

play **BY** play

2025-26 FALL/WINTER ACTIVITY GUIDE



Who Do You Call?

Thomas Park 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

Lowe Park Recreation/Special Event Office (319) 447-3590

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

Online Account Reminders...

FACILITY RENTAL POLICY | Rent facilities for the current calendar year as well as the next year. Every January, we'll open the following year.

HOUSEHOLD ACCOUNTS | Add all family members to your household 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 | 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 try and accommodate people on waitlists when possible. Waitlist status does not guarantee a spot in that program.

RECASSIST | 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.

PROGRAM SURVEYS | After the completion of the program, you may receive a post-program survey. We ask that you 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.



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 or facilities. Register in person during office hours, Monday-Friday, 9 a.m.-4 p.m.

Youth Sports — Leagues

YOUTH 5V5 BASKETBALL (MULTIPLE SESSIONS!)

Children Grades 1st-6th (Fall 2025-26) | A joint program with Marion YMCA, this recreational basketball league, led by volunteer coaches, emphasizes teamwork, good sportsmanship, fair play and equal participation. Teams will begin weeknight practices 3 weeks before their first 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)	Sat	10/6-12/13	Marion YMCA
3rd/4th (Session 1)	Sat	10/6-12/13	Marion YMCA
5th/6th (Session 1)	Sat	10/6-12/13	Marion YMCA
1st/2nd (Session 2)	Sat	1/5-3/7	Marion YMCA
3rd/4th (Session 2)	Sat	1/5-3/7	Marion YMCA
5th/6th (Session 2)	Sat	1/5-3/7	Marion YMCA

REGISTRATION FEE: \$60 per child, per session (includes team shirt) for YMCA members & Marion residents
\$90 per child, per session (includes team shirt) for non-members & non-residents

*If registrants are Marion residents, they need to contact Kaitlyn Studer at struder@crmetroyymca.org or (319) 366-6421 for price adjustments. Registrations can be made at: www.crmetroyymca.org/programs

REGISTRATION DEADLINE: Session 1: Sept. 21, 2025
Session 2: Dec. 21, 2025

NOTES: Weekly practices will be offered for the entire duration of each session. No practices/games are held the week of Thanksgiving. Session 1 practices begin the week of Oct. 6 and practice days/times/locations will vary by team (Mon-Thurs). Session 1 games are played on Saturdays beginning Oct. 25. Session 2 practices begin the week of Jan. 5 and practice days/times/locations will vary by team (Mon-Thurs). Session 2 games are played on Saturdays beginning Jan. 24.

KINDERGARTEN BASKETBALL (MULTIPLE SESSIONS!)

Children Grades AK-K (Fall 2025-26) | A joint program with Marion YMCA, this co-ed basketball program works on basic basketball skills, including dribbling, passing and shooting in a friendly, fun and supportive environment. An appropriate combination of practices and games are used to develop basic player skills and an understanding of the game. *Program does not meet the week of Thanksgiving during Session 1.* **Volunteer coaches needed!**

OPTIONS	DAYS	DATES	TIMES	LOCATION
AK/K (Session 1)	Tues/Thurs	10/21-12/4	5:30-6:15 p.m.	Marion YMCA
AK/K (Session 2)	Tues/Thurs	1/20-2/26	5:30-6:15 p.m.	Marion YMCA

REGISTRATION FEE: \$40 per child, per session (includes team shirt) for YMCA members & Marion residents
\$80 per child, per session (includes team shirt) for non-members & non-residents

*If registrants are Marion residents, they need to contact Kaitlyn Studer at struder@crmetroyymca.org or (319) 366-6421 for price adjustments. Registrations can be made at: www.crmetroyymca.org/programs

REGISTRATION DEADLINE: Session 1: Oct. 5, 2025
Session 2: Jan. 4, 2025

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

TINY GOAL KICKERS SOCCER

Children Ages 4-8 | This instructional league is designed to introduce players to 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 format on a small, scaled-down soccer field to increase player participation and engagement.

OPTIONS	DAYS	DATES	TIMES	LOCATION
4 year olds (co-ed)	Tues	4/7-5/19	5 or 6 p.m.	Butterfield Park
5-6 year olds (co-ed)	Thurs	4/9-5/21	5 or 6 p.m.	Butterfield Park
7-8 year olds (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: Fee includes team shirt. Cleats and shin-guards are recommended for player safety. Times are scheduled by staff and will rotate weekly to allow for even team distribution. Volunteer coaches needed! Please register to coach online!
*The 7/8 year old division will be assigned to boy/girl teams, unless there aren't enough participants, then teams will be made co-ed.

