



Scan QR code to download all Illinois Kidventures events to your phone.  
Don't have a QR code reader? From your phone, visit [www.2dscan.com](http://www.2dscan.com).



## Fall/Holiday Events

September 2011 – December 2011

### Chicago & Beyond

#### Through October 29

##### **Navy Pier Fireworks**

Navy Pier, 600 E. Grand Ave., Chicago

Navy Pier's popular fireworks continue to sparkle above the lakefront with breathtaking shows this fall season. Fall fireworks are synchronized to themed soundtracks for various fall festivities.

Saturdays, 9:00 p.m.

(312) 595-PIER

[navypier.com](http://navypier.com)

#### Through October 30

##### **Meadow View Corn Maze, Pumpkins & More**

17020 Streit Rd., Harvard

Meadow View is fun for the whole family. In addition to the corn maze, it includes a two-acre pumpkin patch, hay rides, moon walks, a hay maze for younger children, food, fall décor and campfires for private parties and more. The 2011 maze theme is *Everyday Heroes* and honors the ten-year anniversary of 9/11.

(815) 482-0908

#### Through October 31

##### **Richardson Farm World's Largest Corn Maze**

9407 Richardson Rd., Spring Grove

The Richardson Adventure is the largest, most intricate corn maze in the world! It's actually five separate mazes winding through 33 acres of living corn. The little ones will love our play area, with slides, the corn bin cabin, pedal trikes and the goat walk. The whole family will enjoy our new Live Pig Races show. How often can you say that when you went pumpkin picking, you also rode across a 700' zip line and got lost in the "world's largest" corn maze? The Farm also features a picnic area, campfires, great food and fun for the whole family.

(815) 675-9729

[richardsonadventurefarm.com](http://richardsonadventurefarm.com)

#### Through – October 31

##### **Shades of Autumn Festival at Stade's Farm Market**

3709 W. Miller Rd., McHenry

*Shades of Autumn* is the annual Fall Festival at Stade's Farm & Market. It's a great place to bring the whole family to enjoy nature's bounty, plus great entertainment, during the most beautiful time of the year. During *Shades of Autumn* you can experience a day on the farm filled with family fun, and the pumpkin cannon demonstrations are a "blast" to watch. Ride Frank the Combine, get lost in the corn maze, play in the corn box, pick pumpkins and enjoy hot cider with homemade apple cider donuts. Weekends only.

(815) 675-6396

shadesofautumn.net

### **Through November 5**

#### **AutumnFest at the Morton Arboretum**

Morton Arboretum, 4100 Illinois Rt. 53, Lisle

Celebrate the cool crisp weather and the changing of the seasons in nature! AutumnFest at the Morton Arboretum is a two-month-long festival with activities to entertain the entire family. From the Honey Bee Festival to the Fall Garden Shoppe, the sticky taffy apples of AutumnFest Fare and the new Glass Pumpkin Patch, fun is nestled in a radiant nature show of reds, golds and oranges.

(630) 968-0074

mortonarb.org

### **Through November 15**

#### **Royal Oak Farm Orchard**

15908 Hebron Rd., Harvard

Our u-pick apple orchard, located in Northern Illinois, offers family fun and entertainment in a beautiful 120-acre setting. We have over 12,000 apple trees with 29 varieties. We also grow late summer and fall raspberries as well as pumpkins, giant pumpkins, gourds and squash. Visit our Apple Barn or Harvest Barn for fresh-picked apples, raspberries, pre-picked peaches, pumpkins and our famous apple cider slushees. And don't forget our delicious apple cider! Kids enjoy the entertainment area with petting zoo, carousel, train ride and play structures.

(815) 648-4141

royaloakfarmorchard.com

### **Through November 27**

#### **Nature Unframed: Art at the Arboretum**

Morton Arboretum, 4100 Illinois Rt. 53, Lisle

Set among expansive tree-filled galleries, these contemporary works of art will surprise and inspire you. Commissioned just for the Arboretum, Nature Unframed promises to be unlike any other exhibition you've seen before.

(630) 968-0074

mortonarb.org

### **Through December 31**

#### **Jellies at the Shedd Aquarium**

John G. Shedd Aquarium, 1200 S. Lake Shore Dr., Chicago

Be transported to the beautiful and mysterious world of sea jellies. In Shedd's special exhibit, *Jellies*, discover the intriguing ways these pulsing, translucent animals survive—and thrive—in the world's oceans. Learn how a jelly can devour enough food to double its weight each day, or how sea nettles hunt by trailing their long stinging tentacles to paralyze prey upon contact. And they do it all without blood, bones or brains. On Earth for millions of years, but at Shedd for only a limited time!

(312) 939-2438

sheddaquarium.org

**Through December 31**

**Whales: Giants of the Deep**

The Field Museum, 1400 S. Lake Shore Dr., Chicago

For years, we have wondered about whales from afar. Now, immerse yourself in their vibrant underwater world and discover an order of the mightiest animals on Earth like none before them. Dive to the depths of the sea with a mighty sperm whale in the hunt for giant squid. Climb into and explore a life-size whale heart. Stand before two massive whale skeletons, each longer than a school bus. Discover why whales continue to intrigue, astound and inspire us, only at The Field Museum.

(312) 922-9410

fieldmuseum.org

**September 16 – 17**

**Annual Oaktoberfest**

Marion St. & North Blvd., Oak Park

Celebrate of the changing seasons at OakToberfest in Downtown Oak Park. Taste a variety of microbrew beers and fine wines along with delicious fall foods from local restaurants. Enjoy special live music performances by local and national bands.

(708) 383-4145

downtownoakpark.net

**September 16 – 17**

**Oktoberfest**

Depot District, Windsor & Stanley Ave., Berwyn

This successful two-day event takes place in the Depot District on both sides of the Metra tracks between Oak Park and Home Avenues. In addition to record attendance of residents and visitors over the two days, it includes lots of food, live performances, amusement rides, kids' activities, crafters, vendors and a beer garden. Once again, dogs will be able to participate by attending Dog-toberfest, presented by The Urban Mutt. This dog-friendly area will feature activities, food and "beer" for dogs.

(708) 788-8100

berwynoktoberfest.com

**September 16 – 18**

**Dwight Harvest Days**

Chippewa St., Dwight

Craft show, flea markets, food booths, kiddie attractions, downtown entertainment, carnival, street dance, car show and band competition. The annual parade is held Sunday, led by thousands of basset hounds and their owners from around the world.

(815) 584-3077

dwightharvestdays.org

**September 16 – 18**

**Fox Valley Oktoberfest**

815 S. Randall Rd., South Elgin

An authentic German Oktoberfest modeled after fests held throughout Germany, the Fox Valley Oktoberfest is the largest and most authentic 3-day Oktoberfest in the Chicago area. Features German food and drink, and a big-top tent featuring authentic German bands and entertainment. The adjacent carnival completes the festival.

(847) 622-4405

**September 16 – 18**

**Chase Weekend at Chicagoland Speedway, Joliet**

3200 South Chicago St., Joliet

Featuring NASCAR Camping World Truck Series™ 225, Dollar General 300 Powered by Coca-Cola and The Kick-off Race in the Chase for the NASCAR Sprint Cup.

(815) 722-5500

chicagolandspeedway.com

**September 16 – 18**

**Heritage Fest**

102 S. 2nd St., West Dundee

Held in downtown West Dundee, this festival will entertain you with a fireworks display, entertainment on the main stage, arts and crafts, a car show, living encampments, games, food, a business expo and a dixieland breakfast on Sunday.

(847) 551-3800

wdundeeheritagefest.org

**September 17 – 18**

**Harvest Days at Lincoln Park Zoo**

2001 N. Clark St., Chicago

Children and families can pick their own pumpkins to decorate, make crafts, and enjoy music. Get up close with the animals and watch a cow-milking demonstration, feed the cows and pet the goats.

(312) 742-2000

lpzoo.org

**September 17 – 18**

**Riverwalk Fine Art Fair**

Naperville Riverwalk, Jackson and Main St., Naperville

The Riverwalk Fine Art Fair is an outdoor juried art exhibition and sale held along the renowned Naperville Riverwalk. Enjoy the splendor of this outstanding display of the finest in visual arts.

(630) 355-2530

napervilleartleague.com

**September 17 – 18**

**Fiesta para Todos**

8400 31st St., Brookfield

Bring la familia to Brookfield Zoo and join in a celebration of Hispanic Heritage Month. The Party for All features traditional folkloric dance, food and music. Guests can also meet animals native to South America, Central America, the Caribbean and Mexico. Included among the list are the Atlantic bottlenose dolphin, boa constrictor, Mexican fruit bat and spider monkey.

(708) 688-8000

czs.org

**September 17 – 18**

**The 9th Annual Lake Villa Civil War Days**

Lehmann Mansion, 485 N. Milwaukee Ave., Lake Villa

Attend a press conference with President Abraham Lincoln and meet General Thomas and Senator Douglas. Pamela Welcome portrays Harriet Tubman; Helen Milam portrays Pauline Cushman. Tour the Lehmann Mansion which includes Civil War clothing on display, cavalry drills and tactics, along with a daily battle between the Union and Confederate troops.

Visit Union and Confederate campsites and medical tents, shop with the settlers and food vendors, attend a fashion show and ladies tea party, listen to Civil War music and storytellers and much, much more!  
(847) 356-6100  
lake-villa.org

**September 17 – 18**  
**Illinois Basset Waddle**

Downtown Dwight  
Join in for this day of fun, friends and fundraising to help our favorite four-legged friends. This event will raise money for the Guardian Angel Basset Rescue to help basset hounds in need of a home. The “Largest Basset gathering in the World” includes a picnic “bassetball” and waddle.  
(815) 584-1044  
bassetrescue.org

**September 18**  
**Monarch Butterfly Festival**

Lake Katherine, 7402 W. Lake Katherine Dr., Palos Heights  
Lake Katherine’s Annual Monarch Butterfly Festival features hundreds of live butterflies in an outdoor screen room. Family activities, games, food, hayrides and more.  
(708) 361-1873  
lakekatherine.org

**September 22 – 25**  
**Manteno Oktoberfest**

Main St., Manteno  
Fun for the whole family! Enjoy carnival rides, food vendors, live entertainment and street merchants. Events include the pet parade and the lighted parade. Go for a bus ride to tour Vulcan Quarry.  
(815) 935-7390  
mantenooktoberfest.com

**September 23 – 25**  
**Oktoberfest Chicago**

3000 N. Lincoln Ave. at Southport, Chicago  
A dash of traditional German music mixes with a strong dose of popular music and some great German food at this annual event.  
(773) 868-3010  
chicagoevents.com

**September 23 – 25**  
**74th Annual Stillman Valley Fall Festival**

Downtown Stillman Valley  
Come to Stillman Valley to celebrate the traditions, values and pride of this charming community! Now in its 71st year, the Fall Festival will include something for everyone, including a large fireworks display on Saturday evening.  
stillmanvalleyfallfestival.com

**September 24**  
**Oak Brook Park District Oktoberfest**

1450 Forest Gate Rd., Oak Brook

The 1st annual Oak Brook Park District Oktoberfest will feature a Ceremonial Tapping of the Keg; live music; polka lessons and dancing; bean bag tournament; bounce house, pumpkin decorating, face painting and balloon animals for the kids; lots of food and beer; and a raffle with prizes.

