

playbook

spring | summer | 2026



**TOWN OF PAYSON
PARKS & RECREATION**



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PAYSON COMMUNITY,

Spring and Summer in Payson brings us longer days, outdoor fun, and plenty of opportunities to gather as a community—and this Playbook is packed with ways to do just that. From programs and events to parks and trails, our team is excited to help you make the most of this beautiful time of year in Rim Country.

Our 4th of July celebration is expected to be bigger than ever! With America celebrating its 250th birthday and the holiday falling on a Saturday, we anticipate a record crowd and an unforgettable community celebration.

Thank you for continuing to support Parks and Recreation. We look forward to seeing you out enjoying everything Payson has to offer this Spring and Summer.

See you out there,

Steve Richardson, CPRP

Director | Parks & Recreation



PARKS & REC STAFF

DIRECTOR

STEVE RICHARDSON
SRICHARDSON@PAYSONAZ.GOV

PARKS SUPERINTENDENT

DWAYNE RICHARD
ERICHARD@PAYSONAZ.GOV

PARKS FOREMAN

DANNY JONES
DJONES@PAYSONAZ.GOV

RECREATION SUPERVISOR

JUSTIN HEWITT
JHEWITT@PAYSONAZ.GOV

RECREATION SUPERVISOR

KAITLIN HENNING
KHENNING@PAYSONAZ.GOV

ADMINISTRATIVE & ENRICHMENT RECREATION COORDINATOR

PHOENIX ADDINGTON
PYOUNGCOURT@PAYSONAZ.GOV

RECREATION ASSISTANT

RICKUS GROBLER
RGROBLER@PAYSONAZ.GOV

ADMINISTRATIVE SUPPORT SPECIALIST

TRACI DEHANN
TDEHANN@PAYSONAZ.GOV

TOWN EVENTS

TOWN EVENTS

COMMUNITY FUN - FOR EVERYONE!

APRIL

EGGSTRAVAGANZA | APRIL 4TH

9-12PM | RUMSEY PARK, BALLFIELD 1

THE KIWANIS CLUB AND THE TOWN OF PAYSON PARKS AND RECREATION ARE PROUD TO PRESENT THE ANNUAL EGGSTRAVAGANZA!

EGG HUNT SCHEDULE

AGES 0-3 @ 9:00 AGES 8-9 @ 10:30
AGES 4-5 @ 9:30 AGES 10-12 @ 11:00
AGES 6-7 @ 10:00 SPECIAL NEEDS @ 11:30



MAY

MAY 30TH | PUPS IN THE PINES

8-12PM | GREEN VALLEY PARK

FREE FAMILY EVENT FEATURING K9 DEMOS, RAFFLES, GAMES, AND VENDORS. PARTICIPATE IN THE COSTUME CONTEST AND MORE WITH YOUR FURRY FREIND!

K9 DEMOS | CONTESTS | VENDORS

JUNE

SUMMER CONCERT SERIES | SATURDAYS

SATURDAYS IN JUNE & JULY | CONCERTS 7-9PM

A TIMELESS SUMMER TRADITION IN RIM COUNTRY! COME ENJOY VARIOUS BANDS FROM AROUND THE STATE AND DANCE THE NIGHT AWAY UNDER THE STARS AT GREEN VALLEY PARK.

6/6 - TYLLER GUMMERSALL

6/13 - POPPY HARPMAN & THE STORM

6/20 - JOHN CARPINO & THE HOT
CAPPUCCINOS

6/27 - THE RIM RANGERS

7/11 - THE GRANT BROTHERS

7/18 - OUTSIDE THE LINE

7/25 - SOL DE VILLE



TOWN EVENTS CONTINUED

JULY

4TH OF JULY - 250TH! | JULY 4TH

1-9:30PM | GREEN VALLEY PARK

CELEBRATE AMERICA'S 250TH BIRTHDAY IN ARIZONA'S HOMETOWN: PAYSON! COME ENJOY FAMILY FUN AND GORGEOUS WEATHER. IF YOU'VE BEEN BEFORE, YOU KNOW THAT IT'S MAGICAL. MAKE THIS 4TH OF JULY ONE TO REMEMBER!