SPRING FLAG FOOTBALL

Children Grades K-3rd (Fall 2025-26) | 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 or 6:15 p.m.	Taube Park
2nd/3rd Grade	Mon & Wed	4/6-4/29	5:15 or 6:15 p.m.	Taube Park

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

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

NOTES: Fee includes team shirt. Cleats and mouthguards are highly recommended for player safety.

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	Mon	1/5-1/26	4-5:30 p.m.	Lowe Park

REGISTRATION FEE: \$10 per child

NOTES: Four-week session
All equipment is provided for these leagues and tournaments.

VOLUNTEER COACHES NEEDED!

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



Youth Sports — Camps

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	Mon	9/29-10/20	5-5:30 p.m.	Marion YMCA
Lil' Pigskins-2	Mon	9/29-10/20	5:45-6:15 p.m.	Marion YMCA

EARLY REGISTRATION DEADLINE: \$28 through Sept. 15, 2025

LATE REGISTRATION DEADLINE: \$38 through Sept. 22, 2025

LITTLE SPORTS CAMP

Children Ages 3-5, 6-8 | Does your child love all sports? This camp gives them a chance to play them all! Each day will focus on a different sport: soccer, football, basketball and softball/baseball. Children will be introduced to the basic skills, rules and terminology of each sport through a variety of games and activities. *Limited number of spots available.*

OPTIONS	DAYS	DATES	TIME	LOCATION
Sports Camp (3-5 year olds)	Tues/Thur	10/7-10/16	5-5:30 p.m.	Marion YMCA
Sports Camp (3-5 year olds)	Tues/Thur	10/7-10/16	5:45-6:15 p.m.	Marion YMCA
Sports Camp (6-8 year olds)	Tues/Thur	10/7-10/16	6:30-7 p.m.	Marion YMCA

EARLY REGISTRATION DEADLINE: \$33 through Oct. 20, 2025

LATE REGISTRATION DEADLINE: \$43 through Oct. 27, 2025

NOTES: The order of sports is subject to change.

NEW! LITTLE SPORTS CAMP: THE REMIX

Children Ages 3-5, 6-8 | Bounce, bump and putt. Didn't get enough of Little Sports Camp? Give the remix a play. This camp will introduce the basic skills, rules and terminology of four different sports: volleyball, putt-putt golf, agility and tumbling. *Limited number of spots available.*

OPTIONS	DAYS	DATES	TIME	LOCATION
Sports Camp (3-5 year olds)	Mon/Wed	11/3-11/12	5-5:30 p.m.	Marion YMCA
Sports Camp (3-5 year olds)	Mon/Wed	11/3-11/12	5:45-6:15 p.m.	Marion YMCA
Sports Camp (6-8 year olds)	Mon/Wed	11/3-11/12	6:30-7 p.m.	Marion YMCA

EARLY REGISTRATION DEADLINE: \$33 through Sept. 23, 2025

LATE REGISTRATION DEADLINE: \$43 through Sept. 30, 2025

NOTES: The order of sports is subject to change.

AGILITY CAMP SESSION 1

Children Ages 3-4, 5-6, 7-8 | Let's get active during the winter months with this indoor agility camp. Through fun games and activities, children will improve their speed, jumping, balance, teamwork, strength and more! *Limited number of spots available.*

OPTIONS	DAYS	DATES	TIMES	LOCATION
3-4 year olds	Tues	12/8-12/17	5-5:30 p.m.	Marion YMCA
5-6 year olds	Tues	12/8-12/17	5:45-6:15 p.m.	Marion YMCA
7-8 year olds	Tues	12/8-12/17	6:30-7 p.m.	Marion YMCA

EARLY REGISTRATION DEADLINE: \$33 through Nov. 24, 2025

LATE REGISTRATION DEADLINE: \$43 through Dec. 1, 2025

NOTES: The same activities will take place in both sessions.

