

# play **BY** play

## 2023/24 FALL/WINTER ACTIVITY GUIDE



### Who Do You Call?

#### Administrative & Operations Office (319) 447-3580

- › Cemetery or burial information
- › Park equipment and information
- › Facility rentals (pavilions, Safe Room)
- › Weed and snow complaints
- › Tree permits
- › Adopt-A-Flowerbed
- › Trail questions or issues
- › Right-of-way tree issues
- › Memorial tree program

#### Recreation Office (319) 447-3590

- › Recreation programs, leagues, special events
- › Swim lessons and pool information
- › Facility rentals  
(Lowe A&E, amphitheater, ball diamonds, pool)
- › Senior programs at Lowe Park
- › Farmers market at Taube Park
- › Community gardens

### Online Account Reminders...

**FACILITY RENTAL POLICY** | You are able to rent facilities for the current calendar year as well as the next year. For example, you can rent rooms and pavilions for 2023 and all of 2024. Every January, we'll open the following year. This is a significant change from the one-year policy that was previously in place.

**HOUSEHOLD ACCOUNTS** | Please make sure to set up your household account and add ALL family members to your account to make the registration and reservation process quick and easy in the future. Please verify all contact information is correct (phone number, email, address, dates of birth, etc.).

**ACCESSING YOUR HISTORY** | You can check your registration and reservation history by logging into your RecDesk account. You can view all members of your household and click on the member whose history you wish to view. Next to their name, you will see three boxes: profile, history and calendar. Select history and you will be able to view all programs, memberships and reservations for that individual.

**WAITLISTS** | Once programs are full, you can elect to be added to a class waitlist. Please enter the participant's name only once. We will do our best to try and accommodate people on waitlists when possible. Waitlist status does not guarantee a spot in that program.

**FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE** | If you or your child would like to participate in a program but cannot afford the fee, please contact the Recreation office at (319) 447-3590 to discuss your options. Financial assistance is available for those who qualify.

**PROGRAM SURVEYS** | After the completion of the program, you may receive a post-program survey. We ask that you please take a minute to complete the survey and tell us about your experience with the program. Our goal is to ensure we are offering quality programming, and direct feedback from participants/parents is key to helping us attain that goal.

**POOL MEMBERSHIP TAGS** | If you purchased any type of pool membership, please hang on to your membership cards for the following season if you intend to renew your membership. This helps expedite the process each spring when issuing pool membership passes.

**GET REGISTERED!**

All participants must have a RecDesk account to process registrations.

(For security purposes, we cannot accept any payments/registrations over the phone.)



#### Online

Visit [www.cityofmarion.org/parks-recreation](http://www.cityofmarion.org/parks-recreation) to register through our RecDesk portal.



#### In Person

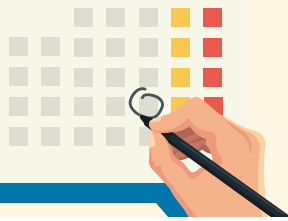
Stop by the Parks and Recreation office at Lowe Park (4500 N 10th Street) or Thomas Park (343 Marion Boulevard) to register for any of our programs. Register in person during office hours, Monday-Friday, 7 a.m.-4 p.m.

*Additional registration accommodations may be available. Please contact the Recreation office at (319) 447-3590 to discuss alternative options for registration.*



# REGISTER EARLY!

Nothing hurts a program more than missed deadlines. Please register early to ensure we have adequate numbers to hold our programs and time for us to plan, organize and communicate with participants. We cannot guarantee there will be any openings after the deadline has passed. Once a program is full, participants may choose to be placed on a waiting list. *(Please note, this does not guarantee a spot.)*



## Youth Sports – Leagues

### YOUTH 5V5 BASKETBALL (MULTIPLE SESSIONS!)

**Children Grades 1st-6th (Fall 2023-24)** | A joint program with Marion YMCA, this recreational basketball league, led by volunteer coaches, emphasizes teamwork, good sportsmanship, fair play and equal participation. Teams will begin weeknight practices 3 weeks prior to their first Friday/Saturday game and continue with weekly practices and games the rest of the session. A coaches' meeting will be held prior to the start of each session.  
**Volunteer coaches needed!**

OPTIONS	GAME DAYS	DATES	LOCATION
1st/2nd (Session 1)	Fri/Sat	10/9-12/9	Marion YMCA
3rd/4th (Session 1)	Fri/Sat	10/9-12/9	Marion YMCA
5th/6th (Session 1)	Fri/Sat	10/9-12/9	Marion YMCA
1st/2nd (Session 2)	Fri/Sat	1/8-3/2	Marion YMCA
3rd/4th (Session 2)	Fri/Sat	1/8-3/2	Marion YMCA
5th/6th (Session 2)	Fri/Sat	1/8-3/2	Marion YMCA

**REGISTRATION FEE:** \$55 per child, per session or \$100 for both sessions (includes team shirt)  
**REGISTRATION DEADLINE:** Session 1: Sept. 24, 2023 (+\$10 beginning Sept. 25)  
Session 2: Dec. 25, 2023 (+\$10 beginning Dec. 26)

**NOTES:** Weekly practices will be offered the entire duration of each session.  
No practices/games held the week of Thanksgiving.  
**Session 1** practices begin the week of Oct. 9 and practice days/times/locations will vary by team (Mon-Thurs).  
**Session 1** games are played on Friday nights or Saturdays beginning Oct. 27.  
**Session 2** practices begin the week of Jan. 8 and practice days/times/locations will vary by team (Mon-Thurs).  
**Session 2** games are played on Friday nights or Saturdays beginning Jan. 26.

