

**W**<sup>CITY OF</sup>  
**WILMINGTON**  
NORTH CAROLINA

**Recreation & Downtown Services**



# Recreation & Downtown Services

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# How To Reach Us

## **Administrative Office**

Recreation & Downtown Services  
302 Willard Street, Wilmington, NC 28402  
(910)341-7855 (TDD 341-7873 / TTY 711)

## **Superintendent**

Amy Beatty (910) 341-4604

## **Athletics/Olsen Park**

John Rancke (910) 343-3682

## **Concessions (Olsen, Legion & Amphitheater)**

Tammy Skinner (910) 341-4612

## **Special Event Permits, Riverfront Park Permits & Vendor program**

Kim Adams (910) 254-0907

## **Gary Shell Cross-City Trail**

Amy Beatty (910) 341-4604

## **Recreation Manager**

Travis Adams (910)341-0064

## **Marketing**

Marian Doherty (910) 341-3237

## **Office Assistant/Shelter Reservations**

Jackie Burnett (910) 341-7855

## **Special Olympics**

Tiffany Lesley (910) 341-7253

## **Special Events/Film Permits**

Tammy Skinner (910) 341-4602

## **Facilities**

### **Althea Gibson Tennis Complex**

Tari Ann Toro (910) 341-4631

### **Boxing & Fitness Center**

Karen Mutters (910) 341-7872

### **City Docks**

R.T. Jones (910) 520-6875

### **Derick G.S. Davis Community Center**

Helen Dowd (910) 341-7867

### **Empie Dog Park**

Tari Ann Toro (910) 341-4631

### **Fit for Fun Center**

Colleen Farrell (910)341-4630

### **Greenfield Amphitheater**

Marian Doherty (910)341-3237

### **Greenfield Grind Skatepark**

Dave Pugh (910) 362-8222

### **Halyburton Park**

Andy Fairbanks (910)341-0075

### **Hemenway Community Center**

Latasha Singletary (910)341-0053

### **Legion Sports Complex**

Amy Beatty (910)341-4604

### **MLK Community Center**

Mary Jones (910)341-7866

### **Municipal Golf Course/Inland Greens**

David Donovan (910)791-0558

### **Olsen Park**

John Rancke (910) 343-3682

### **Pools**

Travis Adams (910)341-0064

# Recreation Programs

## Athletics

**302 Willard Street, (910)343-3682**

The Athletics section provides opportunities for participation in team and individual sports including leagues, classes, special events, and tournaments for youth and adults.

There are many outside organizations that also provide programs for the public.

### **City Softball Leagues**

- Adult League:
- ages 18-80
- offer Spring & Fall Leagues  
(softball leagues are also organized by outside organizations)

### **Tennis Programs/Lessons**

Althea Gibson Tennis Complex offers clinics, programs and tournaments. Visit

[www.empiepark.com](http://www.empiepark.com) for more information.

### **City Youth Athletics – (910) 341-0058**

- Basketball Leagues & Camp
- Indoor Soccer
- Golf
- Track

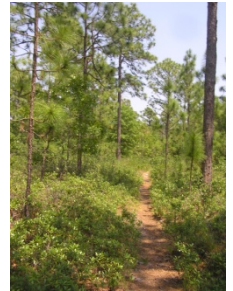
## Fitness

The City offers a variety of fitness programs at the Boxing & Fitness Center, Community Centers and Halyburton Park. Classes include pilates, yoga and other fitness classes

- Halyburton Park – 341-0075
- Boxing & Fitness Center – 341-7872
- MLK Jr. Community Center – 341-7866
- Maides Park - 341-7867

## Nature

Various nature programs for the public, schools and groups are offered by the city at Halyburton Park and various locations throughout the area. For more information about these programs please call Halyburton Park at 341-0075.



## Special Olympics

**302 Willard Street, (910)341-7253**

The Special Olympics is an international program of year-round sports training and athletic competition for children and adults with intellectual disabilities.

- Programs
- Polar Plunge

# Facilities

## **Boxing & Fitness Center**

**302 S. 10<sup>th</sup> Street (910) 341-7872**

The physical fitness center provides the opportunity for individuals to enjoy many of the same activities found at local health clubs for a fraction of the cost. The center offers free



weights, universal equipment, treadmills, stationary bikes, and Stairmasters along with personal and

group training and a variety of classes.

## **City Docks**

**(910) 520-6875**

The City of Wilmington offers short term, transient and long term docking facilities in historic downtown Wilmington along the scenic Cape Fear River. Floating docks with 30 and 50 amp power services are available within walking distance to area hotels, dining, attractions, shopping, theater, nightlife, laundry services, a post office, banks and supplies. The Wilmington City docks are located approximately 15 miles from the ICW.

