

SEPTEMBER 7, 2024

WEEKLY UPDATE

Miranda Fisher, Town Manager



FUND YOUR PROJECT!

This past week, Friends of the Verde River presented at the Council meeting on September 4th. One thing they reviewed was the “Small Grants for the River” program.

The River Friendly Living grant program is made possible by businesses that support a healthy Verde River. The grants offer funding to support conservation projects.

Homeowners can apply for up to \$1,000, and businesses/ organizations can apply for up to \$5,000 annually.



Homeowners, businesses, non-profits, and municipalities can apply for grants. All funded projects are to be completed within a 12-month period. River Friendly Living projects address the following areas of focus: Sustainable Water Supply, Clean Water, Healthy Habitat, and Connected Communities.

To learn more visit: <https://verderiver.org/get-involved/about-river-friendly-living/small-grants-for-the-river/>

ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT

Rockin' River Ranch State Park

Town Council had recently asked for an update on Rockin' River Ranch, specifically how many visitors they've had. Molly Davies, Economic Development Director, spoke with Hank Vincent, the Northern Regional Manager for AZ State Parks. Since Rockin River Ranch State Park opened in February, they have welcomed 3,886 visitors. The park is currently only open Fridays, Saturdays, and Sundays from 9:00 am – 4:00 pm with one designated ranger. State Parks had hoped that the number of visitors would be higher and have been looking into how to increase visitation such as wayfinding signage, completion of additional phases, and general marketing. The second phase, beginning in October, will include work on the ranch house and barn. The third phase upgrades will include a new well, septic improvements, and associated infrastructure. The final phase will include more picnic spaces and host sites. Eventually, State Parks hope to expand the hours and day they are open to visitors. The Economic Development team will continue to promote this great tourism asset.

To learn more and plan your visit to the park, check out their website at [Rockin' River Ranch State Park | Arizona \(azstateparks.com\)](http://Rockin'RiverRanchStatePark|Arizona.azstateparks.com).

MARSHAL'S OFFICE

Arizona Fentanyl Forum Participation

Chief Rowley, Commander Jacobs, Lt. Reay, and K-9 Deputy Zeid attended the Arizona Fentanyl Forum hosted by the Arizona Attorney General's Office. The forum focused on the growing fentanyl crisis and law enforcement's role in combatting it.

Drug Arrest

CVMO deputies successfully arrested a male suspect during a traffic stop. The individual was found to be transporting approximately 3 pounds of marijuana.

NARCAN Training at the Senior Center

In collaboration with the senior center, CVMO held a NARCAN training during a luncheon. This initiative is part of the ongoing efforts to educate the public on opioid overdose prevention and the use of life-saving measures.

Fentanyl Overdose Response

CVMO deputies responded to the tragic death of a 28-year-old male who suffered a fatal fentanyl overdose. The office continues its commitment to addressing this public health crisis in our community.

Meeting with COPE at Manzanita Outreach

CVMO attended a meeting with COPE at Manzanita Outreach to select products for the Town's emergency operations container, ensuring preparedness in case of a local emergency. COPE creates pathways to better health by offering innovative solutions for behavioral and physical healthcare, wellness, and recovery to individuals and families.

Radar Certification Day

CVMO conducted its annual Radar Certification Day, during which all of the department's speed-measuring devices were calibrated and repaired. The Yavapai-Apache Police Department (YAPD) kindly assisted by providing access to their drive-thru maintenance bay.

LIBRARY

Point in Time Unsheltered Count Survey

For the second year in a row, Library staff participated in the Point in Time (PIT) Unsheltered Count survey. This count is part of the AZ Department of Housing Continuum of Care (CoC) program to end homelessness. Staff received specific training to safely and accurately administering the survey. Participants in the survey were offered food certificates and a bag of hygiene supplies and snacks. Five people completed the survey in 2024 up from three in 2023.

The Point in Time information is used in the following ways:

- Count information measures homelessness on a national, state, and local level.
- HUD uses PIT Count data to measure progress in ending homelessness.
- PIT Count data and the CoC's efforts to mobilize community to produce an accurate count play critical role in CoC Program competition.
- PIT Count data used for state and local program and system planning to make progress in ending homelessness in the participating counties.
- Local data raises awareness about challenges faced by homeless persons in specific communities.