(630) 990-4233

obparks.org

### **September 24**

#### **Johnny Appleseed Festival**

Downtown Crystal Lake

We're planting the seed for the family-fun event of the fall season. There will be pony rides, wagon rides, games, refreshments, farmers market, shopping and more. Come meet Johnny Appleseed himself!

(815) 479-0835

downtowncl.org

### **September 24**

#### **Celebrate Smithsonian Day**

Lizzadro Museum, 220 Cottage Hill Ave., Elmhurst

As a Smithsonian Affiliate, the Lizzadro Museum will feature a special exhibit from the Smithsonian Museum of Natural History. Children and adults can participate in *Stone Hunt*, an activity to search for gemstones among more common rocks and minerals, have your finds identified and take them home.

(630) 833-1616

lizzadromuseum.org

### **September 24**

#### **25th Annual Ottawa Scarecrow Festival**

Main St., Ottawa

Experience Ottawa's Old Town District decorated with fabulous scarecrows. A mix of shops, boutiques and restaurants will be offering special events inside their facilities as well as buckboard rides throughout downtown, live bands and numerous other family activities.

10:00 a.m. – 4:00 p.m.

(815) 434-2737

experienceottawa.com

### **September 24**

#### **Prairie Walk Pond Tours**

Downtown Lisle

Prairie Walk Pond is a 4 ½-acre recreational area in downtown Lisle containing a 2-acre pond with curving shoreline, scenic overlooks, lighted walking trails, fountains that turn color at night, a gazebo, seating areas, a preserved wetland, colorful native plantings, educational signage and a children's play area called Dragonfly Landing.

(630) 271-4100

villageoflisle.org

### **September 24 – 25**

#### **Oktoberfest: Grape Stomp & Pig Roast**

Lynfred Winery, 15 S. Roselle Rd., Roselle

The celebration of Oktoberfest at Lynfred began over two decades ago and continues to be a festival remembered by all! Two days of German sing-a-longs, grape spitting, grape stomping, cork tossing and barrel races. Bring your friends, family and appetite.

(630) 529-WINE  
lynfredwinery.com

**September 24 – 25**

**Autumn Pioneer Festival**

Boone County Conservation District, 603 N. Appleton Rd., Belvidere  
Life works and crafts of the 1800s. Over 40 exhibitors including blacksmithing, open-fire pottery, Native American lore, Civil War encampment, 1830s log cabin, ethnic gardens, soap, apple butter, sauerkraut making, buffalo stew and much more.

(815) 547-7935  
boonecountyconservationdistrict.org

**September 24 – 25**

**World War II Reenactment at Midway Village**

6799 Guilford Rd., Rockford

Join us for one of the largest WWII events in the country with over 700 re-enactors along with tanks and other vintage military equipment. There are two battles on Saturday and one battle on Sunday, as well as numerous skirmishes in the Village throughout the day. Visit the authentic campsites in the woods as well as displays in the village buildings. This is truly an immersion experience in the WWII era.

(815) 397-9112  
midwayvillage.com

**September 24 – 25**

**17th Annual Harvest Pow Wow**

Naper Settlement, 523 S. Webster St., Naperville

Native American cultural traditions are explored; watch traditional dances, demonstrations and view the Native American way of life.

(773) 585-1744  
midwestsoaring.org

**September 24 – 25**

**Itasca Art & Wine Festival**

Usher Park, 200 E. Irving Park Rd., Itasca

The 3rd annual juried Fine Arts and Wine Festival will feature wine tastings, art fair, live music in the gazebo, *Benches on Parade* and kids' activities, and all in a setting that invites meandering through the winding walkways of the park.

(630) 773-0835  
itasca.com

**September 24 – 25**

**38th Annual Fall Festival**

Lyon Farm, 7935 Rt. 71, Yorkville

See antique tractors, cars, trucks, gas engines and other antique equipment on display and being used. Several crafters will also come to sell their wares, a flea market, a harvest wagon, bake items, children's games, crops, petting zoo, daily entertainment and hayrides too. It's a great time for the whole family.

(630) 553-1234  
kchs.us

**September 24 – October 30**

**Dollinger Family Pumpkin Farm**

7502 E. Hansel Rd., Channahon

Come out to a real working farm. See farm animals, tractors, take a hay ride or steam engine ride. Four-acre corn maze that changes every year. Face painting, food, and of course, pick out your pumpkin before you go.

(815) 467-6766

dollingerfarms.com

**September 24 – October 31**

**Didier Farms Pumpkin Fest**

16678 W. Aptakisic Rd., Prairie View-Lincolnshire

Pick your own pumpkin and enjoy hayrides, pony rides, petting zoo, farm animal zoo, corn maze, Halloween shop, pumpkin patch cafe, farmstand, fall produce and apple and pumpkin donuts made daily, as well as an educational farming display, baby chicks and baby piglets.

Special

events on weekends.

(847) 634-3291

didierfarms.com

**September 25**

**3rd Annual Bugapalooza**

The Peggy Notebaert Nature Museum, 2340 N. Cannon Dr., Chicago

We're bringing out all of our creepers and crawlers for this third annual family-friendly event, which offers a unique opportunity to learn about numerous invertebrate species and meet the scientists who work with them. A full day of fun activities for kids includes live animal displays, bug cooking demonstrations, roach feeding, roach races and more!

(773) 755-5100

naturemuseum.org

**September 28 – October 2**

**63<sup>rd</sup> Annual Grundy County Corn Festival**

Liberty St., Downtown Morris

Carnivals, craft shows, flea markets, food vendors, photography exhibit, corn grain and flower exhibit, fireworks and tons more.

(815) 942-2676

cornfestival.org

**September 30 – October 2**

**46th National Short Track Championships**

Rockford Speedway, 9572 Forest Hills Rd., Loves Park

Annual championships featuring Legends, Bandoleros, FIRA, Super Cups, Allison Legacy Cars, Mini-Modifies and Burris Go-Karts.

(815) 633-1500

rockfordspeedway.com

**September 30 – October 2**

**Long Grove's 19th Annual Apple Festival**

307 Old McHenry Rd., Long Grove

Any way you slice it, the Long Grove Apple Festival is a wonderful way to spend a fall weekend in a beautiful country setting. Eighty shops and restaurants help celebrate with unique seasonal gifts and merchandise, and flavorful comfort foods. Treats include cider donuts, caramel apples, brown bag apple pies and even apple popcorn and apple martinis! American entertainment and music — country, rock and roll,

Dixieland, jazz and special events.  
(847) 634-0888  
longgroveonline.com

**September 30 and October 1**  
**Journey on the Underground Railroad**

3800 York Rd., Oak Brook  
Children and adults can experience what it was like to be a "passenger" on the Underground Railroad. Beginning with a skit in which passengers will meet the legendary Harriet Tubman, the journey will be led along Salt Creek by Hinsdale blacksmith John Coe. The Underground Railroad actually operated in Hinsdale, Oak Brook, Lyons, Downers Grove and other nearby towns. Be a passenger. Experience the sights and sounds of making your escape on the Underground Railroad.  
(630) 920-9720  
grauemill.org

**October 1**  
**7th Annual Oktoberfest**

Metra Station, 75 U.S. Rt. 45, Vernon Hills  
Join us for an evening of fun and laughter. Free crafts, pumpkin painting and art moon walks, laser tag and canoe races for the young and old. Live entertainment, food and a beer tent.  
(847) 367-3700  
vernonhills.org

**October 1**  
**Barn Quilt Guided Tour**

Kankakee Farmers Market, Corner of Schuyler and Merchant, Kankakee  
Join us for a choice of two different routes to encompass all of our county-wide Barn Quilt Tour! Each tour will be three hours long. Included in the tour will be a break halfway through the tour. On the west side of the county tour, your break will be at the Kankakee Historical Society Museum, and for the east side, the break will be at Willowhaven Interpretive Center; refreshments will be served.  
(800) 747-4837  
visitkankakeecounty.com

**October 1 – 2**  
**Cider & Cinnamon Arts and Crafts Fair**

The Shops of Edgebrook, 1639 N. Alpine Rd., Rockford  
More than 50 exhibitors show their creations at this annual arts and crafts fair in an upscale shopping center, which includes hot apple cider and fresh cinnamon doughnuts, plus fall specials.  
(815) 226-0212  
edgebrookshops.com

**October 1 – 2**  
**Autumn on Parade Festival**

Downtown Oregon & Stronghold Castle, Oregon  
Join us for the 41st annual Autumn on Parade Festival in downtown Oregon. This event features a craft fair, farmer's market, strolling entertainment and food provided by local not-for-profit organizations. Also, an antique tractor show on Saturday and the ever-popular Harvest Time Parade on Sunday are sure to please. Make time to visit the Old English Faire at Stronghold Castle..

(815) 732-3465  
autumnonparade.org

**October 1 – 30**

**Six Flags Great America Fright Fest**

Rt. 132 (Grand Ave.) and I94, Gurnee

It's thrills by day, chills by night at Fright Fest Presented by Snickers®. Six Flags Great America will be totally transformed into a Halloween playground, Fridays – Sundays. Have a ghoulish good time with hair-raising shows, electrifying street entertainment and thrilling haunted houses. Plus, experience all the rides in the dark. There will also be a special trick-or-treat trail just for kids.

(847) 249-4636  
sixflags.com

**October 1 – 31**

**The Haunted Barn**

Lions Park, 609 S. Schuyler St., Lena

There is a hint of madness as you enter this dark world. Brace yourself for spine-tingling fear, fright and illusion as you make your way through two haunted barns and seven levels of crawling darkness connected by a 170-ft.-long slide. Rated #1 in Illinois and drawing thrill-seekers from three states, this haunted happening is not for the faint of heart. Not recommended for children under 9 years old. Open every Friday and Saturday night in October.

(815) 369-9111

stephenson-county-il.org

**October 1 – 31**

**Bengtson's Pumpkin Farm**

13341 West 151st St., Homer Glen

You'll experience hours of enjoyment including a relaxing tractor-pulled hayrack ride, pumpkins ... of course, a completely animated haunted barn, a giggling animated fun barn, the "famous" action-packed pig races (running 10x a day on the 1/2 hour), an adorable petting & feeding zoo, the giant Crazy Corn Maizey and pony rides. Enjoy a variety of entertaining animation throughout the barnyard and farm.

(708) 301-3276

pumpkinfarm.com

**October 2**

**Habitat For Humanity of Boone County 5K Walk/Run**

Belvidere

This is a family event in place to promote the meaning behind Habitat for Humanity. There will be prizes given to the top times and additionally, each participant will be provided with refreshments and door prizes.

