

Orange County Parks

Park and Recreation Month

By the authority of the Orange County Board of Supervisors, the following resolution is hereby issued:

WHEREAS, parks and recreation systems enhance the quality of life by providing places for recreation, conservation, education, wellness, and community connection that benefit residents of all ages; and

WHEREAS, since 1985, July has been observed as Park and Recreation Month to highlight the role of parks, recreation programs, and the professionals who maintain and operate these public resources; and

WHEREAS, the 2026 theme, “The Power Of,” emphasizes how parks and recreation bring people together, support health and well-being, and build more connected and resilient communities; and

WHEREAS, well-designed parks and trails provide places for physical activity, reduce stress, support mental health, and create opportunities for neighbors to connect; and

WHEREAS, only 39 percent of Americans live within one-half mile of a park, demonstrating the importance of protecting and expanding convenient access to places where people can walk, exercise, gather, and enjoy nature; and

WHEREAS, Orange County’s regional park system is supported by 354 employees who care for nearly 60,000 acres of parkland, beaches, and open space, along with 278 miles of regional trails and bikeways enjoyed by millions of residents and visitors each year; and

WHEREAS, these public lands also protect native habitats, natural landmarks, archaeological and paleontological collections, historic resources, and coastal areas that preserve important parts of Orange County’s natural and cultural history; and

WHEREAS, beyond their responsibilities for public safety and environmental stewardship, park and recreation professionals step forward during emergencies and other times of need to support residents and serve the broader community; and

WHEREAS, the size of the County’s park system, the millions of people it serves, and the natural and historic resources entrusted to its care demonstrate the essential role of parks and recreation in the health, education, and daily lives of Orange County residents;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Orange County Board of Supervisors hereby proclaims July 2026 as Park and Recreation Month and honors park and recreation professionals whose stewardship, resourcefulness, and service ensure that these public spaces continue to strengthen the health, connection, and resilience of Orange County communities.

Dated this 11th Day in August, 2026

Doug Chaffee

*Chairman, Board of Supervisors
Supervisor, Fourth District*

Katrina Foley

*Vice Chair, Board of Supervisors
Supervisor, Fifth District*

Janet Nguyen

Supervisor, First District

Vicente Sarmiento

Supervisor, Second District

Donald P. Wagner

Supervisor, Third District