Homelessness was a significant topic of discussion at the Arizona City/County Management Association Conference 2024. An interesting statistic shared at the conference was that, while homelessness increased nationally by 1% from 2020-2022, the increase in Arizona for that same time period was 20%. Data from the AZ Department of Housing shows that about 50% of the homeless in Arizona were once in the Foster Care system, and that the main causes of homelessness in our state are:

- Mental Illness
- Substance Abuse
- Individuals Who Were Orphaned

Cities, towns and regions across the country are grappling with homelessness issues. Given the complex nature of homelessness, there is no one solution to address its issues. Cities have more success when they take a holistic approach to finding the root causes and drivers of homelessness in their area and addressing these causes through short- and long-term strategies with clearly defined goals and outcomes. This creates a central roadmap for the many stakeholders who are involved in addressing issues and providing services to the homeless. Unfortunately, there is a significant lack of resources for the homeless in the Verde Valley/Yavapai County region"

Library Newsletter

Don't forget to check out the latest Library and Parks & Recreation eNewsletter for September! Stay up to date on all the exciting programs, events, and community news happening in Camp Verde. [Library and Parks & Recreation eNewsLetter | Town of Camp Verde, AZ](#)

UTILITIES

The August 2024 stats for the Water, Wastewater, and Stormwater Divisions are now available. For a detailed look at water usage, wastewater treatment, and revenue data, check the attached report.

Thank you for your support in helping us maintain efficient utility services. If you have any questions, feel free to contact us! (928) 554-0850 or utilities@campverde.az.gov

FINANCE

Utility Billy

Online and onsite payments for both Water and Wastewater are setup and ready to roll out. Finance is working with the Utilities Department on how and when to roll that process out. It will be going within the week for a “soft” rollout and Utilities will begin a more aggressive advertising campaign after we are sure all the kinks are worked out. Payments for Water and Wastewater accounts will still be separate for the time being until such a time as the accounts are combined together.

Equipment Purchases

Financing documents through US Bank should be complete this week for the new Water Vac Truck and trailer.

CLERK'S DEPARTMENT

Town Clerk Leah Rhodes took her Oath of Office at the September 4th Town Council meeting.

Records Request

The Clerk's office received five public records requests regarding the property located at 471 E. Howards Road. The request was forwarded to Community Development, Public Works and Sunstate for completion.

New Business License Issued

There were no new business licenses this week.

Campaign Finance Complaint

Deputy Clerk Virginia Jones is working with Christina Estes-Werther with Pierce Coleman regarding campaign violations that were filed with the Town Clerk's office for the July 30th election.

Other Updates

The Town Clerk staff will be hosting the Verde Valley Clerks' luncheon at Udderly Divine Café and Bakery on September 10th.



PARKS & RECREATION

Parks & Recreation Commission

Don't miss the upcoming Parks & Recreation Commission Meeting on Monday, September 9th at 5:30pm.

We'll be discussing exciting updates, including developments on the Sports Complex, and the approval of key strategic plans. We'll also provide updates on Heritage Pool staff training, upcoming volunteer opportunities, and a recap of our recent events.

AUGUST UPDATES

Staff Development

This month, staff participated in various virtual forums focused on tournaments, aquatics, and special events to stay informed about trends and practices in Parks & Recreation departments statewide.

Facility Usage

- Meeting Rooms: 76 uses
- Ramadas: 22 uses
- Gym: 38 uses
- Sports Fields: 103 uses (54 at the Sports Complex, 49 at Butler Park)
- Kitchen: 13 uses
- Public Showers: 56 uses

Note: Field usage does not account for multiple practices or games per night. Placer AI reported 7,400 visits to the Sports Complex in August, excluding individuals under the age of 18.

Community Programs & Events

- Pickleball continues to be played four times a week for at least 3+ hours each session.
- Cornhole League uses the gym on some Friday evenings for their matches.
- Tai Chi classes resumed through Yavapai County Health in Room 204. This 8-week, free class is open to the public.
- Yoga and Martial Arts classes continue every Tuesday.

Community Trips

Two community trips were scheduled in August:

- August 9: 6 participants visited the Sharlot Hall Museum in Prescott.
- August 23: 6 travelers enjoyed the Grand Canyon Deer Farm in Williams.

Third Thursday Food Truck Night

The monthly Food Truck Night took place on August 15th, with 3 trucks participating in the event.

Fort Verde Days Planning

- Vendor Registration is ongoing, with 76 vendors already signed up for the fall event.
- This year's event will include the Quilt Show, leaving no room for indoor vendors.
- Registration for the Parade and Little Britches/Little Petticoats remains open.
- Volunteer Recruitment has started, focusing on non-profits to assist with the Kids' Adventure Zone, Axe Throwing, and the new Ninja Nation Course.

