

**JULY - DEC.**



**WILDWOOD**  
FLORIDA

**2023**

# **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](mailto: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 and US-301, our city is easily accessible and a great place to come enjoy our open green space, giant Live Oak and Spanish Moss trees, or play a pickup game of baseball on our well-kept athletic fields. A city with a rich history and multigenerational families that go decades back as farmers in agriculture and industrial steel workers, we are a proud community that values tradition, preservation, and innovation.

Our Parks & Recreation staff are a newly formed team of thriving professionals who are always ready and eager to serve our Wildwood community. With a full yearly schedule of special events and programs for all ages and families to enjoy, we strive to make our city a place you are proud to live, work, and PLAY!

## OFFICE LOCATION AND HOURS



**Wildwood Community Center**  
**6500 Powell Road**  
**Wildwood, FL 34785**

Our offices are open Monday through Friday,  
8:00am to 5:00pm. We are closed on all major holidays.

This is our main administrative office that can help you with making an online account, booking a room or building for your next party or special occasion, and registering for any of our events or athletic leagues.

## CONTACT US:



352-461-0134



Parks/Rec and Special Events Wildwood FL



[wildwood-fl.gov](http://wildwood-fl.gov)



[parksandrec@wildwood-fl.gov](mailto:parksandrec@wildwood-fl.gov)



# VISIT ONE OF OUR PARKS

## MILLENNIUM PARK AND BARK PARK

1300 HUEY STREET

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



## CLARKE PARK

605 WILSON STREET

- Community garden plots, pavilion, basketball court

## OXFORD PARK

4027 CR 106

- Playground, pickleball courts, bathrooms



## HISTORIC BAKER HOUSE

6106 CR 44A

- Walk-through historic house tours, restrooms





# RENT ONE OF OUR FACILITIES

All rentals require a refundable damage deposit at the time of booking to ensure your space is reserved.

The balance for a reservation is due 14 days prior to your event and must be paid in full before your event takes place. Please note, all rentals require you to clean up before leaving the property; this includes sweeping, mopping (if necessary for spills and residue), taking out the trash, and putting away all tables and chairs.

We book rentals/parties very far in advance and your date may not be available!

Please come with multiple dates in mind. We may not be able to accommodate any last-minute rentals within a two-week period depending on the location.

Reservations that are canceled with less than a 48-hour notice will receive a refund for the rental but forfeit the cost of the deposit.

You may apply for an alcohol permit for your event no less than 30 days in advance. The fee for a Wildwood Police officer is \$50/hour and must be paid in cash to the officer at the beginning of your rental.

**\*\*If you need assistance with setting up tables and chairs for your rental, an additional fee will be applied to your rental for our staff to setup and breakdown for you, if staffing is available.\*\***

## WILDWOOD COMMUNITY CENTER

6500 Powell Road

Capacity: 30-1150

Refundable Deposit: \$200.00

Amenities: warming kitchen(s) with refrigerators and freezers,  
an ice machine, multi-stall restrooms in each room



There are four rooms downstairs that can be rented individually or all together, and one hall upstairs with beautiful chandeliers for dances or weddings. Lots of parking outside and greenspace for wedding ceremonies, bounce houses, etc.

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





# RENT ONE OF OUR FACILITIES

## OXFORD PARK COMMUNITY BUILDING

4027 CR 106

Capacity: 90

Refundable Deposit: \$100.00

Amenities: warming kitchen with refrigerator and freezer, restrooms, and parking (across the street in grass lot)

This building was recently redone with light renovations and has lots of open space for graduation parties, educational classes, or a family reunion.



## FOURTH STREET SENIOR CENTER

602 4th Street

Capacity: 90

Refundable Deposit: \$100.00

Amenities: warming kitchen with refrigerator and freezer, restrooms, and parking

This building is also in the heart of our community. Open concept room with space for dancing, educational classes, or a baby shower.

## DR. MLK JR. COMMUNITY CENTER

101 Dr. MLK Jr. Avenue

Capacity: 70

Refundable Deposit: \$100.00

Amenities: warming kitchen with refrigerator and freezer, restrooms, and parking

This building is right in the heart of our community! Open concept room with space for a dinner party or family event.



