



DES MOINES PARKS AND RECREATION

# Activities Guide

FALL/WINTER 2025-2026

## **Facility Rental Deadline**

Ten days before the event date.

## **Refund/Cancellation/Transfer Policy**

To request a refund/transfer, call (515) 237-1386 **AT LEAST 10 days** prior to the program/reservation.

Refunds/transfer requests received (10+ days prior to the program/reservation):

- Rental/Program Fee (Under \$100) – Refund minus a \$10 processing fee
- Rental/Program Fee (Over \$100) – Refund minus a \$30 processing fee

NO REFUNDS/RESCHEDULING for any of the following:

- **Requests less than 10 days prior to the program/reservation.**
- Inclement weather on the day of the facility rental.

## **Program Cancellations**

Events and programs in this guide may change due to availability, interest, date conflicts, unforeseen circumstances, and public health concerns. For the latest updates, please check online.

## **Registration Reminders**

Participants' age must fall within age requirements by the program's beginning date. Participants are not registered until payment is received.

## **Accommodations**

If you need special accommodations to participate, please contact our office by phone or in writing. We are waiting to serve you.

## **Please Note**

Participants in any program assume full responsibility for any risk, implicit or direct, by participation in said activity or utilizing facilities. You are advised that the City does not provide medical insurance covering injuries to participants.

## **Photographs**

Photographs taken during programs, events, or at facilities could be used for future communications, marketing and public relations efforts, including social media.

## **Weather Cancellations**

There will be no Parks & Recreation youth activities when Des Moines Public schools are (1) dismissed early or (2) canceled for the day due to heat or winter storms. All efforts will be made to make an announcement as soon as possible.



# Parks and Recreation Information



## Des Moines Parks and Recreation Office

1551 E. Martin Luther King Jr. Pkwy  
Des Moines, Iowa 50317

515-237-1386  
parks@dmgov.org

### Hours

M - F: 8 a.m. - 5 p.m.



## KNOW BEFORE YOU GO!

Text any of the following keywords  
to 84483 to sign up for updates.

DSMEvents DSMPopUp  
DSMPools DSMVolunteers  
DSMSports BrentonSkating  
DSMTrails

**EXPLORE OUR PROGRAMS AND REGISTER  
ONLINE AT DMPARKS.ORG**



## About Us

The Des Moines Parks and Recreation Department was established in 1892 and is responsible for the management of 92 parks, 4,000+ acres of land, 88 miles of trails, 8 cemeteries, 2 Community Recreation Centers, and much more! Des Moines Parks and Recreation is committed to providing opportunities for people of all races, genders, and abilities across our community.

## Parks and Recreation Board

Maria Alonzo	George Davis
Brooke Avila	Erin Lowe
Marc Beltrame	Sarah Lohmeier
Barb Bremner	Brent Millis
Debra Chiodo	Joel Potter
Jack Daugherty	William Thompson

James Bollard (Chair)

## Our Mission

Helping Des Moines live well, play hard and protect the earth.



## A Message from the Director: Ben Page

At Des Moines Parks and Recreation, we're proud to offer activities and events for every interest and ability. From skating at Brenton Skating Plaza and joining Adaptive Programs to exploring our community-focused initiatives, there's something for everyone this season.

Our parks and facilities are more than places to play - they're where connections are made and memories last. This fall and winter, join us in celebrating the season, trying something new, and enjoying the vibrant community we share.

On behalf of our entire team, thank you for your support. We can't wait to see you out there, DSM!



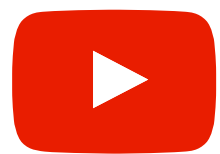
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[@DesMoinesParks  
andRecreation](#)



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# Rentals

## Rental Instructions

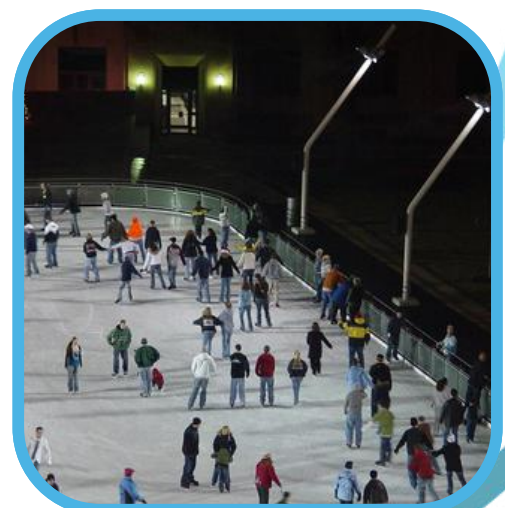


Planning a special event? Check out the wide variety of facilities available from Des Moines Parks and Recreation. No matter what you are planning, we offer multiple sizes of venues to meet your needs.

## Available Facilities:

- Amphitheaters
- Aquatic Centers and Swimming Pools
- Brenton Skating Plaza
- Christine Hensley Terrace at Gray's Lake (closed until 2026 season)
- Community Recreation Center Multi-Purpose Rooms and Gyms
- Enclosed and Open Air Shelters
- Floral Gardens
- Open Spaces
- Sports Courts
- Sports Parks
- Trails

**Plan ahead for the best opportunity to reserve your preferred location and date. Facility reservations are available one year in advance. Review pricing and options online at [dmparks.org](http://dmparks.org).**





# Scholarship Programs

Des Moines Parks and Recreation offers two different scholarships.

## Greater Des Moines Recreational Activity Scholarship Program (GRASP)

Discount program for families to receive 50–75% off recreational activities offered through Des Moines Parks and Recreation.

## Youth Recreational Scholarship Program (YRSP)

Offered in partnership with Des Moines Public Schools (DMPS) and allows students to receive \$5 swim lessons and/or youth sport experiences.

### Qualification Criteria

Des Moines residents with a qualifying household income. Total income based on number in household. For family sizes exceeding 8, add \$13,750 for each additional person.

Family Size	Income
1	\$39,125
2	\$52,875
3	\$66,625
4	\$80,375
5	\$94,125
6	\$107,875
7	\$121,625
8	\$135,375

Students enrolled in Des Moines Public Schools who qualify for free and reduced fees based on their household income.

### Eligibility Verification

Verification of total income through IMPACT Community Action Partnership using approved list of documents (i.e. paycheck, taxes, etc.).

Call (515) 518-4770 to set up an appointment with IMPACT at one of their two locations.

Opt-in for Des Moines scholarship program via DMPS website. Promoted during annual enrollment. Available anytime on DMPS website.

### Registration

After obtaining a GRASP card from IMPACT Community Action Partnership, community members can activate registration discounts through CivicRec by contacting the Des Moines Parks and Recreation Administration Office.

To confirm the child's eligibility on the approved DMPS list (opt-in required first), please reach out to Des Moines Parks and Recreation Office. Once verified, participant accounts will be updated, enabling electronic registration via CivicRec.

