

## LAKE EOLA PARK - EVENT PLANNING GUIDE

Lake Eola Park is a popular destination in the downtown area, with many people taking advantage of the beautiful surroundings to walk at lunch or bring the kids on the weekend. Activities available to park visitors include renting swan-shaped paddle boats, feeding the live swans and other birds inhabiting the park, seeing a concert or a play in the Amphitheater, watching the children play in the playground, or relaxing amid beautiful flower beds and a spectacular view of Orlando's skyline.

The premiere outdoor location in downtown Orlando, Lake Eola is classified as a regional park because of the large numbers of visitors that use the park from all over Central Florida. Nearly 2,000,000 people visited the park annually for large annual festivals such as Fireworks at the Fountain or small private functions.

Listed below are multiple areas within the park available for events such as weddings, fundraising walkathons, concerts, festivals and more:

- Amphitheater
- Central Promenade
- East Lawn
- Forum
- International Plaza & Bridge
- Northeast Lawn
- Northwest Lawn
- Overlook
- Peninsula
- South Patio
- Sperry Fountain
- Ting
- Washington Plaza
- Washington cul-de-sac
- Eola House

Lake Eola Park staff is dedicated to helping you make your event a success.

Lake Eola Park  
512 East Washington Street  
Orlando, FL 32801  
(407) 246-2378



## **PROCEDURE FOR BOOKING EVENTS**

### **Scheduling:**

When scheduling events at Lake Eola Park, priority will be given according to the following factors:

1. Official City events.
2. Official City improvements, projects or scheduled maintenance in the Park.
3. Events that have had an annual presence in the Park.

Other considerations for approval include:

1. The potential for negative impact the event may have on the City, the Park, its amenities, infrastructure, surrounding neighborhoods and day to day users.
2. Event Organizer's performance with respect to prior events at the Park or other City of Orlando parks.
3. The unique cultural aspects of the event.
4. Events that will have a positive impact on the quality of life.
5. Lake Eola Park is not available for events on the following blackout dates:
  - Memorial Day weekend
  - Thanksgiving Day and weekend
  - From the first Friday in December through the second Saturday of January
  - During other select times

### **Reservations:**

- A completed park rental application form must be submitted to the Lake Eola Park Event Coordinator or Park Manager.
- Applications will be accepted for tentative dates 1 year (no earlier than 12 months) prior to date requested.

Based on the information provided on the park rental application, the City will prepare a cost estimate for the Event Organizer. ***Payment must be made in full to book the date.*** Payments may be made by credit card or cash. All fees are subject to change with any change in information from the original park rental application.

### **Post Event Settlement:**

All events will be settled, with applicable refunds submitted for payment to the Department Financial Office, within 7 business days of the conclusion of the event.

### **Cancellation Policy:**

If an event organizer decides to cancel the event, the following cancellation fee schedule will be applied:

- 91 days prior to event date = 75% refund of all monies collected to date
- 90 – 31 days prior to the event date = 50% refund of all monies collected to date
- Less than 30 days prior to the event date = No Refund

Cases of severe weather incidents will be handled on a case by case basis.

### **DEPOSITS**

All events will be assessed a cleanup/damage deposit, the amount of which will vary based on projected attendance. This will be held until after the event and may be used for costs to repair or replace event related damages to the grounds or other elements of the park; actual event time exceeding rental contracted time; or other expenses not covered in the rental contract.

### **PARK STAFFING COSTS**

The City will determine if and how many additional staff will be needed. Determining factors include but are not limited to; the number and type of vendors, event hours and projected attendance figures. These personnel costs will be applied to the total cost payable to the City.

- Park Ranger fee is \$50.00 per hour per person. On site to provide access to power and water, and other issues that may arise.
- Maintenance Supervisor fee is \$50.00 per hour per person. On site to coordinate with private cleaning vendors when utilized.
- Park Service Worker fee is \$35.00 per hour per person. On site for clean up during and after the event.
- Electrician fee is \$95 per hour per person. On site to handle any unanticipated electrical problems.
- Plumber fee is \$95 per hour per person. On site to handle any unanticipated plumbing problems.

### **EVENT HOURS**

Event set up may not take place outside of regular park hours (6:00 a.m. – 12:01 a.m.) unless approved by the Park Manager. Per City Ordinance, amplified sound is not permitted prior to 7 a.m. or later than 10 p.m. from Monday through Saturday, and 8 a.m. through 10 p.m. on Sunday. During this time, noise generated from set up must be kept at a minimum.

