

Camp Life Newsletter

DECEMBER 2025

Santee Lakes Recreation Preserve



MAY ALL
OF YOUR
HOLIDAYS
BE HAPPY!



THANK YOU FOR YOUR
SUPPORT THIS YEAR AND
SPENDING TIME AT THE LAKES!

-THE STAFF AT
SANTEE LAKES

General Store

8:00AM-5:00PM

Gift Ideas:

We are OPEN every day!
Well, almost...we are closed on
Christmas Eve & Christmas Day.



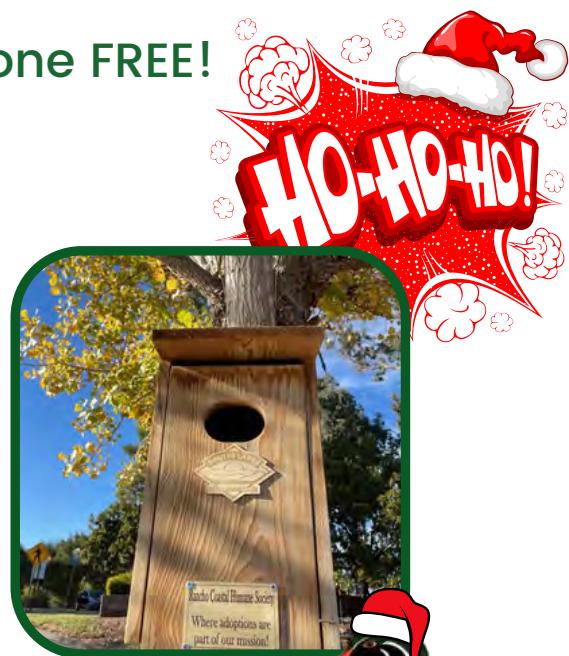
Be stylish, like Janet and
pick up a brand new
sweatshirt & beanie!

Buy 1 T-shirt and get one FREE!



Holiday Ducks
\$11.99+tax

Ornaments
\$8.99 – \$11.99+tax



Adopting
a Wood duck
box would
be a great
gift for those
bird lovers!



Gift Certificates are
always a good idea:

- Fish permits
- Camping/Cabin stays
- Pedal Boat Rides
- Annual Passes
- Bass Pass for Teens

Park Events



Need fishing tips? You are in luck! Join one of our experienced Rangers in a FREE class full of great info. Let us know you are coming.

[RSVP](#)



TROUT STOCKING

We will be stocking on December 12th in *Lakes 3 & 6 December 26th in Lakes 2 & 7 *Lakes subject to change

TROUT SEASON RE-OPENER
is January 10 & 11, 2026. We
will be stocking 3,500 lbs.
of trout in Lakes 2, 3, 4, 6 &
the Kid's Fishing Pond!



Park Events



Join us for a cozy morning of winter wonderland painting and sipping on The Deck, surrounded by a lakeside view!

[SIGN UP](#)



Come join us for a jolly good time at our Merry Grinchmas Paint & Sip on The Deck!

[SIGN UP](#)

Holiday music on the Deck!



It will be a festive time on deck, so grab some hot cocoa, great food and enjoy the holiday sounds of the Bayou Brothers!

Concert is from 2PM-4PM on Saturday, December 20, 2025. This event is FREE.



Special Holiday Park Event

Water Lantern Festival



Plan ahead for some holiday fun! Book your campsite and enjoy this holiday seasons event – Water Lantern Festival Holiday Edition on Saturday, December 13.

Get you tickets [HERE](#).

Schedule of events:

Book Now!

Gates Open

2:00 – 7:00PM

Enjoy Food Trucks / Music / Fun

4:30PM

Design your Lantern

5:00 – 7:00PM

Lantern Launch

7:00PM

Event Ends

What to bring:

- Event Ticket
- Blanket/Warm Clothes
- Camping Chair
- Camera
- Bug Spray

Fa La La Photo Op Holiday on the deck!



The deck is now decorated for the holidays and is a great place to snap a photo & write a letter to Santa!



All of the supplies are located on the side of the mailbox!

More Park Events

Make a difference. Donate today.



