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LOCAL PARKS RECOGNIZED FOR BEING DESIGNED FOR RESIDENTS ACROSS THE LIFESPAN



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Walton County, Fla.— The Healthy Walton Parks initiative of the Walton Community Health Improvement Partnership (WCHIP) has designated four local parks as being “multigenerational parks.” A multigenerational park is one that is designed for all ages and abilities.

Multigenerational parks offer opportunities for all park users to increase physical activity with multiple activities of varying intensities. The four parks receiving the designation include:

- Freeport Regional Sports Complex
- J.C. Alford Park in the Gaskin Community
- Padgett Park in Santa Rosa Beach
- Wee Care Park in DeFuniak Springs

“We are committed to improving the quality of life for our residents by creating an outdoor environment in our parks that supports the health for individuals of all ages,” stated Holly Holt, Health Officer and Administrator of Florida Department of Health in Walton County. “The Healthy Walton Parks initiative addresses several priorities that resulted from the 2019 Community Health Assessment, and we are thankful to our community partners and local government leaders in supporting our efforts in making sure health is obtainable to all communities in Walton County.”

WCHIP’s Healthy Walton Parks initiative is just one of several priorities in the 2021-2023 Community Health Improvement Plan. For more information, visit walton.floridahealth.gov. If you would like to be involved in WCHIP or for more information, please contact Ryan Mims at Ryan.Mims@flhealth.gov or 850-401-6341.

About the Walton Community Health Improvement Partnership

WCHIP is a partnership of over 45 community service organizations, local governments, healthcare agencies, and volunteers with a goal to make Walton County a healthier place to live, learn, work, play, and pray. The partnership conducts a community health assessment and creates a three-year community health improvement plan to strategically layout objectives and actions to better the health of all individuals in Walton County.

About the Florida Department of Health

The department, nationally accredited by the [Public Health Accreditation Board](#), works to protect, promote and improve the health of all people in Florida through integrated state, county and community efforts.

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Photo Caption: On November 1, 2021, the City of Freeport installed the “Multigenerational Park” sign at the Freeport Regional Sports Complex. Pictured (L to R): Mayor Russ Barley; Eddie Farris, City Council Member; Holly Holt, DOH-Walton Administrator and Health Officer; Charlie Simmons, City Manager; and Ryan Mims, DOH-Walton Chief Health Strategist.