**FIREWORKS | FAMILY GAMES |
FUN WATER ZONES | LIVE MUSIC |
PIE EATING CONTEST**

FIREWORKS AT 9 PM



TBD

FIDDLE & FOOD TRUCK FESTIVAL

TBD | GREEN VALLEY PARK

PAYSON IS PROUD TO HOST ARIZONA'S STATE FIDDLING CHAMPIONSHIP FOR THE 55TH YEAR. COME ONE, COME ALL, AND ENJOY THE MUSICAL OFFERINGS OF TALENTED FIDDLERS AND TASTY FOOD TRUCKS FROM AROUND THE STATE.

**FOOD TRUCKS | STATE FIDDLE CHAMPIONSHIP |
LIVE MUSIC | VENDORS**



COMMUNITY EVENTS

COMMUNITY EVENTS

STAPLE EVENTS PUT ON FOR THE COMMUNITY - BY THE COMMUNITY

APRIL

LET'S TALK FISHING - KIDS FISHING FESTIVAL

APRIL 25TH | 8AM-3PM

HOSTED BY: LET'S TALK FISHING

Kids can enjoy fishing activities at Green Valley Park!

NICA STATE CHAMPIONSHIP

APRIL 18TH | TBD

HOSTED BY: NICA

Arizona's State Mountain Bike Championship Race

EARTH DAY COMMUNITY GATHERING

APRIL 18TH | VARIED TIMES

HOSTED BY: KEEP PAYSON CLEAN

Morning community clean up and afternoon festival

MAY

PAYSON WILDLIFE FAIR

MAY 2ND | 9AM-3PM

HOSTED BY: ARIZONA GAME AND FISH

Wildlife exhibits, kids activities, & more!

GARY HARDT MEMORIAL PRO RODEO

MAY 14-16TH | VARIED TIMES

HOSTED BY: PAYSON PRO RODEO COMMITTEE

Pro Rodeo performances, vendors, and more!

CLEAR BAG POLICY AT PAYSON EVENT CENTER

MEMORIAL DAY PROGRAM

MAY 25TH | 11AM

HOSTED BY: AMERICAN LEGION POST 147

Program honoring our fallen and missing heroes

ARAVAIPA MOUNTAIN BIKE RACE

MAY 29-31ST | VARIED TIMES

HOSTED BY: ARAVAIPA RACE ASSOCIATION

Highline Trail mountain bike race, Event Center ride



JUNE

FLAG DAY PROGRAM

JUNE 14TH | 11AM

HOSTED BY: THE LION & ELKS CLUBS

Flag day program at Green Valley Park

WILDFIRE SYMPOSIUM

JUNE 6TH | 11AM

HOSTED BY: PAYSON FIRE DEPT.

Informative lunch and classes on wildfires/prevention

AUGUST

RVN3 BUBBA RUN

AUG. 2ND | VARIED TIMES

HOSTED BY: RVN3

1 mile/5K race along Historic Main Street

WORLDS OLDEST CONTINUOUS RODEO

AUG. 13-15TH | VARIED TIMES

HOSTED BY: PAYSON PRO RODEO COMMITTEE

Pro Rodeo performances, vendors, and more!

CLEAR BAG POLICY AT PAYSON EVENT CENTER

AUGUST RODEO PARADE

AUG. 15TH | 9AM

HOSTED BY: KIWANIS CLUB

Rodeo parade along Historic Main Street

SEPTEMBER

NORTHERN GILA COUNTY FAIR

SEPT. 10-12TH | VARIED TIMES

HOSTED BY: NGCF COMMITTEE

Livestock shows & auction, kids activities and more!

