

## **Clark County Parks and Recreation**

Clark County Parks and Recreation was organized by the Board of County Commissioners in 1963 with the charge to assess the recreational needs of the community. With more than 50 years of service in the rear view mirror and 300 days of sunshine annually, Clark County Parks and Recreation remains a vibrant organization working to identify and provide for the recreational experiences of residents and visitors alike. Clark County Parks and Recreation is home to a host of indoor and outdoor activities that provide youth with safe environments after school; promote health and wellness for residents of all ages; provide opportunities for social interaction; increase environmental awareness and stewardship; and celebrate the diversity of our community through visual and performing arts.

Overall, the department provides Southern Nevada with 15 urban recreation and community centers, including three centers devoted solely to seniors; 12 pool facilities with seven water parks and four indoor, year-round pools; 10 skate parks, seven dog parks and over 100 public parks with everything from picnic amenities to ball fields, playgrounds and water features. The Department also offers recreations services in rural areas including: Laughlin, Searchlight, Cal-Nev-Ari, Moapa Valley, Moapa, Bunkerville, Indian Springs, Sandy Valley and Goodsprings. Facilities include recreation centers, pools and more! Department programs include aquatic classes, sports, special events, special interest classes and a before and after school enrichment program known as Safekey. When school is not in session, numerous camps and programs abound.

Clark County Parks and Recreation is also home to world-class special facilities not found anywhere else in Nevada. The Clark County Shooting Complex is a unique facility which provides 178 acres of controlled shooting space for rifle, shotgun, pistol and bow and arrow enthusiasts. One of the County's oldest facilities is Camp Lee Canyon, which, since 1936, has welcomed thousands of adults and youth to its historical overnight camp facility in the cool air of Lee Canyon, located just northwest of the Las Vegas Valley. One of the County's newest facilities is the brand new Wetlands Nature Center that sits at the heart of Clark County's 3,000 acre Wetlands Park. The Nature Center is dedicated to providing environmental and recreational learning experiences about the delicate and vivid riparian ecosystem found within the wetlands. The park also provides beautiful, panoramic walks on multiple trails and along waterways.

The department is also proud of its Nevada heritage and shows it off at three museums – the Cannon Aviation Museum, located at McCarran International Airport; the Searchlight Museum and the Clark County Heritage Museum, which features a train depot, exhibits and Heritage Street, where several historical Clark County homes and the Candlelight Wedding Chapel have been restored and await those eager to learn. Other department facilities include Horseman's Park, which pays homage to Nevada's Western legacy with frequent equestrian events, Dog

Fanciers Park, which offers an open regional dog park facility with daily use and reservations for groups or shows and the Clark County Fairgrounds which hosts numerous recreational events including the Clark County Fair.

Clark County is the nation's 14<sup>th</sup>-largest county, is home to 70 percent of Nevada's population and occupies 8,012 square miles – an area larger than New Jersey. With that amount of ground to cover and residents to serve, Clark County Parks and Recreation is always introducing new and fun activities and special events to keep residents and visitors coming back for more.