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“Memorial AquaVenture Water Slides”



They're the skyscrapers of Memorial AquaVenture Water Park. The 35 feet tall winding water slides are sure to be one of the most popular features when the park opens in just a couple of weeks.

One of the tall fiberglass slides is a 234 feet long body slide which means swimmers will climb the steps to the top platform and slide down with their body. The other slide is a 314 feet long raft slide. In that slide, park goers will flop down on an inflatable raft to zoom down the slide.

Both slides have unique features that aren't found in other water parks.

“Translucent colored bands throughout the large raft slide give the sensation of flying through colored rings in a space nebula. After you travel through the nebula of colors, the slide opens up to a helical slide for the last third of the ride,” said Kodi Theilgaard of the company,

Splashtacular, that built the park's play features. He was the designer of both of the slides.

“The body flume ride is a faster ride and every other section we've turned into a color translucent piece. When you go down the ride you'll see a wonderful contrast of color between the red translucent and the solid opaque yellow pieces. It's a fun effect and helps to keep the ride from being dark,” said Theilgaard.

The translucent bands in the slide allow for 50% of the sunlight to come through and are tinted with a gel coat.

“They are sort of like hula hoops that we wrap around the slide and they cause the inside to light up with many different colors as you travel down. The colors they produce seem almost synthesized because the color is very intense in the sun” Theilgaard said.

Although there are no age restrictions on using the slides, swimmers must be at least 48 inches tall to go down either of the slides.

According to Sheila Schukei, Human Resources Director for the City of Norfolk, the park is on schedule to open mid June.