

Highlights for southeastern wisconsin, northern illinois and the lakes area



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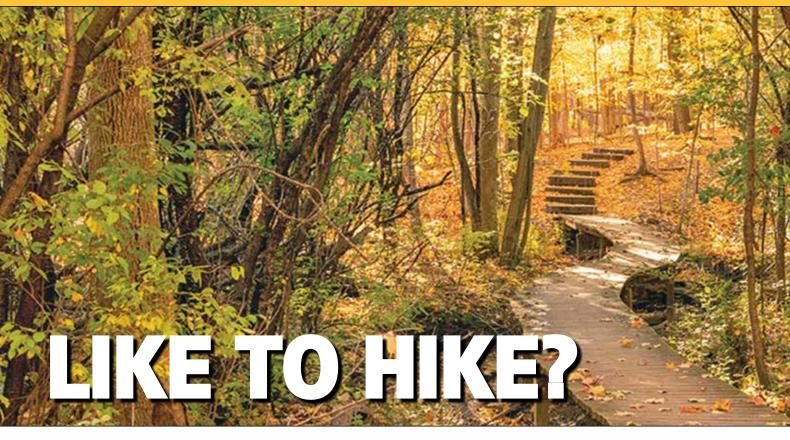
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### It's the 25th annual Hike Lake County challenge

The Lake County Forest Preserves has a challenge – or seven of them – for you. Grab your walking shoes and head to the trails to participate in the 25th annual Hike Lake County program while enjoying the change of seasons, fall breezes and autumn colors.

Medical research shows that being outdoors in nature has many wellness benefits. Hike Lake County provides a way to get a dose of wellness while walking in a beautiful preserve.

Complete seven of 12 designated walks before Nov. 30 and earn a free commemorative shield for your walking stick or a zipper pull. Each year features different trails and a colorful new shield or zipper pull, (while supplies last). Bicycling and horseback riding do not count toward the program.

At each selected preserve, look for Hike Lake County logo signs at the preserve entrance and trailhead to get on the right route.

To get started, walkers need an official travel log to record your routes, which can be found online at lcfpd.org. Note that every walker needs their own travel log.

Let a canine companion join in the fun and complete the hikes with you.

LAKE COUNTY

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Record their name on the travel log and the dog will receive a free commemorative dog tag (up to three dogs).

To receive a free dog tag, zipper pull or commemorative shield for your walking stick, submit your travel log online, or mail it with a self-addressed stamped envelope to: Lake County Forest Preserves, 1899 W. Winchester Road, Libertyville, IL 60048 by Jan. 31, 2024.

Walkers can also stop
by the general office in
Libertyville or the Ryerson
Welcome Center, which is at 21950
N. Riverwoods Road, Riverwoods, to
pick up free commemorative materials.
Centers are open Tuesday through Saturday,

9 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. or Sunday, 11 a.m. to 4 p.m.

The 2023 Hike Lake County locations include: Fort Sheridan in Lake Forest; Grant Woods in Lake Villa; Grassy Lake in Lake Barrington; Greenbelt in North Chicago;

Independence Grove in
Libertyville; Marl Flat in
Round Lake; McDonald
Woods in Lindenhurst;
Nippersink in Round
Lake; Pine Dunes in
Antioch; Ryerson
Conservation Area in
Riverwoods; Singing
Hills in Round Lake;
and Van Patten Woods
in Wadsworth.

Participants can also choose a 2-mile Lake County Forest Preserves trail location as their "Wild Card".

Note that all of the trails listed other than Ryerson Conservation Area are dog friendly.

Two trails are natural surface and therefore not ADA accessible – McDonald Woods and Ryerson.

For more information and travel log visit lcfpd.org.

Hike Lake County is an annual walking program that encourages residents to explore a variety of forest preserves. Participants are encouraged to complete seven walks before Nov. 30 to receive a commemorative shield or zipper pull.

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# Valley of the Kings W7593 Townhall Rd. Sharon, WI 53585 Sanctuary and Retreat

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Donations and membership payments can be made through Paypal.me/votk









#### Geneva Lakes area offers seasonal activities for the whole family

For an area well known as a summer resort destination, the Geneva Lakes area does not transition to fall with resignation, but with a sense of celebration for the beauty and familiarity of a season of warm comfort.

Like the turning of the leaves, the Geneva Lakes area turns to a list of activities that light a fire of autumn adventure for visitors and residents alike each October.

Here's a look at some of the activities available.

#### **Sparkling waters**

• Geneva Lake Shore Path: This really is a remarkable find – a 21-mile public foot path that follows the shoreline of Geneva Lake, taking walkers into the back lawns of those magnificent mansions built by

wealthy Chicagoans as "summer cottages." The estates look even more impressive against a backdrop of saturated fall color.

