



2023

Program Guide



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The Canton Park District is celebrating
100 years of service!

**A commemorative tree planting at Big Creek Park
 will take place with a ribbon cutting on Monday,
 April 3rd, 2023 at 4pm to recognize this milestone.**



CANTON PARK DISTRICT

GIVE AN EXPERIENCE!

\$ GIFT CARDS

*Gift cards can be purchased in any
 amount, reloaded and used for daily
 pool passes, concessions, and programs*



2023 SEASON PASSES:

POOL - FAMILY, YOUTH, ADULT
 LAKELAND - FISHING, BOAT RAMP

DAILY PASSES AVAILABLE:

POOL, FISHING, OR GOLF RANGE

Call (309) 647-7665 for more info
<https://shopcantonparkdistrict.my.canva.site/>



Vision Statement

TO PROVIDE, AND PROTECT FOR FUTURE GENERATIONS,
DIVERSE OPEN SPACE AND FACILITIES IN AN EFFICIENT MANNER
THAT ENHANCES THE QUALITY OF LIFE TO CITIZENS AND USERS
OF THE CANTON PARK DISTRICT.

The Canton Park District is governed by an elected, five-member, Board of Commissioners. They serve with no compensation and are elected to six-year terms. The Park Board meets at the Administration Office of the Board, Donaldson Community Center, 250 South Avenue D. Meetings are held at 5:00 pm on the third Monday of each month, except during January and February at which time they will be held on the fourth Monday, unless otherwise specified by the Board.

Canton Park District boundaries are the same as those of Canton Township and serve a base population of fifteen thousand individuals. The district offers many unique and varied recreational opportunities to meet the leisure needs of its patrons.

Dear Residents,

Every community has its treasured assets. In Canton, one of those is the park district. That asset reaches a significant milestone in 2023, celebrating 100 years of service to Canton and The Fulton County area. We will be recognizing that milestone with a celebration in April!

Throughout the year we will be observing the numerous significant impacts used and enjoyed by the citizens over the past century. The first major development was the opening of beautiful Big Creek Park in 1926, it is still the “heart” of the park system. Since then, The Canton Park District has grown to include more than 1,400 acres of open space to enhance the quality of life within our community. Along with many facilities, more parks, and a wide variety of services and amenities to make the Canton area an even better place to live, work, and play!

The Canton Park District is an organization in motion, and will continue to work to meet the ever-changing needs of our community. This 2023 Program Guide gives you a look at what the park district has to offer. We are excited to have served our region over the past 100 years, and look forward to what lays ahead for the next 100.

Please get out and enjoy The Canton Park District and make fun part of your day!

Sincerely,

Kevin Stephenson

**Board of Commissioner President
Canton Park District**



Follow us



**on Facebook
or Instagram**

Board Of Commissioners



Kevin Stephenson
President
1995

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Stephen Clark
Vice President
2017

s.clark.cpd@gmail.com



Jackie Fouts
Secretary
2017

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CANTON PARK DISTRICT OFFICE

250 South Avenue D | Canton, IL 61520
Ph: (309) 647-1345 | Fx: (309) 647-2463
Monday-Friday 8:00am-4:30pm

GARY G. BAKER RECREATION CENTER

940 N. Main St. | Canton, IL 61520
Ph: (309) 647-7665
Monday-Friday 8:00am-5:00pm
info@cantonpark.org
www.cantonpark.org



Mark Pirtle
Commissioner
2021

m.pirtle.cpd@gmail.com

Staff



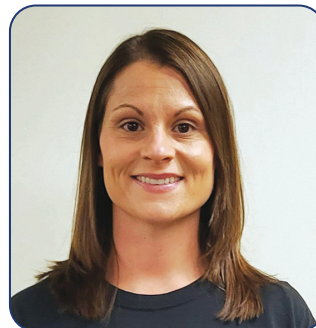
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Kathy Walljasper
Office Manager
(309) 647-1345

k.walljasper@cantonpark.org

PARK INFO:

NEIGHBORHOOD PARKS:

Anderson Park

660 East Walnut Street
Playground, Picnic Area, Basketball

John Dean Park

160 West Vine Street
Playground, Picnic Area, Wheelchair Swing

South Park

501 South First Avenue
Playground, Picnic Area, Grills

COMMUNITY PARKS:

Athletic Park

900 North First Avenue
Baseball/Softball Fields, Concessions,
Restrooms, Playground, Pavilion

Big Creek Park

940 North Main Street
Phone: 309-647-POOL (7665)
Gary Baker Recreation Center, Swimming Pool,
Concessions, Tennis Courts, Pickleball, Ballfield,
Basketball, Frisbee Golf, Paved Trails, Horseshoe
Pits, Picnic Area, Playground, Restrooms,
Pavilion, Dog Park, Sledding Hill, Fire Pit.

Ingersoll Airport

26013 North Ingersoll Road
General Aviation Airport Phone:
(309)-647-2072
Identifier: KCTK Unicom: 122.8
Runway 18/36: 3900'
Runway 9/27: 3300'
Fuel Available: 100 LL AvGas

Golf Range

600 West Lakeland Park Drive
Golf Driving Range, Radio Controlled Model
Airplanes

Hulit Park

590 North 20th Avenue
Two Canton JFL Football League fields

Lakeland Park

1200 West Lakeland Park Drive
Phone: 309-647-4702 (April-Oct.)
Boat Launch, Lakes, Fishing, Concessions,
Paved Trails, Educational Waterfowl Blind,
Natural Areas, Picnic Area, Playground,
Restrooms, Pavilions & Wildlife Viewing

Wallace Park

250 South Avenue D
Phone: 309-647-1345
Donaldson Community Center, Park District
Administration Office, Ballfield, Basketball,
Grills, Picnic Area, Playground, Restrooms,
Pavilion, Paved Trails



RENTAL FEES

Park Pavilion

Big Creek Park Pavilion \$50/day

Wallace Park Pavilion \$50/day

Lakeland Park - Nagel Pavilion \$30/day

Donaldson Community Center

Individual: \$35/hour (3-hour minimum)

Business: \$45/hour (3-hour minimum)

Contact (309) 647-1345 for more information or to make reservations!