### KINDERGARTEN BASKETBALL (MULTIPLE SESSIONS!)

**Children Grades AK-K (Fall 2023-24)** | A joint program with Marion YMCA, this co-ed basketball program works on basic basketball skills, including dribbling, passing and shooting in a friendly, fun and supportive environment. An appropriate combination of practices and games are used to develop basic player skills and an understanding of the game. *Program does not meet the week of Thanksgiving during Session 1.*  
**Volunteer coaches needed!**

OPTIONS	DAYS	DATES	TIMES	LOCATION
AK/K (Session 1)	Tues/Thur	11/2-12/19	5:30-6:15 p.m.	Marion YMCA
AK/K (Session 2)	Tues/Thur	1/30-3/7	5:30-6:15 p.m.	Marion YMCA

**REGISTRATION FEE:** \$40 per child, per session (includes team shirt)  
**REGISTRATION DEADLINE:** Session 1: Oct. 15, 2023 (+\$10 beginning Oct. 16)  
Session 2: Jan. 14, 2024 (+\$10 beginning Jan. 15)

**NOTES:** Practices are built into the schedule and mixed in with games.

### SPRING FLAG FOOTBALL

**Children Grades K-3rd (Fall 2023-24)** | This league focuses on teaching the fundamentals of football, including throwing, catching, running, blocking, handoffs, plays/formations, etc. Teams are kept small to encourage participation for each child. A combination of group practices and games will be used to reinforce and teach skills, fundamentals and basic understanding of the game. **Volunteer coaches needed!**

OPTIONS	DAYS	DATES	TIMES	LOCATION
K/1st Grade	Mon & Wed	4/8-5/1	5 p.m.	Taube Park
2nd/3rd Grade	Mon & Wed	4/8-5/1	6 p.m.	Taube Park

**REGISTRATION FEE:** \$42 per child, includes team shirt  
**REGISTRATION DEADLINE:** March 4, 2024 (+\$10 beginning March 5)  
**NOTES:** Cleats and mouthguards are highly recommended for player safety.  
Times are scheduled by staff and will rotate weekly to allow for even team distribution.

### TINY GOAL KICKERS SOCCER

**Children Ages 4-8** | An instructional league designed to develop and introduce basic soccer skills, rules and other concepts. Players are randomly assigned to teams in this non-competitive and recreational league. A combination of group practices and games in a 3v3 format on a small, scaled-down soccer field to increase player participation and engagement. **Volunteer coaches needed!**

OPTIONS	DAYS	DATES	TIMES	LOCATION
4 Year Old (co-ed)	Tues	4/2-5/14	5 or 6 p.m.*	Butterfield Park
5-6 Year Old (co-ed)	Thurs	4/4-5/16	5 or 6 p.m.*	Butterfield Park
7-8 Year Old (boys/girls)	Sat	4/6-5/18	9 or 10 a.m.*	TBD

**REGISTRATION FEE:** \$42 per child, includes team shirt  
**REGISTRATION DEADLINE:** March 4, 2024 (+\$10 beginning March 5)  
**NOTES:** Cleats and shin-guards are recommended for player safety.  
\*Times are scheduled by staff and will rotate weekly to allow for even team distribution.

### NEW! MARION YOUTH E-SPORTS

**Children Grades 3rd-8th** | In the simplest terms, e-sports are organized video gaming sessions in which individuals or teams compete against opponents, just like in traditional sports. Many e-sport athletes experience the same positive social and emotional benefits of being part of a team as they would in any sport. In this program, children will learn to develop effective strategies used in the e-sports world, such as tactics, communication strategies and teamwork. All of this is done in a safe, controlled, organized and supervised environment. *Limited number of spots available for each tournament.*

OPTIONS	TYPE	DAYS	DATES	TIMES	LOCATION
Mario Kart	Open Play	Tues	9/5-3/7	4-5:30 p.m.	Lowe Park

**NOTES:** All Nintendo Switch options are provided for these leagues and tournaments.

## VOLUNTEER COACHES NEEDED!

Many of our recreational leagues use volunteer coaches. Without the generous spirit and time commitment of volunteers, these programs would not be possible. Volunteers teach and stress age-appropriate skills and fundamentals and promote good sportsmanship and fairness. If you are interested in becoming a volunteer coach, please complete the online registration process on RecDesk for the appropriate program. Background checks are performed on all volunteer coaches. Contact the Parks and Recreation office with questions at (319) 447-3590.



# Youth Sports Camps



**Children Ages 3-8** | The purpose of these camps is to teach the fundamental skills of the sport and introduce basic rules and terminology in a non-competitive environment. Parents can expect their child to participate in a variety of fun, age-appropriate drills, games and activities to gain a better understanding and love for the game. A complete description of each camp, including available sessions and class times, can be found on the RecDesk portal during the registration process. *Limited number of spots available for each camp.*

PROGRAM	AGES	DAYS	DATES	LOCATION	FEE	DEADLINE
Little Kickers Kickball	3-4	Tues	10/3-10/24	Marion YMCA	\$28	Sept. 18, 2023
Lil' Pigskins Football	5-6	Tues	10/3-10/24	Marion YMCA	\$28	Sept. 18, 2023
Little Sports Camp	3-5	Mon/Wed	11/6-11/15	Marion YMCA	\$33	Oct. 15, 2023
Agility Camp	3-8	Thur	1/4-1/25	Marion YMCA	\$28	Dec. 13, 2023
Putt-Putt Golf	4-8	Mon	1/8-1/29	School Gym	\$28	Dec. 18, 2023
Little Stars Basketball	4	Tues	1/9-1/30	School Gym	\$33	Dec. 13, 2023
Little Spikers Volleyball	5-8	Mon/Wed	2/12-2/21	Marion YMCA	\$33	Jan. 22, 2024

## LITTLE KICKERS KICKBALL

**Children Ages 3-4** | An instructional approach to the childhood classic game kickball. Kids will learn the basic skills, rules and strategies to play an "organized" game of kickball. They will have a blast learning to play kickball while socializing and engaging with other children and staff. *Limited number of spots available.*

OPTIONS/AGES	DAYS	DATES	TIMES	LOCATION
Little Kickers-1	Tues	10/3-10/24	5-5:30 p.m.	Marion YMCA
Little Kickers-2	Tues	10/3-10/24	5:45-6:15 p.m.	Marion YMCA

**REGISTRATION FEE:** \$28 per child

**REGISTRATION DEADLINE:** Sept. 22, 2023 (+\$10 beginning Sept. 23)

## LIL' PIGSKINS FOOTBALL

**Children Ages 5-6** | Children are introduced to the basics of football without contact, learning the skills necessary to play football. Staff combines fun and fundamentals through skill-building drills, activities and games while emphasizing the importance of good sportsmanship and teamwork. *Limited number of spots available.*

OPTIONS	DAYS	DATES	TIMES	LOCATION
Lil' Pigskins-1	Tues	10/3-10/24	6:30-7 p.m.	Marion YMCA
Lil' Pigskins-2	Tues	10/3-10/24	7:15-7:45 p.m.	Marion YMCA

**REGISTRATION FEE:** \$28 per child

**REGISTRATION DEADLINE:** Sept. 22, 2023 (+\$10 beginning Sept. 23)

## LITTLE SPORTS CAMP

**Children Ages 3-5** | Increase your child's coordination, motor and social skills while sparking their interest in sports in a non-competitive atmosphere! This sports sampler class introduces little ones to the basic skills, fundamentals and terminology associated with various sports while stressing the importance of having fun while being active. *Limited number of spots available.*

OPTIONS	DAYS	DATES	TIME	LOCATION
Sports Camp-1	Mon/Wed	11/6-11/15	5-5:30 p.m.	Marion YMCA
Sports Camp-2	Mon/Wed	11/6-11/15	5:45-6:15 p.m.	Marion YMCA
Sports Camp-3	Mon/Wed	11/6-11/15	6:30-7 p.m.	Marion YMCA

**REGISTRATION FEE:** \$33 per child, includes camp shirt

**REGISTRATION DEADLINE:** Oct. 15, 2023 (+\$10 beginning Oct. 16)

**NOTES:** Each day of class will focus on a different sport.



## KIWANIS MIRACLE LEAGUE AT PROSPECT MEADOWS

The Kiwanis Miracle League at Prospect Meadows makes baseball possible for youth in the metro area and surrounding counties – regardless of their abilities. Players play on the Miracle Field, a safe and inclusive field. Each player gets an official major league jersey and hat for their team. A separate spring and fall season area offered. Community volunteers serve as "buddies" to assist the players in hitting the ball and moving around the bases. Buddies can be fellow schoolmates, parents, college students, business leaders or anyone who wishes to volunteer their time. For more information or to register a player or volunteer, please visit [www.prospectmeadows.com/miracle-league](http://www.prospectmeadows.com/miracle-league).

## AGILITY CAMP

**Children Ages 3-8** | Keep your kids moving and busy during the winter months with this indoor agility camp. They will participate in various drills to develop and improve fine motor skills. Participants will be introduced to ladders, hurdles, hoops and a variety of drills that work on balance and coordination. *Limited number of spots available.*

OPTIONS	DAYS	DATES	TIMES	LOCATION
3-4 Year Old	Thur	1/4-1/25	5-5:30 p.m.	Marion YMCA
5-8 Year Old	Thur	1/4-1/25	5:45-6:15 p.m.	Marion YMCA
5-8 Year Old	Thur	1/4-1/25	6:30-7 p.m.	Marion YMCA

**REGISTRATION FEE:** \$28 per child

**REGISTRATION DEADLINE:** Dec. 13, 2023 (+\$10 beginning Dec. 14)

## PUTT-PUTT INDOOR GOLF

**Children Ages 4-8** | An introduction to putting using the S.N.A.G. (Starting New At Golf) system. Children will learn proper stance and grip, as well as proper stroke and pace. They will practice putting through a variety of obstacles and play rounds of "mini golf" to practice their skills. *Limited number of spots available.*

OPTIONS	DAYS	DATES	TIMES	LOCATION
4-5 Year Old	Mon	1/8-1/29	5-5:30 p.m.	School Gym
4-5 Year Old	Mon	1/8-1/29	5:45-6:15 p.m.	School Gym
6-8 Year Old	Mon	1/8-1/29	6:30-7 p.m.	School Gym

**REGISTRATION FEE:** \$28 per child

**REGISTRATION DEADLINE:** Dec. 23, 2023 (+\$10 beginning Dec. 24)

**NOTES:** All clubs and equipment provided.

## LITTLE STARS BASKETBALL

**Children Age 4** | This program focuses on very basic ball handling, shooting and passing skills. For this program, recreation staff instructs and demonstrates the drills. This is a skill-based camp; no games are played. *Limited number of spots available.*

OPTIONS	DAYS	DATES	TIMES	LOCATION
Little Stars-1	Tues	1/9-1/30	5-5:30 p.m.	School Gym
Little Stars-2	Tues	1/9-1/30	5:45-6:15 p.m.	School Gym

**REGISTRATION FEE:** \$33 per child, per session, includes camp shirt

**REGISTRATION DEADLINE:** Dec. 23, 2023 (+\$10 beginning Dec. 24)

## LITTLE SPIKERS VOLLEYBALL CAMP

**Children Ages 5-8** | An introduction to bumping, setting, spiking, digging, volleying and more. Children will practice skills through a variety of fun, skill-building games and drills. Kids start by learning with light or low-flight balls, including beach balls or lightweight volleyballs. *Limited number of spots available.*

OPTIONS	DAYS	DATES	TIMES	LOCATION
5-6 Year Old	Mon/Wed	2/12-2/21	5-5:30 p.m.	Marion YMCA
5-6 Year Old	Mon/Wed	2/12-2/21	5:45-6:15 p.m.	Marion YMCA
7-8 Year Old	Mon/Wed	2/12-2/21	6:30-7 p.m.	Marion YMCA

**REGISTRATION FEE:** \$28 per child

**REGISTRATION DEADLINE:** Jan. 20, 2023 (+\$10 beginning Jan. 21)

# Youth Programs

## HALLOWEEN BOO! CAMP

**Children Grades K-5th** | Ghosts, goblins, goodies and games! This is a night for the kids as we celebrate all things Halloween. Drop your kids off and let our recreation staff lead them through a night of spooky games, crafts, snacks and more.