- Lake Geneva Cruise Line: Go ahead and pretend you're a celebrity out on a yacht for a leisurely sightseeing tour of your favorite hidden lake in Europe. That will require no stretch of the imagination on Geneva Lake.
- Lake Lawn Queen: Why stop at one lake when you can tour two? Lake Lawn Resort hosts cruises of Delavan Lake aboard the Lake Lawn Queen.
- Lake Como: OK, make it three, with an after-dinner cocktail cruise offered by supper club Mars Resort on Lake Como.

#### Golf, biking, hiking, paddling, ziplining

• Golf: Golf floats to the top of the list for outdoor sports, with golf pedigrees in Lake Geneva to impress even the most discerning golfer. Two 18-hole courses at Grand Geneva Resort present the kind of challenge golfers relish, thanks to the contributions of original designers Jack Nicklaus and Pete Dye. At Geneva National Resort, golfers can put their skills to the test on 54 holes of award-winning golf designed by legends Arnold Palmer, Gary Player, and

Lee Trevino.

Other area courses of note include Hawks View in Lake Geneva, Evergreen Country Club in Elkhorn, Delbrook in Delavan, Majestic Oaks at Lake Lawn Resort – also in Delavan, and Brighton Dale Golf Course in Kansasville.

- Biking: Avant Cycle Café combines a coffee bar featuring locally roasted brews and a bicycle shop featuring cruiser and e-bike rentals. The coffee roasts are named after cycling routes in the area and the labels include a link to an online route map. Pedal and Cup is another coffee/bike rental pairing, this one located right at the trailhead to the White River State Trail.
- Hiking: Big Foot Beach State Park, rimming the shore of Geneva Lake, has a total of 6.5 miles of various hiking trails that are classified as easy or moderate, making this is a perfect destination for beginner hikers looking to take a fall hike.

If weather works in your favor, a lateseason canoe or kayak excursion should be considered, with rentals available from a vendor just south of the park entrance.

Four Seasons Nature Preserve, a passive park for hiking, has a new Storybook Trail that tells the tale of a migratory bird family via illustrations and activities.

A fall ride with the Lake Geneva Cruise Line or a jog along the Geneva Lake Shore Path are two of many fall activities available to residents and visitors.

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- Paddling: Rent a stand up paddleboard or kayak from Clear Water Outdoor and ply the waters of Geneva Lake or Lake Como. Gage Marine also has rentals on Geneva Lake.
- Adventure: Grand Geneva Adventure Center offers archery and disc golf, along with hiking and mountain biking.

At Lake Geneva Ziplines and Adventures, zip over the tree canopy on the 100-acre woodland property, test your fortitude on the high ropes course, try the new climbing tower, and take to the hiking and mountain bike trails.

#### The wilds of Wisconsin

- Safari Lake Geneva: Not a zoo, not a theme park, but a wildlife preserve that is home to animals from around the world. The animals roam free while visitors traverse the grounds "safely caged" in their cars, making for a very enjoyable role-reversal experience.
- Kishwauketoe Nature
  Conservancy: This hidden gem in
  Williams Bay reveals rolling creeks,
  mirror-like ponds, and lush fall colors
  to satisfy the senses.

Stroll the boardwalk that hovers

above the wetland or walk the trails that traverse the 231 acres of forests and prairie.

Kishwauketoe is the largest watershed on Geneva Lake and presents a rare and evolving lakeside ecological area.

Join Board Chairman Harold Friestad each Friday through October for a guided walk of the Conservancy. Meet at the main entrance at 251 Elkhorn Rd. (Highway 67) at 9 a.m.

• Geneva Lake Conservancy: This non-profit organization is dedicated to the preservation of environmentally sensitive lands, tending to five preserves including the Helen Rohner Children's Fishing Park.

#### Fall drives and rides

- Lake Geneva Balloon Company: For a breathtaking view of the fall color show, try a hot air balloon ride. Flights are offered until mid-November.
- Lake Geneva Scooter Tours: Scoot around on your own or take a guided tour.
- American Classic Rental: See fall colors in classic style with a car rental from American Classic Rental, where the vehicle choices represent the best of



top: Fall's spectacular colors are especially impressive while taking a cruise on an area lake. at right: Oktoberfest brings a bit of ethnic fun to Lake Geneva Oct. 7 and 8 including music, food, a beer garden and more. Note that for 2023, the celebration will return to Broad and Geneva streets downtown.

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the 1940s through the 1970s.

#### Down on the farm

• Pearce's Farm Stand: Crunch into the flavors of the season at Pearce's Farm Stand.

Leave with armfuls of apples, pumpkins, and gourds.

Their professionally designed corn maze is huge at 12 acres and a fun fall activity for the family.

• Apple Orchards: Brightonwoods, in Kansasville, features more than 150 already-picked antique and commercial apple varieties, along with fresh apple cider. Hafs Road Orchard, Genoa City, specializes in Honeycrisp. Pick a peck of apples at Apple Barn Orchard and Winery, Elkhorn, then stop in the country store and bakery for cider donuts, maple syrup, and some local wine and honey.

#### Rainy day pursuits

• Magic: The Tristan Crist Magic Theatre, Lake Geneva, is home to illusionist Tristan Crist, known for his large-scale illusions performed up close and personal.

