

## Alejandro Garces Camp Tomahawk Park

8419 San Ardo Road [Mapit](#)  
Jacksonville, FL 32217

Amenities offered at this park:

Qty.	Amenity
11	Benches
1	Bike racks
12	Car Parking
6	Grills
1	Multiuse Field
1	Picnic shelters
10	Picnic Tables
3	Playground Equipment
1	Restrooms
1	Trails Unpaved (Miles)
6	Trash Barrels
Yes	Drinking Fountain
Yes	Fishing Available
Yes	Perimeter Site Fencing
Yes	Security Lighting

**Acres:** 20.5

**Park Type:** Community

**Council Person:** [Art Shad](#)

**History:** Alejandro Garces Camp Tomahawk Park is located just north of San Clerc Road, between the San Jose and Beauclerc sections of southeast Jacksonville. Octavio Garces, an instructor at The Bolles School, known as Captain O.S. Garces to his campers, and his wife Geraldine (Gerry) Garces established a private day camp on the site in the latter 1950's known as Camp Tomahawk. The city later purchased the property from the couple in 1981 for use as a public park, subject to the stipulation that it be named for Mr. Garces' father, Alejandro Garces. The neighbors principally wanted a passive park, and most of the grounds have been left in a natural state with a mature growth of oak, pine, and maple trees and a creek that extends through the middle of the tract to Goodbys Creek. And with help from the Mayor's Council on Fitness and Well-Being, the Jacksonville Track Club, and numerous Eagle Scouts, the trails have been expanded and improved over the years.

## Baker Skinner Park

7641 Powers Avenue [Mapit](#)  
Jacksonville, FL 32217

Amenities offered at this park:

Qty.	Amenity
1	Baseball Adult Lighted
3	Baseball Youth Lighted
8	Benches
12	Bleachers
300	Car Parking
1	Concession Stand
1	Grills
1	Picnic shelters
9	Picnic Tables
1	Restrooms
2	Softball Youth Lighted
17	Trash Barrels
Yes	Drinking Fountain
Yes	Security Lighting

**Acres:** 37.962

**Park Type:** Community

**Council  
Person:** [Art Shad](#)

**History:** Baker-Skinner Park is located across Powers Avenue from Wolfson High School. The property was purchased in January 1994 from the descendants of dairyman, A. C. Skinner, Sr. The park was named after A. C. Skinner and Dick Baker, president of the Northeast FL Builders Association and winner of the Association's 1993 leadership award. Both Baker and Skinner were honored because of the time and money they, and their families, donated to the development of Jacksonville parks. Today the park features 2 t-ball fields and four baseball fields, picnic areas, a nature and jogging trail, playscapes, security lights and parking.

## Crabtree Park

1704 University Blvd West [Mapit](#)  
Jacksonville, FL 32217

Amenities offered at this park:

Qty.	Amenity
1	Baseball Youth
1	Basketball
1	Basketball Lighted
9	Benches
3	Bleachers
1	Grills
2	Picnic Tables
2	Playground Equipment
1	Softball Youth
6	Trash Barrels
Yes	Perimeter Site Fencing
Yes	Security Lighting

**Acres:** 2.18

**Park Type:** Neighborhood

**Council  
Person:** [Art Shad](#)

**History:** Crabtree Park is located in the Lakewood area, three blocks east of the intersection of San Jose Blvd. and University Blvd. West. Walter Crabtree developed the entire Lakewood area between 1946 and 1961, some of it around picturesque New Ross Creek that meanders through the northwest section. He conveyed the land for the park to Duval County in several deeds between 1957 and 1963. For over fifty years, Walter R. Crabtree (1899-1993) was a real estate developer and builder in Duval County. He operated his own lumber company, and built the Lakewood Apartments across from the park. Through the years, sports have been the main activity at Crabtree Park: organized youth baseball/softball games and pickup basketball games.