Gary G. Baker Recreation Center

Individuals: \$50/hour (2-hour minimum)

Business: \$60/hour (2-hour minimum)

Big Creek Park Pool

Birthday parties, private party rentals, and group rates available

Private Rentals:

- ❖ Non-Profit Groups (1 ½ hour rental) \$275
- ❖ All Other Groups (1 ½ hour rental) \$325
- ❖ Birthday Party: \$165 swimming, cake, ice cream, and soda for up to 20 people

Contact 647-7665 for more information or to make reservations!

DIAMOND USE FEES

Organized leagues that use Athletic Park will be assessed the following fees.

Athletic Park Diamond 2023 use fees:

- Per Game Fee (1-2 games per day) \$10.00
- Per Game Fee (3-4 games per day) \$8.00
- Tournaments \$50.00 per diamond per day
- Light Usage \$ Market Rate
- Turf Charges \$15.00/bag
- Additional field work \$ Current Hourly Rate

Field Lights: Light usage fees fluctuate with current rates. Please call the office for more information or current rates.

Contact Amanda at (309) 647-7665 for more information or to reserve the diamonds or email: a.atckley@cantonpark.org

LAKELAND PARK FEES

Lakeland Park

❖ Youth(12-15) \$1.50/day \$45/season

❖ Adult \$3/day \$90/season

❖ Senior/Disabled \$1.50/day \$67.50/season
(Mondays & Tuesdays)

❖ Family \$4.00/day (Thursdays)

❖ Boat Launch \$1/day \$30/season

❖ Children under 12 free when supervised by a paying angler

❖ Active Duty Armed Forces: Free Daily Fishing Pass

❖ Veterans Armed Forces: 50% Discount Daily Fishing Pass

❖ Disabled Veterans (Valid ID): Free Daily Fishing Pass

❖ Scuba Diving \$5/day (must buddy dive)

❖ 2 Person Paddle Boat: \$3 ½ hour, \$5/hour

❖ 4 Person Paddle Boat: \$4 ½ hour, \$7/hour

Golf Range

\$3.00 for 40 golf balls

Golfers may use dollar bills in the machine at the Golf Range or purchase tokens at Lakeland Ranger Station or Administration Office.



Events

FAMILY BINGO NIGHT

All ages will enjoy this family favorite! The Canton Park District will be hosting Family Bingo night. It's a great way to spend a fun evening with family and friends, plus we will have lots of fun prizes for all the lucky winners! Seating is limited, so sign up early to guarantee a space.

Location: Gary Baker Recreation Center, 940 N. Main St.

Time: 6:30pm-7:30pm

Dates: Monday, February 27th

Cost: \$1 per bingo card *recommended donation*



MOTHER & SON DANCE

Bring your son for a night of fun and bonding. Event includes, buffet dinner (kid friendly), dancing, games, photo station, raffle baskets, and door prizes! Music provided by Flipside DJ Service. Make memories together that will last forever.

Location: Gary Baker Recreation Center, 940 N. Main St.

Time: 6:00pm-8:30pm

Dates: Friday, February 17th

Cost: \$35 Mom and Son (\$15 *additional child*)

FULTON COUNTY TOWN & COUNTRY ART SHOW

66th Annual Fulton County Town and Country Art Show welcomes Hobbyists, handcrafters, painters, photographers, weavers, welders, and many others who pursue art for its recreational value and reside in Fulton County. Ribbons are awarded to exhibits that merit recognition. One judge's choice will be given in the adult and student category for 'Best of Show'. A maximum of (4) items may be entered for adults and (1) K-10th grade students and (2) for 11-12th grade students. They must consist of **ORIGINAL** works, not previously displayed in a Town & Country art exhibit.

Location: Donaldson Community Center, 250 S Ave D, Canton

Times & Dates:

Friday, March 10th 4:00 to 7:00 pm. Exhibits must be brought to the Donaldson Center.

Saturday, March 11th 1:00 to 5:00 p.m. Public Viewing Hours

1:00 to 4:00 p.m. Popular Voting

1:30 to 2:00 p.m. Judge's Critique

Sunday, March 12th 1:00 to 3:00 p.m. Public Viewing Hours

Cost: An entry fee of \$5 per exhibit will be charged to adult and college student entries. *Students are not charged.*



CANTON PARK DISTRICT 100TH CELEBRATION!

Join us to celebrate our Park District turning 100 years old!

This event will feature a historical display about our parks through the years, live music by Long Hard Ride, and a chance to see inside some of our heavy equipment. Kids activities will include environmental education station, a petting zoo, inflatables, games, and giveaways. Food and drinks will be available for purchase by local vendors. Open to the public – ALL ages welcome!

Location: : Big Creek Park Pavilion

Time: 12:00pm-3:00pm

Date: Saturday, April 29th (Rain Date Sunday, April 30th)

Cost: FREE



MOVIE IN THE PARK

School is out for the summer! Let's celebrate with an outside movie in the park under the stars, showing a new release on the big screen. Popcorn, candy, and drinks available for purchase along with pool pass giveaways!

Location: Big Creek Park

Time: 7:00pm-9:00pm

Date: Friday, May 19th

Cost: \$2 per person



FLY-IN DRIVE IN BREAKFAST

The 65th Annual Fly-In/Drive-In Breakfast is happening at Canton Ingersoll Airport. This long-standing community tradition is hosted by the Fulton County EAA Chapter #832. They strive to continue efforts to promote aviation in the Canton Area.

Location: Canton Ingersoll Airport

Time: 7:00am-11:00am

Date: Saturday, May 13th (rain date - Saturday, 20th)

Cost: TBD



BARK IN THE PARK

This event will support the Humane Society of Fulton County. A variety of activities will be available; including paw print painting, Marvelous Mutt Show, demonstrations, animals for adoption, and pet related exhibitors to include nail trims. Proceeds from Bark in the Park will help fund HSFC life-saving care for local animals in need and promote adoption of homeless shelter animals.