On select dates in October, the theatre will host special guest David Seebach – Illusions in the Night.

• Dancing Horses: See the local version of dressage equestrian with the horses performing to music at the Dancing Horses Theatre, Delavan. The 90-minute show is full of pageantry and the performers (both the horses and their trainers) sparkle in rhinestones.

#### **Festivals and other events**

**Sept. 16:** The 23rd Annual Scarecrow Fest, in downtown Delavan, 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. It features free admission and



**above:** Oktoberfest in Elkhorn features a craft and vendor fair in Veterans Park, a variety of German and local food options, live entertainment on a stage downtown and more including an all around town wine/beer tasting event, a 5K run/walk and a classic car show. **top:** Autumn's canopy of colors provides a special experience for bicyclists along the White River Trail or one of the many Rustic Roads in the area.

parking. There will be Walldog Mural Tours, DIY scarecrow kits for \$10, a petting zoo, free pumpkins, children's activities, food, crafters and vendors, live music and more.

• Oct. 7-8: Lake Geneva Oktoberfest, staged downtown on Broad and Geneva streets, it's a celebration of many traditional German festivities including a beer garden, artisan market, tasty treats, live entertainment and family fun and activities.

Oct. 21: Elkhorn Oktoberfest, held downtown, has band, brats and golden beers. Veterans Park has craft and commercial vendors, local and German cuisine is available along the street from a variety of food vendors. Live music plays on the park stage and there is an all-around town wine/beer tasting event. That's not all as there is the Oktoberfest 5K run/walk and annual classic car show.

8 Catch all the ACTION Fall/Winter 2023-24

# Downhill, cross country skiing options in area



above: The area features a few ski resorts that are suitable for all levels of skiers, from beginners to experts.

#### at right:

Snowshoeing is a great way to get outdoors during the winter months and take advantage of trails in the area.

STOCK PHOTOS

Catch All The Action



#### **ALPINE VALLEY RESORT**

W2501 Highway D • East Troy (262) 642-7374 and (800) 227-9395. www.alpinevalleyresort.com

Alpine features 20 slopes that range from beginner to expert mogul runs with 388 feet of vertical skiing. The hill also includes the Mohawk Terrain Park, which offers snowboarders and freestyle skiers a variety of rails, boxes and other features.

#### **BIG FOOT STATE PARK**

1550 S. Lake Shore Drive • Lake Geneva

Cross country skiing and snowshoeing allowed. Bring own equipment. Vehicle admission sticker is required.

#### **DUCK POND RECREATION AREA**

Wild Duck Road • Fontana (262) 275-6136

Cross country skiing allowed on the trails. Bring own skis; weather permitting.

#### **GENEVA NATIONAL**

1221 Geneva National Ave. South Lake Geneva • (262) 245-7000

Complimentary ski rental available to Geneva National Resort guests. Register for equipment in Geneva National Golf Club's Pro Shop, call (262) 245-7000, Press #1.

#### KETTLE MORAINE STATE FOREST SOUTHERN UNIT

S91 W39091 Highway 59 • Eagle (262) 594-6200

The Nordic, McMiller, and Scuppernong trails are open for cross country skiing when there is enough snow. A state trail pass is required for skiers 16 years of age and older.

#### **ROCK SNOW PARKS**

7900 Crystal Ridge Road • Franklin (414) 529-7676 • www.rockcomplex.com

Skiing, snowboarding and snow tubing available.

#### THE MOUNTAIN TOP AT GRAND GENEVA RESORT

7036 Grand Geneva Way • Lake Geneva (800) 558-3417 • www.grandgeneva.com

Downhill skiing, snowboarding and 10 kilometers of trails for a cross country skiing or snow shoeing.

#### WHITE RIVER COUNTY PARK

6503 Sheridan Springs Road Lake Geneva • (262) 741-3114

Cross country skiing and snow shoeing options.

#### **WILMOT MOUNTAIN SKI RESORT**

11931 Fox River Rd • Wilmot (262) 862-2301 www.wilmotmountain.com

Varied terrain for a variety of levels for skiers and snowboarders on 25 runs.

# Celebrate fall at the conservancy Seno offers natural respite, educational programs

BY SANDRA LANDEN MACHAJ • CORRESPONDENT

is the beauty of nature – the green grasses, multi-colored flowers, the beautiful canopy of trees, and the unique wildlife that brings many outdoors.

Away from the hustle and bustle of developed lands we often seek refuge in the open lands when possible. Who doesn't enjoy a day hiking through forests, breathing in the fresh air and enjoying the beauty of nature and especially the magnificent canopies of the trees towering overhead?

The Seno K/RLT Conservancy, on Highway P south of Burlington, is a non-profit land conservation agency that serves both Kenosha and Racine counties to protect land in its natural state for the benefit of people and nature. They do this by protecting land in perpetuity from development.

'In addition to protecting the land from development, the Seno K/RLT Conservancy also produces a variety of outreach programs many of them with the Kenosha Parks Alliance and Southport Park,' said Stacy Santiago, Executive Director of Seno K/ RLT Conservancy.