*Limited number of spots available.*

OPTIONS	DAYS	DATES	TIMES	LOCATION
K – 2nd	Fri	10/27	5-9 p.m.	Lowe Park
3rd – 5th	Fri	10/27	5-9 p.m.	Lowe Park

**REGISTRATION FEE:** \$28 per child, includes kid-friendly dinner

**REGISTRATION DEADLINE:** Sept. 29, 2023 (+\$10 beginning Sept. 30)

## GRINCHMAS

**Children Ages 3-8** | Children and parents can enjoy a silly morning with the one they call “mean,” the Grinch. Your kids will enjoy crafts, grinch games, treats, and of course, a photo-op with the Grinch himself. Help us make our grinch fall in love with Christmas all over again! *Limited number of spots available.*

OPTIONS	DAYS	DATES	TIMES	LOCATION
Grinchmas	Sat	12/2	9-10:30 a.m.	Lowe Park
Grinchmas	Sat	12/2	11-12:30 p.m.	Lowe Park

**REGISTRATION FEE:** \$20 per child, includes breakfast treats and snacks

**REGISTRATION DEADLINE:** Nov. 17, 2023 (+\$10 beginning Nov. 18)

## CANDY CANE HUNT

**Children Grades 3-8** | For everyone that still believes! Santa’s elves have left candy canes scattered around the Lowe Park Arts & Environment Center. Come help us find them all! First, we’ll decorate some seasonal crafts, and then the hunt is on to find every last candy cane. After the hunt, we’ll enjoy milk, juice and treats.

*Limited number of spots available.*

OPTIONS	DAYS	DATES	TIMES	LOCATION
Candy Cane Hunt	Sat	12/9	9-10:30 a.m.	Lowe Park

**REGISTRATION FEE:** \$20 per child, includes breakfast treats and snacks

**REGISTRATION DEADLINE:** Nov. 17, 2023 (+\$10 beginning Nov. 18)

## SANTA'S LITTLE WORKSHOP

**Children Grades K-5th** | See what the elf culture is all about by bringing your kids to Santa’s Little Workshop for an afternoon filled with games, crafts, snacks, music, movies and more. Drop your kids off and finish up some Christmas errands or present wrapping. *Limited number of spots available.*

OPTIONS	DAYS	DATES	TIMES	LOCATION
Santa’s Workshop	Sat	12/9	1-5 p.m.	Lowe Park

**REGISTRATION FEE:** \$28 per child, includes afternoon snack

**REGISTRATION DEADLINE:** Nov. 17, 2023 (+\$10 beginning Nov. 18)

## SPRING BREAK CAMPS

**Children Grades K-5th** | Looking for something to keep the kids busy during Spring Break? Look no further than these new, kid-friendly, half-day activity camps. During each camp, kids will enjoy a combination of crafts, games, activities and maybe even a movie and treats to wind down. We will try and go outside if the weather permits, so please dress your child accordingly. *Limited number of spots available.*

OPTIONS	DAYS	DATES	TIMES	LOCATION
Camp 1	Mon	3/11	9 a.m.-1 p.m.	Lowe Park
Camp 2	Tues	3/12	9 a.m.-1 p.m.	Lowe Park
Camp 3	Wed	3/13	9 a.m.-1 p.m.	Lowe Park
Camp 4	Thur	3/14	9 a.m.-1 p.m.	Lowe Park

**REGISTRATION FEE:** \$28 per child, includes afternoon snack each day (no lunch is served)

**REGISTRATION DEADLINE:** March 1, 2024 (+\$10 beginning March 2)

## EGGSTRAORDINARY EGG HUNT

**Children Ages 3-10** | This event is always a hit with the kids and parents! Join fellow egg hunters for a night your child won’t soon forget. Children will first create their own Easter craft(s), then they’re off in search of the mysterious glowing eggs. Who knows, there may even be an Easter Bunny sighting. The egg hunt will be outside, weather permitting, so please dress accordingly. *Limited number of spots available.*

OPTIONS	DAYS	DATES	TIMES	LOCATION
Egg Hunt	Fri	3/22	7:30-9 p.m.	Lowe Park

**REGISTRATION FEE:** \$20 per child, includes glow-gear and treat bag

**REGISTRATION DEADLINE:** March 4, 2024 (+\$10 beginning March 5)

## BREAKFAST WITH THE BUNNY

**Children Ages 3-8** | Get up close with everyone’s favorite furry friend, the Easter Bunny! This event will have your kids jumping (like the bunny) for joy. Children will enjoy donuts and juice along with games, crafts and an egg hunt. *Limited number of spots available.*

OPTIONS	DAYS	DATES	TIMES	LOCATION
Breakfast w/ Bunny	Sat	3/23	8:30-10 a.m.	Lowe Park
Breakfast w/ Bunny	Sat	3/23	10:30 a.m.-noon	Lowe Park

**REGISTRATION FEE:** \$20 per child, includes breakfast treats and snacks

**REGISTRATION DEADLINE:** March 1, 2024 (+\$10 beginning March 2)

## SNAPOLOGY

**Children Ages 5-12** | Snapology is committed to developing the next generation of scientists, mathematicians, engineers, inventors and leaders through engaging STEAM-based activity and play. All programs are developed to engage the participants in a positive and exciting way that fosters their continued interest and excitement for learning. Each activity or camp is designed to reinforce the core competencies and curricula being taught at each grade level. These camps offer participants an environment where they create and interact with the materials and technology, enabling them to explore solutions and dynamic thinking through hands-on, playful learning.

Please watch their website for updated information on classes and camps  
[www.snapology.com/location/hiawatha](http://www.snapology.com/location/hiawatha).



## Baseball/Softball Registration

Registration will begin right after the first of the year for older boys’ and girls’ baseball and softball programs.

### Marion Boys Baseball – Starry League

Visit [www.marionbaseball.org](http://www.marionbaseball.org) to register.

Boys ages 8-18 years old

### Marion Girls Softball – Peg Pierce League

Visit [www.mariongirlssoftball.org](http://www.mariongirlssoftball.org) to register.