(815) 980-6247

**October 2**

**WTTW-Readers are Leaders**

Navy Pier, Family Pavilion Stage

WTTW Kids is excited to present another fun-filled WTTW Kids Readers Are Leaders performance featuring Miss Lori's CAMPUS. This family event will amaze and delight children and inspire the whole family to sing along and participate in reading activities. The performance will include original songs, engaging activities, story readings and a free children's book for the

first 200 children in attendance! It is a perfect way to have fun and support early literacy development during the fall months!  
navypier.com

**October 2**

**Grove Fest**

The Grove National Historic Landmark, 1421 Milwaukee Ave., Glenview  
An old-fashioned community get-together featuring live folk music, nature walks, historic interpretations, hand-made crafts, hayrides, story-telling and hearty food.  
(847) 299-6096  
glenviewparks.org

**October 2**

**Little Red Schoolhouse Autumn Color Art Fair**

9800 S. Willow Springs Rd., Willow Springs  
Rain or shine, this arts and crafts fair has been held annually since 1966. Over 50 artists participate in this outdoor event. 9:00 a.m. – 5:00 p.m.  
(708) 839-6897

**October 14 – 15**

**23rd Annual Fall ArtScene**

Various locations in the Rockford Metro area  
Fall ArtScene showcases original works of art at 41 different locations. Admission is free and it's a great opportunity to purchase artwork! Exhibits and original works of art in varied media of watercolor, acrylic, wood, sculpture, pottery, furniture, jewelry, photography and multi-media.  
(815) 963-6765  
fallartscene.com

**October 2**

**Autumn at the Arboretum**

Klehm Arboretum, 2715 S. Main St., Rockford  
Walk wood-chipped and paved paths replete with fall foliage to see nature preparing for winter. Enjoy cider and doughnuts, music, a pumpkin contest, scarecrows and dried flower gift arrangements in this festival at one of Illinois' foremost arboretums.  
(815) 965-8146  
klehm.org

**September 16**

**Egyptian Theatre Haunted Tours**

Egyptian Theatre, 135 N. Second St., DeKalb  
Take a tour of the theatre and experience a side of the Egyptian Theatre that most never see. You will be filled in on paranormal activity and ghost sightings that have taken place. You will be split up into groups to investigate the ghosts and sightings to see if you can find your own evidence and hopefully experience paranormal events!  
(815) 758-1215  
egyptiantheatre.org

**October 5 – December 31**

**Chocolate: Around The World**

The Field Museum, 1400 S. Lake Shore Dr.  
Explore our Manufacturing Chocolate from Seed to Sweet, The Chocolate Challenge and Cacao Farm Interactives.

(312) 922-9410  
fieldmuseum.org

**October 7 – 9**

**26th Annual Scarecrow Festival**

Lincoln Park, Rt. 64 & 4th St., St. Charles

More than 100 handcrafted scarecrows on display. View and vote for your favorites. Huge craft show, carnival, great food, free live entertainment, free childrens' activities and much more.

(800) 777-4373

scarecrowfest.com

**October 8**

**Chili Shoot Out**

9572 Forest Hills Rd., Loves Park

Over 50 cooking teams of the area's best cooks compete for Best Chili and Best Showmanship in the annual Chili Shoot Out. More than 50 teams compete and provide lots of opportunities to taste some of the best (and hottest) chili around. Live music will be provided. Other festival food is also available.

(815) 399-2233

chilishootout.com

**October 8**

**Antioch Fall Festival**

Downtown Antioch

This event is filled with authentic German food, music and entertainment such as the Dachshund Race, "The Great Pumpkin Roll," beer barrel roll and beer stein race. Not-for-profit organization providing food, alcohol, soda and water. No coolers, please!

(847) 395-6342

antiochchamber.org

**October 8 – 9**

**Scarecrow Harvest Festival**

Midway Village Museum, 6799 Guilford Rd., Rockford

Two days of scarecrow-making, vintage baseball and an old-time harvest festival in Midway's turn-of-the-century village. This festival also includes a vintage tractor and farm equipment show.

(815) 397-9112

midwayvillage.com

**October 8 – 9**

**Jonamac Orchard's Annual Antique Farm Equipment Show**

Jonamac Orchard , 19412 Shabbona Rd., Malta

The Eighth Annual Antique Farm Equipment Show features restored working farm equipment from decades ago. Visit the Country Store and Bakery for apple donuts, handmade caramel apples, fresh baked pies and apple cider. Visitors can also get lost in our 10-acre corn maze, play in the Barn Yard, jumping pillow and petting zoo. There will be hayrides to the pick-your-own pumpkin patch and apple orchard. On Sunday there will be live music by the Silver Creek Band.

(815) 825-2158

jonamacorchard.com/calendar

**October 8 – 9**

**Fall Diddley**

Illinois Rte. 76 & Business Rte. 20, Belvidere

This annual craft show featuring over 300 expert crafters and artists displayed in booths, buildings and tents at the Boone County Fairgrounds.

(815) 385-5745

[mhrl.org/falldiddley.aspx](http://mhrl.org/falldiddley.aspx)

**October 8 – 30**

**Loctoberfest Weekends**

Lockwood Park, 5201 Safford Rd., Rockford

Join us every weekend in October (weather permitting). Visit the animals in the Children's Farm barn; take a hayride, ride a pony in the pony ring, get your face painted, pose for a picture by the covered wagon, play games and win prizes.

(815) 987-8809

[rockfordparkdistrict.org](http://rockfordparkdistrict.org)

**October 8 – 29**

**Pumpkin Trolley**

Fox River Trolley Museum, 365 S. LaFox St., South Elgin

The pumpkin harvest is complete and the corn is in the shock ... and Indian summer with beautiful autumn colors decorates the "Ole Pumpkin Patch." Pick up a pumpkin at the patch and enjoy a small treat – great family fun at low cost. Weekends only.

(847) 697-4676

[foxtrolley.org](http://foxtrolley.org)

**October 8, 15, 22, 29**

**Haunted Harvest**

Lambs Farm, 14245 W. Rockland Rd., Libertyville

The Haunted Harvest of Lambs Farm is a spooky celebration full of fun and adventure for thrill-seekers of all ages, featuring our unique Train of Terror! This event transforms the Farmyard every Saturday night with delightfully frightening activities including the Creature Walk, Graveyard Golf, an Enchanted Carousel and the Monster Midway. This is a kid-friendly event.

Saturday nights only.

(847) 362-4636

[lambsfarm.org](http://lambsfarm.org)

**October 9**

**Harvest Fest**

Heritage Park, 311 Windy Point Dr., Glendale Heights

Celebrate the harvest with friends, neighbors and family at Heritage Park. Enjoy taffy apples, take a wagon ride around Heritage Park and see scarecrow displays all while enjoying live music by the White Saddle Band.

(630) 668-9409

[glendaleheights.org](http://glendaleheights.org)

**October 9**

**42nd Annual Burgoo Festival**

Downtown Utica

Stroll the main streets of Utica for a day of crafts, shopping, food and fun! Marching bands and other entertainment will be sure to please. While there, be sure to try the Pioneer Stew that has

been simmering and stirred all night in giant copper pots over a wood fire! This annual event draws thousands of people of all ages.

(815) 667-4861

lasallecountymuseum.org

### **October 10**

#### **Columbus Day Parade**

Columbus Dr. from Balbo to Monroe, Chicago

Celebrate the day in 1492 when Christopher Columbus arrived in America. The parade features a number of professionally-built floats, various area politicians and nonstop festivities in the heart of Chicago, Illinois. Camp out at any area of the parade route for a great view of the ever popular Windy City parade.

(708) 450-9050

explorechicago.org

### **October 13 – November 6**

#### ***Mary Poppins***

Cadillac Palace Theatre, 151 W. Randolph St., Chicago

This high-flying musical returns, bringing its own brand of Disney magic back to Chicago!

Featuring the irresistible story and unforgettable songs from one of the most popular Disney films of all time, plus breathtaking dance numbers and spectacular stage-craft, *Mary Poppins* is everything you could ever want in a hit Broadway show!

(800) 775-2000

broadwayinchicago.com

### **October 14 – 15**

#### **Barn Burner BBQ**

Lambs Farm, 14245 W. Rockland Rd., Libertyville

This event is free to the public for spectators. The Barn Burner BBQ will feature a sanctioned Kansas City Barbeque Society Competition and a community Chili Challenge cook-off. Along with the spicy food fest, guests can partake in BBQ demonstrations, a smoker raffle and more.

(847) 362-4636

lambsfarm.org

### **October 14 – 16**

#### **OktoberFest**

307 Old McHenry Rd., Long Grove

Come celebrate Long Grove's German heritage at OktoberFest with plenty of delicious ethnic food and beverage, dancing, live entertainment and shopping. Experience the old-fashioned fun of a family carriage ride, join in some lively German dancing, entertain the youngsters with pumpkin decorating and a variety of children's' activities. Stay for beer and brats and traditional German entertainment. (847) 634-0888

longgroveonline.com

### **October 14 – 22**

#### **A Night in Sleepy Hollow**

Perry Farm Park, 459 N. Kennedy Dr., Bourbonnais

The ghost of the headless horseman will be haunting the Hollows of Perry Farm Park again this fall! We dare you to venture out into the dark of night for a chance to take part in the festivities and fabulous live performances. Included will be some kid-friendly activities such as a costume contest, monster egg hunt and more! Weekends only.

(815) 933-9905 ext. 352  
btpd.org

**October 14 – 16**

**Autumn Drive**

16105 Garden Valley Rd., Woodstock

Welcome to a different kind of fall festival! Spend a leisurely day with family and friends on a real country road. Twelve family farms in rural McHenry County are open to the public for three days the third weekend in October. Each stop along the way offers a unique country experience. There are antiques, arts & crafts, pumpkins, and many surprises to discover along the way.  
autumndrive.net

**October 15**

**2nd Annual Fall Groove Walk**

Downtown Rockford

Join On the Waterfront, Inc. for this annual music walk celebrating Rockford's downtown River District and music scene! Walk from establishment to establishment or ride the RMTD trolley to visit fabulous establishments each hosting local, award-winning musicians. Country, blues, rock, latino, classic rock, pop and R&B music are all featured throughout the night. Your attendance supports the future of Rockford's music, as a portion of the proceeds benefits the RAMI's Gary Wilmer Scholarship Fund, a music scholarship fund for high school seniors.

(815) 964-4388

[onthewaterfront.com/groovewalk.htm](http://onthewaterfront.com/groovewalk.htm)

**October 15**

**Boone County Harvest Fest**

Belvidere Park and Spencer Pavilion, Belvidere

In Belvidere Park, along the Kishwaukee Riverfront Path through the Baltic Mill, there will be a Scarecrow Walk, pumpkin inflatable for children, pick-a-pumpkin and guided tours of the historic Baltic Mill. There will also be live music in the stage area adjacent to the Baltic Mill, and be sure to enjoy the Open Air Market, including farm produce, cheeses, meats, folk art vendors selling various wares and wine & beer tastings. Don't miss horse-drawn hay rides, fireside music, a bonfire with S'mores, square dancing and food available.