AGILITY CAMP SESSION 2

Children Ages 3-4, 5-6, 7-8 | Let's get active during the winter months with this indoor agility camp. Through fun games and activities, children will improve their speed, jumping, balance, teamwork, strength and more! *Limited number of spots available.*

OPTIONS	DAYS	DATES	TIMES	LOCATION
3-4 year olds	Mon	1/5-1/26	5-5:30 p.m.	Marion YMCA
3-4 year olds	Mon	1/5-1/26	5:45-6:15 p.m.	Marion YMCA
5-6 year olds	Mon	1/5-1/26	6:30-7 p.m.	Marion YMCA

EARLY REGISTRATION DEADLINE: \$33 through Dec. 22, 2025

LATE REGISTRATION DEADLINE: \$43 through Dec. 29, 2025

NOTES: Due to high demand, choose between two Agility Camp sessions. The same activities will take place in both sessions.

LITTLE STARS BASKETBALL CAMP

Children Age 4-5, 6-8 | Dribble, pass and shoot! In this camp, children will learn the basic skills of basketball through various skill-building games and activities. *Limited number of spots available.*

OPTIONS	DAYS	DATES	TIMES	LOCATION
Little Stars-1	Tues	1/6-1/27	5:15-5:45 p.m.	Echo Hill Elementary Gym
Little Stars-2	Tues	1/6-1/27	6-6:30 p.m.	Echo Hill Elementary Gym
Little Stars-3	Tues	1/6-1/27	6:45-7:15 p.m.	Echo Hill Elementary Gym

EARLY REGISTRATION DEADLINE: \$33 through Dec. 23, 2025

LATE REGISTRATION DEADLINE: \$43 through Dec. 30, 2025

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 olds	Mon/Wed	2/16-2/25	5-5:30 p.m.	Marion YMCA
5-6 year olds	Mon/Wed	2/16-2/25	5:45-6:15 p.m.	Marion YMCA
7-8 year olds	Mon/Wed	2/16-2/25	6:30-7 p.m.	Marion YMCA

EARLY REGISTRATION DEADLINE: \$33 through Feb. 2, 2026

LATE REGISTRATION DEADLINE: \$43 through Feb. 9, 2026

PUTT-PUTT INDOOR GOLF

Children Ages 4-8, 6-8 | Children hit the links (or the hardwood) in this indoor putt-putt golf camp. This camp introduces children to putting technique. Through a variety of activities, they will practice hitting at the correct speed and distance. Then, they'll put their skills to the test by playing rounds of "mini golf." *Limited number of spots available.*

OPTIONS	DAYS	DATES	TIMES	LOCATION
4-5 year olds	Mon/Wed	3/2-3/11	5:15-5:45 p.m.	Indian Creek Elementary Gym
4-5 year olds	Mon/Wed	3/2-3/11	6-6:30 p.m.	Indian Creek Elementary Gym
6-8 year olds	Mon/Wed	3/2-3/11	6:45-7:15 p.m.	Indian Creek Elementary Gym

EARLY REGISTRATION DEADLINE: \$33 through Feb. 16, 2026

LATE REGISTRATION DEADLINE: \$43 through Feb. 23, 2026

NOTES: All clubs and equipment are provided. Please do not bring your own.

KICK STAR SOCCER CAMP

Children Ages 3-4 | This fun soccer camp will allow kids to learn the basics of soccer through a variety of drills and activities. Emphasis placed on developing the fundamentals of kicking, dribbling, passing and defense. 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	3/30-4/20	5-5:30 p.m.	Butterfield Park
Group 2	Mon	3/30-4/20	5:45-6:15 p.m.	Butterfield Park
Group 3	Mon	3/30-4/20	6:30-7 p.m.	Butterfield Park

EARLY REGISTRATION DEADLINE: \$33 through March 16, 2026

LATE REGISTRATION DEADLINE: \$43 through March 23, 2026

REGISTER EARLY!

Nothing hurts a program more than missed deadlines.

Please register early to ensure we have adequate

numbers to hold our programs and time for us to plan, organize and communicate with participants. We cannot guarantee there will be any openings after the deadline has passed. Once a program is full, participants may choose to be placed on a waiting list. (Please note, this does not guarantee a spot.)



