



The Villages®
Community Development Districts

DISTRICT WEEKLY BULLETIN

March 19, 2026

Alligator Safety Reminder for Residents

Florida's natural environment includes wildlife such as alligators, and it's important for residents to coexist safely and responsibly.

Please remember that it is against Florida law to feed or harass alligators.

Feeding alligators can cause them to lose their natural fear of humans, increasing the risk of dangerous encounters. Harassment of any kind is also prohibited and can result in legal penalties.

Please note that only designated District staff are authorized to approve the removal of alligators from District property.

Safety Tips for Residents:

- Always keep a safe distance from alligators
- Keep pets on a leash and away from the water's edge
- Swim only in designated areas during daylight hours
- Never feed or attempt to interact with an alligator

For additional safety tips and guidance, residents are encouraged to review the Florida Fish and Wildlife Conservation Commission's alligator safety [brochure here](#). By following these guidelines, we can help ensure the safety of both residents and wildlife.

Thank you for your cooperation in keeping our community safe.



COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT DISTRICT UPDATE

We're always looking for ways to improve our weekly resident Bulletin and ensure it provides helpful, relevant information for those who live in The Villages community.

To help guide future content, we invite you to take a brief survey and share what types of updates, topics, and resources you'd like to see included.

Your feedback will help us better tailor the newsletter to residents' interests and priorities. The survey will remain open through **March 31, 2026**. We appreciate you taking a few minutes to participate.

Take the survey here: www.surveymonkey.com/r/BQLZ5P5



SPRING INTO SAFETY with VPSD

As temperatures begin to rise and the community welcomes family and visitors, VPSD reminds residents that safety is always in season. Spring is a great time to take a few simple steps around your home that can help prevent fires and improve overall household safety.

March is an excellent time to review emergency plans, test your smoke and carbon monoxide alarms, and ensure your home and loved ones are prepared for unexpected situations. Seasonal cleaning projects can also uncover potential hazards, making it a good opportunity to check areas that may not get regular attention throughout the year.

Spring cleaning is not only about tidying up—it's also about safety. While working around your home, remember to use ladders safely, keep walkways clear of debris, and store cleaning products properly. Taking a few extra precautions can help prevent injuries and reduce fire risks around your home.

For additional spring cleaning and home safety tips, residents can visit the National Fire Protection Association at [nfpa.org](https://www.nfpa.org) for helpful resources.



Spring Cleaning

for **Fire Safety**



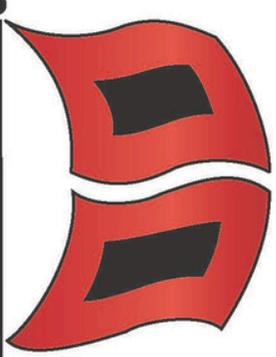
Inside The Home

-  Test your home's smoke and carbon monoxide alarms.
-  Don't use electrical appliances with frayed cords.
-  Check for water around electrical appliances.
-  Clean debris from your clothes dryer lint trap and exhaust duct.

Outside The Home

-  Remove dead leaves and other debris around foundations, decks, porches, and stairs.
-  Check grills for rust, worn parts, insects, grease, and other debris before use.
-  Grills should only be used when at least 10 feet away from your house or any building.





Hurricane Expo

FRIDAY, MAY 1 | 10AM – 2PM

Everglades Recreation Center | 5497 Marsh Bend Trail



NEW
LOCATION

Join government agencies and local businesses to learn how to prepare for a storm and how to obtain recovery assistance if a hurricane hits close to home.

- Sign language interpreter available.

SPECIAL POINTS OF INTEREST

- Bring your Weather Radio for programming at The Villages Public Safety Department and Sumter County Emergency Management Tables
- Blood Drive is being provided by Oneblood
- WVLG am Radio Broadcasting live

In lieu of admission fee, please bring nonperishable food for the following local food banks:

- Wildwood Soup Kitchen
- Christian Food Pantry
- Salvation Army/Lake County

A food truck will be on-site, serving up delicious dishes available for purchase!

DISASTER SUPPLY KIT INFORMATION

How and what to pack for you and your pets.

SPECIAL NEEDS REGISTRATION

Where and how to apply. Help your local Emergency Management Division help you.