Location: Big Creek Park – Dog Park

Time: 2:00pm-5:00pm

Date: Saturday, September 2nd

Cost: \$25 pre-registration.

Each registration receives a bark t-shirt & bandana, souvenir photo and may bring one dog.

However, bringing your dog is optional. You can participate & enjoy the event without a dog!

Day of Event \$2 per person donation. *T-shirts and bandanas can be purchased separately while supplies last.*

FALL FESTIVAL

You are invited to a day of fall fun the whole family will enjoy! The festivities kick off at Noon when registration opens for the pumpkin races. Design your pumpkin racer (rules will apply) to compete in The Pumpkin Race 500. Judging will be held for the fastest car and best decorated, in each age group. The festivities will continue at the fire pit and pavilion as we jump into the autumn season with crafts, games, a wiener roast (while supplies last), and hayrack rides!

Location: : Big Creek Park

Time: 12:00pm-3:00pm

Date: Saturday, October 7th (Rain Date Sunday, October 8th)

Cost: Free



CANTON SPOOK TRAIL

The Canton Park District and Canton High School Thespian Club will host the 35th annual Spook Trail. This is a one night only event! This year's theme will provide some new frights with the same fun as always! All groups are guided by haunted hosts.

Location: Nagel Playground at Lakeland Park

Date: Tuesday, October 17th, 6:00pm to 8:30pm. Rain date: Wednesday, October 18th.

Not-so-scary monsters for children up to age (8) from 6:00pm to 7:00pm.

All other ages 7:00pm to 8:30pm.

Cost: \$1 per person with proceeds donated to the Canton High School Thespian Club

FATHER & DAUGHTER DANCE

Dads and daughters, you don't want to miss this fun night out together! Event includes, buffet dinner, dancing, games, photo station, raffle baskets, and door prizes! Music provided by Flipside DJ Service. Make memories that you'll never forget.

Location: Gary Baker Recreation Center, 940 N. Main St.

Time: 6:00pm-8:30pm

Date: Friday, November 3rd

Cost: \$35 Dad and Daughter (\$15 additional child)

SWEETS WITH SANTA

Children get their photo with Santa, enjoy yummy sweet treats, a hot chocolate bar, holiday craft, and story time!

Location: Gary Baker Recreation Center, 940 N. Main St.

Time: 1:30pm-3:00pm

Date: Saturday, December 9th

Cost: \$5 per child



Fitness

100 MILE WALKING CLUB

Walk Canton Park District paved trails to improve your health, mood, and energy level. Join our walking club that is in partnership with Graham Health System, get the app to track your miles or we also have logbooks available, then receive a t-shirt when you reach 100 miles! Stop into the Gary Baker Recreation Center once your goal is reached to earn your prize.

Location: Any Canton Park District Location

Dates: Starts March 1st

Cost: Free

YOGA IN THE PARK

Enjoy a session of Yoga while taking in the sounds and sights of our beautiful park... Yoga in the Park is available for all ages and levels – beginners welcome! Join us out in nature, to enjoy a morning session of Yoga.

Location: Big Creek Park – bottom area

Time: 10:00am-11:00am

Dates: Friday, April 14th, 28th

Friday, May 12th, 26th

Cost: \$8 per session

FAMILY YOGA

Family yoga helps you slow down amid the daily grind. You get to spend quality time as a family and enjoy the health benefits of Yoga out in nature! First Friday of each month during the summer.

Location: Big Creek Park – bottom area

Time: 10:00am-10:30am

Dates: Friday, June 2nd

Friday, July 7th

Friday, August 4th

Cost: \$10 per family

*Yoga classes taught by Phyllis Jarvis, **Breathing Tree** instructor.*



Sports

YOUTH BASEBALL/SOFTBALL LEAGUES SIGN UPS

The Canton Park District recreational youth baseball/softball program includes divisions for children, ages 5–13. Youth practice on-field fundamentals and the excitement of playing games in a competitive environment that strengthens participants' self-esteem and confidence. Youth leagues offers the opportunity for a child to experience and benefit from the life lessons, socialization, and camaraderie that are the cornerstones of this program.

The Park District utilizes volunteer coaches, furnishes all basic equipment.

SIGN UPS:

Location: Gary Baker Recreation Center, 940 N. Main St.

Time & Dates: Saturday, March 18th from 10:00am to 12:00pm
Tuesday, March 21st from 3:00pm to 6:00pm

Cost: The registration fee for all youth leagues is \$30 per player.
(Beginning April 14th, a late fee of \$10 will be applied).

AGES & LEAGUES

T-Ball is open to youth ages **5-6**. The league is a co-ed instructional league stressing sportsmanship and the development of baseball/softball fundamentals.

- T-Ball: Ages (6) and under on May 1st. Minimum age is (5)
- Boys Coach Pitch: Ages (8) and under on May 1st.
- Boys Minor: Ages (10) and under on May 1st.
- Boys Major: Ages (13) and under on May 1st.
- Girls Coach Pitch: Ages (9) and under on May 1st.
- Girls Minor: Ages (13) and under on May 1st.

VOLUNTEER TO COACH!

Volunteers teach, coach and administer the youth leagues that play on Park District fields. This partnership provides cost-effective recreation programs with direct parental control. Show your community support by coaching young athletes and make a difference in their lives! If you are proficient in baseball or softball or are willing to learn, donating three to five hours of your time each week is all that is needed. For more information or to volunteer, please call 309-647-7665.

ADULT SOFTBALL LEAGUES:

We have men's, women's and co-ed leagues throughout the summer and fall! Leagues take place at the diamonds at Athletic Park Monday or Wednesday evenings.

For further information, contact the Recreation Office at (309) 647-7665.



Softball League Commissioners:

Men's League: Joby Berry
Women's League: Dave Grigsby
Co-Ed League: Joby Berry

Fees:

Summer Men's League (Wednesday Nights): \$300
Summer Women's League (Monday Nights): \$165
Fall Men's League (Wednesday Nights): \$225
Fall Co-Ed League (Monday Nights): \$150



FRISBEE GOLF – DOUBLE TOURNAMENT

Day Time Singles & Glow Night

Frisbee Golf – Try a Singles daytime tournament or a glow at dusk option. 309 Disc Chuckers will handle the details of this event and light up the course with LED lights at night.

