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Outdoor Activities

To enrich the quality of living for our growing community, Victoria provides a variety of recreational and leisure activities including beautiful parks, new high-quality sports facilities, water sports, hunting & fishing, world-class golf, well-managed event activities, and of course?wide open spaces!

Victoria Youth Sports Complex

The centrally located 40-acre sports complex features baseball & softball fields; a lighted basketball pavilion; four, lighted hard-court tennis courts; and a skate park. The complex offers visitors comfortable amenities, and a parking lot that will accommodate over 600 vehicles.

- **Baseball and Softball Fields**

Play Ball!!! Twelve newly constructed, high-quality ball fields with fixed seating include 7 baseball fields and 5 softball fields. Championship fields have a seating capacity of 320 (one baseball and one softball). Ten non-championship fields have a seating capacity of 144 each. Room for additional seating is available on the grassy area nearby. A concession stand is on-site and open whenever games are being played.

- **Victoria Skate Park**

Kids of all ages who love the thrill and freedom of skateboarding can show off their skills or learn a new trick at the Victoria Skate Park. The new 15,000 SF skate park opened in January 2009. Skate from dusk to dawn and burn off some energy in a fun, safe, positive environment!

Hike and Bike Trail

Fitness enthusiasts love the Lone Tree Creek Hike & Bike Trail. Stretching a little over 2 miles, this paved and lighted foot and bike trail offers a newly constructed winding path to run, walk, jog, or bike. For hike and bike convenience, a parking area is available adjacent to the East High School campus. Marked pedestrian crossings are along the way. Application for a grant is in the works to construct an area for additional parking across the street from the Hike & Bike Trail on Airline Street.

Riverside Park

Looking for family fun in one of the prettiest settings in town? Then plan a family outing to Riverside Park. Covering 562 acres of woodlands, Riverside Park sits on the beautiful Guadalupe River and has something for everyone. For the sports enthusiast, Riverside Park boasts the largest golf course in the area. This 27-hole course is open daily to the public and is a USGA member. Riverside also offers picturesque exercise trails, hiking areas, nature and jogging trails along with volleyball courts and baseball diamonds. For family enjoyment, there are lots of picnic areas, Bar-B-Q pits and playground equipment. And no visit would be complete without a stroll around the scenic rose garden, gazebo and duck pond or a trip to [The Texas Zoo](#).

- **Victoria Paddling Trail**

Located within Riverside Park you'll find the Victoria Paddling Trail. Canoe along this 4.2-mile stretch of the Guadalupe River that wraps around Riverside Park and take in its scenic soft banks and wildlife. The occasional sandbar offers opportunities for either resting or bird watching. From put-in to

take-out, this picturesque trail can be paddled in 1.3 hours depending on flow rates.

- **Bird Watching**

Local bird enthusiasts have long known what this area has to offer. Over the years, its fame has spread, and now the Texas Coastal Bend is one of the nation's favorite bird watching areas. This area offers bird watchers and nature enthusiasts not only one of the largest varieties of migrating birds but is also proud to be home to the whooping crane.

- **Golf**

If golf is your game, you'll be right on par in Victoria because we rank above the national average for holes of golf per population. Three courses in Victoria offer enthusiasts a challenging test of their game. [Riverside Park Golf Course](#) is a 27-hole municipal course nestled in a 562 acre woodland park along the Guadalupe River.

[Colony Creek Country Club](#) located on the east-side of Victoria, is a private 18-hole course that also invites non-members to tee up on their challenging links; and called one of the finest golf courses in South Texas, the [Victoria Country Club](#), a private member 18-hole course, offers play on a reciprocal club basis.

Water Recreation

Water sports play an important part in the leisure activities of our residents. Local freshwater reservoirs, and Victoria's close proximity to the Gulf provides easy access to some of the state's most beautiful coastlines and the chance to windsurf, jet ski, and enjoy a host of other beach activities. Sounds of the surf beckon from Magnolia Beach to Port O'Connor to Rockport to Padre Island offering some of the last natural seashores in the nation.

- **Fishing**

For some of the greatest offshore salt water fishing in the United States, experienced fishermen agree, there's no place better than the Texas Gulf Coast. Popular fishing destinations include Port Lavaca, home of the "world's largest fishing pier," which is only a half-hour away.

In less than an hour, you'll find some of the best saltwater and offshore fishing anywhere in Port O'Connor and the Gulf side of Matagorda Island. From beach front fishing for tarpon, shark, kingfish and jackfish to bay fishing for speckled trout, redfish, and flounder to deep-sea fishing in the Gulf of Mexico running down snapper, kingfish, ling and dorado, you'll soon learn that around here the fish are biting every day!

Southeast of Victoria, Coletto Creek Reservoir offers more than 3,100 acres of freshwater fishing for bass, channel catfish, and hybrid striped bass. The 190 miles of lakefront park land includes boat ramps, picnic areas and camping facilities.

Lake Texana State Park extends 18 miles up the Navidad River Valley with 125 miles of shoreline. Its facilities include 10 boat ramps, picnic sites, camping areas, and fishing piers stocked with Florida bass, striped bass, large and small mouth bass, crappie, channel catfish and bream.

- **Hunting**

Sure shots will find hunting at its finest in the Victoria region. A wide variety of Texas wildlife thrives in our area including white tail deer, feral hogs, javelina, and wild turkey. General white tail deer season runs from November to mid-January. Late season antlerless and spike runs from mid-January to early February. Exotic hunts for game such as axis deer, fallow deer, aoudad sheep, and blackbuck antelope await the hunter eager for an exotic trophy specimen. Numerous species of ducks including mallards, pintails, and teal flock here to feed. From September through May there is rarely a week in Texas when there's not an option for the bird hunter to hit their mark.