Event Organizer(s) must be on site through all phases of the event and available by cell phone. This includes during set up, event hours and breakdown.



## PERMITS

The following permits may be required:

### Special Event Permit

If required, apply for a Special Event permit through the Office of Special Events. Applications must be submitted no later than 60 days prior to your event date. Failure to do so will put your event in jeopardy of being cancelled. The permit is required for events that meet any of the below criteria:

- Over 100 attendees
- Selling, distribution and consumption of alcohol
- Selling, distribution and consumption of food or merchandise
- Pyrotechnics (Fireworks)
- Road closures

Link below or call (407) 246-2590.

[Special Event permit application](#)

### Tent Permit

Any tent larger than 120 sq ft (12x10) must have a permit from the City of Orlando Permitting Department. Tents must be weighted down or sandbagged, **no staking is permitted.**

### Loudspeaker Permit

A loudspeaker permit is required from the Office of Special Events when any amplified device is to be used outside on city property or private property.

[Loudspeaker permit application](#)

## LICENSES AND INSURANCE

The Event Organizer is responsible for ensuring that all vendors have the appropriate licenses, permits and insurance documentation.

Event Organizers are required to provide the City with a certificate of insurance identifying the City of Orlando as certificate holder and additional insured at 400 S Orange Ave, Orlando, Florida 32801. Minimal liability terms are \$1,000,000 bodily injury and \$100,000 property

damage. **Certificates must be sent directly from the insurance provider no later than 10 days prior to the event date.**

Coverage may be purchased through the city with variable rates dependent on expected attendance and activities.

### **ALCOHOL**

No alcoholic beverages of any kind are permitted in City parks without an alcohol waiver. A pre-approved area must be created with an approved barricade for the serving and consumption of alcohol.

- The minimum size area for the area is two thousand (2,000) square feet.
- Signs must be posted at each entrance with the following information: Minimum age to drink, proof of age required, no serving to minors as per State law, and no alcohol permitted outside the fenced area.
- An OPD officer must be stationed at each entrance/exit.

### **VENDOR INFORMATION**

*Event organizer is responsible for the conduct of all contracted vendors.* They must:

- Follow all Park rules
- Remove all event materials from Park
- Display all required City or State licenses
- All vendors must have proof of a City of Orlando [Business Tax Receipt \(BTR\)](#)

Vendors will be required to remove all event materials (including pallets and grease) from premises. The unauthorized discharge of waste onto the street, park grounds, lake and/or shore or in storm water drains will be subject to violations and fines and exclusion from future events. Park Management and the City's Code Enforcement Department will regularly inspect vendor areas for compliance.

Vendors who are cooking on site must have an approved ground cover underneath the cooking apparatus to catch and soak up any grease, oil, charcoal or liquid spillage in order to prevent the staining of park walkways and hardscape. Cardboard or paper is not acceptable. Failure to do so will result in a partial or total forfeiture of the damage deposit and additional clean up fees if not corrected. **COOKING IS NOT ALLOWED ON ANY GRASS AREA.**

All vendors must be in compliance with the City of Orlando's policy on Single Use Products on City Property. The policy requires the use of alternatives to single-use products, specifically certified compostable, biodegradable, recyclable (plastic #1 or #2), or reusable products. (NO glass, NO single use plastics, NO styrofoam).

During load in and breakdown, the Event Organizer must instruct all vendors, staff and contractors not to drive on the grass in any area of the park. **DRIVING IS NOT ALLOWED ON ANY GRASS AREA.**

The Event Organizer must remove any vendor location devices such as tape, chalk, etc. prior to the conclusion of breakdown.

### **FOOD TRUCKS**

Food trucks are permitted if associated with an event as a vendor and follow the same rules.

**SECURITY**

Event Organizers are responsible for providing adequate and required traffic control, crowd control, and security as is deemed appropriate for the event by the Park Manager.