Tournaments include all ages, skill levels, and ladies' divisions.

Location: Big Creek Park

Date: Saturday, May 6th

Time: 12:00pm Singles Tournament

Time: 7:00pm Best Shot Doubles Tournament (partners)

Cost: TBD

For More Information Contact: 309 Disc Chuckers Lounge East Peoria

Phone: (309) 839-0285 Email: 309dgc@gmail.com



PICKLEBALL NIGHT

PICKLEBALL NIGHT: Come join us for some good exercise and good fun! Pickleball is the fastest growing sport in America and is offered through the Canton Park District at Big Creek Park Tennis Courts; providing an opportunity for everyone of all ages to learn and play the game! Organized play will be scheduled every week on Mondays. If you have never played but want to learn, then join one of our advanced players who will be available to teach the rules, grip, and terminology of the game and then integrate to the next level of play as your skills improve.

Location: Big Creek Park Tennis Courts

Time: 7:00pm-8:00pm

Date: Starts Monday starting April 3rd (Weather Permitting)

Programs

SIGN + SING STORY TIME

This program will transform the way you communicate with your child! Geared toward children 5 and under and their caregiver to explore movement, music, and literacy.

Communication Junction provides high-quality Sign + Sing Story Times to keep your child engaged, while learning a few signs to grow their vocabulary. Each thematic story time, families will learn 2-5 signs to take home and practice with their little one. This program includes stories, movement, rhymes, bubbles, and is a great opportunity to learn and interact with your child!



Location: Gary Baker Recreation Center, 940 N. Main St.

Time: 9:00am-9:30am

Dates: 3rd Thursday of each month starting January 19th

Cost: \$10 per family

SELF DEFENSE CLASS

This course will be instructed by Officer Candi Buhl of the Canton Police Department and is open to everyone, ages 15 and above. No ground techniques will be taught in class and all moves will be done standing up. Some physical contact will occur, and waivers are required for all participants. Must pre-register.

Location: Gary Baker Recreation Center, 940 N. Main St.

Time: 5:15pm-6:30pm

Date: Thursday, January 19th

Cost: FREE

MOVIE DAY CLASSIC

Join us at the rec. center in the afternoon for a classic movie showing. Popcorn & hot chocolate bar will be provided. Bring your comfy cloths and enjoy the show!

Location: Gary Baker Recreation Center, 940 N. Main St.

Time: 3:00pm-5:00pm

Date: Thursday, February 9th

Cost: FREE

MATES FOR LIFE

Do birds actually mate for life? What happens if one mate dies? Join local wildlife expert and photographer, Kevin Wright and find out about monogamy in birds and other fun facts on this holiday of love.

Location: Gary Baker Recreation Center,
940 N. Main St.

Time: 9:00am-10:00am

Date: Tuesday, February 14th

Cost: FREE



Programs

SEWING BASICS

Come build your confidence of sewing and unleash your inner creativity with instructor Lily Scalf. This class will teach you the basics of sewing with the option to participate in more advanced project focused classes in future sessions. Some topics covered will be knowledge of tools and fabrics, how to work with patterns, and basic alterations. You will also learn about the natural fibers and dyes and how to be a conscious consumer. A few sewing machines will be available for use, but we recommend bringing your own.

**Supplies Needed: Sewing Kit and Machine*

Location: Gary Baker Recreation Center, 940 N. Main St.

Cost: \$10/person

Sewing Basics for Kids (8 & up)

Time: 6:00pm-7:30pm

Date: Tuesday, February 21st

Sewing Basics for Adults

Time: 6:00pm-8:00pm

Date: Thursday, March 2nd

RED CROSS BABYSITTERS COURSE

The American Red Cross Babysitter's Training course gives 11–15-year-olds the opportunity to learn the ins and outs of babysitting. They will learn about leadership, the business aspect, creating resumes, understanding the different age groups, essential childcare needs, basic first aid, and compression only CPR. Participants will receive a handbook that includes the information talked about in the course and a certification after completion. *Sponsored by Fulton County Farm Bureau.*

Location: Gary Baker Recreation Center, 940 N. Main St.

Time: 10:00am–4:00pm

Date: Sunday, February 26th

Cost: \$25

BEGINNING OUTDOOR PHOTOGRAPHY

Photography has changed over the years especially when it comes to equipment and technology. We will explore cell phone and digital photography composition and editing during this two-hour class. Instructor Kim Dunnigan will look at outdoor shots as small compositions. Weather permitting, the class will go outdoors to try out new ideas.

Location: Gary Baker Recreation Center, 940 N. Main St.

Time: 1:30pm-3:30pm

Date: Saturday, March 4th

Cost: FREE



YOUTH THEATRE BOOT CAMP & PERFORMANCE

Experience in theatre and the imaginative arts creates more empathetic, creative, and outgoing children, not just performers. In addition, children who participate in the performing arts learn how to work collaboratively in a fun and active way. This inclusive Youth Theatre Camp, designed for all children who have completed Grades 2 – 6, offers five sessions of skill development such as stage movement and props, acting, singing, and costuming. The camp concludes with a short performance in the theatre at Spoon River College. (Limited to 15)

*Note: Participants must attend all workshop sessions and the performance.

(Co-sponsored by the SRC Community Chorus/SRC Foundation/SRC Community Outreach)

Instructor: Carol Davis, Artistic Director of SRC Community Chorus

Location: Gary Baker Recreation Center, 940 N. Main St.

Time: 1:00pm-3:00pm

Dates: Monday, July 31st – Thursday, August 2nd

Final Rehearsal: Friday, August 3rd from 3:30-5:30 p.m.

Cost: \$8/Participant

ART JOURNALING

Art Journaling is a no-rules hobby for literally everyone. It's a great way to document your world in a creative way and uses common tools/supplies. In this introductory class, we will create a number of background layouts that to get you started.

