

play BY play

2026 SPRING/SUMMER 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)
- › Adopt-A-Spot program
- › Weed and snow complaints
- › Trail questions or issues
- › Tree permits
- › Memorial Tree program
- › Right-of-way tree issues

Recreation Office (319) 447-3590

- › Recreation programs, leagues, special events
- › Swim lessons and pool information
- › Farmers market at Willowood Park
- › Facility rentals (Lowe Park, Arts & Environment Center, amphitheater, ball diamonds, pool)
- › Senior programs at Lowe Park
- › Community gardens
- › Ice Loop

Online Account Reminders...

Register for programs with just a few easy clicks. Set up your household account for you and your family at www.cityofmarion.org/parks-recreation. We encourage you to use the online calendar for the facilities to view availability and reserve select facilities. Please note that some facilities still require you to call or visit us in person to complete the reservation process.

FACILITY RENTAL POLICY | Rent facilities for the current calendar year as well as the next year. For example, you can now rent rooms and pavilions for all of 2026 and all of 2027. Every January, we'll open the following year.

HOUSEHOLD ACCOUNTS | Please make sure to set up your household account and add all family members to make the registration and reservation process quick and easy for future use. Please verify all contact information is correct (phone number, email, address, dates of birth, etc.). Please be sure to avoid duplicating your account. Please contact our office to reset your password, if necessary.

WAITLISTS | Please only add your participant to a class waitlist once and make sure it's the participant's name rather than the parent/adult. We'll do our best to try and accommodate people on waitlists when reasonably possible. Waitlist status does not guarantee a spot in that program.

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

SWIM LESSON REGISTRATION | We are now able to accept swim lesson registrations online. Registration for 2026 summer swimming lessons begins on March 11 at 7 a.m.

GET REGISTERED!

All participants and renters must have an online account to process and complete 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, 9 a.m.-4 p.m.

Youth Sports Leagues

TINY GOAL KICKERS SOCCER

Children Ages 4-8 | This instructional league is designed to introduce players to the basic soccer skills, rules and concepts. Players are randomly assigned to teams in this non-competitive recreational league. A combination of group practices and games are played in a 3v3 or 5v5 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	4/7-5/19	5 or 6 p.m.	Butterfield Park
5-6 Year Old (co-ed)	Thurs	4/9-5/21	5 or 6 p.m.	Butterfield Park
7-8 Year Old (boys/girls)*	Sat	4/11-5/23	9 or 10 a.m.	Taube Park

EARLY REGISTRATION DEADLINE: \$42 through March 2, 2026

LATE REGISTRATION DEADLINE: \$52 through March 17, 2026

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.

The 4 and 5/6 year old divisions will be played in a 3v3 format.

New this year: The 7/8 year old divisions will be played in a 5v5 format.

*The 7/8 year old division will be separate boy/girl unless we do not reach the minimum number of participants, at which point teams will be made co-ed.

SPRING FLAG FOOTBALL

Children Grades 1st-4th (2026-27) | 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	4/6-4/29	5:15 p.m. or 6:15 p.m.	Taube Park
2nd/3rd Grade	Mon/Wed	4/6-4/29	5:15 p.m. or 6:15 p.m.	Taube Park

EARLY REGISTRATION DEADLINE: \$42 through March 2, 2026, includes team shirt.

LATE REGISTRATION DEADLINE: \$52 through March 17, 2026

NOTES: Cleats and mouth guards are highly recommended for player safety.

LIL SLUGGERS BLASTBALL

Children Age 3 | Blastball is a fun and easy introduction for kids to learn the basic skills involved with t-ball. Players work on throwing, hitting, fielding, base running, teamwork and sportsmanship. The first night of the program is team practices. There will be a second practice midway through the season. Every other meeting will consist of games played against other teams. **Volunteer coaches needed!**

OPTIONS	DAYS	DATES	TIMES	LOCATION
3 Year Old	Thurs	5/28-7/2	5:30-6 p.m. or 6:15-6:45 p.m.	Butterfield Park Ball Diamond

EARLY REGISTRATION DEADLINE: \$42 through April 23, 2026, includes team shirt.

LATE REGISTRATION DEADLINE: \$52 through May 7, 2026

NOTES: Times are scheduled by staff and will rotate weekly to allow for even team distribution.

Teams are co-ed.

Each practice and game will last 30 minutes.

PEEWEE BASEBALL & SOFTBALL

Boys and Girls Ages 4-8 (By June 1, 2026)

This program is an instructional league that focuses on the development of baseball/softball skills, such as hitting, throwing, fielding and learning the rules and terminology. Players have the option of hitting off the tee or having a coach pitch to them. Teams will practice one to two times per week. The 4/5 division will be t-ball. The 6-8-year-old division will be coach-pitch only, using the tee when necessary.

OPTIONS	DAYS	DATES	GAME TIMES	LOCATION
BASEBALL-4/5 Year Old (T-Ball)	Mon/Wed	5/18 -7/8	5:30 or 6:45 p.m.	Varies
BASEBALL-6-8 Year Old (Coach-Pitch)	Mon/Wed	5/18-7/8	5:30 or 6:45 p.m.	Varies
SOFTBALL-4/5 Year Old (T-ball)	Tues/Thurs	5/19-7/9	5:30 or 6:45 p.m.	Varies
SOFTBALL-6-8 Year Old (Coach-Pitch)	Tues/Thurs	5/19-7/9	5:30 or 6:45 p.m.	Varies

EARLY REGISTRATION DEADLINE: \$42 through April 19, 2026, includes team shirt.