9/11 DAY OF SERVICE & COMMUNITY GATHERING

SEPT. 11TH | VARIED TIMES

HOSTED BY: KEEP PAYSON CLEAN

Community clean up and gathering



COMMUNITY PARTNERS & SPONSORS

COMMUNITY PARTNERS & SPONSORS

AMERICAN LEGION

APS



BACKWOODS BAR & GRILL

BERKSHIRE HATHAWAY HOME SERVICES

BRANDAN KELLEY - EDWARD JONES

GREEN VALLEY WATER

INSPIRATION MARTIAL ARTS

KEEP PAYSON CLEAN

KIWANIS CLUB

LIONS CLUB

MAJESTIC RIM RETIREMENT LIVING

MAIA CRESPIN - COLDWELL BANKER BISHOP REALTY

OVERMAN DESIGNS JEWELRY

PAYSON DERMATOLOGY

PETSMART

QUALITY INN

SMASHLEY'S COFFEE CO.

SPARKLIGHT

STARBUCKS (PAYSON)

TANGLES & TALONS SALON

TONTO RIM CHRISTIAN CAMP

UNITED RENTALS

WALMART



THANK YOU FOR YOUR SUPPORT OF PARKS AND
RECREATION PROGRAMS!



TRAILS

UBUNTU TRAIL

I am because we are

— PAYSON, ARIZONA —

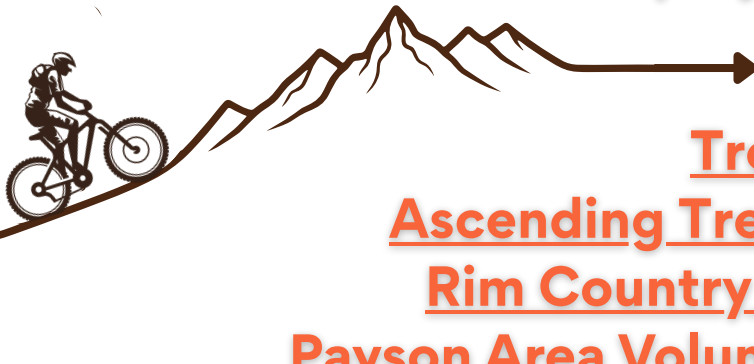


NEW TRAIL IN PAYSON FOR STATE MOUNTAIN BIKE CHAMPIONSHIP RACE

Construction of a new mountain bike trail is underway at the Payson Event Center! This trail will be fun for beginners, while offering challenging options for intermediate riders. This new trail is being constructed for the NICA AZ State Championship Race on April 18th! Once completed, it will be open to the public to enjoy.



Thank you to all the volunteers who helped bring this project to life:



RCMBA
Tree Crafters
Ascending Tree Care Co.
Rim Country Trail Fund
Payson Area Volunteer Effort



NATIONAL INTERSCHOLASTIC
CYCLING ASSOCIATION

ADULT RECREATION



SLOW PITCH SOFTBALL- SPRING/SUMMER

MEN'S & CO-ED SOFTBALL LEAGUES

GAMES: MARCH 16TH - JUNE 15TH

Registration Period: JANUARY 21ST - MARCH 9TH

Fee: \$500 (14 guaranteed games)

Co-Ed league will play Monday evenings.

Men's league will play Wednesday evenings.

Game times are 6pm, 7pm, 8pm.



4V4 CO-ED SAND VOLLEYBALL LEAGUE

GAMES: JUNE 16TH - AUGUST 18TH (EACH TUESDAY)

Registration Period: APRIL 15TH - JUNE 8TH

Fee: \$120 per team (9 guaranteed games)

The sand volleyball league will play Tuesday evenings.

Game times are 6pm, 7pm, 8pm.



SLOW PITCH SOFTBALL- SUMMER/FALL

MEN'S & CO-ED SOFTBALL LEAGUES

GAMES: JUNE 22ND - SEPTEMBER 30TH

Registration Period: APRIL 8TH - JUNE 11TH

Fee: \$500 (13 guaranteed games)

Co-Ed league will play Monday evenings.