(815) 547-4252

[boonecountyharvestfest.com](http://boonecountyharvestfest.com)

**October 15**

**Oakdale in October**

Oakdale Nature Preserve, 4433 S. Cranes Grove Rd., Freeport

Celebrate the harvest season at Oakdale! Start the morning off with a delicious pancake breakfast with locally made sausage, hot apple toppings and pure maple syrup. Enjoy the trails in fall color, shop the craft and farmer's market booths, and take a wagon ride through the prairie. Kids can make a scarecrow and participate in nature crafts, hikes and old-time craft demonstrations. (815) 235-6114  
[freeportparkdistrict.org](http://freeportparkdistrict.org)

**October 15 – 16**

**Fall Color Weekend**

Starved Rock State Park

Routes 178 & 71, Utica

Enjoy the colors of fall with a guided tour of spectacular Starved Rock State Park, alive with the vibrant colors of the season. Tours will be given at 9:00 a.m. and 1:00 p.m. both days. Stay the weekend and relax at this beautiful time of year.

(800) 868-7625 ext. 386  
starvedrockstatepark.org

### **October 19 – 22**

#### **Annual Highwood Pumpkin Fest**

Highwood's City Park, 17 Highwood Ave., Highwood

Each day of the festival will include the Highwood Evening Gourmet Farmers Market at City Hall Park, vendors galore, live music on multiple stages, hay rides, a haunted house, pumpkin carving stations, massive pumpkin displays, lighting of the towers, a 50/50 raffle, plus additional prizes and much more!

(847) 432-1924  
celebratehighwood.com/pumpkinfest.html

### **October 19 – January 1**

#### **Irving Berlin's *White Christmas***

Marriott Lincolnshire, 10 Marriott Dr., Lincolnshire

One of America's most beloved silver screen classics is now a brand new stage musical – Irving Berlin's *White Christmas*. Packed with hits like *Blue Skies*, *Count Your Blessings*, *I Love a Piano* and the title song *White Christmas*, your entire family will celebrate this magical time of year with this beautiful new musical.

(847) 634-0200  
marriotttheatre.com

### **October 20 – December 23**

#### ***The Sound of Music***

Drury Lane, 100 Drury Ln., Oakbrook Terrace

Based on an inspiring true story, *The Sound of Music* is one of Rodgers and Hammerstein's most beloved musicals. Set in Austria on the brink of WWII, Maria, a postulant, proves too high-spirited for the religious life and is dispatched to serve as governess for the seven children of a widowed naval Captain. Her growing rapport with the youngsters, coupled with her generosity of spirit, gradually captures the heart of the stern Captain.

(630) 530-8300  
drurylaneoakbrook.com

### **October 21 – 30**

#### **28th Annual Chicago International Children's Film Festival**

Facets Cinema, 1517 W. Fullerton Ave., Chicago

The largest annual festival of films for children (ages 2-16) in the world, programming 250 films and videos from 40 countries. With 25,000 children, adults and educators and over 100 filmmakers, programmers and celebrities each year, the Festival showcases the best in culturally diverse, value affirming new cinema for children and is one of the only Academy Award qualifying children's film festivals.

(773) 281-9075  
cicff.org

### **October 22**

#### **BatFest**

Downtown & Riverwalk, Batavia

Celebrate Halloween at this free family festival located along the gorgeous Batavia Riverwalk

and around downtown. Morning trick-or-treating and blood drive, followed by storytelling, pumpkin roll, parade, hayrides, farmers' market, games and contests at the Riverwalk. This event draws thousands!

(630) 761-3528

downtownbatavia.com

### **October 22**

#### **Treat the Streets**

Downtown Antioch

This family event is a trick or treat of downtown Antioch businesses. Many local merchants will participate in candy giveaways and games.

(847) 395-2160

antiochchamber.org

### **October 22**

#### **Spooky Zoo Spectacular**

Lincoln Park Zoo, 2200 N. Cannon Dr., Chicago

Spooky Zoo Spectacular, hosted by the Auxiliary Board, is an opportunity for children to celebrate Halloween in a free, safe and family-friendly environment. Guests are invited to learn fun facts about the animals in the Spooky Zoo Education Zone, stimulate their minds while making crafts, collect treats and enjoy entertainment throughout the zoo while dressed in their best or spookiest costume.

(312) 742-2000

lpzoo.org

### **October 22 – 23**

#### **Silver Creek and Stephenson Railroad Antique Steam Train Rides and Silvercreek Museum**

2954 S. Walnut Rd., Freeport

All aboard as a 36-ton 1912 Heisler steam locomotive pulls three cabooses, including an antique red caboose reported to be the oldest in the state, and three passenger flatcars for a four-mile ride through farmlands and across a bridge 30' above Yellow Creek. Purchase your ticket at the Silver Creek Depot, a turn-of-the-century replica filled with railroad artifacts. Browse for novelties in the Freight House Gift Shop. Visit the Silvercreek Museum filled with early Americana and featuring the 130-ton Cooper Corliss Steam Engine and its over 25' fly wheel. Weather permitting, there will be fall harvest demonstrations with horses and tractors. The museum will feature sauerkraut, brats, hot dogs, chili and dessert.

(815) 235-2198

thefreeportshow.com

### **October 22 – 23 & 29 – 30**

#### **Boo! at the Zoo**

Brookfield Zoo, 8400 31st St., Brookfield

From crazy costumes and treat bags to haunted hayrides and pumpkin-carving demonstrations, Brookfield Zoo's annual Boo! at the Zoo festival is the perfect way to celebrate Halloween! The not-so-scary event will begin at 11:00 a.m. each day and will include one of Chicagoland's largest costume parades, an impressive costume showcase, Zoo Chats featuring bats, snakes and owls and frightfully fun activities for the entire family!

(708) 688-8000

brookfieldzoo.org

**October 23****Antique/Collectible Toy and Doll World Show**

Kane County Fairgrounds, 525 S. Randall Rd., St. Charles

Rare and vintage toys and dolls displayed alongside current popular toys; items recently sold out in stores to items not available for 100 years. Collectors have come to this show at this location for 35 years to find the rare, the unusual, the finest and the most desirable toys and dolls. The finest treasures in most collections were sold at some point in their history at this show.

(847) 800-3009

chicagotoyshow.com

**October 26 – 30****Sycamore Pumpkin Festival**

DeKalb County Courthouse, 200 N. Main St., Sycamore

Every year, the Pumpkin Festival unites more than 30 DeKalb County non-profit groups working to provide a weekend of Halloween fun for all. The Courthouse lawn is the center of activities, including thousands of decorated pumpkins on display; there are also art and craft shows, a house walk, a pie eating contest, a carnival, a fun fair, a race and other events. The festival is concluded by a giant parade on Sunday afternoon.

(815) 895-5926

sycamorepumpkinfestival.com

**October 28 – 29****Fall Gathering**

Splash Valley Aquatic Park, 1850 River Rd., Kankakee

The Fall Gathering features a 10-acre corn maze which is among the largest in Illinois. This year our design represents fall fun because that is what this event is all about! In addition to the corn maze, the Fall Gathering features a pumpkin patch, hay rides, pedal go-carts, fun slides, family portraits and more!

(815) 939-1311

splashvalley.com

**October 28 – 30****Franken Plaza and Monster Bash**

Daley Plaza, 50 W. Washington St., Chicago

As part of Chicago's Halloween season, Chicagoween, Franken Plaza offers three days of activities and performances as well as special times for kids in costume. Saturday, October 29 is the Monster Bash at Franken Plaza, which includes a costume contest complete with prizes, hayrides and, of course, trick-or-treat candy.

(312) 744-3315

chicagoween.us

**October 29****Hallowed Haunts at Symphony Center**

Symphony Center, 220 S. Michigan Ave., Chicago

Every Halloween, "phantoms of the orchestra" return to haunt the concert hall. The maestro and his terrified assistant must use the power of the baton to control the ghoulish orchestra of the undead and lead them in concert. This orchestral twist on the classic story *The Sorcerer's Apprentice* is brought vividly to life in this thrilling concert. Costumes are encouraged!

(312) 294-3000

cso.org

**November 2 – 20**

***Joseph and the Amazing Technicolor Dreamcoat***

Paramount Theatre, 23 E. Galena Blvd., Aurora

Nominated for eight Tony Awards, *Joseph and the Amazing Technicolor Dreamcoat* paints a stirring portrait of Joseph, the favorite son. His brothers, jealous to the core. The narrator guides the story and colorful cast through Andrew Lloyd Webber's family-friendly and eclectic score of pop music genres, from country western and disco to reggae and rock and roll. The artistic team's vision for staging is glorious – almost cinematic in quality.

(630) 896-6666

paramountarts.com

**November 3 – 6**

**29th Annual Autumn Festival “An Arts & Crafts Affair”**

The Odeum, 1033 N. Villa Rd., Villa Park

Voted one of the Top 100 shows in the country by *Sunshine Arts Magazine*, selected exhibitors offer the best of “American made” products ranging from fine art paintings and home decor to quilts and jewelry and much more!

(630) 941-9292

hpifestivals.com

**November 8 - 9**

**Sesame Street Live: Elmo Makes Music**

Metro Centre, 300 Elm St., Rockford

Mark your calendar for a musical event like no other-monsters making music! Elmo, Abby Cadabby, Big Bird and all their Sesame Street friends are taking to the stage to share their love of music in Sesame Street Live "Elmo Makes Music."

(815) 968-5222

metrocentre.com

**November 9 – December 31**

**Holiday Festivities**

307 Old McHenry Rd., Long Grove

The magic of the holiday season comes alive in Long Grove from mid-November until January 1 with a full schedule of family-friendly activities, including horse-drawn carriage rides, visits with Santa, live reindeer, live entertainment and, new this year, the Chimes of Long Grove. Weekends.

(847) 634-0888

longgroveonline.com

**November 12 – 13**

**Northwest Illinois Rock Club's 2011 Jewelry, Gem Fossil and Mineral Show**

Highland Community College, 2998 W. Pearl City Rd., Freeport

Midwest dealers will showcase a variety of beautiful gemstones, minerals, fossils, jewelry, beads and gifts for holiday shopping. In addition, there will be lapidary demonstrations, a fun-filled children's fishpond, games, speakers, displays and much more. (815) 745-2228

stephenson-county-il.org

**November 18 – December 31**

**Christmas Carol**

Goodman Theatre, 170 N. Dearborn St., Chicago

Chicago's best-loved holiday entertainment will shine brightly again this year on the Goodman's stage. This Charles Dickens

classic comes to life with lively music, exquisite costumes and colorful sets. Meet miserable Scrooge, hard-working Bob Cratchit and the Ghosts of Christmas Past, Present and Future.

