



**City of Kerrville**  
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## **PRESS RELEASE**

### **FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

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### **Portions of Kerrville River Trail and Louise Hays Park to reopen on Oct. 6**

**Kerrville, Texas (Oct. 3, 2025)** – The Kerrville Parks and Recreation Department is pleased to announce that select segments of the Kerrville River Trail and designated areas within Louise Hays Park will officially reopen to the public on Monday, Oct. 6, 2025. This marks a significant milestone in ongoing recovery efforts following the July 4 flooding event in Kerr County.

“We’re excited to welcome the community back to these beloved spaces,” said Jay Brimhall, director of Parks and Recreation. “This reopening is a big step forward, and we appreciate everyone’s patience and cooperation as we continue restoration work.”

#### **Reopening Details**

Public safety remains the city’s highest priority, and all reopened areas have been carefully evaluated for safety and accessibility. The following trail segments and areas will reopen on Oct. 6:

- River Trail segment from Birkdale Trailhead (River Hills) to G Street Trailhead.
- River Trail segment from Schreiner University Trailhead to G Street Trailhead.

- River Trail segments from G Street Trailhead to Tranquility Island (accessible only from Louise Hays Park).

### **Safety and Property Guidelines**

As you return to the trails and park, please follow these essential safety guidelines to ensure a smooth reopening experience:

- Trail use during daylight hours only, dawn to dusk.
- Stay on designated paths and trails. Never leave the trail unless you are inside one of the public parks – much of the River Trail is on private property, and we want to avoid trespassing.
- Motorized vehicles and equipment, including but not limited to bikes, golf carts, utility carts, and motorized hoverboards, are prohibited.
- Observe all signs and do not go around barricades.
- Observe and stay clear of any active construction areas, equipment, or materials to ensure personal safety and avoid disrupting ongoing work.
- Use only marked parking areas.

City staff and law enforcement will be monitoring trail use to ensure everyone's safety and to protect adjacent private lands.

### **Restricted Areas**

The bridge at Camp Meeting Creek crossing east of the Birkdale Trailhead is no longer in place. It was removed entirely, making the area unsafe due to hazardous drop-offs. Consequently, the River Trail segment from the Birkdale Trailhead to the Kerrville-Schreiner Park Trailhead will remain closed for safety reasons. On Tranquility Island, the River Trail

pedestrian bridges at Lemos Street Bridge and the Butt Holdsworth Memorial Library remain closed due to handrail damage. Tranquility Island will not be accessible from the Riverside Nature Center or the Butt-Holdsworth Memorial Library. All trail segments and trailheads west of the Lemos Street Bridge will remain closed until further notice. Additionally, all play structures along the River Trail remain closed until further notice.

### **Ongoing Park Recovery**

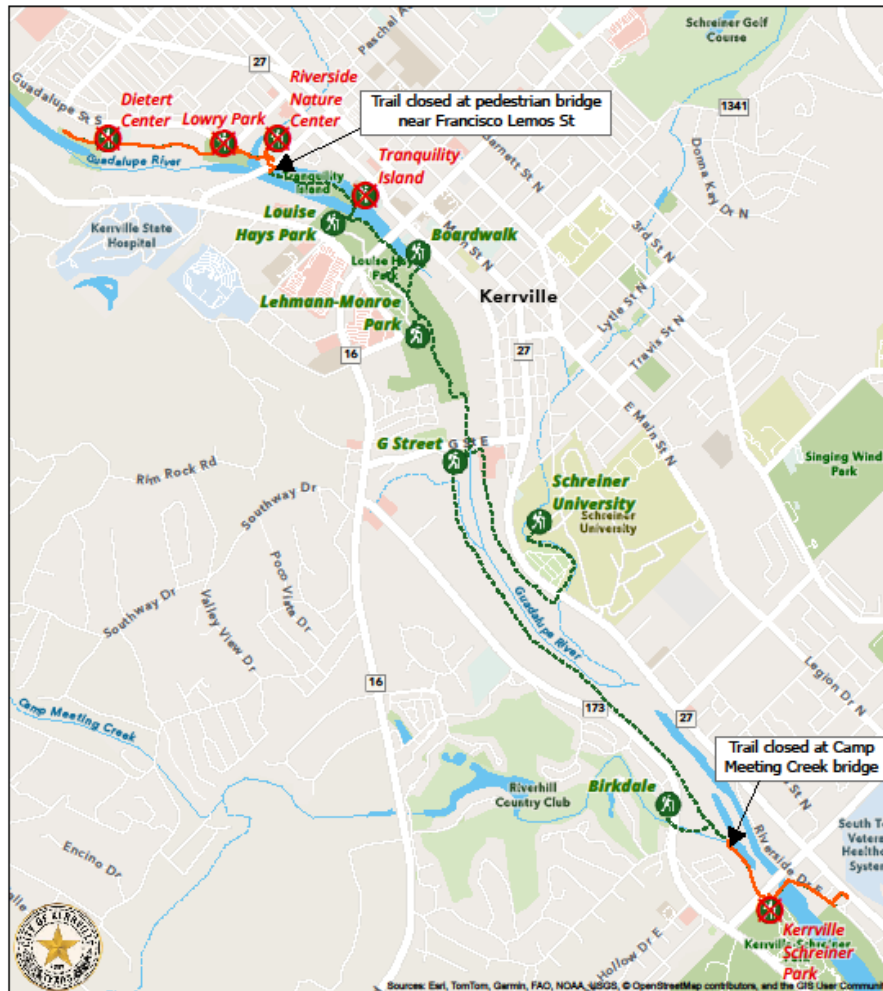
Although select areas of Louise Hays Park and the Kerrville River Trail are reopening, visitors should be aware that the park experience will not yet be the same as prior to the flooding. Louise Hays Park sustained extensive damage during the July 4 flooding event, and it will require significant time, funding, and public input to restore the park to its familiar condition. Patience and understanding from the community are appreciated as restoration efforts continue. Rebuilding the park to be stronger and more resilient is a complex process involving careful planning and collaboration.

Community members and others who wish to support the recovery and rebuilding of the city's parks system are encouraged to contribute to the Kerrville Parks and Recreation Foundation. This foundation, a partnership between the Kerrville Parks and Recreation Department and the Community Foundation of the Texas Hill Country, is accepting tax-deductible donations to fund ongoing recovery efforts.

Donations can be sent or given to the Community Foundation of the Texas Hill Country, located at 241 Earl Garrett St., Kerrville, Texas 78028, or completed online at [https://cftexashillcountry.fcsuite.com/erp/donate/create/fund?funit\\_id=2683](https://cftexashillcountry.fcsuite.com/erp/donate/create/fund?funit_id=2683).

For additional information, contact the Parks and Recreation Department at (830) 257-7300, [recreation@kerrvilletx.gov](mailto:recreation@kerrvilletx.gov), visit the city's website at [www.kerrvilletx.gov](http://www.kerrvilletx.gov), or follow us on Facebook at City of Kerrville Parks and Recreation Department or Instagram at cityofkerrville.

### River Trail Open Status



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