Men's league will play Wednesday evenings.

Game times are 6pm, 7pm, 8pm.



YOUTH SPORTS

YOUTH RECREATION

EARLY SPRING

ITTY BITTY OLYMPICS (1-6 YEARS OLD)

DATE: SATURDAY, MARCH 14TH

Registration Period: 1/14 - 3/11

Fee: \$5

Location: Rumsey Park - South Multi Purpose Field

NEW!

SPRING SOCCER (PRE K - 6TH GRADE)

GAMES: MARCH 21ST - MAY 16TH

Registration Period: 1/13 - 2/26

Camp Day: Feb 27th

Fee: \$40

SPRING - SUMMER

T-BALL & COACH PITCH (AGES 4-5 & 6-8 YEARS)

GAMES: MAY 30TH - JULY 18TH

Registration Period: 4/1 - 5/7

Camp Day: May 8th

Fee: \$40

SUMMER - EARLY FALL

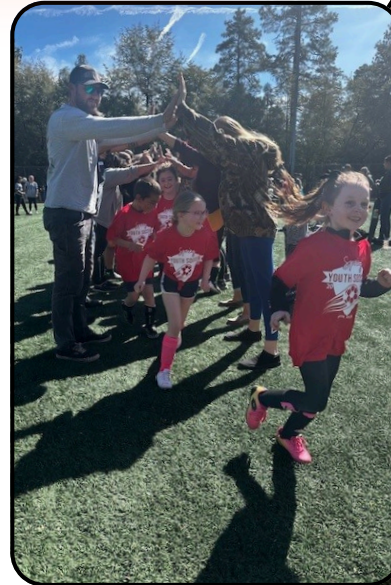
FLAG FOOTBALL (AGES 5-12 YEARS)

GAMES: AUGUST 8TH - SEPTEMBER 12TH

Registration Period: 6/24 - 7/23

Camp Day: July 24th

Fee: \$40



YOUTH SCHOLARSHIP PROGRAM

WE BELIEVE EVERY CHILD SHOULD HAVE THE CHANCE TO PLAY, EXPLORE, AND BE PART OF SOMETHING MEANINGFUL - NO MATTER THEIR FAMILIES FINANCIAL SITUATION. THAT'S WHY THE "**FRIENDS OF PAYSON PARKS & RECREATION**" OFFERS NEED-BASED SCHOLARSHIPS TO HELP COVER THE COST OF YOUTH SPORTS AND RECREATION PROGRAMS. FOR MORE INFORMATION ON THIS PROGRAM, VISIT FRIENDSOFPAYSON.ORG, CALL PARKS AND RECREATION AT 928-472-5110 OR VISIT THE PARKS & RECREATION OFFICE AT 1000 W. COUNTRY CLUB DR., PAYSON AZ.



YOUTH PROGRAMS

YOUTH PROGRAMS

SPRING FLEX FRIDAY

JULIA RANDALL ELEMENTARY

DATES: JANUARY 23RD - APRIL 24TH

GRADES: ENROLLED K-5TH

Registration Period: 1/13 - until full

Fee: \$60



JRE SUMMER CAMP 2026

JULIA RANDALL ELEMENTARY

DATES: JUNE 8TH - JULY 17TH

Registration Period: 4/20 - 6/3

Grades: enrolled 1st - 5th grades

Fee: \$60 per 3 week session

**DAILY ACTIVITIES, GAMES, &
FIELD TRIPS**

RCMS SUMMER CAMP 2026

RIM COUNTRY MIDDLE SCHOOL

DATES: JUNE 8TH - JULY 17TH

Registration Period: 4/20 - 6/3

Grades: 6th - 8th grades

Fee: \$60 per 3 week session

**SIGN UP FOR BOTH SESSIONS FOR
A DISCOUNTED RATE OF \$100**

PARENT'S NIGHT OUT @ INSPIRATION MARTIAL ARTS



THEME: JEDI TRAINING

PARTICIPANTS WILL TAKE HOME THEIR OWN LIGHTSABER

DATE: FRIDAY, MAY 15TH

GRADE: K-5TH

LOCATION: INSPIRATION MARTIAL ARTS (501 W. MAIN ST.)

