



LEISURE SERVICES DEPARTMENT



SEMINOLE COUNTY

FLORIDA'S NATURAL CHOICE

LEISURE SERVICES DEPARTMENT

The Leisure Services Department enriches the lives of Seminole County residents and visitors through its outstanding cultural, educational, environmental and recreational experiences. The Department is comprised of four Divisions: Extension Services; Greenways and Natural Lands; Library Services; and Parks and Recreation.

BOOMBAH NAMING RIGHTS IN THE PARKS

In 2017, Seminole County executed a naming rights agreement with Boombah, a youth sports equipment and apparel outfitter at the Seminole County Sports Complex and Soldiers Creek Park. This partnership allows the County to feature 21 modern digital scoreboards between both parks, participate in retail prospects with Boombah, increase overall revenue, and capitalize on joint tournament opportunities.

The redeveloped Boombah Soldiers Creek Park softball complex, design and construction which were funded through the Tourism Development Tax, opened in May, 2017. The 18.5 acre park offers six natural turf, athletic fields featuring, state-of-the-art LED lighting, eight new batting cages, and bullpens adjacent to each field. A larger stadium-style field with increased seating capacity provides a quality enhanced tournament experience. Covered areas for fans, shaded pavilions, meeting space, and a playground round out the newly-opened facility, which specializes in women's fast pitch softball tournaments.

LIBRARY PROGRAMS

The Seminole County Public Library's S.T.E.a.M. program made its debut in January, 2017. Funded by a Sparks! Ignition Grant from the Institute of Museum and Library Services, 20 teen and "tween" girls met at the Northwest Branch Library and mentor/mentee pairs worked together on STEM (science, technology, engineering & mathematics) projects. The S.T.E.a.M. mission focuses on enhancing experiences for young girls in the areas of science, technology, engineering and math.

2017's Summer Reading Program culminates with Fan Fest, a "cosplay" program that celebrates reading. Cosplay is a popular performance art in which participants design and create costumes to represent characters from anime, books, cartoons, and video games. Last year, more than 1,100 teens, children and parents attended cosplay costume workshops where they learned varying techniques, including how to

build armor, sew costumes, apply make-up and build props. Fan Fest included an escape room, a photo booth, puppet shows, face painting, arts and crafts, food trucks and costume contests.

THE GREAT AMERICAN CAMPOUT

The 2nd Annual Great American Campout was hosted at Lake Mills Park with more than 50 families participating. First-time campers experienced an interactive reptile program, canoeing, campfire cooking, star-gazing, and many other outdoor activities during the two day campout.

GREENWAYS AND NATURAL LANDS

The Greenways and Natural Lands Division focused on park improvements in 2017. Kewanee Park received new play structures, swings, benches, and park fencing. Additionally, the existing basketball court, parking lot, and safety surfaces were upgraded. Jamestown Park also received new play structures, swings, benches, and safety surfaces, as well as a resurfaced basketball court. At Roseland Park, the basketball court and park equipment was improved and new restroom facilities were constructed at Bookertown Park. Finally, energy-saving LED light fixtures were installed at the CS Lee Park Boat Ramp.

DEMONSTRATION GARDEN AT EXTENSION SERVICES

In May, the Extension Services' Demonstration Garden was unveiled. Three months in the making, this garden was designed in coordination with master garden volunteers and DEK Landscaping. This garden offers detailed information on groundcover plants and is used as a teaching tool by our Plant Clinic Volunteers when discussing lawn alternatives with citizens. Supported by \$4,000 in in-kind donations and 65 volunteer hours saving the taxpayers almost \$9,000.



LEISURE SERVICES DEPARTMENT BY THE NUMBERS

- 369 PROGRAMS PRESENTED BY EXTENSION SERVICES
- 150,000 PARTICIPANTS IN PROGRAMS AND LEAGUES
- 1.9 MILLION LIBRARY VISITORS
- 10,000 VOLUNTEER HOURS
- 7,237 PARKS & NATURAL LANDS ACRES MAINTAINED
- 85 MILES OF PAVED AND UNPAVED TRAILS MAINTAINED