



City of Needles

817 Third Street, Needles, California 92363
(760) 326-2113 • FAX (760) 326-6765
www.cityofneedles.com

Mayor, Janet Jernigan
Vice Mayor Ellen Campbell
Councilmember Tona Belt
Councilmember Jamie McCorkle
Councilmember JoAnne Pogue
Councilmember Henry Longbrake
Councilmember Larry Ford

City Manager Patrick J. Martinez

MEMORANDUM

TO: HONORABLE MAYOR AND MEMBERS OF THE CITY COUNCIL

FROM: PATRICK J. MARTINEZ, CITY MANAGER

SUBJECT: WEEKLY MEMORANDUM

DATE: May 29, 2026

- 1. Summer Recreation Programming – 2026:** As a reminder to the City Council, the City's 2026 summer recreation programming is scheduled to begin next week. The Needles Aquatics Center is scheduled to open for open swim on **Saturday, June 6, 2026**, with lap swim, swim lessons, swim team activities, and private rentals beginning June 8 and continuing throughout the summer season. In addition, the "Suns Out, Fun's Out" Summer Day Camp will begin in June, providing supervised recreational programming for local youth ages 5–12, including sports, arts and crafts, outdoor activities, and themed weekly events. These seasonal programs continue to provide affordable recreational opportunities for local families while supporting youth engagement, community wellness, and quality of life throughout the community. Additional schedules, registration information, and program materials are included in the attached documents.
- 2. Crime Statistics Update:** At the request of the City Council, staff reviewed the [San Bernardino County Sheriff's Department 2024 Annual Crime Report](#) for the City of Needles. The report reflects a significant reduction in violent crime trends within the community, including a 52% decrease in violent crime and a 58% decrease in aggravated assaults when compared to 2022 statistics. Overall Part I crimes also declined from 210 incidents in 2022 to 162 incidents in 2024, representing an approximate 23% reduction. Property crime remained relatively stable, decreasing slightly from 114 incidents in 2022 to 113 incidents in 2024. The Sheriff's Department submits crime data to the California Department of Justice each February, with finalized statewide statistics typically released in July. As a result, finalized 2025 crime statistics are not expected until later this summer. Staff will coordinate with Captain Gault and the Sheriff's Department to provide a formal presentation to the City Council once the 2025 data becomes available.
- 3. Memorial Day Weekend Tourism & Public Safety:** The City of Needles experienced a successful Memorial Day holiday as residents and visitors enjoyed the Colorado River, parks, beaches, and recreational amenities throughout the community. The increased visitation reflects the City Council's continued goals of supporting tourism, recreation, economic activity, and public

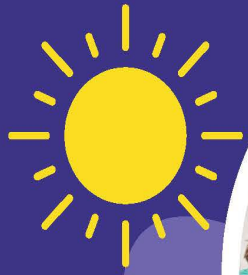
safety. City staff worked throughout the holiday to maintain public facilities and support operational needs across the community. The San Bernardino County Sheriff's Department Colorado River Station Marine Enforcement Unit conducted enhanced patrols along the Colorado River corridor, completing 145 enforcement stops, issuing approximately 84 citations, and making 15 boating under the influence arrests. The City appreciates the continued partnership and enforcement efforts of the Sheriff's Department and first responders who helped keep the holiday safe and enjoyable.

4. **Enhanced Transit Access & Public Awareness Campaign:** The City of Needles recently coordinated with the San Bernardino County Transportation Authority (SBCTA) to develop a public awareness campaign promoting services available through Needles Transit Services. The campaign highlights the affordability and accessibility of the City's transit services, including fixed-route service throughout Needles Monday through Saturday, Dial-A-Ride transportation for seniors and residents with disabilities, and the Fort Mohave/Bullhead Shuttle service operating Tuesdays and Thursdays by reservation. The campaign also promotes reduced-cost transit passes, free rides for K-12 and Palo Verde College students with valid identification, and upcoming "Dump the Pump Day" free transit promotions scheduled for June 18. These services continue to provide important mobility options for residents while improving access to employment, education, shopping, medical services, and regional destinations throughout the tri-state area. Visit the [Needles Area Transit website](#) for route schedules, fare information, and additional service details. Refer to the attached flyer for more information.
5. **Citywide Beautification & Summer Preparation Projects:** In alignment with the City Council's goals to modernize infrastructure, enhance public spaces, and promote community pride, the City of Needles is continuing several beautification and quality-of-life projects ahead of the summer season. City staff are currently completing final preparations for the opening of the Needles Aquatics Center next weekend, including facility maintenance, operational readiness, and seasonal setup activities to support summer recreation programming. In addition, following City Council authorization during the mid-year budget process, installation of the new perimeter fencing surrounding the recently renovated basketball courts at Duke Watkins Park began this week. These ongoing investments continue to enhance public facilities, improve safety and usability, and strengthen recreational amenities available to residents and families throughout the community. Residents may also report concerns by calling 760-326-2115 (press #9). The Needles Connect app is available for download on both the [Google Play Store](#) and [Apple App Store](#).
6. **TRACES' ACES Youth Awards & Regional Recognition:** The City of Needles would like to congratulate Liana DeLeon on being named the 2026 Female Scholar Athlete of the Year through the Tri-State Athletics, Community & Education Stars (TRACES) ACES Awards program. The City also congratulates the Needles High School Football Team for Team of the Year finalist recognition, Hudson Smith for Male Leadership finalist recognition, and Scotti Powell for Female Athlete of the Year finalist recognition. TRACES is a regional non-profit organization serving communities throughout Arizona, California, and Nevada focused on expanding youth access to athletics, recreation, and