\$52 through April 30, 2026

NOTES: Season begins the week of May 18; times/days/locations will vary by team.

Baseball will play/practice on Mondays and/or Wednesdays, while softball will play/practice on Tuesdays and/or Thursdays. Each team will have two or three practices before the games begin. There will be limited practices during the season once games begin. Games will begin the week of June 1. Coaches will contact players with their team assignments and practice/game schedules.

REC UNITED BASEBALL & SOFTBALL

Children Ages 7-10 (by of Aug. 1, 2026) | Continue playing baseball into the fall in this first-of-its-kind program for the metro area! Local Parks and Recreation departments have teamed up to bring you this new recreational baseball league at Triple Play Park. This league will meet once a week to continue building skills, working on fundamentals and playing games in a fun and engaging environment! Games/practices are one hour in length. Volunteer coaches are needed. Mt. Mercy baseball players will be helping with practice and umpiring games.

OPTIONS	DAYS	DATES	TIMES	LOCATION
BASEBALL 7/8 Year Old	Sun	8/30-10/11	Mornings	Triple Play Park
BASEBALL 9/10 Year Old	Sun	8/30-10/11	Mornings	Triple Play Park
SOFTBALL 7-10 Year Olds	Sun	8/30-10/11	Mornings	Triple Play Park

EARLY REGISTRATION DEADLINE: \$60 through July 31, 2026, includes team shirt.

LATE REGISTRATION DEADLINE: \$70 through Aug. 7, 2026

NOTES: Season begins Sunday, Aug. 30; time will vary per week but will always be on Sundays.

The first day will be a skills evaluation day. All players will run through several stations, working on different skills/drills to give us an idea of the players' skill level. This will help us when assigning players to teams to make sure teams are balanced and should result in a lot more fun. Once players are assigned to teams, we'll send out the team rosters and game schedule.

PEEWEE FLAG FOOTBALL

Children Grades K-1st (Fall 2026-27) | This instructional league operates like a mini clinic, teaching the fundamentals of football. This includes throwing, catching, running, blocking, handoffs, learning basic plays/formations, positions and more. Players have group instructional practices led by staff and coaches on the first two nights and a combination of games and practices on the remaining six nights of the program.

OPTIONS	DAYS	DATES	TIMES	LOCATION
PeeWee Flag	Tues/Thurs	8/18-9/10	5:30 or 6:30 p.m.	Lowe Park

EARLY REGISTRATION DEADLINE: \$42 through July 22, 2026, includes team shirt.

LATE REGISTRATION DEADLINE: \$52 through July 27, 2026

NOTES: Times are scheduled by staff and will rotate weekly (5:30-6:15 p.m. or 6:30-7:15 p.m.) to allow for even team distribution.

Cleats and mouth guards are recommended for player safety.

NFL YOUTH FLAG FOOTBALL

Children Grades 2nd-6th (Fall 2026) | NFL Flag is here in Marion! This collaborative recreational league between Marion Parks and Recreation and Marion YMCA will focus on learning fundamentals and developing the skills to play football at the next level. An emphasis is placed on good sportsmanship, teamwork and equal playing time. Coaches schedule their own practices beginning in late August, with games beginning in early September. A six-game season will be played by each team. There will be a coaches meeting prior to practices being scheduled.

OPTIONS	GAME DAY	DATES	LOCATION
2nd/3rd Grade	Sat	9/12-10/17	Echo Hill Fields
4th/5th Grade	Sat	9/12-10/17	Echo Hill Fields
6th-8th Grade	Sat	9/12-10/17	Echo Hill Fields

EARLY REGISTRATION DEADLINE: \$60 through July 8, 2026, includes NFL Jersey.

LATE REGISTRATION DEADLINE: \$70 through July 28, 2026

NOTES: Games will begin on Saturday, Sept. 12, and be played between 8:30 a.m.-noon (schedule varies).

Practices begin the week of Aug. 24, and days/times will vary by team.

There will be a coaches meeting before practices begin.

Coaches will contact players with their team assignments and practice/game schedules.

Cleats and mouth guards are highly recommended for player safety.

REC UNITED SUMMER SOCCER

Children Ages 5-10 (by of June 1, 2026) | Marion, Hiawatha and Cedar Rapids Parks and Recreation departments have teamed up to bring you this recreational summer soccer league for boys and girls. Focus will be placed on learning age-appropriate skills and fundamentals to better enhance the players' understanding of the game of soccer. An emphasis will be placed on teamwork and good sportsmanship by all involved. If your kid is looking to continue soccer between the spring and fall seasons, this is the league for them! There will be a separate girls' and boys' division for each age group.

OPTIONS	DAYS	DATES	TIMES	LOCATION
5-6 Year Old Boys	Wed	6/10-7/29	Games at 6 or 7 p.m.	Tuma Soccer Complex
5-6 Year Old Girls	Wed	6/10-7/29	Games at 6 or 7 p.m.	Tuma Soccer Complex
7-8 Year Old Boys	Wed	6/10-7/29	Games at 6 or 7 p.m.	Tuma Soccer Complex
7-8 Year Old Girls	Wed	6/10-7/29	Games at 6 or 7 p.m.	Tuma Soccer Complex
9-10 Year Old Boys	Wed	6/10-7/29	Games at 6 or 7 p.m.	Tuma Soccer Complex
9-10 Year Old Girls	Wed	6/10-7/29	Games at 6 or 7 p.m.	Tuma Soccer Complex

EARLY REGISTRATION DEADLINE: \$50 through May 1, 2026, includes team shirt.