## Nathan Krestul Park

2001 LaVaca [Mapit](#)  
Jacksonville, FL 32217

Amenities offered at this park:

Qty.	Amenity
7	Benches
1	Multiuse Field
3	Picnic Tables
1	Trash Barrels
1	Water Features
Yes	Perimeter Site Fencing
Yes	Security Lighting

**Acres:** 2

**Park Type:** Neighborhood

**Council  
Person:** [Art Shad](#)

**History:** La Vaca Park (la vaca means “the cow” in Spanish) is located adjacent to Christopher Creek in the San Jose Forest section. In the late 1700’s, the site comprised part of the San Jose Plantation established by Francis Xavier Sanchez. Duval County acquired title to the property by dedication on the plat of Section F, San Jose recorded in 1926. The area exhibits a Mediterranean theme, and in 1925 four Hispano-Moorish gate towers were built near the park, marking the entrance to the new development. Alfred I. and Jessie Ball duPont also established their 60-acre Epping Forest estate – one of Jacksonville’s grandest residences – just west of the park. Residents of the San Jose Forest neighborhood are the principal users of park, and around June 2000, Mary Wheatley created a lovely butterfly garden on the grounds. It was later chosen by the statewide Florida Native Plant Society as tops in the wildflower and butterfly category. La Vaca Park was renamed to Kathan Krestul Park in September 2007.

San Jose Acre Park

2965 Caballero Dr. [Mapit](#)  
Jacksonville, FL 32217

**Acres:** 0.2

**Park Type:** Undeveloped

**Council  
Person:** [Art Shad](#)

**History:** San Jose Acres Park is a passive use pocket park located off of Old Kings Road and St. Augustine. In 2007 magnolia trees were planted with tree mitigation funding. New park benches are being added to the site for use by the citizens of the community

## Verona Park

7155 San Jose Blvd [Mapit](#)  
Jacksonville, FL 32217

Amenities offered at this park:

Qty.	Amenity
7	Benches
4	Playground Equipment
3	Trash Barrels

**Acres:** 9.7

**Park Type:** Neighborhood

**Council  
Person:** [Art Shad](#)

**History:** Verona Park is located in the San Jose area of the City near the Bolles School, on land that was part of the San Jose Plantation in the late 1700's. The developer of San Jose dedicated the parkland to Duval County in three plats recorded in 1925-26. The community exhibits a Spanish theme, with its street and park names and Mediterranean-style architecture. From 1925-27, buildings near the park such as the elegant San Jose Hotel (now Bolles School) and the Alfred I. Dupont residence (Epping Forest) were constructed. Verona Park follows a creek that runs westerly from St. Augustine Rd. across San Jose Blvd. to the St. Johns River. Surrounded by attractive homes, most of the park is in a natural state, with the exception of the eastern end that provides six benches and playground equipment for young children.

## Wolfson High School Park and Pool

7000 Powers Avenue [Mapit](#)  
Jacksonville, FL 32217

Amenities offered at this park:

Qty.	Amenity
1	Restrooms
1	Swimming Pools
Yes	Drinking Fountain
Yes	Perimeter Site Fencing
Yes	Security Lighting

**Acres:** 18.1

**Park Type:** Community

**Council  
Person:** [Art Shad](#)

**History:** Wolfson High School Park and Pool are located on Powers Avenue in Jacksonville's San Jose section. Members of the prominent Arthur Chester Skinner family deeded the land for the school to the School Board in 1962 (OR 1721 pg. 85). The Skinners operated a dairy in the area for many years, and this land was known as "Skinner's Pasture". The school opened in 1965 and was named for Samuel W. Wolfson (1909-1963), noted industrialist, philanthropist, and sportsman. He served on the board of directors of Jacksonville University, Barnett National Bank, the Gator Bowl Association, and Jacksonville Charities, Inc. The School Board and the City have a joint-use agreement for the pool, softball field, baseball field, football field, and track.