

MEDIA RELEASE

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE:

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City Issues Updated List of Free Summer Food Sites

ROCKFORD, ILL. – The City of Rockford Human Services Department, a Community Action agency, has issued an updated list of summer food program sites.

Summer should be a stress-free time full of food, friends and fun! Community Action is making that happen by operating the summer food service program, keeping our area kids healthy and nourished so they can return to school in the fall ready to learn. No registration, paperwork, parental supervision, or ID is required.

Kids and teens 18 years old and under can get meals at supervised sites such as parks, churches, playgrounds, and community centers throughout Winnebago and Boone Counties this summer. Depending on the site, a lunch, dinner, or snack will be provided. Meals consist of fruits, vegetables, grains, protein, and milk. Some sites also provide activities such as arts and crafts, outdoor activities, board games, reading time, and more.

Currently only 4 in 10 of the eligible kids in our community who rely on school meals actually participate in the summer food service program. One reason is that families are not aware that the program is available or don't know how the program works. Please spread the word to help us power up our kids for a happy and healthy summer.

To find a site in Illinois, families can text "FoodIL" to 877877 or they can visit SummermealsIllinois.org or call 1-800-359-2163. Parents can also check the summer food site list below to identify a neighborhood site where food is available to their children. Site lists can also be picked up at Community Action, 555 N. Court St. Suite 301 in Rockford, Belvidere City Hall, 401 Whitney Blvd. in Belvidere, or on-line at <http://www.rockfordil.gov/human-services.aspx>.

As with the national school lunch program and the school breakfast program, the federal summer food service program is funded through the United States Department of Agriculture (USDA) and administered by the Illinois State Board of Education. The lunches and snacks are provided by Lifescape Community Services of Rockford.

(list enclosed)

2017 Summer Food Sites for Winnebago and Boone Counties

Residents can contact the participating sites for their individual program details and lunch/snack schedule.

Rockford

Beattie Playground, 1221 Rural St.
Bloom Playground, 2901 Pelham Rd.
Booker Washington Center, 524 Kent St.
Community Kids Zone at Auburn High School, 5110 Auburn St.
Elliot Playground, 988 S. Lyford Rd.
Fairgrounds Valley Playground, 1015 W. Jefferson St.
First Evangelical Covenant Church, 316 Wood Rd.
Harkins Pool, 910 Acorn St.
Harmon Park, 1928 East Gate Parkway
Highland Park, 3011 Rural St.
House of Grace, 518 N. Court St.
Ken-Rock Community Center, 3218 – 11th St.
Keye-Mallquist Park, 1702 – 11th St.
Lewis Lemon/Rockford Park District, 1993 Mulberry St.
Liberty Park, 1555 Morgan St.
Northwest Community Center, 1325 N. Johnston Ave.
Patriots' Gateway Community Center, 615 S. 5th St.
RESA Youth & Teen Program, 1800 Ogilby Rd.
Ridge Park, 3317 Ridge Ave.
Riverview Ice House, 324 N. Madison St.
Rockford Housing Authority at Blackhawk, 330 15th Ave.
Rockford Public Library, 215 N. Wyman St.
St. Elizabeth Community Center, 1536 S. Main St.
St. Mark Lutheran Church, 675 N. Mulford Rd.
St. Paul Church of God in Christ, 1001 Bishop Washington Ave.
Salvation Army, 210 Kilburn Ave.
Sawyer Playground, 2249 Sawyer Rd.
Tabor Lutheran Church, 2233 – 12th Ave.
Washington Park Recreation Center, 3617 Delaware St.
YMCA (ID Pennock), 200 Y Blvd.
YMCA (Camp Winnebago), 5804 N. Main St.

Loves Park

Rockford Area City Church – YMCA 5375 Pebble Creek Trail
Wantz Park, 600 Clifford Ave.
YMCA Northeast Branch, 8451 Orth Rd.

Boone County

Boone County Health Dept., 1204 Logan Ave., Belvidere
Capron Lions Club, 305 E. North St., Capron
City of Belvidere, 301 Highline, Belvidere
St. John's United Church of Christ, 401 N. Main St., Belvidere

South Beloit

South Beloit Boys and Girls Club, 1161 Dorr Rd.



In accordance with Federal Law and the U.S. Department of Agriculture policy, the City of Rockford and the participating summer food sites are prohibited from discriminating on the basis of race, color, national origin, sex, age, or disability. To file a complaint of discrimination, write USDA, Director, Office of Adjudication, 1400 Independence Ave., SW, Washington, DC 20250-9410 or call toll free (866) 632-9992 (Voice). Individuals who are hearing impaired or have speech disabilities may contact USDA through the Federal Relay Service at (800) 845-6136 (Spanish). USDA is an equal opportunity provider and employer.

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