LATE REGISTRATION DEADLINE: \$60 through May 15, 2026

NOTES: Minimum number of teams required to hold each division.

Shin guards and cleats are recommended for this league.



Youth Sports Camps

Children Ages 3-12 | These sports camps will introduce children to the basic skills and fundamentals of the selected sport in a fun, non-competitive and non-intimidating environment. Kids will learn skills through a variety of age-appropriate interactive games, activities and drills. Find complete descriptions and available sessions for each camp when you register online at www.cityofmarion.org/parks-recreation. Limited number of spots available for each camp.

PROGRAM	AGES	DAYS	DATES	SESSIONS	LOCATION	FEE	DEADLINE
Kick Star Soccer Camp	3-4	Mon	3/30-4/20	PM Offerings	Butterfield Park	\$33	March 16, 2026
Little Sports Camp	3-8	M/W	5/18-5/27	PM Offerings	Butterfield/Thomas	\$33	April 27, 2026
Lil Pigskins Football	5-8	Mon	6/8-6/29	AM & PM Offerings	Butterfield Park	\$33	May 13, 2026
Little Sports Camp: The Remix	3-8	Tue	6/9-6/30	AM & PM Offerings	Butterfield/YMCA	\$33	May 19, 2026
Lil Chippers Golf	6-10	Mon	6/29-7/27	AM & PM Offerings	Lowe A&E	\$35	June 8, 2026
Happy Feet Soccer	3-4	Thurs	7/2-7/23	AM & PM Offerings	Butterfield Park	\$33	June 11, 2026
Youth Pickleball Camp	7-12	Tue	7/7-7/28	AM & PM Offerings	Hanna Park	\$33	June 16, 2026
Track & Agility Camp	6-11	T/Th	8/4-8/20	AM & PM Offerings	Lowe Park Track	\$37	July 14, 2026
Playground Games Camp	4-8	M/W	8/10-8/19	AM & PM Offerings	Prairie Hill Park	\$28	July 20, 2026
Lil Tykes Basketball	4-5	Mon	9/14-10/5	PM Offerings	Thomas Park	\$33	Aug. 24, 2026
Lil Tykes Basketball	6-8	Wed	9/16-10/7	PM Offerings	Thomas Park	\$33	Aug. 24, 2026

FALL SOCCER

Children Ages 4-8 | This instructional league is designed to introduce players to the basic soccer skills, rules and concepts. Players are randomly assigned to teams in this non-competitive recreational league. A combination of group practices and games are played in a 3v3 or 5v5 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)	Thurs	8/27-10/1	5 and/or 6 p.m.	Butterfield Park
5/6 Year Old (co-ed)	Thurs	8/27-10/1	5 and/or 6 p.m.	Butterfield Park
7/8 Year Old (boys/girls)	Tues	8/25-9/29	5 and/or 6 p.m.	Taube Park

EARLY REGISTRATION DEADLINE: \$42 through July 21, 2026

LATE REGISTRATION DEADLINE: \$52 through Aug. 4, 2026

NOTES: Games & practices scheduled by staff to allow for even team distribution, will rotate weekly. Teams will be co-ed for 4 and 5/6 year olds. The 4 and 5/6 year old divisions will be played in a 3v3 format. New this year: The 7/8 year old divisions will be played in a 5v5 format.

YOUTH TENNIS

Children Ages 5-13 | The Marion Parks and Recreation Department will once again partner with Smithfield Tennis to offer youth summer tennis classes. Kids will learn age-appropriate skills, fundamentals and terminology based on their class age group. Each session meets for four classes. Minimum class size four, maximum class size 10.

OPTIONS/AGES	DAYS	DATES	TIMES	LOCATION
SESSION I Rain location will be held at Smithfield Tennis and Pickleball Center.				
Tots (5-6)	Mon	6/8-6/29	4-4:45 p.m.	Marion High School
Rookies (7-10)	Mon	6/8-6/29	5-5:55 p.m.	Marion High School
Racquetees (11-13)	Mon	6/8-6/29	6-6:55 p.m.	Marion High School
Tots (5-6)	Fri	6/12-7/3	9-9:45 a.m.	Marion High School
Rookies (7-10)	Fri	6/12-7/3	10-10:55 a.m.	Marion High School
Rookies (7-10)	Fri	6/12-7/3	11-11:55 a.m.	Marion High School
SESSION II Rain location will be held at Smithfield Tennis and Pickleball Center.				
Tots (5-6)	Mon	7/13-8/3	4-4:45 p.m.	Marion High School
Rookies (7-10)	Mon	7/13-8/3	5-5:55 p.m.	Marion High School
Racquetees (11-13)	Mon	7/13-8/3	6-6:55 p.m.	Marion High School
Tots (5-6)	Fri	7/17-8/7	9-9:45 a.m.	Marion High School
Rookies (7-10)	Fri	7/17-8/7	10-10:55 a.m.	Marion High School
Rookies (7-10)	Fri	7/17-8/7	11-11:55 a.m.	Marion High School

REGISTRATION FEE: \$65 per session (early registration), \$75 per session (late registration)

REGISTRATION DEADLINES: Session I: **EARLY REGISTRATION:** May 18, 2026

LATE REGISTRATION: May 25, 2026

Session II: **EARLY REGISTRATION:** June 22, 2026

LATE REGISTRATION: June 29, 2026

NOTES: Participants should bring their own racket and water.