educational opportunities. The City also recognizes and thanks Councilmember Jamie McCorkle for her volunteer service and involvement on the TRACES Board of Trustees. These recognitions reflect the dedication, leadership, and academic achievement demonstrated by Needles students, coaches, educators, and families while continuing to strengthen community pride and regional recognition for the City of Needles.

7. **Community Events Calendar Now Live:** The City's new website now features a [Community Events Calendar](#)—a centralized location for community events, civic meetings, and community programs. Local organizations are invited to submit or update events through the City Clerk's Office to help keep the calendar current and inclusive. Residents can subscribe and sync the calendar to mobile devices for real-time updates, making it easier to stay informed and engaged.
 - I. **Memorial Day Ceremony & Veteran Tribute:** The City of Needles hosted a well-attended Memorial Day ceremony at Riverview Cemetery as residents, veterans, public safety agencies, Mayor Janet Jernigan, and Councilmember JoAnne Pogue gathered to honor the men and women who gave their lives in service to our nation. Representatives from the San Bernardino County Sheriff's Department, San Bernardino County Fire Department, California Highway Patrol, the Fort Mojave Indian Tribe, City staff, and the community participated in the tribute, with a special performance by the Fort Mojave Band. The City also recognizes and thanks Natalie Johnson Services for once again organizing this meaningful annual event and helping continue a long-standing community tradition honoring our fallen veterans. In advance of the ceremony, volunteers participated in the annual Decoration Day effort by placing American flags and white crosses throughout the cemetery in remembrance of those laid to rest in Needles.
 - II. **Take Credit Financial Literacy Workshop:** Arrowhead Credit Union's annual 'Take Credit' financial literacy workshop for youth ages 12–18 will be held at the Needles Recreation Center on May 30 from 10:00 a.m. to 12:00 p.m. The free hands-on program provides students with real-world financial education focused on budgeting, savings, credit, and financial decision-making. Registration remains open.

1. RECREATION CENTER SUMMER PROGRAMMING



Suns out...Funs out



Camp 2026



**REGISTRATION
BEGINS MAY
1ST...CAMP BEGINS
IN JUNE!!**



\$4
daily



OUTDOOR ADVENTURES •
CREATIVE ARTS & CRAFTS •
SPORTS & GAMES

Themed weekly activities to include: Derby
races, cooking, scavenger hunts, Pinatas,
sport games, luau and life size board games
to name a few!!