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



# WE ARE WILDWOOD PARKS & RECREATION!



**Let's  
PLAY!**







# SPECIAL EVENTS 2023

## JULY - SEPTEMBER

### PARKS AND RECREATION MONTH



Date: Month of July

Cost: Free

Location: All City Parks

Description:

Join us in celebrating National Parks & Recreation Month by participating in daily scavenger hunts. Follow our social media account for clues to solve the riddle and find the special key to earn a fun, outdoor prize! Fun for all ages!

### HAPPY BIRTHDAY, AMERICA



Date: July 3rd

Time: 5:00p - 9:00p

Cost: Free

Location: Millennium Park

Description:

Join us in a community-wide celebration of Independence Day with food trucks, vendors, a kid zone, an adults-only beverage tent, live music, and our annual fireworks show.

### BACK TO SCHOOL SUMMER BASH



Date: July 22nd

Time: 10:00a - 1:00p

Cost: Free

Location: Wildwood Community Center

Description:

Let's send our kids back to school prepared and in style with our back-to-school drive! We are partnering with our friends at United Church to give away school supplies and shoes! We will have a kid zone, vendors, and food trucks. Please register in advance to claim your pair of shoes!

### FAMILY FUN DAY



Date: August 12th

Time: 9:00a - 12:00p

Cost: Free

Ages: All ages welcome!

Location: Warfield Auditorium

Description:

Work together as a family to finish our huge city-wide scavenger hunt. Then enjoy food trucks, games, prizes, and tons of fun!

### REGISTRATION:

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





# SPECIAL EVENTS 2023

## JULY - SEPTEMBER CONT.

### WILD TOTS PLAY TIME



Date: August 26th  
Time: 9:00a - 11:00a  
Cost: Free  
Ages: Toddlers 2-5  
Location: Warfield Auditorium  
Description:  
This is a fun activity day for your littles! Come socialize with other parents, introduce your toddlers to other kids their age and work on sensory play, motor skills, and listen to a fun new book while enjoying snacks.

### NANA & POP POP SOCK HOP



Date: September 9th  
Time: 5:00p - 8:00p  
Cost: \$10.00/person  
Location: Wildwood Community Center  
Description:  
Let's celebrate Grandparent's Day with this fun dance party! Get your jive on to music from the 50s and 60s, wear your poodle skirts, and slick your hair back. Bring your grandparents to have a grand ole time! Food will be served.

### ADULT COMEDY CLUB



Date: September 22nd  
Time: 6:30pm  
Cost: \$10/person  
Ages: 18+  
Location: Warfield Auditorium  
Description:  
Another night of adult-only fun for our first comedy club! Food trucks will be available before and during the show and we will have a lineup of comedians waiting to make you laugh!

### REGISTRATION:

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



# SPECIAL EVENTS 2023

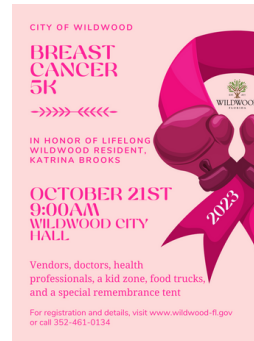
## OCTOBER - DECEMBER

### ASTRONOMY NIGHT



Date: October 7th  
Time: 2:00p - 10:00p  
Cost: Free  
Location: Wildwood Community Center  
Description: Join the astronomy clubs of The Villages, Fruitland Park, and Embury-Riddle for a day of telescopes, stars, planets, food trucks, and beyond!

### BREAST CANCER AWARENESS WALK



Date: October 21st  
Time: 9:00a  
Cost: Free  
Location: Wildwood City Hall, 100 N. Main Street  
Description: In honor of life-long resident, Katrina Brooks, the city is honoring Breast Cancer Awareness Month with this 5k, along with medical professionals in the area bringing helpful information for screening, a remembrance tent, food trucks, and live music. Perfect for all ages!