### Discounts & Benefits

**Both GRASP and YRSP:**  
**Both GRASP and YRSP:**  
**GRASP Only:**  
**GRASP Only:**  
**GRASP Only:**  
**GRASP Only:**  
**GRASP Only:**

\$5 Youth Sports Registrations for grades K - 7 Including all sports except Tennis  
 \$5 Swim Lessons for grades K - 12  
 \$5 PeeWee Sports Registrations for ages 3 - 5  
 \$5 Swim Lessons for infant - 5 years  
 50% off open-air shelters and boat or bike rentals at Gray's Lake  
 75% or more off season swim passes and community garden plot  
 (1) FREE child admission with a paid adult admission to Brenton Skating Plaza, Science Center and Blank Park Zoo

# Adapted Programs

Adapted programs are specifically designed for children and teens with mental or physical disabilities and chronic health conditions. Through our Can Play sports partnership, our team individually adapts the sports and activities to the abilities of each participant to ensure everyone has an opportunity to play, learn, join a team, and have fun.

[Learn More](#)



Interested in volunteering with Adapted Programs? Let's connect! Drop us a line at [DSM.city/Volunteer](https://DSM.city/Volunteer).

## Adapted Programs (Grades K-12)

Program	Registration Period
Adapted Basketball - Session 1	8/1/25 - 10/12/25
Adapted Basketball - Session 2	8/1/25 - 12/21/25
Adapted Flag Football	Closed - Register next year!
Adapted Floor Hockey	8/1/25 - 1/25/26
Adapted Holiday Party	8/1/25 - 11/23/25

## Events



## Adapted Holiday Party

A holiday program specifically designed for children and teens with disabilities that includes holiday arts and crafts, and a special visit from Santa Claus.

Month	Date	Day	Time	Ages	Location	Cost
Dec	12/10/25	Wed	5:30 - 7:30 p.m.	7-16	Birdland/ Ding Darling Enclosed Shelter	FREE





# Sports



## Adapted Basketball

Session	Months	Dates	Days	Time	Ages	Location	Cost
1	Oct - Nov	10/29 - 11/19	Wed	5:30 - 6:15 p.m. 6:30 - 7:15 p.m.	7-10 11-14	Pioneer Columbus Recreation Center	FREE
2	Jan	1/7 - 1/28	Wed	5:30 - 6:15 p.m. 6:30 - 7:15 p.m.	7-10 11-14	Pioneer Columbus Recreation Center	FREE

## Adapted Floor Hockey

Session	Months	Dates	Days	Time	Ages	Location	Cost
1	Feb - Mar	2/16 - 3/9	Mon	5:30 - 6:15 p.m. 6:30 - 7:15 p.m.	7-10 11-14	Pioneer Columbus Recreation Center	FREE



# After-School Program

This free fall after-school program includes arts and craft projects, STEM activities, and outdoor athletic activities every Monday through Thursday from 4 - 7 p.m. This program is for kids grades K - 8. Pre-registration for each daily session is recommended. Drop-ins welcomed, however, a guardian must sign a waiver before participation. Parents are responsible for providing transportation.

[Register](#)



Limit of 25 kids per day.

Months	Dates	Days	Time	Ages	Cost
Sept - Dec	9/15 - 12/18	Mon - Thurs	4 - 7 p.m.	5 - 12	FREE



**MLK Park  
(Enclosed Shelter)**  
1650 Garfield Ave



**Pioneer Columbus Community  
Recreation Center**  
2100 SE 5th St



**Fourmile Community  
Recreation Center**  
3711 Easton Blvd



# Athletics

## PeeWee Sports (Pre-K - Kindergarten)

Sport	Registration Period
Basketball	11/01/25 - 1/01/26
Soccer	01/01/26 - 03/01/26

## Youth Sports (Grades 1 - 7)

Sport	Registration Period
Basketball	07/01/25 - 10/01/25
Soccer	01/01/26 - 03/01/26
Volleyball	01/01/26 - 03/01/26

## Adult Sports (Team Registration)

Sport	Registration Period
Bags - Winter WonderBags	11/01/25 - 01/01/26
Basketball	09/01/25 - 11/01/25
Flag Football Tournament	08/01/25 - 10/01/25
Kickball - Coed - Summer	02/01/26 - 04/15/26
Pickleball - Spring Tournament	02/01/26 - 03/15/26
Pickleball - Spring	02/01/26 - 04/01/26
Softball - Blarney Blast Tournament	01/01/26 - 03/01/26
Softball - Fastpitch	02/01/26 - 04/15/26
Softball - Spring	01/01/26 - 03/15/26
Softball - Summer Session 1	02/01/26 - 04/01/26
Softball - Summer Session 2	02/01/26 - 06/01/26
Volleyball - Coed - Session 1	08/01/25 - 10/01/25
Volleyball - Coed - Session 2	08/01/25 - 12/15/25
Wiffle Ball	10/15/25 - 12/15/25

[Register for Sports](#)



[Volunteer to Coach](#)





# PeeWee Sports (Pre-K - Kindergarten)

Our PeeWee programs introduce children to team sports, teammates, and game situations while learning the basics in a fun atmosphere. Each team has a volunteer coach and will meet for six weeks. The first two weeks will be practice only, followed by four weeks of scrimmaging. All equipment, including a personal team jersey, will be provided.

## PeeWee Basketball

Months	Dates	Days	Time	Grades	Location	Cost
Feb - Mar	TBD	Tues/Thurs	Evening	Pre-K - K	Pioneer Columbus Recreation Center	\$40

## PeeWee Soccer

Months	Dates	Days	Time	Grades	Location	Cost
April - May	TBD	Tues/Thurs	Evening	Pre-K - K	James W. Cownie Soccer Park	\$40

# Youth Sports (Grades 1 - 7)

All Youth Sports are scholarship eligible.

Our Youth programs introduce children to team sports, teammates, and game situations while learning the basics in a fun atmosphere. Each team will have a volunteer coach to lead practices and/or games. All equipment, including a personal team jersey, will be provided unless otherwise noted.

## Basketball

First grade will be coed and will play for 1 hour/week. Teams will practice for the first half hour followed by a half hour scrimmage against an opponent. Grades 2 - 7 will be divided into separate leagues for boys and girls and divisions will be separated into individual grades, as numbers allow.

Months	Dates	Days	Time	Grade	Location	Cost
Dec - Feb	12/2 - 2/5	Tues/Thurs	Evening	1	Pioneer Columbus or Fourmile Community Recreation Centers, and various DMPS	\$50/person or \$475/team
Nov - Mar	12/6 - 3/1	Weekday Practice Weekend Games	Evening Practice Morning Games	2 - 7		

## Soccer

First grade will be coed and will play for 1 hour/week. Teams will practice for the first half hour followed by a half hour scrimmage against an opponent. Grades 2 - 7 will be divided into separate leagues for boys and girls and divisions will be separated into individual grades, as numbers allow.

