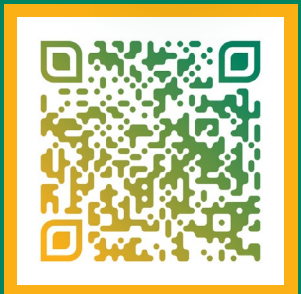


Get into the swing of things!

Visit SarasotaCountyParks.com/EventsGuide or scan the QR code to view our events, programs and activities.



Scan the QR code to view the online guide.



Sarasota County

Sarasota County Parks, Recreation and Natural Resources

EVENTS AND ACTIVITIES GUIDE

For more information, call the Sarasota County Contact Center at 311.

Sarasota County prohibits discrimination in all services, programs or activities. View the complete policy at scgov.net/ADA.



General Information

WELCOME FROM THE DIRECTOR

Sarasota County Parks, Recreation and Natural Resources warmly invites you to explore our expansive park system, covering 55,000 acres of diverse natural areas and unique recreational venues. Whether you're looking for a safe space to play, learn or grow, our parks offer something for everyone. From pickleball and nature walks to signature events like the annual Fire Fest, we're confident you'll discover the perfect activity for you.

We're thrilled to introduce the latest Events and Activities Guide, designed to help you make the most of all we offer. Inside, you'll find Recreation and Athletics, Beaches and Water Access, and Natural Areas and Trails sections.

Whether you're looking to reconnect with nature, stay active, meet new friends, or simply unwind, our wide range of events and activities has you covered. With playgrounds, beaches, trails, natural areas, athletic facilities, recreation centers and water access parks, Sarasota County provides endless opportunities to stay healthy and engaged for both residents and visitors alike.

Please enjoy the many events and activities that the Sarasota County park system has to offer.



SHAWN YEAGER

Interim Director
Sarasota County Parks,
Recreation and Natural Resources

IMPACTS OF LEISURE AND RECREATION SERVICES

In this guide, we've categorized every event or activity according to the benefit, value and impact it offers. We urge you to dive into the broad spectrum of opportunities within leisure and recreation services that pave the way for positive results.



Community: Fosters a sense of community and belonging by bringing groups of people together for cultural, recreational and entertainment activities and experiences.



Education: Includes outdoor and hands-on learning opportunities, skills development, workshops, lectures and other engaging learning experiences for a wide range of topics and subjects.



Environmental: Provides a natural classroom for environmental education, nature exploration and hands-on learning experiences for participants while acting as environmental stewards and protecting local native habitats and wildlife.



Health and Wellness: Offers physical, mental and emotional wellness benefits to the individual and/or group participants; helping reduce stress, anxiety and promoting healthier lifestyles.



Physical: Opportunity for participants to engage in various forms of exercise and physical activity to encourage healthier lifestyles and improve overall fitness.



Social: Provides opportunity for people of different backgrounds, ages and abilities to interact and build social connections, engage with others and build relationships.

SPECIAL EVENTS



Signature Events: Large-scale events with broad community appeal that often involve partnerships and volunteers, making a significant cultural or economic impact.



Sponsored Events: Businesses or individuals can support these events through donations and gain brand visibility and audience engagement in return, with flexible sponsorship options available.

Updated April 2026



Special Olympics

Feb. 14 - Jun. 30, 2026 (Varied Dates/Times) / Ages: 8 and up / Fee: Free / [+1 \(941\) 404-0361](tel:+19414040361) / alyssaisaksen@sofl.org / [Register/More Info](#)

Special Olympics Florida offers year-round sports training and competition for children and adults ages 8 and up with intellectual and developmental disabilities. Sports include basketball, bocce, bowling, cycling, tennis, track and field, stand-up paddleboarding and swimming. Volunteer opportunities are available. For more information and locations, call 941-404-0361 or visit SpecialOlympicsFlorida.org.

Other (Off-site)



18+ Open-Play Basketball

Mar. 02 - Dec. 31, 2026 (Varied Dates/Times), 6 p.m. / Ages: 18 and up / Fee: \$5 / [\(941\) 270-1219](tel:(941)2701219) / canonstahl23@hotmail.com

Join us for some indoor basketball in the Englewood Sports Complex gym on Wednesdays from 6-8 p.m.!

Englewood Sports Complex,  1300 S. River Road, Englewood



Beach Yoga with Katja

Mar. 02 - Dec. 31, 2026 (Varied Dates/Times) / Ages: All / Fee: Free / katja@beachyogafl.com / [Register/More Info](#)

Enjoy yoga on the quiet white sand beaches on the Gulf. Awaken your senses with yoga for all abilities and every body. It's fun, friendly and casual. Classes are held on Manasota Beach and Nokomis Beach. Class times vary, contact instructor for more information.

Nokomis Beach Park,  Plaza -100 Casey Key Rd. Concession-208 S. Casey Key Rd. , Nokomis



Boys and Girls Club of Sarasota and Desoto Counties After School

Program   

Mar. 02 - May 30, 2026 (Varied Dates/Times), 2 p.m. / Ages: 6-14 / Fee: Free / [\(941\) 358-2878](tel:(941)3582878)

Children who attend will enjoy art and literacy programs, indoor and outdoor team sports, homework help as well as access to game and computer rooms. For information, call the Boys and Girls Club at 941-358-2878.

Newtown Estates Park,  2800 Newtown Blvd., Sarasota



Dynamic Walking Fitness

Mar. 02 - Nov. 28, 2026 (Varied Dates/Times), 10 a.m. / Ages: 18 and up / Fee: Free / [\(941\) 626-2399](tel:(941)6262399)

Join this adult fitness class that mixes walking with unique techniques and a variety of exercise incorporating cardio, balance, flexibility, coordination, core and upper body strength. Instructor based fee.

Englewood Sports Complex,  1300 S. River Road, Englewood



Good Morning Sunrise, Yoga with Christal

Mar. 02 - Dec. 31, 2026 (Varied Dates/Times) / Ages: All / Fee: Free / infinityyogasrq@gmail.com / [Register/More Info](#)

Start your day right with a free yoga session on the soft white sand of Siesta Beach located between the green and blue lifeguard stands. All ages and levels welcome. Bring a mat, towel or blanket along with a hydrating beverage. Classes are held every weekday at 7a.m.

Siesta Beach, 948 Beach Road, Sarasota



Jellys Volleyball

Mar. 02 - Dec. 31, 2026 (Varied Dates/Times), 5 p.m. / Ages: 8-18 / Fee: Free / [\(941\) 284-1075](tel:9412841075) / coachchar@jellysvolleyball.com / [Register/More Info](#)

Jellys volleyball is a girl's youth indoor and sand volleyball club who practices in both Venice and Englewood. We offer indoor competitive travel volleyball for girls ages 8-18. Instructor based fee.

Englewood Sports Complex, 1300 S. River Road, Englewood



SuperKids Martial Arts

Mar. 02 - Dec. 31, 2026 (Varied Dates/Times) / Ages: 5 and up / Fee: Free / [\(941\) 258-7254](tel:9412587254)

Brazilian Jiu Jitsu program for youth. Call or text "Info Kit" to the instructor for more information, including instructor based fees: 941-258-7254

Englewood Sports Complex, 1300 S. River Road, Englewood



Table Tennis

Mar. 02 - Dec. 31, 2026 (Varied Dates/Times), 9 a.m. / Ages: 18 and up / Fee: \$3 / [\(941\) 861-1980](tel:9418611980)

All sessions are open play to all skill levels. Open Play: Mondays, Wednesdays and Fridays, 9-11 a.m. Balls and loaner paddles are available. \$3 drop-in fee or punch pass available.