### WILDWOOD FRIGHT NIGHTS



Date: October 27th, 28th, and 31st  
Time: 8:00p - 11:00p  
Cost: \$5.00/person  
Ages: 13+  
Location: Warfield Auditorium  
Description: Prepare for Wildwood's scariest haunted house experience yet! This walk-through haunted house with different scenes and characters is sure to give you a fun scare. We do not recommend this event for small children.

### SPOOKTACULAR



Date: October 28th  
Time: 10:00a - 1:00p  
Cost: Free  
Location: Wildwood Community Center  
Description: A Halloween event that is fun for the whole family! Enjoy dozens of local vendors, a kid zone, and candy galore!

### REGISTRATION:

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



# SPECIAL EVENTS 2023

## OCTOBER - DECEMBER CONT.

### TOUCH-A-TRUCK



Date: November 4th  
Time: 10:00a - 1:00p  
Cost: Free  
Location: Dr. MLK Jr. Park  
Description:  
Another great family event for your kids to enjoy! See, touch, and honk the horn of some of your favorite vehicles around town. Kid zone, live entertainment, and fun for all!

### FALL COMMUNITY GARAGE SALE



Date: November 17th  
Time: 9:00a - 1:00p  
Cost: \$10.00/space  
Ages: All ages welcome!  
Location: Wildwood City Hall  
Description:  
Take a stroll outside to admire the craftsmanship of our local artists! We will have food trucks, live music, a kid zone, and vendors selling handmade goodies of all kinds.

### WINTERFEST & LIGHT UP WILDWOOD CHRISTMAS PARADE



Date: December 1st  
Time: 6:00p - 9:00p  
Cost: Free  
Location: Wildwood City Hall, 100 N. Main Street  
Description:  
Two wonderful events in one day - enjoy our annual Christmas Parade but this time, with lights! Then watch as the tree at City Hall is brought to life as it lights up the courtyard! Snow slide, games, vendors, and more holiday fun!

### COOKIES WITH SANTA



Date: December 15th  
Time: 6:30p - 8:30p  
Cost: Free  
Location: Wildwood Community Center  
Description:  
Come meet Santa and decorate some cookies! This event is family-friendly and you can make some magical reindeer food to bring home!

### REGISTRATION:

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





# RECREATION PROGRAMS



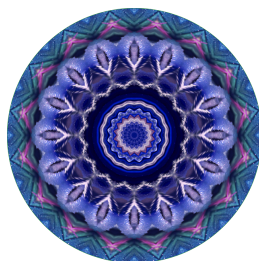
## ZUMBA, JAZZ, & MOVEMENT

Dates: Mondays & Thursdays

Please call the instructor for more information:

Lila, (917) 647-0510

Location: Wildwood Community Center



## MANDALA PAINTING WITH MICHELLE

Date: 1st and 3rd Wednesdays

1st Wednesday: 2:00p - 4:00p

3rd Wednesday: 6:00p - 8:00p

Cost: \$30/class, pre-registration is required.

Location: Wildwood Community Center



## PAINTING CLASS WITH PAT (Adult/Senior class)

Date: Thursdays

Please call us for availability from the instructor:

Pat, (315) 382-1305

Location: Wildwood Community Center



## CHAIR YOGA BY JEANNE

Date: Mondays

Please call us for times and availability: (352) 461-0134

Location: Wildwood Community Center



## TAP AND JAZZ ADULT DANCING

Date: Wednesdays

Please call the instructor for times and pricing:

Jim, (352) 430-0120

Location: Wildwood Community Center



## BALLROOM DANCING

Date: Tuesdays

Please call the instructor for more information on classes:

Susanne, (352) 446-4294

Location: Wildwood Community Center



## VILLAGERS FOR VETERANS BINGO

Date: 2nd Monday of every month

Time: 5:00p

Location: Wildwood Community Center

## REGISTRATION:

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



# WILDWOOD CAMPS

Ages: 5 - 12 (children must be potty-trained to attend Wildwood Camp programs)

- Please try to drop your child off before 9:00am so as to not interfere with activities.
- Planned activities end at 4:00pm.