All supplies are provided, except for scissors, please bring your favorite pair for paper crafting.

Location: Donaldson Community Center

Time: 10:00am-11:30am

Date: Saturday, November 4th

Cost: \$10

Nature Programs

4-H SPIN CLUB – JUNIOR MASTER NATURALIST

University of Illinois Extension Junior Master Naturalist Program provides science-based educational opportunities that connect kids with nature and helps them become engaged environmental stewards. Ages 9-12 are welcome to join this group to gain a sense of place with hands-on exploration through nature! Attendance at each session is highly recommended.

Program: Wildlife of Illinois

Location: Gary Baker Recreation Center *dress in layers and be prepared to go outside.

Time: 1:00-3:00pm

Date: Monday, January 16th

Program: Fossils/Geology

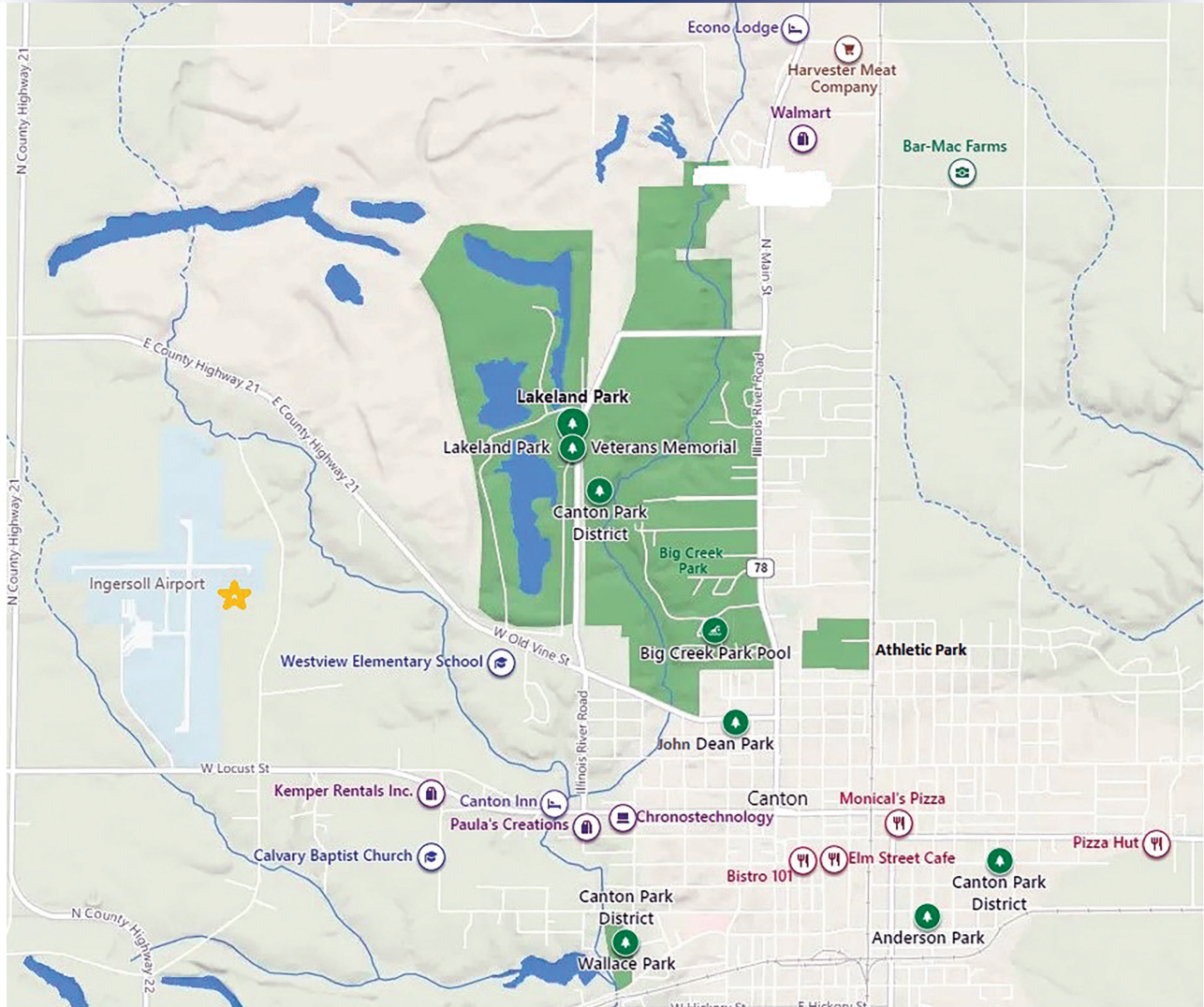
Location: Gary Baker Recreation Center

Time: 3:30-5:30pm

Date: Thursday, February 23rd



MAPS



FRISBEE GOLF COURSE MAP





100 MILE WALKING CLUB

Walking can improve our health, mood, and energy level. Walking is inexpensive and requires no special equipment. Having regular walking buddies or being part of a walking club can help us stay motivated.

Canton Park District and Graham Health System is partnering for a healthier you, to offer a walking club with fun activities, a tracker app that will track miles walked, and incentives when your goal is reached!



4-H SPIN CLUB – JUNIOR MASTER NATURALIST (CONT.)

Program: Climate Change & Weather

Location: Gary Baker Recreation Center

Time: 1:00-3:00pm

Date: Saturday, March 18th

Program: Insects/Wildflowers/Trees

Location: Big Creek Park Bottom Area

Time: 3:30-5:30pm

Date: Saturday, March 18th

Program: Pond Explorers/Aquatics

Location: Lakeland Park Pavilion

Time: 1:00-3:00pm

Date: Wednesday, May 24th

Program: Camping Adventures

Location: Big Creek Park Pavilion

Time: 1:00-3:00pm

Date: Wednesday, June 14th

Program: Pool Party & Plans for Next Year

Location: Big Creek Park Pool

Time: 1:00-3:00pm

Date: Thursday, July 20th

Cost: \$20 per child (4-H membership)



GEOCACHING

Geocaching started in 2000 and is an outdoor recreational international activity, in which participants use a Global Positioning System (GPS) receiver or mobile device with the App to hide and seek containers, called “geocaches” or “caches”. Ten new caches have been placed throughout the district, be the first to find and receive a coin! Find all 10 – follow instructions inside the caches to record codes found in each one, then turn in the codes to the Gary Baker Recreation Center for a prize!