Englewood Sports Complex, 1300 S. River Road, Englewood



Tranquility by the Sea - Yoga with Lynn

Mar. 02 - Dec. 31, 2026 (Varied Dates/Times) / Ages: All / Fee: Free / lhagen3820@gmail.com / [Register/More Info](#)

Join Lynn Hagen for beach yoga at Siesta Key Beach, located between the green and red lifeguard towers. With years of experience and a calm, supportive approach, Lynn creates a welcoming space for all ages and experience levels to enjoy yoga by the sea. Classes meet at 8:30 a.m. Sunday–Tuesday and Thursday–Saturday. Wednesday classes are held at 5 p.m.

Siesta Beach, 948 Beach Road, Sarasota



Yoga for Every Body

Mar. 02 - Dec. 31, 2026 (Varied Dates/Times), 9 a.m. / Ages: 18 and up / Fee: Free / [\(941\) 468-7327](tel:9414687327) / Manguse44@verizon.net

Yoga with Denise welcomes "every body," embracing all skill levels with compassion and support. Bring your yoga mat and water bottle as you move, breathe and grow at your own

pace in this inclusive, welcoming space.

Englewood Sports Complex, 📍 1300 S. River Road, Englewood



Yoga with Elin

Mar. 02 - Dec. 31, 2026 (Varied Dates/Times) / Ages: All / Fee: Free /
elin@yogawithelin.us / [Register/More Info](#)

Yoga with Elin offers yoga classes supported by donations on Venice Beach, Florida. These classes are designed for all levels, including beginners and aim to help participants balance, breathe, strengthen and relax. Class times vary, contact instructor for more information.

Venice Beach, 📍 101 The Esplanade, Venice



Drop-in Pickleball

Mar. 03 - May 19, 2026, 11 a.m. / Ages: 18-90 / Fee: \$3 / (941) 316-1161 /
parksonline@scgov.net

Join us for recreational drop-in Pickleball. Four courts of indoor pickleball. Open play, all levels. All sessions are first come, first serve for drop-in participants. For more details, visit SarasotaCountyParks.com or call 941-861-7275.

Newtown Estates Park, 📍 2800 Newtown Blvd., Sarasota



Fitness with Julie

Mar. 03 - Dec. 31, 2026 (Varied Dates/Times) / Ages: All / Fee: \$5 /
Julie@chesapeakeyoga.com / [Register/More Info](#)

Join Julie on Turtle Beach, located on the south end of Siesta Key, for an all-levels morning practice. Class will be set up on the sands located in front of the stairs/ramp in the north side of the parking lot. Classes are held at 8:30a.m. on Tuesdays and Thursdays.

Turtle Beach Park, 📍 8918 Midnight Pass Road, Sarasota



Radiant Moves Siesta Beach, Fitness with Kathy

Mar. 03 - Dec. 31, 2026 (Varied Dates/Times) / Ages: All / Fee: Free /
kathyoravec@gmail.com / [Register/More Info](#)

Join us for a gentle, guided movement practice incorporating elements from martial arts, dance and relaxation techniques to bring together the mind, body and spirit. Any age or fitness level is welcome as we create space for health, wellness, ease and relaxation. Classes are held every Tuesday and Thursday.

Siesta Beach, 📍 948 Beach Road, Sarasota



Guided Historic Edson Keith Mansion Tour

Mar. 04 - Apr. 29, 2026 (Varied Dates/Times), 10 a.m. / Ages: 12 and up / Fee: Free /
(941) 861-9779

Take a trip through the past with a guided tour of Edson Keith Mansion. The mansion was built in 1916 as a private residence and is listed on the National Register of Historic Places. Guided tour with docent begins promptly at 10 a.m. on Wednesdays. One tour only. Tour limited to first 20 guests. For details, call 941-316-1309.

Phillippi Estate Park, 📍 5500 S. Tamiami Trail, Sarasota



Guided Historic Keith Farmhouse Tour

Mar. 04 - Apr. 29, 2026 (Varied Dates/Times), 11 a.m. / Ages: All / Fee: Free / [\(941\) 861-9779](tel:9418619779) / dblatti@scgov.net

Explore history at the Historic Keith Farmhouse! Built in 1916 and listed on the National Register of Historic Places, join us for a guided tour led by a docent every Wednesday at 11 a.m. Tours limited to 20 guests. Call 941-316-1309 for details. Tours in June-September on the first Wednesday only; October-April, every Wednesday.

Phillippi Estate Park,  5500 S. Tamiami Trail, Sarasota



Phillippi Farmhouse Market

Mar. 04 - Apr. 29, 2026, 9 a.m. / Ages: All / Fee: Free / [Register/More Info](#)

Sarasota's only midweek farmers market occurs every Wednesday during October through April. The Farmhouse Market features local fresh produce, including USDA-certified organic produce, food trucks, prepared foods, artisans with crafts and live music. There is ample parking and leashed pets are welcome. Join in the fun and support local agriculture. For details, call 941-316-1309.

Phillippi Estate Park,  5500 S. Tamiami Trail, Sarasota



Sarasota Fencing Academy

Mar. 04 - Jun. 03, 2026 (Varied Dates/Times), 8 p.m. / Ages: All / Fee: Free / [\(941\) 861-7275](tel:9418617275) / srqfa1@gmail.com

Experience the fast-paced world of Olympic fencing with a Sarasota Fencing Academy trial class. Whether you are looking for a unique fitness activity or aiming to compete, fencing combines art, dance, dueling and sparring into one dynamic sport. For details on pricing and class times, visit SRQFA.com or email srqfa1@gmail.com.

Longwood Park,  6050 Longwood Run Blvd., Sarasota



Demonstration Garden Tour

Mar. 25 - Apr. 22, 2026 (Varied Dates/Times), 9 a.m. / Ages: All / Fee: Free / [+1 \(941\) 861-9901](tel:9418619901) / sarasota@ifas.ufl.edu / [Register/More Info](#)

Join Master Gardener volunteers on the fourth Wednesday of every month (except December 2025) for a free tour of the demonstration gardens at Sarasota County's Osprey Junction Trailhead Visitor Center. The garden integrates beautifully into the natural environment, using Florida-Friendly Landscaping™ techniques that you can adopt for your home or business landscape. There is no charge for this tour, but please register at www.ufsarasotaext.eventbrite.com to reserve a spot and receive notice of any changes. Please note that much of the garden is accessible, but parts of this tour may involve traveling along uneven terrain through grass, gravel or mulched areas. If you require special accommodations to attend one of our events, please contact us in advance at 941-861-5000 or sarasota@ifas.ufl.edu. For questions or further information, please call 941-861-9901 or email sarasota@ifas.ufl.edu.

Osprey Junction Trailhead,  939 E. Bay Street, Osprey



History in the Park - Open House: Dr. C.B. Wilson House

Apr. 01 - Apr. 30, 2026, 10 a.m. / Ages: All / Fee: Free / [+1 \(941\) 861-7275](tel:9418617275) / parksonline@scgov.net

Every Saturday in April: Take a self-guided tour of the historic Dr. C.B. Wilson House to learn about the house, the Wilson family and Sarasota County history. Volunteer docents will be on-site to guide visitors and answer questions.