Ages 5-12 yr old
Mon-Thurs. 1pm - 5pm

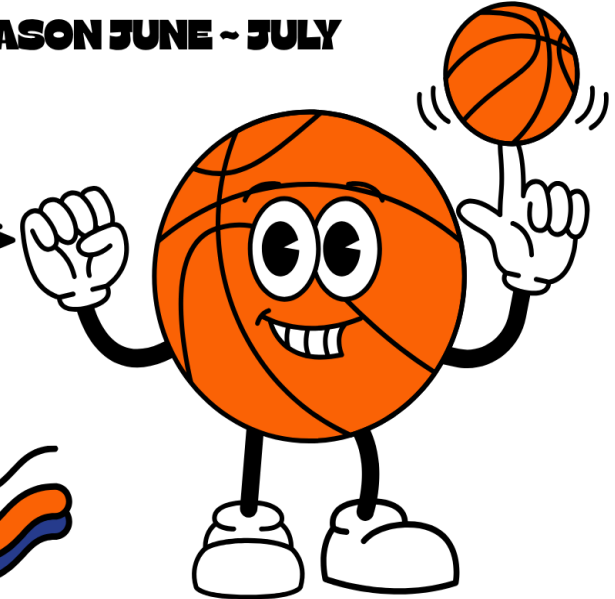


parksandrecreation@
cityofneedles.com 760-326-2814
1705 Jst. Needles Ca

CITY OF NEEDLES RECREATION

PEE ~ WEE BASKETBALL

SEASON JUNE ~ JULY



**REGISTRATION OPEN:
MAY 1ST ~ MAY 29TH**

NEEDLES RECREATION CENTER

1705 J St. Needles Ca

**AGES: JR PEE WEE- 3 TO 5YR OLDS
PEE WEE-6 & 7 YR OLDS**

CALL 760-326-2814 OR EMAIL:
PARKSANDRECREATION@CITYOFNEEDLES.COM

1. AQUATICS CENTER SUMMER PROGRAM

NEEDLES MUNICIPAL AQUATICS CENTER

Opening Day - Saturday, June 6, 2026

1661 J Street Needles, California 760 326-3866 (FUNN)

TIMES	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY	SUNDAY
6:30- 8:00 am	LAP SWIM						
8:00- 9:15 am	MORNING EXERCISE						
9:00-10:00 am	STAFF INSERVICE						
10:00-10:30 am	SWIM LESSONS						
10:30-11:00 am	PRIVATE LESSONS						
11:00-11:30 am	SWIM LESSONS						
11:30-12:00 pm	PRIVATE LESSONS						
12:00-4:00 pm	OPEN SWIM		Sat/Sun Open Swim is 2pm-6pm for the month of June				
4:00-6:30 pm	NEEDLES SANDSHARKS SWIM TEAM PRACTICE						
6:30-7:00 pm	SWIM LESSONS						
7:00-9:00 pm	OPEN SWIM						
9:00- 10:00 pm	LAP SWIM						

Aquatic Center is available for Private Rentals Fri - Sun after 6pm

ADMISSION PRICES

DAYTIME: \$3.00 (3 & Under is free)
NIGHT: Child \$1.75 Adult \$2.25

PASS SALES

Adult/Child/Senior - Open Swim

10 Visit Pass \$20.00 (Save 25%)
30 Visit Pass \$50.00 (Save 33%)
Season \$80.00 (Save 50%)

*Family of Four \$125.00

*Plus \$15.00 for each additional

Life Jacket & Mat Rentals:
\$1.00 per day

Exercise & Lap Swim

10 Visit Pass \$15.00
30 Visit Pass \$40.00
Season \$60.00

(Daily rate without a pass: \$2.00)

Exercise & Lap Swim runs thru end of September

SWIM LESSONS

Session 1 June 9 - June 19
Session 2 June 23 - July 3
Session 3 July 7 - July 17
Session 4 July 21- July 31

Group Rates: \$30.00 for eight 1/2 hour sessions
Monday through Thursday for 2 weeks

Private Rates: \$11.00 for each 1/2 hour session

Minimum of 4 lessons. Dates & times to be arranged with instructor

* Evening Lessons are taught during Session 1 - 3
** Parent-Tot Lessons are taught during Session 2

Pool Parties \$90.00

Up to 4 hours of swim fun for
14 children and 2 adults:

~PLUS~

2 Large Pizzas
24 Cupcakes
2 Gallons Lemonade
Cups, plates, forks & napkins

Private Rental Rates

\$80.00 per Hour

Groups renting the facility must
provide proof of insurance, or
purchase insurance from the City
of Needles for an additional
minimal charge of \$207.05)

July 4th

Celebrate Freedom

Join us for great family fun.
Lots of games and prizes! We have once
again partnered with the Needles Elks
Lodge to make this event

FREE ADMISSION FOR ALL AGES!!

We will also crown:

Miss Freedom & Mr. Firecracker

(4-5 yr. olds eligible)

NEEDLES AQUATIC CENTER 1161 J STREET, NEEDLES CA

LEARN TO SWIM THIS SUMMER

SESSION 1: JUNE 8 ~ JUNE 18
SESSION 2: JUNE 22 ~ JULY 2
SESSION 3: JULY 6 ~ JULY 16
SESSION 4: JULY 20 ~ JULY 30

10 AM / 11 AM / 6:30 PM

GROUP RATE: \$30 FOR (8) 1/2 HOUR
(MON-THURS)

PRIVATE RATES: \$11 FOR EACH 1/2 HOUR
(MIN 4 LESSONS)



CALL (760) 326- 3866 FOR MORE INFORMATION OR
(760) 326- 2814 PRIOR TO JUNE 6TH.

