



BOCA RATON BEACH & PARK DISPATCH

May 2026 | Official Newsletter of the Greater Boca Raton Beach & Park District



NORTH PARK

5800 NW 2ND AVENUE, BOCA RATON, FLORIDA 33487



MORE THAN 1,000 TREES COMING TO NORTH PARK

The development of North Park is about to reach some important milestones.

The Greater Boca Raton Beach and Park District recently requested bids pertaining to the development of the park's east side.

That part of the project will include more than five miles of walking trails and riding trails, as well as a dog park and a playground. Some trails will include exercise equipment.

When complete, crews are expected to have added more than 1,000 native trees to the approximately 70 acres east of NW 2nd Ave. in the Boca Teeca section of Boca Raton.

As part of the construction project, the Florida Department of Environmental Protection will help ensure that soil contaminated by chemicals when the property was a golf course is removed. The entire project will comply with Sustainable SITES Initiative standards for environmental friendliness.

[READ MORE ABOUT NORTH PARK PLANS](#)



Pickleball Upgrade Added

Patch Reef's new covered pickleball complex is now even better.

In recent days construction crews completed installing mesh screens - similar to, but thicker than, the wind screens already attached to complex fencing – designed to limit glare that occurs during certain times of day.

"It's an improvement for sure," said Michael Gonzales following a mid-week morning of open play.

Responding to concerns cited by frequent players, District Commissioners approved a plan to install the mesh screen along the south side of the complex, blocking the area between the roof eaves and the perimeter fence where sunlight leaks into the courts.

Players reported glare coming primarily from the south side that affected their ability to track shots and ball spin.

[CONTINUE READING](#)



Single And Looking To Play

Your smart phone can help solve so many of life's little inconveniences, so why wouldn't it be able to help find a partner? No, we're not talking about a dating app. The Tennis Rungs app now in use by the Boca Raton Racquet Center helps pair similarly talented players looking for a game. Follow [this link](#) to register. Enter BRSRC in the Join Code field. Once you have joined you'll see a list of players and their UTSA ratings. Click on the "Challenge"



Cleanup Nets 200 Pounds

More than 40 people gathered at the Gumbo Limbo Nature Center on a late April afternoon to share a trashy experience.

For more than an hour the group scattered throughout the Gumbo Limbo hammock and the Intracoastal Waterway collecting as much trash as they could find.

"I love it," Alan Peterman said. "As you can see, I really care about nature and I'm retired. Between this park and Rutherford Park, it's spiritual. For these people to take care of it and show consideration, I wish it would rub off on a lot more people."

Peterson, who was about to turn 77 at the time of the cleanup, did his trash collecting on land. Some 30 attendees did their part while kayaking on the Intracoastal.

Brenda Senn and 14-year-old son Bradley utilized a tandem kayak to collect their booty.

[CONTINUE READING](#)



The Real Poop At Sugar Sand

Ever stare into your backyard and think to yourself, "What kind of animal keeps pooping here?" Well, Sugar Sand Park offers a feature to help the community answer that question. Located behind the Science Explorium near the outdoor butterfly garden is a display entitled "Who's Scat Is That?" It features pictures of poop from eight different animals and insects common to South Florida, including raccoons, gopher tortoises, foxes and

option to receive a player's contact info. At that point you're ready for a spirited game on the best clay courts in Boca. Serve's up!

opossums. Match the poop, identify the culprit. It's probably not the No. 1 reason to visit Sugar Sand. More like No. 2.



New Leatherback Record

Leatherback turtles, the rarest of the three species of sea turtles to nest on Boca Raton beaches, are making their presence known this nesting season. Officials at the District-funded Gumbo Limbo Nature Center report that more than 40 Leatherbacks have already deposited their eggs under Boca beaches, and there's still time for a few more. The previous record high of 33 Leatherback nests came in 2012. While Leatherback season is winding down, Loggerhead season is picking up. [Gumbo Limbo's Turtle Walk program](#), which takes visitors to see nesting turtles, began this week and runs through July 2.



Rebuilt Courts Near Opening

Phase I of the District's rebuild of Patch Reef's tennis and uncovered pickleball courts is nearing completion. The championship tennis court opened for play about a week ago. The remaining rebuilt tennis courts, and all of the outdoor pickleball courts, are expected to be open for play in the first week of June. Phase II will rebuild the tennis courts left playable during Phase I. The rebuild began shortly after the October opening of Patch Reef's covered pickleball complex. It's the first rebuild since the Patch Reef Tennis Center – now the Patch Reef Paddle and Racquet Club – opened in 1987.

UPCOMING MEETINGS

MONDAY JUNE 1

Commissioners' General Public Meeting, 5:15 p.m.

MONDAY JUNE 22

Commissioners' General Public Meeting, 5:15 p.m.

MONDAY JULY 6

Commissioners' General Public Meeting, 5:15 p.m.

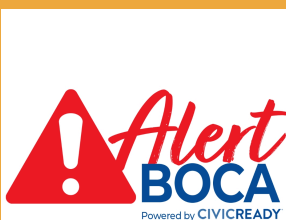
**Meetings at Boca Raton Swim & Racquet Center
21618 St. Andrews Boulevard Boca Raton, FL**

Ode To Open Space

"Parks represent an efficient, cost-effective way to improve public health." - Chuck Norris, *actor*



LINKED INTO BOCA RATON



The City of Boca Raton's Alert Boca program is a free emergency alert system providing the community with urgent updates before, during and after emergencies. To learn more about receiving alerts via text or email, follow the link below.

[View Alert Boca Program](#)

**GREATER BOCA RATON
BEACH & PARK DISTRICT**
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