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Levy County's Blue Springs Park reopens today (Saturday June 9)



Cutting the ribbon on Friday morning is Levy County Commission Chairman John Meeks. Seen here (from left) are County Coordinator Wilbur Dean, County Commission Vice Chairman Mike Joyner, Levy County Parks and Recreation (and Mosquito Control Department) Director Matt Weldon, Suwannee River Water Management District Executive Director Hugh Thomas, Levy County Commission Chairman John Meeks, County Commissioner Rock Meeks and County Commissioner Lilly Rooks. (Please notice the American flag in the background.)

Story, Photos and Videos

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LEVY COUNTY – A ribbon-cutting ceremony Friday morning (June 8) heralds the opening of Blue Springs Park in Levy County for the summer of 2018.

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Two red-bellied bream float over areas they made as nests. The round sandy areas are where they put their fish eggs.

<https://youtu.be/HNvyOtM8Qww>

In this video, Levy County Commission Chairman John Meeks welcomes everyone to Blue Springs as he cuts the ribbon. Seen here (from left) are County Coordinator Wilbur Dean, County Commission Vice Chairman Mike Joyner, Levy County Parks and Recreation (and Mosquito Control Department) Director Matt Weldon, Suwannee River Water Management District Executive Director Hugh Thomas, Levy County Commission Chairman John Meeks, County Commissioner Rock Meeks and County Commissioner Lilly Rooks.

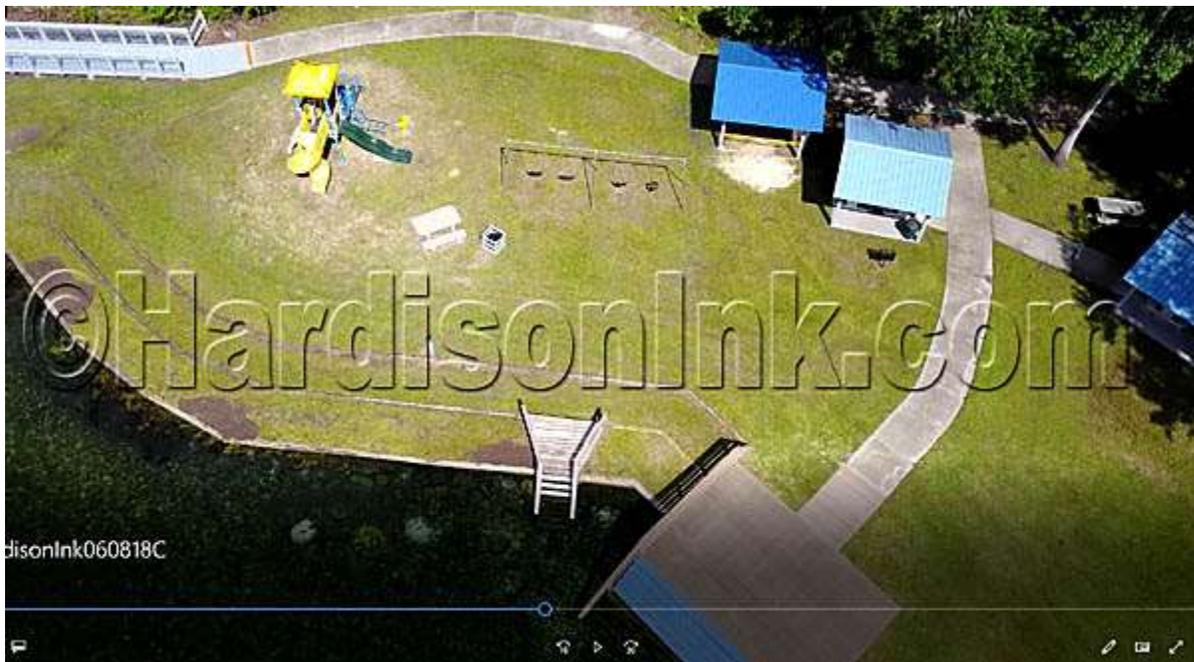
<https://youtu.be/6wkNxsRgycU>

In this five-minute silent video, Blue Springs Park is seen from the air. The video ends with a look at the volleyball net and then a landing, where some blades of grass are seen very close up. The video shows the playground, the 10 pavilions, the many picnic benches, the beautiful, clear inviting spring water, the concession stand and more.

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Two of the entrances to the springs are seen from the air.



Sidewalks, two entrances to the spring, the playground, a picnic table and a few pavilions are seen from the air. The pavilion on the left has yellow tape across it because it has been too rainy to pour the concrete slab under it. That will be completed relatively soon.

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The concession stand (with an aerial system operator in the shade), the beach volleyball game area and other parts of the county park are seen from the air on Friday (June 8).

The springs will be open to everyone starting at 10 a.m. on Saturday (June 9).

Blue Springs is open from 10 a.m. to 7 p.m. seven-days-a-week. It costs \$2 per person.

There is a 50 percent discount for Levy County residents 65 years and older, and for active members of the United States military with ID, or those with a disability.

Annual family passes cost \$35 and individual passes for the season cost \$20.

There is pavilion reservation available. Prepay \$25 and call the attendant for available sites. Cash only. The park phone number is 352-486-3303.

This season the park has been significantly spruced up. The ribbon-cutting ceremony Friday celebrates the completion of \$300,000 worth of improvements from last year, Levy County Parks and Recreation Director Matt Weldon said. Weldon is also the director of the Levy County Mosquito Control Department.

The spring pool of Blue Springs is 26 feet deep and the water is crystal clear. Little Blue Springs, which is right around the corner in the same park area, is 20 feet deep, Weldon said.

The \$300,000 in improvements that were just completed were funded at \$190,000 by the Suwannee River Water Management District and \$110,000 by impact fees paid for parks and recreation in Levy County, Weldon said.

Among the improvements are a newly paved and lined parking lot; repaired concrete walls around the spring, improved draining from the parking lot to retention areas; four brand new pavilions; dredging; and debris removal.

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A floating-dock has been ordered and will be added to Little Blue Springs, Weldon said.

This park has the two spring areas for swimming. There is a playground area with swings and a slide. There is a beach volleyball area. There are 10 pavilions, all with grills.

This project to improve Blue Springs Park included work by Parks and Recreation Director Matt Weldon; Stevie Keith, foreman of Parks and Rec and Mosquito Control; Robert Law, construction and maintenance in Parks and Recreation; T.J. McGinnes, builder tradesman II of Parks and Recreation; and Chuck Van Oder and Nomar Trinidad, both of Mosquito Control.

The Levy County Road Department paved and lined the parking lot, and sodded the park with grass, Weldon said.

The main Blue Springs are surrounded by a concrete retaining wall, with stair and dock access. Spring water issues from several sand boils scattered across the bottom of the pool. Blue Springs discharges to the southwest down a short run and into the nearby Waccasassa River, which flows south to the Gulf of Mexico.

There are restrooms, picnic pavilions and a concession stand onsite. It is a very popular place for families to enjoy.