, the first with four eggs and the second with five eggs. By mid-May, we eagerly watched and waited for them to hatch.

Once they hatched in mid-June, Eric Baka with Wildlife and Fisheries and his team came and banded our birds! Bird banding is a process of placing a small, lightweight ring around a bird's leg. These rings can be made of plastic or metal and each is coded with a unique number or code. These codes are then used to precisely distinguish one bird from another. Bird banding is a federally regulated process according to the Migratory Bird Treaty Act, 50 CFR 21. This requires a federal bird banding permit, as well as permits from states and provinces to legally band any migratory bird.

One silver band (federal) and a second band, which is a unique identifier for birds banded at Pelican Park. Going forward, all Purple Martins banded at the Park will have this unique band as well as the silver federal band. By the first week of June, they began to fledge and prepare for flying in the following 28 days.

In early August, the Martins leave the colony to start assembling larger flocks. This is called a roost. The southward migration begins in early August and virtually all Purple Martins leave the Gulf Coast by Mid-September.



What is a Martin Roost? In late Summer, after leaving the nesting colony, Purple Martins gather in large flocks to feed, socialize and rest before migrating. This activity, known as pre-migratory roosting, can attract thousands of birds to one small area. Martins also form winter roosts on their South American wintering grounds where they will often flock together with other martin species.

Purple Martins come back to the same nesting site year after year, so the Pelican Park colony will continue to grow. Until they leave for southward migration, they can be seen all around the Park, but especially around the Silver fields on the gourd system and the surrounding light poles! By mid-September, the gourd system will be taken down and stored for the winter and will be put back up again in early spring, waiting for our birds to return and new ones to start new nests!





PELICAN PARK®

63350 Pelican Drive
Mandeville, LA 70448

Wild Ones

NATIVE PLANTS, NATURAL LANDSCAPES

PONTCHARTRAIN BASIN

Wild Ones Mission: To promote environmentally friendly, sound landscaping to preserve biodiversity through the preservation, restoration, and establishment of native plant communities in the Pontchartrain Basin.

Wild Ones, Pontchartrain Basin chapter is in full swing with events.

Meetings are held quarterly and are open to the general public.

Our April 16th quarterly meeting was well attended with approximately 75 attendees who brought lots of plants to swap - many people went home with multiple plants. It was a great success. Also, Patty Z. spoke about Wild Ones, and Andrew Doyle spoke about landscaping with native plants.

WOPB July 30th quarterly meeting included a presentation by Wendy Rihner, BOD member who presented "Native Plants ARE for the Birds!" Charles Shaver, proprietor of Chickadee Natives, spoke on the importance of local genotypes in native plants. Many plants, seeds and books were available to purchase in addition to lots of giveaways!

On August 20th, WOPB hosted Linda Auld, aka NOLA BugLady spoke about the current research on OE, a parasite that is devastating Monarchs in our region and elsewhere in the southeast. Eye opening and urgent, the research Linda presented motivates Monarch lovers to take action. You can find Linda's presentation on the Pelican Park website page.

Contact WOPB via email at wildonespontchartrainbasin@gmail.com and connect with us on social media. To become a supporting member of the Pontchartrain Basin Chapter, please visit <https://join.wildones.org/?chapter=3407>.

Check out our 12-month calendar of events which is uploaded onto the national website https://pontchartrainbasin.wildones.org/events/?events_archive_year=2023



Gulf Coast Bank & Trust Co. and Coca-Cola are the official bank & drink supplier of Pelican Park.

Pelican Park Sponsorships

Would you like to become a sponsor of one of Pelican Park's complexes or one of its numerous special events? Learn more by visiting our website at:

