

WHERE CAN WE GO TO

# PLAY?



AFFORDABLE  
IDEAS FOR  
FAMILY FUN  
IN DAKOTA  
COUNTY

## DAKOTA COUNTY LIBRARY

- Free programs
- Storytime
- Arts and crafts
- Movies and games
- Movement activities



## NEIGHBORHOOD PARKS

Most cities have parks or playgrounds close enough to walk to.

Make physical activity part of your family's daily routine!



## DAKOTA COUNTY PARKS

- Family classes
- Trails (year round)
- Equipment rental
- Nature programs
- Beaches
- Hiking
- Archery
- Biking
- Canoeing



## EARLY CHILDHOOD FAMILY EDUCATION

Your school district offers parent/child activities. Call your school district for a class listing.



**Public Health**  
Prevent. Promote. Protect.  
**Dakota County**

June 2024

# Apple Valley

## City of Apple Valley Parks and Recreation

952-953-2300

Various sites/days

<http://www.cityofapplevalley.org/>

Sports and activities for all ages, puppet wagon.

## Preschool, Youth and Family Open Gym

<http://www.cityofapplevalley.org/> search "Open Gym"

FREE open gym for several ages:

- Preschool open gym (age 5 and under)
- Youth open gym (grades 6 - 12)
- Family open gym (Ages 17 & under with parent)

## Ice Skating Lessons Open Skating

Apple Valley Sports Arena

952-953-2366

[www.cityofapplevalley.org](http://www.cityofapplevalley.org/) - search "skating"

Lessons, open skating, and skate rental.

Sliding fee and scholarships available. Free outdoor ice rinks at several city parks, call 952-953-2300.

## ISD 196 Community Education

651-423-7920

Various sites/days

<http://district196.org/ce/>

Children and family dance, indoor open swim, and more. Partial to full scholarships available.

## Music in Kelley Park (July and August)

[www.cityofapplevalley.org](http://www.cityofapplevalley.org/) - Search "Music in Kelley Park". Family friendly, free concerts in the summer.

## Water Activities

### Kelley Park Splash Pad - Free

6855 Fortino Street

Free park with picnic shelter, playground, and splash pad.

### Redwood Community Pool

311 150<sup>th</sup> St. W

Open swim with small fee.

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# Burnsville

## **Burnsville Ice Center**

251 Civic Center Parkway

952-895-4651

[www.burnsvillemn.gov](http://www.burnsvillemn.gov) - search "ice center"

Indoor skating arena. Public skating, rentals available.

## **City of Burnsville Parks Program**

Parks Department: 952-895-4521

[www.burnsvillemn.gov](http://www.burnsvillemn.gov) – search "recreation"

Play equipment, hiking trails, outdoor skating, public beaches, splash pads, family activities, and more.

Many free options.

## **ISD 191 Community Education**

952-707-4150

[www.communityed191.org](http://www.communityed191.org)

Family fun nights, concerts, young parents play time, sports and recreation, swimming lessons, open swim, and more.

## **Skateville**

952-890-0988

201 So. River Ridge Circle, Burnsville, MN 55337

[www.skateville.com](http://www.skateville.com)

Open family roller skating and birthday parties. Fees and hours vary.

## **Summer Concerts and Movies**

[www.burnsvillemn.gov](http://www.burnsvillemn.gov) -Search "Summer Concerts"

Catch a concert, see a movie or attend a great festival this summer in Burnsville!

All events are free and open to the public.

## **Grand Slam**

952-224-0413

12425 River Ridge Boulevard, Burnsville, MN 55337

<http://grandslammn.com>

Prices vary based on activity.

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# Eagan

## **Caponi Art Park**

651-454-9412

1220 Diffley Road, Eagan, MN 55123

[www.caponiartpark.org](http://www.caponiartpark.org)

Open May-October; Closed on Mondays

Free (donations encouraged)

A 60-acre park with wooded hiking trails, a sculpture garden, and outdoor amphitheater. Traveling art presentations include theater, dance, music, poetry, photography programs and more.

## **Eagan Parks & Recreation Programs**

651-675-5500 / Hotline 651-675-5511

Various sites throughout Eagan

[www.cityofeagan.com](http://www.cityofeagan.com) -click "Places to Play"

Preschool programs, the Blast indoor gym, child and adult sports leagues & gym availability. Eagan Art House, Puppet Wagon, Summer in the Park.

## **Jensen Lake Trailhead**

Lebanon Hills Regional Park

1350 Carriage Hills Drive, Eagan, MN 55123

<https://www.co.dakota.mn.us/parks/parksTrails/LebanonHills>

651-437-3191

Picnic area, children's play area, interpretive trail and year-round hiking trails. Restrooms available. Free entrance to the Trailhead.

## **Lebanon Hills Regional Park Visitor Center**

651-554-6530

860 Cliff Road, Saint Paul, MN 55123

<https://www.co.dakota.mn.us/parks/parksTrails/LebanonHills>

Equipment rental, family and youth programming, interactive nature displays, and access to the 2,000-acre park.

## **Schulze Lake Beach**

Lebanon Hills Regional Park

651-554-6530

860 Cliff Road, Saint Paul, MN 55123

[www.co.dakota.mn.us/parks/parksTrails](http://www.co.dakota.mn.us/parks/parksTrails)

Open Memorial Day – Labor Day

Free (no lifeguard on duty). Restrooms, picnic areas, hiking trails. Canoe, kayak and stand-up paddle board rental.

## **Trapp Farm Snow-Tubing-Hill**

651-675-5511

841 Wilderness Run Rd, Eagan, MN 55123

[www.cityofeagan.com/tubing-hill](http://www.cityofeagan.com/tubing-hill)

Open Friday-Sunday, weather permitting. No personal sledding devices allowed during posted tubing hours. Participants must be able to walk up the hill. Hours vary, small fee, free for children under 45" tall.

## **Eagan Civic Arena**

651-675-5590

3870 Pilot Knob Rd, Eagan, MN 55122

[www.cityofeagan.com/open-skating](http://www.cityofeagan.com/open-skating)

Indoor park, birthday parties, open skating, learn to skate program. Hours and prices vary.

## **Eagan Central Park Splash Pad**

651-675-5500

1501 Central Parkway, Eagan, MN 55212

Free-splash pad with a picnic shelter.

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# Farmington

## Farmington Parks & Recreation

651-280-6850 / Hotline 651-280-6870

[www.farmingtonmn.gov](http://www.farmingtonmn.gov)

Classes, outdoor ice skating, summer and sport camps and more. Scholarships available.

## Schmitz-Maki Arena-Indoor Public Ice Skating

651-280-6960

114 West Spruce Street, Farmington, MN 55024

[www.farmingtonmn.gov](http://www.farmingtonmn.gov) – search “ice skating”. Small fee for open skate and rentals.

## ISD 192 Community Education/ECFE-Farmington

651-460-3200

6100 195<sup>th</sup> Street West, Farmington, MN 55024

Various sites/days

<https://farmington.ce.eleyo.com/>

Classes, gym nights, swimming lessons and open swim. Scholarships available.

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# Hastings

## Carpenter St. Croix Valley Nature Center

651-437-4359

12805 St. Croix Trail So, Hastings, MN 55033

<http://carpenternaturecenter.org/>

Free trails and interpretive center with hands-on exhibits and live animals. Children’s activity programs for age 2-5 years with parent and more.

## Hastings Family Aquatic Center

651-480-2385 Hotline: 651-480-2392

901 Maple Street, Hastings, MN 55033

<http://www.hastingsmn.gov> - search “Aquatic Center” - Programs, family and open swim. Fee and hours vary.

## Hastings Outdoor Skating

Hotline 651-480-2392

<http://www.hastingsmn.gov> -search “Outdoor-Rinks”

Recreational & hockey, rental equipment available.

## Hastings Country Inn (pool)

651-437-8870

300 33<sup>rd</sup> Street, Hastings, MN 55033

Open swim 7am - 6pm - small fee. Family membership available. Bring own towel.

# Hastings (continued)

## Hastings Civic Arena

651-480-6195

2801 Redwing Blvd, Hastings, MN 55033

<http://www.hastingsmn.gov> - search "Civic Arena"

Public ice skating and skate rental.

## Swimming Beaches – Hastings area

Lake Byllesby, Cannon Falls

7650 Echo Point Road

[www.co.dakota.mn.us/parks](http://www.co.dakota.mn.us/parks)

Point Douglas Park, Hastings 651-430-8240

<https://www.co.washington.mn.us/> - search "swimming beaches"

## ISD 200 Community Education

651-480-7670

310 River Street, Hastings, MN 55033

<https://hastingscommunityed.com/>

Crafts, music and movement, science and math activities, opportunities for play and interaction.

Financial assistance is available.

## Schaar's Bluff

Spring Lake Park Reserve

952-891-7000

8395 127th Street East, Hastings, MN 55033

[www.co.dakota.mn.us/parks](http://www.co.dakota.mn.us/parks)

Programs, picnic area, children's play area, sand volleyball court and year-round hiking trails.

## Disc Golf Course – C.P. Adams Park

651-480-6175

1301 LeDuc Drive

<http://www.hastingsmn.gov> - search "Disc Golf"

18-hole disc golf course, open during day and free.

## Summer Levee Park Events

651-480-6182

20 Ramset St, Hastings, MN 55033

[www.hastingsmn.gov](http://www.hastingsmn.gov)

FREE events throughout the summer. Outdoor movies, music, performances, story times, and more.

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# Inver Grove Heights

## **IGH Parks & Recreation Preschool Programs**

651-450-2585

8055 Barbara Avenue, Inver Grove Heights, MN 55077

[www.ighmn.gov](http://www.ighmn.gov) - search "Preschool Programs"

Preschool programs, gym, swim, safety camps and parent/child activities. Scholarships available.

## **Veterans Memorial Comm. Center**

651-450-2480

8055 Barbara Avenue, Inver Grove Heights, MN 55077

[www.ighmn.gov](http://www.ighmn.gov)

The Grove Aquatic and Fitness Center, waterpark, fitness center, arena ice skating and programs. Membership, 10-day visit & daily passes. Hours vary.

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# Lakeville

## **Lakeville Parks and Recreation**

952-985-4608 / Hotline 952-985-4690

[www.lakevillemn.gov](http://www.lakevillemn.gov) - search "parks and recreation"

Programs, sports, outdoor skating rinks, summer music in the park and puppet wagon.

## **ISD 194 Community Education/ECFE**

952-232-3006 Various sites/days

<https://www.isd194.org/community-education>

Programs, gymnastics, swimming, art, Early Childhood classes. Sliding fee.

## **McGuire Jr. High – Open Swim**

952-232-2150

21200 Holyoke Ave. W, Lakeville, MN 55044

<https://www.isd194.org/community-education> - search open swim

Small fee, children under 2 are free.

## **Lakeville Parks – Swimming Beaches**

952-985-4608 / [www.lakevillemn.gov](http://www.lakevillemn.gov)

**Antlers Park Beach** - 9740 201st St. W.

Large swimming beach, picnic area, volleyball courts, horseshoe pits, playground equipment, fishing pier, water and sand place center for tots and restrooms. No lifeguard on duty.

**Orchard Lake Beach** - 17195 Judicial Road

Picnic area, shore fishing, playground equipment, volleyball courts and restrooms. No lifeguard on duty.

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# Rosemount

## ISD 196 Community Education

651-423-7920

<https://ce.district196.org>

Classes, children and family dance, indoor open swim, gymnastics and more. Partial to full scholarships available.

## Rosemount Community Center and Ice Arena

651-322-6000 / Info. line 651-322-6020

13885 South Robert Trail, Rosemount, MN 55068

[www.rosemountmn.gov](http://www.rosemountmn.gov)

Free Parent-Tot Open Gym (ages 5 and under) Rosemount Parks and Recreation provides ball and other fun play equipment.

Ice arena: Public open ice-skating and lessons. Skate rental not available. Scholarships available for lessons.

## Rosemount Parks and Recreation Programs

651-322-6000 / Info. line 651-322-6020

[www.rosemountmn.gov](http://www.rosemountmn.gov)

Year-round programs, camps, classes, special events, trips, team sports, and sport instruction for all ages.

## Central Park Splash Pad

651-322-6000

2893 145th St W, Rosemount, MN 55068

Free splash pad with picnic shelter.

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# South St. Paul

## Central Square Community Center

651-366-6200

100 7<sup>th</sup> Ave. North, South Saint Paul, MN 55075

<https://communityed.sspps.org/>

Swimming lessons, Gymnastics Center, and fitness center. Hours vary.

## Early Childhood Family Education Community Education

651-457-9418

1541 5<sup>th</sup> Avenue South, South St. Paul, MN 55075

<https://communityed.sspps.org/>

Programs, day and evening events, Music and Movement and drop-in play times.

Scholarships available.

## Lorraine Park

651-366-6200

756 3rd Ave. So, South Saint Paul, MN 55075

[www.southstpaul.org](http://www.southstpaul.org)

Outdoor playground, skating rink with warming house and sand volleyball.

Splash pool features interactive water toys and a zero-depth entry pool. Special Toddler Swim Time. Small fee.



## South St. Paul (continued)

### Northview Pool

651-366-6200

635 18<sup>th</sup> Ave. N, South Saint Paul, MN 55075

[www.southstpaul.org](http://www.southstpaul.org)

Standard pool with diving board and small drop slide, basketball hoops available. Small fee.

### Wakota Ice Arena

651-554-3330

141 6<sup>th</sup> Street S, South Saint Paul, MN 55075

[www.southstpaul.org/](http://www.southstpaul.org/)

Public skate and skate rental available. Small fee.

