

FAQs

RECREATION & PARKS



The Villages®
Recreation & Parks



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Ways To Get Involved

HOW CAN I GET INVOLVED?

There are many opportunities to get involved in The Villages! One of the great things about The Villages lifestyle is that there are thousands of groups organized by resident volunteers that appeal to many different interests, recreational activities, arts and crafts, and more!

WHAT IS A RESIDENT LIFESTYLE VOLUNTEER?

Resident lifestyle volunteers are the leaders of the activity groups that fill social, recreational, educational, emotional, or physical needs of members.

HOW CAN I START A RESIDENT LIFESTYLE GROUP?

To become a Resident Lifestyle Group, the resident interested in starting an activity/group must complete a Resident Survey Request Form and a Volunteer Application and submit both to the Recreation Department.

HELPFUL TIP

In order to participate in recreational activities, an activity release must be filled out. Make sure to complete a new form at the beginning of each calendar year.



WHAT CLUBS & ACTIVITIES ARE OFFERED?

To see a listing of current resident lifestyle clubs and activities visit DistrictGov.org > Recreation, Parks & Golf > Recreation > Lifestyle Volunteer Groups and click “View” in the Club Contacts box.

To search for groups, type in Ctrl+F and a search box will appear in which you can enter a keyword (i.e. dance). The Recreation & Parks weekly publication has a partial club listing section and a full digital listing online at DistrictGov.org > Recreation, Parks & Golf > Recreation > Recreation & Parks Publication “See the Schedule” button.

DO I HAVE TO SIGN UP / REGISTER FOR ACTIVITIES?

All resident lifestyle volunteer groups are open to all residents of The Villages with a valid Resident ID card. We recommend you check with the prospective group about the group’s expectations, membership requirements, dues and other fees, etc., prior to attending a club or activity.

Know Before You Go

Guest ID Cards

HOW CAN MY FAMILY AND FRIENDS JOIN THE FUN?

Residents of The Villages with an original valid Resident ID card may apply for a Guest ID card for their guest(s) to enjoy recreation amenities. A qualified guest is defined as an individual whose current residence is outside Lake, Marion and Sumter counties. A resident who has a son, daughter, grandchild or great grandchild (and their spouses) who reside in Lake, Marion or Sumter counties may apply for an In-Area Guest ID card.

Residents must provide all required guest information requested on the application in order to be issued a Guest ID card.

WHEN SHOULD GUESTS CARRY THEIR GUEST ID CARD AND DO RESIDENTS HAVE TO ACCOMPANY THEM?

- Guests are required to carry their original Guest ID card when using a District amenity facility even if accompanied by a resident.
- If the guest is under 19 years of age, they must be accompanied by a Villages resident, or a guest 19 years of age or older who must have a valid Guest ID card and photo ID.
- The accompanying resident is required to have an original Resident ID card. If a guest(s) does not have a valid Guest ID card with them, the guest(s) will be denied access to District amenity facilities.
- In-Area Guests, regardless of age, will be required to have the sponsoring resident in attendance with them at all times when using District amenity facilities.
- If the In-Area Guest(s) is not with the sponsoring resident they will be denied access to District amenity facilities.

IN-PERSON GUEST ID CARD SERVICES

Guest ID card services are available in person at the following locations:

District Customer Service Center:
3571 Kiessel Road

North Satellite Office:
1200 Avenida Central

Lake Sumter Satellite Office:
1030 Lake Sumter Landing Suite A

Mon-Fri
8AM-5PM

Any **At Your Service** or **At Your Service +** Locations

- Monday through Friday 8:30AM - 5PM
- Saturday & Sunday 8:30AM - 12PM
- **At Your Service** and **At Your Service +** information can be found on page 4.



HELPFUL TIP

Any resident requesting a Guest ID card(s) must submit their application either in person or online. It's easy to apply online! Visit [DistrictGov.org](https://www.districtgov.org) > Services > Resident Services > ID Cards and click "Apply Online" under Guest Identification Cards. Please allow for a three-day processing time for all online requests.

In-Area Guest ID Applications cannot be submitted online and must be completed in person.



Weather Policy

WHAT ARE THE AGE REQUIREMENTS FOR GUEST ID CARDS?

- All approved guests 1 year of age and older will be issued a Guest/In-Area Guest ID card.
- All approved guests 19 years of age and older must also have photo identification when using District amenity facilities.
- Some facilities have minimum age requirements.
- Please refer to DistrictGov.org, or The Villages Phone Book for more information regarding age restricted facilities.

WHAT FACILITIES ARE GUESTS PERMITTED TO USE?