CROSS COUNTRY PROGRAM

Children Ages 6-13 | Is your child interested in trying cross country? Join the Marion Parks and Recreation Cross Country Program—perfect for beginners looking to try running in a fun, supportive environment. Participants will learn basic running skills, pacing, and teamwork while building confidence and endurance. Practice focuses on encouragement and personal growth, not competition. The program wraps up with a mock meet so runners can celebrate their progress and experience race day fun!

OPTIONS	DAYS	DATES	TIMES	LOCATION
Ages 6-13	Wed	4/1-5/6	6-7 p.m.	Lowe A&E

REGISTRATION FEE: \$5 per child, per week

NOTES: This program is 6 weeks (come to as many practices as you can—attendance at all is not required). Registered for one or multiple days! Practices will be held at Lowe.

MARION SPRINT TRIATHLON

Ages 7+ | Swim, bike and run for fun! Challenge you or yourself whole family in this sprint triathlon right here in Marion. You will start with the swim at the Linn-Mar Aquatic Center, then bike to and through Marion before running laps around the Linn-Mar track. No previous triathlon experience is necessary. Kids should be able to swim a basic front stroke to participate. **Volunteers needed!**

OPTIONS	AGES	DAYS	DATES	LOCATION
Division A	7-8	Sat	8/8	Linn-Mar Aquatic Center
Division B	9-11	Sat	8/8	Linn-Mar Aquatic Center
Division C	12-14	Sat	8/8	Linn-Mar Aquatic Center
Division D	15-17	Sat	8/8	Linn-Mar Aquatic Center
Division E	18+	Sat	8/8	Linn-Mar Aquatic Center

SKILL LEVEL	SWIM	BIKE	RUN
Division A	25 yards	1.25 miles	0.5 miles
Division B	50 yards	2.5 miles	1 mile
Division C	100 yards	3.75 miles	1.5 miles
Division D	200 yards	5 miles	2 miles
Division E	.5k (.31 miles)	25k (15.5 miles)	5k (3.11 miles)

EARLY REGISTRATION DEADLINE: \$50 through July 1, 2026, includes team shirt.

LATE REGISTRATION DEADLINE: \$60 through July 20, 2026

NOTES: Check-in begins 30 minutes prior to your start time at the Linn-Mar Aquatic Center. Separate divisions by skill level (beginner, intermediate, advanced) with recommended ages. Participants bring their own bike and must wear a helmet. Children can move up or down skill levels based on their abilities at their parent's discretion.

MARION BOYS' BASEBALL AND PEG PIERCE SOFTBALL



Marion Boys Baseball—Boys Ages 7-18 (As of April 1, 2026)
Visit www.marionbaseball.org to register.

Marion Girls Softball—Girls Grades 2nd-8th (Entering Fall 2026-27)
Visit www.mariongirlssoftball.org to register.

A late fee will be applied after March 1.

Youth Programs

EGGSTRAVAGANZA WITH THE BUNNY

Children Ages 3-8 | Celebrate the spring season at our Eggstravaganza with the Bunny – a fun-filled event for children and their families! Enjoy an evening of fun by creating festive Easter crafts, playing games, taking photos with the bunny and a one-of-a-kind glow-in-the-dark Easter egg hunt! Don't forget to dress for the weather as the egg hunt will take place outdoors (weather permitting). *Limited number of spots available.*

OPTIONS	DAYS	DATES	TIMES	LOCATION
Egg. w/ the Bunny	Sat	3/28	7:30-9 p.m.	Lowe Park

EARLY REGISTRATION DEADLINE: \$20 through March 6, 2026
LATE REGISTRATION DEADLINE: \$30 through March 20, 2026

KIWANIS EASTER EGG HUNT

Children Ages 8 and younger | **Saturday, March 28 at 10 a.m.**
 Join the Marion Metro Kiwanis for their annual egg hunt at the Lowe Park PeeWee Diamonds, 4401 Irish Drive. This is a free event and there's no need to pre-register. There will be three age divisions: Under 5, 5-6 year old and 7-8 year old. Check their Facebook page for updates www.facebook.com/marionmetrokiwanis

SUMMER ART CAMP

Children Grades 2nd-8th (Fall 2026-27) | Join local art instructor Michael Brandt for some interactive art camps this summer at the Lowe Park Arts & Environment Center. Each camp will focus on a topic or art form. *Limited number of spots available each session.*

OPTIONS	DAYS	DATES	TIMES	LOCATION
Cartooning 1	Mon-Thurs	6/8-6/11	8-10 a.m.	Lowe Park
Painting 1	Mon-Thurs	6/8-6/11	10:30 a.m.-12:30 p.m.	Lowe Park
Cartooning 2	Mon-Thurs	6/15-6/18	8-10 a.m.	Lowe Park
Painting 2	Mon-Thurs	6/15-6/18	10:30 a.m.-12:30 p.m.	Lowe Park
Ancient Egyptian Art	Mon-Thurs	6/22-6/25	8-10 a.m.	Lowe Park
Animal Art	Mon-Thurs	6/22-6/25	10:30 a.m.-12:30 p.m.	Lowe Park
Cartooning 3	Mon-Thurs	6/29-7/2	8-10 a.m.	Lowe Park
Painting 3	Mon-Thurs	6/29-7/2	10:30 a.m.- 12:30 p.m.	Lowe Park

REGISTRATION FEE: \$90 per child
REGISTRATION DEADLINE: May 29, 2026
NOTES: New this year: Register on-line with complete camp descriptions available at www.cityofmarion.org/parks-recreation through our RecDesk portal.

