



Celebrate America with Fire on the Water

Get ready for a Pelham tradition that lights up the sky and brings the community together. Fire on the Water returns to Oak Mountain State Park on Thursday, July 3, 2025. Presented in partnership with the City of Pelham and Oak Mountain State Park, the annual fireworks show draws thousands of visitors for a day of outdoor adventure and an unforgettable display over Double Oak Lake. Guests can enjoy swimming, paddling, hiking, and food vendors before the show begins at 9:00 p.m. sharp.

"The show has become an annual tradition for many families, and the park's natural setting creates a stunning viewing experience," said Pelham City Manager Gretchen DiFante. OMSP Events Coordinator Anna Jones added, "Guests can relax on the sandy beach or paddle the lake before the show. It's a unique way to celebrate the Fourth of July in nature."

The event is made possible through a strong partnership between the City of Pelham and Oak Mountain State Park. While the City funds the fireworks and provides public safety support, the park handles event operations and covers all other costs. "This arrangement allows Pelham to host a large-scale Independence Day event while also showcasing our recreational amenities," said DiFante. Jones noted that the event is also Oak Mountain's largest revenue generator of the year, with proceeds helping protect, maintain, and preserve the park for future generations."

Fire on the Water is more than a celebration; it's a reflection of Pelham's community pride. Special event rates begin at 4:00 p.m., with discounted entry for Pelham residents. [Read the entire article on the City of Pelham website.](#)



Cone With a Cop

The Pelham Police Department is partnering with Pelham McDonald's to serve up a sweet treat and good conversation during Cone with a Cop.

Join us on Saturday, July 26, 2025, from 11:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m. at McDonald's, located at 580 Cahaba Valley Road in Pelham. Guests will receive a free vanilla cone and have the opportunity to meet and chat with members of the Pelham Police Department in a relaxed, family-friendly setting.

A police vehicle will be on-site for fun photo opportunities, and special guest Grimace will stop by to say hello.

[Read more on our Facebook event page.](#)



Pelham Garden Club: Antique Roses

Join the Pelham Garden Club on Thursday, July 10 at 10:00 a.m. in Roberts Room A at the Pelham Public Library. This month's guest speaker is Shelby County Master Gardener Larry Kronk, who will share his expertise on antique roses. No registration is required, and attendees can enjoy free coffee and conversation.

The Pelham Garden Club is open to all adults interested in gardening, no matter where you live, and there's no cost to attend. The club meets monthly on the second Thursday at 10:00 a.m. Come grow with us!

Pro Rodeo Returns to Pelham

The Pelham Civic Complex & Ice Arena is excited to welcome back the Making a Difference for Kidz Pro Rodeo for two nights of action-packed fun, July 25–26, 2025. Presented in partnership with Kidz Outdoors and 3R Rodeo Company, this event blends family-friendly entertainment with heart-pounding rodeo competition, all for a great cause.

As part of the Professional Cowboy Association (PCA) circuit, the rodeo features elite cowboys and cowgirls competing in traditional events like bull riding, bronc riding, steer wrestling, barrel racing, and roping. A highlight for younger fans is the always-popular Mutton Bustin' segment, where brave little riders steal the show.

"We are thrilled to bring the spirit of the rodeo back to Pelham," said Seth Greenberg, Executive Director of the Pelham Civic

Complex & Ice Arena. "This event is not only a spectacular experience for the community, but it also supports a meaningful cause. We are proud to partner with Kidz Outdoors to help enrich the lives of children facing life's challenges."

Proceeds from the rodeo support Kidz Outdoors, a non-profit organization that provides outdoor experiences for children with physical, mental, or emotional challenges. These programs serve kids from across the Southeast and offer life-changing adventures. Several children who have benefited from Kidz Outdoors will be special guests at this year's event.

"We're incredibly grateful to the Pelham Civic Complex & Ice Arena and 3R Rodeo Company for their continued support," said Carol Clark, CEO of Kidz Outdoors. "We're looking forward to a full house and another year

of making a real difference through this exciting event."

Doors open each night at 5:00 p.m., with the rodeo kicking off at 7:30 p.m. Tickets are available through Ticketmaster or can be purchased in person at the Civic Complex box office without service fees. Special rates are available for children, making this an affordable outing for the whole family.

So saddle up and bring the whole crew out for a weekend of unforgettable rodeo action, all while supporting a cause that helps kids thrive. Yeehaw, Pelham!



Pelham Welcomes the World Police & Fire Games

The 2025 World Police and Fire Games are in full swing, and Pelham is proud to be one of the host cities for this international celebration of athleticism, service, and camaraderie. The Games, which began June 27 and continue through July 6, feature more than 1,600 medal events and bring together over 8,500 first responders from more than 70 countries, including current and retired law enforcement officers, firefighters, and public safety personnel.

Pelham's world-class recreational amenities are playing a key role. Oak Mountain State Park is hosting outdoor competitions such as cycling, dragon boat racing, open water swimming, orienteering, and the triathlon, while the Pelham Civic Complex & Ice Arena is the site for the always-exciting ice

hockey tournaments. Poppa G's Billiards is also a host location for pool events.

