

play BY play

2024-25 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 (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 now able to rent facilities for the current calendar year as well as the next year. For example, you can rent rooms and pavilions for 2024 and all of 2025. 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 household members 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 accommodate people on waitlists when possible. Waitlist status does not guarantee a spot in that program.

FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE | If you or your child want 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. See page eight for additional information.

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 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.

Youth Sports – Leagues

YOUTH 5V5 BASKETBALL (MULTIPLE SESSIONS!)

Children Grades 1st-6th (Fall 2024-25) | 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 three weeks before their first Friday/Saturday game and continue with weekly practices and games for the rest of the session. A coaches' meeting will be held before the start of each session. **Volunteer coaches needed!**

OPTIONS	GAME DAYS	DATES	LOCATION
1st/2nd (Session 1)	Fri/Sat	10/7-12/14	Marion YMCA
3rd/4th (Session 1)	Fri/Sat	10/7-12/14	Marion YMCA
5th/6th (Session 1)	Fri/Sat	10/7-12/14	Marion YMCA
1st/2nd (Session 2)	Fri/Sat	1/6-3/8	Marion YMCA
3rd/4th (Session 2)	Fri/Sat	1/6-3/8	Marion YMCA
5th/6th (Session 2)	Fri/Sat	1/6-3/8	Marion YMCA

REGISTRATION FEE: \$55 per child, per session (includes team shirt)

REGISTRATION DEADLINE: **Session 1:** Sept. 29, 2024 (+\$10 beginning Sept. 30)
Session 2: Dec. 22, 2024 (+\$10 beginning Dec. 23)

NOTES: No practices/games held the week of Thanksgiving.
Practice days/times/locations will vary by team (Mon-Thurs)
Session 1 games are played on Friday nights or Saturdays beginning Oct. 26.
Session 2 games are played on Friday nights or Saturdays beginning Jan. 25.

KINDERGARTEN BASKETBALL (MULTIPLE SESSIONS!)

Children Grades AK-K (Fall 2024-25) | 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. **Volunteer coaches needed!**

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

REGISTRATION FEE: \$42 per child, per session (includes team shirt)

REGISTRATION DEADLINE: **Session 1:** Oct. 13, 2024 (+\$10 beginning Oct. 14)
Session 2: Jan. 12, 2025 (+\$10 beginning Jan. 13)

NOTES: Program does not meet the week of Thanksgiving.
Practices are built into the schedule and mixed in with games.

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	4/1-5/13	5 or 6 p.m.*	Butterfield Park
5-6 Year Old (co-ed)	Thurs	4/3-5/15	5 or 6 p.m.*	Butterfield Park
7-8 Year Old (boys/girls)	Sat	4/5-5/17	9 or 10 a.m.*	TBD

REGISTRATION FEE: \$42 per child, includes team shirt

REGISTRATION DEADLINE: March 3, 2025 (+\$10 beginning March 4)

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.

SPRING FLAG FOOTBALL

Children Grades K-3rd (Fall 2024-25) | This league focuses on teaching the fundamentals of football, including throwing, catching, running, blocking, hand-offs, 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	4/7-4/30	5:15 or 6:15 p.m.	Taube Park
2nd/3rd Grade	Mon & Wed	4/7-4/30	5:15 or 6:15 p.m.	Taube Park

REGISTRATION FEE: \$42 per child, includes team shirt

REGISTRATION DEADLINE: March 9, 2025 (+\$10 beginning March 10)

NOTES: Cleats and mouthguards are highly recommended for player safety.

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
N. Switch	Learn to Play	Tues	1/7-1/28	4-5:30 p.m.	Lowe Park

REGISTRATION FEE: \$10 per child

NOTES: All equipment is provided for these leagues and tournaments.



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	9/24-10/15	Marion YMCA	\$28	Sept. 10, 2024
Lil' Pigskins Football	5-6	Mon	9/30-10/21	Marion YMCA	\$28	Sept. 16, 2024
Little Sports Camp	3-5	Mon/Wed	10/28-11/6	Marion YMCA	\$33	Sept. 20, 2024
Agility Camp	3-8	Mon	1/6-1/27	Marion YMCA	\$33	Dec. 16, 2024
Little Stars Basketball	4	Tues	1/7-1/28	Echo Hill	\$33	Dec 17, 2024
Little Spikers Volleyball	5-8	Mon/Wed	2/17-2/26	Marion YMCA	\$33	Jan. 27, 2025
Putt-Putt Golf	4-8	Mon/Wed	3/3-3/12	Indian Creek	\$28	Feb. 10, 2025
Kick Star Soccer	3-4	Mon	4/7-4/28	Butterfield Park	\$33	March 17, 2025