Girls currently in 2nd-8th grades 2023/2024 school year

# Adult Programs

## DROP-IN ADULT PICKLEBALL

**Adults Ages 18+** | A paddle sport for all ages and athletic abilities, pickleball is like oversized ping-pong played on a badminton-sized court with a shorter net. With simple and easy-to-follow rules, it's the perfect game for all ages to learn and play. Give it a try on a weekday morning at the Marion YMCA for a drop-in fee. Participants should bring their own paddle and balls; nets will be provided.

OPTIONS	DAYS	DATES	TIMES	LOCATION
Adult Pickleball	Mon-Fri	Sept-May	8-11 a.m.	Marion YMCA

**PARTICIPATION FEE:** \$3 daily drop-in fee (pay at front desk at YMCA)

**NOTES:** Drop-in fee only provides access to the pickleball courts in the gym during the times listed.

## ADULT TRIVIA NIGHT

**Adults Ages 18+** | Bring your thinking caps and useless trivial knowledge to compete against other teams of adults in fun and challenging rounds of trivia. The questions and rounds are organized and presented by Christopher's Bar Exam. Participants are welcome to bring food and drinks to share with their team. Prizes awarded to the winning teams. A maximum of eight players allowed on each team. *Minimum six teams required.*

OPTIONS	DAYS	DATES	TIMES	LOCATION
General Trivia	Sat	2/25	6-9 p.m.	Lowe Park

**REGISTRATION FEE:** \$100 per team (*max eight people per team*)

**REGISTRATION DEADLINE:** Feb. 2, 2024 (+\$10 beginning Feb. 3)

**NOTES:** Prizes awarded to the winning teams. Doors open at 5:30 p.m.

# Senior Programs

## PELLA BUS TRIP

**Adults Ages 55+** | Join us for a trip to the 88th Annual Tulip Time Festival! Take a tour of magnificent tulip gardens and hear about historical locations on your way to the festival. See the childhood home of Wyatt Earp, the Molengracht Market (100+ booths), the historical village and Vermeer Windmill. Watch the Klokkenspel and enjoy an authentic Dutch luncheon before making your way to the grandstand, where you will see dancing, singing, a costume-style show and a presentation of the Tulip Queen and court. Enjoy the famous street scrubbing followed by a spectacular parade. This is a trip you won't want to miss! *Limited number of spots available.*

OPTIONS	DAY	DATE	TIMES	LOCATION
Pella Bus Trip	Thur	5/2	6:30 a.m.	Lowe Park

**REGISTRATION FEE:** \$90

**REGISTRATION DEADLINE:** April 1, 2024

**NOTES:** 6:30 a.m. Depart from Lowe Park; 6:15 p.m. Return to Lowe Park

## SENIOR PROGRAMS AT LOWE

**Adults Ages 55+** | The Lowe Park Arts & Environment Center is home to FREE senior activities daily during the week. The programs and activities are geared towards adults ages 55 and up. For more information on these programs, please contact the Recreation office at Lowe Park at (319) 447-3590. The senior site at Lowe Park is always welcoming new guests, so stop out and join in the fun. *Please watch for updates or new program offerings.*

OPTIONS	DAYS	TIMES	LOCATION
Tai Chi/Geri Fit	Mon	9:30 a.m.	Lowe Park
Yahoo!	Mon (1st/3rd)	9 a.m.	Lowe Park
Walk & Talk	Tues	8:30 a.m.	Lowe Park
Euchre	Tues	9 a.m.	Lowe Park
Encore Cafe	Wed/Thur	11:30 a.m.	Lowe Park
Cards-500	Wed	9 a.m.	Lowe Park
Line Dancing	Wed	1 p.m.	Lowe Park
Nickel B-I-N-G-O	Thur	9:30 a.m.	Lowe Park
Cards-Pinochle	Fri	9 a.m.	Lowe Park

**NOTES:** If Linn-Mar Schools are cancelled due to inclement weather, all senior activities scheduled at Lowe Park will be cancelled that day as well.

# What's New in Marion's Park System?



## PRAIRIE HILL PARK

**Located at the corner of 29th Avenue and 50th Street**  
Features a new playground, shelter and full-size basketball court. Expected to be completed in the spring of 2024.

## HANNA PARK IMPROVEMENTS



**775 Fairview Drive**  
Features a new pavilion, restroom (shown at left) and playground. Other park amenities include a fitness trail, soccer mini-pitch, teqball court and multi-use basketball and pickleball courts.

## BUTTERFIELD PARK IMPROVEMENTS

**Located near 29th Avenue and 35th Street**

A new playground (concept shown below) and multi-use gaga pit are in the works for 2024. Other park amenities include a skate park, gazebo, baseball diamond and basketball court.



## CRICKET PITCH AT LOWE PARK

**Located near 4401 Irish Drive** and situated between the PeeWee Ball Diamonds. Games are played on Saturday mornings throughout the summer and fall.

# Family/Special Events

## New! TAILGATE IN THE PARK

**Open To All Ages** | Come root for the Hawkeyes on the BIG screen at this family-friendly tailgate atmosphere at Lowe Park. Play classic tailgate games, enjoy kids' inflatables and activities, compete in a football skills competition and try tailgate-inspired foods. The event is free and open to the public. Bring chairs/blankets for open lawn seating. Outside food and drink are permitted, but food will be available for purchase.

OPTIONS	DAY	DATE	TIME	LOCATION
Iowa vs Michigan State	Sat	9/30	TBD	Lowe Park

**NOTES:** Watch for event start time once kickoff time has been announced.

## MARION ARTS COUNCIL COFFEEHOUSE NIGHTS

**Open To All Ages** | Kick back and enjoy live music in an intimate setting with Coffeehouse Nights at Lowe Park. These musical performances feature talented local acoustic artists in a relaxed coffeehouse-type atmosphere. Admission is free and coffee, cocoa and pastries are available for purchase. Performers will be announced closer to each date.