Several Pelham firefighters are representing our city in competition, including Lt. Brett Gillespie, who joins a hockey team made up of fellow Alabama firefighters. Jake Lanier, a national and world medalist in firefighter competitions, is participating in events like Ultimate Firefighter and Toughest Competitor Alive. "It's a great opportunity for the community to support our first responders and enjoy world-class competition," said Fire Chief Mike Reid.

[Visit the World Police & Fire Games website](#) for a full schedule of events. There's still time to catch the action and cheer on our hometown heroes!



Here are the remaining World Police & Fire Games events to be held in Pelham:

Oak Mountain State Park:
Cycling - Street (Time Trials) - July 2
Orienteering (Classic) - July 2
Triathlon - July 6

Pelham Civic Complex & Ice Arena:
Ice Hockey - through July 6

Poppa G's Billiards:
Billiards - through July 4



Brews & Views: Thought-Provoking Documentaries & Conversation

Looking for a meaningful way to connect with others this summer? Join the Pelham Public Library's Brews & Views documentary film series—a gathering for adults that pairs compelling films with coffee, snacks, and great conversation.

The series continues in July with two powerful stories:

Tuesday, July 1 at 10:00 a.m. – Blink (National Geographic)

When three of their four children are diagnosed with a rare, incurable eye disease, the Pelletier family sets out on a global journey to experience the beauty of the world before it fades. Blink is an unforgettable story of resilience, adventure, and the power of living in the moment.

Tuesday, July 15 at 10:00 a.m. – Frank and Ollie

This heartwarming film celebrates Disney legends Frank Thomas and Ollie Johnston, the animators behind timeless classics such as Bambi and Pinocchio. Through behind-the-scenes insights and personal reflections, the duo shares their creative process and enduring friendship.

No registration is required; simply drop in, grab a cup of coffee, and enjoy stories that inspire reflection and discussion.

July Fitness Motivator

A focus on health isn't just for January! Pelham Parks & Recreation is launching a July Fitness Motivator, a month-long wellness challenge designed to help you build healthy habits that last. Registration opens July 1st at the Pelham Recreation Center.

Throughout July, participants will focus on five key areas: hydration, sleep, nutrition, mindset, physical fitness, and stretching. The goal? Reach 21 days in each category to build a solid foundation for long-term health and wellness.

It's not about perfection; it's about progress. Drink 6–8 cups of water a day, take 15 minutes to de-stress, eat your fruits and veggies, move your body, and speak kindly to yourself. Together, we'll grow strong, one healthy habit at a time.

Register online or in person at the Pelham Rec Center. Pick up your personal progress log at the front desk.



[Register for the July Fitness Motivator](#)



Registration Reminder

Fall Youth Sports

[Softball & Baseball \(Ages 5–12\)](#) – \$105

[T-Ball \(Ages 4–5\)](#) – \$90

Early Bird: June 2–August 4
Late Reg.: August 5–10 (additional fee)

Games vs. nearby cities; weeknights

Jersey & hat provided

Build skills, make friends, and have fun!

[Follow this link to the Pelham Parks & Rec website for more details.](#)



Youth Pickleball Clinic Serves Up Fun

The pickleball craze isn't just for adults—kids are getting in on the action too! Pelham Parks & Recreation is hosting a Youth Pickleball Clinic on Saturday, July 26, at the Pelham Rec Center, and it's the perfect chance for kids to learn the ropes of America's fastest-growing sport.

Designed for players aged 10–16, this clinic will introduce them to the four basic shots — serve, volley, drives, and dinking — along with basic strategy and court positioning. Space is limited, and registration is open now through July 25. Cost is \$18 per participant.

[Visit the Pelham Parks & Recreation website](#) to register for these age groups:

[Youth ages 10–13](#)

[Youth ages 14–16](#)



Splash Pad Safety

As temperatures rise, the Pelham City Park Splash Pad is the perfect spot to cool off and beat the heat. Open Tuesday through Sunday from 9:00 a.m. to 7:00 p.m., it's a popular destination for families looking to cool off and have fun.

To keep the splash pad safe, clean, and enjoyable for everyone, please follow a few essential rules: swimsuits are required, and an adult must accompany children under 14 years old. Infants and toddlers must wear swim diapers, and diaper changes should be done in designated areas, not on the splash pad.

Food, drinks, pets, and loose materials such as mulch, chalk, and balloons are not permitted in the splash zone. The splash pad may temporarily close during inclement weather. Thank you for doing your part to keep this summer favorite safe for everyone!

NERF BATTLE AT THE REC

Get ready for action! Kids ages 8–12 are invited to the Pelham Rec Center Gym on Friday, July 18, for a Nerf Battle from 6:15 to 7:30 p.m. Bring your Nerf gun and ammo (no gel pellets allowed) and join in the fun. The cost is just \$5 per child, and all participants must be accompanied by a parent. Space is limited and advance registration is required.

