

A Quarterly Guide to Parks and Recreation • Fairfax County Park Authority

Parktakes

Spring 2024



Earth Day • Egg Hunts • Spring Events • Camp Guide

Spring registration begins January 30 • www.fairfaxcounty.gov/parks/parktakes



Ice Skating Lessons

AT FAIRFAX ICE ARENA



Register for Ice Skating Lessons in person or online at www.fairfaxicearena.com

Ways to register for classes

- Online—fairfaxicearena.com (click Skating Lessons tab)
- Over the phone call 703-323-1132
- In-person registration at Fairfax Ice Arena

Spring Break Ice Skating Camp

When: March 25–March 29, 2024 from 11:00AM–5:00PM

Who: Beginners thru Freestyle 3, Ages 4–13

Cost: \$410 (Free skate rentals, Lunch Provided)

Tot 1/2 (Ages 3–6)—Beginner Level

Skills Learned: Marching While Moving, Swizzles

Day	Time	Cost	Begins	Age
Monday	5:35pm	\$170	March 18	3–6
Tuesday	6:40pm	\$170	March 19	3–6
Wednesday	6:40pm	\$170	March 20	3–6
Thursday	6:40pm	\$170	March 21	3–6
Saturday	8:55am	\$175	March 23	3–6
Saturday	10:05am	\$175	March 23	3–6

Tot 3/4 (Ages 3–6)—Prerequisite Tot 1/2

Skills Learned: Push & Glide, Swizzles, Stopping

Day	Time	Cost	Begins	Age
Tuesday	6:40pm	\$170	March 19	3–6
Saturday	9:30am	\$175	March 23	3–6

Pre-Alpha Lessons (Ages 7–13)—Beginner Level

Skills Learned: One-Foot Glide, Fwd/Bkwd Swizzles

Day	Time	Cost	Begins	Age
Monday	6:10pm	\$170	March 18	7–13
Tuesday	7:15pm	\$170	March 19	7–13
Wednesday	7:15pm	\$170	March 20	7–13
Thursday	7:15pm	\$170	March 21	7–13
Saturday	9:30am	\$175	March 23	7–13
Saturday	10:40am	\$175	March 23	7–13

Pre-Alpha Lessons (Ages 14 & Up)—Beginner Level

Skills Learned: One-Foot Glide, Fwd/Bkwd Swizzles

Day	Time	Cost	Begins	Age
Tuesday	7:50pm	\$170	March 19	14 & Up
Thursday	7:50pm	\$170	March 21	14 & Up
Saturday	11:15am	\$175	March 23	14 & Up

Alpha Lessons (Ages 7–13)—Novice Level

Skills Learned: Stroking, Crossovers, Stopping

Day	Time	Cost	Begins	Age
Monday	6:10pm	\$170	March 18	7–13
Tuesday	7:15pm	\$170	March 19	7–13
Wednesday	7:15pm	\$170	March 20	7–13
Saturday	9:30am	\$175	March 23	7–13

Call our Lesson Office today or visit us online for additional classes.

Fairfax Ice Arena • 3779 Pickett Road, Fairfax, VA 22031 • 703-323-1132 • fairfaxicearena.com



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ADULT ICE HOCKEY LEAGUE AND CLINIC—REGISTER NOW!

PARKSIDE

"Spring" into Fun with the Park Authority!



For the fourth consecutive five-year term, the Fairfax County Park Authority has once again achieved one of the highest distinctions attainable in the Parks and Recreation industry – accreditation through the National Commission for Accreditation of Park and Recreation Agencies (CAPRA). And, for the fourth time in a row, the



Park Authority received perfect marks in all 154 national standards that measure an agency's overall quality of management, operation, programs and services to the community. A perfect score is not easy, nor is it a normal occurrence. Four times in a row is just astounding and is due to an exceptional team of park and recreation professionals dedicated to providing the best for the communities we serve.

Speaking of our staff, we are also proud of the full calendar of diverse classes, programs activities and special events that they have planned for the coming season. These thousands of offerings cater to a wide variety of age groups and interests. In addition to the Spring lineup, Summer camp registration opens on January 23. Our summer camp spots fill fast (some that day) so get prepared by using our handy camp planning guide. All of our camp planning resources (including the Camp Spreadsheet and Planner worksheet) are located on our Camps page: www.fairfaxcounty.gov/parks/camps.



We are also proud of our outstanding amenities and attractions. In fact, we recently opened the new state-of-the-art Woodlands Stewardship Education Center at Ellanor C. Lawrence Park. Every aspect of this new center is an opportunity for children and adults to interact

with and learn about our natural environment through the universal languages of fun and play.

We are in the business of fun! Nothing highlights that more than how much our special events have grown into cherished family traditions. For example, our annual egg hunts, Bluebells at the Bend, Earth Day, Spring Farm Day and Spring Garden Day have provided opportunities for family fun for thousands of park visitors over the years to take advantage of these opportunities for family fun!

The Fairfax County Park Authority would like to thank you for taking advantage of all that we offer, we truly value your patronage.

Jai Cole
Executive Director



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Cover: The new Woodlands Education Stewardship Center in Ellanor C. Lawrence Park. Photo by Shirley Walley. For more information, turn to pg. 2.

THE NEW WOODLANDS EDUCATION STEWARDSHIP CENTER OPENS



WOODLANDS
STEWARDSHIP
EDUCATION CENTER
Fairfax County Park Authority
3001 WALNEY ROAD



The Fairfax County Park Authority celebrated the completion of the new Woodlands Stewardship Education Center, located in Ellanor C. Lawrence Park in Chantilly, with a ribbon cutting on Saturday, November 18. Designed to wow adults and children alike, this interpretive facility demonstrates principles of environmental stewardship that make a world of difference in the way we interact with and affect our natural environment.

From the use of reclaimed construction materials and sustainable energy and water sources to experimentation with simple machines and natural observation spaces, this stewardship education center provides an incredible teaching platform for demonstrating technologies and processes that can reshape our individual relationship with the environment around us.

County leaders, project benefactors and residents from the surrounding community participated in the inaugural event followed by tours of the amazing features of the site, which was designed to meet the rigorous standards of the Living Building Challenge (LBC) – an achievement attained by only a small number of projects worldwide.

“When looking at the concept for this project, we knew we wanted to raise the bar to a whole new level,” said Park Authority Executive Director Jai Cole. “Every aspect of this facility is an exhibit that illustrates our connection to the natural world and creates an experience that will ignite the imaginations and creativity of young people through hands-on experiences and play.”