### **Hilton Docks**

- 450' of floating dock space
- 30 amp & 50 amp available

### **Market Street Docks**

- 200' of floating dock space
- 30 amp & 50 amp available

### **Coastline Docks**

- 11 slips; floating dock
- 30 amp available

## **Community Centers**

The City of Wilmington operates three community centers.

### **MLK Jr. Community Center**

**401 S. 8th Street (910) 341-7866**

The MLK Community Center is located adjacent to Robert Strange Park. The facility has a basketball gym and multi-functional rooms. The center offers rentals, after school programs, general interest programs and athletic opportunities. The facility is also rented for special events and sports tournaments.

### **Derick G.S. Davis Center@Maides Park**

**1101 Manly Avenue (910) 341-7867**

Community center with two multi-purpose rooms, an arts and crafts room, full service kitchen and computer room that offers after school programs, general programs and rentals.

### **Hemenway**

**507 McRae Street (910) 341-4633**

The Hemenway Community Center offers an afterschool program for kids.

# Facilities

## **Gary Shell Cross-City Trail**

The Cross-City Trail when completed be a 15 mile long primarily off-road, multi-use trail connecting Wade Park to the Heide-Trask Drawbridge at the Intracoastal Waterway. It



will provide bicycle and pedestrian access to numerous shopping facilities and recreational, cultural and educational destinations. Maps and additional information are available at [www.crosscitytrail.com](http://www.crosscitytrail.com). For more information, call 341-3237.

## **Empie Dog Park**

**3405 Park Avenue, (910) 341-3237**

Wilmington Dog Park at Empie Park is the first functional off-leash dog park in Wilmington. The park is incorporated into a 2-acre site of unused land within the confines of Empie Park.



## **Fit For Fun Center**

**302 S. 10<sup>th</sup> Street, (910) 341-4630**

The Fit for Fun Center offers play opportunities using developmental play equipment such as



parachutes, tunnels, musical instruments, balls and indoor slides. The Center has an art room, a large indoor play

area, an outdoor playground and a snack room. The facility is for kids ages 5 and under.

## **Greenfield Park**

### **Hugh Morton Amphitheater**

**1941 Amphitheater Drive, (910) 341-4604**

The facility is located at Greenfield Lake Park, holds 1,000 people and is handicapped accessible. The venue is used for Shakespeare in the Park and is site for many concerts and special events.



### **Fragrance Garden**

**1963 Amphitheater Drive, (910) 341-7855**

The perfect location for a wedding or special event. The Fragrance Garden is located adjacent to the Greenfield Amphitheater.



## **Greenfield Grind Skate Park**

### **Greenfield Lake Park**

**Behind 302 Willard Street, (910)362-8222**

The all concrete facility spans over 9,000 square feet consisting of multi-bowls with a banked rails and ledges. The park is open 6 days a week offering both day and night skating. Staff offers clinics and summer camp. The Skate Park is also site for special events and competitions.



## **Halyburton Park**

**4099 South 17<sup>th</sup> Street, (910)341-0075**

The Events Center at Halyburton Park offers the opportunity of rentals for weddings, birthday parties, business meetings and other special events. Staff also offers a variety of nature, fitness and general interest classes.



- Nature Programs
- Events Center
- 1.3-mile walking trail
- Programs(youth & adults
- Yoga & Pilates
- Picnic Shelters
- Playground Areas
- Nature Trails
- Environmental Education
- Nature Preserve

## **Legion Sports Complex**

**2221 Carolina Beach Rd. (910)341-4604**

**The complex includes:**

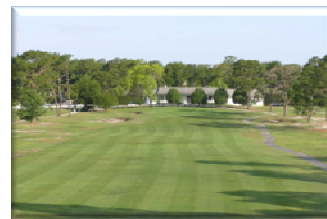
- Legion Stadium/Jurgenson-Gabriel Field
- Legion Back Field
- Buck Hardee Field (baseball)
- Four lighted tennis courts
- Robert Shipp Pool



## **Municipal Golf Course**

**311 S. Wallace Avenue, (910)791-0558**

The Wilmington Municipal Golf Course was designed by Donald Ross in 1926 to provide the



public with a quality, championship 18 hole golf course at affordable prices. The course hosts both men's and women's City Championships.

## **Inland Greens Property**

**David Donovan (910) 791-0558**

The property was purchased by the City in March 2011. City plans to retrofit 9 holes of the original 18 hole course. The other 9 holes will become passive park area with walking trail and other amenities. Stormwater improvements will also be made to this property to alleviate flooding problems. Staff is currently working to secure public input about desired amenities for park portion of property.