Stick around after the battle for Movies Under the Stars. Questions? [E-mail Alicia Walters](mailto:awalters@pelhamcity.com).



MOVIES UNDER THE STARS

Join us for a fun-filled evening at Pelham City Park on Friday, July 18! The night begins at 6:30 p.m. with family games and activities, followed by a free screening of Dog Man (PG) around 8:00–8:15 p.m., once the sun sets.

Bring your lawn chairs or blankets and settle in for a night of laughter and fun. Cool off with a free popsicle, grab dinner from a local food truck, and enjoy the vibrant park atmosphere. No registration required; just show up and enjoy!

READY, SET, RACE!

Calling all young gamers! Join us for the E-sports Tournament Night on Friday, July 25 from 5:30–7:30 p.m. at the Pelham Recreation Center. This month's featured game is Mario Kart 8, and it's open to ages 8–13. The cost is just \$3 per participant.

Enjoy a fun evening of friendly competition, plus pizza and drinks. Space is limited, so be sure to register early and get ready to race to the finish line!





July Volleyball Clinic

Join us for a special Volleyball Clinic on Tuesday, July 8, from 9:00 a.m. to 12:00 p.m. at the Pelham Recreation Center. This clinic is designed for kids aged 8-12 who want to learn the basics of both indoor and sand volleyball. Conducted by Birmingham Beach Volleyball, the clinic costs just \$20 per child.

Participants will split their time between the gym and the sand court, developing essential skills for both types of play. Please remember to bring water, snacks, a towel, and tennis shoes and socks for indoor play, as well as flip-flops for after playing on the sand. Registration is open until July 7 on the [Pelham Parks & Recreation website](#).

Fall Youth Volleyball Registration Open

Pelham Parks & Recreation's fall volleyball season is just around the corner! This program is open to students entering grades 3-6 and emphasizes teaching the fundamentals of the game while promoting teamwork, sportsmanship, and a fun experience.

Practices and games will be held at the Pelham Recreation Center, with most sessions scheduled for Mondays and Thursdays. The games will begin in August and continue through October, featuring matchups against local teams from Pelham, Homewood, Oak Mountain, and surrounding communities.

The registration fee is \$90 per player, which includes one jersey and one pair of shorts. Parents are responsible for providing knee pads and practice attire. Early-bird registration is available from June 2 to July 28, and late registration will be available from July 29 to August 4.



Get in the Game with Adult Pick-Up Softball

Looking for a fun, low-pressure way to get back on the field? Pelham Parks & Recreation is offering Adult Pick-Up Softball every Tuesday from August 5 through August 26, from 6:00-8:00 p.m. at Fungo Holler Baseball Field.

This structured, drop-in program is perfect for adults 18 and older who want to play without the commitment of a formal league. There's no need to form a team or recruit a captain. Just register, show up, and play. Teams will be selected on-site each week, offering a fun and social environment for players of all skill levels. The program is free and open to both Pelham Rec Center members and non-members; however, participants must reside in the City of Pelham to participate.

Space is limited, so be sure to sign up by July 31 to secure your spot! [Visit the Pelham Parks & Recreation website to register.](#)



Fundraiser and Flavor

The Alabama Distiller's Guild will host its first-ever Fundraiser Bash at the Pelham Civic Complex & Ice Arena on Saturday, August 9, offering an afternoon of live music, local flavor, and community spirit. The event runs from 3:00 to 8:00 p.m. and features performances presented by the Magic City Blues Society, complimentary samples from Alabama distilleries, BBQ plates, a cash bar, and raffle prizes. Specialty signed bottles will also be available for purchase.

Tickets are \$50 in advance via Eventbrite or \$60 at the door. VIP tables for eight are available for \$400 and include VIP parking and access to the cigar lounge. Come out and support Alabama's growing distillery industry while enjoying a lively afternoon in Pelham. [Visit the group's Eventbrite page to learn more and to purchase tickets.](#)

Wear White

WIMBLEDON Social

AT PELHAM RACQUET CLUB

SUN • JULY 6TH
2:00 - 5:00 P.M.

BRING A WOOD RACQUET
IF YOU HAVE ONE

Mixed Doubles
or
Regular Doubles

JUNIOR AND ADULT DIVISIONS

pelhamracquetclub.com/955/Socials

Sign up today!

\$30
PER PERSON
ASK ABOUT
MEMBER DISCOUNTS

Vulcan Vault Comes to Pelham

On Saturday, July 12, the Pelham Civic Complex & Ice Arena will host The Vulcan Vault, a high-energy pole vault competition drawing athletes from youth to professional levels. Sanctioned by USATF, this rapidly growing event is known for its dynamic atmosphere, complete with lights, music, and an elite-level experience for every competitor.

The action runs from 8:00 a.m. to 10:00 p.m., offering spectators a unique opportunity to see world-class pole vaulting up close, many for the first time. Whether you're cheering on a local athlete or just looking for something exciting and different to experience, The Vulcan Vault promises an unforgettable day of athleticism and entertainment. [Tickets are available through Ascend Athletics.](#)