Urfer Family Park, 4000 Honore Ave., Sarasota



Pedicab Rides

Apr. 01 - Apr. 30, 2026, 9 a.m. / Ages: 5 and up / Fee: Free / +1 (941) 861-7275 / parksonline@scgov.net / [Register/More Info](#)

Thursdays in April: Enjoy a fun, relaxing ride on a pedicab. Request your spot for a 45-minute guided tour of the Legacy Trail. The pedicab accommodates two guests per ride. Children younger than 18 must be accompanied by a parent or guardian. Florida law requires riders younger than 16 to wear a fastened bicycle helmet. Registration is required. Request your preferred date and time using the provided link.

Osprey Junction Trailhead, 939 E. Bay Street, Osprey



Primitive Tent Camping

Apr. 01 - Apr. 30, 2026 (Varied Dates/Times), 3 p.m. / Ages: All / Fee: \$10 / +1 (941) 861-7275 / parksonline@scgov.net / [Register/More Info](#)

Camping is available at Carlton Reserve, offering three distinct experiences. The Cabbage Palm Loop has four tent sites in a shady cabbage palm and oak hammock near the main parking lot. The Homestead Site is a remote backcountry location approximately four miles from the trailhead, nestled near the Myakka River. The Windy Sawgrass Site is for the adventurous, featuring a rustic bunkhouse and cook shack, or you can bring a tent for a night under the stars. This site is about seven miles from the park entrance.

Carlton Reserve (T. Mabry Carlton, Jr. Memorial Reserve), 1800 Mabry Carlton Pkwy, Venice



Shamrock Park Nature Center is open on Saturdays all month long!



Apr. 01 - Apr. 30, 2026, 9 a.m. / Ages: All / Fee: Free / +1 (941) 861-7275 / parksonline@scgov.net / [Register/More Info](#)

Drop in to the Shamrock Park Nature Center any Saturday in April between 9 a.m. and 1 p.m. Browse fossil, shell, animal and artifact displays, or visit the kids' corner with toys, books and a touch table. The program is open to all ages.

Shamrock Park and Nature Center, 3900 Shamrock Drive, Venice



Surrey Rides on the Legacy Trail

Apr. 01 - Apr. 30, 2026 (Varied Dates/Times), 9 a.m. / Ages: 5 and up / Fee: Free / +1 (941) 861-7275 / parksonline@scgov.net / [Register/More Info](#)

Welcome aboard! Every Tuesday and Wednesday through April, ride the surrey with the fringe on top. Join us for a 45-minute guided tour of the Legacy Trail. Surrey rides begin and end at Laurel Park/Sandra Sims Terry Community Center. Rides start at 9:30 a.m., 10:30 a.m. and 11:30 a.m. every Tuesday and Wednesday from Jan. 14 through April 16. Learn the history of the trail and discover local plants, animals, birds and more. Registration is required.

Laurel Park and Sandra Sims Terry Community Center, 509 Collins Road, Nokomis



Fool's Run 5K

Apr. 04, 2026, 8 a.m. / Ages: All / Fee: Free / [+1 \(941\) 504-0906](tel:+19415040906) / amber@gulfbreezeapparel.com / [Register/More Info](#)

Run, walk, skip or ride in a stroller — this is the most foolish fun you will have all year at a race event! At the Fools Run, the only thing we take seriously is how much fun you are going to have. Be sure to follow our Facebook page to stay up to date on all the shenanigans: <https://www.facebook.com/FoolsRun5k> The run will be held April 4, 2026, at Legacy Park with a chip-timed start at 8 a.m. Your finishing time will be texted or emailed to you based on the information you provide through RunSignUp. Run fast because those fools over at Gulf Breeze Apparel are sure to come up with some great awards. Be ready to run as fast as your little legs will go! All finishers will receive a Foolish finisher's medal and we'll also be feeding you and providing drinks. Chick-fil-A Pelican Plaza will be filling those grumbly tummies. Yum!

Legacy Park,  395 E. Venice Ave, Venice



Guided Bird Walk at Celery Fields

Apr. 04, 2026, 9 a.m. / Ages: 5 and up / Fee: Free / [+1 \(941\) 724-9629](tel:+19417249629) / kwilson@scgov.net / [Register/More Info](#)

Join Kylie Wilson, an environmental specialist with Sarasota County, for a casual bird walk through the Audubon nature gardens and along the boardwalk across Palmer Road. Participants will identify birds they encounter and learn facts about the birds and their habitats. No registration is required. The program is suitable for ages 5 and up.

Celery Fields Regional Stormwater Facility,  6893 Palmer Blvd., Sarasota



Guided Bird Walk at Celery Fields

Apr. 04, 2026, 9 a.m. / Ages: 5 and up / Fee: Free / [+1 \(941\) 861-7275](tel:+19418617275) / kwilson@scgov.net / [Register/More Info](#)

Join Kylie Wilson, an environmental specialist with Sarasota County, for a casual bird walk through the Audubon nature gardens and across the boardwalk at Palmer Road. We will identify the birds we see and share facts about their behaviors and habitats. No registration is required. This program is suitable for ages 5 and up. Meet at the Sarasota Audubon Nature Center at Celery Fields, 999 Center Road, Sarasota.

Celery Fields Regional Stormwater Facility,  6893 Palmer Blvd., Sarasota



EcoWalk: Meditation in the Parks - Red Bug Slough

Apr. 08, 2026, 9 a.m. / Ages: 11 and up / Fee: Free / [+1 \(941\) 861-9901](tel:+19418619901) / sarasota@ifas.ufl.edu / [Register/More Info](#)

Join us for a contemplative walk, practicing mindfulness, breathwork and using all your senses to connect with nature. Experience one of Sarasota County's spectacular natural areas during a mostly silent, meditative walk. Studies worldwide have found a connection between time spent in nature and benefits to mental and physical health. A UF/IFAS Extension Sarasota County educator or volunteer will guide the walk, helping participants explore finding peace in nature while promoting wellness.

Red Bug Slough Preserve,  5200 Beneva Road, Sarasota



T-REC Active

Apr. 08, 2026, 10 a.m. / Ages: 13 and up / Fee: \$3 / [+1 \(941\) 240-8120](tel:+19412408120) / aromero@northportfl.gov / [Register/More Info](#)

Enjoy a morning of therapeutic recreation activities designed for teens and adults with special needs. Make new friends and reconnect with others. Activities include basketball, pickleball, cornhole, soccer, kickball, tennis and more. All participants must be supervised by a caregiver.

Other (Off-site)



Scrub Stroll: Celebrate National Jay Day and National Gopher Tortoise

Day!   

Apr. 09, 2026, 9 a.m. / Ages: 11 and up / Fee: Free / [+1 \(941\) 861-7275](tel:+19418617275) / parksonline@scgov.net / [Register/More Info](#)

Join a Sarasota County environmental specialist for a walk at South Venice Lemon Bay Preserve to celebrate National Jay Day and National Gopher Tortoise Day. Participants will learn about threatened, endemic and keystone species, including the Florida Scrub Jay and Gopher Tortoise. Explore the scrub and discover how the county manages natural area preserves to protect these unique habitats. Participants are encouraged to bring binoculars and drinking water, and should be prepared to walk in soft sand and areas with limited shade. Pets are not allowed. Meet at the main parking area at 6200 Osprey Road.

South Venice Lemon Bay Preserve,  6200 Osprey Rd (parking), Venice



Scrub Stroll: Celebrate National Jay Day and National Gopher Tortoise

Day!   