The standards of the LBC require meticulous attention to the development of a project in seven performance categories including Place, Water, Energy, Health and Happiness, Materials, Equity and Beauty. Every aspect of the project – including the building materials, energy and water usage and production, learning and recreational features and landscaping - involved intentional decision-making to preserve and protect the natural environment and provide a unique user experience for all who visit. The Park Authority will be eligible to apply for LBC certification after one full year of operation.



General project features include an interpretive center with multipurpose spaces, kitchen and restroom; an educational kiosk and plumbing room; outdoor amphitheater and observation deck; a large STREAM (science, technology, recreation, engineering, arts and math) activity play space with connecting trails; native plantings; and related site improvements.

The total project cost was \$8.8 million and included \$7.2 million in park bond funding, \$1.1 million in proffers, and \$500,000 in financial contributions through the Fairfax County Park Foundation.

Visit www.fairfaxcounty.gov/parks/eclawrence/woodlands-stewardship-education-center for information.

This project was made possible thanks in part to numerous donations contributed through the Fairfax County Park Foundation.



FCPF

Fairfax County Park Foundation
Preserve Protect Play



Introducing the Wonder Wagon: Connecting Communities to Nature Where They Live

Step into the world of environmental exploration with the Wonder Wagon, the Fairfax County Park Authority's innovative Mobile Nature Center. The initiative, shaped by a significant amount of community input, is designed to bring nature and stewardship education directly to underserved areas of Fairfax County to foster environmental awareness and resilient communities.

The Wonder Wagon is not just a van; it's an experience. Packed with engaging activities, from bug-catching to birdwatching, the Wonder Wagon will help audiences of all ages to see our urban environments as nature-rich spaces. Residents can delve into the wonders of plants and animals, discovering the beauty of the natural world right at their doorstep.

Beyond providing hands-on experiences, the Wonder Wagon aims to create lasting memories and inspire a lifelong connection with nature. By reaching into communities, it encourages residents to advocate for parks and sustainable initiatives in their neighborhoods. Made possible by Community Foundation for Northern Virginia support, the National Park Service and the Fairfax County Park Foundation, the Wonder Wagon is on a mission to offer 150 programs annually and serve more than 3,500 community members. This initiative not only supplements Virginia's Science standards of learning, and the Park Authority's mission, but it also aligns with countywide initiatives and goals.

Keep an eye out for our brightly branded van as the Wonder Wagon rolls into neighborhoods near you. Stay tuned for updates, and let the adventure begin!



FCPF

Fairfax County Park Foundation
Preserve Protect Play

Celebrate the Outdoors at Earth Day 2024!



Since 1970, Earth Day has been celebrated across the nation and in more than 192 countries throughout the world to raise awareness for environmental protection and conservation. Ultimately, the goal is to instill in each of us a sense of environmental stewardship demonstrated through simple day-to-day choices we can make such as recycling, conserving water and energy, or even getting the whole family involved in a volunteer clean-up activity.

To get to that point, most of us need to feel a "real" connection to the world around us, and that's not always an easy thing to do with all the 'virtual' distractions around us. This year, take advantage of the Park Authority's Earth Day Festival and forge a real connection to the outdoors through the universal languages of fun and play!

At Earth Day 2024, children of all ages can enjoy an entire day of amazing experiences at the Sully Historic Site. From racing through an outdoor obstacle course, hiking the surrounding trails and meeting some of our local wildlife to enjoying live performances, countless hands-on exhibits and our Earth Day Scavenger Hunt, we've got something for everyone!

Mark your calendar and join us for a "Spring-tacular" celebration on Saturday, April 20, 2024, from 10 a.m. - 4 p.m. at the Sully Historic Site. For more information, visit www.fairfaxcounty.gov/parks/topics/earth-day.



FCPF

Fairfax County Park Foundation

Helping All Kids Have a Successful Summer at Camp!

Summer is coming soon, and FCPA's Access and Inclusion team is thrilled to make it a memorable one for all children! We are dedicated to ensuring that every child, including those with disabilities, has a fun-filled and safe summer. Our goal is to provide equal opportunities for all our customers so that they can participate in recreation programs and camps independently.

With a focus on their strengths, interests and needs, we strive to plan and provide various levels of support to ensure that every child has the best experience. Our support services are designed to make sure that kids and families have the best time possible. We offer a range of options to suit your needs, including accommodation plans, jump starts and inclusion specialists. Our accommodation plans provide staff with strategies to help you get the most out of your camp experience.

Need a little extra help? Our jumpstart program provides direct support for a couple of days, giving the extra boost kids need to thrive. If you're looking for ongoing support and guidance, our inclusion specialists will provide the direct support your child needs, including working closely with our camp staff to ensure their success. So, let's unleash the summer spirit and make it unforgettable for every child!

If you have questions about our services, please email fcpaaccess@fairfaxcounty.gov

For more information, scan the QR code or visit www.fairfaxcounty.gov/parks/ada-inclusion.



JOIN THE COMPOSTING CRAZE

Food is the largest category of material placed in municipal landfills. You may think, why is that so bad? It's just food, doesn't it decompose? Sadly, it's a bit more complicated. There is very little oxygen in landfills meaning food and other organic matter does not decompose as it should. As a result, food scraps in landfills produce a harmful greenhouse gas called methane. Methane is 28-times more potent than carbon dioxide and significantly contributes to climate change.

What can you do to keep your food scraps out of the landfill? You can drop them off at any of our 10 Fairfax County Park Authority Farmers Markets and we'll compost them for you! Composting is a process by which organic waste – anything derived from animal or plant sources -- is broken down naturally into nutrient-rich soil through the addition of oxygen and water. This natural decomposition process produces significantly less methane and helps enrich the soil we live off of.

Last year, FCPA Farmers Markets diverted over 120,000 pounds of food scraps from ending up in a landfill.

Let's top that in 2024. Join the composting craze by bringing your food scraps to any of the 10 FCPA Farmers Markets. You can collect scraps in old coffee cans, plastic bags – anything will do.

For a full list of what you can drop-off, visit www.fairfaxcounty.gov/parks/farmersmarkets/composting or call 703-642-0128. To find a Farmers Market, visit www.fairfaxcounty.gov/parks/farmersmarkets.