Months	Dates	Days	Time	Grade	Location	Cost
Mar - May	TBD	Sat	Afternoon	1	Practice at Various DMPS and Community Recreation Centers;	\$50/person or
Mar - June	TBD	Weekday Practice Weekend Games	Evening Practice Morning Games	2 - 7	Games at Cownie Soccer/ Ashfield Park	\$475/team

## Volleyball

This is a coed program. Grades 1 - 3 will be combined and will play for 1 hour/week. Teams will practice for the first half hour followed by a half hour scrimmage against an opponent. Grades 4 - 7 will be divided by grades as numbers allow.

Months	Dates	Days	Time	Grade	Location	Cost
April - May	TBD	Sat	Afternoon	1 - 3	Practice at Various DMPS and Community Recreation Centers;	\$50/person or
Mar - May	TBD	Weekday Practice Weekend Games	Evening Practice Morning Games	4 - 7	Games at Pioneer Columbus/ Fourmile Community Recreation Centers	\$475/team



# Adult Sports (Ages 18 and Older)

We offer both leagues and single day tournaments for our adult sports. All schedules will be posted on [www.teamsideline.com/sites/desmoinesia/home](http://www.teamsideline.com/sites/desmoinesia/home) for teams to view once the season has started.

## Bags - Winter WonderBags Tournament

Only one team member needs to register. Teams may bring their own bags, but we will also have sets on site.

Month	Date	Day	Time	Ages	Location	Cost
Jan	01/10	Sat	Morning/Afternoon	18+	Captain Roy's	\$20/team

## Basketball - Men's and Women's Leagues

Month	Dates	Days	Time	Ages	Location	Cost
Nov - Mar	TBD	Mon	Evening	18+	Pioneer Columbus Recreation Center	\$375/team

## Flag Football Tournament

Each team must provide their own equipment, including balls and flags.

Month	Dates	Days	Time	Ages	Location	Cost
Oct	10/25 - 10/26	Sat & Sun	Morning/Afternoon	18+	TBD	\$160/team

## Kickball Coed League - Summer

Month	Dates	Days	Time	Ages	Location	Cost
May - June	TBD	Thursday	Evening	18+	George Davis Softball Park	\$195/team





## Pickleball Coed League - Spring

Only one team member needs to register. Participants must provide their own paddles and balls.

Month	Dates	Days	Time	Ages	Location	Cost
May - July	TBD	Tues and/ or Thurs	Evening	18+	Stone Park	\$35/team

## Pickleball - Spring Tournament

Men's, women's, and coed divisions available and will be divided by age/skill level as registration numbers allow.

Month	Date	Day	Time	Ages	Location	Cost
May	5/9/26	Sat	Morning/ Afternoon	18+	McCollum-Waveland Tennis Courts	\$20/team

## Softball - Blarney Blast Tournament

Call it the 'Luck of the Irish'; Break out your shillelaghs and green attire, it's time to play softball!

Month	Dates	Days	Time	Ages	Location	Cost
Mar	3/14 - 3/15	Sat & Sun	Morning/ Afternoon	18+	George Davis Softball Park	\$105/team

## Softball - Fastpitch League

Months	Dates	Days	Time	Ages	Location	Cost
May - July	TBD	Tues	Evening	18 +	George Davis Softball Park	\$390/team

## Softball - Coed Spring League

The early birds that get the hits! This season includes four weeks of games.

Month	Dates	Days	Time	Ages	Location	Cost
April	TBD	Thurs	Evening	18+	George Davis Softball Park	\$100/team



# Adult Sports (Ages 18 and Older)

(continued)

## Softball - Coed Summer League

Coed and men's slow-pitch teams have the option of 14-week single leagues or seven-week double-header leagues.

Session	Month	Dates	Days	Time	Ages	Location	Cost
1	May - June	TBD	Sun - Fri	Afternoon/ Evening	18+	George Davis Softball Park	\$390/team
2	July - Aug	TBD	Sun - Fri	Afternoon/ Evening	18+		\$390/team

## Volleyball - Coed League

Coed requires a minimum of three women on the court at all times. All games will be officiated by one referee.

Session	Month	Dates	Days	Time	Ages	Location	Cost
1	Oct - Dec	10/19 - 12/14	Sun	Evening	18+	Pioneer Columbus/ Fourmile Community Recreation Center	\$195/team
2	Jan - Mar	1/4 - 3/1	Sun	Evening	18+		\$195/team

## Wiffle Ball

Teams may be composed of all men, all women, or a combination of both.

Months	Dates	Days	Time	Ages	Location	Cost
Jan - Mar	TBD	Sun	Evening	18+	Pioneer Columbus/ Fourmile Community Recreation Center	\$60/team



# Brenton Skating Plaza



520 Robert D. Ray Drive  
Des Moines, IA 50309

[Learn More](#)



## Before You Go

**Set up your account and sign the waiver for all participants at [DSM.city/BrentonSkatingPlaza](https://DSM.city/BrentonSkatingPlaza)**

Please check online for up-to-date hours as the schedule is weather dependent. Walk-up only - waiver required, no registration needed for Open Skate. Zamboni intermissions every 2 hours - or as needed.

## Admission

Age	Cost
Child Under 5	\$2.00
Child 6 - 12 or Senior 60+	\$6.00
Teen/Adult 13+	\$10.00
Skate Rental	\$5.00
Punch Pass Includes 10 Admissions + Skate Rentals	\$95.00

## Opening Night!

*Make plans to attend Opening Night and kick off the holiday season with us! All ages are welcome, join us as we greet wintertime and enjoy a visit from Santa Claus himself!*

Day	Date	Time	Location	Cost
Fri	11/21/25	5 - 11 p.m.	Brenton Skating Plaza	see admission chart above







# Brenton Skating Plaza Special Events & Programs

Event/Program	Day	Dates	Time	Cost
Adapted Skate	Saturdays	12/20/25, 1/3/26 & 2/21/26	9:30 - 11:30 a.m.	\$5 Includes Admission + Skate/Sled Rental
Adult Broomball	Sundays	Dec - Feb	Evening	\$400 per team
Family Skate Date	Saturday	1/10/26	12 - 2 p.m.	\$5 Includes Admission + Skate Rental + Refreshments *Registration Required
Galentine's Day Skate	Friday	2/13/26	Normal Hours	Regular Admission + Skate Rental
Learn To Skate Clinics	Saturdays	12/6/25, 12/13/25, 1/17/26, 1/31/26, 2/7/26 & 2/14/26	10:30 - 11:30 a.m.	Free Admission + Skate Rental *Registration Required
MLK Jr. Donate & Skate	Monday	1/19/26	12 - 9 p.m.	Free Admission + Skate Rental with donation
Principal Charity Classic Take Over	Friday	1/23/26	5 - 7 p.m.	Regular Admission + Skate Rental
School Pride Night	Mondays	1/12/26 - Lincoln 1/26/26 - Roosevelt 2/2/26 - Hoover 2/9/26 - East 2/16/26 - North	Normal Hours	\$5 Admission + Skate Rental, School ID required



