

MEDIA RELEASE

Desert Recreation District Continues Operation Splash in 2023 – Free Children’s Swim Lesson Program

Indio, CA (May 22, 2023) – Thanks to the continued funding from the Kaiser Permanente Foundation, Desert Recreation District (DRD) will once again be offering swim lesson scholarships for children living in the Coachella Valley. This year’s scholarships will again be awarded from the \$84,150 granted to DRD for the 2022 and 2023 swim seasons as part of Kaiser's HEAL program – Healthy Eating Active Living.

DRD's Operation Splash free swim lesson program is one way in which healthy lifestyles are supported and encouraged by Desert Recreation District. This year's lessons will take place at four area pools managed by DRD, which include Bagdouma Community Pool in Coachella, Fritz Burns Pool in La Quinta, Mecca Community Pool, and Pawley Pool Family Aquatic Complex in Indio.



Residents are encouraged to apply for the scholarships as soon as possible. The application can be accessed in English at <https://form.jotform.com/221855263409054> or in Spanish at <https://form.jotform.com/230995260759165> Children between the ages of 3 to 14 years old are eligible for the free swim lessons through this program. Those issued scholarships will receive their award letters at Bagdouma Community Pool in Coachella during the Operation Splash Kick-off event to be held on Saturday, June 3, 2023, 9 a.m. - 12 p.m. Bagdouma Pool is located at 84-599 Avenue 52 in Coachella. The Kick-off will include free open swim time, a Lenny the Landshark water safety demonstration, and a check presentation.

DRD will also be hosting a Free Swim Friday on June 9 from 5 – 9 p.m., and a few Dive-in movies will be shown on the inflatable screen at various pool locations - additional information on these activities, including Operation Splash, can be found at MyRecreationDistrict.com or by calling 760-347-3484.

About Desert Recreation District

[Desert Recreation District \(DRD\)](http://DesertRecreationDistrict.com) is the largest park and recreation district in California, covering over 1,800 square miles and serving more than 380,000 residents throughout the greater Coachella Valley in part by working with municipalities in a collective effort to assure equitable service delivery to every community regardless of economic means. DRD manages, maintains, and assists in maintaining more than 30 parks and recreation facilities; we create and deliver quality programs, services, and classes; and we facilitate leisure opportunities through partnerships with private and public agencies and entities as we strive to ensure members of the public receive personal benefits such as physical fitness, relaxation, and revitalization; social benefits in the form of stronger and healthier families and enriching the lives for persons with disabilities, and economic benefits through more productive and healthier citizens and increased tourism.

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