Apr. 09, 2026, 9 a.m. / Ages: 12 and up / Fee: Free

Join a Sarasota County environmental specialist for a guided walk at South Venice Lemon Bay Preserve in recognition of National Jay Day and National Gopher Tortoise Day. Participants will learn about threatened, endemic and keystone species, including the Florida scrub jay and the gopher tortoise. The walk will highlight the unique scrub habitat and provide information about how Sarasota County manages its natural area preserves to protect these ecosystems. Participants are encouraged to bring binoculars and drinking water. Be prepared to walk in soft sand and areas with limited shade. Pets are not permitted in the preserve.

South Venice Lemon Bay Preserve,  6200 Osprey Rd (parking), Venice



Ex-plore: Nature at Night - Deer Prairie Creek Preserve South

Apr. 10, 2026, 7 p.m. / Ages: 11 and up / Fee: Free / [+1 \(941\) 861-9901](tel:+19418619901) / sarasota@ifas.ufl.edu / [Register/More Info](#)

Enjoy a guided nature walk to learn about the animals, insects and nature that are active at night.

Deer Prairie Creek Preserve (South Entrance),  10201 S. Tamiami Trail (south entrance), Venice



EcoWalk: Meditation in the Parks - Red Bug Slough

Apr. 11, 2026, 9 a.m. / Ages: 11 and up / Fee: Free / [+1 \(941\) 861-9901](tel:+19418619901) / sarasota@ifas.ufl.edu / [Register/More Info](#)

Join us for a contemplative walk, practicing mindfulness, breathwork and using all your senses to connect with nature. Experience one of Sarasota County's spectacular natural areas during a mostly silent, meditative walk. Studies worldwide have found a connection between time spent in nature and benefits to mental and physical health. A UF/IFAS

Extension Sarasota County educator or volunteer will guide the walk, helping participants explore finding peace in nature while promoting wellness.

Red Bug Slough Preserve, 📍 5200 Beneva Road, Sarasota



Mote Run for the Turtles 🧑🏻‍🤝‍🧑🏻 🏊‍♀️

Apr. 11, 2026, 8 a.m. / Ages: All / Fee: Free / ddwyer@mote.org / [Register/More Info](#)

Mote Marine Laboratory's Run for the Turtles is a sanctioned 5K that draws more than 1,000 runners in support of Mote's Sea Turtle Conservation & Research Program. This signature event marks the official start of sea turtle nesting season in Southwest Florida (April 15–Oct. 31), when every step helps protect nesting turtles and their hatchlings.

Siesta Beach, 📍 948 Beach Road, Sarasota



Plant Clinic at Shamrock Park Nature Center 📖 🌿

Apr. 11, 2026, 10 a.m. / Ages: All / Fee: Free / [+1 \(941\) 861-7275](tel:+19418617275) / parksonline@scgov.net / [Register/More Info](#)

Do you have questions about why a particular plant in your yard is dying? Or are you new to the area and wondering what to plant? UF-IFAS Master Naturalists are available every second Saturday from 10 a.m. to noon to answer your questions. They will have a table set up inside the Shamrock Park Nature Center and can discuss all things plants. The Shamrock Plant Clinic is held every second Saturday of the month. No registration is necessary.

Shamrock Park and Nature Center, 📍 3900 Shamrock Drive, Venice



Cultural Crafts 🧑🏻‍🤝‍🧑🏻 🗨️ 📖

Apr. 16, 2026, 9 a.m. / Ages: All / Fee: Free / [+1 \(941\) 861-7275](tel:+19418617275) / parksonline@scgov.net

Love quilting and its cultural heritage? Fabric arts and stitching date back thousands of years. Join fellow quilters of all skill levels and backgrounds to sew, share and learn new techniques. This indoor program meets on the first and third Thursday of each month in the Lemon Bay Park Meeting Room.

Lemon Bay Park and Environmental Center, 📍 570 Bay Park Blvd., Englewood



Music in the Park 🧑🏻‍🤝‍🧑🏻 🗨️

Apr. 16, 2026, 10 a.m. / Ages: All / Fee: Free / [+1 \(941\) 861-7275](tel:+19418617275) / parksonline@scgov.net / [Register/More Info](#)

Join us for a beautiful morning of music featuring pianist Barbara Rothman, trained by renowned Brazilian-American pianist Luis de Maura Castro. Experience an all-Chopin program showcasing the many forms the composer loved—filled with joy, wistfulness and the natural inspiration behind his music. Listen from a small screened-in porch or bring a chair to enjoy the performance from the gardens.

Osprey Junction Trailhead, 📍 939 E. Bay Street, Osprey



★ Big Truck Day 🧑🏻‍🤝‍🧑🏻 🗨️

Apr. 18, 2026, 9 a.m. / Ages: All / Fee: Free / parksonline@scgov.net

Pull the levers, honk the horns and explore over 50 trucks at the 30th Annual Big Truck Day at CoolToday Park! There will be a craft area, sensory area, pedal cars, inflatables, food for purchase and more. Suncoast Remake Learning Days will be returning with hands-on learning activities. This event is free and open to the public!

CoolToday Park, 📍 18800 South West Villages Parkway, Venice



Forever Friends Fun Day 🧑🏻‍🤝‍🧑🏻 🧑🏻‍🗣️

Apr. 18, 2026, 1 p.m. / Ages: 10 and up / Fee: Free / foreverfriendsinc@yahoo.com / [Register/More Info](#)

Join the volunteers of Forever Friends on the third Saturday of each month for an afternoon of fun, inspiration and activities. Activities may include music, crafts, snacks, games, special visitors and more. This free event is open to individuals ages 10 and up with special needs. Family members and caregivers are also welcome.

Colonial Oaks Park, 📍 5300 Colonial Oaks Blvd., Sarasota



EcoWalk: Unique Preserves of Sarasota County - Shamrock Park 📖 🌿



CANCELED Apr. 20, 2026, 9 a.m. / Ages: 11 and up / Fee: Free / [+1 \(941\) 861-9901](tel:+19418619901) / sarasota@ifas.ufl.edu / [Register/More Info](#)

Take a “walk and talk” class showcasing unique Sarasota County areas, including plants, wildlife and local environmental issues. Stroll through some of the county’s most beautiful and environmentally sensitive preserved lands with a UF/IFAS Extension Sarasota County educator. Learn about local ecosystems, what makes these areas unique and important, the plants and animals that inhabit them, how to be watershed-wise, and the challenges of preserving these lands for future generations. Registration is required.

Shamrock Park and Nature Center, 📍 3900 Shamrock Drive, Venice



EcoWalk: Mangroves 🌿 📖

Apr. 22, 2026, 9 a.m. / Ages: 11 and up / Fee: Free / [+1 \(941\) 861-9901](tel:+19418619901) / sarasota@ifas.ufl.edu / [Register/More Info](#)

Learn about mangrove ecosystems, identification and trimming regulations in this “walk and talk” event.

Lemon Bay Park and Environmental Center, 📍 570 Bay Park Blvd., Englewood



T-REC Active 🧑🏻‍🤝‍🧑🏻 🧑🏻‍🗣️ 🏃

Apr. 22, 2026, 10 a.m. / Ages: 13 and up / Fee: \$3 / [+1 \(941\) 240-8120](tel:+19412408120) / aromero@northportfl.gov / [Register/More Info](#)

Enjoy a morning of therapeutic recreation activities designed for teens and adults with special needs. Make new friends and reconnect with others. Activities include basketball, pickleball, cornhole, soccer, kickball, tennis and more. All participants must be supervised by a caregiver.