## **Olsen Park**

**5510 Olsen Lane, (910)343-3682**

- 5 field softball/baseball complex
- Concessions stand
- Restrooms
- Currently planning for a miracle field
- Picnic shelter
- Location for adult softball league games
- Host regional and state athletic tournaments

## **Pools**

The City operates three pools and a Splash Pad.

### **Legion Stadium Pool**

2131 Carolina Beach Road

### **Robert Strange Pool**

410 S. 10th Street

### **Northside Pool and Splash Pad**

750 Bess Street



## **Althea Gibson Tennis Complex**

**3405 Park Avenue, (910)341-4631**

The Althea Gibson Tennis Complex at Empie Park has 18 tennis courts and a clubhouse. Staff offers a variety of programs including clinics for kids and adults. The complex is used for local and regional tournaments.

## **Permits**

Recreation & Downtown Services staff manage the issuance of the following permits:

- Special Events/Street Closure Permits  
(*Downtown Services*)
- Riverfront Park Permits  
(*Downtown Services*)
- Film Permits

## **CITY SPECIAL EVENTS**

- 4<sup>th</sup> of July Celebration
- Pooch Plunge
- Great Pumpkin Hunt
- Run, Ride Roll Event on Gary Shell Cross-City Trail
- Holiday Parade
- Downtown Tree Lighting
- Egg Hunts at Halyburton Park, Maides Park & Fit For Fun Center
- Fit For Fun Fall Fest

Downtown Services staff also is city liaison for Azalea Festival and Riverfest.

# Rentals

**Athletic fields** can be rented by the hour or day. Call 343-3682 for more information.

## **Tennis courts**

### **Althea Gibson Tennis Complex**

The complex has 18 courts with lights. Court may be reserved for fee. Unreserved courts are available to the public at no charge on first come/first served basis.

Tennis courts are also available on first come/first serve basis at the following locations:

- Greenfield Park (no lights) – 2 courts
- Legion Sports Complex – 4 courts
- Maides Park (no lights) – 2 courts
- MLK Comm. Center – 6 courts

**Picnic Shelters** at Halyburton Park, Empie Park, Robert Strange Park and Maides Park can be reserved for \$20 for a 4 hour block. The shelters are available to rent from 9 a.m.- 1 p.m. and 2 p.m. - 6 p.m. Shelters at Greenfield Lake, Wade Park and other locations not listed above are available on a first come, first serve basis.



**Weddings & Special Events** can be held at the Halyburton Park Events Center, the Derek Davis Center @ Maides Park, the MLK Community Center, the Greenfield Fragrance Garden and the Hugh Morton Amphitheater.

- Maides Park – 341-0787
- MLK Community Center -341-7866
- Halyburton Park – 341-0075
- Fragrance Garden – 341-7855
- Hugh Morton Amphitheater  
341-3237



# Places to Walk

## *Where can you go out and walk around Wilmington & New Hanover County?*

### **Alderman Elementary**

Who/Where: City of Wilmington off Independence Blvd and Canterbury Rd  
Dirt: 0.25 mile path through a manmade carnivorous plant preserve  
Highlights: Pitcher plants, venus fly traps, sundews, sphagnum moss, woods

### **Bluethenthal Wildflower Preserve (10 acres)**

Who/Where: UNC-W on campus east of Trask Coliseum  
Dirt: Graded paths, 0.75 mile total, through the woods and beside a pond  
Highlights: Woods, pond, carnivorous plants

### **Carolina Beach State Park (761 acres)**

Who/Where: State of North Carolina beside Snow's Cut and off Dow Rd  
Dirt: More than 6 miles of trails  
Highlights: Camping, boating, woods, pocosin, marsh, Cape Fear River, Sugar Loaf, deer, birds, carnivorous plants, visitor's center

### **Carolina Beach Lake**

Who/Where: Town of Carolina Beach on US 421  
Paved: 1.25 mile path around Carolina Beach Lake  
Highlights: Lake, waterfowl, picnic facilities

### **Castle Hayne Park (50 acres)**

Who/where: New Hanover County off Parmale Rd  
Dirt: 1 mile disk golf trail through the woods  
Highlights: Woods, frisbee disk golf, soccer fields, tennis courts, ball fields

