



NEWS RELEASE

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DISC GOLF TOURNEY, DEMONSTRATIONS, PARK TOURS HIGHLIGHT NEW MELLE LAKES ‘SOFT OPENING’

ST. CHARLES COUNTY, MO – One of St. Charles County’s newest parks is set for a soft opening next month to introduce its numerous amenities to the public. St. Charles County purchased the former New Melle Lakes Golf Course on Forstell Road near Highway Z in 2016, and the property had been held in reserve for future parkland.

Known as The Park at New Melle Lakes, the 153-acre former golf course property connects to other adjacent properties owned by the County, including a more recent purchase of land and a home which was the remaining lakefront parcel needed to secure public general access and lake rights. Total acreage of the park is approximately 400 acres.

“When this park is fully developed, it is going to be one of our premier parks,” says County Executive Steve Ehlmann. “It will offer something for everyone, from fishing to canoeing, disc golf, hiking, biking and camping, as well as educational and entertaining programs and events and more. Many of these amenities are going to be available this fall.”

The Parks and Recreation Department kicks off the opening with the Inaugural Disc Golf Tournament on Sunday, Sept. 23, on the new, premier 18-hole championship disc golf course. It is great for beginners, as well as professionals. Details and registration information for the tournament are available on line at <http://bit.ly/NMLakesDiscGolfTourney>.

From 9 a.m. to noon on Saturday, Sept. 29, the public is invited to experience park amenities and participate in activities, including:

- Canoe/kayak demonstrations by Alpine Shop
- Fishing information and skill challenges – free live bait and “loaner” poles available
- Hiking on paved surface trails
- Refreshments and giveaways

Future plans for New Melle Lakes include a dog park, restroom facilities, playground, shelters and camping. The home on the property is being upgraded to meet ADA standards and will be used as a rental facility.

The St. Charles County Parks and Recreation Department is adding three new parks from August through fall of 2018. In addition to The Park at New Melle Lakes, the Riverside Landing boat ramp and dock opens on Saturday, Aug. 18, and Veterans Tribute Park in Weldon Spring opens this fall. This increases the total number of County parks open to the public from 12 to 15 and the total amount of acquired park land to 3,643 acres.

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About St. Charles County:

Founded in 1812, St. Charles County is one of the fastest growing counties in Missouri, and the state's third largest county in both population and economic share. St. Charles County consistently ranks one of the healthiest places to live in Missouri in the County Health Rankings report published by the Robert Wood Johnson Foundation and the University of Wisconsin Population Health Institute. It is home to 15 scenic county parks encompassing more than 3,643 acres with additional land under development and more in reserve for future development.

With a population of 395,504, St Charles County is home to large employers including General Motors, Citi, MasterCard Worldwide and Boeing. It is ranked among the top 25 counties in the nation in high-tech job growth by the Progressive Policy Institute and consistently has the lowest unemployment rate in the Metropolitan St. Louis area.

St. Charles County Government employs nearly 1,100 in more than 30 departments and offices, who work to make the county an excellent place to live, work and shop. For more information, please visit www.sccmo.org.