Before it became the conservancy, Dr. Elvira Seno established a tree farm on her late 1880s farmstead of 127 acres. She wanted the land to be maintained as accessible and used for an education center that focused on sustaining forestry. She, along with her brother, planted an additional 50,000 trees.

In her estate plan for the farm, she included a monetary gift to renovate the barn so that it could be used for the educational classes she believed were important to educate people on the need to protect the land. Thus, the Seno Center was created.

Meanwhile Dr. Shirley Peterson who owned a vacation property about three miles from the Seno Center was of a like mind. She wanted to preserve her woodlands and wetlands, which she named Drumlen Farm, and encourage environmental education. She too donated her 83-acre farm to the foundation along with generous funds that were turned into an endowment to support environmental programming.

#### Celebrate fall

On Saturday, Oct. 7, from 2 to 6 p.m., Seno K/RLT Conservancy will host its Autumn Open House.

Celebrate fall and learn about the conservancy's mission and home base of Seno Woodland Center by spending an afternoon amongst the vibrant fall colors and staff and volunteers!

Enjoy trail rides through woodlands and prairies at our 127-acre tree farm or walk the trails on your own. Attendees can enjoy live music, local food and drink, and various local vendors.

Try your luck in our raffles to win great prizes, pick up a sweet fall treat at our bake sale table, or purchase some Seno K/RLT Conservancy themed goods like t-shirts, stickers, greeting cards, reusable totes, or "Elvira Seno's 88 Preferred Cooky Recipes" Cook

Proceeds all go towards Seno K/RLT



During the maple surgaring field trip, held in March and open to kids ages 7-14, participants learn how to identify trees as well as the process of making maple syrup.

COURTESY OF SENO K/RLT Catch All the Action

Conservancy's mission of land conservation and preservation and environmental and natural resources education.

Small nature-based crafts such as corn husk dolls and tree cookie jack-o'lantern painting will be provided for guests free of charge. Stay on the look out for a celebrity sighting... Smokey The Bear has been known to frequent our event!

There is no fee for admission. This is a family-friendly event for all ages, and all are welcome!

#### Other upcoming events

• Late Summer Paddle on the Root River, Saturday, Sept. 30, 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. (exact location will be provided with sign-up.)

Enjoy a scenic, quiet-water paddleisit or wisconservation.org.

This is a Wisconsin Natural Resources Foundation Field Trip. Please complete registration through their portal:

• Boot Scootin, Brews at Seno Woodland Center, Friday, Oct. 27, from 4 to 9 p.m.

More information on the event will be available on the website soon.

#### Protecting 1,200 acres

In 2014 the Seno Foundation and the Kenosha Racine Land Trust merged and today as Seno K/RLT Conservancy the group protect more than 1,200 acres of land within Racine and Kenosha Counties.

"Some of the land is owned by the conservancy and other parcels are protected by conservation easements. The conservation easements protect the land in perpetuity from development while ownership is maintained by the individual," Santiago said. "The conservancy offers the owners advice on care with guidance to protect the land."

The Seno K/RLT Conservancy offers a variety of educational programs for both children and adults. Some of these programs are offered as community outreach programs with the Kenosha Parks Alliance. Many are held in Southport Park or other Kenosha and Racine parks, allowing local children to learn about nature while remaining in their own neighborhoods.

Many schools attend field trips held at Seno K/RLT Conservancy and the children sparkle in the natural learning environment. Their eyes widen as they discover bugs and "critters" up close. They enjoy the wonder of butterflies and nature at its best. Programs teach them many things about nature that those who spend their time in the cities never learn.

"One of our programs focuses on the five senses and is geared to children from 4 to 6 years of age. Science based programs, such as our Land of Ice and Fire program, for ages 11 to 14 years, looks at geology and glacial formation,"



said Santiago. "Art in Nature for children 4 to 12 years can be a community outreach or as a field trip. The children focus on observation skills as they create an outdoor art project."

#### Maple sugaring season

Beginning in March 2021, the Seno K/RLT Conservancy hosted a new program on maple sugaring. It was open to children and adults to teach the traditions of the annual spring ritual. Many children, and some adults are not aware that true maple syrup actually comes from the sap of the maple tree.

The program is now a field trip option for kids, ages 7-14. The program focused on the traditional process of making maple syrup, a process that has been a part of Wisconsin's history for centuries. The process itself goes back to the history of the Native Americans who lived in this area long before the European immigrants arrived.

Participants learn tree identification, the first step in learning to tap a tree and when it's time to tap the tree.

"It is the time when there are still freezing nights and warmer days to allow the sap to flow when tapped," Santiago said.