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## West St. Paul

### ISD 197 Community Education

Early Childhood Family Education

1897 Delaware Avenue, Mendota Heights, MN 55118

651-403-8313

[www.tridistrictce.org/](http://www.tridistrictce.org/)

Day and evening programs and events. Scholarships available.

### Outdoor Ice Skating

West Saint Paul Parks and Recreation

651-552-4155

[www.wspmn.gov](http://www.wspmn.gov) – search “outdoor rinks”

FREE, warming houses available. Must provide your own skates.

### Dodge Nature Center

651-455-4531

365 Marie Avenue West, West Saint Paul, MN 55118

[www.dodgenaturecenter.org](http://www.dodgenaturecenter.org)

Preschool programs, parent/child classes, and family events. Scholarships available.

### Thompson County Park

952-891-7000

360 Butler Avenue E, West Saint Paul, MN 55118

[www.co.dakota.mn.us/parks](http://www.co.dakota.mn.us/parks)

Picnic area, children’s play area, and year-round hiking trails - FREE.

### West St. Paul Regional Athletics Center

651-552-4158

1655 Livingston Ave, West Saint Paul, MN 55118

[www.wsprac.com](http://www.wsprac.com)

Batting cages, soccer/lacrosse field, summer camps walking and running free to the public.

## West St. Paul (continued)

### Water Activities

#### West St. Paul Pool

651-552-9650

92 W. Orme, West Saint Paul, MN 55118

[www.wspmn.gov](http://www.wspmn.gov) search “pool”

Outdoor pool, 110-foot water slide, two drop slides, zero depth splash pool and playground equipment. Daily and season passes available.

#### Harmon Park Splash Pad

230 Bernard St. W., West St. Paul, MN 55118

Free splash pad in park.

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## Twin Cities Area

### Children’s Museum

651-225-6000

10 W 7<sup>th</sup>, St. Paul, MN 55102

<https://mcm.org/>

All play tickets available for \$3 with proof of WIC, EBT or Free/Reduced School Lunch program. Discounted yearly membership also available. Discounted parking in ramp on Wabasha and 7th St. FREE admission 1st Sunday of each month (reservations required).

### Dakota County Libraries

Visit your local library for fun programs, story times, movement activities, and free books and materials with a library card.

<https://www.co.dakota.mn.us/libraries>

### Minnesota Zoo

952-431-9200

13000 Zoo Boulevard, Apple Valley, MN 55124

[www.mnzoo.org](http://www.mnzoo.org)

Free to Explore Zoo Admission Program: free admission for qualifying families. Must be enrolled in a program listed here [www.mnzoo.org/us/freetoexplore](http://www.mnzoo.org/us/freetoexplore), must provide documentation upon entry.

### Science Museum of Minnesota

651-221-9444

120 W. Kellogg Blvd, St. Paul, MN 55102

[www.smm.org](http://www.smm.org)

Great Tix access: \$3 admission with proof of enrollment in a program listed here: [www.smm.org/great-tix](http://www.smm.org/great-tix)

## Twin Cities Area (continued)

### Toddler Tuesdays

Mall of America

952-883-8800

60 E Broadway, Bloomington, MN 55425 (Hwy 494)

[www.mallofamerica.com/toddlertuesdays](http://www.mallofamerica.com/toddlertuesdays)

Every Tuesday: discounts at Nickelodeon Universe, free kids meals (with purchase of adult meal). 2nd Tuesday of each month: special character appearances, activities, and story time in the rotunda – FREE.

### YMCA

Burnsville: 952-898-9622

Eagan: 651-456-9622

Hastings: 651-480-8887

[www.ymcatwincities.org/](http://www.ymcatwincities.org/)

Exercise equipment, weight training, track, swimming pools, preschool classes, parent/child movement classes, family events and dance classes. Scholarships available on a sliding fee scale.

### Free Events for Family Fun

Check out: <http://www.familyfuntwincities.com/>

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## Farmers Market

Find nearby markets or specialty items – enter your city or zip code for a list of farmers market locations near you.

[www.minnesotagrown.com](http://www.minnesotagrown.com)

Taking your kids to the farmers market can be a fun outing -- but that's not all!

It can also be a fabulous learning experience for them.

Five things' kids can learn:

1. What local food is
2. What goes into making a meal
3. What different types of farming mean
4. The seasons of foods
5. How to identify fruits and veggies

Dakota County Public Health Department

1 Mendota Road W.

West St. Paul, MN 55118

[www.dakotacounty.us](http://www.dakotacounty.us)

651.554.6100

DCPHD-HR-2268 (06/24)