Camp hours are from 7:30am - 5:30pm (late charges start 10 minutes after camp closes for the day and will accrue at a rate of \$1.00/minute until the child is picked up).

Children are required to bring the following to camp everyday:

- closed-toe shoes
- refillable water bottle
- lunch
- 1-2 snacks
- pool attire to change into on swim days (sandals, swim clothes, towel, and sunscreen)

Field trips are included in the cost of camp.

Any movies shown during camp are PG or G rated.

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

Camp location: 610 Jackson Street



JUNE 5TH - AUGUST 4TH

\*NO CAMP JULY 3RD OR 4TH\*

\$90/WEEK/CHILD

WEEKLY FIELD TRIPS

WEEKLY POOL TRIPS



DECEMBER 19-22 & 27-29

\$20/DAY/CHILD

## FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE IS AVAILABLE!

We offer financial assistance to residents of the City of Wildwood. To qualify, you must turn in a copy of the following items:

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

### REGISTRATION:

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



# 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 our house tours!

While you're here, come and:

Explore this exquisite 1890's 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. Enter this time capsule of another era by attending one of our special events!



## VOLUNTEER WITH US

We are always looking for volunteers to help with historical tours, research, woodworking and house repairs, fundraising, landscaping, decorating, and public relations. Please email [parksandrec@wildwood-fl.gov](mailto:parksandrec@wildwood-fl.gov) to apply.

### BAKER HOUSE TOURS

Regular Tours:

\$10.00 per person

Thursdays at 10:30a and 12:00p

Private Tour (minimum of 10 people):

\$15.00 per person

Please call (352) 461-0134 for reservations.





# BAKER HOUSE EVENTS 2023

## MURDER MYSTERY

### "A NIGHT AT THE MOULIN ROUGE"



Dates: October 2nd, 4th, and 6th

Times: October 2nd and 4th, doors open at 5:30p for a prompt 6:00p show. October 6th, one show at 4:00p (doors open at 3:30p) and one show at 7:00p (doors open at 6:30p)

Cost: \$35.00/person (must be purchased in advance)

Description: Fascinator hats will be available for sale at the door for \$12. Come and enjoy a visit to the home of the legendary French can-can. A cast member has been found dead and all eyes are on other performers as suspects! Can you solve the mystery with the clues?

## SPIRITED LADIES TOUR



Dates: October 27th and 28th

Times: 4:00p and 6:00p

Cost: \$20.00/person (must be purchased in advance)

Description: Join us as we share the ghostly/spirit stories from the lives of the women who once resided in the historic Baker House. Get to know Mary, the Floridian Baker, Lorena the soulful sister, and Gladys the 3rd generation Baker with a home tour!

## PRIVATE VICTORIAN TEA PARTIES



Dates: any Monday in December

Time: 1:00p

Cost: \$30.00/person (fascinator hats will be available for sale)

\*\*Minimum of 20 people, max. of 24\*\*

Description: Plan a private party for you or your friends or even for a holiday business party! Please call for availability.

## HISTORICAL HOUSE TOURS:



Dates: Thursdays (October 12th, 19th, 26th, and November 2nd and 9th.

Times: 10:30a and 12:00p

Cost: \$10.00

Description: Visit our beautiful historic home and take a trip back to the 1890s. This house has been gorgeously maintained since the Victorian Era for you to enjoy and appreciate with your friends and family.

## PRIVATE BAKER HOUSE TOURS & EVENTS

Private Tour (minimum of 10 people)

\$15.00 per person

Please call for reservations.

We would love to host your work party or wedding ceremony!

To inquire, please call (352) 461-0134.



# CHRISTMAS AT THE BAKER HOUSE!

THIS YEAR'S THEME: "KALEIDOSCOPE OF CHRISTMAS PAST"

See how the Baker House reflects the magical colors of a kaleidoscope with designer pieces, chandeliers, lamps, stained glass windows, and much more!