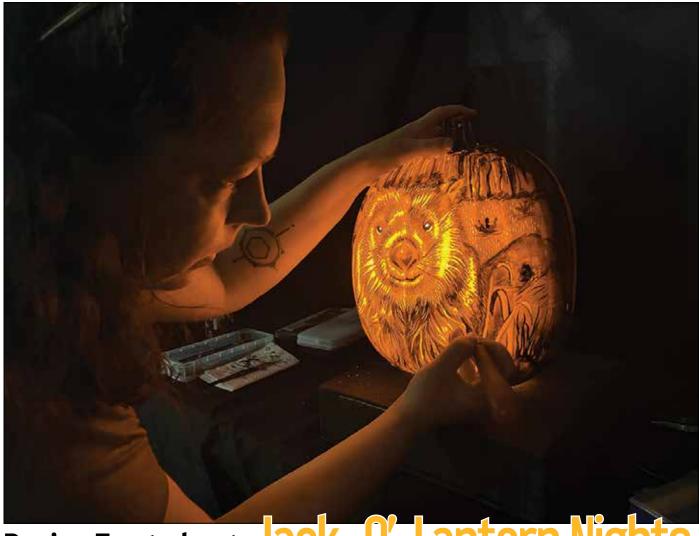
In addition to learning to tap the tree, kids are taught the process of sap to syrup and the traditional sugaring techniques.

Seno K/RLT is at 3606 Dyer Lake Rd. (Highway P), Burlington. Additional information is available by calling 262-539-3222, or online at www.senokrlt.com.



**above:** The towering trees at Seno K/RLT Conservancy are quite the site year round, including in the fall. The conservancy will host its Autumn Open House event Oct. 7, which will include trail rides through woodlands and prairies, raffle prizes, a bake sale and nature-based crafts. **top:** At the annual Autumn Open House, nature-based crafts are offered, including painting tree "cookies." The event also features trail rides, a bake sale and raffle prizes.

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Racine Zoo to host Jack- O'-Lantern Nights

It features more than 1,000 hand-carved lanterns and illuminations

More than 1,000 hand-carved Jack-O'-Lanterns and festive illuminations will light up the night at the Racine Zoo's Jack-O'-Lantern Nights, Sept. 28 through Sunday, Oct. 29. The family friendly event will be open Thursdays through Sundays from 6 to 10 p.m. at the zoo, 2131 N. Main St., Racine.

In the crisp fall air, guests will stroll through the zoo along a dedicated paved pathway and become immersed in dazzling lights and charming decorations.

The intricately designed Jack-O'-Lanterns will look like pieces of art during the day and come to life at night for all to see. There will be an abundance of custom designs to discover including cats, owls, scarecrows, and more Halloween-themed creations. To compliment the lanterns, there will be enchanting light displays throughout the route. Within the event, the zoo will host a decorating contest that businesses and organizations can sign up to participate in.

Guests will be able to vote on their favorite decorated space and the winner will be announced at the end of the event. As they take in the sights, guests can warm up with seasonal food and beverages on site.

"We are absolutely thrilled to be bringing this event to the Racine Zoo," Racine Zoo Executive Director Beth Heidorn said prior to the first event, held last year. "This is a fun, family event that will let you see the zoo in a different 'light.' With the amazing support from the State of Wisconsin's Tourism Department and two incredibly

creative companies, we are certain to put smiles on our guests' faces! Please join us this fall!"

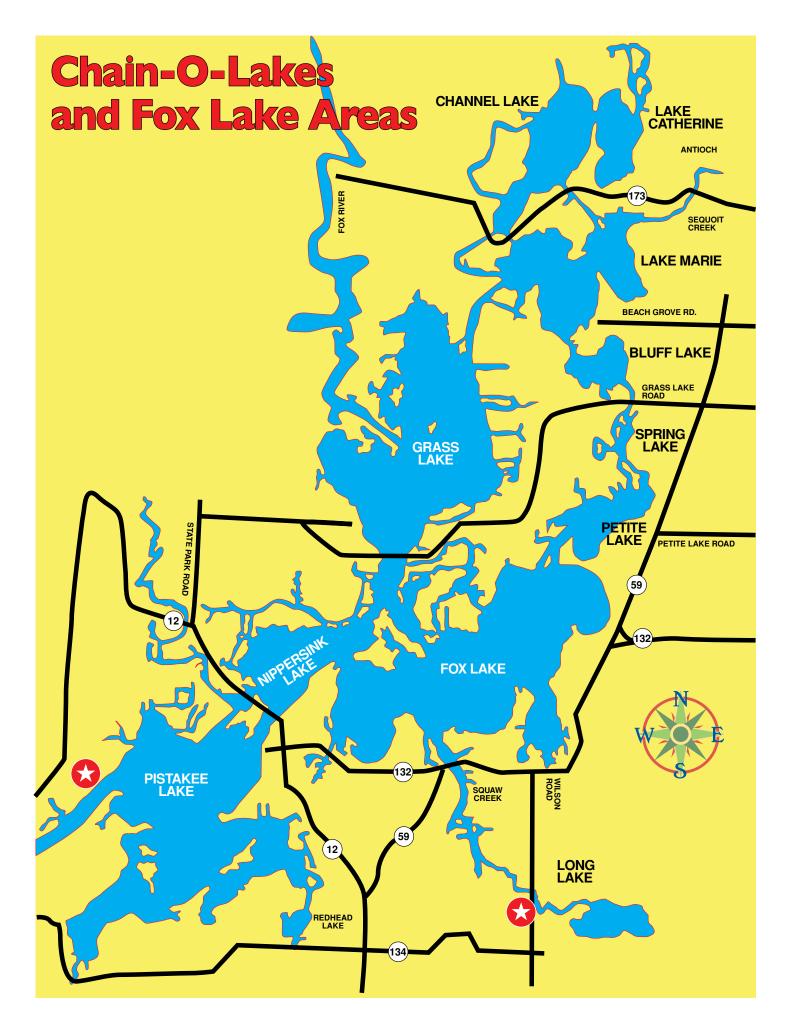
The zoo is working with the company Rise of the Jack-O'-Lanterns, based in New York, to create the masterpieces to line the walkways of the zoo in a glorious fall setting.