(312) 443-3800  
goodmantheatre.org

**November 18 – February 4, 2012**

**Snow Much Fun**

Chicago Children's Museum, 700 E. Grand Ave., Chicago  
Kids can do winter activities indoors at this exhibit. Skate in your socks at the indoor "ice skating" rink, dress up a snowman, and build a fort with "ice" blocks.

(312) 527-1000  
chchildrensmuseum.org

**November 19**

**Magnificent Mile Lights Festival**

Michigan Ave. between Oak St. and the Chicago River, Chicago  
The Magnificent Mile Lights Festival officially kicks off the Christmas season in Chicago, with numerous fun family activities and the highlight, the Mickey Mouse parade illuminating over one million lights along Michigan Avenue.

**November 19 - 20**

**Community Tree Trim**

Brookfield Zoo, 8400 31st St., Brookfield  
Get into the holiday spirit this year by joining in the long-standing tradition of Brookfield Zoo's annual Community Tree Trim – bound to be a great time for everyone involved. All proceeds from the event help support animal care, as well as the Chicago Zoological Society's conservation and education programs. The trees are decorated with animal-safe ornaments and are displayed on the zoo's malls, bringing Brookfield Zoo to life with nearly one million twinkling lights for Holiday Magic.

(708) 688-8000  
czs.org

**November 19 – 20**

**Festival of Arts and Crafts**

DuPage Expo Center, 4050 E. Main St., St. Charles  
Handcrafted original arts and crafts, including floral designs, tole painting, painted windows and glassware. Also features watercolor paintings and calligraphy. There will be personal items such as jewelry and clothing, as well as home decorations and outdoor yard accents for the holiday as well as year round.

(847) 301-8543  
visitstcharles.com

**November 19 – December 31**

***The Nutcracker on Horseback***

Noble Horse Theatre, 1410 N. Orleans St., Chicago  
This unique production of *The Nutcracker* features a dreamy young girl, a magic prince, a mysterious old man and a cast of beautiful horses.

(312) 266-7878  
noblehorsechicago.com

**November 22 – 27****Fiddler on the Roof**

Auditorium Theatre, 50 E. Congress Pkwy., Chicago

*Fiddler on the Roof* is the Tony Award®-winning musical that has captured the hearts of people all over the world with its universal appeal. Based on the stories of Sholom Aleichem, it has been lauded by critics again and again, and won the hearts of people all around the world. Filled with a rousing, heartwarming score, which includes *Tradition, Matchmaker, Matchmaker, If I Were A Rich Man* and *Sunrise, Sunset*, no other musical has so magically woven music, dance, poignancy and laughter into such an electrifying and unforgettable experience. Relive a glorious tradition of the musical theater with *Fiddler on the Roof*.

(312) 977-1700

[broadwayinchicago.com](http://broadwayinchicago.com)

**November 23 – December 24****Christkindlmarket**

Daley Plaza, 50 W. Washington St., Chicago

Christkindlmarket, modeled after the famous outdoor Christmas fairs in Germany, features handmade glass ornaments, wooden toys, cuckoo clocks, nutcrackers and distinctive Nuremberg gingerbread cookies.

(312) 494-2175

[christkindlmarket.com](http://christkindlmarket.com)

**November 23****98th Annual Christmas Tree Lighting****Ceremony**

Daley Plaza, 50 W. Washington St., Chicago

Special guests including Santa Claus and local musical performers help light the City of Chicago's official Christmas tree to launch the holiday season. Time: Musical program begins at 4:30 p.m.; Tree Lighting at 5:00 p.m.

(312) 744-6630

[cityofchicago.org/specialevents](http://cityofchicago.org/specialevents)

**November 24****McDonald's Thanksgiving Parade**

State St. between Congress & Randolph St., Chicago

Downtown Chicago becomes a warm carnival atmosphere during the Annual Chicago Thanksgiving Parade. The parade includes marching bands, helium balloon characters, floats and performance groups. This parade will be the perfect chance for the whole family to attend.

(877) 242-2246

[chicagofestivals.org](http://chicagofestivals.org)

**November 24 – December 24****Santa Claus House at Daley Plaza**

Daley Plaza, 50 W. Washington St., Chicago

Santa Claus comes to town to take the Christmas wish lists of the children. Kids can visit Santa and take a picture with him or have the photographer snap one for only \$4.

(312) 744-6630

[cityofchicago.org/specialevents](http://cityofchicago.org/specialevents)

**November 25****Electric Lights Parade & Grand Illumination**

Parade kickoff from Centennial Beach, 500 W. Jackson, Naperville

Come to downtown Naperville for the Electric Lights Parade & Grand Illumination featuring a spectacular collaboration of lights, festive floats and Santa's arrival. The parade begins at 4:30 p.m. Santa will flip the switch and light more than 400,000 holiday lights, transforming downtown Naperville into a Winter Wonderland!

(630) 355-6533  
littlefriendsinc.org

**November 25 – December 11, weekends only**  
**December 16 – January 1, 2012, nightly (closed December 24 – 25)**

**ZooLights**

Lincoln Park Zoo, 2200 N. Cannon Dr., Chicago

One of the brightest parts of Chicago's winter—ZooLights—returns in late November. Join us for ice carving demonstrations, visits with Santa, warm drinks, cool crafts and more than one million beautiful lights.

(312) 742-2000  
lpzoo.org/events

**November 25 – January 1**

**A Winter Wonderland Holiday Light Show**

Cuneo Museum & Gardens, 1350 N Milwaukee Ave., Vernon Hills

The Drive-Thru Holiday Light Festival is held annually on the magnificent grounds of the Cuneo Museum and Gardens. Hours are 6 – 10:00 p.m. daily. Closed Christmas Eve, Christmas Day and New Year's Day. The Light Show will be open on New Year's Eve.

(847) 362-3042  
vernonhills.org

**November 25 – 26**

**Holiday Homecoming & Electric Christmas Parade**

Downtown St. Charles

Celebrate the holidays during this free, fun-filled festive weekend. Enjoy the traditional Lighting of the Lights ceremony, holiday movie, family concert, strolling carolers, sleigh rides, visits with Santa and a spectacular, fully illuminated, night-time Christmas Parade!

(630) 513-5386  
visitstcharles.com

**November 25 – 27**

**It's a Wonderful Weekend**

Downtown Downers Grove

Kick off the Holiday Season with friends and family in downtown Downers Grove including the tree lighting and a special visit from Santa Claus.

(630) 434-5555  
visitdownersgrove.com

**November 25 – December 23**

**Santa's Enchanted Castle**

Toft St., Downtown Antioch

Santa's Enchanted Castle is the place where dreams continue. Children visit with Santa and share their dearest wishes for the Holidays. Visits with Santa are always FREE at Santa's Enchanted Castle. Photos may be taken for a nominal charge or you may bring your own camera.

(847) 395-2233  
antiochchamber.org

**November 25 – December 23 (Fridays)**

**Caroling at Cloud Gate**

Millennium Park, 201 E. Randolph St., Chicago

Chicagoans and visitors alike are invited to Cloud Gate to hear the beautiful voices of different Chicago choral groups and participate in a holiday sing-along.

(312) 742-1168

millenniumpark.org

**November 26**

**Light Up Streator City Park**

Streator City Park, Streator

Annual celebration marks the lighting of the City Park for the holiday season. This daylong festival includes a marketplace throughout the day with lighting at 6:30 p.m.

(618) 672-2055

streator.org

**November 27**

**Winter Festival & Tree Lighting**

14750 S. Ravinia, Orland Park

Musical entertainment, visit with Santa, magic show, make & take crafts, sleigh rides and concessions, Mayor's tree lighting.

(708) 403-6140

orland-park.il.us

**November 28 – December 31**

**Holiday Festival of Lights**

Sinnissippi Park, 1401 N Second St. (IL 251), Rockford

See over 50 spectacular lighted displays as you drive through scenic Sinnissippi Park.

Vote for your favorites. Cash prizes will go to the "Best Displays."

(815) 965-0768

rockfordparks.org

**December 1 – 4**

***A Christmas Carol***

Stage Coach Players, 126 S. 5th St., DeKalb

Ebenezer Scrooge has lost his only friend, his business partner Jacob Marley. Seven years have passed since Marley's Christmas death, and Scrooge has not changed a bit. He still refuses to give to the poor, suggesting that for them perhaps the only place better than prison is the grave. He still only grudgingly gives his employee Christmas day off, and he still refuses his nephew's offer of Christmas dinner. He dismisses the whole holiday as a "humbug." But, on this particular Christmas, his dreary home will be visited by ghosts.

(815) 758-1940

stagecoachers.com

**December 2 – January 8, 2012**

**Winter Wonderfest**

Navy Pier, 600 E. Grand Ave., Chicago

This festive holiday event returns for its seventh season at Navy Pier with new attractions and more than 170,000 square feet of indoor family fun, including carnival rides, an ice rink and live entertainment.

(312) 595-PIER  
winterwonderfest.com

**December 3**

**Downtown Holiday Festival**

100-500 Blocks of E. State St., Rockford

This new community tradition will help transform the city into a magical holiday experience for residents and visitors alike. There will be a tree lighting ceremony, Santa, food and retail vendors, carolers, live entertainment and a window display competition! Join us from 5 – 9:00 p.m.

(815) 978-2385

rockfordholidayfestival.com

**December 3**

**Holiday Festival**

Corner of Genesee & Clayton, Downtown Waukegan

Come see Santa and stay for the horse and wagon rides, childrens' crafts, storytelling, music and holiday activities.

2 – 5:00 p.m.

(847) 623-6650

waukeganweb.net

**December 3 – 4**

***The Nutcracker***

Coronado PAC, 314 N. Main St., Rockford

Delight in the magic of Tchaikovsky's *The Nutcracker*, as Clara takes an enchanted journey filled with the beloved melodies and dance that have captivated audiences for more than a century. Guest dancers from internationally renowned dance companies join the RSO and the local talent of the Rockford Dance Company to present this holiday tradition, great for the whole family.

(815) 968-0595

coronadopac.org

**December 3 – 18**

**Breakfast with Santa**

Brookfield Zoo, 8400 31st St., Brookfield

Enjoy a delicious all-you-can-eat breakfast buffet at Brookfield Zoo's annual Breakfast with Santa, held in the zoo's Discovery Center. Santa and Mrs. Claus will be on hand to hear each youngster's wish list. Seatings are offered at 9:00 or 11:00 a.m. Call for reservations. Saturdays – Sundays.

(708) 688-8355

brookfieldzoo.org

**December 8 – 9**

***A Christmas Carol***

The Paramount Theatre, 23 E. Galena Blvd., Aurora

The magic of Christmas is coming your way! Join Ebenezer Scrooge as he is transported through past, present and future in a quest for the true meaning of Christmas. This lavish musical theater production of *A Christmas Carol* is bursting with pageantry, laughter and gorgeous costumes.

(630) 896-6666

paramountarts.com

**December 9 – 27**

***The Nutcracker***

Auditorium Theatre, 50 E. Congress Pkwy., Chicago

This holiday dance performance by The Joffrey Ballet, a popular Chicago tradition, features local children in supporting roles.