- Please refer to DistrictGov.org > Recreation, Parks & Golf > Recreation > Recreation & Parks Publication "See the Schedule" button, or check The Villages Phone Book for guest approved facilities.
 - All approved facilities are also listed on the Guest ID/In-Area Guest ID card forms.
- All guests are required to follow all District rules and regulations governing the use of District amenity facilities.
- Residents and Guests are encouraged to check-in at a Recreation Center prior to using any recreation facility.



HOW LONG ARE GUEST IDS VALID?

- Guest ID cards are issued for a guest(s) whose current residence is outside Lake, Marion and Sumter counties for up to 30 days from the issue date.
- Guest ID card renewals may be requested after the 30th day for an additional 30 days and renewals may continue to be issued every 30 days.
- The In-Area Guest ID card for qualified family members is valid for one (1) year from date of issuance.

WHAT HAPPENS IF THERE IS INCLEMENT WEATHER?

In the event of inclement weather, the Recreation & Parks department recommends patrons at outdoor recreation areas find shelter and wait at least 30 minutes or longer prior to resuming safe, normal activities as deemed advisable by a Public Safety or National Weather Service Advisory.

The Recreation & Parks Department may close facilities and/or cancel/postpone or relocate activities at Recreation facilities for public safety in the event of any storm warnings issued by the National Weather Service, Public Safety, or the Recreation & Parks Department.

HOW WILL I KNOW IF THERE IS A WEATHER RELATED DELAY OR CANCELLATION?

Depending on the type of weather event and impact, staff will communicate via email, word of mouth, posting on the website, or other media sources regarding any cancellation/postponing information. Weather conditions and the type of facility may vary from center to center in The Villages community.

HELPFUL TIP

Here are some of the reasons for weather related cancellations:

- Outside temperature of 35 degrees or below
- Outside temperature heat index of 104 degrees or higher
- Rain, wind, lightning and/or severe conditions that compromise the safety of players or the condition of the facilities.

Activities & Facilities

Recreation Centers

With a wide variety of unique recreation centers conveniently located throughout The Villages, exploring new and favorite activities is made easy and fun.

HELPFUL TIP

Please allow 5-10 business days for application processing.

CAN I RENT A ROOM AT A RECREATION CENTER?

Rooms in the recreation centers are available for reservations by residents of The Villages. You may pick up a Room Reservation Facility Application at any **At Your Service +** location or visit DistrictGov.org > Recreation, Parks & Golf > Recreation > Reservations.



Fit Clubs

DOES THE VILLAGES HAVE WORKOUT FACILITIES?

Yes! There are a total of seven **Fit Clubs** in The Villages community. Membership is limited to The Villages residents and their guests 19+. Membership Fees are required. Visit a **Fit Club** at any one of the following recreation centers to join:

- Colony Cottage
- Ezell
- Fenney
- Laurel Manor
- Mulberry Grove
- Rohan
- SeaBreeze

WHAT KIND OF EQUIPMENT DO THEY HAVE?

- Cardiovascular Machines
- Circuit Training Equipment
- Free Weights
- Core/Sports Training Equipment
- Supplemental Strength Equipment

HELPFUL TIP

For more information, visit [DistrictGov.org](https://www.districtgov.org) > Recreation, Parks & Golf > Programs & Activities > Fit Club



HOURS

- Monday through Friday 6:30AM - 8PM
- Saturday & Sunday 7AM - 5PM

MEMBERSHIP TYPES

- 1 Month
- 3 Months
- 6 Months
- 9 Months
- Yearly
- Daily & weekly rates are also available

Pools

WHAT TYPE OF POOLS CAN BE FOUND IN THE VILLAGES?

There are three types of pools throughout The Villages community: Sports Pools, Adult Pools and Family Pools. Each pool type has different uses and purposes.

Sports Pools

These pools have specific schedules of activities: Lap swim, water walk, water exercise programs, water volleyball, etc. Be sure to check the sports pool activity schedule before you go.



7AM - Dusk
Residents only 30+

Adult Pools

Intended for refreshing socialization & non-organized/scheduled activities. Regularly scheduled water exercise groups are encouraged to use the sports pools.



7:30AM - Dusk
For ALL residents & guests 30+

Family Pools

For residents who have family members visiting regardless of age. Noodles, unbreakable masks, goggles and small buckets are the only items allowed in these pools.



7:30AM - Dusk
For ALL residents & guests regardless of age



For more information on pools, visit DistrictGov.org > Recreation, Parks & Golf > Recreation > Pools

HELPFUL TIP

Sports pool schedules are available in the Recreation & Parks Publication found in The Daily Sun newspaper every Thursday.

Programs and Events

DOES RECREATION OFFER SPECIAL PROGRAMS?

Yes! There are a variety of special programs and events offered throughout the year.

S.T.A.R.

