

LET'S PLAY!

A GUIDE TO DAVIS PLAYGROUNDS

Reserve a park for your next party

Why not hold your next party at a local park? Davis offers many fun and safe venues for parties with children, friends and family. Play areas themselves cannot be reserved but picnic areas in parks can be set aside for your exclusive use during a specific time of the day or evening. Here are a few location suggestions for birthday parties, family gatherings or special events:

- **Pioneer Park** is a great place to celebrate for groups of up to 50. This south Davis park, at 5035 Hamel Street, offers nine trellis-covered picnic tables and two barbecues along with plenty of open space. The play area is nearby and consists of separate sections for tots (2-5 years) and primary-aged kids (6-12 years). Two tennis courts, a basketball hoop and restrooms are all conveniently located near the parking lot.
- **Mace Ranch Park**, located at 3030 Loyola Drive, features the city's newest picnic area with six tables shaded

by a pavilion. There is a play area for kids of all ages plus a basketball court, barbecue grills, swings that accommodate tots to adults, a council circle and open field space for fun and games. This beautiful setting provides ample shade and space for small gatherings or up to 50 people.

■ **Slide Hill Park**, located at 2850 Temple Drive, has eight shaded tables and two grills. Kids can choose from two playground areas, sand play, a swimming pool, a full basketball court, tennis and, as the name implies, the big cement slide. Slide Hill can handle groups with up to 50 visitors.

■ **West Manor Park** located at 2910 Salem Avenue, contains 12 shaded picnic tables and four grills. Basketball, roller hockey and tennis courts are all conveniently located close to the off-street parking lot. There is a large open field space for fun and games. West Manor Park has enough space for up to 75 guests.

■ **Community Park**, located at 1405 F Street, has three reservable picnic areas with tables. For younger kids, we suggest the "Shade Arbor" section right next to the Rainbow City play area. It has 18 picnic tables with barbecue grills and can accommodate 150 guests. The Solar Panel area next to the swimming pool features



SLIDE HILL PARK

two table groups and you can reserve one or both. The shaded table groups are close to the primary and tot play areas, the pool, a sand volleyball pit and the Skate Park. In all, Community Park offers 33 tables with 5 grills and can host a whopping 300 visitors.

All of above locations feature nearby restrooms, places to park, plenty of open grass spaces for party games and ample shade. Depending on the size of your group and the length of your event, rental prices vary from \$14.00 an hour to \$194 for an all-day soiree. Explore what Davis parks have to offer so you can make your next party memorable.

Visit www.cityofdavis.org and follow the Parks & Community Services Department link for further facility reservation information. Please call (530) 757-5626 for more information.

Safety and access

There are more than 60 playgrounds located in 44 park and greenbelt areas throughout the city. All of the play areas are comprehensively maintained by the Parks & Community Services Department.

The play equipment in each park is visually inspected on a daily basis for potential safety hazards as well as wear and tear. The city has two play area specialists who check for broken, worn or loose equipment parts while performing detailed weekly inspections.

The city renovates play areas as required to meet current safety and accessibility standards. In 1990 the city began using engineered wood fiber and rubber matting as cushioning material underneath playground equipment. These materials have been found to provide greater cushioning in the event of a fall from the equipment. Engineered wood fiber and rubber matting also meet the requirements of the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) playground regulations by making the play areas wheelchair accessible.

Parks IN FOCUS

New parks & happenings

- **Walnut Park** has one of the newest play areas in Davis and can be found east of the tennis courts at 2700 Lillard Drive in south Davis. This playground features a rock wall climber, swings and a merry-go-round.
- **Northstar Pocket Park** at 240 Pintail Place was renovated in 2004 with the installation of innovative playground equipment for two to five-year olds. The park features a vividly colored play cottage, two fun megaphones, miniature tables and chairs and a ride-on bouncer.
- **Mace Ranch Park's** primary play area at 3030 Loyola Drive was renovated in October. The existing play equipment was removed to make way for a new structure with even more play features including a fossil wall climber, a sliding pole, a typhoon slide and a lookout tower. The area was upgraded in order to comply with current playground safety standards.
- **Mace Ranch Neighborhood Park** to be located on the corner of Alhambra Drive and Arroyo Avenue is in the early stages of planning and design. The park will be designed to meet the needs of the neighborhood and will include play areas for tots and older children, a picnic area, a basketball half-court, a dog exercise area and multi-use open fields for baseball and soccer.

Parks News IN FOCUS

Popularity contest

Your favorite park? Davis kids respond

City staff recently visited every park in Davis and asked almost 100 children to name their favorite playground. The kids voiced very specific opinions about what they liked in the city parks. Rainbow City is located in the northeast corner of Community Park near the Davis Art Center. Kids loved Rainbow City for its large size and creative wooden structure. According to our expert respondents, it's a great place for playing "hide and seek". The jungle gym and large concrete slide were confirmed as favorite features at Slide Hill Park. Many other parks rated high on the kid's popularity list as well. Westwood, Pioneer and Oxford Circle Parks (also known as "the big people's park") are much-loved, as are Chestnut, Sycamore, Central, Redwood, and Hacienda Parks. Davis has over 40 playgrounds to choose from and each is special in its own way.

SEE RESULTS & GUIDE, BACK PAGE OF 'LET'S PLAY'



COMMUNITY PARK