2. SBCSD CRIME REPORT



2024 ANNUAL CRIME REPORT



City of Needles ~ Crimes Reported

	COVID		Post COVID		Prop 36	Percent Change	
Part I Crimes	2019	2020	2021	2022	2024	19-22	22-24 (Not 2023)
Murder	1	0	2	0	1	-100%	N/C
Manslaughter	0	0	0	0	0	0%	0%
Rape	4	4	2	10	7	150%	-30%
Robbery	6	8	7	7	5	17%	-29%
Aggravated Assault	60*	68*	64	74	31	23%	-58%
Violent Crime Total	71	80	75	91	44	28%	-52%
Burglary	66	22	34	40	30	-39%	-25%
Larceny	97	71	69	60	54	-38%	-10%
GTA	11	15	13	14	29	27%	107%
Property Crime Total	174	108	116	114	113	-34%	-1%
Arson	10	6	6	5	5	-50%	0%
Part I Total	255	194	197	210	162	-18%	-23%
Part II Total	423	474	627	N/A **			
Grand Total	678	668	824				

Source: Tiburon RMS/INFORM RMS & reported to DOJ

*Criminal Threat offenses previously reported to DOJ as Part II crimes were reported to DOJ as Aggravated Assaults in 2019.

****Due to the cyber-attack network disruption experienced by the Sheriff's Department on April 7, 2023, Part II crime statistics for 2022 are currently unavailable. All Part I crime statistics for 2022 are available and included. Part II totals for 2022 are noted as N/A. Also due to the cyber attack, only 6 months of Part I Crimes could be reported to DOJ as reported below.****

2023 (6-Months Only)

Part I Crimes	2023
Murder/Manslaughter	0
Rape	0
Robbery	5
Aggravated Assault	16
Violent Crime Total	21
Burglary	17
Larceny	14
GTA	22
Property Crime Total	53
Arson	0
Part I Total	74

SOURCE: <https://openjustice.doj.ca.gov/>

The category *Simple Assaults* includes all assaults which do not involve the use of a firearm, knife, cutting instrument, or other dangerous weapon and in which the victim did not sustain serious or aggravated injuries. Simple Assault is not a Part I offense but is collected under Aggravated Assaults as a quality control matter and for the purpose of looking at total assault violence. While the data for Simple Assaults is collected for quality control purposes and reported to DOJ, it is NOT used for publication in Open Justice at <https://openjustice.doj.ca.gov/> which is the source used for the 6-months of the 2023 data.

3. MEMORIAL DAY WEEKEND



Holiday STATISTICS

Total Enforcement Stops =	145
Total Citations Written =	84
Total BUI Arrests =	15
Total DUI Arrests=	1
Non Injury Boat Accidents =	1
Minor Injury Boat Accidents =	0
Major Injury Boat Accidents =	1



*Memorial Day
Weekend 2026*



4. NEEDLES AREA TRANSIT

Gas prices keep going up but the cost of your ride doesn't have to.

Public transportation gives you a smarter, more affordable way to get around town.

Visit needlestransit.com

Needles Area Transit (NAT) fare is \$1.35 per boarding and you can skip the exact change with a 30-Punch Pass available for just \$39 at Needles City Hall.

Students ride free.

K-12 and Palo Verde College students ride at no cost with a student ID or class schedule.



Three ways to ride:

- **Deviated Fixed Route (NAT).** Monday through Saturday around Needles.
- **Dial-A-Ride (DAR).** Curb-to-curb service for seniors and riders with disabilities.
- **Fort Mohave/Bullhead Shuttle.** Tuesdays and Thursdays by prepaid reservation.



And coming June 18:

Dump the Pump Day. Ride NAT and DAR free.

powered by



5. MEMORIAL DAY WEEKEND



I. MEMORIAL DAY CEREMONY



I. MEMORIAL DAY CEREMONY



II. ARROWHEAD CREDIT UNION



PLAY & LEARN

Take Credit is a financial event that guides students through real-world financial decisions.

- ▶ Cash paychecks
- ▶ Manage on-time bill payments
- ▶ Make purchase decisions
- ▶ Pay taxes from each paycheck
- ▶ Choose to live alone or with roommates
- ▶ Handle unexpected expenses, like a flat tire
- ▶ Raise their credit score
- ▶ Balance wants vs. needs

STUDENTS ARE INVITED!

Date
Saturday, May 30

Time
10am – 12pm

Location
Needles Recreation Center
1705 J St
Needles, CA 92363

Student Age
12 to 18 years old

Register by
May 25