Using scalpels, knives, gouges, and power tools, artists for Rise of the Jack-O'-Lanterns will spend up to 15 hours sculpting a single one. These professionals have done incredible shows in New York and are now bringing their creativity to southeast Wisconsin.

For the light displays, the zoo is working with Traditions Holiday Lighting and

CONTINUED ON PAGE 15

Amanda Rise carves a Jack-O'-Lantern for the Racine Zoo. The zoo will host its Jack-O'-Lantern Nights event this fall from Sept. 28 through Oct. 29. The event features more than 1,000 hand-carved lanterns and illuminations along a dedicated path at the zoo.





# Year-round fun in Antioch

#### **Antioch Shopping District**

Antioch is an authentic downtown where history has created a quaint downtown shopping community to stroll, events such as the Taste of Summer, Champagne Wine Walks, Dickens Holiday Village, Girls Night Out Margarita Partyville, Treat the Streets, a Village Independence Day, a 5K Run for Freedom, Wizards Weekend, Kringle's Christmas Village, Christmas Musical Light Show, It's Thursday Concert Series, a Wizard School of Magic, Witches Night Out and Santa's Frozen Breakfast.

There are many fun choices, which makes Antioch a family friendly destination, along with many opportunities to shop in boutiques and gift shops.

You'll enjoy a variety of eateries and shops to choose from, enjoy the quaint storefronts featuring antiques, cafes, art gallery, home furnishing, clothing boutiques and many unique gifts.

A day of shopping should be rewarded with the perfect dining experience! From

the local hot spots, sophisticated dining, and fun eateries, there is a restaurant for everyone!

Casual restaurant dining includes burgers, pizzas, pasta, BBQ, soups, salad and sandwiches, German, Caribbean and Irish delicacies or treat those taste buds to an exquisite meal of filet mignon, Italian delicacies, mouth-watering seafood, Mexican cuisine and desserts.

Can't wait until dinner? Coffee houses, candy shops and frozen delicacies are perfect for that afternoon treat. After the sun goes down, Antioch's nightlife begins. The village is home to theaters that specialize in live theater and the most recent film releases. Or perhaps you'll have the opportunity to enjoy a travelling theatre group.

You can choose among the many lounges in Antioch and enjoy a leisurely drink. Or maybe you'd enjoy a quiet, relaxing drive along the shorelines of the Chain O'Lakes after a busy day of shopping and dining. Shopping, dining, and entertainment ... create your own day of pleasure in historic Antioch.

Upcoming special events in Antioch include:

- Craft Beer Walk, Oct. 14 Antioch's popular Beer Walk has been enhanced to include street tacos for all and features craft beers. You and your friends will enjoy an afternoon sampling Craft Beers throughout downtown Antioch, visiting participating shops and restaurants for delightful craft beer samples. Plus you will enjoy street tacos at your convenience.
- Witches Night Out w/ After Party, Oct. 19 – Put on your Witches Hat and meet your Friends in Antioch the evening of Thursday, Oct. 19. Enjoy contests, witch dance, raffles, prizes, pasta, salad, a witch potion and fun. The more witches the scarier!
- Champagne Walk & Brunch, Nov. 4 Antioch's popular Champagne Walk has been enhanced to include a Brunch for all.

Grab your witches hat and take part in Antioch's Witches Night Out w/ After Party event on Thursday, Oct. 19. It features contests, witch dance, raffles, prizes, pasta, salad, witch potion and more fun.

Visit participating shops and restaurants for champagne samples. Plus you will automatically be scheduled for a brunch as part of the fun! Tickets are limited.

• Shop Small Business Saturday, Nov. 25 – Start your holiday shopping in Antioch's quaint business community. Enjoy browsing and shopping among unique shops that greet you with a smile, offer personalized service, and perhaps sales. Antioch is unique because shops are owned by people who live in the community and surrounding areas. By Shopping Small - you are helping support local schools, churches, sports teams, civic groups and many other worthwhile causes that receive donations from the shops in Antioch.