### **Gary Shell Cross-City Trail**

The Gary Shell Cross-City Trail is primarily an off-road, multi-use trail which will provide bicycle and pedestrian access to numerous recreational, cultural and educational destinations in Wilmington. The trail will provide a future bicycle and pedestrian connection from Wade Park, Halyburton Park and Empie Park to the Heide-Trask Drawbridge at the Intracoastal Waterway. For more information, visit [www.crosscitytrail.com](http://www.crosscitytrail.com) or call 341-3237

### **Eastwood Road Multi-use Path**

Where: Eastwood Rd between Racine Dr and Military Cutoff Rd  
Paved: 1.8 miles walking/biking trail  
Highlights: Will front Autumn Hall development and provide linkage in Cross-City Trail plan

### **Ft Fisher State Historic Site**

Who/Where: State of North Carolina on US 421 south of Kure Beach  
Paved: ½ mile trail beside the ocean and loop around the land face of Ft Fisher  
Highlights: Ft Fisher, vis

itor's center, picnic facilities, ocean, rocky coast (natural and manmade)

### **Ft Fisher State Recreation Area**

Who/Where: State of North Carolina on US 421 south of Kure Beach  
Dirt: Short trail meanders through the marsh.  
Highlights: Sound-side flora and fauna.

### **Greenfield Lake (250 acres)**

Who/Where: City of Wilmington off South 3<sup>rd</sup> Street/Carolina Beach Road  
Paved: 4.2 mile path around the lake  
Highlights: Lake, waterfowl, cypress trees, azaleas, skate park, playground, rental canoes.

# Places to Walk

## **Halyburton Park (58 acres)**

Who/Where: City of Wilmington off 17<sup>th</sup> Street South

Paved: 1.3 mile path around two small lakes and pine/oak woods

Dirt: Several short paths connecting the paved loop

Highlights: Education center, programs, playground, pond

## **Hugh MacRae Walking Path (98 acres)**

Who/Where: New Hanover County off South College Rd and Oleander Dr

Paved: 1 mile trail through the longleaf pines

Highlights: Lake, birds, picnic facilities, playground, baseball fields, tennis courts

## **Hugh MacRae Nature Trail (98 acres)**

Who/Where: New Hanover County off South College Rd and Lake Ave

Paved: 0.5 and 0.25 mile trails through woods and over a small lake

Highlights: Lake, boardwalk, waterfowl, cypress trees

## **Military Cutoff Multi-use Path**

Where: Military Cutoff Rd between Eastwood Rd and Market Street

Paved: 2 miles walking/biking trail

Highlights: Fronts shopping and dining destinations and will link to the Cross-City Trail

## **Ogden Park (160 acres)**

Who/Where: New Hanover County off Gordon Rd and Market St

Paved: 0.25 mile trail around a small lake and into the woods  
Dirt: 0.5 mile graded dirt paths in

the woods  
Highlights: Pond, high bush blueberries, woods, waterfowl, picnic facilities

## **River Walk**

Who/Where: City of Wilmington downtown Wilmington

Paved: 0.5 mile boardwalk along the east bank of the Cape Fear River

Highlights: Cape Fear River, downtown, Battleship North Carolina, boating access

## **Summer Rest Trail**

Who/Where: New Hanover County off Summer Rest Rd north of the Wrightsville Beach Drawbridge

Paved: 0.7 mile trail through the woods by Landfall

Highlights: Woods, Intracoastal Waterway

## **Wade Park**

Who/Where: City Park, 3500 Bethel Road, Wilmington (off of Waltmoor)

Highlights: ½ mile walking/biking trail, restrooms, educational signage.

## **Wrightsville Beach Loop**

Who/Where: Town of Wrightsville Beach on Harbor Island and the beach strand

Paved: 2.5 miles around the marsh

Highlights: Marsh, waterfowl, fishing, beach people, museum

# Access and Inclusion

The Parks Recreation and Downtown Services Division does not discriminate on the basis of age, race, sex, color, national origin. The division is committed to promoting positive participation by providing reasonable accommodations for individuals with disabilities upon request. We believe in providing opportunities in settings where people of all levels of ability can recreate and interact together. We utilize a variety of approaches to promote and provide access and accommodations to facilities, programs, and services. Accommodations are based on individual needs and may include the following:

- Sign language interpreters
- Adapted equipment and techniques
- Accessible facilities, parks and playgrounds
- Additional staff to provide program support
- Technical support to staff

We proudly endorse the National Recreation and Park Association's Position Statement on Inclusion of 1999. We are dedicated to the four inclusion concepts of:

- Right to leisure (for all individuals)
- Quality of life (enhancements through leisure experiences)
- Support, assistance and accommodations
- Barrier removal

For questions, concerns, or requests regarding the Americans With Disabilities Act call (910) 341-5876.