MANAGING HEALTH ISSUES

If disaster threatens: what you need to know and how to prepare.

GIVEAWAYS

Enter to win one of ten Midland Weather Radios or a gift basket at The Villages Public Safety Department table.

INSURANCE

Are you covered? Hurricane season begins June 1.



Gate Safety & Awareness in The Villages

The Villages has over 140 gate complexes designed to support traffic flow and community safety. Of these, 27 are staffed 18 hours a day, 7 days a week. Every gate- staffed or unstaffed- plays an important role in keeping our roadways safe and efficient.

Speed Limit: 5 MPH

Please slow down when approaching or exiting any gate to protect attendants, drivers, and equipment.

Resident vs. Visitor Lanes

Resident Lane: Residents may use either lane; gate cards activate both.

Visitor Lane: Required for guests, vendors, deliveries, and all non-resident traffic to ensure proper screening.

Why We Have Gates

Control access to the community
Slow incoming traffic
Deter unauthorized entry



Gate Etiquette:

One vehicle at a time
Do not tailgate
Allow the gate arm to fully close before activating
Damage caused by tailgating may result in personal liability

Using the Gates

Entry: Wait for the gate to fully open and proceed promptly

Exit: Approach slowly, allow the gate to open fully, and proceed without stopping or backing up

Power Outages

Gates have battery backups and will open automatically during outages, then close once power is restored.

Working Together

Following these guidelines helps protect staff, prevent damage, and keep our community safe and running smoothly.

The Villages®
Community Development Districts
Executive Golf

To maintain the integrity of the Executive Golf Courses and to provide the best play experience possible, the below courses are closed until further notice. For any further information, please contact District's Executive Golf Maintenance at (352) 674-1885 or executivegolfmaintenance@districtgov.org.

Executive Course Closures

Complete Course Renovation

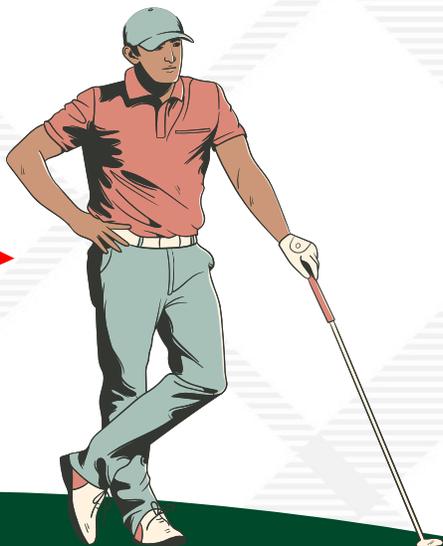
- Bonita Pass
- Heron
- Truman
- Walnut Grove

The courses mentioned below will be closed until further notice:

- Southern Star - Friday, Mar 20, 2026
- Pimlco - Wednesday, Mar 25, 2026

Important Notice:

To ensure the executive golf courses are kept in optimal conditions, El Santiago will be closed as of **March 23, 2026**, until further notice, for its board approved renovation project.



Step Outside - It's National Backyard Day | March 19

March 19 is a double dose of fun! It's National Backyard Day, a perfect reminder to step outside and enjoy the beautiful outdoor spaces that make life in The Villages so special. Whether you're relaxing on your patio, gardening in your backyard, or exploring a neighborhood park, it's a great day to soak up some sunshine and fresh air.

Beyond your own backyard, residents have access to an extensive network of parks, nature trails, and outdoor spaces throughout the community. From scenic walking paths to peaceful neighborhood parks, there are countless ways to get outside and stay active.

Ways to celebrate National Backyard Day:

- Take a walk or golf car ride through one of the [community parks](#)
 - Enjoy a picnic or relax outdoors with a good book.
- Bring your four-legged friend to one of the community's [dog parks](#)
 - Visit a [recreation area](#) and explore a new part of the Villages.
- Invite a neighbor to join you for some [fresh air](#) and conversation.

And since March 19 is also *Let's Laugh Day*, why not celebrate with a few different types of laughs?

Types of Laughs to Try Today:

Giggle

A light, nervous laugh that sneaks out when you least expect it.