Locations: Athletic Park, Big Creek Park, Hulit Park, Lakeland, and Wallace Park

Date: Starts Saturday, March 11th

WEATHER AROUND US

Thunderstorms, lightning, tornadoes, and other forms of extreme weather are things many people are fascinated by. What makes these types of weather phenomena happen? Are they becoming more extreme? Join U of I Extension Educator, Duane Friend as he discusses how extreme weather forms, current research, and whether we can expect more of it in the future.

Location: Gary Baker Recreation Center, 940 N. Main St.

Time: 1:00pm-3:00pm

Date: Thursday, March 30th

Cost: FREE

EARTH DAY EXTRAVAGANZA

Let's celebrate Earth Day and connect with nature! Learn about the natural environment around us and how we can all do our part to protect earth for generations to come. Dress for being outside and wear comfortable shoes for hiking the trails. All Ages Welcome!

Location: Lakeland Park – Ranger Station

Time: 9:00am-12:00pm

Date: Saturday, April 22nd

Cost: FREE



- **Earth Day 101 9:00am**

- **Birding Basics 9:15am-10:00am**

Do you see birds in your yard, but don't know what kind they are? Are you looking to get into birding, but don't know where to start? Join this family-friendly program that will highlight what makes a bird a bird, identification tips and tricks, sound recognition, practice with binoculars, and more. Bring your own binoculars or borrow one of ours.

- **Native Fish Program 10:15am-11:00am**

Have you ever wondered what's swimming around in Canton's lakes and ponds? You may be surprised by all the fantastic fish found right in your neighborhood! Join Jake Wolf Memorial Fish Hatchery's Resident Naturalist for a class on bass, a chat on cats and a school on sunfish as he discusses local fish species. This program will feature live animals, fishing tips and fun facts about the fish found in and around Canton.

- **Wildflower Walk 11:15am-12:00pm**

Are you interested in exploring the hidden gems of our Parks Forest floor? This wildflower hike allows you to get up close with the beautiful spring wildflowers that are native to our forest. Join us on a guided hike with U of I Extension Master Naturalists to learn facts and identification of our wildflowers.

FRIENDS OF THE PARK WORKDAY

Friends of the Park is a group who are very passionate about our parks, and are actively working to improve all of them! Scheduled workdays will take place in spring and fall. It means getting outside, getting fresh air, and enjoying the camaraderie of others, as you beautify flowerbeds, plant trees, prune trees, or clean up a park. We have a lot of work to do, and we need your help. Workdays will occur rain or shine. Canton Park District staff or board member will be on site for each workday.

Location: Big Creek Park

Time: 9:00am-12:00pm

Date: Saturday, May 6th

NATIONAL TRAILS DAY

Come explore the parks trail system on a guided walking tour. Our guides will take you on a 1-mile walk from Big Creek Trail to Lakeland Trail showing you the various trees and wildflowers, with a bit of park history included along the way. *2 golf carts will be available with limited seating for those with disabilities.*

Location: Big Creek Park Bottom Area

Time: 9:00-11:00am

Date: Saturday, June 3rd

Cost: FREE

TREE WALK

Join U of I Extension Master Gardner - Terry Meade as she showcases the tree walk project she created for the public to access and identify the native trees at Wallace Park.

Location: Wallace Park

Time: 10:00-11:00am

Date: Sunday, June 11th

Cost: FREE

GREAT AMERICAN CAMPOUT

Join us for the Great American Campout as we enjoy a night under the stars at Lakeland Park. Take the National Wildlife Federation's pledge to celebrate camping to connect with nature and wildlife. Pack the tent, camping supplies and the family; we'll provide the hotdogs, campfire with songs and s'mores. Fun outdoor activities, including hiking, fishing, geocaching, stargazing with the Peoria Astrological Society, aquatics program, along with a talk on reptiles from Jake Wolf Memorial Fish Hatchery's Resident Naturalist. A light camper breakfast will be provided in the morning.

Location: Lakeland Park – Nagel Pavilion

Date: Saturday, June 24th 1:00pm – Sunday, June 25th 9:00am

Cost: \$20 per tent (up to 4 people and
\$2 each additional person)

COLD BLOODED CREATURES

Did you know that frogs can scream? Or that turtles can't come out of their shells? Reptiles and amphibians are a fascinating, yet misunderstood group of animals filled with myth and mystery. These animals serve important purposes in both the environment and our daily lives. Join Jake Wolf Memorial Fish Hatchery's Resident Naturalist for a talk on reptile biology and the many myths associated with these cold-blooded creatures. This program will feature live, native animals.

Location: Lakeland Park Nagel Pavilion

Time: 2:00-3:00pm

Date: Saturday, June 24th

Cost: FREE

PADDLE THE PARK

Have you ever wanted to kayak or canoe Lakeland, but didn't want to go alone or unguided?

Maybe you are a novice but want to try it with a guide? Canton Park District is offering guided tours on Fitch and Bond Lake. You can bring your own kayak, canoe, or paddle board for this 2-hour trip. A limited number of rentals of kayaks and canoes are available, and registration is required. If you are new to paddling, we will do an instruction course prior to starting.

Location: Lakeland Park

Time: 10:00am-12:00pm

Date: Saturday, July 8th

Cost: \$3 per person or \$10 for rental and instruction



Aquatics

DIVE IN MOVIE

Experience a cinema with a splash! View your favorite family-friendly movie sitting poolside under the stars. Grab some ice cream, popcorn, or your favorite candy, and enjoy the show! Movie starts when sun goes down.

