

Camp Life Newsletter

OCTOBER 2025

Santee Lakes Recreation Preserve



Visit the General Store!

Hours:
8:00AM-5:00PM
Daily



March

Reservations are NOW open! Visit santeelakes.com to book your sites for a great time to camp in our campground.

Mysterious Pumpkins, Cauldrons and Witch Ducks are now on sale!



Park Info.



Topwater Grill Hours

Monday - Thursday
7:00AM-6:00PM
Friday - Sunday
7:00AM - 6:00PM

Concert Dates Hours:
7:00AM-7:00PM

Friday, October 03
Saturday, October 04
Friday, October 10
Saturday, October 11



New Park Hours

Beginning October 1

New park hours are as follows:

Monday - Thursday | 7:00AM - 6:00PM

Friday - Sunday | 6:00AM - 6:00PM



There is FREE Wi-Fi
on the Deck?
Come try it, unless
you're **SCARED.**



Park Events

Ladies at the Lake Fall Market

October 11
10:00AM-3:00PM
Lake 1



Shop from over 100 unique vendors! Enjoy food trucks, lounge and more all at a beautiful venue!

Spooktacular is an amazing family friendly event featuring a trunk or treat around Lake 1, inflatables, games, crafts, donut walk, and so much more! This event is October 25 from 10AM-2PM

HALLOWEEN SPOOKTACULAR

SATURDAY, OCTOBER 25 | 10:00AM - 2:00PM
LAKES 1 & 2

LET'S BOO THIS!

- FACE PAINTING
- GAMES
- PHOTO OPS
- DOROTHY, SCARECROW, LION, TIN MAN
- TRUNK OR TREAT
- INFLATABLES
- FOOD TRUCKS
- DJ - DONUT WALK

SANTEE LAKES | 9310 FANITA PARKWAY
SANTEE, CA

FEATURING: TRUNK OR TREAT & VISITORS FROM OZ

Summer Jams on Deck

- ♪ *October 03 | Halo Effect*
- ♪ *October 04 | The Junkyard Cats*
- ♪ *October 10 | Lisa Campbell*
- ♪ *October 11 | Bonnieville Seven*

**Fridays & Saturdays
5:00PM - 7:00PM**

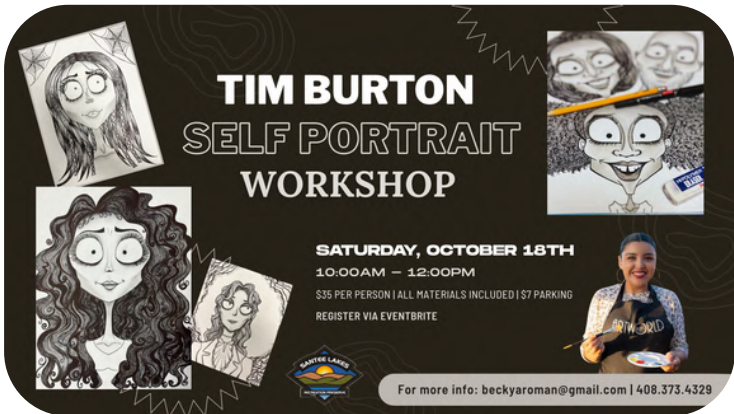
Join us for concerts on the deck every Saturday from 5:00PM-7:00PM (also some Fridays) through mid-October. Music will be from all genres and something for everyone to enjoy! You can also visit our website for specific performers & dates.

Park Events



These classes fill up fast! Sign up now. Drink special provided by Topwater Grill.

October 11 | Whimsical Hollow Cottage Painting
3:00PM-5:00PM [SIGN UP](#)



These classes fill up fast! Sign up now. Drink special provided by Topwater Grill.

October 18 | Tim Burton Workshop
10:00AM-12:00PM

SOLD OUT

Think ahead!



You can sign up for November classes now! Drink special provided by Topwater Grill.

November 8 | Pumpkin Tote Bag Session - [SIGN UP](#)
10:00AM-12:00PM



November 22 | Wooden Pumpkins Session - [SIGN UP](#)
10:00AM-12:00PM

Campground Events



Bring your costume and your laser tag skills and join us in the Campground for some costume laser tag **every Friday in October from 5PM-6PM.**



Campers play for FREE!



Boo Bash in the Clubhouse **every Friday 5PM-7PM.** Goody bags for the kiddos, Photos, Costume Contest and more!