Guffaw

A loud, explosive laugh for those moments that really catch you off guard.

Cackle

The classic "wicked witch" laugh, perfect for a little playful mischief.

Belly laugh

A deep laugh that shakes your whole body-let it out and feel the joy!

Chuckle

A soft, throat-level laugh, subtle but satisfying.

Why not step outside in your backyard or head to one of our local parks, enjoy the fresh air, and see which of these laughs you can share with a neighbor today?

Recreation & Parks

Closing of Outdoor Facilities

The Villages Recreation & Parks Department, in partnership with the Community Watch Department, as stewards of Recreation Facilities within The Villages, are requesting your cooperation when closing outdoor Recreation Facilities.

The time of dusk fluctuates throughout the year. Dusk is the window of time usually within a 30 minute timespan after sunset. When closing facilities, staff ensures there is adequate lighting to enter, inspect, and allow participants the ability to exit the facilities in a safe manner. Safety is of the utmost importance and we appreciate you taking this into consideration as staff closes the facilities.

The Villages Recreation & Parks and Community Watch team appreciate your support and adherence as we aim to be good stewards of the recreation facilities while ensuring the safety and wellbeing of both staff and residents.



Blanchard Village Recreation Center

Come celebrate the Grand Opening of Blanchard Village Recreation Center, a vibrant new space designed to inspire community, activity, and fun! With a unique hot air balloon theme symbolizing adventure and new heights, this center offers something for everyone. Bring your friends and family and be part of an exciting new beginning as we lift off into a future of fitness

The invitation features a blue background with white clouds. On the left, there are two hot air balloons and the text "BLANCHARD RECREATION". In the center, there is a photograph of the recreation center's exterior. On the right, there is a cloud-shaped box containing the event details. At the bottom left, there is a QR code and the text "Scan to learn more!".

You're Invited
Grand Opening!

The Villages
Recreation & Parks

MARCH 26
RIBBON CUTTING AT 9AM
Explore and enjoy activities
at this brand-new
recreation location.
1512 CRAIG COURT

Scan to learn more!

FOR MORE INFORMATION: DistrictGov.org | 352-674-1800 | RecreationDepartment@DistrictGov.org

Recreation & Parks

St. Patrick's Day Parade – Tuesday, March 17, 2026

Thank you to everyone who joined us for the St. Patrick's Day parade! It was truly a fantastic day filled with fun, laughter, and a strong sense of community. From the lively atmosphere to the meaningful connections made along the way, it was a celebration we won't soon forget. Stay tuned for more exciting events to come!



The Veterans Memorial Park of The Villages

DEDICATED ON NOVEMBER 11, 1998 TO ALL U.S. VETERANS PAST AND PRESENT

History

The Veterans Memorial Park had its beginning when Frank Mezzatesta was raising money at the local grocery store for Ex-POWs. Three young teens stopped to ask him if "POW" stood for "People Out of Work." An Ex-POW himself, Mezzatesta was shocked that the younger generation had no knowledge of the meaning of the term. He felt compelled to find a way to educate today's youth about veterans' contributions to our nation. Thus, the idea of a monument to veterans was born.

A committee of veterans and patriotic organizations was formed to work on the project. The Villages developer, the Schwartz/Morse family, donated the grounds for the park and, using Mezzatesta's original plans, provided the architectural design. The Village Foundation administered the fundraising efforts. As a result of the partnership, the new park was dedicated on Veterans Day, November 11, 1998. Now that the park is complete, the Committee conducts regular services for veterans throughout the year. The public is invited to these services, and local youth groups are also encouraged to participate.

CURRENT MONUMENTS INCLUDE:

Vietnam Veterans of America Chapter 1036, Daughters of the American Revolution, Korean War Veterans, Wounded Combat Veterans, and many small plaques throughout the park recognizing other groups & organizations.