Registration Period: 3/23 - 5/1

Fee: \$20

YOUNG ENTREPRENEURS

DATES: 4/10, 4/17, 4/24, 5/1, 5/8, 5/15

GRADE: 9-14 YEARS OLD

LOCATION: INSPIRATION MARTIAL ARTS (501 W. MAIN ST.)

Registration Period: 2/4 - 4/1

Fee: \$45



ENRICHMENT PROGRAMS

ENRICHMENT PROGRAMS

HANDS-ON LEARNING, WELLNESS, AND UNIQUE EXPERIENCES FOR ALL AGES.



FLY FISHING PROGRAMS

Guided & Experiential Fly Fishing
Presented by: Dirty Verde Outfitters

(Dates & skill levels vary)

Offerings Include:

- Classes & skill workshops
- Half-day & full-day guided trips
- Seasonal offerings March–August



PAYSON FLY CASTERS

Fly Fishing 101

Presented by: Payson Fly Casters

Learn the basics of fly fishing in this beginner-friendly class covering essential gear, casting techniques, and local fishing tips.

- April 11th | \$45/class
- May 16th | \$45/class



CREATIVE CULTIVATION



3-Part Hands-On Flower & Seed Starting Workshop

Led by local grower: Jessica with East Verde Micro Cultivations

Learn practical seed-starting techniques tailored to Rim Country's climate. Limited to 30 participants per class. Each session covers a different stage:

- February 26th: Early produce & florals
- March 26th: Heat-loving varieties
- April 9th: Corms, bulbs & tubers



\$40/session | Ages 18+ | 2 hours per session | 5pm–7pm

POPULAR PROGRAMS WITH LIMITED SPOTS!

Blooms & Brews

Sip, socialize, and get creative at our Blooms & Brews workshops! Enjoy a relaxed, hands-on floral experience while learning bouquet arrangement tips. Session Dates:

- Spring: May 7th
- Summer: July 23rd
- Fall: October 16th

\$40/session

Ages 21+ | 5pm–7pm



Get to know our Enrichment Partners:

Jess Ward's love for gardening began more than 13 years ago and has continued to grow season after season. Through hundreds of books, hands-on classes, and earning a Master Gardener certification, she has cultivated not only thriving gardens but a deep passion for sharing knowledge with others. Specializing in dahlias and florals, Jess also grows fresh produce for her household and to share with family and friends. She looks forward to connecting with the community, sharing her passion, and discovering all that can grow when we learn together.

ENRICHMENT PROGRAMS CONT.

WELLNESS & COMMUNITY PARTNERS

Community Wellness Pop-Ups Presented by: Forza X

A 4-part outdoor wellness series blending fitness, community, and active living in our local parks, held at Green Valley Park.

- May 9th : Spin* + Self-Care Saturday
- June 13th : Matcha and Mat Pilates
- July 18th : Spin* + Juice
- August 8th : Dance + Flowers & Coffee

\$40/class | Saturdays | Pre-registration required.

**Spin classes have limited capacity and may fill quickly.*



POPULAR
PROGRAMS
WITH LIMITED
SPOTS!

Get to know our Enrichment Partners:

Paola Vega founded Forza X with a simple mission: make fitness feel like community. After starting spin classes in her garage post-COVID, her passion grew into a local studio known for high-energy, welcoming classes that leave you stronger inside and out.

Paola believes wellness goes beyond looks, it's about building strength, confidence, longevity, and joy through movement.