(312) 739-0120

joffrey.com

**December 13 – January 1**

***The Addams Family***

Cadillac Palace Theatre, 151 W. Randolph St., Chicago

Lurching back into Chicago for a return engagement, *The Addams Family* is a smash hit musical comedy that brings the darkly delirious world of Gomez, Morticia, Uncle Fester, Grandma, Wednesday, Pugsley and, of course, Lurch to spooky and spectacular life.

(312) 977-1700

broadwayinchicago.com

**December 14 – 30**

***A Christmas Story, The Musical!***

The Chicago Theatre, 175 N. State St., Chicago

America's #1 Christmas movie comes to life on stage as a hilarious holiday musical. Based on the writings of radio humorist Jean Shepherd, *A Christmas Story, The Musical!* chronicles young and bespectacled Ralphie Parker as he schemes his way toward the holiday gift of his dreams – a Red Ryder Action Air Rifle BB Gun – "You'll shoot your eye out kid!" A kooky leg lamp, outrageous pink bunny pajamas, a maniacal department store Santa and a double-dog-dare to lick a freezing flagpole are just a few of the distractions that stand between young Ralphie and his Christmas wish.

(312) 462-6300

thechicagotheatre.com

**December 17**

**Ballet Folklórico Quetzalcoatl**

The Paramount Theatre, 23 E. Galena Blvd., Aurora

This nationally recognized dance troupe from Aurora brings amazing choreography and showmanship to the stage. Authentic wardrobes, made in Mexico, make this ballet one of the best examples of Mexican tradition and art in the U.S. Ballet Folklórico Quetzalcoatl features over 50 dancers, ages 8 – 40, in this entertaining dance spectacle that appeals to all age groups and crosses cultural barriers.

(630) 896-6666

paramountarts.com

**December 17 – 18**

**Rockford Symphony Orchestra – Holiday Pops**

Coronado Performing Arts Center, 314 North Main St., Rockford

Celebrate the breathtaking music of the holiday season with coloratura pops artist Diane Penning, whose versatile voice and exciting stage presence has thrilled and moved audiences across the country. Featuring favorite carols including *White Christmas*, *O Holy Night*, *Jingle Bell Rock*, and Bach's *Ave Maria*.

(815) 968-0595

rockfordsymphony.com

**December 31**  
**Countdown to Fun**

Discovery Center Museum, 711 N. Main St., Rockford  
Crafts, games, music and art come together as we to count down to midnight—somewhere in the world! Ring in the New Year with music from Kantorei, the singing boys of Rockford, dances with Rockford Dance Company and party hats, confetti, favors and more with the Rockford Art Museum.  
(815) 963-6769  
discoverycentermuseum.org

## GREAT RIVERS COUNTRY

**Through October 30**  
**Great Godfrey Maze**

1401 Stamper Ln., Godfrey  
Take an adventure through two separate mazes cut out of seven acres of corn. Navigating the 2.1 miles of trails is an experience, day or night. The maze becomes “Haunted” in late October as goblins and ghosts walk the dark pathways with maze visitors. Friday, Saturday and Sunday only.  
(618) 466-1483  
greatgodfreymaze.com

**Through October 30**  
**Eckert’s Fun Farm**

2719 Eckert Orchard Ln., Millstadt  
Visit the incredible creations in Uncle Aubrey’s Workshop, squeal with delight at Billy Bob’s pig races, ride the Deere Express through the orchard, then plunge into the 70-foot underground slide at Eckert’s Mining Company! Wagon rides to the apple orchard and pumpkin patch are a favorite for all. There are so many activities, you’ll wear the kids out... and Mom and Dad, too!  
(618) 233-0513  
eckerts.com

**September 14 – 20**  
**Spirit of Peoria & The Land of Lincoln Tour**

Alton  
Relax on a 3-day cruise aboard the paddlewheel riverboat *Spirit of Peoria*. Explore the sites and sounds of St. Louis, including a ride to the top of the Gateway Arch. Explore Alton and overnight at Pere Marquette Lodge. Ramble along portions of Route 66, America’s “Mother Road.” Walk in Abe Lincoln’s footsteps on a tour of Springfield, IL.  
(800) 344-6918  
visitalton.com

**September 16 – 17**  
**10th Annual Oktoberfest**

Resurrection Lutheran Church, 1211 W. Homer Adams Pkwy., Alton  
Celebrate German heritage with a German dinner, live music, arts & crafts fair, business showcase, car show, beer tent and wine tasting  
(618) 466-2788  
rlcelca.org

**September 16 – 17**

**Italian Fest**

Main St., Collinsville

This annual event includes the Pisan Pedal Push, 5K run/walk, entertainment on two stages, Bocce Ball

Grape Stomp, wine garden, contests, crafts fair, Little Miss and Mister Italian Fest and authentic Italian fare.

(618) 344-2884

italianfest.net

**September 16 – 18**

**Oktoberfest**

Peoria RiverFront, 401 South West Water St., Peoria

The Peoria Park District and the German American Central Society are pleased to welcome back the annual German Festival, Oktoberfest, for its 16th anniversary! This three-day event showcases German heritage through song, dance, food, drink, cultural exhibits and much more. This year promises to be better than ever, so don't miss out! Put on your authentic German attire and head to the RiverFront for a true cultural experience.

(309) 691-7484

peoriagermans.net

**September 16 – 18**

**Marshall Autumn Fest**

Courthouse Square, Downtown Marshall

Visit this festival and find a variety of events, food and music for the whole family to enjoy. This year's theme is "frogs."

(217) 889-3033

marshallautumnfest.com

**September 16 – 18**

**50th Annual AETA Working Farm Show "John Deere" Feature Tractor**

AETA Showgrounds, 13451 Illinois Highway 92, Geneseo

Visit the 50-acre showground and experience the fall harvest, early 1900s style. Watch the corn and bean field harvest with antique tractors, horses plowing fields, oat and wheat threshing and an actual sawmill. Throughout the showgrounds, gas engines, garden tractors, farm tractors and equipment will be on display. Children activities, 1900s craft demonstrations, speakers and music are featured daily.

(309) 945-1440

ae-ta.com

**September 16 – 25**

**Alton Little Theater: *The Spitfire Grill***

2450 N. Henry St., Alton

A feisty parolee follows her dreams, based on an old travel book, to a small town in Wisconsin and finds a place for herself working at Hannah's Spitfire Grill. It is for sale, but there are no takers for the only eatery in this depressed town, so newcomer Percy suggests to Hannah that she raffle it off. Entry fees are one hundred dollars and the best essay on why you want the grill wins. Soon, mail is arriving by the wheelbarrow full and things are definitely cookin' at the Spitfire Grill.

(618) 462-6562

altonlittletheater.org

**September 16 – October 31**

**The Great Pumpkin Patch**

16470 Black Rd., Lyndon

In its 15th year! Come and ride the train, take a hayride, and explore the straw and corn maze. Enter the haunted house if you dare. Check out all the animals and purchase fresh homemade pies!

(815) 778-4856

[thegreatpumpkinpatchfestival.com](http://thegreatpumpkinpatchfestival.com)

**September 17 – 18**

**Grafton's 175th Anniversary**

Grove Memorial Park, Grafton

Grafton, Illinois has been thriving and surviving for 175 years at the confluence of the Mississippi & Illinois rivers. Celebrate with the community, with festivities that will include a fishing derby, ball field dedication, softball tournament, entertainment, boat parade, fireworks and more.

(618) 786-7000

[enjoygraffton.com](http://enjoygraffton.com)

**September 23 – 25**

**41st Annual Warren Pumpkin Festival**

Main Street, Warren

Step back in time for an old-fashioned festival with an antique tractor pull, carnival rides, pumpkin-themed games and much more. It promises to be fun for the whole family.

(815) 275-4400

[warrenchamber.org](http://warrenchamber.org)

**September 24**

**Alton Block Party**

Third Street in Downtown Alton

Third Street in Downtown Alton is where you will want to be for live music and dancing in the streets all summer long. Local restaurants and bars from the downtown area will band together to offer festivalgoers a wide variety of food.

(618) 465-6676

[visitalton.com](http://visitalton.com)

**September 24 – 25**

***Jordbruksdagarna Agricultural Days***

Bishop Hill Village Park, Bishop Hill

Celebrating Bishop Hill's agrarian heritage, this event features traditional nineteenth-century harvest activities and demonstrations, hands-on activities, music, farm produce, vintage baseball and Colony stew.

(309) 927-3345

[bishophill.com](http://bishophill.com)

**September 24 – 25**

**Strange Folk Festival**

Community Park, 401 East 5th St., O'Fallon

Affordable and eclectic art available every September at the Heartland's largest outdoor indie art festival. This family-friendly festival has live music, free wi-fi, activities for kids and more.  
(618) 624-0139  
strangefolkfestival.com

**September 24 – 25**

**17th Annual Wings & Wheels Fly-in**

St. Louis Regional Airport, 8 Terminal Dr., East Alton

Take a close look at Warbirds, antique aircraft and automobiles on display. Free flights will be offered for kids ages 8-17, sponsored by Young Eagles EAA Chapter 864.

(618) 259-2531

stlouisregional.com

**September 24 – 25**

**Heritage Days on the Goshen Trail**

Lewis & Clark Community College, Godfrey

This living history festival features events from the time period 1700 – 1840, including artisan demonstrations and goods for sale, foods of the period, a primitive encampment, musical groups, dancers and children's activities.

(618) 530-7632

altonheritagedays.org

**September 24 – October 31**

**Selmi's Pumpkin Patch**

1206 Dixon Ave., Rock Falls

Selmi's Annual Fall Festival features a petting zoo, corn maze and barn playland for younger kids, weekend horse-drawn wagon rides, many outdoor displays and much more! Pumpkins, gourds, apples and our unique gift shop will put Selmi's at the top of your family tradition!

(815) 626-3830

selmi.com

**September 29 – October 2**

**Barry Apple Festival**

Downtown Barry

The 42nd year celebration will include a parade, car show, arts and crafts, food and entertainment. This festival is a continuation of sharing the heritage of the community and the apple.

(217) 242-0041

barryapplefestival.weebly.com

**October 1**

**Jersey County Historical Society Apple Festival**

601 North State St., Jerseyville

Enjoy this yearly festival including kid's games, tours, food, quilt raffle and entertainment.

Throughout the day, visitors can browse craft booths, demonstrations, quilt raffle, kettle corn and children's games. Pioneer stew, ham & beans with cornbread, fish, chicken, pies and cakes will be sold throughout the day. Historic tours of the Cheney Mansion, Log House and Lone Star School.

(618) 498-3514

greatriverroad.com/cities/Jersey/jerseyAppleFest.htm

**October 1****Galena Oktoberfest**

Eastside Riverfront, Hwy. 20 and Park Ave., Galena

Annual German celebration featuring live music, kids' games, wiener dog races and lots of food and beverages.

