



News Release

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Tulip Time 2018 extended by one week to April 29

TOPEKA, KAN. – Taking the occasion of Tulip Time Festival at the Lake, Shawnee County Parks + Recreation announced today that Tulip Time 2018 is being extended by one week to April 29. Dave Bartels, horticulture supervisor, noted that the tulips are in peak bloom now and with warm weather in the forecast for this week, more people will have a chance to enjoy the tulips.

“With the prolonged cold weather, we’ve had a steady stream of calls from people who live hours away and wanting to know if the tulips are in bloom,” said Bartels. “While we lost some of the early blooming tulips, the mid- and late-season varieties are blooming now and will continue through next week.”

Tulip Time 2018 was originally set for April 6-23 but cold weather kept the tulips from blooming on time. The event features more than 100,000 tulips in Shawnee County Parks + Recreation’s three featured gardens – Ted Ensley Gardens at Lake Shawnee, Old Prairie Town/Ward-Meade Botanical Garden and Doran Rock Garden and surrounding areas in Gage Park.

Tulip Time Festival the Lake is back for a fourth year at Ted Ensley Gardens at Lake Shawnee. The event is from 10 a.m.-3 p.m. April 22. A \$5 donation is suggested for the day which features classic cars, food trucks, photography and musical performances.

Tulip Time has been attended in the past by people from 86 cities in 30 states, as well as visitors from the United Kingdom, India, Russia, Australia and the Commonwealth of Puerto Rico. Tulip Time is an annual destination popular with everyone from area residents to out-of-state visitors on bus tours. A \$5 donation is suggested at Ted Ensley Gardens and Old Prairie Town/Ward-Meade Botanical Garden to help cover the cost of the event and enable Tulip Time to continue in future years. Guided tours for groups of 15 or more with advance reservations are available at Ted Ensley Gardens (785) 251-6800 and Old Prairie Town/Ward-Meade Botanical Garden (785) 251-6989.

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Tulip Time is a combined effort of Friends of Ted Ensley Gardens, Friends of Ward-Meade, the Shawnee County Parks and Recreation Foundation, Shawnee County Parks + Recreation and Visit Topeka.

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Shawnee County Parks + Recreation includes more than 50 miles of trails, 2,625 acres of parks and 320 annual days of sporting activities. In addition, the department offers recreation programs, educational programs and golf. A combination of tax dollars, user fees and private donations enables Shawnee County Parks and Recreation to offer parks, sporting and aquatic facilities with state-of-the-art features, and beautiful, nationally recognized gardens.

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