• Santa vs. Grinch Brunch, Nov. 26 – Santa vs. Grinch Brunch is food, fun and a challenge to help Santa save Christmas! It includes gifts for the kids to enjoy, brunch, Santa and Grinch photo opportunities, and kids participate in a challenge to help Santa. Several seatings will be available. Registration is now open.

For more events in Antioch, visit antiochchamber.org.

#### Chain O' Lakes

Something is always happening on the Chain! Boating, skiing, fishing, swimming, hunting, racing, and snowmobiling can all be enjoyed on the 11 chained-together lakes.

Visit the many unique resorts, restaurants and marinas located on the Chain O'Lakes.

For more information, contact the Fox Waterway Agency, 45 S. Pistakee Lake Road, Fox Lake, IL 60020. Or call the agency at (847) 587-8540.

#### Lakes Region Historical Society Museum

The Museum is located inside Antioch's Second School, located at 817 Main Street. This building was in continuous use as a grade school from 1892 to 1971. It also included the first two years of high school education.

The renovation and museum construction were completed with contributions and volunteer labor. The Museum was dedicated and officially opened on July 18, 1987. They welcome donations of artifacts from Antioch and the Chain O'Lakes Region to add to their collection.

Private Tours are available for clubs and small groups by appointment. Admission is free but donations are gratefully accepted.

The museum is open every Saturday, March through December, from 11 a.m. to 3 p.m. (volunteers interested should contact them directly).

The museum is located on Highway 83 in downtown Antioch.





**above:** Get a jump on holiday shopping and support small businesses in Antioch, Ill. On Saturday, Nov. 25. The village has many unique shops owned by those who live within the community or surrounding areas. **top:** On Oct. 14, Antioch, Ill. Will host is annual Craft Beer Walk, which was recently enhanced to include street tacos at participants' convenience.

FILE PHOTOS Catch All The Action

#### RACINE ZOO . CONTINUED FROM PAGE 12

Seasonal Décor. Traditions, which was founded in 2011, is based in Wisconsin, providing services to clients from Green Bay to Lake Geneva. The company specializes in holiday lighting and landscape lighting, combining high quality products with a unique design and personal touch.

"The Racine Zoo has been a top attraction for more than 99 years, and is always finding new ways to attract and delight visitors," Secretary-designee Anne Sayers said. "Congratulations on receiving this JEM grant to build a spectacular fall event that is positioned perfectly to capitalize on the Chicago drive market."

Jack-O'-Lantern Nights is perfect for kids and adults of all ages. The event provides a safe opportunity for guests to go out and enjoy some holiday-themed fun.

Admission is only available at the door – cash or credit cards accepted and is \$10 per person and free for children 2 years old and younger. Proceeds benefit the animals and programs of the Racine Zoo.

#### **About the Racine Zoo**

Nestled along the sandy shores of Lake Michigan, the Racine Zoo is open year round.

Hours of operation are 10 a.m. to 5 p.m., with the last admission at 4:30 p.m. Admission rates are: Members and children 2 and younger, free; children 3 to 15 years, \$9; seniors, \$10; and adults, \$11

For more information on the Racine Zoo, including its programs and events, visit racinezoo.org, call 262-636-9189 and follow the zoo on social media including Facebook, Twitter, and Instagram.



In addition to the Jack-O'-Lantern display, the Racine Zoo will have a light show and decorating contest for visitors to take part in during the event, Sept. 28 through Oct. 29.

SUBMITTED PHOTO Catch All The Action



The Racine Zoo will feature more than 1,000 carved and painted pumpkins as well as festive illuminations during its Jack-O'-Lantern Nights event, which runs late September through late October.

SUBMITTED PHOTO Catch All The Action

# Prepare for a sledding adventure

Dashing through the snow in a one-horse open sleigh ...

Winter holidays are made all the more merry with the addition of some outdoor recreation. Sleighs and sleds are par for the Christmas course, especially when a bounty of snow is in the forecast.

Sledding has been part of snowy celebrations for ages. Sledding is a fun-filled activity, but it can be made an even better time, and a little safer, if revelers learn a little more about it.

#### **Sled styles**

Sleds come in many different styles, each with its own advantages. Sleds with metal blades will work like ice skates, balancing riders' weight on two metal runners. These sleds can work well during icy conditions or with hard-packed snow.

Toboggans can fit multiple people, which can increase the fun factor and downhill speeds. Saucer-style sleds are good for one or two people. Foam liners on some saucers can absorb shock for riders, making those downhill bumps a little easier on the backside. Keep in mind that sleds with steering mechanisms are easier to control, which can equate to safer sledding.

#### Layer up

It is best to dress in layers when going sledding Even if it seems warm at home, it may be colder and windier at the top of hills. Sweating when it's cold out can increase a person's risk for hypothermia.

According to experts at Timberline Trails, a person who works up a sweat and comes in contact with ambient air when taking a break will feel an immediate chill. This is called evaporative danger, and



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By taking a few safety precautions, sledding can be a safe and fun activity for families. Bundle up, grab the toboggan and head on out to the sledding hills.