(815) 331-0180

galenaoktoberfest.com

**October 1****Fall Corn Festival**

Glazebrook Park, 1401 Stamper Ln., Godfrey

Enjoy a full day of fun at the park that includes music, the cow train, food and craft vendors and much more. Enter your favorite, most original corn recipe in our annual Corn Cook-Off and enter our Corn-on-the-Cob Eating Contest.

(618) 466-1483

godfreyil.org

**October 1 – 2****St. Patrick's Fall Festival**

St. Patrick's Church, 11 N. Evans St., Grafton

Enjoy fall festival fun all weekend long near the riverfront in Grafton. The food will be taking center stage with hot fish, cold beer, pork steaks, chicken breasts, hot dogs, homemade potato salad, slaw, pork rinds, kettle corn, home made root beer and sweet shop. Festivalgoers will also enjoy the country store, basket raffle, kids' games, bingo, charitable games, washers and much more. There will be a pancake and sausage breakfast on Sunday morning.

(618) 786-3512

**October 1 – 2****Fall Festival at Heritage Canyon**

515 N. 4th St., Fulton

Historic Fulton will be busy with an array of fall activities including pumpkin painting, wagon rides, music, bobbing for apples, gunny sack races, food booths and more. Early American crafters will portray life as it was in the 1850s.

(815) 589-4545

cityoffulton.us

**October 1 – 30****Jumpin' Pumpkin Jamboree**

Eckert's Farms, 951 Green Mount Rd., Belleville

Ride the wagons out to the pumpkin patch to search for your great pumpkin. Our pumpkins range from a couple of pounds to more than 150 pounds, so we are sure to have the perfect jack-o-lantern for you! Wagon rides, country music, live entertainment, pony rides, make-your-own scarecrow, funnel

cakes and festival foods make this a fun-filled weekend for everyone. Weekends only.

(618) 233-0513

eckerts.com

**October 29****Marshall's Halloween Frolic**

Courthouse Square, Marshall

Event includes Halloween games, stories, hayrides, hot chocolate and a parade of costumes with costume judging at the gazebo.

(217) 826-8087  
marshall-il.com

**October 1 – 2**

**Pumpkin Cannon Weekend**

Country Corner Market, 5333 U.S. Highway 150, Alpha

Ever seen pumpkins fly at the speed of sound? Morton's Q-9 Pumpkin Cannon will fire aiming for a new world record! Grab a little red wagon (or hitch a ride on the hayrack) and head to the 20-acre pumpkin patch to pick a pumpkin or two or eleven of your own to shoot. Enjoy the 12-acre Corn Maze, hayrack rides, corn cannons (YOU fire these!), interactive Barnyard Zoo and jump house and live entertainment.

(309) 629-2359  
country-corner.com

**October 1 – 9**

**Spoon River Valley Scenic Drive**

700 East Oak St., Canton

Fulton launched the Spoon River Valley Scenic Drive Fall Festival 44 years ago to celebrate its history, people, land and the river at its heart. The spirit of that original event lives on, though much has been expanded. The annual driving tour, which is open year-round, features more than 100 miles of scenic routes through 15 communities. Held during the first two weekends in October, visitors from all over the world flock to the drive for the fall scenery, arts, crafts, music, food, produce, historic sites, museums, old-time farming, collectibles and antiques.

(309) 647-8980  
spoonriverdrive.org

**October 2**

**Apple Festival**

Pere Marquette Lodge & Conference Center, 13653 Lodge Blvd., Grafton

Come out to beautiful Pere Marquette Lodge for apple fever and an afternoon of fun, festivities and apples. There will be live entertainment, craft vendors, tons of family friendly fun and all the ripe, juicy apples you can eat! Don't miss the Apple Pie Walk at 12:30 p.m.!

(618) 786-2331

**October 2 – 30**

**Pumpkin Extravaganza**

Quad City Botanical Center, 2525 4th Ave., Rock Island

Pumpkins will be for sale and displayed in the outside gardens and Sun Garden. Scarecrows on display starting October 4 along with a hay bale maze. Special family events are each Sunday afternoon in October from 1 – 4:00 p.m. Sunday events are free with paid admission to the Gardens.

(309) 794-0991  
qcgardens.com/SpecialEvents.html

**October 7, 14 & 21**

**Owl Prowl**

Pere Marquette State Park, 13112 Visitor Center Ln., Grafton

Meet at the Pere Marquette Visitors Center at 8:00 p.m. for a program on owls. After the program, take a night hike through the park to listen for owls. The hike will start at the visitor center, and there will be a considerable portion that will be uphill. You must be able to hike on hilly terrain. The hike will be approximately two miles. Join us as we roast marshmallows and

hot dogs after the hike. Please bring one flashlight per family. Marshmallows and drinks will be provided.

(618) 786-3323  
visitalton.com

### **October 8**

#### **Pelican Program**

Pere Marquette State Park, 13112 Visitor Center Ln., Grafton

Have you ever seen the white pelican? Soaring on 10-foot wingspans, pelicans are magnificent. Learn to identify a white pelican, what they eat and why they are here this time of year. We will meet for a short talk, then take a drive to observe these birds. Dress warm and bring binoculars. Meet at the visitor center at 9:00 a.m. for this free program.

(618) 786-3323  
visitalton.com

### **October 8**

#### **Fall Family Festival & Chili Cook-Off**

American Farm Heritage Museum  
1006 Ridge Ave., Greenville

Outhouses, outhouse races, outhouse games, period demonstrations, campfire cooking, auction, kid games and hayrides are a few of the fun things taking place during the Fall Family Festival.

(618) 664-3050  
americanfarmheritagemuseum.org

### **October 8 – 9**

#### **Galena Country Fair**

Grant Park, Park Ave., Galena

Juried arts and crafts show with more than 150 artists and artisans, as well as non-juried exhibitors. Food booths and live entertainment.

(815) 777-0817  
galenacountryfair.org

### **October 8 – 9**

#### **Old Settlers Days**

Kampsville Riverfront, Kampsville

Old Settlers Days depicts the life and times of the early settlers in Calhoun County. Old-time crafts, mountain-man encampment, children's activities, great entertainment and lots of good food highlight this entertaining event.

(618) 465-2114

### **October 8 – 9**

#### **Art in the Park**

Lindendale Park, 2123 Park St., Highland

The vibrant colors of autumn provide the perfect canvas to paint a relaxing weekend filled with fine art, mouthwatering food and superb entertainment. Lindendale Park offers a tranquil setting where nearly 70 professional artists display their works of fine art. Festival attendees can shop for works of art in 12 categories. Children, too, can shop for just \$5 at a special art gallery of work donated by the artists.

(618) 654-4727  
highlandartscouncil.org

**Oct. 8, 15, 22 & 29**

**Vintage Voices**

Alton City Cemetery, 5th & Vine Sts., Alton

The 10th Anniversary of Vintage Voices celebrates *Visionaries & Pioneers at the River's Edge*.

Relive the past firsthand during this 1 ½-hour tour of the cemetery. Along the way, meet 10 descendants both famous and legendary who made significant footprints in Alton's history. Alton Little Theater actors and other local talent will greet guests at the gravesites and tell their stories as they walk through this park-like setting.

(618) 462-3205

[altonlittletheater.org](http://altonlittletheater.org)

**October 15 – 16**

**ARTEAST**

Jacoby Arts Center, 627 E. Broadway St., Alton

ARTEAST is a studio and exhibit tour that showcases Madison County artists. This self-guided tour takes visitors through the neighborhoods, historic city centers and beautiful countryside of Madison County to see the work of over 150 local artists who participate by opening their private studios or exhibiting through galleries and unique sites. Many sites are within walking distance from one another. Artists are at their site to talk about their work and provide demonstrations.

(618) 462-5222

[jacobyartscenter.org](http://jacobyartscenter.org)

**October 15 – 16**

**Pike County Fall Color Drive**

Various Locations, Pike County

Join the country fall fun with scenic drives, local attractions and historical activities. Every fall, the Pike County Color Drive provides an opportunity for anyone with an interest to do so to see the beauty of rural Pike County bathed in the splendor of autumn. Each community provides a unique roster of events, activities, vendors, crafts, food, and exhibits for the general public to take part in.

(217) 285-2971

[ilfbpartners.com/pike-county-fall-color-drive](http://ilfbpartners.com/pike-county-fall-color-drive)

**October 15 – 16**

**Punkin Chuckin' Contest**

Uhlman Family Farm

Corner of Springfield and Allentown Rds., Morton

There are so many ways to chuck a pumpkin! In the pumpkin capital of the world, the Morton Punkin Chuckin' Contest, which celebrates its 16th year, is a competition for the young and old to see who can go the distance, shooting pumpkins out of cannons. About 400 pumpkins will be used in the contest, with cars parked in the middle of a harvested cornfield as the targets. There is a host of pumpkin delicacies to enjoy—ice cream, pie and chili, along with pumpkin souvenirs and more.

(309) 266-5135

[mortonmagnet.com](http://mortonmagnet.com)

**October 23**

**Witches Night Out**

West St. Louis St., Lebanon

Sharpen the point on your hat, oil the broom and fluff up the cat, leave the little goblins where they're at and come to Lebanon's scariest shopping event. Restaurants and shops will be open.

A fortune teller will be strolling the street. The spooky music and historic buildings provide a haunted backdrop for some wicked good fun. It's a "ghoul's" night out.

(618) 537-6625

lebanonil.org

### **October 28**

#### **Galena Halloween Balloon Glow**

Galena River Levee, Galena

See spectacular hot air balloons lit from within at dusk as they are lined up along the Galena River. Weather permitting.

(815) 776-9200

visitgalena.org

### **October 29**

#### **33rd Annual Galena Halloween Parade**

Main St., Galena

The largest and spookiest parade in the tri-state area. Floats, costumes, prizes and treats for guys and "ghouls" of all ages.

(815) 777-9050

galenachamber.com

### **October 30**

#### **Chestnut Mountain Open House & Ski Swap**

Chestnut Mountain Resort, 8700 West Chestnut Rd., Galena

Open house, hayrides, chairlift rides, tours, refreshments and ski swap with both new and used equipment.

(800) 397-1320

chestnutmtn.com

### **October 31**

#### **Alton Halloween Parade**

Washington Ave. & Broadway, Alton

Ghost and goblins beware, the "Most Haunted Small Town in America" will be out in full force at the annual Halloween Parade. See Alton's scariest costumes and comical characters with over 80 participants including floats, bands and parade flair.

(618) 462-7527

visitalton.com

### **November 18**

#### **Community Christmas Tree Lighting**

Lincoln-Douglas Square, Broadway & Landmarks Blvd., Alton

Come enjoy an Alton tradition, held annually on the Friday before Thanksgiving. Cookies and hot chocolate, caroling and the blessing and lighting of the Christmas tree are sure to get you into the holiday spirit.