Other (Off-site)



Hearts Up for IDD Park Picnic 🧑🏻‍🤝‍🧑🏻 🧑🏻‍🗣️

Apr. 24, 2026, 4 p.m. / Ages: 16 and up / Fee: Free / heartsupforidd@gmail.com

Enjoy a fun evening at the park with friends, music and dancing for teens and adults with intellectual and developmental disabilities. Bring your own picnic dinner; water and snacks will be provided. Take a walk on the paved trail or bring a fishing pole to try your luck on the creek. Parents and caregivers are asked to stay for the duration of the event.

Phillippi Estate Park, 📍 5500 S. Tamiami Trail, Sarasota



ZAP Skimboards Spring Fling Skim Jam

Apr. 24 - Apr. 26, 2026 (Varied Dates/Times) / Ages: All / Fee: Free / + / info@zapskimboards.com / [Register/More Info](#)

The sixth annual Spring Fling Skim Jam returns to Nokomis Beach, a premier skim break on the Gulf Coast of Florida. This event is designed to bring the skim community together for the weekend and have a fun filled time at the beach. Bring your best tricks and see how you stack up against local talent! Skim Jam is a three day event consisting of a FREE Skim Clinic, Pro/Am Skim USA sanctioned contest, Pro Signing and awards ceremony. Held at Nokomis Beach, we will have prizes, raffles and a family friendly atmosphere focused on community!

Nokomis Beach Park, 📍 Plaza -100 Casey Key Rd. Concession-208 S. Casey Key Rd. ., Nokomis



Nature Journaling at the Celery Fields, Sarasota Audubon Nature Center

Apr. 25, 2026, 9 a.m. / Ages: All / Fee: Free / +1 (941) 861-7275 / parksonline@scgov.net / [Register/More Info](#)

Join us for a guided nature journaling event, where participants will learn to observe and record the natural world through drawing and writing. This hands-on program offers a relaxing way to connect with nature while sharpening observation skills. Nature journaling is both fun and meaningful, as it deepens your appreciation for wildlife and helps you notice details that you might otherwise miss. Beginners and experienced journalers are welcome. All materials will be provided; however, you are welcome to bring your own journal and additional materials if you wish. We will spend the first half of the program at the picnic tables and in the garden at the Nature Center, before moving to a boardwalk at the Celery Fields to conclude the morning. This program is suitable for all ages, but does require periods of sustained focus and quiet observation. All participants under the age of 16 must attend with a parent or guardian.

Celery Fields Regional Stormwater Facility, 📍 6893 Palmer Blvd., Sarasota



VYBA Venetian Cup Regatta

Apr. 25, 2026, 9 a.m. / Ages: All / Fee: Free / +1 (941) 468-1719 / director@veniceyouthboating.org / [Register/More Info](#)

2026 Venetian Cup Regatta races will take place on Roberts Bay and just outside the Venice Inlet on the Gulf of Mexico. Competition fleets include: Optimist Green Fleet, Optimist Class Fleet, C420s, HS420, ILCA 4, ILCA 6 and ILCA 7. Registration is now open and available online through Regatta Network.

Higel Marine Park, 📍 1250 Tarpon Center Drive, Venice



Blossoms for Mom

Apr. 28, 2026, 4 p.m. / Ages: 5-8 / Fee: Free / [+1 \(941\) 861-7275](tel:+19418617275) / dblatti@scgov.net

Children will craft heartfelt gifts for mom while learning about the history of Mother’s Day at this free event. Multiple stations will offer hands-on projects for children to create and take home.

Phillippi Estate Park,  5500 S. Tamiami Trail, Sarasota



MindTravel

Apr. 29, 2026, 5 p.m. / Ages: All / Fee: Free / [N/A](#) / info@mindtravel.com / [Register/More Info](#)


Experience an immersive musical journey as MindTravel returns with its signature live piano event in Sarasota. Renowned pianist and composer Murray Hidary will guide attendees through an evening of real-time, improvised compositions designed to inspire reflection and connection. Using wireless headphones, participants will hear the music clearly in an intimate setting. Set on the beach, the event combines live piano with natural surroundings, including the sound of the ocean and the evening breeze. Guests are invited to relax and enjoy the performance as the sun sets. Whether seeking tranquility, inspiration or a break from daily routines, attendees can expect an evening centered on music and mindfulness. Participants are encouraged to bring a beach towel or chair.

Siesta Beach,  948 Beach Road, Sarasota

Beach Blast Trifecta

May 01, 2026, 5 p.m. / Ages: 13 and below / Fee: Free / [+1 \(941\) 861-5868](tel:+19418615868) / bcanales@scgov.net / [Register/More Info](#)

Friday, 5–7 p.m. – Ted Sperling Park Saturday, 8–10 a.m. – Siesta Beach Sunday, 9–11 a.m. – Turtle Beach

Ted Sperling Park at South Lido Beach,  2201 Ben Franklin Drive, Sarasota



Demonstration Garden Tour

May 01, 2026, 9 a.m. / Ages: All / Fee: Free / [+1 \(941\) 861-7275](tel:+19418617275) / parksonline@scgov.net / [Register/More Info](#)

Master Gardeners will be in the Demonstration Garden at Shamrock Park to answer questions, offer free tours and provide expert advice on Florida-friendly landscaping. No registration is necessary. Meet at the Demonstration Garden. For more information, call 941-861-5000.

Shamrock Park and Nature Center,  3900 Shamrock Drive, Venice



EcoWalk: Unique Preserves - T. Mabry Carlton, Jr. Memorial Reserve



May 01, 2026, 9 a.m. / Ages: 11 and up / Fee: Free / [+1 \(941\) 861-9901](tel:+19418619901) / sarasota@ifas.ufl.edu / [Register/More Info](#)

Join us for a “walk and talk” class highlighting unique Sarasota County areas, including plants, wildlife and local environmental issues.

Carlton Reserve (T. Mabry Carlton, Jr. Memorial Reserve),  1800 Mabry Carlton Pkwy, Venice



History in the Park - Open House: Dr. C.B. Wilson House

May 01 - May 31, 2026, 10 a.m. / Ages: 18 and up / Fee: Free / [+1 \(941\) 861-7275](tel:+19418617275) / parksonline@scgov.net / [Register/More Info](#)

Every Saturday in May: Take a self-guided tour through the historic Dr. C.B. Wilson House to learn about the house, the Wilson family and Sarasota County history. Volunteer docents will be on-site to guide you through the house and answer your questions.

Urfer Family Park,  4000 Honore Ave., Sarasota



Primitive Tent Camping

May 01 - May 31, 2026 (Varied Dates/Times), 3 p.m. / Ages: All / Fee: \$10 / [+1 \(941\) 861-7275](tel:+19418617275) / parksonline@scgov.net / [Register/More Info](#)

Camping is available at Carlton Reserve, offering three distinct experiences. The Cabbage Palm Loop has four tent sites in a shady cabbage palm and oak hammock near the main parking lot. The Homestead Site is a remote backcountry location approximately four miles from the trailhead, nestled near the Myakka River. The Windy Sawgrass Site is for the adventurous, featuring a rustic bunkhouse and cook shack, or you can bring a tent for a night under the stars. This site is about seven miles from the park entrance.

Carlton Reserve (T. Mabry Carlton, Jr. Memorial Reserve),  1800 Mabry Carlton Pkwy, Venice



Shamrock Park Nature Center is open on Saturdays all month long!



May 01 - May 31, 2026, 9 a.m. / Ages: All / Fee: Free / [+1 \(941\) 861-7275](tel:+19418617275) / parksonline@scgov.net / [Register/More Info](#)

Drop in to the Shamrock Park Nature Center any Saturday from December through June between 9 a.m. and 1 p.m. Browse fossil, shell, animal and artifact displays, or visit the kids' corner with toys, books and a touch table. The program is open to all ages.

