



## **Spring Meadow Lake State Park Wild for Accessibility Picnic**

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## **Spring Meadow Lake State Park Wild for Accessibility Picnic Event Overview**

**When:** Saturday, September 20, 2025 | 12:00–4:00 p.m.

**Where:** Spring Meadow Lake State Park Pavillion, 2715 Country Club Ave, Helena, MT 59620

**Cost:** Free and open to all. Enjoy food from local trucks at standard prices, with part of the proceeds going directly to the project.

This free, family-friendly event marks the official launch of a major fundraising campaign to improve accessibility for people with disabilities at Spring Meadow Lake and beyond. The project aims to raise \$91,000 to be able to purchase, donate and install an adaptive kayak dock and provide three pieces of adaptive recreation equipment for complimentary community use at Spring Meadow Lake State Park, the Montana WILD Center, Fort Harrison VA Medical Center, and along the Ten Mile Creek Trail System.

Thanks to our business partners at LLC TLC, Appleton Furniture, St. Peters Health and Capital Sports have \$30,000 pledged towards our \$91,000. The State of Montana has committed \$55,000 for project related sidewalk improvements.

### **Event Highlights:**

- Adaptive recreation equipment demonstrations
- Free kayak demos
- Kids' activities
- Food trucks
- Giveaways and raffle prizes
- Information about the project and how to support it



## Spring Meadow Lake State Park Accessibility Project Fact Sheet

### About Montana State Parks Foundation

The Montana State Parks Foundation is the official nonprofit partner of Montana's 56 state parks. We serve the parks' 3.4 million annual visitors by funding critical projects that enhance access, safety, historical interpretation, and outdoor experiences, especially those that state funding alone can't support. Our mission is simple: to make Montana's state parks the best they can be for everyone.

### About Spring Meadow State Park

Spring Meadow Lake State Park is a popular day-use park located in Helena. Centered around a spring-fed lake, the park offers swimming, fishing, picnicking, birdwatching, and walking trails, making it a year-round destination for families and outdoor enthusiasts. In 2024, the park welcomed more than 175,000 visitors. It is also connected to the Montana WILD Education Center and the Fort Harrison VA Medical Center by the Ten Mile Creek Trail System, creating a unique hub for outdoor recreation, education, and community health.

### Park Accessibility Project Goal

Ensure inclusive outdoor access by installing accessible water recreation infrastructure and donating free-to-use adaptive recreation equipment.

**Funding Need:** \$91,000

### Key Problems & Solutions

1. Water Recreation Access
  - Problem: No adaptive dock creates a barrier to accessible water recreation.
  - Solution: Install a Board Safe adaptive kayak launch, dock, and gangway.
  - Estimated Cost: \$55,000
  
2. Accessible Pathway
  - Problem: No paved trail connects the parking area to the proposed dock.
  - Solution: Extend and improve sidewalks to connect parking to the dock.
  - Estimated Cost: \$50,000 (secured by Montana Fish, Wildlife & Parks)
  
3. Beach and Trail Access
  - Problem: Without specialized equipment, the trails and beach may be inaccessible to individuals with disabilities.
  - Solution: Donate a Huckleberry Hiker, Zoom All-Terrain Wheelchair, and Hippocamp Beach Wheelchair (or similar) for complimentary public use.
  - Estimated Cost: \$36,000



## Press Release

### Montana State Parks Foundation Hosts Wild for Accessibility Picnic at Spring Meadow Lake State Park

**HELENA, MT** – The Montana State Parks Foundation invites the community to join the *Wild for Accessibility Picnic* on **Saturday, September 20, from 12:00–4:00 p.m.** at **Spring Meadow Lake State Park, 2715 Country Club Ave, Helena, MT 59620.**

This free, family-friendly event marks the official launch of a major fundraising campaign to improve accessibility for people with disabilities at Spring Meadow Lake and beyond. The project aims to donate and install an adaptive kayak dock and provide three pieces of adaptive recreation equipment for complimentary community use at Spring Meadow Lake State Park, the Montana WILD Center, Fort Harrison VA Medical Center, and along the Ten Mile Creek Trail System.

