

Free things to do this summer!

- * Visit your library once a week. Check for kids reading programs.
- * Pick one day a week to go have a picnic at a different park/playground
- * One night a week for a bike ride (hello! Ice Cream pit stop!)
- * Organize neighborhood games like kick the can, flashlight tag etc. or host a smore bonfire night. (other people's kids are bored too.)
- * Camp out in your backyard, get sparklers and don't forget to catch fire flies!
- * Go fishing (must purchase fishing license for adult, kids free)
- * Go to Rockford park district website and explore it. There are TONS of things to do. These are only some.

Donation days at the museum - IL Residence only:

Please call ahead and verify!

- * Discovery Center - Thursday afternoons? <http://discoverycentermuseum.org/>
- * Midway Village - Thursdays May Thursday 11th & 25th
June Thursday 8th & 22nd
July Thursday 27, Sunday 23 community picnic free day special event
<http://www.midwayvillage.com/wordpress/>
We like to bring a picnic and eat by the mill. There are fish in the pond that appreciate crackers. ;)
- * Rockford Art Museum - Every Tuesday 10-5pm <http://www.rockfordartmuseum.org/>
- * Burpee Museum - Call (It's usually Tuesdays) 815-965-3433 <http://www.burpee.org/>
- * Tinker Swiss Cottage - Call ahead for tour times. <http://www.tinkercottage.com/>
May 23,
June 6th, 14th, 20th

July 11th, 19th, 25th

Aug 8th, 16th, 22nd.

* Klehm Arboretum & Botanical Gardens - First Tuesday of every month

<http://www.klehm.org/>

* Anderson Japanese Gardens - The 3rd Thursday of every month

<http://www.andersongardens.org/>

* Lockwood Park Children's Farm . Some activities for a fee. Barn is always open for free. *** Check out new Native American Village! <http://www.rockfordparkdistrict.org/lockwood>

* Atwood Park is open from 10 AM to 2PM on Saturdays with birds of prey feeding at 1 PM. Lots of hiking trails and cool things to explore like old army bunkers. Check out website for free community programs. <http://www.rockfordparkdistrict.org/atwood/>

* Rockford Ski Broncs put on a free show every Wednesday and Friday night at 7 PM from Shorewood Park in the Rockford River. Check out website for start dates and info. <http://www.skibroncs.com/>

* Free outdoor concerts most every Tuesday Night and Thursday night at the Sinissippi Band Shell at 7PM...also some Saturday Evenings. http://www.rockfordparkdistrict.org/images/Arts_Entertainment/Sounds_of_Summer/Music_In_Park_Schedule_2016.pdf

* Also at the Band Shell on Wednesdays 1:30PM, free special kids presentations with various kinds of acts. http://www.rockfordparkdistrict.org/images/Arts_Entertainment/Sounds_of_Summer/Imagination_Station_Schedule_2016.pdf

* Tunes on the Terrace at Nicolas Conservatory Held Wednesday nights during the summer from 5:00 p.m. to 7:00

<http://rockfordparkdistrict.org/activities/arts-entertainment/sounds-of-summer>

* Free Music in the Park Belvidere Baltic Mill at 6:30

<http://boonecountyarts.com/Arts-Programming>.

* Check out movies at Davis Park. June 2 Moana, July 7 Sing, Aug 4, Finding Dory

* Check out Rockford City Market during the summer on Friday Nights downtown Rockford. <http://www.rockfordcitymarket.com/>

Low Cost

* On a rainy or super hot day, visit Sapora Play world in the Carlson Ice arena. Weekdays after 6pm just \$3

Mondays and Wednesday just \$3 all day

<http://rockfordparkdistrict.org/facilities/facilities/sapora-playworld>

* Nicholas Conservatory is only \$3 admission on Tuesdays

<http://rockfordparkdistrict.org/facilities/facilities/nicholas-conservatory-gardens>

* Check out Millennium park Water Fountain downtown Rockford when you ride the Trolley and the Forest City Queen Boat Ride. Check website for schedule.

<http://rockfordparkdistrict.org/facilities/attractions/forest-city-queen-riverboat>

<http://rockfordparkdistrict.org/facilities/attractions/trolley-car-36>

* Check with your local YMCA for swim class specials and programs

Pools, Water Park and Beaches

* Check out the new Splash Pad opening in June at Doty Park in Belvidere!!!! Free to public!!!

* William Grady Pool Belvidere

* Alpine Park Pool Rockford

* Sand Park Pool Loves Park

* Rockton Pool

* Magic Waters Reduced rates after 3 PM but only open till 6 PM Tuesday bargain day \$12

* Pearl Lake Beach

* Lake Louise Byron, IL

* ~~Olson Lake Beach – Rock Cut (Paddle boat rental both here and main lake. Kayak rental at main lake concessions as well)~~ Closed for 2017 season

A bit of a drive but worth the trip:

* Madison Zoo (Henry Villas) is a free zoo with a cool lake for swimming with a beach and boat rentals.

Also cool but not so cheap:

* Monkey Joes

* Volcano Falls Adventure Park

- * Donnelly Wild West Town - Union, IL
- * N. IL Railroad Museum - Union, IL
- * Lego Land - Schaumburg, IL
- * Summerfield Zoo - Belvidere, IL
- * Go Roller Skating
- * Go Ice Skating
- * Little Amerricka Amusement Park Marshall, WI (LOVE THIS PLACE!!!!)
- * Santa's Village Azoosement Park -Dundee, IL
- * Brookfield Zoo
- * Milwaukee County Zoo
- * Rockford Speedway (Check Website for schedule and kids nights)
- * Rockford Rivets baseball Home Games
- * Beloit Snappers Home Games
- * White Pines Dinner Theatre
- * Great America - Six Flags Tickets can be purchased for cash only at the Belvidere Park district for right around \$45 (cash only)

HAVE FUN!!!!!!!