Dates:

December 2nd, 9th, 16th, 23rd (Saturdays from 5:00p- 7:00p)

December 3rd, 10th, 17th (Sundays from 1:00p - 3:00p)

December 5th, 12th, 19th, 26th (Tuesdays from 5:00p - 7:00p)

December 7th, 14th, 21st, 28th (Thursdays from 10:00a - 2:00p)

**Ticket prices: \$10.00**

Private Christmas tours are also available!

\$100 (minimum of 10 people) - must be paid in advance.

Call for availability and scheduling!



## PRIVATE BAKER HOUSE TOURS & EVENTS

Private Tour (minimum of 10 people)

\$15.00 per person

Please call for reservations.

We would love to host your work party or wedding ceremony!

To inquire, please call (352) 461-0134.



# ATHLETIC LEAGUES



Coaches' kids play FREE! Sign up to be a coach today!  
\*\*For the safety of our kids, all coaches and volunteers are subject to a level 2 background check.\*\*

## WILDWOOD LITTLE LEAGUE



Registration opens December 1st, closes January 26th

\*We are a chartered Cal Ripken Baseball league.\*

Cost: \$60/player

Ages: 3-4 (instructional only), 5-10 (competitive)

Leagues: T-ball, Softball, Baseball

Evaluations: February 6th & 8th (6:00p - 8:00p) \*pick one day to attend!\*

Practices start the week of February 12th.

Games start the first week of March.

Games: Tuesdays and Thursdays



OPENING NIGHT BBQ PROVIDED BY WILDWOOD PARKS AND RECREATION:  
March 1st, 6:00p at the Millennium Park baseball fields

## YOUTH FLAG FOOTBALL

Registration opens: September 1st

Cost: \$50/player

Ages: 5-15

Deadline: October 1st

Evaluations: October 10th & 12th (6:00p - 8:00p) \*pick one day to attend!\*

Practices start the last week of May

Games: Tuesdays and Thursdays



## REGISTRATION:

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





# 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 excited for anyone who is interested in joining our team in making our events and programs better for our residents and their families.

Volunteering your time to give back in any way can really help your local communities whether it be your time, financial help, or resources. We in Wildwood believe we are a small city with a big heart --and that includes you!

We always welcome volunteers for any of the following programs:

- Historical Baker House (tours or house rehabilitation)
- Special events and family functions
- 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 being 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](mailto:parksandrec@wildwood-fl.gov)



# SPONSORSHIP & ADVERTISING OPPORTUNITIES

We have many programs and events for any business to sponsor or donate to advertise their business!

Whether it is sponsoring a sports team or donating prizes for our annual egg hunt, the City of Wildwood appreciates and welcomes any local business or donor who would like to take advantage of our many opportunities to advertise their business!

Currently, we utilize our city website, Facebook, and IMLeagues to reach our patrons who use our facilities and programs for advertising. Whether you're browsing online or driving by our baseball fields, you will see us proudly representing our local businesses for all they do to help us grow bigger and better each year!

Your tax-deductible donation helps keep our programs low to no cost for the children and families of this community. If you are interested in becoming a sponsor, please contact us at [parksandrec@wildwood-fl.gov](mailto:parksandrec@wildwood-fl.gov) or call 352-461-0134 to speak with a staff member to see how we can help you join our team in supporting Wildwood Parks and Recreation!

@Parks/Rec & Special Events Wildwood FL



Be sure to Follow and Like us on Facebook for all our updates on special events, programs, weather delays, and job opportunities!



# OPEN NOW!

Wildwood's first splash pad is now open!

Hours of operation:

10:00am - 6:00pm

(Closed on Mondays until noon for regular maintenance)



Dr. MLK JR. Park  
600 Walker Road  
Wildwood, FL 34785



## NOTES:

---

---

---

---

---

---

---



## SUGGESTIONS:

Do you have ideas of new programs or events we can do here in Wildwood? Let us know!  
Do you have suggestions of how our team can better serve you and your family?  
Please fill out this section below and give it back to our staff so we can continue improving  
to be the best we can be!

---

---

---

---

---



352-461-0134



[parksandrec@wildwood-fl.gov](mailto:parksandrec@wildwood-fl.gov)