Guests will enjoy adaptive recreation equipment demonstrations, kayak demos, kids' activities, food trucks, giveaways and raffle prizes, information about the project and how to support it.

“Montana State Parks is happy to announce a unique ability project at Spring Meadow Lake State Park. The ADA trail system around the lake allows for many wheelchair and walker users to enjoy the trail, land, and views. With this new project, a Kayak Launch system, many of these folks will be able to now hand launch a Kayak and transfer from a chair to the vessel to enjoy paddling on the lake.” said Spring Meadow Lake Park Manager Craig Putschat. “This will be the first of its kind in the Helena area and will open up opportunities for many folks to enjoy paddling on this idyllic, non-motorized lake, who could not access the water previously.

The *Spring Meadow Lake State Park Accessibility Project* and *Wild for Accessibility Picnic* are proudly sponsored by LLC TLC, Appleton Furniture, St. Peters Health, and Capital Sports.

This event is free and open to the public.

#### Event Details:

- What: *Wild for Accessibility Picnic*
- When: Saturday, September 20, 2025 | 12:00–4:00 p.m.
- Where: Spring Meadow Lake State Park, 2715 Country Club Ave, Helena, MT 59620
- Cost: Free and open to all. Enjoy food from local trucks at standard prices, with part of the proceeds going directly to the project.

For more information, visit [www.montanastateparksfoundation.org](http://www.montanastateparksfoundation.org), email us at [info@montanastateparks.org](mailto:info@montanastateparks.org), or follow the Montana State Parks Foundation on Facebook and Instagram.



## **Volunteer at the *Wild for Accessibility Picnic***

The Montana State Parks Foundation is seeking enthusiastic volunteers to help make the Wild for Accessibility Picnic at Spring Meadow Lake State Park a success!

**Event Date:** Saturday, September 20, 2025

**Location:** Spring Meadow Lake State Park, Helena, MT

### **Volunteer Shifts:**

- Early Shift: 11:00 a.m. – 2:00 p.m.
- Late Shift: 2:00 p.m. – 5:00 p.m.

### **Volunteer Roles Include:**

- Event setup and breakdown
- Working at the merchandise table
- Selling raffle tickets
- Assisting at the kids' activity tent
- General event support
- Hanging out and having fun!

### **Volunteer Training:**

- An optional online volunteer meeting will be held on Monday, September 15, at 4:00 p.m. via Zoom.
- Registered volunteers will receive the Zoom link by email.
- [Volunteer Meeting Link](#)
- If you miss the meeting, no worries, volunteers can just show up and help out.

**Sign up online today to be part of this exciting community event!**

[Register to Volunteer](#)



## Wild for Accessibility Picnic Week Schedule

Date	Time	Event	Location	Notes
9/15	4pm	Volunteer meeting	<a href="#">zoom</a>	Optional.
9/17	5pm-8pm	Pint and Trivia Night	Brothers Brewing	Pint Night (proceeds to MSPF) 5-8pm Trivia 6-8pm
9/20	12pm-4pm	Wild for Accessibility Picnic	Spring Meadow Lake State Park	Volunteer shifts Early shift: 11am - 2pm Late shift: 2pm - 4pm

## Contact Information

Megan Buecking

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406-600-2544 (cell)

[www.montanastateparksfoundation.org](http://www.montanastateparksfoundation.org)

Facebook: Montana State Parks Foundation

Instagram: [@montanastateparksfoundation](#)



## **Marketing Assets**

Follow this link to find visual marketing assets.

- Flyer 8.5 x 11
- Poster 11x17
- Picnic Logo
- MSPF Logo
- Square event graphics for social media

## **Wild for Accessibility Picnic Sponsorship and Partner Information**