Donate 5 items at the General Store and receive a free 30 minute pedal boat ride coupon through the month of December. Items will be donated to the Santee Food Bank.

Welcomed items:

- peanut butter & jelly
- rice
- cereal
- spaghetti sauce & pasta
- canned meat
- canned soup
- canned beans
- canned fruit
- canned veggies
- unopened hygiene products
- pet food



Our newest event, the Spring Market, was inspired by the success of our Ladies at the Lake Fall Market—and this time we're expanding the experience, it's not just for the ladies.

We're curating a vibrant mix of talented vendors, bringing handcrafted pieces, unique finds, and specialty goods that offer something for everyone. This inclusive, well-rounded market is designed to appeal to all guests and showcase a diverse range items.

Event date: Saturday May 2, 2026 | 10AM-3PM
Application will open on January 5, 2026

News

Propane in the Campground



Propane Appointments (M-F, by appointment only, 10:30 AM or 2:30 PM) just in case you are a new camper and didn't know that service is an option. **YOU CAN NOW BOOK YOUR APPOINTMENT ON OUR APP!**

If you need propane delivered to your site, SD Propane can provide that service on **TUESDAYS** only, also by appointment only. Please call 619-460-1705 to schedule with SD Propane directly.

East County Advanced Water Purification



East County Advanced Water Purification contractor, WM Lyles, has successfully completed the slip lining and grout injection of the new 20" HDPE pipe along the east side of Santee Lakes. Their crew will now shift resources to the restoration, which includes replacing asphalt, concrete and pavers, starting at the entrance of Santee Lakes and the Padre Dam Customer Service Center. Traffic control measures will be in place Monday- Friday and we are asking all guests to remain attentive to flaggers and traffic control signage and always reduce speed in construction areas.

Santee Lakes Cell Tower



AT&T contractor RD Construction has begun the installation of wireless equipment and infrastructure to support the new carrier. Crews have successfully completed the telecommunications installation and are now preparing the foundation for the new enclosure that will house the equipment. RD Construction will continue the installation through the end of 2025, with the tower expected to go live for AT&T customers in January 2026.

@santeelakes



More News

code: **SDRESIDENT**

*Tis the
Season
for a discount!*

- San Diego County Resident Discount Promo Code is "SDRESIDENT"
- Valid for reservations made with zip codes between 91901-92199
- Two night minimum and excludes holidays
- Discount gives 20% off your camping stay
- Discount CANNOT be combined with Good Sam
- Valid for NEW reservations only with reservation dates between November 1, 2025- January 1, 2026
- Not applicable to stays 30 nights or more.

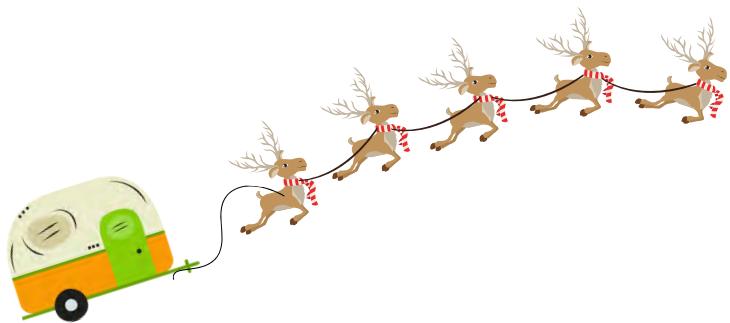
Pedal Boats will remain open every day the Park is open in December!
9:00AM-4:00PM



New electric meters will be installed in the campground this December.

May

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



There is storage available - up to 24' Trailer & 34' Motorhome. Call the Office for details 619-596-3141.

Santee Lakes Foundation



The Santee Lakes Foundation's primary purpose is to raise funds to support projects in design and to enhance the guest experience at Santee Lakes. The Foundation is committed to promoting the importance of outdoor recreation in conjunction with habitat maintenance through educational opportunities and financial support. The Foundation is dedicated in our mission to promote the importance of outdoor recreation, conservation, and environmental sustainability at Santee Lakes through charitable support in the following areas:



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.



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.



Campground 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.
- Where is the Campground Bark Park located?
 - The Bark Park is located in the very north west 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.