Youth 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. Let our recreation staff lead your children through a night of spooky games, crafts, snacks and more. *Limited number of spots available.*

OPTIONS	DAYS	DATES	TIMES	LOCATION
K – 2nd	Sat	10/24	5-9 p.m.	Lowe Park
3rd – 5th	Sat	10/24	5-9 p.m.	Lowe Park

EARLY REGISTRATION DEADLINE: \$28 through Oct. 10, 2025

LATE REGISTRATION DEADLINE: \$38 through Oct. 17, 2025

NOTES: Includes kid friendly dinner.

MERRY & MISCHIEF: A KIDS' HOLIDAY PARTY

Children Ages 4-8 | Dive into the magic and mayhem of the holiday season! Merry & Mischief is the ultimate holiday drop-off event, combining the joy of Santa's elves with the silliness of the Grinch. Participants will make festive crafts, play games, snack on holiday treats, sing and dance to cheerful tunes and even snap a photo with the Grinch himself! *Limited number of spots available.*

OPTIONS	DAYS	DATES	TIMES	LOCATION
Merry & Mischief	Sat	12/6	9 a.m.-12:30 p.m.	Lowe Park

EARLY REGISTRATION DEADLINE: \$20 through Nov. 21, 2025

LATE REGISTRATION DEADLINE: \$30 through Nov. 28, 2025

NOTES: Includes breakfast treats and snacks.

CANDY CANE HUNT

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

OPTIONS	DAYS	DATES	TIMES	LOCATION
Candy Cane Hunt	Sat	12/13	9-10:30 a.m.	Lowe Park

EARLY REGISTRATION DEADLINE: \$20 through Nov. 29, 2025

LATE REGISTRATION DEADLINE: \$30 through Dec. 6, 2025

NOTES: Includes breakfast treats and snacks.

SPRING BREAK CAMPS

Children Grades 1-4th | Looking for something to keep your children busy during spring break? Consider these new kid-friendly half day activity camps. During each camp, participants 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	3/16	9 a.m.-1 p.m.	Lowe Park
Camp 2	Tues	3/17	9 a.m.-1 p.m.	Lowe Park
Camp 3	Wed	3/18	9 a.m.-1 p.m.	Lowe Park
Camp 4	Thurs	3/19	9 a.m.-1 p.m.	Lowe Park

EARLY REGISTRATION DEADLINE: \$28 through March 2, 2026

LATE REGISTRATION DEADLINE: \$38 through March 9, 2026

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

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
Eggstravaganza w/ 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

MR. BRANDT ART CLASSES

Ages 8+ | Marion Parks & Recreation is teaming up with Mr.Brandt's Art Experience to offer seasonal art classes. Sign up for these guided canvas painting classes. Holiday classes are open to all children and adults ages 8 and up. The children's class is open for ages 8-14. Children younger than 8 may participate with adult assistance. *Limited number of spots available.*

OPTIONS	AGE	DAYS	DATES	TIMES	LOCATION
Halloween Canvas 1	8+	Sat	10/25	9-11 a.m.	Lowe Park A&E
Halloween Canvas 2	8+	Sat	10/25	11:30 a.m.-1:30 p.m.	Lowe Park A&E
Holiday Canvas 1	8+	Sat	11/15	9-11 a.m.	Lowe Park A&E
Holiday Canvas 2	8+	Sat	11/15	11:30 a.m.-1:30 p.m.	Lowe Park A&E
Children's Canvas 1	8-14	Mon	12/29	9-11 a.m.	Lowe Park A&E
Children's Canvas 2	8-14	Mon	12/29	11:30 a.m.-1:30 p.m.	Lowe Park A&E
Winter Canvas 1	8+	Sat	1/24	9-11 a.m.	Lowe Park A&E
Winter Canvas 2	8+	Sat	1/24	11:30 a.m.-1:30 p.m.	Lowe Park A&E

EARLY REGISTRATION DEADLINE: \$30 per participant

LATE REGISTRATION DEADLINE: Wednesday before the day of each class.



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**



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	TIME	LOCATION
Adult Pickleball	Mon-Fri	Sept-May	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.



YOU ARE INVITED

TAILGATE IN THE PARK

All Ages! | Football, food trucks, and fun! Activities will kick off at 3 p.m. as the Cyclones take on Arkansas State. Then, the Hawkeyes will play UMass at 6:30 p.m. Come cheer on both teams and watch the games on the BIG screen! Play tailgate games, bounce on the inflatables and enjoy tailgate-inspired foods. The event is free and open to all ages. Bring chairs/blankets for open-lawn seating. Outside food and drink are permitted, but food will be available for purchase.