GOLF FAIRFAX'S INDOOR HIDDEN GEM: TRACKMAN TAKES GOLF TO THE NEXT LEVEL



Most golfers have learned and honed their skills out on the course or at a driving range. Now, at Pinecrest Golf Course in Annandale, there's another option. The Trackman simulator has innovative technology that is transforming the way golfers practice, compete and socialize. Nestled within the Pinecrest Valis Family Golf Learning Center at Pinecrest Golf Course, the Trackman simulator is changing the game for golf enthusiasts. The Trackman was donated by the Valis Family in 2018.

Trackman's mission is simple: to make golf more enjoyable, engaging and efficient for everyone. At Pinecrest, this vision becomes a reality. The Trackman studio is open from dawn to dusk daily, allowing golfers to work on their game at their convenience, regardless of the weather.

The Trackman 4 Golf Simulator at Pinecrest is where entertainment meets analysis. It features tour-graded technology, giving golfers immersive instruction and in-depth analysis of their golf swing, club head and ball flight. Golfers can tee off on a wide range of courses from around the world. Want to challenge yourself at Augusta National or play a round in Dubai?

For those seeking a more social golfing experience, Trackman offers fictional courses, practice range modules and various game formats suitable for any golfer, even kids. The 300-square-foot room is equipped with modern sofas and a 55-inch TV, creating the perfect setting for group outings. Guests can order food from the Pinecrest Grill and even catch their favorite sports game on TV while they play. The room accommodates 4-6 players, making it ideal for Sunday gatherings or special events.

Whether you're a seasoned golfer looking to improve your game or a group of friends looking for a fun outing, Trackman at Golf Fairfax has something for everyone. To learn more, visit www.fairfaxcounty.gov/parks/golf/pinecrest/practice/indoors.



LEVELING THE GAME: GREENDALE GOLF COURSE UNVEILS NEW FORWARD TEES



This spring, Greendale Golf Course is rolling out eight new forward tees specifically tailored to golfers with shorter drives. The updated tees aim to provide an optimal landing area for the average woman's drive, enhancing the overall golfing experience at Greendale.

Founded in 1973, Greendale Golf Course initially featured forward tees at 5,456 yards. In 2015, the National Golf Foundation (NGF) Consulting Firm identified challenges with the existing forward tee length. Additionally, players have noted that due to the length of the forward tees, the distance was just too long. The distance affects score, playability and the overall joy of the experience.

In response, Golf Fairfax took the progressive step to add shorter tees at Greendale. Recognizing the increase in female golfers since 2019 and their evolving needs, the course transformation began in October 2023.

The new forward tees, spanning 4,923 yards, align with the USGA (United States Golf Association) recommendation of a tee yardage less than 5,000 yards for an 18-hole course. The shorter tees will create a more enjoyable and accessible golfing experience for all golfers with shorter drives, including women, juniors and beginner golfers.

Greendale Golf Course serves a wide range of golfers from juniors and beginners to scratch golfers. For more information on Greendale Golf Course and to book a tee time, visit www.fairfaxcounty.gov/parks/golf/greendale.

SPOTLIGHT: PARK OPERATIONS AND MAINTENANCE DIVISION



We love our parks! The Fairfax County Park Authority oversees the operation and management of more than 23,000 acres of parkland, 420 parks, hundreds of pieces of equipment, 9 Rec Centers, 8 golf courses, an ice skating rink, 2 skate parks, 11 dog parks, 229 playgrounds, 720 public garden plots, 3 equestrian facilities, 452 Fairfax County Public Schools athletic fields and 263 Park Authority athletic fields, 102 of which are synthetic turf, 44 synthetic turf athletic fields, 260 athletic fields, 68 picnic shelters, 15 volleyball courts, 252 tennis and racquetball courts, 127 basketball courts, 2 waterparks, a horticultural center, and more than 338 miles of hiking and fitness trails, historic sites, nature centers, and much more. Add to this the parking lots, restrooms, signage, fencing, trash receptacles and other infrastructure and there's a lot to maintain and take care of!

The Park Operations and Maintenance Division manages maintenance of parks and facilities through a combination of staff and contractors. As the Park Authority takes on more park acreage, facilities and assets to keep pace with the growth in the County's population, the needs for maintenance keep growing. In addition, along with the long history of the Park Authority comes a legacy of facilities that require more frequent maintenance and repair. This expansion in the scope of maintenance challenges staff to stretch available resources in the face of growing maintenance needs.



Any staff member of the Park Operations and Maintenance Division can safely say that no two days are ever alike working in parks! Their duties greatly vary, from taking care of trails, inspecting parks, to taking down high-risk trees, maintaining athletic fields, amusement and building maintenance, removing snow along walkways and parking lots, supporting events, working with park cleanup volunteers, to performing repairs to playground equipment, to removing graffiti in the parks. In addition, Park Operations and Maintenance staff manages a wide range of projects, including trail projects, athletic court and field renovations, restroom and shelter improvements, bench installations, and Rec Center upgrades.

Community support plays a big role in the work of the Park Operations and Maintenance Division. Last year, hundreds of volunteers contributed more than 2,700 hours of service, many of them participating in one or more of the 61 park cleanups hosted by the Park Operations and Maintenance Division. Through the Adopt-a-Field program, many athletic group partners dedicate significant time and money to supplement the maintenance of athletic fields for the entire community. Similarly, under the Mastenbrook Grant Program, which the Park Authority Board began in 2000, community groups have contributed generously to match grants awarded by the Park Authority for improvements in parks and facilities throughout the County. In fiscal year 2023, Park Operations oversaw the grant approval process for 10 different park improvements with a total value of over \$1.3 million.

When a premier athletic tournament facility was added to Patriot Park North, Park Operations and Maintenance staff collaborated with other divisions, user groups and stakeholders to ensure the success of this \$22 million project, the first of its kind in Fairfax County. They provided crucial input on the design, yielding long-term cost savings for maintenance and replacement of key components. In addition, they developed maintenance standards geared toward high-frequency tournament play. With an emphasis on Sports Tourism in Fairfax County, Park Operations and Maintenance staff has provided outstanding event and maintenance support critical to the success of baseball and softball tournaments.



Often, staff must reprioritize when an issue arises, such as needing to repair a broken fence from storm damage. The Park Operations staff members also assist customers with questions or problems as they work in the parks. They truly are the gears that keep the Park Authority running, 365 days a year around the clock.

Dive Into the Wonders of Wetlands at Huntley Meadows Park

Celebrate the beauty and significance of wetlands at Huntley Meadows Park during Wetlands Awareness Day on Sunday, May 5, from noon to 4 p.m. Immerse yourself in this natural sanctuary, home to a nationally significant historic house, enchanting forests and expansive wetlands teeming with life.