Location: Big Creek Park Pool

Time: 7:00-9:00pm

Dates: Monday, June 12th & Monday August 7th

Cost: \$5 per person

POOL PARTY!

Let's Celebrate summer with a pool party, music, contests, prizes, family fun and more!

Location: Big Creek Park Pool

Time: 1:00-3:00pm

Dates: Wednesday, June 21st - First day of summer beach party

Tuesday, July 4th - Independence Day Celebration & Cookout

July 21st - Luau party

Cost: General Pool Admission

TOT TIME AT BIG CREEK POOL

Nothing says summer with little ones more than a sweet morning splash. This program is open to children 5 and under, accompanied by an adult 18 years or older. All participants wanting to stay for regular pool hours must exit the facility at 11:45am and pay the traditional rate to return. All participating adults are required to be in the water with their children.

Location: Big Creek Park Pool

Time: 10:30am-11:45am

Dates: Friday, June 2nd-August 4th

Cost: \$2 per participant (*All Participants must pay the \$2 entry fee, including adults.*)

***SEASON PASSES WILL NOT BE ACCEPTED FOR ENTRY TO TODDLER TIME.**



2023 SWIM LESSONS

	Cost
Preschool (Age 3-5)	\$35
Youth (Age 6+)	\$45

Session 1: June 5th-June 16th

Session 3: June 10th-July 21th

Session 2: July 19th-July 30th

Session 4: July 24th-August 4th

Preschool (Age 3-5): 10:00am-10:30am

Youth (Age 6+): 10:35am-11:05am

Evening Sessions (7:05 – 7:35pm):

Session 1: June 19th-30th

Session 2: July 10th-21st

**Classes run Monday-Thursday. Fridays are used as a makeup*

Private Lessons: Each session is 45 minutes long and scheduled with the facility manager

2 Lessons: \$35

4 Lessons: \$65

WATER AEROBICS – AQUA CLASS AT BIG CREEK POOL

Jump right into our aqua class and build cardiovascular fitness and strength. Just like swimming, our water aerobics class is easy on your joints, yet challenging enough to help you reach new levels of fitness. Because of the low-impact format, this water aerobics class is suitable for every age and fitness level. This popular water aerobics workout is a swimming blend of cardio and resistance training and may incorporate resistance tools such as buoyant water weights and pool noodles for a fun workout.

Location: Big Creek Park Pool

Time: 9:00am-10:00am

Dates: Thursdays June 1st-August 3rd

Cost: \$8 per participant
(\$75 for all 10 classes)

***SEASON PASSES WILL NOT BE
ACCEPTED FOR ENTRY OF THIS CLASS.**



Our Swim Lesson Philosophy

The philosophy of the aquatic staff of the Canton Park District is to establish (2) goals:

- 1.) To deliver quality swim instruction to all ages/levels in order to enhance the individual's aquatic recreational activity.
- 2.) To encourage the aquatic public to gain life-safety skills to be used in and around all bodies of water.

The aquatic staff of the Canton Park District has been trained to follow the American Red Cross swimming guidelines. Each level of instruction is designed as a progression approach to swim instruction, building on previously acquired skills. Participants will move from level to level of instruction only when they have mastered their current placement. Our staff will be available to make ongoing changes as students gain skills.

There are no age restrictions for any of our classes. However, expectations vary greatly from pre-school to youth lessons. Staff/child ratios increase as participant's progress through the various levels. Once the child advances to our youth programs class expectations change. Children are expected to follow directions, wait their turn and trust their instructor when new skills are introduced. Finally, for your convenience private swim lessons are available.

Lesson Make-Ups:

In the event that classes are canceled by the Canton Park District, Friday will be used as a make-up day. No make-ups are available when the participant chooses not to attend. If an extended medical condition prevents participation, a refund may be given or make-ups may be arranged with the facility manager.

Lesson Placement:

If a child is not enrolled in the correct level, the teaching staff will try to make corrections on the first day of the session. The final day of the class is a testing day when students will be tested on their skills to see if they are ready to progress to the next level.

Parental Observation:

In order for your children to learn as much as possible, parents are encouraged to remain as separate from their children as possible during swim lessons. Please deliver and pick up your children at the pool deck. No shoes or strollers will be allowed on deck. Showers are required before swimmers enter the water. An adult should be available during the entire lesson in case assistance is needed to take the child to the bathroom during class time.

Refund and Change of Class Policy:

After a session begins, participants will only be given a pro-rated refund when a medical condition for withdrawal is submitted in writing to the Park District. If a class activity is canceled due to lack of enrollment, a full refund will be issued. If participants withdraw from classes with a minimum one week notice a refund will be given less a \$10 processing fee per class registration.

Pool opens: **Saturday, May 27th, 2023** | Pool Closes: **Sunday, August 13th, 2023**

POOL HOURS: Open 7 days a week from 12pm-7pm, weather permitting.

2023 SEASON PASS RATES

Youth*(4-17) & Senior (65+)	\$100
Adult (18+)	\$120
Family† (4 members)	\$215
Add'l Family Members	\$65
Single Parent	\$155

- Patrons must be 12 or older to enter the pool alone.
- Ages 8-11 must be accompanied by another patron 12 or older.
- Ages 7 and under are not permitted without adult supervision (18+)
- Children 2 and under are free with paid adult admission.

†Family Season Pass users must consist of either 1 parent and 3 children or 2 parents and 2 children. A babysitter or nanny may be added to a family pool pass.

2023 DAILY ADMISSION RATES

Youth (4-17) & Senior (65+)	\$5.00
Adult (18+)	\$6.00
Senior (65+)	\$5.00
<u>Twilight Swim After 5pm</u>	
Youth (4-17) & Senior (65+)	\$3.50
Adult (18+)	\$4.50
Family† (4 members)	\$10.00



Exercise Equipment

Free for use to the public, a variety of fitness equipment is available. Patrons must be 16 years of age or older to use the fitness equipment at the Recreation Center.