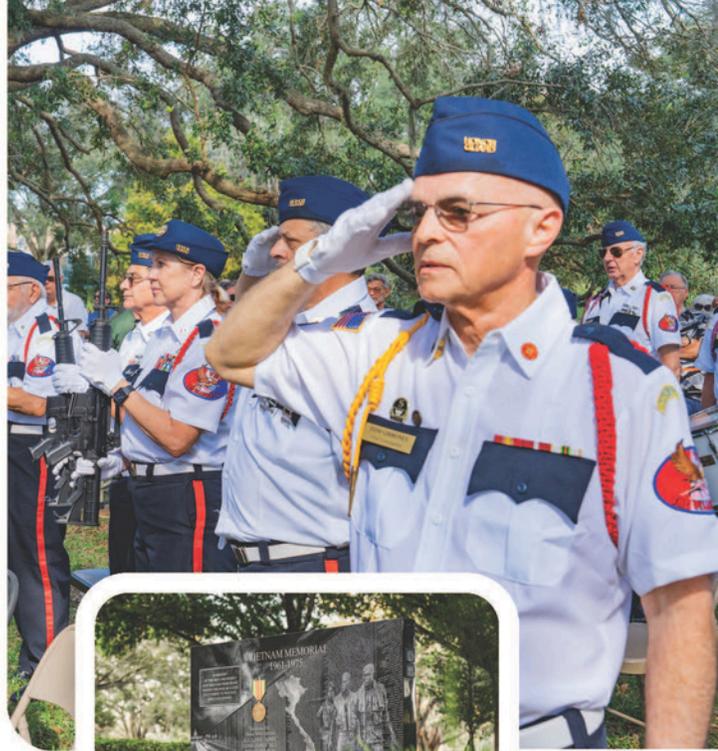
Scheduled Services

March 29, Welcome Home Vietnam Veterans
May 15, Peace Officers Day
Third Saturday in May, Armed Forces Day
Last Monday in May, Memorial Day
June 14, Flag Day
July 4, Independence Day
July 27, Korean War Armistice Day
September 11, Remembrance Day
Third Friday in September, POW/MIA Recognition Day
November 11, Veterans Day
December 7, Pearl Harbor Day

WE FLY THE FLAG AT HALF-STAFF:

Memorial Day, sunup to noon
Peace Officers Day, sunup to sundown
Korean War Armistice Day, sunup to sundown

Sunday services are held at 2PM. All other services are held at 10AM.



FACILITY CLOSURES

- **Allamanda Recreation Pickleball and Tennis Courts**
 - *Monday, April 6 – Sunday, April 26*
- **Bacall Recreation Maltese Falcon Billiards Room, diamond light installation**
 - *Wednesday, March 25 – Thursday, March 26*
- **Big Cypress Recreation Indoor Facilities, Outdoor Facilities and Family Pool**
 - *Thursday, April 2*
- **Chatham Recreation Billiards Room, table recovering**
 - *Wednesday, March 18 – Friday, March 20*
- **Chatham Recreation Indoor Facilities, Outdoor Facilities and Family Pool**
 - *Friday, March 27*
- **Ezell Recreation Indoor Facilities, Fit Club, Outdoor Facilities and Sports Pool**
 - *Tuesday, March 24*
- **Fish Hawk Recreation Shuffleboard Courts, resurfacing**
 - *Monday, March 16 – Friday, March 27*
- **Fish Hawk Recreation Catch & Release Billiards Room, diamond light installation**
 - *Tuesday, March 24 – Wednesday, March 25*
- **Homestead Recreation Dog Park**
 - *Monday, March 23 – Friday, April 24*
- **Laurel Manor Recreation Sports Pool**
 - *Monday, March 23, 7am-12pm*
- **Manatee Recreation Withlacoochee Billiards Room, diamond light installation**
 - *Wednesday, April 8 – Thursday, April 9*
- **Mulberry Grove Recreation Indoor Facilities, Fit Club, Outdoor Facilities and Sports Pool**
 - *Wednesday, March 25*
- **Mulberry Grove Recreation Craft Room, countertop and cabinet replacement**
 - *Monday, March 23 – Wednesday, March 25*

