## FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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Celebrate "Build Together, Play Together" during Park and Recreation Month in Lee County Free pool admission and free parking at select sites July 26-27 to mark celebration

Fort Myers, FL, June 30, 2025 – Lee County Parks & Recreation invites residents and visitors to join in celebrating National Park and Recreation Month this July with the theme "Build Together, Play Together."

The monthlong celebration highlights how parks and recreation make Lee County stronger, more vibrant and more resilient.

As part of the festivities, Lee County will offer free pool admission and free parking on Saturday, July 26, and Sunday, July 27, at select parks, beach sites, boat ramps and pools.

Lee County Parks & Recreation sites offering free swimming or free parking include:

- Parks: Lakes Park, Manatee Park, Hickey Creek Mitigation Park, Caloosahatchee Regional Park, Six Mile Cypress Slough Preserve
- Beach sites: Bonita Beach Accesses No. 1 and No. 10, Bonita Beach Park, Bowditch Point Park and Lynn Hall Memorial Park, San Carlos Bay-Bunche Beach Preserve, Bowman's Beach and Turner Beach (north side only of Blind Pass)
- Boat ramps: Alva, Davis, Imperial River, Matlacha and Pine Island Commercial Marina
- Pools: Lehigh Community Pool, North Fort Myers Community Pool, Pine Island Community Pool and San Carlos Community Pool

Other recreational sites within Lee County that are owned or maintained by other government entities are not included in the free swim/free parking weekend. These include: Barefoot Beach, beach access points managed by the Town of Fort Myers Beach, and City of Sanibel sites, including the south side of Blind Pass.

This annual initiative is part of Lee County's recognition of National Park and Recreation Month. On June 17, the Lee Board of County Commissioners approved a resolution proclaiming July as Park and Recreation Month in Lee County, highlighting the department's role in enhancing the social, economic and environmental quality of life throughout the community.

Throughout July, the community is encouraged to use social media to share stories, photos and memories that showcase the importance of parks and recreation in their lives. Park patrons are asked to use the hashtag #BuildTogetherPlayTogether

Lee County Parks & Recreation will be hosting a variety of events for all ages and abilities, including guided walks, nature activities, photography classes, book walks and more.

This celebration aligns with the nationwide initiative led by the National Recreation and Park Association (NRPA).

For more information about Lee County Parks and Recreation locations, amenities and special events, visit <a href="www.leeparks.org">www.leeparks.org</a>, call 239-533-7275, email <a href="leeparks@leegov.com">leeparks@leegov.com</a> or visit leeparksandrecreation on Facebook and Instagram.

Residents and visitors can also explore more than 30 locations and earn rewards through Parks, Points & Perks, a free digital pass program available through May 2026. Learn more at <a href="https://www.visitfortmyers.com/ParksPass">www.visitfortmyers.com/ParksPass</a>.

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