OPTIONS	DAYS	DATES	TIMES	LOCATION
Coffeehouse Nights	Fri	2023: 10/6, 11/3, 12/1 2024: 2/2, 3/1, 4/5	7-8:30 p.m.	Lowe Park

**REGISTRATION FEE:** Free to attend, but limited room capacity

**NOTES:** Doors open at 6:30 p.m.



## B-I-N-G-O NIGHTS AT LOWE PARK

**Open To All Ages** | Join us at the Lowe Park Arts & Environment Center for nights of fun, socializing and a chance to win some cash! Games of BINGO will be played for \$0.25 per card, per game. Cash prizes are paid to the winner of each game. There will also be a few bonus games with increased payouts before the night concludes with a winner-take-all game of blackout.

OPTIONS	DAYS	DATES	TIMES	LOCATION
B-I-N-G-O Nights	Fri	2023: 9/8, 10/20, 11/17, 12/8 2024: 1/12, 2/9, 3/8, 4/12	6-8:30 p.m.	Lowe Park

**REGISTRATION FEE:** \$0.25 per card, per game

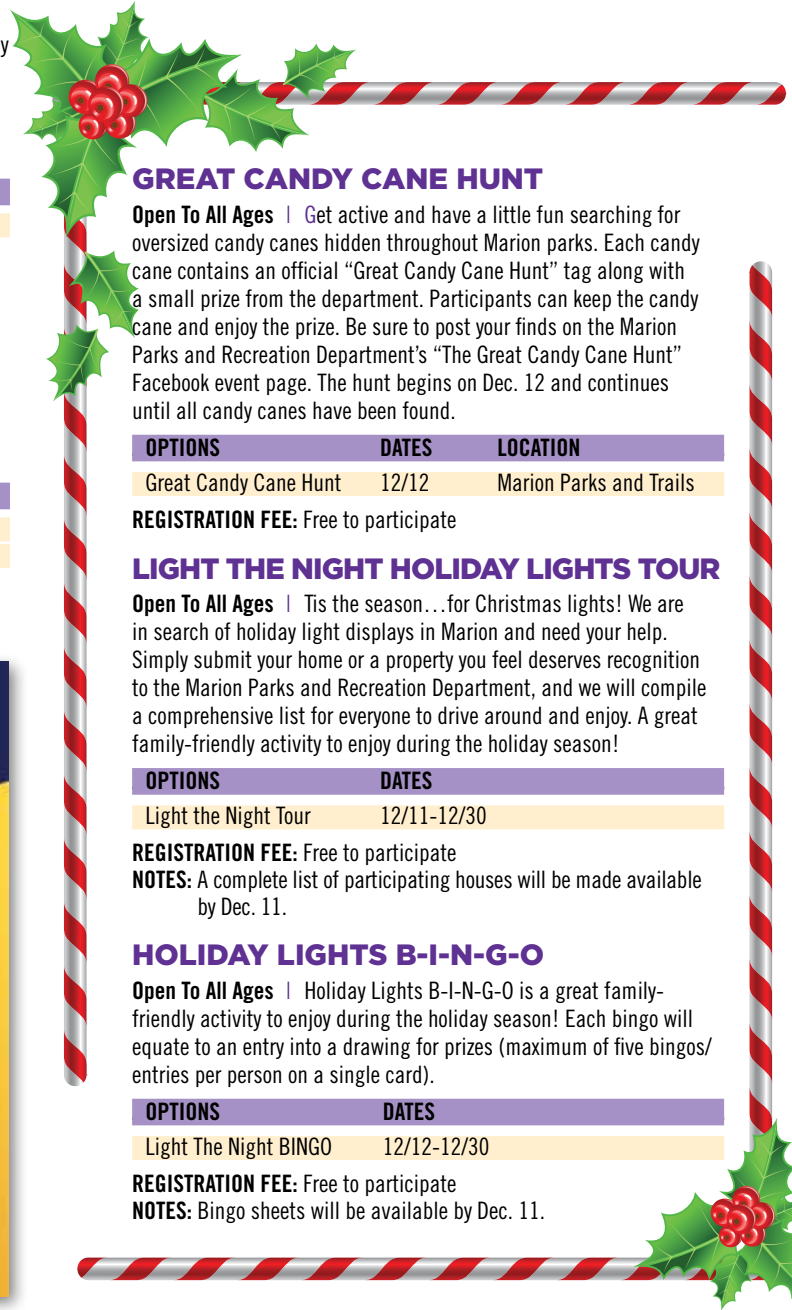
**NOTES:** Doors will open at 5:30 p.m. Seats and cards are limited and are first come, first serve. Outside food and drink is permitted.

## FALLIDAY MARKET

Enjoy the most wonderful time of the year at our second annual seasonal and holiday-inspired market. From crafts and home décor to yummy treats and seasonal greenery, plus produce and holiday items, this market will have great finds just in time for the holiday season! The event is free and open to the public. If you are interested in becoming a vendor, please contact [tteel@cityofmarion.org](mailto:tteel@cityofmarion.org). Limited number of vendor spots available!

OPTIONS	DAY	DATE	TIME	LOCATION
Falliday Market	Sat	10/14	9 a.m.-3 p.m.	Lowe Park

OPEN TO ALL AGES



## GREAT CANDY CANE HUNT

**Open To All Ages** | Get active and have a little fun searching for oversized candy canes hidden throughout Marion parks. Each candy cane contains an official "Great Candy Cane Hunt" tag along with a small prize from the department. Participants can keep the candy cane and enjoy the prize. Be sure to post your finds on the Marion Parks and Recreation Department's "The Great Candy Cane Hunt" Facebook event page. The hunt begins on Dec. 12 and continues until all candy canes have been found.

OPTIONS	DATES	LOCATION
Great Candy Cane Hunt	12/12	Marion Parks and Trails

**REGISTRATION FEE:** Free to participate

## LIGHT THE NIGHT HOLIDAY LIGHTS TOUR

**Open To All Ages** | 'Tis the season...for Christmas lights! We are in search of holiday light displays in Marion and need your help. Simply submit your home or a property you feel deserves recognition to the Marion Parks and Recreation Department, and we will compile a comprehensive list for everyone to drive around and enjoy. A great family-friendly activity to enjoy during the holiday season!