# Brenton Skating Plaza Special Events & Programs

Events Page



Event/Program	Days	Dates	Time	Cost
Senior Skate 60+	Wednesdays	12/3 - 2/25, no sessions 12/24/25 & 12/31/25	2:30 - 4:30 p.m.	\$5 Admission + Skate Rental
Sensory Skate	Saturdays	12/27/25 & 1/24/26	9:30 - 11:30 a.m.	\$5 Includes Admission + Skate/Sled Rental
Student Night	Thursdays	Jan & Feb	5 - 9 p.m.	\$5 Admission + Skate Rental, School ID Required
Sk8 to Elim8 Cancer Frozen 5K	Saturday	2/28/26	9 - 11 a.m.	\$35 Registration + Skate Rental
Swiftie Skate	Saturday	12/13/25	Noon - 3 p.m.	Regular Admission + Skate Rental
Turnback the Clock Night	Tuesdays	1/27/26 - '70s Night 2/3/26 - '80s Night 2/10/26 - '90s Night	Normal Hours	Regular Admission + Skate Rental
Valentine's Day & Whoops! I Forgot Valentine's Day Skate	Saturday & Sunday	2/14/26 & 2/15/26	Normal Hours	BOGO Admission + Skate Rental + FREE hot chocolate







# Cemeteries

## Wreaths Across America

Help us honor our fallen U.S. Veterans and those currently serving, by sponsoring (\$17) or volunteering to lay 1,000 wreaths in Woodland Cemetery. Learn more about this international effort online at [DSM.city/Wreaths](https://DSM.city/Wreaths) through 11/30/25.

Wreaths Across America



## Holiday Wreaths - All Cemeteries

Purchase a \$60 holiday wreath to be placed on a gravesite. Live and artificial wreaths available. Purchase by calling Glendale Cemetery Office at 515-248-6320, available 9/1/25 - 12/24/25.

## Adopt-a-Block

Help preserve the beauty and history of our cemeteries by caring for a cemetery block(s). Duties include picking up small branches, cutting back dead flowers, picking up litter, and reporting damage. Scheduling is flexible so choose what works best for you. Orientation registration is required at [DSM.City/volunteer](https://DSM.City/volunteer)

### Orientation

03/31/26, 5 - 6 p.m.

### Volunteer Period

April - Nov 2026

### Age Requirements

18+ or 14 -17 with a guardian

Volunteer





# Community Recreation Centers

Rec Center Info



## Pioneer Columbus

2100 SE 5th St.  
515-248-6316

**Open:**  
M - F 8 a.m. - 8 p.m.



## Fourmile

3711 Easton Blvd.  
515-248-6315

**Open:**  
M - F 8 a.m. - 8 p.m.

## Admission

Age	Cost
Youth (10 - 18)	FREE
Adult (19 - 59)	\$1/day or \$12/month
Senior 60 +	FREE
Yearly memberships available. Children under 10 must be accompanied by an adult.	

## Open Recreation

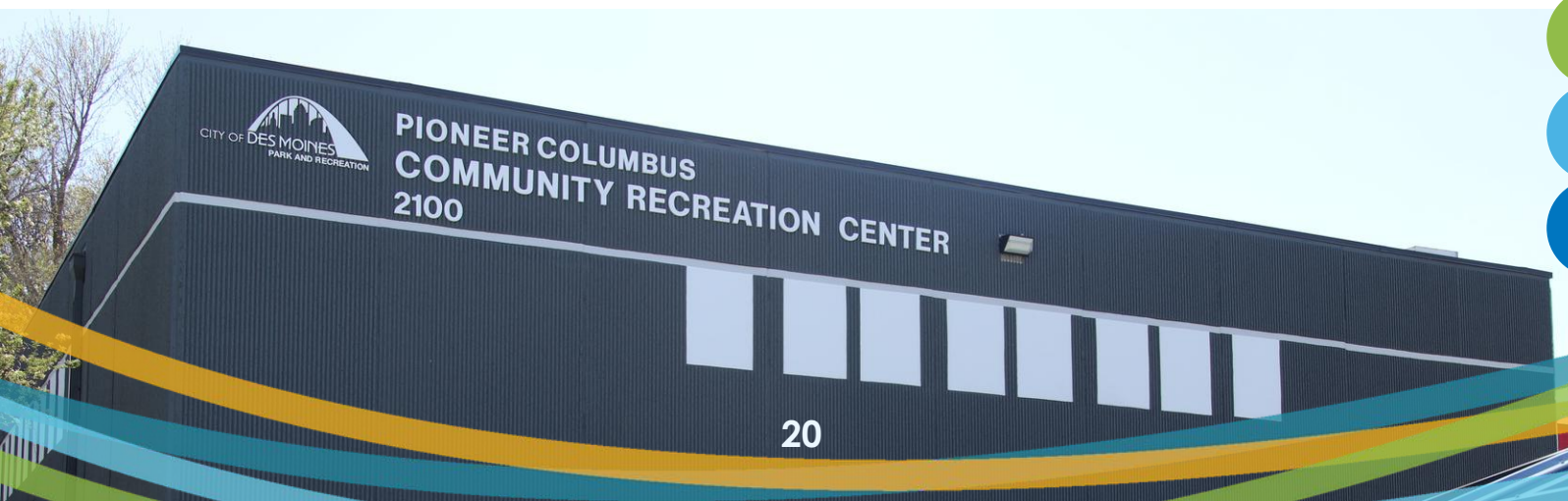
Open Recreation is available for ages 10 and up. Basketball, volleyball, game tables, weights, cardio and public computers available during regular business hours.

## Gym Walking

All ages are welcome to use the gym for walking Monday - Friday from 8 a.m. - 12 p.m. at Fourmile Community Recreation Center.

## Polk Co. Meal Site (Seniors 60+)

Free lunch offered to seniors Monday through Friday from 9 a.m. - 3 p.m. at both community recreation centers.



# Children (Ages 1 - 5)

## Imagination Playschool

An indoor play area offering playhouses, big wheel bikes, safety mats, foam building blocks and more during the cold weather months.

Months	Dates	Days	Time	Location	Cost
Nov - Mar	11/3 - 3/31	Mon, Wed & Fri	9 a.m. - 2 p.m.	Pioneer Columbus Rec Center	\$1.50/child



# All Ages (Ages 10+)

## Des Moines Table Tennis Club

Everyone is welcome to participate in table tennis with the Des Moines Table Tennis Club (DMTTC).