NEW! THE ULTIMATE GAMING CAMP

The Ultimate Gaming Camp features non-stop action with the popular Nintendo Switch title, Super Smash Bros. Ultimate! With trained staff helping participants learn the ropes of the e-sports world, campers of all skill levels will train and compete both individually and in teams while honing their gaming skills. Guided by a professional Smash Esports Coach, players will work on strategy, communication, sportsmanship, and in-game decision making—all while playing alongside other gamers who share their passion. To keep campers energized and balanced, we mix in fun physical activities throughout the day to break up screen time and keep things moving. Whether you're brand new or a seasoned player, this camp is all about learning, competing, and having a blast.

OPTIONS	DAYS	DATES	TIMES	LOCATION
6-9 Year Old	M-Th	6/22-6/25	9 a.m. to 3 p.m.	Thomas Park Safe Room
10-15 Year Old	M-Th	6/29-7/2	9 a.m. to 3 p.m.	Thomas Park Safe Room
6-9 Year Old	T-F	7/7-7/10	9 a.m. to 3 p.m.	Thomas Park Safe Room
10-15 Year Old	M-Th	7/13-7/16	9 a.m. to 3 p.m.	Thomas Park Safe Room

REGISTRATION: \$200 for the week

SUMMER DAY CAMPS

Children Ages K-8th (Fall 2026-27) | The Marion Parks and Recreation Department has partnered with Iowa State Extension and Linn County 4-H to offer quality summer day camps right here in Marion. These day-long camps are educational, interactive and sure to keep your child's attention. To view complete camp listings and descriptions, please visit the registration link listed below.

For questions about camps, contact Erika Serbousek, Linn County Youth Outreach Educator, at (319) 377-9839 or by email at emserb@iastate.edu.

OPTIONS	DATES	TIMES	LOCATION
Going Green Camp (K-2)	6/16	9 a.m.-3 p.m.	Lowe Park
Planet Protectors (4th-5th)	7/7	9 a.m.-3 p.m.	Lowe Park
Going Green Day Camp (K-2)	7/20	9 a.m.-3 p.m.	Thomas Park
Wild About the Outdoors Day Camp (K-2)	7/22	9 a.m.-3 p.m.	Thomas Park
Mix It Up Art (K-2)	7/30	9 a.m.-3 p.m.	Thomas Park

REGISTRATION FEE: \$35 per child
REGISTRATION DEADLINE: Two weeks prior to camp date
NOTES: Register at www.extension.iastate.edu/linn/summer-programs.
 Each child should bring a sack lunch for each camp day.
 Camps are held in the Thomas Park Safe Room or at Lowe Park Arts & Environment Center.

PARK PLAYDATES

Children Ages 10 and under | Join the Marion Public Library and Marion Parks and Recreation at Park Playdates this summer! We'll rotate through visiting different parks in Marion for activities and fun. In addition to the playground equipment, extra activities such as bubbles, balls, pinwheels, sidewalk chalk, yard games and sports equipment will be available. This program is geared towards babies and elementary-aged children.

DAYS	DATES	TIMES	LOCATION
Thurs	6/11	10-11 a.m.	Lowe Park Inclusive Playground
Thurs	6/18	10-11 a.m.	Gill Park
Thurs	6/25	10-11 a.m.	Taube Park
Thurs	7/2	10-11 a.m.	Prairie Hill Park
Thurs	7/9	10-11 a.m.	Hanna Park

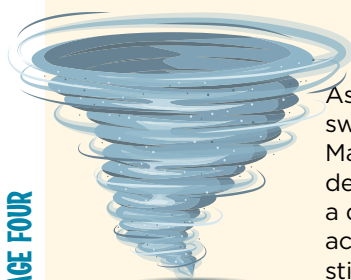
NOTES: Program will be moved indoors at the Library in case of inclement weather.

LIL' SPROUTS

Children Ages 3-5 | Back by popular demand! Together with your own Lil' Sprout, enjoy exploring a different nature or garden-based class each week at Lowe Park! Classes will consist of story time with a coordinating nature/garden craft or activity to follow, led by our department horticulturist. This is a parent/guardian-child class. *Limited number of spots available.*

OPTIONS	DAYS	DATES	TIMES	LOCATION
Lil' Sprouts-1	Tues	7/14-8/4	10-10:30 a.m.	Lowe Park
Lil' Sprouts-2	Tues	7/14-8/4	11-11:30 a.m.	Lowe Park

REGISTRATION FEE: \$30 through July 1, 2026
REGISTRATION DEADLINE: \$40 through July 7, 2026
NOTES: Please dress appropriately for the weather as some classes may involve some time outside.



New! Parks and Rec Weather Hotline

As we move throughout the year, weather can impact our programming, including sports, swim lessons, camps and special events. To stay informed, we encourage you to call the Marion Parks and Recreation Weather Hotline for the most up-to-date information on delays, cancellations and weather-related changes. The hotline is updated as soon as a decision is made, typically by 4 p.m. for evening programs and by 8 a.m. for morning activities. Please check the hotline before heading out to ensure your activity is still on as scheduled. **Weather Hotline Number: (319) 200-1274**





REGISTER EARLY!

Nothing hurts a program more than missed deadlines. Register early to ensure adequate numbers are met to hold programs. 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.