OPTIONS	DATES
Light the Night Tour	12/11-12/30

**REGISTRATION FEE:** Free to participate

**NOTES:** A complete list of participating houses will be made available by Dec. 11.

## HOLIDAY LIGHTS B-I-N-G-O

**Open To All Ages** | Holiday Lights B-I-N-G-O is a great family-friendly activity to enjoy during the holiday season! Each bingo will equate to an entry into a drawing for prizes (maximum of five bingos/entries per person on a single card).

OPTIONS	DATES
Light The Night BINGO	12/12-12/30

**REGISTRATION FEE:** Free to participate

**NOTES:** Bingo sheets will be available by Dec. 11.



Low Park Recreation Office • (319) 447-3590  
 Thomas Park Administrative Office • (319) 447-3580  
 Website • [www.cityofmarion.org](http://www.cityofmarion.org)  
 Facebook • [www.facebook.com/MarionIAParksRec](http://www.facebook.com/MarionIAParksRec)  
 Program registration/rentals • [www.cityofmarion.org/parks-recreation](http://www.cityofmarion.org/parks-recreation)



# rental & miscellaneous information

City of Marion IOWA

## Low Park Arts & Environment Center

Located within the confines of beautiful Lowe Park, 4500 N 10th Street, the Arts & Environment Center is a multi-use facility that is managed by the Parks and Recreation Department. The rental spaces are popular for graduation parties, weddings, birthday parties, anniversaries, baby/wedding showers, family gatherings, business meetings, concerts, workshops, retreats and much more. The rooms allow for flexible set-up, so you can have your occasion just the way you want it.

- › Reservations can be made online by visiting [www.cityofmarion.org/parks-recreation](http://www.cityofmarion.org/parks-recreation). (Certain restrictions apply.)
- › Full payment is due at the time of reservation.
- › Events with alcohol require an alcohol permit to be completed with an additional non-refundable \$25 fee.
- › Weekend rates for all rooms start at 4 p.m. on Friday.
- › Graduation parties are limited to one rental period. (9 a.m.-3 p.m. or 4-10 p.m.)
- › No alcohol permitted at graduation parties.
- › The Arts & Environment Center and Lowe Park is a non-smoking/nicotine-free facility.
- › In the event of a cancellation at the request of the renter, a 50% refund of the rental fee shall be refunded.

**Whole Facility** (indoors) 350 people / 220 seated (separate rooms)  
 9 a.m.-3 p.m. OR 4-10 p.m. .... \$750  
 Additional Hour (Before 9 a.m. OR After 10 p.m.) ..... \$150  
 All Day (8 a.m.-11 p.m.) ..... \$1,500

**Red Oak** (includes kitchenette) 6-60" round tables / 48-64 people

**White Oak** 6-60" round tables / 48-64 people

**Hickory Only** 10-36" square tables / 9-60" round tables / 100 people

Monday-Thursday (9 a.m.-3 p.m. OR 4-10 p.m.) ..... \$200

Monday-Thursday – All Day (9 a.m.-10 p.m.) ..... \$350

**The Oaks** (Red + White Oak) 15-60" round tables / 90-120 people

Weekdays ..... \$150/3 hours

Weekends (9 a.m.-3 p.m. OR 4-10 p.m.) ..... \$300

Weekends – All Day (9 a.m.-10 p.m.) ..... \$500

**Sunburst** 10-36" square tables / 40 people

Weekdays (Monday-Thursday ONLY, after 4 p.m.) ..... \$20/hr, 3 hr min.

**Hickory & Sunburst** 10-36" square tables / 9-60" round tables / 100 people

*These spaces are adjacent, but do NOT convert to one large single space.*

*Tables and kitchen use included as listed above with each room.*

Weekends (9 a.m.-3 p.m. OR 4-10 p.m.) ..... \$300

Weekends – All Day (9 a.m.-10 p.m.) ..... \$500

**Additional Fees & Rentals** In addition to room rental fees

Outdoor Space (renter furnishes own supplies) ..... \$150

Microphone (Oaks Room Only) ..... \$27.50

Projector ..... \$50

55" TV w/ Cart ..... \$50

Alcohol Permit (additional rules apply) ..... \$25

Additional Hour (8-9 a.m. or 10-11 p.m.) ..... \$150

## Klopfenstein Amphitheater

This beautiful canopy structure is located on the north side of the Lowe Park Arts and Environment Center (4500 N 10th Street). This venue can be rented for weddings, concerts, theatrical performances and other public or private events. *No refunds due to weather.*

*6-hour rental times must be 9 a.m.-3 p.m. or 4-10 p.m.*

*All day rentals run from 9 a.m.-10 p.m.*

### Non-Admission Events

Amphitheater w/ NO building access (6-hour) ..... \$500

Amphitheater w/ building access (6-hour) ..... \$750

Amphitheater w/ rental of entire A&E facility (6-hour) ..... \$1,250

Amphitheater w/ rental of entire A&E facility (All Day) ..... \$2,000

### Events with Admission Fees/Tickets

Amphitheater w/ NO building access (6-hour) ..... \$1,000

Amphitheater w/ building access (6-hour) ..... \$1,500

Amphitheater w/ rental of entire A&E facility (6-hour) ..... \$2,000

Amphitheater w/ rental of entire A&E facility (All Day) ..... \$3,000

## Thomas Park Safe Room

This multi-functional and non-smoking facility has seating for up to 115 guests and includes the use of a refrigerator, microwave, sink and has its own set of restrooms.

Weekends & Holidays (All Day ONLY) (9 a.m.-10 p.m.) ..... \$300

Weekdays (9 a.m.-3 p.m. OR 4-10 p.m.) ..... \$150

Weekday rentals during daytime hours (9 a.m.-3 p.m.) are only available Dec. 1–March 31.

Renters are issued a key for weekend rentals.