OPTIONS	DAY	DATE	TIME	LOCATION
Iowa State vs Arkansas State	Sat	9/13	3 p.m.	Lowe Park
UMass vs Iowa	Sat	9/13	6:30 p.m.	Lowe Park

NOTES: Kickoff times are subject to change.

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 light refreshments and pastries will be provided. Performers will be announced closer to each date.

OPTIONS	DAYS	DATES	TIME	LOCATION
Coffeehouse Nights	Fri	10/3 - Blake Shaw Trio	7-8:30 p.m.	Lowe Park
		11/7 - The High Crest		
		12/5 - Terry McCauley		
		2/6 - Cedar County Cobras		
		3/6 - Jarrod Hogan Acoustic		
		4/3 - The Drive-Ins		

REGISTRATION FEE: Free to attend, but limited room capacity

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

FALLIDAY MARKET

Open To All Ages | Celebrate the season at the fourth annual Falliday Market! This festive event features seasonal and holiday-inspired items—from handcrafted décor and delicious treats to fresh greenery, produce and unique gift ideas. It's the perfect way to kick off the most wonderful time of the year! The event is free and open to the public.

OPTIONS	DAY	DATES	TIME	LOCATION
Falliday Market	Sat	10/11	9 a.m.-2 p.m.	Lowe Park

REGISTRATION FEE: Free to participate

HOLIDAY LIGHTS B-I-N-G-O

Open To All Ages | Holiday Lights BINGO is a great family-friendly activity to enjoy during the holiday season.

OPTIONS	DATES
Holiday Lights BINGO	12/8-12/31

REGISTRATION FEE: Free to participate

NOTES: Bingo sheets will be available by Dec. 8 on the City website.



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	2025: 9/12, 10/10, 11/14, 12/12	6-9 p.m.	Lowe Park
		2026: 1/9, 2/13, 3/13, 4/10		

REGISTRATION FEE: \$0.25 per card, per game

NOTES: Doors will open at 5:30 p.m.
Seats and cards are limited and are available on a first-come, first-served basis. Outside food and drink are permitted.

Senior Programs

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, 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	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
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-Pinocle	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.

FALL RIVERBOAT CRUISE - QUAD CITIES BUS TRIP

ALL ABOARD! Join the Marion Parks and Recreation Department for a trip on the waters of the Mississippi River during the most beautiful time of the year. Ride in comfort on a chartered motorcoach to the dock in the Quad Cities, and enjoy a nice, relaxing and scenic fall afternoon on the water. The ticket includes a hot two-entree lunch buffet and live music. Don't wait to sign up, as these seats will fill up fast! This trip is intended for those age 55+, but younger passengers can ride along with a guest age 55+. *Limited number of spots available.*

OPTIONS	DAY	DATE	TIMES	LOCATION
Quad Cities	Thurs	9/25	8 a.m.	Lowe Park

REGISTRATION FEE: \$126

REGISTRATION DEADLINE: Sept. 25, 2025

NOTES: 8 a.m. Depart from Lowe Park

5:30 p.m. Return to Lowe Park

Central Plaza Ice Loop

Marion is lacing up for winter fun with the debut of the ice loop at the Central Plaza. The official season will kick off on Small Business Saturday, Nov. 29, 2025, continuing through February 2026, weather permitting. Fees for admission and skate rentals will be announced closer to the opening date. Pricing will be designed to keep the experience affordable and accessible for individuals and families.



Skates will be available to rent. Personal skates may be worn as well.

Operating Hours (Public Skating & Rentals):

- › Thursday–Friday: 5 p.m.–10 p.m.
- › Saturday: Noon–10 p.m.
- › Sunday: Noon–6 p.m.
- › Winter break, holidays, special events and program hours will vary.

To be admitted into the skating rink, children under 9 must be directly supervised by a person 14 years of age or older. No one is permitted on the ice without skates. Skates can be rented at the Skate Shack during operating hours. Even if you bring your skates, you must pay admission before entering the loop. Skate aids will be available upon request.

Learn more at cityofmarion.org/iceloop. Opening and closing information will be updated on the Weather Hotline and the Marion Parks and Recreation Facebook page.