Experience the best wildlife watching in the Washington Metropolitan Area as you stroll along forested paths and traverse immersive boardwalk trails. Encounter live raptors, reptiles and amphibians through up-close views and interactive displays. This family-friendly event invites everyone, including your neighbors, to explore the park's diverse ecosystems and learn about the vital roles played by its plants and animals.

Wetlands play a crucial role in maintaining ecological balance and providing various benefits to both the environment and society. Biodiversity hotspots, flood control, water purification, carbon sequestration and recreation are the top five reasons for the conservation and protection of wetlands.

These unique ecosystems support numerous species, contribute to water quality, mitigate climate change and provide recreational opportunities.

Grab a discovery guide upon check-in and visit different activity stations, collecting stamps along the way to earn a delightful prize. Rain or shine, this free event promises a fun and educational day for the whole family. For more information or to register visit page 92.



HIDDEN GEM



ELLANOR C. LAWRENCE PARK

At the northeast corner of the bustling new intersection of Route 28 and I-66 is Ellanor C. Lawrence Park (ECLP), a 650-acre park with a history that spans 8,000 years. This historic park, generously donated by the Lawrence family, is mostly forested and includes streams, a pond, and is home to many species of plants and animals. Inside the Walney Visitor Center you can learn about the natural and cultural



history of the park, see live reptiles and amphibians, enjoy children's hands-on activities or pick from a broad range of programs on nature and history topics. There are nature camps, school field trips and scout programs. Public programs include wagon rides, van tours and camp-



fires. The site can host birthday parties, and the historic mill

can be rented for private events. Summer also brings Arts in the Parks programs.

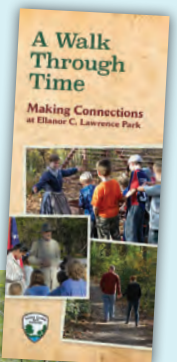
Trails also course past historic cultural resources that remain from the parkland's days as a farm. Buildings include an

18th century mill, a miller's house and

outbuildings. You might get a smile out of the fake meat hanging in the smokehouse. If you visit during cold weather months, look for the black rat snakes hibernating in the ice house. Artifacts dating back to prehistoric

years have been found at ECLP. Pick up the historic tour map brochure and take a "Walk Through Time"!

Learn more about this historic park at www.fairfaxcounty.gov/parks/ecl



Embrace and Reclaim the Night with Lights Out Fairfax

Dark skies have been increasingly obscured by the glow of artificial light. This surge in light pollution affects stargazing as well as the delicate balance of nature.. Light pollution is caused by inappropriate or excessive use of artificial light and holds environmental consequences for humans, wildlife and our climate. The remedy lies in understanding and curbing light pollution through responsible outdoor lighting practices.

With nearly 10% of Fairfax County covered by parks situated in diverse environments, adopting dark sky-friendly lighting becomes paramount for ecologically sensitive areas. Light trespass and pollution impact wildlife by disrupting migrating bird navigation and hindering nocturnal animals' ability to hunt and feed.

There are ways to make an impact and reclaim the night in your community. Join the movement with Lights Out Fairfax on March 23 from 8:30 to 9:30 p.m. Discover One Dark Hour by turning off outdoor lights. Engage your family, friends and neighbors in this powerful connection with the natural world. Help protect our dark skies and explore the impact of light pollution during International Dark Sky Week from April 15 through April 22. Understand the economic benefits of dark sky conservation and its effects on human health, safety and the environment.

Learn about outdoor lighting requirements and contribute to the cause by visiting the Dark Skies webpage at www.fairfaxcounty.gov/parks/topics/dark-skies.



COUNTDOWN TO CELESTIAL WONDER: THE GREAT AMERICAN ECLIPSE OF 2024



Prepare to be enchanted as the celestial dance between the sun and moon unfolds in the Great American Eclipse on April 8, 2024. This extraordinary event promises a longer and more mesmerizing spectacle than its predecessor in 2017, captivating the hearts of millions of spectators.

Whether you are a seasoned eclipse watcher or a first-timer, the 2024 Great American Eclipse is a must-see, offering the chance to stand in the moon's shadow, witnessing the sun's corona against a darkened sky – an unforgettable experience.

This cosmic spectacle will grace the Washington, D.C. area, marking the last total solar eclipse visible from the contiguous United States until 2044. As part of the Great North American Eclipse, the moon's shadow will traverse Mexico, the United States and Canada, retracing the path of the 2017 eclipse.

Join the Fairfax County Park Authority in celebrating this wonder. Enjoy games and activities that will unveil the marvels of the eclipse and experience the magic at various parks. Events will be held starting on March 25 at Turner Farm Park and continue on April 8 at Historic Huntley, Ellanor C. Lawrence Park and Burke Lake Park. To secure your spot for an unforgettable journey or for more information, visit page 134.

Please note: spectators should only gaze at the eclipse with proper eye protection.