- 3 Treadmills
- 2 Stationary Bikes
- Elliptical Trainer
- 12 Position Weight Machine

Games



Bingo

Bingo takes place every Thursday at 10:30am. Each week Bingo is sponsored by Renaissance Care Center, The Loft, Western IL Home Health, Graham Extended Care. Thanks to their generous support bingo is offered free of charge!

Bunco

Bunco will take place every Thursday from 1-3pm. Bunco is a dice game generally played with twelve or more players, trying to score points while taking turns rolling three dice in a series of six rounds. If it is your first time playing, join us and we will teach you!

GARY G. BAKER RECREATION CENTER

Activities



Billiards & Ping Pong Tables

One of the biggest hits at the recreation center besides the swimming pool are the billiard and ping pong tables. Every day the tables are used by pool players of all abilities. All you need to do is come out and play. All equipment is on site and available; along with two snooker tables.

Horseshoe Pits

Located on the north side of the building, horseshoes are a fun and exciting game for the whole family! The horseshoes are located at the front desk, just ask!

Dance Nights

Every Monday night from 6:00pm-8:00p.m. March-November You can enjoy a night of dancing to a variety of music.

Line Dancing group meets every Monday, Wednesday, and Friday from 9:30-10:30am New dancers are welcome to join.

Canton Duplicate Bridge Club

Card group meets every Tuesday from 12:00pm-4:00pm. New players are welcome to join, but need to bring your own partner.

Stop into the Recreation Center to fill out a pre-exercise questionnaire, receive how-to-use equipment instructions, or join in on the fun weekly activities!

Friends of the Park

Friends of the Park is a group who is very passionate about our parks at the Canton Park District and are actively working to improve all of them! The Friends of the Park group is a strong voice for the protection, preservation, expansion, and improvement to the Park Districts 1,403 acres. Members of Friends of the Parks support our neighborhood parks and playground projects, environmental education, advocacy, and volunteer programs throughout the Canton Park District. This group will complete numerous beautification projects and assist in the success of various special events.

Friends of the Park group will add many benefits to our park system, give neighbors an opportunity to meet and interact and create a single unified voice for the park.



Become a volunteer – Find your path

There's no better way to get outside and enjoy the parks than by volunteering! Volunteer as an individual or a group.

One-day volunteer opportunities include park clean-ups, event support, It's Your Park Days, Planting days, and much more.

Group Service Projects

The Canton Park District offers many opportunities for one-day service project volunteers. Your group service project may include planting gardens, equipment upgrades, and other various park improvements. These events not only contribute to keeping Canton's Parks the beautiful destinations that they are but also serve as opportunities for team building.

If you are interested in joining Friends of the Park - join our Facebook Group, or contact Amanda Atchley (309)-647-7665 a.atchley@cantonpark.org

BIG CREEK DOG PARK

Big Creek Dog Park provides your dog a place to run off-leash and interact with other dogs and humans in the area. Located within Big Creek Park, next to the Gary Baker Recreation Center, the park features a 5-foot fence, two double-gated entry areas, separate areas for large and small dogs, parking lot, trash cans, dog waste stations, dog drinking fountains, shade, and seating area.



CANTON BIKE SHARE

Go to any of the three bike stations:

- Graham Medical Group at Main and Pine
- Wallace Park
- Lakeland Park

To Get Started: Download the **MOVATIC** app on your smartphone, choose your location – select a bike to rent and unlock to enjoy your ride! When finished go to any of the 3 bike stations to return your bike, secure it in the rack and end your rental.



TENNIS & PICKLEBALL COURTS

The 4 tennis courts and 4 pickleball courts are lighted and wheelchair accessible. Located at Big Creek Park the courts were completely renovated in 2020. Pickleball is the fastest growing sport in the United States, and players of all ages now have an outdoor place to play in our community!

***Pickleball and Tennis equipment are available to check out at the Gary Baker Recreation Center.**

- Valid ID is required to check out a key for day use.
- Weekend Use – \$25 deposit is required, and key must be returned on Monday.





**July 7th, 2023 - Canton Mayor will officially proclaim July as
Park and Recreation Month in our Community!**

We're celebrating Park and Recreation Month this July by highlighting all the ways our community is stronger, more vibrant and more resilient because of parks and recreation.

We encourage all people that support parks and recreation to share how it has improved your lives on social media using **#RiseUpJuly**

It's time to share how We Rise Up for Parks and Recreation!

- Living close to parks and other recreation facilities is consistently related to higher physical activity levels for both adults and youth. Moreover, parks provide a connection to nature, which studies demonstrate relieves stress, strengthens interpersonal relationships, and improves mental health.
- Parks and recreation encourage physical activity by providing space for popular sports, hiking trails, swimming pool, recreational facility and many other activities designed to promote active lifestyles.
- Local Park and recreation agencies play a vital role in the protection of our environment through green infrastructure, maintenance of public lands, preserving wildlife habitats and more. The Canton Park District's goal is to partner with Trees Forever and hopes to plant and maintain 100 trees this year!
- Park and recreation departments across the country are among the biggest employers of youth. The Canton Park District employs over 40 part time seasonal staff giving youth vital experience in the work force and teaching them valuable skills for the future.
- Four in five U.S. adults say that access to a nearby park, playground, open space or recreation center is an important factor in deciding where they choose to live. The Canton Park District manages 1,403 acres of open space and offers many unique and varied recreational opportunities to enhance the quality of life within our community.

Join our Text List to Keep Informed!

Receive exclusive updates and information.

Scan the QR code to join!



TEXT the word(s):

- PARK (General Information)
- PLAYBALL (Youth Sports)
- SOFTBALL (Adult Sports)

TO: 309-290-5557



Three Simple Ways to Register!

Online Registration

Register online at www.cantonpark.org

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Mail-In Registration

Canton Park District

250 South Avenue D • Canton IL 61520

*Note: Please include signed registration form and
check payable to the Canton Park District.*

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Walk-In Registration

Gary Baker Recreation Center

940 North Main St • Canton IL 61520

Monday-Friday: 8:00 AM-5:00 PM

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Questions Contact:

Amanda Atchley • 309-647-7665 • a.atchley@cantonpark.org