Month	Days	Time	Ages	Location	Cost
Year Round	Tues & Thurs	5:30 - 7:30 p.m.	15+	Fourmile Community Recreation Center	\$5/visit or \$240/year

## Indoor Pickleball

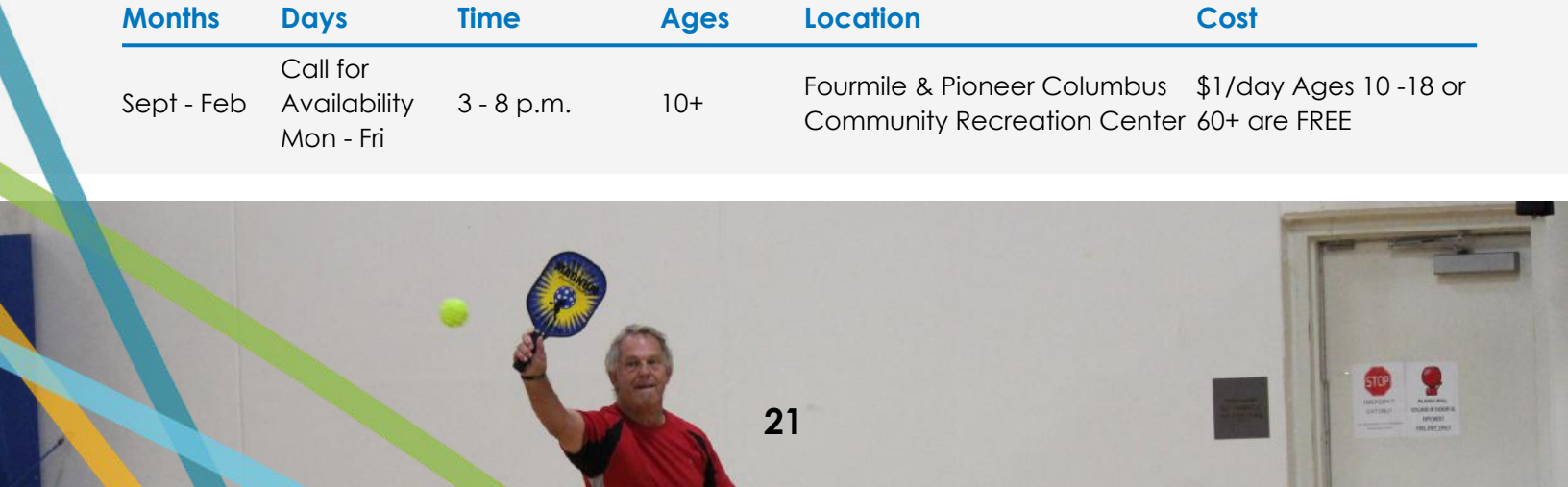
Pickleball is available on three indoor courts. Play a quick & fast paced game played as doubles or singles.

Months	Days	Time	Ages	Location	Cost
Sept - Feb	Mon - Fri	8 a.m. - Noon	10+	Pioneer Columbus Community Recreation Center	\$2/person
Sept - Feb	Tues & Thurs Mon & Wed	Noon - 3 p.m. 3 - 8 p.m.	10+	Fourmile Community Recreation Center	\$2/person

## Teq Ball

A new and exciting game that combines the skills of soccer and table tennis.

Months	Days	Time	Ages	Location	Cost
Sept - Feb	Call for Availability Mon - Fri	3 - 8 p.m.	10+	Fourmile & Pioneer Columbus Community Recreation Center	\$1/day Ages 10 -18 or 60+ are FREE



# Certification Classes (Ages 11+)

## Red Cross Babysitting Certification

This premiere course for aspiring babysitters will prepare youth ages 11+ to safely and responsibly care for children. Providing all the knowledge and skills required, including child care basics, safety & emergency preparedness, CPR training, leadership & professionalism, hands-on experience/practice and more.

Month	Date	Day	Time	Location	Cost
Nov	11/15/25	Sat	9 a.m. - 3:30 p.m.	Pioneer Columbus Community Recreation Center	\$80

## Red Cross CPR Certification

This adult, child and baby First Aid/CPR/AED course equips students to recognize and care for a variety of first aid breathing and cardiac emergencies involving adults, children, and babies.

Month	Date	Day	Time	Location	Cost
Oct	10/25/25	Sat	9 - 11 a.m.	Pioneer Columbus Community Recreation Center	\$80

# Fitness Classes

## Yoga

All fitness levels are welcome to this 45-minute yoga class focusing on balance, strength, flexibility and relaxation. Sign up for a full session or take it class by class for just \$10.

Months	Dates	Day(s)	Time	Ages	Location	Cost
Sept - May	9/23 - 5/7	Tues & Thurs	5:30 p.m.	14+	Fourmile Community Recreation Center	\$56/Session
Sept - May	9/22 - 5/7	Mon & Thurs	6 p.m.	14+	Pioneer Columbus Community Recreation Center	\$56/session



Kelli Forman

## Hip Hop & Street Dance Class

Join us for Hip Hop and Street Dance classes with Creative Network! International artist Kelli Forman and local dancer Xavier will cover dance fundamentals, history, choreography, and freestyle - while building confidence, community, and healthy habits. Kelli, a seasoned performer from X-Factor, Dancing with the Stars, and America's Got Talent, brings her expertise to inspire the next generation. \*No class on 11/4 & 11/11

Months	Dates	Days	Time	Ages	Location	Cost
Sept - Oct	9/23 - 10/25	Tues	5:45 - 6:45 p.m.	Grades 1-5	Pioneer Columbus Community Recreation Center	\$75
Sept - Oct	9/23 - 10/25	Tues	7 - 8 p.m.	Grades 6-10		\$75
Sept - Oct	9/23 - 10/25	Tues	5:45 - 6:45 p.m.	Ages 16+		\$75





# Dog Parks

## Locations and General Info

*There are three dog parks in Des Moines – Ewing, Reno Memorial and Riverwalk.*

*Permits are required and can be purchased online or in-person at City Hall – City Clerk's Office, 400 Robert D. Ray Dr. Permits are \$20 and valid January 1 – December 31.*

**Hours: All parks open year-round, daily, 6 a.m. - 10 p.m.**



**Ewing Dog Park**  
4660 Indianola Ave



**Reno Memorial Dog Park**  
3325 Hubbell Ave



**Riverwalk Dog Park**  
1111 Illinois St



## Rules & Requirements:

- Current dog license from the City of Des Moines or home jurisdiction
- Current dog rabies vaccination certification
- Dog must be at least four months old
- Permits and tags pertain to specific dogs, not the dog park and cannot be transferred to other dogs or dog owners