SPRING '24 CALENDAR

Classes, Events, Programs and Registration Dates

Tuesday, January 23

Camp Registration Begins at 9 a.m. pg. 40

Tuesday, January 30

Spring Registration Begins pg. 150

Thursday, March 14

Pi Day Celebration Hidden Oaks Nature Center pg. 135

Saturday, March 16

Women's Work in the 19th Century Colvin Run Mill pg. 111

Sunday, March 17

Natures Colorful Eggs Hidden Pond Nature Center pg. 119

St. Patrick's Day Science Hidden Oaks Nature Center pg. 135

Saturday, March 23

Dinosaur Egg Hunt Hidden Oaks Nature Center pg. 119

Spring EGG-stravaganza Lake Fairfax Park pg. 121

Sunday, March 24

Dinosaur Egg Hunt Hidden Oaks Nature Center pg. 119

Monday, March 25

Great American April 2024 Solar Eclipse Preview Turner Farm Park pg. 134

Saturday, March 30

Baskets & Bunnies Burke Lake Park pg. 90

Bubbles and Bunnies Cub Run Rec Center pg. 25

Easter Egg Hunt at Colvin Run Mill Colvin Run Mill pg. 90

Sunday, April 1

Mill in Motion Colvin Run Mill pg. 111

Saturday, April 6

Bluebells at the Bend Riverbend Park pg. 89

Eggsperiments Hidden Oaks Nature Center pg. 134

Going for the Green Pinecrest Golf Course pg. 107

Mill in Motion Colvin Run Mill pg. 111

Monday, April 8

Partial Solar Eclipse Celebration Ellanor C. Lawrence Park pg. 89

Partial Solar Eclipse Celebration Burke Lake Park pg. 89

Safely See the Partial Eclipse Historic Huntley pg. 135

Saturday, April 20

Earth Day Celebration Sully Historic Site pg. 91

Sunday, April 21

Nature Walk with a Police Officer Hidden Oaks Nature Center pg. 122

Tuesday, April 30

Getaway - Wildflower Walk Green Spring Gardens Park pg. 85

Saturday, May 4

Spring Farm Day Frying Pan Farm Park pg. 88

Sunday, May 5

Culmore Day Woodrow Wilson Library pg. 92

Mill in Motion Colvin Run Mill pg. 111

Alice in Wonderland Tea Party Hidden Oaks Nature Center pg. 122

Saturday, May 11

Two Person Best Ball Oakmont Golf Center pg. 108

Saturday, May 18

Spring Two Person Team Challenge Burke Lake Golf Center pg. 108

Spring Garden Day Green Spring Gardens pg. 103

Sunday, May 19

Spring Scramble Tournament Pinecrest Golf Course pg. 108



Earth Day at Sully Historic Site.



Todos los niños deberían aprender a nadar

(Every child should learn to swim!)

Fairfax County Park Authority is excited to begin offering swim lessons taught in Spanish at multiple Rec Centers. The pilot program ran at George Washington Rec Center and is being expanded this spring to include several other sites. The classes will be taught by bilingual instructors using the Virginia Swims curriculum.

"In evaluating our programs, we noticed we were missing a key demographic of Fairfax County" said Levi Lainhart, the Aquatics Section Programs manager. "We have a dedicated group of bilingual Learn to Swim instructors, so offering Spanish-only lessons was a great way to reach that community and promote being safe in the water."

The Park Authority will be looking at ways to increase offerings by using bilingual instructors at various Rec Centers and will be looking to add lessons in other languages if possible.

"Fairfax County has such a diverse population, the Park Authority needs to do all we can to ensure that there are no barriers in a child taking swim lessons," Lainhart says.

For information on swim lessons in Spanish please check Parktakes Online or reach out to your local Rec Center (www.fairfaxcounty.gov/parks/reccenter).



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James R. Walkinshaw.....Braddock
James N. Bierman, Jr.....Dranesville
Rodney L. Lusk.....Franconia
Walter L. Alcorn.....Hunter Mill
Andres F. Jimenez.....Mason
Daniel G. Storck.....Mt. Vernon
Dalia A. Palchik.....Providence
Pat Herry.....Springfield
Kathy L. Smith.....Sully

The Summer issue of Parktakes will be available in mid-April. Registration will begin on April 23.

About Parktakes

Advertising: Paid advertising included in Parktakes does not imply endorsement of the advertised goods, products or services by the Fairfax County Park Authority. To place an ad in Parktakes, contact Cindy Fortuno at cindy.fortuno@fairfaxcounty.gov.

Publication and Subscriptions: Free subscriptions are available for both printed and electronic formats through our registration office 703-222-4664 or by signing up online: www.fairfaxcounty.gov/parks/ptsubs.htm. Parktakes copies are also

available at all staffed park locations, county libraries and government centers.

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participants when they are being transported in Park Authority vehicles.



Fairfax County's programs, services and facilities are available to all citizens regardless of race, color, national origin, sex, age or disability. To request reasonable accommodations under the ADA, call 703-324-8563 or TTY Va. Relay 711.



joinFCPA

@ fairfaxparks

The Fairfax County Park Authority is a nationally recognized park system encompassing more than 500 full-time employees, 2,500 seasonal employees and thousands of interns and volunteers. For more information, scan the QR code or visit www.fairfaxcounty.gov/parks/joinfcpa



VOLUNTEER

Use your talents, energy and time to connect. With your help, we can do more! Far more than just doing a good deed, volunteering is a way to develop skills, learn about career options, make professional contacts, socialize and have an impact on your community.

VOLUNTEER OPPORTUNITES AVAILABLE AT:

- Rec Centers
- Golf Courses
- Community Parks
- Nature and Historic sites
- Special Events (Such as Earth Day and Watershed Clean-ups)



INTERN

The Fairfax County Park Authority Internship program increases community engagement in park, recreation, natural, cultural, historical and business operations. It also provides an additional pathway for potential employees interested in seasonal, part-time or full-time positions with the Park Authority. The program includes both paid and unpaid internship opportunities.

INTERNSHIP OPPORTUNITES AVAILABLE FOR:

- University/College
- Trade/Vocational Institutions and Programs
- Independent Study



WORK

Fairfax County offers great benefits from healthcare to financial readiness for county employees. The Park Authority also offers benefits specific to its staff from use of Rec Centers to visits to historic sites.

EMPLOYMENT OPPORTUNITES INCLUDE:

- Full-Time/Merit Positions
- Seasonal and Non-Merit Positions

Fairfax County is an Equal Opportunity Employer and a proud Virginia Values Veterans (V3)-certified organization.



PARKS at a Glance

For more information, visit www.fairfaxcounty.gov/parks

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PARK LOCATIONS

For a complete list of locations and addresses, scan the QR code or visit www.fairfaxcounty.gov/parks/locator



Rec Centers

- 1 **Audrey Moore Rec Center**
8100 Braddock Road
Annandale 22003 • 703-321-7081
- 2 **Cub Run Rec Center**
4630 Stonecroft Blvd.
Chantilly 20151 • 703-817-9407
- 3 **George Washington Rec Center**
8426 Old Mt. Vernon Road
Alexandria 22309 • 703-780-8894
- 4 **Franconia Park & Rec Center**
6601 Telegraph Road
Franconia 22310 • 703-922-9841
- 5 **Mt. Vernon Rec Center**
(Closed for Renovations until 2025)
- 6 **Oakmont Rec Center**
(formerly Oak Marr Rec Center)
3200 Jermantown Road
Oakton 22124 • 703-281-6501
- 7 **Providence Rec Center**
7525 Marc Drive
Falls Church 22042 • 703-698-1351
- 8 **Spring Hill Rec Center**
1239 Spring Hill Road
McLean 22102 • 703-827-0989
- 9 **South Run Rec Center**
7550 Reservation Drive
Springfield 22153 • 703-866-0566