Marion Boys Baseball and Peg Pierce Marion Girls Softball

Watch for 2026 registration! A late fee will be applied after March 1.

Marion Boys Baseball – Boys Ages 8-18 (As of April 1, 2026)
Visit: www.marionbaseball.org to register

Marion Girls Softball – Girls Grades 2nd – 8th (Entering Fall 2025-26)
Visit: www.mariongirlssoftball.org to register.

rental & miscellaneous information

MARION PARKS
& RECREATION



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 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 \$50 fee.
- › No alcohol permitted at graduation parties.
- › The Arts & Environment Center and Lowe Park are non-smoking/nicotine-free facilities.
- › In the event of a cancellation and at the request of the renter, 50% 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
All Day (8 a.m.-11 p.m.) \$1,500

Whole Facility with Amphitheater

All Day Rental \$2,000

The Oaks 15 - 5 ft. (60") round tables / 90-120 people

9 a.m.-3 p.m. OR 4-10 p.m. \$300
All Day (9 a.m.-10 p.m.) \$500

Hickory & Sunburst 10-36" square tables / 9 - 5 ft. (60") round tables / 100 people

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

Weekends (9 a.m.-3 p.m. OR 4-10 p.m.) \$300
Weekends - All Day (9 a.m.-10 p.m.) \$500

Additional Fees & Rentals In addition to room rental fees

Outdoor Space (renter furnishes own supplies) \$100
Alcohol Permit (additional rules apply) \$50

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.) \$400
Weekdays (9 a.m.-3 p.m. OR 4-10 p.m.) \$200
Renters are issued a key for weekend rentals.



Depot at City Square Park



Perfect for birthday parties, meetings or small gatherings, the Depot offers a modern and convenient space just steps away from the splash pad and amenities you find in the newly-renovated Central Plaza at City Square Park in the heart of Uptown Marion.

All Day (9 a.m.-10 p.m.) - between March and October \$120
Capacity: 47 main floor, 27 upstairs.

This facility comes with a refrigerator, sink, microwave, seven tables and chairs across two levels. Restrooms are available daily from 6 a.m. to 10 p.m. in the foyer. Renters will receive all access and cleaning information via email the week of their event. Please note: The Depot will not be available for rentals after October as this facility becomes the warming space for the ice loop. Rental reservations for 2026 will open Jan. 1, with bookings beginning in March. Pricing is subject to change at that time.

Pavilions

Park pavilions are available for reservations from May 1–Oct. 31. All pavilions feature electricity, picnic tables and grills. Trash must be placed in the containers provided on site. Pavilions can be reserved online at cityofmarion.org/facilities or by calling the Thomas Park office at (319) 447-3580. Pavilion renters must abide by all park rules. All pavilion rentals are non-refundable. Pavilions outside of the seasonal rental period are available on a first-come, first-served basis.

Ball Diamonds & Greenspace/Fields

Reservations for ball diamonds for the 2026 season will begin on Tuesday, Jan. 6, 2026. 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

Farmers Market

The Marion Farmers Market at Willowood 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 2026 season in February. Please contact the office at Lowe Park 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.*

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.*

Community Gardens

Community garden plots are available for lease at Lowe Park, 4500 N 10th Street. The \$20 plot measures 20’ x 20’. Depending on the spring weather, plots may not be ready until late in April. For questions or plot availability, please contact the 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.

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, 2025.

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.

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
For information on memorial benches and location availability, please call (319) 447-3580.

Parks and Recreation Directory

Seth Staashelm, Director
Brent Neighbor, Deputy Director
Kelly Willadsen, Recreation Superintendent
Drew Mollenhauer, Park Grounds Maintenance Manager
Broc Dobling, Park Facility Maintenance Manager
Mike Cimprich, City Arborist
Mary Weber, Horticulturist
Darcie Coberly, Administrative Assistant
Pat Carlson, Administrative Clerk
Allie Waterman, Recreation Coordinator
Brinkley Braden, Recreation Coordinator
Faith Pladsen, Events Coordinator

Contact Us

Lowe Park Recreation/Special Event Office
(319) 447-3590
Thomas Park Administrative/Operations Office
(319) 447-3580
Website - www.cityofmarion.org
Facebook - www.facebook.com/MarionIAParksRec
Program registration/rentals -
www.cityofmarion.org/parks-recreation