Ghostly fun activities in the Clubhouse on Saturdays in October:

Oct. 4 | Creepy Crafts - 2PM-4PM

Oct. 11 | Pumpkin Carving/Painting - 4PM-6PM

Oct. 18 | Haunted Gingerbread Houses - 2PM-4PM



Trick-Or-Treating in the Campground **every Saturday evening** in October, beginning October 4th from **6:00PM-7:00PM.**



Don't forget! We will have Sports on the Lawn every Saturday morning from **10AM-11AM** (w/exception of 10/25)



Park Info.



WHAT'S BITING?



CATFISH



STINKBAIT



SHRIMP



WORM ON A BOBBER



FROGS



POPPERS



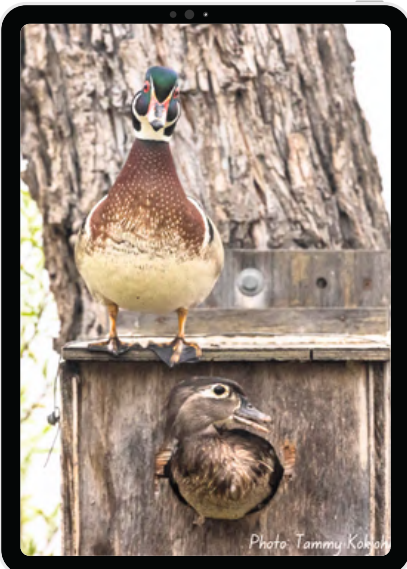
WORMS



BASS



Skeleton photo ops! Take a pic on our giant orange chair and send to santeelakes@padre.org and/or tag us on social [@santeelakes](https://www.instagram.com/santeelakes)



Visit our website at santeelakes.com and let us know which box you would like to adopt with our Adopt A Wood Duck Program

Good Info.

**SCARY
CAMPING
OFFER**

We're giving you an exclusive opportunity to book your spot for next year's special events before anyone else and Ladies at the Lake & Spooktacular are practically here! Here's how it works:

Book for 2026 Ladies at the Lake or Spooktacular During Your 2025 Stay:

- You can book your 2026 dates anytime during your stay.
- To hold your 2026 spot, a \$50 non-refundable deposit will be required at the time of booking. This deposit will be applied toward your 2026 reservation fee.
- The rest of your 2026 reservation balance will be due 6 months before your check-in date.

If you decide to cancel, the \$50 deposit will not be refunded, as per our cancellation policy.

East County Advanced Water Purification

Contractor WM Lyles is working to complete the pipe and manhole replacement on the east side of Santee Lakes. Crews have completed the necessary slip lining and are now focusing on manhole replacement, grout injection to secure the pipe in place and the remaining connection points at the Santee Lakes entrance. Please be aware of ongoing construction and traffic control along the east side and drive with caution.

Sycamore Canyon/ Santee Lakes Cell Tower

Atlas Towers is completing the remaining punch list items for the new 80-foot Mono Pine Cell Tower located within Santee Lakes/Sycamore Canyon. AT&T will be the first provider on the tower and has selected a contractor for the build. Once mobilized, the contractor expects an 8-week build time to complete the installation.



New Park & Recreation Staff



Annabella

Why did you apply for this position?

I applied for this position because I love being able to work outdoors and enjoy the fact that each day is different. There is always something new to do!

Tell us a fun Fact about yourself.

A fun fact about myself is that I love archery!



Tyler

Why did you apply for this position?

I applied for my new position as a Park & Recreation Coordinator to learn more about the operations side of Santee Lakes, since I have been working in the general store for the past couple of years.

Tell us a fun Fact about yourself.

A fun fact about me is that I used to compete in fishing tournaments, and I made it to the high school national championships twice.



Cody

Why did you apply for this position?

I applied for the part time position after enjoying my time as an intern too much to leave. I participated in building up Santee Lakes Laser Tag from the ground up and decided I could not let the opportunity to continue watching the internal business exceed our expectations pass.

Tell us a fun Fact about yourself.

I enjoy jet skiing with my father in the summer season.



David

Why did you apply for this position?

I applied for my new position because I greatly enjoyed my internship and everyone I met/worked with. I enjoy the park and wanted to continue working here on a permanent basis. I also see an opportunity for growth in my career path which this job aligns with perfectly.

Tell us a fun Fact about yourself.

A fun fact about me is I love almost all things outdoors.