Major Parks

- 10 **Braddock Park**
13241 Braddock Road
Clifton 20124 • 703-324-8702
- 11 **Burke Lake Park**
7315 Ox Road
Fairfax Station 22039 • 703-323-6600
- 12 **Clemyjontri Park**
6317 Georgetown Pike
McLean 22101 • 703-388-2807
- 13 **Frying Pan Farm Park**
2709 West Ox Road
Herndon 20171 • 703-437-9101
- 14 **Jefferson District Park**
7900 Lee Highway
Falls Church 22042 • 703-573-0443
- 15 **Lake Accotink Park**
7500 Accotink Park Road
Springfield 22150 • 703-569-3464
- 16 **Lake Fairfax Park**
1400 Lake Fairfax Drive
Reston 20190 • 703-471-5414
- 17 **Laurel Hill Equestrian Center**
9500 Furnace Road
Lorton 22079 • 703-437-9101

Major Parks

- 18 **Martin Luther King, Jr. Park**
8115 Fordson Road
Alexandria 22306 • 703-324-8732
- 19 **Mason District Park**
6621 Columbia Pike
Annandale 22003 • 703-941-1730
- 20 **Turner Farm Park**
925 Springvale Road
Great Falls 22066 • 703-324-8702
- 21 **Wakefield Park**
8100 Braddock Road
Annandale 22003 • 703-321-7081
- 22 **Water Mine Family Swimmin' Hole**
1400 Lake Fairfax Drive
Reston 20190 • 703-471-5414

Nature Centers

- 23 **Ellanor C. Lawrence Park**
5040 Walney Road
Chantilly 20151 • 703-631-0013
- 24 **Green Spring Gardens**
4603 Green Spring Road
Alexandria 22312 • 703-642-5173
- 25 **Hidden Oaks Nature Center**
7701 Royce St.
Annandale 22003 • 703-941-1065
- 26 **Hidden Pond Nature Center**
8511 Greeley Blvd.
Springfield 22152 • 703-451-9588
- 27 **Huntley Meadows Park**
3701 Lockheed Blvd.
Alexandria 22306 • 703-768-2525
- 28 **Riverbend Park**
8700 Potomac Hills St.
Great Falls 22066 • 703-759-9018

Historic Sites

- 29 **Cabell's Mill**
5235 Walney Road
Centreville 20151 • 703-827-0609
- 30 **Clark House**
6332 Barcroft Mews Drive
Falls Church 22041 • 703-827-0609
- 31 **Colvin Run Mill**
10017 Colvin Run Road
Great Falls 22066 • 703-759-2771
- 32 **Dranesville Tavern**
11919 Leesburg Pike
Dranesville 20170 • 703-827-0609
- 33 **Great Falls Grange and Forestville Schoolhouse**
9818 Georgetown Pike
Great Falls 22066 • 703-827-0609

Historic Sites

- 34 **Nottoway Park & Hunter House**
9537 Courthouse Road
Vienna 22181 • 703-827-0609
- 35 **Stone Mansion & Stoneybrooke Park**
3900 Stoneybrooke Drive
Alexandria 22306 • 703-827-0609
- 36 **Sully Historic Site**
3650 Historic Sully Way
Chantilly 20151 • 703-437-1794

Golf Courses

- 37 **Burke Lake Golf Center**
6915 Ox Road
Fairfax Station 22039 • 703-323-1641
- 38 **Greendale Golf Course**
6700 Telegraph Road
Alexandria 22310 • 703-971-6170
- 39 **Jefferson District Golf Course**
7900 Lee Highway
Falls Church 22042 • 703-573-0443
- 40 **Laurel Hill Golf Club**
8701 Laurel Crest Drive
Lorton 22079 • 703-493-8849
- 41 **Oakmont Golf Center**
(formerly Oak Marr Golf Complex)
3136 Jermantown Road
Oakton 22124 • 703-255-5390
- 42 **Pinecrest Golf Course**
6600 Little River Turnpike
Alexandria 22312 • 703-941-1061
- 43 **Twin Lakes Golf Course**
6201 Union Mill Road
Clifton 20124 • 703-631-9372
- 44 **FPCA Headquarters**
12055 Government Center Parkway,
Suite 927, Fairfax 22035 • 703-324-8700

Visit www.fairfaxcounty.gov/parks/locator for more park locations and directions.

