

# **Okaloosa County News Release**

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## **Park at Garnier's Celebrates Opening with Neighbors Saturday *Plus - Improvements to Several Okaloosa County Parks***

A new park has been added to Okaloosa County Parks List – the Park on the site of the now closed, Garnier's Sewer Plant in Ocean City. A Grand Opening is scheduled for Saturday, July 17, beginning around 11:00 a.m. Neighbors are invited to attend and get a free hot dog and a drink, as well as enjoy the new park equipment with their family. "This is a great day for our neighbors in Ocean City, who have waited for this park a long time and helped make it possible," stated Commissioner Don Amunds.

Funding for Garnier's Community Park came from Municipal Service Taxing Unit (MSTU) funds, and cost about \$100,000. An MSTU only taxes residents in the community where the improvements are made. The park currently has playground equipment, a pavilion and new restrooms; however, future improvements include a walking trail and an open lawn play area.

Other Parks in which Okaloosa County Resources has been working on include:

- Blackmon Rec. Area – new basketball goals, court, tee ball field & walking trail; \$30,000 MSTU Funds
- Marler Park tot lot is complete, FL Recreation Development Assistance Program (FRDAP); 75/25% match, cost approximately \$100,000.
- Meigs Seawall – FL Boating funds used; approximately \$2800.
- Norred Park received new swings & equipment, funding donations & MSTU
- Seminole Park – funded by MSTU
- Wilderness Landing – \$125,000 Matching Grant, FL Land & Water Conservation Fund
- Beach Access #1 is upgraded & still to do, are Beach Access 3, Cleo Park & Lake Silver improvements. Golf Course cleanup on the Island

For a list and directions to all Okaloosa County parks, visit [www.okaloosaf.com](http://www.okaloosaf.com).

Garnier's Community Park is located on Newport Drive in Ocean City, ( via Racetrack Road/Falcon Ridge Drive). For more information, call (850) 689-5772 or 311 Citizens Info Line.

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