STOCK PHOT Catch All The Action

can be remedied by dressing in layers and trying to stay dry.

#### Invest in a helmet

Using a helmet while sledding is a good idea, especially for children. At high speeds, a blow to the head can cause a concussion or worse

#### Let others go first

Wait until some sledders have already gone downhill, allowing them to compact the snow, which should make for a smooth ride.

Choose safe hills, such as those that are free of bare spots, holes, trees, and obstructions, and do not end abruptly at a road. Hills with a long, flat areas at the end make for easy, safe stopping.

#### **Safety first**

Put safety first when sledding. Sled during the daytime so visibility is better. Keep arms and legs on the sled, and only sled feet-first, advises the National Safety Council.

By keeping these guidelines in mind, sledders can make sure this popular winter activity is as safe as it is fun.

(METRO CREATIVE)





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# Snowmobile safety tips to stay safe on the trails

Snowmobiling can be an exhilarating experience and a fun past time for the winter season, but it can also be very dangerous if the proper safety precautions are not taken. To help keep you safe, we've compiled a list of important snowmobile safety tips.

#### Take a snowmobile safety course

Many states require a snowmobile certificate and each state has its own rules and regulations. A snowmobile safety course will instruct you on how to ride safely and responsibly and teach you the rules. It is especially essential for first time drivers or riders. You will learn riding techniques to help you operate the snowmobile and avoid hazards

#### **Check forecast, trail conditions**

It is always a good idea to check the weather and trail conditions to plan ahead. If the trail is frozen, the wind chill is too low, or a blizzard with white out conditions is in the forecast, you will want to plan your ride for another day. Checking the weather also helps you select the proper clothing for the day.

#### Wear appropriate clothes, gear

Staying warm and dry during your ride will make it more enjoyable and safer. Wear a snowmobile suit, which commonly consists of a jacket and insulated bibs. Under your snowmobile suit, dress in layers. Stay away from cotton because if it gets wet, it will freeze. Choose polyester blends to wick moisture away from your body. In addition, wear goggles or a face shield if you do not have a full-face helmet, socks (no cotton), waterproof gloves, winter hat, facemask and winter boots. Always wear a DOT-approved helmet, not only to keep you warm but to also protect your head from injury. Make sure children have a helmet that properly fits.

#### Inspect your snowmobile

Make sure your snowmobile is running properly before heading out on the trail. Having your owner's manual handy on your ride is a good idea for extra safety. It is important to follow the recommended



service schedule to keep it maintained and running smoothly. Before each ride, check fuel and oil levels, battery, brakes, drive belt, skis, throttle, handlebars, headlights and taillights. Also, make sure you allow your snowmobile time to run for at least a minute to warm up before taking off.

#### **Bring a buddy**

Riding with a friend or in a group is fun and also safer, especially on trails you have never taken before. Someone else can help you if your snowmobile breaks down or if you get into an accident. It is also recommended to tell a friend or family member your plans and route for your ride in case you do get stranded. Keep in mind that cell phones don't always work in remote areas.

#### Be prepared

Keep a basic first-aid kit in the snowmobile in case of injury. It should include: disinfecting wipes, bandages, hand sanitizer, gauze, adhesive tape and Band-Aids. In addition, carry an emergency kit with waterproof matches, flashlight, compass, map, blanket, water, snacks and a knife. A repair kit is also essential and should include: duct tape, tools, spare belt, tow rope, spark plugs and pry bar.

#### Stay alert

It is important to be observant and watch for obstacles in your path, such as rocks, fallen trees, barbed wire fences, ditches, open water, other snowmobiles, snow banks, animals, hikers and skiers.

#### **Avoid frozen rivers**

It is impossible to gauge the thickness of ice. Ice can easily crack and give way under your snowmobile.

#### Do not speed

Driving at a moderate pace will allow you to react to an unexpected occurrence on your trail and avoid an accident. Many trails have posted speed limits to follow.

#### Stay on the trail

Marked trails are safer because they have been groomed for you and are less likely to have hazards. Going off trail can result in accidents because you are treading on unfamiliar terrain.

Also, many "public" trails run close to private property. Unless you have received permission from the landowner, stay on the marked trail. Failure to do so can also result in the trail being closed to the public in the future. Be a responsible rider by following the posted signs and trail markers.

#### Age appropriate activity

It is also strongly recommended by the American Academy of Pediatrics that children under the age of 16 do not operate a snowmobile. The reason for this is because they may lack the skills needed to safely operate the vehicle and due to their stature can be easily injured.

Children younger than 6 should never ride as a passenger according to the American Academy of Pediatrics. The snowmobile can ride rough and it takes a strong person to hold on tight, especially for long periods of time. Children younger than six lack this strength.

#### Do not overload your snowmobile

Make sure you check your manufacturer's guide for the approved number of passengers and also the amount of weight it can carry. Exceeding these maximums either from an additional passenger or heavy gear can increase your chances of accidents and injuries.



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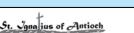
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