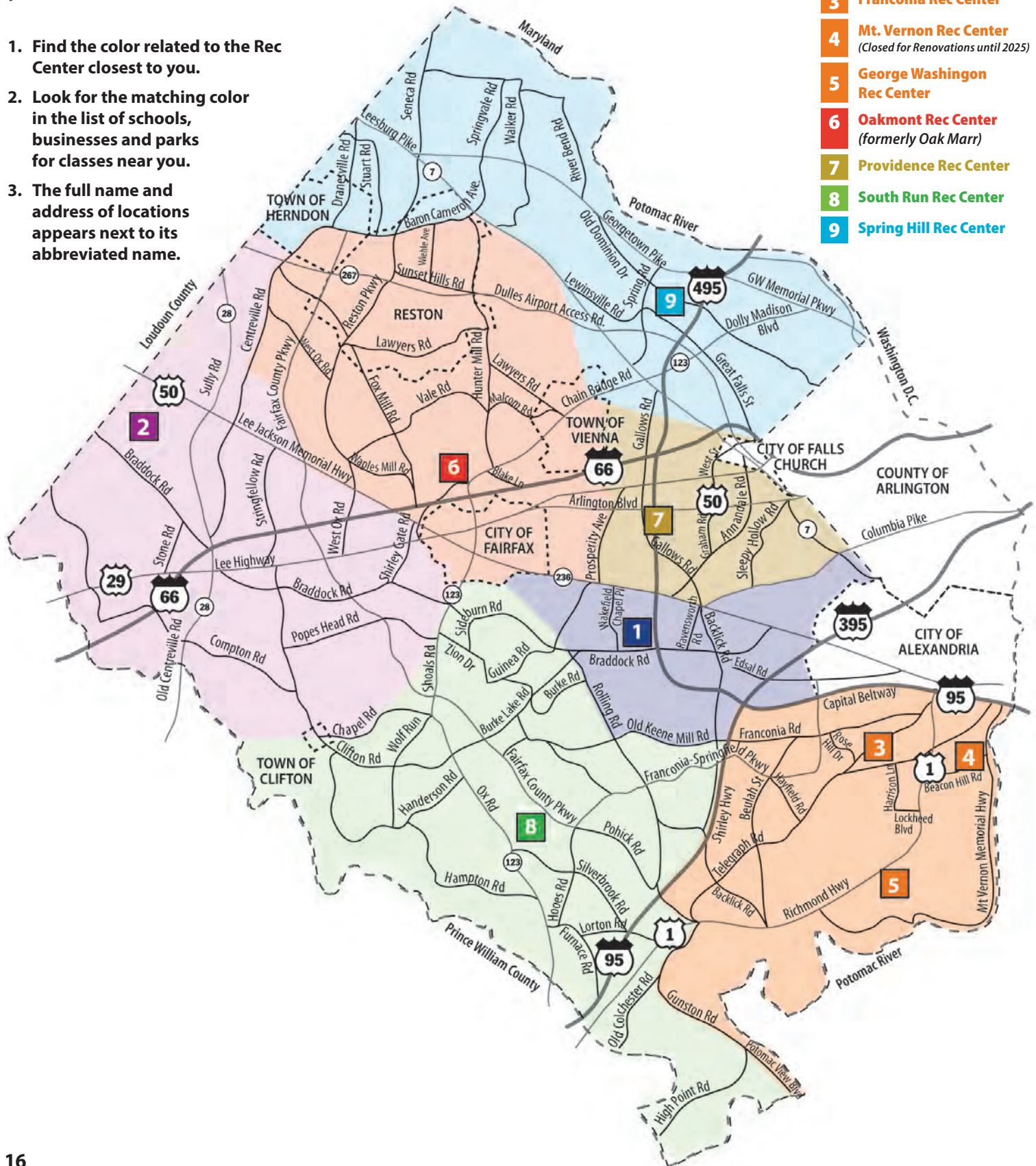


LOCATION ABBREVIATION GUIDE

Looking for conveniently located Park Authority classes in your Rec Center service area?

1. Find the color related to the Rec Center closest to you.
2. Look for the matching color in the list of schools, businesses and parks for classes near you.
3. The full name and address of locations appears next to its abbreviated name.

- 1** Audrey Moore Rec Center
- 2** Cub Run Rec Center
- 3** Franconia Rec Center
- 4** Mt. Vernon Rec Center
(Closed for Renovations until 2025)
- 5** George Washington Rec Center
- 6** Oakmont Rec Center
(formerly Oak Marr)
- 7** Providence Rec Center
- 8** South Run Rec Center
- 9** Spring Hill Rec Center



Abbrv	Name	Address	City, Zip
1: Audrey Moore/Wakefield			
AnnandalePk	Annandale Park	4030 Hummer Rd	Annandale 22003
Camelot ES	Camelot Elementary	8100 Guinevere Dr	Annandale 22003
CntrbryWdsEs	Canterbury Woods Elementary	4910 Willet Drive	Annandale 22003
CrestwoodES	Crestwood Elementary	6910 Hanover Avenue	Springfield 22150
Frost MS	Frost Middle School	4101 Pickett Road	Fairfax 22032
GrnSprGardn	Green Spring Gardens Park	4603 Green Spring Rd	Alexandria 22312
Hidden Oaks	Hidden Oaks Nature Center	7701 Royce St	Annandale 22003
Kings Pk ES	Kings Park Elementary	5400 Harrow Way	Springfield 22151
LkAccotinkPk	Lake Accotink Park	7500 Accotink Park Dr	Springfield 22151
LittleRun ES	Little Run Elementary	4511 Olley Ln	Fairfax 22032
Olde Crk ES	Olde Creek Elementary	9524 Old Creek Rd	Fairfax 22032
Pinecrest GC	Pinecrest Golf Course	6600 Little River Tnpk	Alexandria 22312
Poe MS	Poe Middle School	7000 Cindy Lane	Annandale 22003
RavensworthES	Ravensworth Elementary	5411 Nutting Drive	Springfield 22151
Wkfld/Moore	Wakefield RECenter	8100 Braddock Rd	Annandale 22003
Woodson HS	Woodson High School	9525 Main St	Fairfax 22031

2: Cub Run			
ArrowbrookPk	Arrowbrook Park	2351 Field Point Rd	Herndon 20170
Cub Run ES	Cub Run Elementary	5301 Sully Station Dr	Centreville 20120
CubRunREC	Cub Run Rec Center	4630 Stonecroft Blvd.	Chantilly 20151
DeerPark ES	Deer Park Elementary	15109 Carlbern Drive	Centreville 20120
ECLawrencePk	Ellanor C. Lawrence Park	5040 Walney Rd	Chantilly 20151
Fairfax Fencers	Fairfax Fencers	4433 Brookfield Corporate Dr	Chantilly 20151
Floris ES	Floris Elementary School	2708 Centreville Rd	Herndon 20171
Frying Pan Pk	Frying Pan Park	2709 West Ox Rd	Herndon 20171
GreenbrW ES	Greenbriar West Elementary	13300 Poplar Tree Rd	Fairfax 22033
Patriot Park North	Patriot Park North	5425 Willow Springs School Rd	Fairfax 22030
Stone MS	Stone Middle School	5500 Sully Park Dr	Centreville 20120
SullyCommCtr	Sully Community Center	13808 Wall Rd	Herndon 20171
Sully	Sully Historic Site	3650 Historic Sully Way	Chantilly 20151
TwnLk Golf	Twin Lakes Golf Course	6201 Union Mill Rd	Clifton 20124
Westfield HS	Westfield High School	4700 Stonecroft Blvd	Chantilly 20151

3-5: Franconia /Mt. Vernon /GW			
Belle Vw ES	Belle View Elementary	6701 Fort Hunt Rd	Alexandria 22307
Bucknell ES	Bucknell Elementary	6925 University Dr	Alexandria 22307
FranconiaREC	Franconia Rec Center	6601 Telegraph Rd	Franconia 22310
GWREC	George Washington Rec Center	8426 Old Mount Vernon Rd	Alexandria 22309
Greendale Golf Co	Greendale Golf Course	6700 Telegraph Rd	Alexandria 22310
Hayfield ES	Hayfield Elementary	7622 Telegraph Rd	Alexandria 22315
HistHuntley	Historic Huntley	6918 Harrison Ln	Alexandria 22306
HuntMdws	Huntley Meadows Park	3701 Lockheed Blvd	Alexandria 22306
Lane ES	Lane Elementary	7137 Beulah St	Alexandria 22315
Stone Mansion	Stone Mansion	3900 Stonybrooke Dr	Alexandria 22306
Waynewood ES	Waynewood Elementary	1205 Waynewood Blvd	Alexandria 22308
WoodleyHillsES	Woodley Hills Elementary	8718 Old Mount Vernon Road	Alexandria 22309