Santee Lakes Foundation



In August we welcomed the VFW Post 9327 of Santee for their 2nd annual picnic at Santee Lakes and it was a great success! Nearly 100 members and guests attended and enjoyed an afternoon of outdoor recreation and camaraderie. There was a horseshoe tournament, cornhole, giant jenga and a catered meal of street tacos with all of the extras. Thank you to all of the donors who helped make this a special day for our Santee VFW! If you would like to learn more about how the Santee Lakes Foundation supports outdoor activities and recreation for veterans, please check out our website [HERE](#).

*All donations to the Santee Lakes Foundation are tax deductible.
You can make your donation at the Santee Lakes Park Office or mail your donation to:*

**Santee Lakes Recreation Preserve
Attn: Santee Lakes Foundation
9310 Fanita Parkway
Santee, CA 92071
Tax Id: 27-1296867**

Find out more at
santeelakesfoundation.org



CAMPER SAFETY

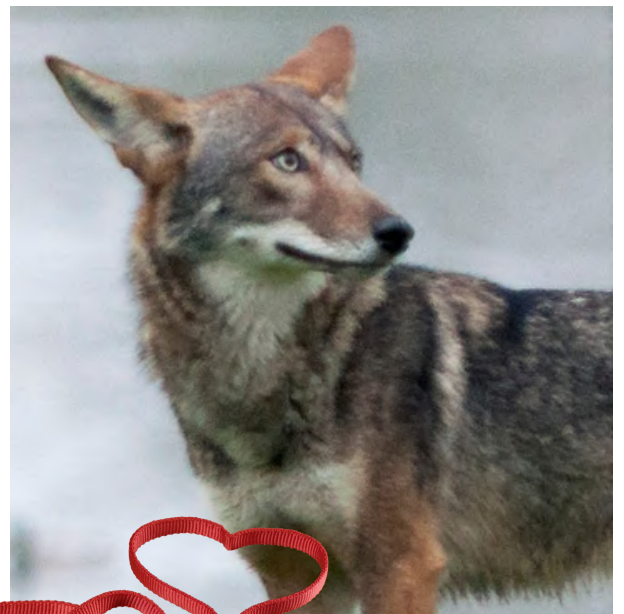
Please watch your speed in the Park & Campground and ensure you are in compliance with all regulatory street signs. October in the Campground is very busy. Please be careful.



REMEMBER, KIDDOS WILL BE TRICK-OR-TREATING EVERY SATURDAY IN OCTOBER. PLEASE WATCH FOR THEM AND PROCEED WITH CAUTION WHILE DRIVING.



There have been several coyotes spotted in the campground, mostly at night. If you see a coyote, you should exhibit caution, as they may be desperate for food and will attempt to get close if there is food nearby. If you are approached by a coyote, shout, wave your arms, and do what you can to make yourself appear bigger. If you are walking a small pet, pick it up. If you are walking a larger pet, keep it close to your side.



FAQS



- **Do campers need to purchase a fishing permit?**
 - *Yes, campers will need a permit. You can purchase a permit at the General Store, Gate house, or Park Ranger.*
- **How late are campers able to fish in Lake 6 and 7?**
 - *Campers may fish until 11 PM.*
- **Do we have to bring our own fire pit?**
 - *Yes, please bring your fire pit, there are no ground fires allowed.*
- **Can we set-up a tent on our RV site?**
 - *No, there is only one camping unit per site. If you wish to set-up additional camping units you can reserve one of our designated tent sites.*
- **What time is checkout?**
 - *11:00AM is checkout for campers, Cabin guest's checkout time is 10:30AM.*
- **Are we allowed to set-up a pet fence?**
 - *No, pet fences are not allowed in the campground due to safety issues such as unattended/unleashed dogs, and coyotes in the Park.*
- **Where is the Campground Bark Park located?**
 - *The Bark Park is located in the very north east corner of the Campground.*
- **Can we use an inflatable pool?**
 - *No, due to safety issues, inflatable pools are not allowed.*
- **What time is quiet time?**
 - *9:00PM is Campground quiet time.*
- **What time does my fire have to be out?**
 - *Please have your fire extinguished by 10:00PM*
- **How many people are allowed on my campsite?**
 - *Campers can have a maximum of 6 people on each site.*
- **Can we hang up a hammock?**
 - *No, hammocks can be harmful to trees, as well as other safety issues.*