Adult Co-Ed Softball

The regular season wrapped up with only two rain-outs. Tournament seeding and brackets are completed, and the first games are scheduled for September 3rd.

PARKS & RECREATION (Cont.)

Grasshopper Basketball

Registration opened on August 5th, and scorekeeper positions have been filled by seasonal staff. Recruitment for volunteer coaches and additional officials is ongoing.

AYSO Partnership

Staff met with AYSO representatives to plan field usage for the upcoming season, which kicked off at the end of August. AYSO was provided with dates for field over-seeding.

APRA Conference

All Parks & Recreation staff attended the annual APRA Conference in Tucson from August 26-28. This was a first for two staff members, and educational sessions and networking were key highlights.

Trunk or Treat Planning

Planning is underway for the annual Trunk or Treat event on October 31st. New this year will be a Halloween-themed movie night at Community Center Field, in partnership with the Camp Verde Library.

Butler Park Scoreboard

Representatives from Daktronics programmed the newly installed scoreboard at Butler Park. It is now fully functional and ready for use.

Flag Football League

Staff met with the owner of Showtime Sports to discuss bringing a flag football league to Camp Verde in the spring.

Summer Camp Preparation

Staff are working through American Camp Association trainings online, aiming to complete them before the start of next year's camp.

PUBLIC WORKS

Congratulations, Triston Laubinger!

Triston Laubinger took his oath of office for his promotion to Grounds Lead. With over two years of exceptional service, his leadership, communication, and commitment to safety make him a valuable asset to our team.



PUBLIC WORKS (Cont.)

DIRECTOR UPDATE

ADOT Meeting

Engineer Bruce Connolly, CIP Project Manager Martin Smith, and Public Works Director Ken Krebbs met with our regional ADOT representatives for a productive discussion that established a positive foundation for future collaboration. During our meeting with ADOT, we reviewed current Intergovernmental Agreements (IGAs) and discussed updates and new agreements. We also examined ongoing and upcoming traffic studies, explored training opportunities related to ADOT initiatives, and shared information on available grants, including their application and management. Additionally, we reviewed the progress and requirements for maintaining Black Bridge and discussed the Off-System Bridge (OSB) Program, with ADOT exploring opportunities to leverage OSB funds for our project. The requirements and next steps for our wayfinding project were also covered. To ensure ongoing communication and collaboration, we agreed to hold in-person quarterly meetings.

NACOG Site Visit

Town staff met with NACOG to discuss Camp Verde's transportation needs, funding landscape, and to introduce NACOG's new Transportation Planner.

Title 34 Contract Training

Attorney Stuhan trained Town staff on contract requirements and how to ensure compliance with Title 34 standards.

MAINTENANCE & GROUNDS

Building, Grounds, and Janitorial Services

Our team has been busy with various projects and maintenance tasks. We completed the green building updates, which included finishing the painting of baseboards, making carpentry repairs, painting floors, and installing new toilets and electrical plates. We also cleaned the walls and floors.

Grounds Maintenance

We continued our comprehensive weed trimming efforts across several park locations, including Verde Lakes ponds, Verde Lakes playground, Sports Park, Town grounds, Library, Rizzonico Park, and Butler Park. We also stripped, painted, and mowed the baseball fields at the Sports Complex. Additionally, we started installing new signage at the 400 building, with the main sign on the pole yet to be completed pending the installation of a new light.

Equipment and Vehicle Maintenance

- The Ex-Mark mower is undergoing electrical repairs in Phoenix and is still being worked on.
- The CVT 411/Jarred's truck has been repaired and is back in service.
- The manlift is experiencing glow plug failure and is awaiting repair by a mobile mechanic.
- Fiscor Heating and Cooling has installed a new HVAC system for the CVMO.
- Elsy's car received new tires from Tire Pro at a cost of \$600.00.

Janitorial Excellence

Our janitorial team has been going above and beyond by meticulously detailing of our buildings.

Incident Report

We addressed a situation at Butler Park where a homeless person was found living in the women's bathroom after someone unlocked the door. The area has since been cleaned.

PUBLIC WORKS (Cont.)

STREETS

- **Flood Mitigation:** A new ditch has been installed on Blue Water to help mitigate flooding issues at the S. Chino property.
- **Tree Maintenance:** The Streets team completed tree trimming at Palomino and Creek View to ensure safety and enhance the appearance of these areas.
- **Groundskeeping:** The Verde Lakes area has been mowed to maintain its neat and inviting appearance.
- **Training:** Our team participated in EVAC Training with GENASYS in Prescott Valley to stay updated on emergency evacuation procedures and best practices.