Adult Programs

SUNRISE YOGA

Open To All Ages | A summertime staple in Marion! Join the Marion Parks and Recreation Department, Be Well Marion and local fitness clubs/gyms for FREE outdoor yoga during the summer. Sunrise Yoga will be held outdoors each Saturday, beginning June 6, and running through the end of August, at the beautiful Klopfenstein Amphitheater at Lowe Park. All abilities and ages are welcome. Our instructors will give adjustment options based on your experience.

OPTIONS	DAYS	DATES	TIMES	LOCATION
Sunrise Yoga	Sat	6/6-8/29	7:30 a.m.	Klopfenstein Amphitheater (Lowe Park)

REGISTRATION FEE: Free to participate (no registration required).

NOTES: In the event of inclement weather, the program will be canceled. Cancellations and information posted on the official Facebook page (Sunrise Yoga-Lowe Park). Participants should bring their own yoga mat or towel and water.

A signed waiver, which covers the entire summer, is required. Forms available on site.

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 tennis net. With simple rules, it's the perfect game for all ages to learn and play. Guests will need to complete a participation waiver upon their initial visit.

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

PARTICIPATION FEE: \$5 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.

Participants should bring their own paddle and balls; nets will be provided.

INTRO TO PICKLEBALL

Adults Ages 18+ | With simple and easy-to-follow rules, pickleball is the perfect game for all ages to learn and play. Lead by Smithfield TPC pro, come learn all the rules, techniques and strategies to start playing pickleball yourself! Number of participants: Minimum 4, Maximum 16

DATE: Saturday, June 20

TIME: 9-10:30 a.m.

REGISTRATION FEE: \$15 per person

REGISTRATION DEADLINE: two weeks before program date.

NOTES: Participants can bring their own paddle, but paddles and balls will be available to those who don't have one.

Senior Programs

SENIOR PROGRAMS AT LOWE

Adults Ages 55+ | The Lowe Park Arts and Environment Center and the Marion Library are home to free daily senior activities. The programs and activities are geared towards adults ages 55 and up. For more information on these programs, please contact the Parks and Recreation office at (319) 447-3590. The senior programs at Lowe Park and the Library are always welcoming new guests, so stop out and join in the fun.

OPTIONS	DAYS	TIMES	LOCATION
Tai Chi	Mon	9:30 a.m.	Lowe Park
Chair Yoga	Tues (2nd/4th)	1 p.m.	Library
Tai Chi	Tues	9 a.m.	Library
Senior Social	Tues	10 a.m.	Library
Yahoo!	Mon (1st/3rd)	9 a.m.	Lowe Park
Senior Crafting Social	Tues (1st/3rd)	1 p.m.	Library
Chair Volleyball	Tues (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
Line Dancing	Wed	1 p.m.	Lowe Park
Nickel B-I-N-G-O	Thurs	9:30 a.m.	Lowe Park
Encore Cafe	Thurs	11:30 a.m.	Lowe Park
Cards-Pinochle	Fri	9 a.m.	Lowe Park
Encore Cafe	Fri	11:30 a.m.	Library

NOTES: Encore Café meets Thursdays at Lowe and Fridays at the Marion Public Library. Please call (319) 398-2585 24 hours in advance to sign up for a meal.

If Linn-Mar Schools are canceled due to inclement weather, all senior activities scheduled at Lowe Park are canceled that day as well. If a two-hour delay is issued, activities will continue as scheduled.

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.



2026 Pool Season



May 23 – Sept. 7

Watch for details at www.cityofmarion.org for more information on pool hours.

Anticipated Pool Hours:

OPEN SWIM	Weekdays	Mon-Fri	1-7 p.m.
OPEN SWIM	Weekends	Sat-Sun	1-5 p.m.
LAP SWIM	Daily	Mon-Sun	11 a.m.-12:30 p.m.

Regular Daily Pool Admission:

Ages 3 & Under	\$3.50/person
Ages 4 and up	\$4.50/person
Lap Swim (all ages)	\$4.50/person

Seasonal Pool Membership:

Individual Pass	\$115/each
Family Membership	\$200/family

Pool Memberships

Get ready for a summer of fun with a membership to the Marion Pool. Pool membership includes two adults and children who all reside at the same address. Pool memberships can be purchased online at www.cityofmarion.org/parks-recreation. Those who purchase memberships online will be contacted via email regarding picking up their key tags once processed. For those who purchased memberships in the past, the same key tag will work once you purchase a 2026 membership.

Pool Rentals

Make a splash at the Marion Pool! Rentals are perfect for birthday parties, neighborhood get-togethers, family celebrations, team outings and special events of all kinds. Booking is quick and easy, reserve your date online at www.cityofmarion.org/parks-recreation.

Mon/Wed/Fri	7:15-8:45 p.m.	\$350
Sat-Sun	5:15-6:45 p.m.	\$350
Sat/Sun	7-8:30 p.m.	\$350 (only available if earlier timeslot is occupied)

Splash Pads

Splash pads are open Memorial Day through Labor Day. (The official closing date depends on the weather.)

Thomas Park
343 Marion Boulevard
Open daily: 11 a.m.-7 p.m.

Gill Park
3450 Hawthorne Street
Open daily: 11 a.m.-7 p.m.

Willowood
1835 35th Street
Open daily: 11 a.m.-7 p.m.

Central Plaza Water Feature
1001 7th Avenue
Open daily: 10 a.m.-10 p.m.

