

## Investigation Update Kenney Grove Park

The 1995/96 Ventura County Grand Jury reviewed the Recreation Services response to concerns noted in the 1994/95 Grand Jury Final Report.

The Grand Jury also:

- Visited Kenney Grove Park, met with the Lessees and their employee and reviewed the brochure provided.
- Reviewed the Kenney Grove lease.
- Met with Recreation Services and reviewed materials provided.

### FINDINGS

- Kenney Grove Park is located between Santa Paula and Fillmore, off California Highway 126.
- Kenney Grove's Lessee is now in compliance with the lease and reservation policies for County lease parks. The park is closed Monday through Thursday from November through April, but will accommodate campers by reservation. It is open all week from May through October, however, reservations are required for all picnic and camping areas. Security deposits are required for groups.
- Rates for parks are set in a rate/fee schedule established by the Board of Supervisors in November for the next year.
- The brochure provided at the park does not include the basic hours and rates. There is reference to "private property" and the Lessee as "Owner" on the brochure. Signs at the entrance state basic hours, and day use and camping fees, and "privately leased facility."
- The Lessee has built and maintained above average restrooms, tables and seats, bridges, rails along paths and amphitheater amenities.

### COMMENDATION

Kenney Grove Park's 15 acres offer a historic location with natural beauty, in which the Lessee has made significant improvements.

### RECOMMENDATIONS

The 1995/96 Ventura County Grand Jury recommends that Recreation Services/Parks Department work with the Lessee to:

1. Improve the clarity and give a message of welcome on signs at the entry.
2. Identify Kenney Grove as a Ventura County Park.
3. Delete mention of "private" and "owner" from signs and brochures.
4. Include basic hours and rates in the brochures.

### RESPONSE REQUIRED

Recreation Services/Parks Department