Youth Sports – Camps

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	9/24-10/15	5-5:30 p.m.	Marion YMCA
Little Kickers-2	Tues	9/24-10/15	5:45-6:15 p.m.	Marion YMCA
Little Kickers-3	Tues	9/24-10/15	6:30-7 p.m.	Marion YMCA

REGISTRATION FEE: \$28 per child

REGISTRATION DEADLINE: Sept. 10, 2024 (+\$10 beginning Sept. 11)

LIL' PIGSKINS FOOTBALL

Children Ages 5-6 | Children are introduced to the basics of football without the contact, learning the skills necessary to play football. Staff combine 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	9/30-10/21	5-5:30 p.m.	Marion YMCA
Lil' Pigskins-2	Mon	9/30-10/21	5:45-6:15 p.m.	Marion YMCA

REGISTRATION FEE: \$28 per child

REGISTRATION DEADLINE: Sept. 16, 2024 (+\$10 beginning Sept. 17)

LITTLE SPORTS CAMP

Children Ages 3-5 | Increase your child's coordination, motor skills 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	10/28-11/6	5-5:30 p.m.	Marion YMCA
Sports Camp-2	Mon/Wed	10/28-11/6	5:45-6:15 p.m.	Marion YMCA
Sports Camp-3	Mon/Wed	10/28-11/6	6:30-7 p.m.	Marion YMCA

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

REGISTRATION DEADLINE: Oct. 15, 2024 (+\$10 beginning Oct. 16)

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

AGILITY CAMP

Children Ages 3-8 | Keep your kids moving and busy during the winter months with this indoor agility camp. Kids will participate in various drills to develop and improve fine motor skills. Kids 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	Mon	1/6-1/27	5-5:30 p.m.	Marion YMCA
5-6 Year Old	Mon	1/6-1/27	5:45-6:15 p.m.	Marion YMCA
7-8 Year Old	Mon	1/6-1/27	6:30-7 p.m.	Marion YMCA
7-8 Year Old	Mon	1/6-1/27	7:15-7:45 p.m.	Marion YMCA

REGISTRATION FEE: \$33 per child

REGISTRATION DEADLINE: Dec. 16, 2024 (+\$10 beginning Dec. 17)

LITTLE STARS BASKETBALL

Children Age 4 | This parent-child program focuses on very basic ball handling, shooting and passing skills. Parents participate with the child (or children) for this program as 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	1/7-1/28	5:15-5:45 p.m.	Echo Hill Elementary Gym
Little Stars-2	Tues	1/7-1/28	5:50-6:20 p.m.	Echo Hill Elementary Gym
Little Stars-3	Tues	1/7-1/28	6:30-7 p.m.	Echo Hill Elementary Gym

REGISTRATION FEE: \$33 per child, per session

REGISTRATION DEADLINE: Dec. 17, 2024 (+\$10 beginning Dec. 18)

LITTLE SPIKERS VOLLEYBALL

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	2/17-2/26	5-5:30 p.m.	Marion YMCA
5-6 Year Old	Mon/Wed	2/17-2/26	5:45-6:15 p.m.	Marion YMCA
7-8 Year Old	Mon/Wed	2/17-2/26	6:30-7 p.m.	Marion YMCA

REGISTRATION FEE: \$33 per child

REGISTRATION DEADLINE: Jan. 27, 2025 (+\$10 beginning Jan. 28)

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. Kids 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/Wed	3/3-3/12	5:15-5:45 p.m.	Indian Creek Elementary Gym
4-5 Year Old	Mon/Wed	3/3-3/12	5:50-6:20 p.m.	Indian Creek Elementary Gym
6-8 Year Old	Mon/Wed	3/3-3/12	6:30-7 p.m.	Indian Creek Elementary Gym

REGISTRATION FEE: \$28 per child

REGISTRATION DEADLINE: Feb. 10, 2025 (+\$10 beginning Feb. 11)

NOTES: All clubs and equipment provided.

KICK STAR SOCCER CAMP

Children Ages 3-4 | This soccer camp will allow kids to socialize and interact with other little ones in a fun, non-competitive environment. Kids will learn the basics of soccer through a variety of drills and activities. Emphasis placed on developing the fundamentals of kicking, dribbling, passing, running and agility. This is a skill-based instructional camp with no games being played. *Limited number of spots available.*

OPTIONS	DAYS	DATES	TIME	LOCATION
Group 1	Mon	4/7-4/28	5-5:30 p.m.	Butterfield Park
Group 2	Mon	4/7-4/28	5:45-6:15 p.m.	Butterfield Park
Group 3	Mon	4/7-4/28	6:30-7 p.m.	Butterfield Park