Special Events at the Marion Swimming Pool

EVENTS	DAYS	DATES	TIMES	COST
Sensory Swim	Sun	June 14/July 12	9-11 a.m.	\$5/person (parents/caretaker free)
Adult Night (21+)	Tues	June 30	8-10 p.m.	\$5/person
Taco Tuesday	Tues	July 7	7:15-9 p.m.	\$5/person
Christmas in July	Sat	July 11	1-5 p.m.	Daily Admission/Pool Pass
\$1 Can Donation	Sun	July 19	1-5 p.m.	\$1 entry with can donation
Movie Night	Sat	July 25	7:30-10 p.m.	\$5/person
Boat Regatta	Sun	July 26	8-10:30 a.m.	\$10/team

SWIM TEAM

Youth 6-17 years of age | Marion Sharks summer swim team is a great program to introduce young swimmers to the sport without the initial club commitments. Practices are Monday, Wednesday and Friday from 6:45-8 a.m. and will begin after school lets out and run until mid-July. Recreational meets are scheduled for Tuesdays, dates/times TBD. Additional information will be provided by the coach as it gets closer. Swimmers should be able to swim 25 meters unassisted. Training assistance is available.

REGISTRATION FEE: \$100
(\$20 of this goes to the Swim League organization)

REGISTRATION DEADLINE: May 31, 2026



CONTACT US

Low Park Recreation Office • (319) 447-3590
 Thomas Park Administrative Office • (319) 447-3580
 Marion Swimming Pool • (319) 377-1654 (Memorial Day-Labor Day)
 Website • www.cityofmarion.org
 Facebook • www.facebook.com/MarionIAParksRec
 Program registration/rentals • www.cityofmarion.org/parks-recreation

Swim Lesson Registration Begins March 11, 2026, 7 a.m.

This is the first day swim lesson registration is open to the public. You don't have to register on this day, but due to the limited number of spots available in each class and session, classes do tend to fill up quickly. Each session is \$45 per child and classes run for two consecutive weeks, Monday-Friday, for 35 minutes each day, unless noted. An *online RecDesk household account is required for all swim lesson registrations*. Learn more or access the sign-up at www.cityofmarion.org/swimlessons.



Aquatics Swim Lesson Levels

Children Ages 4+ | The following guidelines will help determine which level best fits your child's swimming ability. All children are assessed at their first lesson and might be moved to a different level as necessary. If your child is between levels, please register for the lower one. Students learn many different skills at each level and may need more than one session at each level to pass. These lessons are available for children ages 4 and up.

Level 1: Students learn to fully submerge face and body, breathe rhythmically, experience buoyancy, float on front and back and swim on front and back using arm and leg actions.

Level 2: Students learn to float on front and back with glide, swim a combined stroke front and back, demonstrate rhythmic breathing, tread water and swim on side.

Level 3: Participants must be able to stand unassisted in 3 1/2 feet of water. Students learn front crawl with rotary breathing, back crawl, butterfly arm and leg motions, a kneeling or standing dive, survival float and retrieve a submerged object.

Level 4: Students work on strokes, including front and back crawl, swim on side with scissor kick, elementary back, breaststroke and butterfly. They also learn diving, underwater swimming, surface dives and open turns on front and back.

Level 5: Students refine the front and back crawl, elementary back, breaststroke, butterfly and sidestroke. They also learn standing and shallow dives, pike and tuck surface dives and front and backstroke flip turns.

Level 6: Students refine strokes to swim with ease, efficiency, power and smoothness over greater distances. This level offers these personal emphasis options: personal water safety, fitness swimming, fundamentals of diving and lifeguard readiness.

Splash! Parent-child (18 months-2 years). Work together with your child in the water through various games and activities designed to prepare the child for structured lessons. *Limited number of spots available.*

Intro To Swim I For children age 3. Students learn to fully submerge face and body, breathe rhythmically, experience buoyancy, float on front and back and swim on front and back using arm and leg motions. *Limited number of spots available. This class is 30 minutes in length.*

Intro To Swim II For children ages 10-14. Do you have an older child who has never learned how to swim? This class allows kids the option to learn the basics of swimming with kids their age. *Limited number of spots available.*

SESSION 1 June 1-12			SESSION 2 June 15-26			SESSION 3 July 6-17			SESSION 4 July 20-31		
TIME	LEVEL	CLASS #	TIME	LEVEL	CLASS #	TIME	LEVEL	CLASS #	TIME	LEVEL	CLASS #
4:30 p.m.	Intro I*	INTRO 101	8:20 a.m.	Level 1	A201	8:20 a.m.	Level 1	A301	9:10 a.m.	Level 1	B401
5:10 p.m.	Level 1	A101		Level 2	A202		Level 2	A302		Level 2	B402
	Level 2	A102		Level 3	A203		Level 3	A303		Level 3	B403
	Level 3	A103		Level 4	A204		Level 4	A304		Level 4	B404
	Level 4	A104		Level 5	A205		Level 5	A305		Level 5	B405
	Level 5	A105		Level 6	A206		Level 6	A306		Level 6	B406
	Level 6	A106	9:10 a.m.	Level 1	B201	9:10 a.m.	Level 1	B301	10 a.m.	Level 1	C401
6 p.m.	Level 1	B101		Level 2	B202		Level 2	B302		Level 2	C402
	Level 2	B102		Level 3	B203		Level 3	B303		Level 3	C403
	Level 3	B103		Level 4	B204		Level 4	B304		Level 4	C404
	Level 4	B104		Level 5	B205		Level 5	B305		Level 5	C405
	Level 5	B105		Level 6	B206		Level 6	B306		Level 6	C406
	Level 6	B106	10 a.m.	Level 1	C201	10 a.m.	Level 1	C301	10:50 a.m.	Intro I*	INTRO 401
6:50 p.m.	Level 1	C101		Level 2	C202		Level 2	C302	Class times are 35 minutes * Intro I is 30 minutes		
	Level 2	C102		Level 3	C203		Level 3	C303			
	Level 3	C103		Level 4	C204		Level 4	C304			
	Level 4	C104		Level 5	C205		Level 5	C305			
	Level 5	C105		Level 6	C206		Level 6	C306			
	Level 6	C106	10:50 a.m.	Intro I*	INTRO 201	10:50 a.m.	Splash!	SPLASH			
				Level 1	D201		Intro I*	INTRO 301			
				Intro II	INTRO 202		Level 1	D301			