Yoga in the Park Presented by: Yoga in the Pines

- Enjoy a relaxing, beginner-friendly yoga class under the pines at Rumsey Park. Focus on breath, movement, and foundational poses - perfect for all levels. Bring a mat or borrow one of ours.
- 3rd Saturday of the month | 9-10 AM | \$15/class
- For more information and to [pre-register](https://www.yogainthepines.com), visit www.yogainthepines.com



Ballroom & Latin Dance Classes Presented by: Emmanuel & Broadway Dance

Beginner friendly social Ballroom & Latin Dance Classes

- Learn fun, partner-style dances like the Waltz, Foxtrot, Tango, Swing, Salsa, Cha-Cha, and more.
- Great for staying active and meeting new people - no partner needed!
- Thursday evenings March-June | 16 weeks | \$190/person
(Payment plans available)

Cake Decorating Presented by: Mary Bakes A Lot

Get creative in the kitchen with Mary Bakes A Lot! This seasonal enrichment series for kids and teens includes cake decorating, chocolates, and candy molds — with plenty of hands-on fun and tasty take-home creations. Offerings and pricing vary by class. Keep an eye out for full details and registration info!

Follow us on
social media for
updates and
added
programs.

@PAYSONPARKSANDREC



PARKS & REC ROCKSTARS

JUSTIN HEWITT



Justin has worked in Payson Parks & Recreation for over six years. He oversees a variety of programs, including youth and adult sports leagues, Summer Camp, the Flex Friday program, and other community recreation offerings. Justin continually improves existing programs while developing new ones to better serve Payson. He is currently leading efforts on the Town’s new disc golf course, with plans to host future programs and tournaments. Known as a “go-to” team member, Justin brings a positive attitude and consistently goes above and beyond to deliver high-quality programs for the community.

We appreciate the experience and leadership he brings to the Town of Payson!

COLE BELCHER

Cole has served the Town of Payson for almost 2 years and has been a wonderful addition to the Parks team.

He focuses on ensuring our ball fields are in excellent condition for the many uses they see throughout the year. He works closely with recreation to ensure fields are prepped and ready when they’re booked for league or tournament play. His passion for baseball and softball has helped him succeed in his role. Recently, Cole went through and cleaned and cleared large brush areas in Rumsey park for a better park user experience.

We are blessed to have Cole on Team Payson!



2026

SPRING & SUMMER MASTER CALENDAR

04 APRIL

S	M	T	W	T	F	S
			1	2	3	4
5	6	7	8	9	10	11
12	13	14	15	16	17	18
19	20	21	22	23	24	25
26	27	28	29	30		

05 MAY

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3	4	5	6	7	8	9
10	11	12	13	14	15	16
17	18	19	20	21	22	23
24	25	26	27	28	29	30
31						

06 JUNE

S	M	T	W	T	F	S
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7	8	9	10	11	12	13
14	15	16	17	18	19	20
21	22	23	24	25	26	27
28	29	30				

07 JULY

S	M	T	W	T	F	S
			1	2	3	4
5	6	7	8	9	10	11
12	13	14	15	16	17	18
19	20	21	22	23	24	25
26	27	28	29	30	31	

08 AUGUST

S	M	T	W	T	F	S
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2	3	4	5	6	7	8
9	10	11	12	13	14	15
16	17	18	19	20	21	22
23	24	25	26	27	28	29
30	31					

09 SEPTEMBER

S	M	T	W	T	F	S
			1	2	3	4
5	6	7	8	9	10	11
12	13	14	15	16	17	18
19	20	21	22	23	24	25
26	27	28	29	30		

	Community Event/s		Enrichment Program
	Town Event/s		Enrichment Program & Town Event/s
	Community & Town Event/s		Town Recreation Registration Deadlines

FOR FULL EVENT DETAILS & PROGRAM INFO, VISIT:

WWW.PAYSONAZ.GOV/PARKS

SHARE YOUR FAVORITE MOMENTS WITH US ON SOCIALS BY USING:

#PLAYPAYSON

@PAYSONPARKSANDREC

PAYSON DISC GOLF COURSE

...coming this Spring!