FACILITY CLOSURES

- **Mulberry Grove Recreation Pickleball Courts Pod C**
 - *Monday, March 16 – Sunday, April 5*
- **Mulberry Grove Recreation Sports Pool and Pool House, refurbishment**
 - *Monday, March 30 – Tuesday, July 28*
- **Olympia Recreation Sports Pool**
 - *Monday, March 23, 7am-12pm*
- **Paradise Recreation Dog Park**
 - *Monday, March 16 – Sunday, April 5*
- **Paradise Recreation Outdoor Facilities, Archery Range and Fitness Trail**
 - *Friday, March 20*
- **Pennecamp Neighborhood Recreation Area Adult Pool, refurbishment**
 - *Friday, March 13 – Friday, April 3*
- **Pimlico Recreation Belmont Billiards Room, new tables, furniture and carpet**
 - *Monday, March 23 – Friday, March 27*
- **Riverbend Recreation Indoor Facilities, Outdoor Facilities and Family Pool**
 - *Friday, April 3*
- **Savannah Recreation Indoor Facilities, Outdoor Facilities and Sports Pool**
 - *Monday, March 23*
- **SeaBreeze Recreation Ponte Vedra Theater, lighting upgrades**
 - *Monday March 23 – Tuesday, March 24*
- **Spanish Moss Recreation Sports Pool and Outdoor Facilities, parking lot resurfacing**
 - *Wednesday, March 18 – Friday, March 20*
- **Spanish Moss Recreation Sports Pool**
 - *Monday, March 30, 7am-12pm*
- **Schwartz Park Observation Deck**
 - *until further notice*
- **Tierra Del Sol Recreation Indoor Facilities, Outdoor Facilities and Adult Pool**
 - *Tuesday, March 31*

NOTICE OF VACANCY - DISTRICT 9

The Villages®
Community Development Districts
District 9

The Villages Community Development District No. 9 Board of Supervisors is seeking applicants who are interested in filling Seat 5, which was recently vacated due to the resignation of an existing Board Supervisor.

The remainder of the existing four (4)-year term for the vacated seat will expire in November 2026.

Any interested applicants must be a qualified elector, which is defined by Florida Statute 190 as “any person at least 18 years of age who is a citizen of the United States, a legal resident of Florida and of the District, and who registers to vote with the Supervisor of Elections in the county in which the district land is located.” To obtain additional information or request an application, you may contact Jennifer Farlow, District Clerk, at (352) 751-3939 or obtain a copy of the application on the www.districtgov.org website.

Applications must be submitted to Jennifer Farlow, District Clerk, no later than Friday, April 24, 2026, at 5:00 p.m. at the District Office, 3571 Kiessel Road, The Villages.

The Board of Supervisors will interview applicants during a Board Meeting to be held on Wednesday, May 6, 2026 at 11:30 a.m. at the SeaBreeze Regional Recreation Center, 2864 Buena Vista Boulevard, The Villages, FL.

The Board of Supervisors welcomes interested applicants to include a résumé outlining their experience as an attachment to the [application](#).



Join Our Team

Hospitality | Stewardship | Innovation & Creativity | Hard Work

CURRENT OPEN POSITIONS

Are you looking for employment?

If so, look no further than the Villages Community Development District.

All of our current job openings are listed on through our website by visiting www.DistrictGov.org.

> Contact Us > Careers > See All Openings.

Or [CLICK HERE](#) to view the latest openings

You can contact us Monday-Friday 8a-5p with any questions or inquires, at 352-674-1905.



Scan the QR code to apply online or visit DistrictGov.org > **Contact Us**>**Careers**

Contact Us

Administration

352-751-3939

[Email](#)

Bond Division

352-751-3900

[Email](#)

Budget

352-674-1920

[Email](#)

Community Standards

352-751-3912

[Deed Compliance](#)

[ARC Review](#)

Community Watch

352-753-0550

[Email](#)

Customer Service

352-753-4508

[Email](#)

District Clerk

352-751-3939

[Email](#)

Executive Golf Maintenance

352-674-1885

[Email](#)

Finance

352-753-0421

[Email](#)

Golf & Tennis Operations

352-753-3396

[Email](#)

Human Resources

352-674-1905

[Email](#)

District Property Mgmt.

[352-753-4022](#)

[Email](#)

Public Safety

352-205-8280

[Email](#)

Purchasing

352-751-6700

[Email](#)

Recreation & Parks

352-674-1800

[Email](#)

Risk Management

352-674-1828

[Email](#)

Utility Billing

352-750-0000

[Email](#)