## Dog Park Ambassador Program

*Join our team of grrrr-eat dog-loving volunteers and help welcome dogs and owners to the park. BONUS...earn a FREE dog park permit for the following year!*

[Learn More](#)



[Apply](#)



# Mobile Recreation PARK-N-PLAY

[Learn More](#)



## Program Overview

*Park-N-Play, Des Moines' free mobile recreation vehicle, is a traveling program that brings family fun to you! This van is jam-packed with different games, sports equipment, crafts and so much more.*



### Fall Schedule: September 2 - November 22

Time(s)	Mon	Tues	Wed	Thurs	Sat
10 - 11:30 a.m.	-	-	-	-	Cohen Park
1:30 - 3 p.m.	-	-	-	-	Beaverdale Park
3 - 5 p.m.	Willard Elementary	South Union Elementary	Morris Elementary	Sheridan Park	-

\*weather permitting

### Special Appearances at Des Moines Parks and Recreation Events

Event/Program	Date	Time	More Information
Brenton Boo-Tacular	10/21/25	5 - 7 p.m.	See Page 28
Brenton Skating Plaza Opening Night	11/21/25	5 - 9 p.m.	See Page 15
Family Skate Date	1/10/26	Noon - 2 p.m.	See Page 17
Swiftie Skate	12/13/25	Noon - 3 p.m.	See Page 15





# Nature Programs

All ages welcome. Participants 16 and under must have an adult/guardian present.

[Learn More](#)



[Volunteer](#)



## Bald Eagle Day

Enjoy and learn about the Bald Eagles in downtown Des Moines.

Month	Date	Day	Time	Ages	Location	Cost
Feb	02/07/26	Sat	10 a.m. - Noon	All	South East 6th Street Bridge	FREE

## Bat Boxes

Learn about the bats that live in Iowa and build a bat box to take home with you. Pre-registration is required.

Month	Date	Day	Time	Ages	Location	Cost
Oct	10/03/25	Fri	5:30 p.m.	All	Greenwood Park Jay Spence Enclosed Shelter	\$15/box built

## Bird House Building Workshop

Learn about birds that like to live in houses, like the Eastern Bluebird and Wrens. After, build a birdhouse to take home with you. Pre-registration is required.

Month	Date	Day	Time	Ages	Location	Cost
Mar	03/14/26	Sat	10 a.m.	All	Drake Park Enclosed Shelter	\$10/birdhouse built



## Birding Basics

Join volunteer and avid birder John Bissell for a relaxed walk filled with feathered finds. Spot migrating and local birds, learn their fascinating habits, and get your birding questions answered along the way.

Months	Dates	Days	Time	Ages	Location	Cost
Mar - May	3/4 - 5/27	Wed	11 a.m.	All	Gray's Lake	FREE





## Black Friday Nature Hike

Instead of the shopping craze, get a good deal on nature! Take a self-guided hike at any time on the Bill Riley Trail in Greenwood Park and enjoy some inspirational signage along the way.

Month	Date	Day	Time	Ages	Location	Cost
Nov	11/28/25	Fri	Sunrise - Sunset	All	Ashworth Pool Parking Lot Trailhead	Free



## Build-a-Bird Feeder Workshop

Join us to learn about bird feeders, take a hike and then build your own bird feeder to take home with you. Pre-registration is required.

Month	Date	Day	Time	Ages	Location	Cost
Nov	11/8/25	Sat	10:30 a.m.	All	Greenwood Park Jay Spence Enclosed Shelter	\$15/bird feeder

## GPS Egg Hunt

Participants will learn how to use a handheld Global Positioning Unit then use the GPS to find hidden "eggs" in the park. Pre-registration is required.

Month	Date	Day	Time	Ages	Location	Cost
Mar	03/29/26	Sun	12:30 p.m. or 2:30 p.m.	All	Ewing Park Lilac Arboretum	\$10/person collecting prizes

## GPS Great Pumpkin Hunt

Participants will learn how to use a handheld Global Positioning Unit then use the GPS to find the "Great Pumpkin" in the park. Pre-registration is required.

Month	Date	Day	Time	Ages	Location	Cost
Oct	10/25/25	Sat	10:30 a.m. or 12:30 p.m.	All	Greenwood Park Pond Area	\$10/person

## Luminary Hike

Everyone is invited to follow the nature themed luminaries along the trail and then enjoy a cup of hot chocolate around the fire.

Month	Date	Day	Time	Ages	Location	Cost
Dec	12/05/25 & 12/06/25	Fri & Sat	5 - 8 p.m.	All	Grandview Park Mahaffey Enclosed Shelter	FREE - Food Bank Donation



## Monarch Tagging

Join us for one of our FREE monarch butterfly tagging events, a local component of a larger citizen science project. Explore the fascinating fall migration dynamics of the monarch and participate in hands-on tagging. Don't miss this opportunity!

Date	Time	Ages	Location
09/06/25	10 a.m. - 2 p.m.	All	Blank Park Zoo
09/15/25	6:30 p.m.	All	South Side Library
09/18/25	5:30 - 6:30 p.m.	All	East Side Library
09/20/25	10:15 a.m.	All	Gray's Lake S.E. Parking Lot Area
09/20/25	1 p.m.	All	Greenwood Park Playground
09/23/25	4 - 5 p.m.	All	North Side Library



## Owls of Iowa

Learn about the different kinds of owls that live here in Iowa and meet a live screech owl. Take a short hike in the park to search for wild live owls. Dress for the weather.

Month	Date	Day	Time	Ages	Location	Cost
Feb	02/20/26	Fri	5:30 p.m.	All	Greenwood Park Jay Spence Enclosed Shelter	FREE

## Snowshoe Hike

It's simple, easy and fun. Join us and explore our parks in winter. We will have all the gear and some hot chocolate. Pre-registration is required. Anyone under 16 years of age must be accompanied by an adult.

Month	Date	Day	Time	Ages	Location	Cost
Jan	01/10/26	Sat	10 a.m. - Noon	All	Grandview Park Mahaffey Enclosed Shelter	\$5/person
Feb	02/27/26	Fri	5:30 - 7 p.m.	All	MacRae Park W.C. Walker Enclosed Shelter	\$5/person



# Special Events



[Learn More](#)



[Volunteer](#)

## Bark Before Dark

Dog park permit holders are invited to the Bark Before Dark Halloween Pawty! Each registered dog will receive a goodie bag, have the opportunity to run about the park with Halloween activities, and be entered into the costume contest to win a 2026 Dog Park Permit.

Pre-registration required Sept 1 - Oct 23.

Month	Date	Day	Time	Ages	Location(s)	Cost
Oct	10/24/25	Fri	5 - 6 p.m.	10+, Under 15 requires adult supervision	Reno Memorial Dog Park	\$5/dog

## Brenton Boo-tacular

Get ready for a ghoulishly good time at Brenton Skating Plaza! Dress up, bring your candy bags, and join us for an unforgettable evening of frightful fun. Whether you're a witch, superhero, or just love candy, this family-friendly celebration promises entertainment for all! Wander around the rink for delicious treats and spooky surprises. Don't miss out on the most spooktacular event of the season!