ENGINEERING

- **Main Street and High View Plat:** The Town Engineer conducted thorough reviews of the Main Street project and the High View Plat to ensure they meet Town standards and requirements.
- **Development Assessments:** Reviewed various sites, including Mulcair Yard, Bradshaw Haven, and Powers Grading, to assess their progress and compliance.

CAPITAL IMPROVEMENT PROJECTS

- **Court Addition:** Staff is soliciting bids through the JOC program. Completed bids required by 10:00 AM on September 12th.
- **Wayfinding Signage:** A presentation of conceptual signage designs was made to the Council on September 4th. The final design package is set to be adopted at the September 18th meeting.
- **Finnie Flats/MCH Roadway Improvements:** Kimley-Horn is collecting information to initiate the project design.
- **7th Street CDBG Sidewalk Project:** The preconstruction meeting was held on September 4th.
- **NACOG TIP Funding:** After meeting with NACOG on July 22nd, two potential projects have been identified for TIP funding. Preliminary cost estimates will be prepared and NACOG will be advised on the chosen option.
- **Main Street Reconstruction Project:** The review of the 90% plans is complete, and comments have been submitted to the design consultant.
- **Parson's Riverfront Preserve Parking Lot:** Efforts are underway to obtain a topographic survey and prepare a preliminary design for the project.
- **Community Center Park Rain Catchment:** The Tree Advisory Committee will begin installing the tank and piping on September 23rd, and the building permit has been approved.
- **Pool Shade Structure:** Staff is seeking updated calculations from the design consultant to reflect appropriate wind loads, clarifying code requirements with Community Development, and consulting shade sail manufacturers for product recommendations.
- **NACOG Regional Priority Project List:** NACOG has recommended a \$7.7 million award for the Montezuma Castle Highway Improvements project.
- **Engineering Design Standards:** Standard details will be discussed at a council work session on October 9th.
- **Sports Complex Updates:**
 - TVB: Staff met with MUSCO on the evening of September 4th to measure lumen levels for dark sky compliance.
 - Watermain Installation: The contractor is in the eighth week of construction, performing testing, with completion expected by September 19th.
 - Lift Station: Materials are being ordered, and installation labor will be provided by Town forces.

PUBLIC WORKS (Cont.)

CAPITAL IMPROVEMENT PROJECTS (Cont.)

- **Sports Complex Updates:**
 - Concession Stand/Restrooms:
 - Staff is coordinating with the vendor and preparing a quote request for building pad preparation. The concrete walkway will be bid out once the stand is in place.
 - The Town of Camp Verde is seeking your input. The new concession/restroom building for the sports complex is in final design and preparing for production. We would like your help in picking out the colors for exterior of the building. You can click on the link below to go to a short survey where you can select your favorite color combination. Please provide your input by September 12th. Survey: <https://forms.office.com/r/JP305pNVs0>
 - Electrical Service: A \$72K quote from Pur Solar for wiring installation has been received. We will re-evaluate electrical requirements for the alternative concession building and proceed with a bid.
 - Force Main: Materials are being ordered, with installation labor provided by Town forces. An excavation area will be hand-dug and bid out through the Town's JOC contractors.
 - Irrigation Line Installation: Irrigation pumps have been ordered, with installation labor provided by Town forces. An excavation area will be hand-dug and bid out through the Town's JOC contractors.
 - Website: A dedicated page for sports complex construction updates is in development.

UPCOMING MEETINGS

We invite you to join us at our upcoming public meetings to stay informed and contribute to key community decisions. Your participation is vital in shaping the future of Camp Verde!

- **Monday, September 9th @ 5:30 PM: Parks & Recreation Commission**
 - Agenda Highlights: Updates on the Sports Complex, approval of the Parks & Recreation Master Plan RFP, Heritage Pool staff training, upcoming volunteer opportunities, and a recap of recent events.
- **Wednesday, September 11th @ 5:30 PM: Special Town Council Meeting**
 - Agenda Highlights: Presentation by the Utilities Department on the Wastewater Master Plan and Collection System Maintenance, along with an overview of the Town's Graphic Information Systems with a focus on wastewater.
- **Thursday, September 12th @ 6:00 PM: Planning & Zoning Commission**
 - Agenda Highlights: Discussion and recommendations to the Town Council on prioritizing ordinance updates.

Your voice matters, and we encourage you to attend and share your perspectives. For more details on these meetings, visit our [Public Meetings Calendar](#).

We look forward to seeing you there!