Shamrock Park and Nature Center,  3900 Shamrock Drive, Venice

Beach Blast Trifecta

May 02, 2026, 8 a.m. / Ages: All / Fee: Free / [+1 \(941\) 861-5867](tel:+19418615867) / bcanales@scgov.net / [Register/More Info](#)

Friday, 5–7 p.m. – Ted Sperling Park Saturday, 8–10 a.m. – Siesta Beach Sunday, 9–11 a.m. – Turtle Beach

Siesta Beach,  948 Beach Road, Sarasota

Beach Blast Trifecta

May 03, 2026, 9 a.m. / Ages: All / Fee: Free / [+1 \(941\) 861-5866](tel:+19418615866) / bcanales@scgov.net / [Register/More Info](#)

Friday, 5–7 p.m. – Ted Sperling Park Saturday, 8–10 a.m. – Siesta Beach Sunday, 9–11 a.m. – Turtle Beach

Ted Sperling Park at South Lido Beach,  2201 Ben Franklin Drive, Sarasota



Cultural Crafts

May 07, 2026, 9 a.m. / Ages: All / Fee: Free / [+1 \(941\) 861-7275](tel:+19418617275) / parksonline@scgov.net

Love quilting and its cultural heritage? Fabric arts and stitching date back thousands of years. Join fellow quilters of all skill levels and backgrounds to sew, share and learn new techniques. This indoor program takes place on the first and third Thursday of each month.

Lemon Bay Park and Environmental Center,  570 Bay Park Blvd., Englewood



Mother's Day Brunch

May 09, 2026, 10 a.m. / Ages: All / Fee: \$40 / [+1 \(941\) 861-9779](tel:+19418619779) / dblatti@scgov.net / [Register/More Info](#)

Enjoy a buffet-style brunch at this Mother's Day event. Menu items include scrambled eggs, bacon, sausage, French toast, broasted chicken, roast beef, vegan options, macaroni and cheese, potatoes, vegetables, fresh fruit, a cheese platter, assorted desserts and more. Coffee, iced tea and lemonade are included. Alcoholic beverages will be available for purchase. Children can enjoy crafts, photo opportunities and lawn games. A giveaway for moms is also included.

Phillippi Estate Park,  5500 S. Tamiami Trail, Sarasota



Plant Clinic at Shamrock Park Nature Center

May 09, 2026, 10 a.m. / Ages: All / Fee: Free / [+1 \(941\) 861-7275](tel:+19418617275) / parksonline@scgov.net / [Register/More Info](#)

Do you have questions about why that one particular plant in your yard is dying? Or maybe your new to the area, and wondering what to plant in your yard. UF-IFAS Master Naturalists are waiting for you every 2nd Saturday from 10am to noon to answer your questions. They will have a table set up in the nature center and are available to discuss all things plants! No registration necessary.

Shamrock Park and Nature Center,  3900 Shamrock Drive, Venice



T-REC Active

May 13, 2026, 10 a.m. / Ages: 13 and up / Fee: \$3 / [+1 \(941\) 240-8120](tel:+19412408120) / aromero@northportfl.gov / [Register/More Info](#)

Enjoy a morning of therapeutic recreation activities designed for teens and adults with special needs. Make new friends and reconnect with others. Activities include basketball, pickleball, cornhole, soccer, kickball, tennis and more. All participants must be supervised by a caregiver.

Other (Off-site)



Forever Friends Fun Day

May 16, 2026, 1 p.m. / Ages: 10 and up / Fee: Free / foreverfriendsinc@yahoo.com / [Register/More Info](#)

Join the volunteers of Forever Friends on the third Saturday of each month for an afternoon of fun, inspiration and activities. Activities may include music, crafts, snacks, games, special visitors and more. This free event is open to individuals ages 10 and up with special needs. Family members and caregivers are also welcome.

Colonial Oaks Park,  5300 Colonial Oaks Blvd., Sarasota



Siesta 7s Rugby Tournament

May 16, 2026, 9 a.m. / Ages: All / Fee: Free / [+1 \(941\) 720-1717](tel:+19417201717) / sarasotarugbyclub@gmail.com / [Register/More Info](#)

Three days of sun, sand, rugby, and good times. This isn't just a tournament. It's a full weekend takeover of Siesta Key. Kick things off Friday night at the Daiquiri Deck with live music, raffles, and the chance to scope out the competition. Saturday is all-day beach rugby on America's #1 beach: teams battling it out in the sand, cold drinks flowing, DJs spinning, food trucks grilling. Then keep the party rolling with the legendary Siesta Stumble bar crawl through Siesta Key Village.

Siesta Beach,  948 Beach Road, Sarasota



Pop Up in the Park: World Bee Day

May 20, 2026, 5 p.m. / Ages: 5 and up / Fee: Free / [+1 \(941\) 861-7275](tel:+19418617275) / kwilson@scgov.net

Join this pop-up-in-the-park event at Urfer Family Park to learn about Florida's native bees. Enjoy bee-themed crafts, a bee house-making station, an iNaturalist BioBlitz and a Sarasota County environmental specialist sharing fun facts about these important insects. The event is free and fun for all ages. No registration is required, and crafts are available while supplies last. Meet outside the C.B. Wilson House by the playground.

Urfer Family Park,  4000 Honore Ave., Sarasota



Cultural Crafts

May 21, 2026, 9 a.m. / Ages: 18 and up / Fee: Free / [+1 \(941\) 861-7275](tel:+19418617275) / parksonline@scgov.net

Love quilting and its cultural heritage? Fabric arts and stitching date back thousands of years. Join fellow quilters of all skill levels and backgrounds to sew, share and learn new techniques. This indoor program takes place on the first and third Thursday of each month.

Lemon Bay Park and Environmental Center,  570 Bay Park Blvd., Englewood



EcoWalk: Meditation in the Parks - Urfer Family Park

May 21, 2026, 9 a.m. / Ages: 11 and up / Fee: Free / [+1 \(941\) 861-9901](tel:+19418619901) / sarasota@ifas.ufl.edu / [Register/More Info](#)

Join us for a contemplative walk where you will practice mindfulness, breathwork and using all your senses to connect with nature. Experience one of Sarasota County's most spectacular natural areas during a mostly silent, meditative walk. Studies around the world have found a connection between time spent in nature and benefits to mental and physical health. A UF/IFAS Extension Sarasota County educator or volunteer will guide the walk, helping you explore finding peace in nature while promoting wellness.

Urfer Family Park, 4000 Honore Ave., Sarasota



EcoWalk: Unique Preserves of Sarasota County - Lemon Bay Park  

May 25, 2026, 9 a.m. / Ages: 11 and up / Fee: Free / [+1 \(941\) 861-9901](tel:+19418619901) / sarasota@ifas.ufl.edu / [Register/More Info](#)

Take a "walk and talk" class showcasing unique Sarasota County areas, including plants, wildlife and local environmental issues. Stroll through some of the county's most beautiful and environmentally sensitive preserved lands with a UF/IFAS Extension Sarasota County educator. Learn about local ecosystems, what makes these areas unique and important, the plants and animals that inhabit them, how to be watershed-wise, and the challenges of preserving these lands for future generations. Registration is required.