Month	Date	Day	Time	Ages	Location	Cost
Oct	10/21/25	Tues	5 - 7 p.m.	All	Brenton Skating Plaza	Free



## Family Fun Night

Gather your friends and family together for a low-cost night of fun at Pioneer Columbus Community Recreation Center! This event provides an evening of bonding experiences through interactive play and designed for kids 12 and under. Pre-register Jan 1 - Mar 6 at [DSM.city/FamilyFunNight](https://DSM.city/FamilyFunNight); walk-ups welcome - cash only.

Month	Date	Day	Time	Age	Location	Cost
Mar	03/07/26	Sat	6:30 - 8:30 p.m.	All	Pioneer Columbus Community Recreation Center	\$10/person



## Jingle Bell Stroll

Come celebrate the season at the Jingle Bell Stroll! Enjoy a festive walk with holiday-themed games, crafts, music, and hot chocolate. Snap a quick photo with Santa and drop off your letter for the North Pole. This free, family-friendly event is designed for kids 12 and under. Sign up at [DSM.city/Jingle](https://DSM.city/Jingle) from Nov 1 - Dec 6; walk-ups welcome!

Month	Date	Day	Time	Age	Location	Cost
Dec	12/6/25	Sat	2 - 4 p.m.	All	Gray's Lake Park - Southeast Lawn	Free



## Mayor's Annual Ride

Ride to help maintain our trails! Register for the 2026 Mayor's Annual Ride and your contribution will help fund new trail projects. Fee for adults includes a t-shirt, a chance to win raffle prizes, refreshments along the route and good company. Pre-registration begins Jan 1 at [dsm.city/mayorsride](https://dsm.city/mayorsride).

Month	Date	Day	Time	Age	Location	Cost
May	05/02/26	Sat	10 a.m.	All	TBD	\$35/adult before event; \$50 on-site! \$5/child (Ages 4 and under ride free)

## Nature Trail Running Series

Runners of all levels are invited to explore nature trails in our park system, guided by volunteers from Fleet Feet and Capital Striders! Each Wednesday in September at 6 p.m., participants are invited to join guided runs. Distances will vary from two to six miles.

Month	Date	Day	Time	Ages	Location(s)	Cost
Sept	09/03/25	Wed	6 p.m.	All	Greenwood Park	Free
	09/10/25				Ewing Park (Ashley Okland Star Playground)	
	09/17/25				Grandview Park	
	09/24/25				Ashby Park	

## Paws & Claus: Holiday Supply Drive

Get into the giving spirit at Paws & Claus: Holiday Supply Drive & Mingle—a cozy, community celebration to support pets in need! Join us for an afternoon of warm drinks, sweet treats, and wagging tails as we collect much-needed supplies for the Animal Rescue League (ARL).

Month	Date	Day	Time	Age	Location	Cost
Nov	11/15/25	Sat	11 a.m. - 1 p.m.	10+, Under 15 requires adult supervision	Ewing Dog Park	Free

## Snow Ball

Join us for the Snow Ball, an unforgettable evening of dancing, refreshments, photo ops, art projects, and exhibits! Kids receive a carnation flower, and everyone can enjoy our chocolate fondue station. Pre-register Jan 1 - Feb 6 at [DSM.city/SnowBall](https://DSM.city/SnowBall); walk-ups welcome (cash only).

Month	Date	Day	Time	Ages	Location	Cost
Feb	02/07/26	Sat	6:30 - 8:30 p.m.	All	Science Center of Iowa	\$30/couple + \$10/additional child

## Trivia Night

Join Des Moines Parks and Recreation for Trivia Night! Assemble a team of your friends and put your knowledge to the test with a mix of general knowledge questions. The overall winning team will receive Des Moines Parks and Recreation prizes, such as pool, golf or skating passes! May the most knowledgeable team win!

Pre-registration required Dec 1 - Jan 7.

Team captains will register their entire team, include team name and number of participants (6 max).

Month	Date	Day	Time	Age	Location	Cost
Jan	01/08/26	Thurs	6 - 8:30 p.m.	All	Waveland Golf Course Clubhouse	\$20/team



## Leprechaun Loop & Wag

Celebrate St. Patrick's Day with your furry friend at the Leprechaun Loop & Wag! Enjoy a refreshing walk around beautiful Gray's Lake while soaking in the festive spirit of the season. It's a perfect way to get some fresh air, meet fellow dog lovers, and have a blast with your pup.

Month	Date	Day	Time	Ages	Location	Cost
March	03/14/26	Sat	10:00 a.m. - 12:00 p.m.	All	Gray's Lake Park	\$5/dog

## Toys for Tots

Des Moines Parks and Recreation is partnering with the U.S. Marine Corps this holiday season. Ensure that your children have a holiday they'll never forget by signing up for Toys for Tots!

### Registration

If you would like to register your child(ren) - 14 and under - pre-register online to receive toys this holiday season. Please note you can only sign up for one toy distribution site. Scan the QR code or visit [DSM.city/Toys](https://DSM.city/Toys) to sign up beginning Nov 1 - Nov 30.



**Pioneer Columbus Community  
Recreation Center**  
2100 SE 5th St.



**Fourmile Community  
Recreation Center**  
3711 Easton Blvd.

**Register**



Registration Period	Registration Days / Hours	Pick Up Dates*	Pick Up Times*
11/01/25 - 11/30/25	Mon - Fri / 8 a.m. - 8 p.m.	12/15/25 12/16/25 12/17/25	12 - 6 p.m. 3 - 8 p.m. 12 - 6 p.m.

\*at the selected location





# Volunteer

## Volunteer Opportunities

Program Title	Registration Period
Adapted Programs	Ongoing
Adopt-a-Park / Adopt-a-Trail	Ongoing
Dog Park Events/Ambassadors	Ongoing
Family Fun Night	1/1 - 2/6
Jingle Bell Stroll	9/1 - 11/6
Nature Programs	Ongoing
Snow Ball	12/1 - 1/7

### Volunteer



## Adapted Programs

Help kids discover the joy of play! Our adapted programs give children with disabilities or chronic health conditions a chance to shine - on the court, on the field, and in their hearts. We need caring, energetic volunteers to cheer them on, lend a hand, and make every moment unforgettable. \*Background check is required.

Volunteer Period	Time	Age Requirements
Year-Round	Varies	18+

## Adopt-a-Park / Adopt-a-Trail

Help beautify our parks and trails by hosting quarterly cleanups. View available locations and apply online. After your first clean up, an adoption sign will be placed with your family, business, organization or individual name.