6: Oakmont (formerly Oak Marr)			
Cunn Pk ES	Cunningham Park Elementary	1001 Park Street	Vienna 2210
FfxIceArena	Fairfax Ice Arena	3779 Pickett Rd	Fairfax 22030
Flint HI ES	Flint Hill Elementary	2444 Flint Hill Rd	Vienna 22181
Hunter House	Hunter House	9537 Courthouse Rd	Vienna 22181
LkFairfax Pk	Lake Fairfax Park	1400 Lake Fairfax Dr	Reston 20190
LdbyExFrOKs	Lead by Example TKD	11226 Waples Mill Rd	Fairfax 22033
Navy ES	Navy Elementary	3500 West Ox Road	Fairfax 22033
NottowayPk	Nottoway Park	9601 Courthouse Rd	Vienna 22181
Oakmont Golf Ctr	Oakmont Golf Center	3200 Germantown Rd	Oakton 22124
Oakmont REC	Oakmont Rec Center	3200 Germantown Rd	Oakton 22124
Oakton ES	Oakton Elementary	3000 Chain Bridge Rd	Oakton 22124
Wapls MI ES	Waples Mill Elementary	11509 Waples Mill Rd	Oakton 22124

Abbrv	Name	Address	City, Zip
7: Providence			
Acton Academy	Acton Academy	513 W Broad Street #110c	Falls Church 22046
Clark House	Clark House	6338 Barcroft Mews Dr	Alexandria 22312
Fairhill ES	Fairhill Elementary	3001 Chichester Ln	Fairfax 22031
Jefferson Golf	Jefferson Golf Course	7900 Lee Hwy	Falls Church 22042
JRheeFlsCh	Jhoon Rhee Falls Church	1136 West Broad St	Falls Church 22046
MasonDistPk	Mason District Park	6621 Columbia Pike	Annandale, 22003
NOVA Fencers	No. VA Fencers Club	3431-E Carlin Springs Rd	Falls Church 22041
Pine Spring ES	Pine Spring Elementary	7607 Willow Lane	Falls Church 22042
ProvREC	Providence Rec Center	7525 Marc Dr	Falls Church 22042
RndtreePk	Roundtree Park	3411 Casilear Rd	Falls Church 22042
Shreveud ES	Shrevewood Elementary	7525 Shreve Rd	Falls Church 22043
Stenwood ES	Stenwood Elementary	2620 Gallows Road	Vienna 22180
Woodbrn ES	Woodburn Elementary	3401 Hemlock Dr	Falls Church 22042

8: South Run			
BlkBltFfx	Black Belt Academy Fairfax	10635 Braddock Rd	Fairfax 22032
BurkeLakeGolf	Burke Lake Golf	6915 Ox Rd	Fairfax Station 22039
Burke Lake Pk	Burke Lake Park	7315 Ox Rd	Fairfax Station 22039
Card Fst ES	Cardinal Forest Elementary	8600 Forrester Blvd	Springfield 22152
CherryRun ES	Cherry Run Elementary	9732 Ironmaster Dr	Burke 22015
Hidden Pond	Hidden Pond Nature Center	8511 Greeley Blvd	Springfield 22152
Huntsman Lk	Huntsman Lake	9150 Dorothy Ln	Springfield 22153
Lk Mercer Pk	Lake Mercer Park	9500 Silverbrook Rd	Fairfax Station 22039
Laurel Hill ES	Laurel Hill Elementary	8390 Laurel Crest Dr	Lorton 22079
Laurel Hill GC	Laurel Hill Golf Course	8701 Laurel Crest Dr	Lorton 22079
LaurelHillPk	Laurel Hill Park	8400 Lorton Rd	Lorton 22079
OakVw ES	Oak View Elementary	5004 Sideburn Rd	Fairfax 22032
OrngHunt ES	Orange Hunt Elementary	6820 Sydenstricker Rd	Springfield 22152
RollingVly ES	Rolling Valley Elementary	6703 Barnack Dr	Springfield 22152
RollVallyW Pk	Rolling Valley West Park	6512 Sydenstricker Rad	Burke 22015
RoyalLakePk	Royal Lake Park	5344 Gainsborough Dr	Fairfax, 22032
Sangster ES	Sangster Elementary	7420 Reservation Dr	Springfield 22153
Saratoga ES	Saratoga Elementary	8111 Northumberland Road	Springfield 22153
SoCounty MS	South County Middle School	8700 Laurel Crest Drive	Lorton 22079
SoRunREC	South Run Rec Center	7550 Reservation Dr	Springfield 22153
TerraCentreES	Terra Centre Elementary	6000 Burke Centre Parkway	Burke 22015
WstSprngfld ES	West Springfield ES	6802 Deland Dr	Springfield 22152
WhiteOaks ES	White Oaks Elementary	6130 Shiplett Blvd	Burke 22015

9: Spring Hill			
B2R McLean	Bach to Rock McLean	6649A Old Dominion Drive	McLean 22101
Clemjyontri	Clemjyontri Park	6317 Georgetown Pike	McLean 22101
ColvinRunMill	Colvin Run Mill	10017 Colvin Run Rd	Great Falls 22066
Cooper MS	Cooper Middle School	977 Balls Hill Road	McLean 22101
Dransvil Trvn	Dranesville Tavern	11919 Leesburg Pk	Herndon 20171
FreedomH ES	Freedom Hill Elementary	1945 Lord Fairfax Rd	Vienna 22182
GrtFlsGrange	Great Falls Grange	9818 Georgetown Pk	Great Falls 22066
Lewinsville PK	Lewinsville Park	1659 Chain Bridge Road	McLean 22101
McLeanCntrlPk	McLean Central Park	1468 Dolley Madison Blvd	McLean 22102
RiverbendPk	Riverbend Park	8700 Potomac Hills St	Great Falls 22066
ScottsRnNat	Scotts Run Nature Preserve	7400 Georgetown Pk	McLean 22102
SpringHI ES	Spring Hill Elementary	8201 Lewinsville Rd	McLean 22102
SphillIREC	Spring Hill Rec Center	1239 Spring Hill Rd	McLean 22102
TurnerFarmPk	Turner Farm Park	925 Springvale Rd	Great Falls 22066



For a complete list of locations and addresses, scan the QR code or visit www.fairfaxcounty.gov/parktakes