Lemon Bay Park and Environmental Center, 570 Bay Park Blvd., Englewood



Demonstration Garden Tour: Visitor Center at Osprey Junction Trailhead  

May 27, 2026, 9 a.m. / Ages: 11 and up / Fee: Free / [+1 \(941\) 861-9901](tel:+19418619901) / sarasota@ifas.ufl.edu / [Register/More Info](#)

Join Master Gardener volunteers on the fourth Wednesday of every month for a free tour of the demonstration gardens at Osprey Junction Trailhead Visitor Center. The garden blends seamlessly into the natural environment and features Florida-Friendly Landscaping™ techniques you can use at home or in your business landscape. The tour is free, but please register at ufl.sarasotaext.eventbrite.com to RSVP and receive updates. Much of the garden is ADA accessible, but parts of the tour may involve walking on uneven terrain, including grass, gravel or mulched areas. If you require special accommodations, contact 941-861-5000 or sarasota@ifas.ufl.edu in advance. For questions or more information, call 941-861-9901 or email sarasota@ifas.ufl.edu. Note: Classes and events may be canceled at any time due to low registration or other circumstances. Paid-event refunds will be issued in full, and similar classes or events are often offered on future dates.

Osprey Junction Trailhead, 939 E. Bay Street, Osprey



T-REC Active

May 27, 2026, 10 a.m. / Ages: 13 and up / Fee: \$3 / [+1 \(941\) 240-8120](tel:+19412408120) / aromero@northportfl.gov / [Register/More Info](#)

Enjoy a morning of therapeutic recreation activities designed for teens and adults with special needs. Make new friends and reconnect with others. Activities include basketball, pickleball, cornhole, soccer, kickball, tennis and more. All participants must be supervised by a caregiver.

Other (Off-site)



Shaka Gnar 2026

May 30, 2026, 1 p.m. / Ages: All / Fee: Free / [+1 \(941\) 713-8674](tel:+19417138674) / calebwouldgo@gmail.com / [Register/More Info](#)

Shaka Gnar is a beachside fundraiser packed with family fun! Join us for a skim comp, beach flags sprint, paddleboard relay, art mural contest, sand sculpture contest and skate ramp action—all to support missionaries making waves here and around the globe. Tickets are for those wanting to compete but it's free for spectators. There will be food, music and a silent auction too!

North Jetty Park,  1000 S Casey Key Road, Nokomis



History in the Park - Open House: Dr. C.B. Wilson House

Jun. 01 - Jun. 30, 2026, 10 a.m. / Ages: All / Fee: Free / [+1 \(941\) 861-7275](tel:+19418617275) / parksonline@scgov.net / [Register/More Info](#)

Every Saturday in June: Take a self-guided tour through the historic Dr. C.B. Wilson House to learn about the house, the Wilson family and Sarasota County history. Volunteer docents will be on-site to guide you through the house and answer your questions.

Urfer Family Park,  4000 Honore Ave., Sarasota



Primitive Tent Camping

Jun. 01 - Jun. 30, 2026 (Varied Dates/Times), 3 p.m. / Ages: All / Fee: \$10 / [+1 \(941\) 861-7275](tel:+19418617275) / parksonline@scgov.net / [Register/More Info](#)

Camping is available at Carlton Reserve, offering three distinct experiences. The Cabbage Palm Loop has four tent sites in a shady cabbage palm and oak hammock near the main parking lot. The Homestead Site is a remote backcountry location approximately four miles from the trailhead, nestled near the Myakka River. The Windy Sawgrass Site is for the adventurous, featuring a rustic bunkhouse and cook shack, or you can bring a tent for a night under the stars. This site is about seven miles from the park entrance.

Carlton Reserve (T. Mabry Carlton, Jr. Memorial Reserve),  1800 Mabry Carlton Pkwy, Venice



Shamrock Park Nature Center is open on Saturdays all month long!



Jun. 01 - Jun. 30, 2026, 9 a.m. / Ages: All / Fee: Free / [+1 \(941\) 861-7275](tel:+19418617275) / parksonline@scgov.net / [Register/More Info](#)

Drop in to the Shamrock Park Nature Center any Saturday from December through June between 9 a.m. and 1 p.m. Browse fossil, shell, animal and artifact displays, or visit the kids' corner with toys, books and a touch table. The program is open to all ages.

Shamrock Park and Nature Center, 📍 3900 Shamrock Drive, Venice



Cultural Crafts

Jun. 04, 2026, 9 a.m. / Ages: 18 and up / Fee: Free / [+1 \(941\) 861-7275](tel:+19418617275) / parksonline@scgov.net

Love quilting and its cultural heritage? Fabric arts and stitching date back thousands of years. Join fellow quilters of all skill levels and backgrounds to sew, share and learn new techniques. This indoor program takes place on the first and third Thursday of each month.

Lemon Bay Park and Environmental Center, 📍 570 Bay Park Blvd., Englewood



Demonstration Garden Tour

Jun. 05, 2026, 9 a.m. / Ages: 11 and up / Fee: Free / [+1 \(941\) 861-9901](tel:+19418619901) / sarasota@ifas.ufl.edu / [Register/More Info](#)

Master Gardeners will be in the Demonstration Garden at Shamrock Park to answer questions, offer free tours and provide expert advice on Florida-friendly landscaping. No registration is necessary. For more information, call 941-861-5000.

Shamrock Park and Nature Center, 📍 3900 Shamrock Drive, Venice



Pop Up in the Park: Ashton Trailhead

Jun. 05, 2026, 10 a.m. / Ages: All / Fee: Free / [+1 \(941\) 861-7275](tel:+19418617275) / parksonline@scgov.net / [Register/More Info](#)

Get ready for National Trails Day and bring the kids to get their creativity moving. Kids will create a one-of-a-kind hiking stick that they can take on the trail for future adventures. This event is free and no registration is required. Parental assistance is required and space is limited to the first 50 participants. For additional information, call 941-861-PARK (7275).

Ashton Trailhead, 📍 4301 Ashton Road, Sarasota



Pop up in the Park: National Trails Day

CANCELED Jun. 05, 2026, 9 a.m. / Ages: All / Fee: Free / [+1 \(941\) 861-7275](tel:+19418617275) / parksonline@scgov.net / [Register/More Info](#)

Celebrate National Trails Day and bring the kids for a creative adventure. Children will make a one-of-a-kind hiking stick to take on future trail excursions. The event is free, and no registration is required. Parental assistance is needed and limited to the first 50 participants. Meet at the playground. For more information, call 941-861-7275.

Ashton Trailhead, 📍 4301 Ashton Road, Sarasota



World Oceans Day

Jun. 06, 2026, 8 a.m. / Ages: All / Fee: Free / [+1 \(941\) 861-7275](tel:+19418617275) / parksonline@scgov.net

The World Ocean day event at North Jetty Park aligns with the internationally recognized World Ocean Day to celebrate the significance of our oceans and marine environments. This annual local event brings together families, ocean enthusiasts, and eco-conscious individuals who are eager to learn about and protect our beloved marine world. The festival uniquely educates the public on the crucial role of oceans in our ecosystem and the urgent need for conservation. From interactive exhibits and educational presentations to hands-on activities and a beach cleanup, World Ocean Day is sure to be a fun-filled morning of learning and

stewardship. Whether you're a seasoned ocean advocate or someone looking to learn more about marine life, the World Ocean Day promises an enriching and enjoyable experience for all.

North Jetty Park, 📍 1000 S Casey Key Road, Nokomis



Hearts Up for IDD Bingo Party 🧑🏻‍🧑🏻‍🧑🏻 🗨️

Jun. 12, 2026, 6 p.m. / Ages: 16 and up / Fee: Free / heartsupforidd@gmail.com

Enjoy a fun night with friends, bingo and prizes for teens and adults with intellectual and developmental disabilities. Ice cream sundaes and water will be served. Parents and caregivers are asked to stay for the duration of the event.