The Special Talented Adult Resident (S.T.A.R.) program is designed for adult Villagers with special needs and their parents to enjoy activities together. Crafts or sporting events happen monthly at different recreation centers, so join in the fun and make a new friend!



The Enrichment Academy

With The Enrichment Academy, Villagers have all the fun of learning something new without the grades! Discover new ways to inspire your mind, body and spirit with seasonal courses offered throughout the year.

Camp Villages

Designed for grandparents and grandkids to make new memories together, Camp Villages offers a wide variety of hands-on and engaging activities full of new experiences, friends, and intergenerational fun!

Socials

Enjoy the companionship of other Villagers in a friendly atmosphere at our socials. Multiple gatherings are held at various recreation centers each month and can include anything from crafting and trivia to concerts and dancing to luncheons and recipe swaps and so much more.



Sports Leagues, Running of the Squares, and Senior Games

Combining fun, fellowship, fitness, and competition, there are a variety of programs that help residents embrace an active and healthy lifestyle!

HELPFUL TIP


For more information on the programs and events above, visit DistrictGov.org > Recreation, Parks & Golf > Programs & Activities

The Great Outdoors


Parks, Trails and Pathways

WHAT TYPES OF TRAILS AND PARKS ARE LOCATED IN THE VILLAGES?

Multi-modal paths  Open to all modes of transportation, except automobiles and motorcycles, the multi-modal paths are found throughout The Villages community and welcome all travelers, including walkers, runners, cyclists and golf cars.

Nature Trails  Appreciate all that the great outdoors has to offer while wandering through trails that feature wildlife and breathtaking scenic views.

Parks  Throughout the community there are a variety of parks to visit and discover. Here Villagers can enjoy tranquil spaces under the oaks, enjoy an afternoon lunch near one of the many ponds, or take their furry friend to the nearby dog park to play.

Pathways  Pathways wind through neighborhoods and amenities throughout The Villages. Take your best friend for a walk, wander over to your local recreation center, jog through your favorite park, or go for a bike ride. However you choose, getting around is fun!



HELPFUL TIP

To view a list of all parks, trails and pathways, visit DistrictGov.org > Recreation, Parks & Golf > Trails & Parks



Across the community you'll find leash-free dog parks offering fenced-in play areas for both large and small dogs. Enjoy some play time with your furry companion or take in the scenery from a shady park bench as your pup gets some exercise and makes new friends.

For a list of Dog Park locations and guidelines, visit DistrictGov.org > Recreation, Parks & Golf > Trails & Parks > Dog Parks

WHAT ARE OUTDOOR EXCURSIONS?

Experience Lake Sumter up close and personal through a guided kayaking experience, nature pontoon tours, guided fishing tours, or daily boat cruises at just \$3 per person! For more information, visit DistrictGov.org > Recreation, Parks & Golf > Programs & Activities > Outdoor Excursions.



Golf and Fishing

HOW CAN I PLAY GOLF IN THE VILLAGES?



As a Villager, you'll enjoy complimentary golf on all Executive, Pitch & Putt, and Putting courses with no greens fees. This, along with all the amazing recreation throughout The Villages, are all included within your low monthly amenity fee.

A trail pass is required for use of a golf car on the courses and may be paid per round, monthly,

semi-annually or annually. There is no trail fee applied to residents or guests walking on the executive courses. A greens fee is required for guests to play golf on the executive courses.

CAN I FISH IN THE VILLAGES?

Yes! The Village Community Development Districts and the state's Water Management Districts oversee and manage many of the water bodies located throughout The Villages community. These water bodies serve several purposes for the community and also provide anglers fishable areas for their recreational enjoyment.



HOW DO I PAY MY GOLF FEES?

Golf fees may be paid in person:

- Any **At Your Service** or **At Your Service + Location**
- Monday through Friday 8:30AM - 4PM
- Saturday & Sunday 8:30AM - 12PM
- **At Your Service** and **At Your Service +** information can be found on page 4.

Online:

- Payment Portal
- GolfTheVillages.com/Membership

By mail with a check:

- Return the signed, completed application form with your check payable to **VCDD** to:

La Hacienda Recreation
1200 Avenida Central
The Villages, FL 32159

Please do not send cash. This fee is nonrefundable and nontransferable.

For more information visit **GolfTheVillages.com**.

HELPFUL TIP

For a full list of the fishing guidelines and a map of available fishing areas, visit DistrictGov.org > Recreation, Parks & Golf > Programs & Activities > Fishing

Where To Get Your *Recreation* Info!



REC483

Every Thursday in **The Villages Daily Sun**
Anytime on **DistrictGov.org**
On the go with **The Villages App**

The Villages®
Recreation & Parks