Family/Special Events

BOUNCE PARTIES

Open To All Ages | Marion Parks and Recreation is bringing free inflatable fun to parks around Marion throughout the summer! There will be rides down the giant slide, climbing through the obstacle course and jumping in the bouncy house. Yard games will be set up to play and music pumping through the park for extra fun!

DAY	DATE	TIMES	LOCATION
Wed	June 10	9-11 a.m.	Gill Park
Wed	June 24	Noon-2 p.m.	Hanna Park
Wed	July 8	9-11 a.m.	Gill Park
Wed	June 22	Noon-2 p.m.	Butterfield Park
Wed	Aug 5	9-11 a.m.	Gill Park
Wed	Aug 19	Noon-2 p.m.	Ascension Park

FUN WITH FRIENDS (OF THE MARION PARKS)

Open To All Ages | The Friends of the Marion Parks advocate for the use of Marion parks and work to support the Marion Parks and Recreation Department. They will host these fun and family-friendly events to help you discover some of the hidden gems the Marion parks system has to offer. Friends of the Marion Parks will showcase Ascension Park at a free event on Saturday, August 1.

OPTIONS	DAYS	DATES	TIMES	LOCATION
Photo Scavenger Hunt	Open	6/1-8/1	Any	Marion Parks
Ascension Park Spotlight	Sat	8/1	1-4 p.m.	Ascension Park

REGISTRATION FEE: Free to participate

NOTES: For more information, please visit www.cityofmarion.org/parks-recreation

RIDE TO WRIGLEY

Open To All Ages (18 and under must be accompanied by an adult) | Join Marion and Hiawatha for a chartered trip to one of baseball's greatest and most historic venues, Wrigley Field. Leave the transportation and parking to us and travel in comfort in a chartered motor coach to watch one of baseball's best rivalries, the Chicago Cubs, and the New York Yankees, from the historic bleachers. Food and drink are permitted on the bus. Your fee covers the bus ride and ticket to the game. You will be responsible for food, drink, souvenirs, etc. Hurry! *Limited number of spots available and they will go fast.*

OPTIONS	DAYS	DATES	TIME	LOCATION
Ride to Wrigley	Fri	7/31	5:30 a.m.	Wrigley Field

REGISTRATION FEE: \$175 www.cityofmarion.org/parks-recreation

REGISTRATION DEADLINE: Open until all tickets are sold.

NOTES: Pick-Up/Drop-Off Location: Target on Blairs Ferry Road.

APPLE ORCHARD BUS TRIP (GAYS MILLS, WI)

Adults age 21+ | Join the Marion Parks and Recreation Department as we are set to embark on scenic Gays Mills, WI, after a stop at famous Breitbach's Country Dining for a delicious lunch on Thursday, Oct. 1, 2026. Some would say it's the most wonderful season in the Midwest! What better way to embrace it than with a trip to some of the most popular orchards in the area! Spend the day with us exploring the orchards of Gays Mills, WI, while taking in the beautiful scenery. Don't wait to sign up, as this trip will fill up fast! This bus trip is sponsored by The Friends of the Park (with their sponsorship, it helps lower the individual cost per person). *Limited number of spots available.*

OPTIONS	DAY	DATE	TIME	LOCATION
Apple Orchards	Thurs	10/1	9 a.m.	Lowe Park

REGISTRATION FEE: \$65

REGISTRATION DEADLINE: Sept. 20, 2026

NOTES: 9 a.m. Depart from Lowe Park

7 p.m. Return to Lowe Park



B-I-N-G-O NIGHTS

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. Participants are welcome to bring food and drinks to enjoy while they play.

DAYS	DATES	TIMES	LOCATION
Fri	March 13	6-8:30 p.m.	Lowe Park A&E Oaks Room
Fri	April 10	6-8:30 p.m.	Lowe Park A&E Oaks Room
Fri	Sept. 18	6-8:30 p.m.	Lowe Park A&E Oaks Room
Fri	Oct. 16	6-8:30 p.m.	Lowe Park A&E Oaks Room
Fri	Nov. 20	6-8:30 p.m.	Lowe Park A&E Oaks Room
Fri	Dec. 18	6-8:30 p.m.	Lowe Park A&E Oaks Room

PARTICIPATION FEE: \$0.25 per card, per game

NOTES: Doors open at 5:30 p.m. Seats and cards are limited and are available on a first-come, first-served basis. Once room reaches capacity, we unfortunately must turn people away.

Save the Date!

Summer Events at Lowe

GREAT AMERICAN KITES
MAY 16

MOONLIT MOVIE NIGHTS
JUNE 12, JULY 10, AUG. 7

MUSIC UNDER THE MOON CONCERTS
JUNE 20, JULY 18, AUG. 15

FIREWORKS & FIREFLIES
JULY 3