Venice Community Center, 📍 326 S. Nokomis Ave., Venice



Plant Clinic at Shamrock Park Nature Center 🧑🏻‍🧑🏻‍🧑🏻 🌱 📖

Jun. 13, 2026, 10 a.m. / Ages: All / Fee: Free / [+1 \(941\) 861-7275](tel:+19418617275) / parksonline@scgov.net / [Register/More Info](#)

Do you have questions about why a particular plant in your yard is dying? Or maybe you're new to the area and wondering what to plant. UF-IFAS Master Naturalists are available every second Saturday from 10 a.m. to noon at the nature center to answer your questions. No registration is necessary.

Shamrock Park and Nature Center, 📍 3900 Shamrock Drive, Venice



Cultural Crafts 🗨️ 🧑🏻‍🧑🏻‍🧑🏻

Jun. 18, 2026, 9 a.m. / Ages: 18 and up / Fee: Free / [+1 \(941\) 861-7275](tel:+19418617275) / parksonline@scgov.net

Love quilting and its cultural heritage? Fabric arts and stitching date back thousands of years. Join fellow quilters of all skill levels and backgrounds to sew, share and learn new techniques. This indoor program takes place on the first and third Thursday of each month.

Lemon Bay Park and Environmental Center, 📍 570 Bay Park Blvd., Englewood



EcoWalk: Meditation in the Parks - Urfer Family Park 🌱 🧘🏻 🧘🏻 🧘🏻

Jun. 18, 2026, 9 a.m. / Ages: 11 and up / Fee: Free / [+1 \(941\) 861-9901](tel:+19418619901) / sarasota@ifas.ufl.edu / [Register/More Info](#)

Join us for a contemplative walk where you will practice mindfulness, breathwork and using all your senses to connect with nature. Experience one of Sarasota County's most spectacular natural areas during a mostly silent, meditative walk. Studies around the world have found a connection between time spent in nature and benefits to mental and physical health. A UF/IFAS Extension Sarasota County educator or volunteer will guide the walk, helping you explore finding peace in nature while promoting wellness.

Urfer Family Park, 📍 4000 Honore Ave., Sarasota



Forever Friends Fun Day 🧑🏻‍🧑🏻‍🧑🏻 🗨️

Jun. 20, 2026, 1 p.m. / Ages: 10 and up / Fee: Free / foreverfriendsinc@yahoo.com / [Register/More Info](#)

Join the volunteers of Forever Friends on the third Saturday of each month for an afternoon of fun, inspiration and activities. Activities may include music, crafts, snacks, games, special

visitors and more. This free event is open to individuals ages 10 and up with special needs. Family members and caregivers are also welcome.

Colonial Oaks Park, 📍 5300 Colonial Oaks Blvd., Sarasota



EcoWalk: Unique Preserves - Sleeping Turtles South 🌿 📖

Jun. 22, 2026, 9 a.m. / Ages: 11 and up / Fee: Free / [+1 \(941\) 861-9901](tel:+19418619901) / sarasota@ifas.ufl.edu / [Register/More Info](#)

Take a “walk and talk” class showcasing unique Sarasota County areas, including plants, wildlife and local environmental issues. Stroll through some of the county’s most beautiful and environmentally sensitive preserved lands with a UF/IFAS Extension Sarasota County educator. Learn about local ecosystems, what makes these areas unique and important, the plants and animals that inhabit them, how to be watershed-wise, and the challenges of preserving these lands for future generations. Registration is required.

Sleeping Turtles Preserve South, 📍 2800 N. River Rd, Venice



Demonstration Garden Tour: Visitor Center at Osprey Junction Trailhead



Jun. 24, 2026, 9 a.m. / Ages: 11 and up / Fee: Free / [+1 \(941\) 861-9901](tel:+19418619901) / sarasota@ifas.ufl.edu / [Register/More Info](#)

Join Master Gardener volunteers on the fourth Wednesday of every month for a free tour of the demonstration gardens at Osprey Junction Trailhead Visitor Center. The garden blends beautifully into the natural environment and showcases Florida-Friendly Landscaping™ techniques you can adopt for your home or business. The tour is free, but please register at uvsarasotaext.eventbrite.com to RSVP and receive notice of any changes. Much of the garden is ADA accessible, but some parts of the tour may involve walking on uneven terrain, including grass, gravel or mulched areas. If you require special accommodations, contact 941-861-5000 or sarasota@ifas.ufl.edu in advance. For questions or more information, call 941-861-9901 or email sarasota@ifas.ufl.edu. Note: Classes and events may be canceled at any time due to low registration or other circumstances. Paid-event refunds will be issued in full, and similar classes or events are often offered on future dates.

Osprey Junction Trailhead, 📍 939 E. Bay Street, Osprey



Butterfly/Native Plant Walk 🌿 📖 🦋

Jun. 26, 2026, 9 a.m. / Ages: 5 and up / Fee: Free / [+1 \(941\) 861-7275](tel:+19418617275) / ksturgeon@scgov.net / [Register/More Info](#)

Butterfly/Native Plant Walk Celebrate Pollinator Week (June 22-28, 2026) by taking a walk with a Sarasota County Environmental Specialist and a UF/IFAS agent through the Sarasota Audubon Nature Center pollinator garden. The tour will point out pollinator plants and the pollinators, such as butterflies and birds, that depend on them. - Meet at the picnic tables near the Sarasota Audubon Society nature center gardens.

Celery Fields Regional Stormwater Facility, 📍 6893 Palmer Blvd., Sarasota



Pollinator Week Celebration 🌿 📖 🦋

Jun. 27, 2026, 8 a.m. / Ages: All / Fee: Free / [+1 \(941\) 861-7275](tel:+19418617275) / parksonline@scgov.net / [Register/More Info](#)

Join us at Urfer Family Park to celebrate Pollinator Week 2026! Enjoy crafts, a pollinator-focused BioBlitz, free native seed packets, plant and pollinator ID guides, and learn from

environmental specialists how to support pollinators in your own backyard. The event is free and fun for all ages. Crafts are available while supplies last. Meet at the Urfer Pavilion. Co-hosted with UF/IFAS.

Urfer Family Park,  4000 Honore Ave., Sarasota

Turtle Beach Campground - Family Fall Fest

Oct. 23 - Oct. 25, 2026, 1 p.m. / Ages: All / Fee: \$75 / [N/A](#) / turtlebeachcampground@scgov.net / [Register/More Info](#)

Turtle Beach Campground is excited to host its 12th annual Family Fall Fest. Numerous fun family activities throughout the camping weekend. Available sites are limited. Anyone interested can contact the campground office at 941-861-2267, or turtlebeachcampground@scgov.net.

Turtle Beach Campground,  8862 Midnight Pass Road, Sarasota

Veterans Day Camping Weekend

Nov. 06 - Nov. 08, 2026, 1 p.m. / Ages: All / Fee: \$75 / [+](#) / turtlebeachcampground@scgov.net / [Register/More Info](#)



Turtle Beach Campground will be hosting its 8th annual Veterans Weekend Camping Event. Activities include, but are not limited to, fishing tournament, combat conscious yoga, live music, and a catered dinner. Donation and Sponsorship opportunities are available. Anyone interested can contact the campground office at 941-861-2267, or turtlebeachcampground@scgov.net.

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