**PARK RULES**

Rules include, but are not limited to:

- The only type of inflatables permitted are interactive games, no bounce houses, obstacle courses or water slides.
- Event promoters, producers and vendors are prohibited from providing glass drinking containers or plates and stickers of any type, gum or chocolate.
- Full bottles of wine may not be sold on site.
- Tape is prohibited from being used to hang signs, banners, etc. to any park structure.
- Light poles, park structures and/or landscaping are prohibited from being used to hang banners, lights, decorations, etc.
- Music and all speaking must be kept within the City's maximum allowable volume as specified in City Code Chapter 42. If at some point the City deems the volume to be too high the producer of the event will be asked to decrease the volume. If the City's requests are not met, the City reserves the right to cease the continuation of the event.
- Under no circumstances is driving allowed on any grass area in Lake Eola Park. This includes rental companies, caterers, guests, etc.
- No driving on paved surfaces in the park without permission from the Park Manager.
- No trees may be trimmed solely to accommodate any element of an event. No plant materials are to be removed, relocated or otherwise disturbed in any way.
- Any wires, cables or hoses laid across paved walking surfaces must be covered with stage/electrical cord mats or be taped down for the entire length of the paved surface with duct tape.
- Drivers require a spotter when driving through the park.

***FAILURE TO FOLLOW THESE GUIDELINES CAN RESULT IN A LOSS OF PARTIAL OR TOTAL DAMAGE DEPOSIT.***

Lake Eola Park Manager or designee will hold the final determination on questions regarding park rules.

## **PARK LOCATIONS**

### **Amphitheater**

An outdoor stage with seating for over 900. Rental times include setup and breakdown.

### **Washington Plaza**

The paved area just south of the Amphitheater is the Washington Plaza. During the holiday season it is home to the City of Orlando's Christmas tree. Commonly used along with the Amphitheater for additional vendor space.

### **Northwest Lawn**

The lawn area just off Rosalind Avenue in front of the Amphitheater is the Northwest Lawn. This lawn is commonly acknowledged for the Muse of Discovery, a monumental sculpture made from earth and stone that portrays a young reclining woman gazing at her opened hand. The area is also used frequently in conjunction with the Amphitheater and Washington Plaza for vendors, children's activities or simply a gathering place.

### **International Plaza and Bridge**

The International Plaza, commonly known as the "Farmers Market area", borders Central Avenue by the corner of Eola Drive. It serves as an excellent starting point for fundraising walks around the lake, 5k runs in the neighborhood, and a variety of other events. The focal point of this area is a group of large trees circled by a fenced area and picnic tables, paved areas, as well as grass areas providing a natural and cozy home to many events.

The International Bridge is a large, paved area extending out from the Plaza and connecting with the path around Lake Eola. This area has many functional purposes and can provide a versatile event space.

### **Northeast Lawn**

The Northeast Lawn is on the corner of Robinson Street and Eola Drive. As a rectangular open green space, it is a popular site for many large events. Its size and shape make it flexible for whatever your special event needs are. Bring in a stage for a concert on the 1.5 acre lawn and there's still room leftover for vendors and a beer garden. This grass area has also served as a kid's fun zone with room for lawn games as well as vendors.

### **East Lawn**

The East Lawn is just under an acre of land located in front of the Eola House on the corner of Eola Drive and Washington Street. With a large oak tree at the center of the lawn there is plenty of natural space to host a variety of events including elegant wedding ceremonies, small gatherings, or a continuation of space for larger fundraising events and festivals.

### **South Patio**

The South Patio is a 4,000 sq ft paved area behind the Eola House. This patio is an ideal place for a stage or large tent. The space goes well in conjunction with events on the East Lawn or the International Plaza area. It is also convenient to use as an outdoor space while having a function in the Eola House.

### **Washington Street cul-de-sac**

The Washington Street cul-de-sac was once a City street, but it has since become a part of the park along with the East Lawn. This space is perfect to rent along with the lawn for food trucks or other vendors. It also functions as a designated load-in area or paved space for a gathering.

### **Central Promenade**

The Central Promenade is a paved area that runs along Central Blvd from the International Bridge almost to the Sperry Fountain. The two levels of sidewalks along the lake promote a flow for a variety of events including fundraising events, festivals, and walks.

### **Smaller Areas**

There are smaller areas throughout the park that are utilized for weddings or smaller sized events.

Overlook – wooden deck overlooking the lake off of Robinson Street.

Forum – small stage with wooden benches by the corner of Robinson Street and Eola Drive; Perfect for wedding ceremonies.

Ting – Chinese gazebo and boardwalk area; a popular wedding setting.

Peninsula – grassy area which extends out into the lake, between the Forum and the Ting.

Sperry Fountain – picturesque fountain at the corner of Central Blvd and Rosalind Ave.