REGISTRATION FEE: \$33 per child

REGISTRATION DEADLINE: March 17, 2025 (+\$10 beginning March 18)

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 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	Sat	10/26	5-9 p.m.	Low Park
3rd – 5th	Sat	10/26	5-9 p.m.	Low Park

REGISTRATION FEE: \$33 per child, includes kid-friendly dinner

REGISTRATION DEADLINE: Oct. 5, 2024 (+\$10 beginning Oct. 6)

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	12/7	9-10:30 a.m.	Low Park
Grinchmas	Sat	12/7	11-12:30 p.m.	Low Park

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

REGISTRATION DEADLINE: Nov. 17, 2024 (+\$10 beginning Nov. 18)

CANDY CANE HUNT

Children Grades 3-8 | For everyone who still believes! Santa’s elves have left candy canes scattered around the Low 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	12/14	9-10:30 a.m.	Low Park

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

REGISTRATION DEADLINE: Nov. 17, 2024 (+\$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	12/14	1-5 p.m.	Low Park

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

REGISTRATION DEADLINE: Nov. 23, 2024 (+\$10 beginning Nov. 24)

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.

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	3/17	9 a.m.-1 p.m.	Low Park
Camp 2	Tues	3/18	9 a.m.-1 p.m.	Low Park
Camp 3	Wed	3/19	9 a.m.-1 p.m.	Low Park
Camp 4	Thurs	3/20	9 a.m.-1 p.m.	Low Park

REGISTRATION FEE: \$28 per child, includes snack

REGISTRATION DEADLINE: March 1, 2025 (+\$10 beginning March 2)

NOTES: Morning snack is provided each day (no lunch is served)

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 for joy. Children will enjoy donuts and juice along with games, crafts and an egg hunt alongside the Easter Bunny. *Limited number of spots available.*

OPTIONS	DAYS	DATES	TIMES	LOCATION
Breakfast w/ Bunny	Sat	4/12	8:30-10 a.m.	Low Park
Breakfast w/ Bunny	Sat	4/12	10:30 a.m.-noon	Low Park

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

REGISTRATION DEADLINE: March 1, 2025 (+\$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 your child accordingly. *Limited number of spots available.*

OPTIONS	DAYS	DATES	TIMES	LOCATION
Egg Hunt	Sat	4/12	7:30-9 p.m.	Low Park

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

REGISTRATION DEADLINE: March 4, 2025 (+\$10 beginning March 5)

YOU ARE INVITED

TAILGATE IN THE PARK

SPONSORED BY ZIO JOHNNO'S

Open To All Ages | Come cheer for the Hawkeyes on the BIG screen at this family-friendly tailgate at Low Park. Play classic tailgate games, enjoy kids’ inflatables and activities, compete in a football skills competition, and enjoy 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. This year, the event will feature a spaghetti-eating contest thanks to Zio Johnno’s as they celebrate their 40th anniversary.

OPTIONS	DAY	DATE	TIME	LOCATION
Iowa Hawkeyes	Sat	10/5	TBD	Low Park

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



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.)*

Senior Programs

APPLE ORCHARD BUS TRIP GAYS MILLS, WI

Adults Ages 55+ | Join the Marion Parks and Recreation Department on a scenic bus trip to Gays Mills, WI, after a stop at Breitbach's Country Dining for a delicious lunch on Thursday, Sept. 26, 2024. What better way to embrace the season than with a trip to some of the most popular orchards in the area! Don't wait to sign up, as this trip will fill up fast! *Limited number of spots available.*

OPTIONS	DAY	DATE	TIMES	LOCATION
Gays Mills, WI	Thurs	9/26	9 a.m.	Lowe Park

REGISTRATION FEE: \$80

REGISTRATION DEADLINE: Sept. 25, 2024

NOTES: 9 a.m. Depart from Lowe Park; 7:30 p.m. Return to Lowe Park

PELLA BUS TRIP

Adults Ages 55+ | Join us for a trip to the 90th 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 – crafts, food and beverage stand), the historical village and Vermeer Windmill, watch the Klokkenspel or enjoy an authentic Dutch luncheon and show before making your way to the grandstand, where you will see dancing, singing, a costume-style show and then 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	Thurs	5/1	6:30 a.m.	Lowe Park

REGISTRATION FEE: \$88

REGISTRATION DEADLINE: April 15, 2025

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
Open Mic	Tues (2nd/4th)	10 a.m.	Lowe Park
Cards-500	Wed	9 a.m.	Lowe Park

OPTIONS	DAYS	TIMES	LOCATION
Line Dancing	Wed	1 p.m.	Lowe Park
Encore Cafe	Wed/Thurs	11:30 a.m.	Lowe Park
Nickel B-I-N-G-O	Thurs	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.