Volunteer Period	Time	Age Requirements
Annual Commitment	Flexible	18+ for volunteer leaders





## Dog Park Ambassadors

Join our grrrr-eat team of Dog Park Ambassadors welcoming permitted dogs and owners to our parks. Earn a FREE dog park permit for the following year. To learn more about how ambassadors create a safe and enjoyable dog park experience, scan the QR code on page 23. \*Background check is required.

Volunteer Period	Time	Age Requirements
Year-Round	Flexible	18+

## Dog Park Events

Are you a dog lover? Consider volunteering to help facilitate special events such as Halloween events, donation drives and more at one of our dog parks. See page 28 - 29 for event details.

Volunteer Period	Time	Age Requirements
Year-Round	Flexible	18+ or 16+ parental/guardian approval

## Family Fun Night

Let the fun begin! Help us host a family-friendly event packed full of activities and excitement. See page 28 for event details. \*Background check is required.

Volunteer Period	Time	Age Requirements
03/07/26	6 - 9 p.m.	18+ or 16+ with parental/guardian approval

## Jingle Bell Stroll

Santa's coming to town—and we need help creating jolly good fun on our festive family-friendly holiday stroll. See page 28 for details. \*Background check is required.

Volunteer Period	Time	Age Requirements
12/6/25	1:30 - 4:30 p.m.	18+ or 16+ with parental/guardian approval

## Nature Programs

Love nature and a little adventure? Team up with our Naturalist to bring seasonal programs to life! From spotting bald eagles to building bat houses, hunting pumpkins by GPS to snowshoeing under the stars—help families discover the wild side of every season. \*Background check is required.

Volunteer Period	Time	Age Requirements
Year-Round	Varies	18+ or 16+ with parental/guardian approval

## Snow Ball

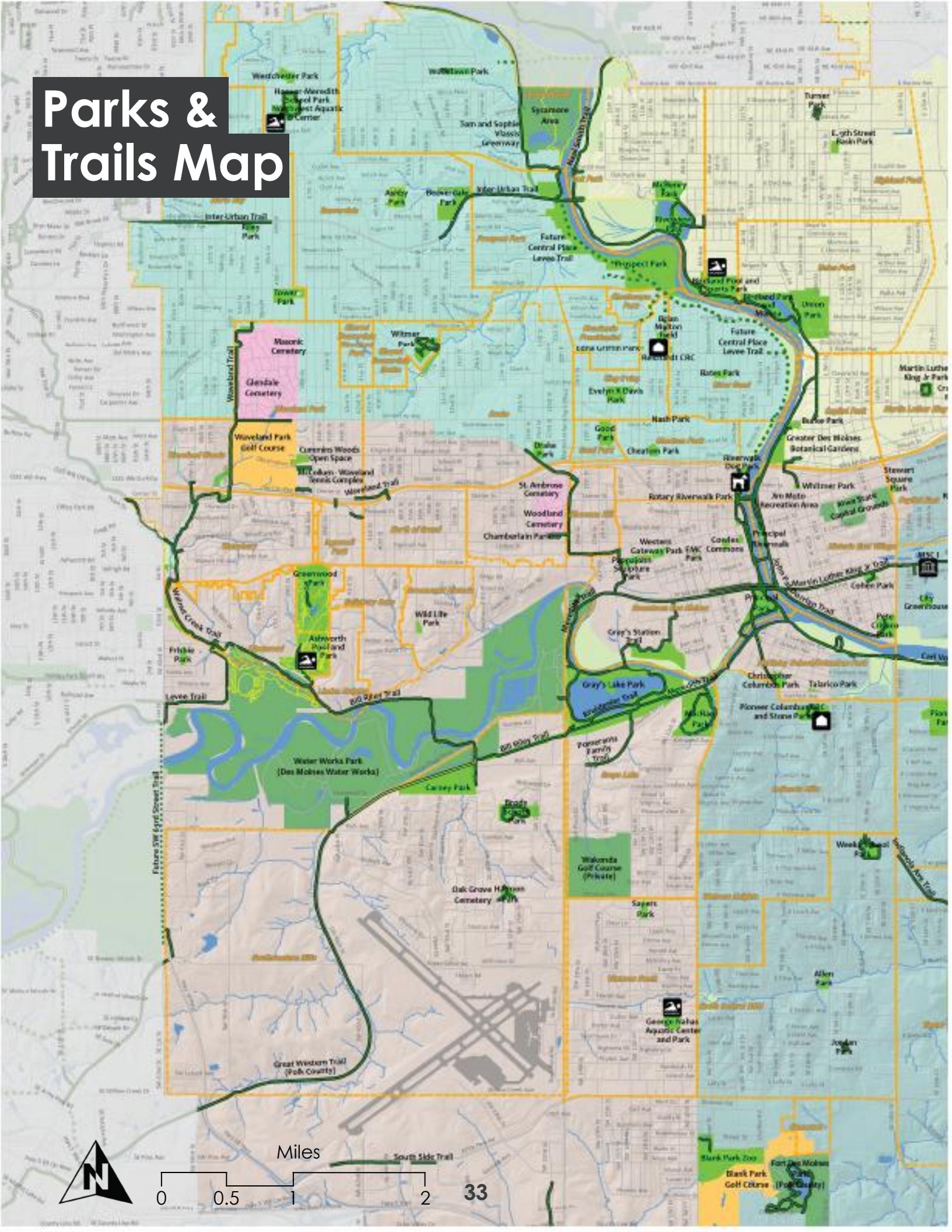
Help us host the best party of the year! Volunteers make this evening magical as our guests dance the night away. Event helpers greet guests, run the coat room, and host the refreshment room. See page 29 for event details. \*Background check is required.

Volunteer Period	Time	Age Requirements
02/07/26	6 - 9 p.m.	18+ or 16+ with parental/guardian approval





# Parks & Trails Map


















# Des Moines Parks and Trails

[Learn More](#)



-  Parks
-  Other Parks
-  Open Space
-  Cemetery
-  Golf Course
-  Paved Trails
-  Nature Trails
-  Future Trails
-  Neighborhood Boundary
-  Municipal Service Center Parks and Recreation Dept.
-  Community Recreation Center
-  Pool/Aquatic Center
-  Dog Park

## City Council Wards





# Golf



**A.H. Blank**  
711 County Line Rd.



**Grandview**  
2401 E. 29th St.



**Waveland**  
4908 University Ave.

Don't forget! Des Moines also has three public golf courses, each providing a distinct experience for all levels of play, plus family-friendly fun like mini golf at Blank Golf Course and rentable banquet rooms for your next event—scan the QR code for more info!



**Parks and Recreation Office**  
1551 E. Martin Luther King Jr. Parkway  
Des Moines, IA 50317  
(515) 237-1386  
[parks@dmgov.org](mailto:parks@dmgov.org)