## Pavilions

Park pavilions are available for reservations from May 1–Oct. 31. All pavilions feature electricity, picnic tables, grills and water available in bathrooms (except Taube Park). Trash must be placed in the containers provided on site. The pavilions listed below can be reserved by completing the online reservation process. Pavilion renters must abide by all park rules. *All pavilion rentals are non-refundable. Pavilions not listed below or outside of the seasonal rental period are available on a first-come, first-served basis.*

	9 a.m.-3 p.m. OR 4-10 p.m.	All Day (9 a.m.-10 p.m.)
<b>Taube Pavilion</b> , Taube Park / 25 people	\$40	\$60
<b>Hanna Pavilion</b> , Hanna Park / 70 people	\$75	\$120
<b>Begley #1 Pavilion</b> , Thomas Park / 70 people <b>Begley #2 Pavilion</b> , Thomas Park / 70 people <b>English Pavilion</b> , Thomas Park / 150 people	\$90	\$135
<b>Low Pavilion</b> , Lowe Park / 80 people	\$100	\$150

## Community Gardens

Community garden plots are available for lease at Lowe Park, 4500 N 10th Street. The plot size measures 20' x 20'. Depending on the spring weather, plots may not be ready until late in April. For questions or plot availability, please contact the Recreation office at Lowe Park at (319) 447-3590. If all garden plots are leased upon time of your request, you may choose to be placed on our waitlist for the next available plot. Plots have been in high demand over the last few years, so check early for availability.

### Lease Requirements

- ▶ You **MUST** be a Marion resident.
- ▶ Show proof of residency upon signing your lease.
- ▶ Plots are limited to one plot per residential address.
- ▶ Plots must be cleared by Oct. 31, 2024.

Plot .....\$20 for 20' x 20' plot

## Farmers Market

The Marion Farmers Market at Taube Park runs every Saturday from May-September from 8-11 a.m. and offers a variety of locally grown produce, fresh-baked goods, flowers, homemade crafts and much more. The department will begin accepting lease agreements for the 2024 season in February. Please contact the Marion Parks and Recreation office at (319) 447-3590 for availability, rental rates and any other questions.

All Season Vendor ..... TBD / 22 markets  
Drop-In Vendor ..... TBD / each time\*

\*Drop-in vendors must be approved prior to the date and are subject to availability.

## Ball Diamonds & Greenspace/Fields

Reservations for ball diamonds for the 2024 season will begin on Tuesday, Jan. 9, 2024. All reservations for baseball/softball diamonds can be made online by visiting [cityofmarion.org/parks-recreation](http://cityofmarion.org/parks-recreation). The Marion Parks and Recreation Department has priority of all fields. Week-day rentals are pre-determined timeslots only. *Only select fields are available for rental.*  
Weeknights (5-6:30 p.m. OR 6:30-8 p.m.) ..... \$20  
Weekends (90-minute timeslot) ..... \$20

## Friends of the Park & Cemetery

Looking for ways to get involved with Marion Parks and Recreation? The Friends of the Marion Parks and Friends of Oak Shade Cemetery are always looking for new people to join their group and support various Parks and Recreation Department projects. If you want to get involved with one of the friends groups, please contact the Recreation office at (319) 447-3590.

### Friends of Oak Shade Cemetery |

Oak Shade Cemetery is a great place for walking and meditating. The Friends of Oak Shade Cemetery group meets on a regular basis. Future projects for the group include assisting the parks staff with seasonal clean-up, maintaining the perennial flower beds, headstone repairs, researching genealogy and cemetery history. *Volunteer opportunities are available.*

**Friends of the Marion Parks |** Organized in 2002, Friends of the Marion Parks, a non-profit organization, has supported the department through purchasing equipment, providing volunteers to assist with events or programs and coordinating park staff recognition. New and renewal memberships are welcomed anytime throughout the year. *Volunteer opportunities are available.*

Individual Memberships ..... \$10  
Family Memberships..... \$15  
Lifelong Memberships ..... \$175

## Cemetery Spaces

The Marion Parks and Recreation Department manages the beautiful and historic City-owned cemetery located at 789 2nd Avenue. Spaces may be purchased at the Parks Administrative and Operations office at Thomas Park. If the space is not for an immediate need, it may be purchased on a payment plan. For more information and current prices, please call (319) 447-3580.

Regular Space ..... \$800/space,  
includes perpetual care  
Infant Space ..... \$400/space,  
includes perpetual care  
Interment Fees ..... \$800-regular  
\$400-cremains

## Tree Permits

Homeowners are required to obtain a tree permit for tree plantings in the right-of-way. This process allows for accurate tracking of trees that the City is responsible for and ensures proper placement and planting. A site inspection will be performed by department staff. An informational packet and permit may be obtained at the Thomas Park Administrative and Operations facility during regular business hours, Monday-Friday, 7 a.m.-4 p.m. or by calling (319) 447-3580. *There is no fee for this permit.*

## Memorial Trees & Benches

Plant a memorial tree in honor of a loved one at Lowe Park through this program. For more information or to purchase a memorial tree, please contact the Parks Administrative and Operations Office at (319) 447-3580.

Memorial Tree..... \$150  
Memorial Tree w/ plaque ..... \$250  
Memorial Bench w/ plaque..... \$1,000

## RecAssist – Financial Assistance

The Marion Parks and Recreation Department recognizes that there are Marion residents who are financially unable to participate in programs offered by the department but desire the opportunity to experience the benefits of leisure activities. The department has established RecAssist as a supplement of funds to make recreation and swimming programs available to Marion residents.

Marion residents who are experiencing financial difficulty or who are in a unique, hardship situation are eligible to apply for assistance. It is understood that from time-to-time families may encounter some unforeseen and unfortunate circumstance. If you feel you need assistance, but do not meet the income guidelines, you may attach a letter to your assistance application stating your circumstances. These special circumstances will be handled on a case-by-case basis.

Financial assistance forms are available online or at either Thomas Park or Lowe Park offices. You will need to return a completed assistance form and required proof of income to one of our offices. If approved, you will be required to make 50% co-payment of the recreation program, swimming pool pass and/or pool programs. Those that are approved will need to contact the Recreation office when registering for programs or passes, to account for the assistance participation fees.