FALLIDAY MARKET

Open To All Ages | Enjoy the most wonderful time of the year at our third annual seasonal and holiday-inspired market. From crafts and home décor to yummy treats, greenery and produce, this market will have great finds just in time for the holiday season! The event is free and open to the public. If you're interested in becoming a vendor, please contact tteel@cityofmarion.org. Limited number of vendor spots available. The event is free and open to the public.

OPTIONS	DAY	DATE	TIME	LOCATION
Falliday Market	Sat	10/19	9 a.m.-2 p.m.	Lowe Park



Lowe Park Recreation Office • (319) 447-3590

Thomas Park Administrative Office • (319) 447-3580

Website • www.cityofmarion.org

Facebook • www.facebook.com/MarionIAParksRec

Program registration/rentals •

www.cityofmarion.org/parks-recreation

Family/Special Events

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	2024: 10/4, 11/1, 12/6 2025: 2/7, 3/7, 4/4	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	2024: 10/25, 11/8, 12/13 2025: 1/10, 2/14, 3/14, 4/11	6-9 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 are permitted.

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. 9 and continues until all candy canes have been found.

OPTIONS	DATES	LOCATION
Great Candy Cane Hunt	12/9	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	12/9-12/30

REGISTRATION FEE: Free to participate
NOTES: A complete list of participating houses will be made available by Dec. 9.

HOLIDAY LIGHTS B-I-N-G-O

Open To All Ages | Holiday Lights B-I-N-G-O is another 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
Holiday Lights BINGO	12/9-12/30

REGISTRATION FEE: Free to participate
NOTES: Bingo sheets will be available by Dec. 9.



Become a Program Instructor

Do you have a talent or skill you would like to teach others within the community? The Marion Parks and Recreation Department would love for you to share your ideas with us for future classes or programs. Examples include art classes, teaching knitting/crocheting, a love for cooking, and more. Check out the current programs being offered with Marion Parks and Recreation and share your ideas for something new with Recreation Superintendent Karlene Hummel via email at khummel@cityofmarion.org.



MARION PARKS & RECREATION

rental & miscellaneous information

City of Marion IOWA

Lowe 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. (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 are non-smoking/nicotine-free venues.
- 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 9-60" round tables / 60 people
 Monday-Thursday (9 a.m.-3 p.m. OR 4-10 p.m.) \$200

The Oaks (Red + White Oak) 15-60" round tables / 90-120 people
 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,
 three-hour 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
 Microphone (Oaks Room Only) \$27.50
 TV w/ Cart \$50
 Alcohol Permit (additional rules apply) \$50
 Additional Hour (8-9 a.m. or 10-11 p.m.) \$150

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.) \$500
 Weekdays (9 a.m.-3 p.m. OR 4-10 p.m.) \$200

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 nearby (except Taube, Gill, Donnelly and Waldo’s Rock.) 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-serve basis.

	9 a.m.-3 p.m. OR 4-10 p.m.	All Day (9 a.m.-10 p.m.)
Taube Pavilion , Taube Park–25 people	\$40	\$60
Prairie Hill Pavilion , Prairie Hill Park–45 people		
Gill Gazebo , Gill Park–35 people		
Waldo’s Rock Pavilion , Waldo’s Rock Park–40 people		
Donnelly Pavilion , Donnelly Park–20 people		
Lininger Pavilion , Lininger Park–25 people		
Hanna Pavilion , Hanna Park–70 people	\$100	\$150
Begley #1 Pavilion , Thomas Park–75 people	\$90	\$135
Begley #2 Pavilion , Thomas Park–75 people		
English Pavilion , Thomas Park–150 people		
Lowe Pavilion , Lowe Park–80 people	\$100	\$150

Community Gardens

Community garden plots are available for lease at Lowe Park, 4500 N 10th Street, plot size 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 Parks and Recreation office at Lowe Park at (319) 447-3590. If all garden plots are leased upon the 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. Plots are \$20.

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.

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 2025 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 \$175 season
Drop-In Vendor \$20/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 2025 season will begin on Tuesday, Jan. 7, 2025. All reservations for baseball/softball diamonds can be made online by visiting cityofmarion.org/parks-recreation. The Marion Parks and Recreation Department has priority of all fields. Weekday 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.

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 with seasonal clean-up, maintaining the perennial flower beds, headstone repairs, researching genealogy and cemetery history. *To get involved, please contact (319) 447-3580.*

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. *To get involved, please contact (319) 447-3580.*

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
Sunday or holiday interments subject to additional fees.

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..... \$300
Memorial Tree w/ plaque \$400
Memorial Bench w/ plaque..... \$2,000

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. RecAssist is a program designed 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 considered on a case-by-case basis.

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