(618) 463-1016

visitalton.com

### **November 25**

#### **Santa Parade**

Downtown Peoria

What better way to get in the holiday spirit than to attend the 124th annual Santa Parade?

Peoria is home to the longest-running holiday parade in the United States, where Santa takes a

mile-long magical journey through the streets of downtown. This year's theme, *Toys, Treasures and Traditions*, is sure to delight not just the children along the route, but the adults, too. Parade entries range from themed floats and dancing or marching groups, to live reindeer and circus wagons. The highlight of the parade is seeing Santa and Mrs. Claus waving from atop their sleigh to all in attendance.

(309) 681-0696

peoria.org

### **November 25 – December 25**

#### **Christmas Wonderland**

Rock Spring Park on College Avenue, Alton

Drive through Rock Spring Park to see more than 2.5 million lights adorning trees and lighting displays throughout the park. Visitors are sure to be captivated by the holiday spirit.

(618) 465-6676

### **December 3**

#### **Hometown Holly Day**

Various Locations, Marshall

Activities include breakfast with Santa, vendor/craft fair, Marshall merchant open houses, Parade of Lights followed by the Main Street Soup Supper and live entertainment.

(217) 826-9023

marshallmainstreet.org

### **December 10**

#### **Old Fashioned Christmas in Galena – Living Windows**

Downtown Galena

Stroll down Main Street and watch the windows come alive with animation. Also, enjoy roasted chestnuts from 1 – 3:00 p.m. in Washington Park.

(815) 777-3938

visitgalena.org

### **December 10**

#### **Alton Symphony Orchestra – Holiday Concert**

5800 Godfrey Rd., Godfrey

Come crack some nuts with us! The Holiday Concert features the music from the final act of Tchaikovsky's masterpiece *The Nutcracker*. This act contains many of the familiar excerpts from the ballet and some gorgeous and wonderful music only known to those who attend the complete ballet. The program also will include other holiday favorites as well as an audience sing-along! At intermission, we will present our much-anticipated annual silent auction of beautiful holiday baskets.

(618) 463-6933

altonsymphony.org

### **December 10 – 11**

#### **Lewis & Clark Arrival Day**

Lewis & Clark State Historic Site, Hartford

Come celebrate the arrival of Lewis and Clark at Camp River Dubois. This annual event commemorates December 12, the day William Clark and the men of the detachment arrived at the confluence of the Dubois, Mississippi and Missouri rivers. The event will include members of the detachment portraying military life, re-enactors recreating the civilian population and demonstrators.

(618) 251-5811

campdubois.com

**December 17**  
**Night of Luminaria**

Downtown Galena

This is one of the most beautiful and romantic visions of the year. The streets, steps and sidewalks of Galena will be lined with nearly 5,000 candlelit luminaries.

(815) 777-9050

galenachamber.com

## LAND OF LINCOLN

**Ongoing**

**Team of Rivals**

Abraham Lincoln Presidential Library and Museum, 212 N. Sixth St., Springfield

To learn more about the Civil War, you won't want to miss *Team of Rivals: Lincoln's Cabinet at the Crossroads of War*, the Abraham Lincoln Presidential Museum's newest exhibit. Based on Doris Kearns Goodwin's book of the same name, Goodwin herself serves as your "virtual" tour guide throughout the exhibit, with recorded videos that narrate each section of the exhibit.

(217) 558-8844

www.presidentlincoln.org

**Through October 31**

**Lincoln's Ghost Walk**

Old State Capitol Plaza, Springfield

This 90-minute 10 block walking tour uses the Lincoln sites as the backdrop for the strange and ghostly stories about Lincoln's life and death. Learn about his Christian values, his home, the death of the children, Mary's insanity trial, his funeral train, the attempted theft of his body and the last viewing of Lincoln in 1901.

(217) 502-8687

springfieldwalks.com

**Through October 31**

**Gail's Pumpkin Patch**

1709 2000th Ave., Beason

The ideal place to find and carve pumpkins for Halloween. The patch is locally owned and family operated.

(217) 447-3409

gailspumpkinpatch.com

**Through December 20**

**Curtis Orchard and Pumpkin Patch**

3902 S. Duncan Rd., Champaign

An 80-acre apple orchard, Illinois and Michigan peaches, pumpkin patch, country store, corn maze, entertainment, gem-mining operation, kettle corn, petting zoo, u-pick, inflatable rides and much more.

(217) 359-5565

curtisorchard.com

**Through December 28**  
**Hardy's Reindeer Ranch**

1356 County Rd. 2900 N., Rantoul

You don't have to wait for Santa to see a real reindeer. At Hardy's Reindeer Ranch, you'll meet a herd of friendly Alaskan reindeers with names like Klondike and Jingles. Hardy's also features the 10-acre Cornfusion Corn Maze, a general store, pumpkins and Christmas trees for the picking, hayrack rides, a realistic Indian tepee and straw fort for the kids to play in, plus a new Grand Prix-style pedal racetrack.

(217) 893-3407

reindeerranch.com

**Through December 30**

**Permanent Home Campaign – Featured Artifacts**

Abraham Lincoln Presidential Library Museum, 212 N. Sixth St., Springfield

The Abraham Lincoln Presidential Library Foundation will present a featured artifact each month, starting in September with the Effigy Doll of Lincoln. October will feature Stereogards: Box at Ford's Theatre & Lincoln's First Tomb; November will feature Presidential China; December will feature the Lincoln-Herndon Law Office Clock. Support the Foundation's mission to protect these priceless artifacts so that the millions of visitors who come to the Library and Museum can continue to be inspired by the greatest collection of Lincoln items in the world!

(217) 782-5764

alplm.org

**September 10 – 11**

**31<sup>st</sup> Annual Traditional Music Festival**

Lincoln's New Salem State Historic Site, 15588 History Ln., Petersberg

Nineteenth-century music and dancing will occur throughout the pioneer village of New Salem.

(217) 632-4000

lincolnsnewsalem.com

**September 10 – October 31**

**Pumpkin Works**

21788 Lower Terre Haute Rd., Paris

Pumpkin Works offers family entertainment, nine mazes — two for children and seven for adults — haunted house, hayrides, private bonfires (reservation required), arts, crafts, snacks, and more. Open weekends in September and daily in October.

(217) 275-3327

pumpkinworks.com

**September 11**

**Fall Farm Day Tour in Logan County**

Gail's Pumpkin Patch, 1709 2000th Ave., Beason

A guided agricultural tour starting at the Railsplitter Covered Wagon, featuring Prairie Earth Farms, Irwin's Dairy, Gail's Pumpkin Patch, JH Hawes Elevator, Hoblit Seed and Robert Buckles Round Barn. Gail's Pumpkin Patch will offer a day of pumpkin and face painting, farm and machinery

tours, beeswax candle making, honey extraction demo (real bees), butter making, stamping, crafts and more.

(217) 732-8687

abe66.com

**September 14 – 17**

**49th Annual Lawrence County Chamber Fall Festival**

500 State St., Lawrenceville

The Festival will take place in downtown Lawrenceville around the square. There will be food vendors, entertainment and amusement rides, provided by Brady Amusement.

(618) 943-3516

lawrencecountyillinois.com

**September 15 – October 31**

**The Great Pumpkin Patch**

1749A CR 1900 N, Arthur

Over 400 varieties of pumpkins, squash and gourds are featured on a working farm. Also on display are over 6000 harvest mums, feature mazes, farm animals, sweet shop, a 1912 one-room schoolhouse and gift shop.

(217) 543-2394

thegreatpumpkinpatch.biz

**September 16 – 17**

**38th Annual Newton Fall Festival**

City of Newton

A two-day festival celebrating the fall season and the small-town atmosphere of Jasper County with a parade on Saturday.

(618) 783-3399

**September 16 – 18**

**41st Annual Abraham Lincoln National  
Railsplitting Contest and Craft Festival**

Logan County Fairgrounds, Lincoln

Festival features a Civil War Ball at Lincoln College on Saturday night. Fun and educational event for all ages — rail splitting, corn shucking, tomahawk throwing and much more.

(217) 732-8687

railsplitting.com

**September 16 – 18**

**Arts in Central Park**

251 North Franklin St., Decatur

One of Central Illinois' finest art shows now in its 49th year. This is a juried art show, featuring a beautiful location in Central Park, with its historic Transfer House and magnificent fountain; arts activities and an art shop for kids; live entertainment; food booths.

(217) 423-3189

decaturarts.org

**September 16 – 18**

**Vermilion River Fall Festival**

100 Ellsworth, Danville

Fall arts and crafts, music, games and entertainment all weekend long.

(217) 431-2272

**September 17**

**Monticello Celebration**

Downtown Monticello

Music, street vendors and fun in Monticello.

(217) 762-9318  
monticellotourism.org

**September 17 – 18**

**Crossroads Harvest of Quilts**

Hendelmeyer Recreation Center, 1906 S. 4th St., Effingham  
Two hundred quilts on display, bed-turning demonstrations, door prizes, raffle and much more.  
(217) 739-2250  
visiteffinghamil.com

**September 17 – 18**

**Railroad Days**

Monticello Railway Museum, 992 Iron Horse Pl., Monticello  
Come ride a vintage passenger and freight train on the former Illinois Central and Illinois Terminal trackage. One of the trains will feature steam locomotive #401. Use the Caboose Hop between the Nelson's Crossing depot and the yard to visit the shops and view additional exhibits. Take a motorcar ride; experience the rails just like maintenance workers of the past.  
(877) 762-9011  
mrym.org

**September 23 – 24**

**19th Annual Thresherman's Bluegrass Festival**

Threshermen's Park, two miles north of Rt. 23 & I-55, Pontiac  
This indoor event is a celebration of country music. Bring lawn chairs.  
(815) 844-3560  
threshermensreunion.org

**September 23 – 25**

**Honeybee Festival**

Edgar County Fairgrounds & Downtown Square, Paris  
The festival offers fun for the whole family! Enjoy live entertainment at the downtown square as well as a carnival, queen pageant, parade, car show, craft and food vendors and much more. Daily activities will also take place at the fairgrounds — craft market, flea market, antiques, collectibles, antique machinery displays, folk art demonstrations, children's games and more!  
(217) 465-4179  
honeybeefestival.com

**September 23 – 25**

**International Route 66 Mother Road Festival**

Downtown Springfield  
Hundreds of vintage cars, entertainment and celebrity guests from the U.S. and Canada fill the streets of historic downtown Springfield for a 3-day celebration of cars, food, music and friends of the heyday of U.S. Route 66.  
(217) 422-3733  
route66fest.com

**September 23 – 25**

**42nd Annual Prairie Land Heritage Museum Steam Show & Fall Festival Days**

Prairie Land, 1005 W. Michigan, Jacksonville  
See horse-powered equipment, antique tractors, gas and steam engines, demonstrations on

bailing, blacksmithing and more. Enjoy train rides, a large flea market and food.  
(217) 243-7262  
prairielandheritage.com

**September 24**

**Benld's 13th Annual Fall Festival**

Benld City Park, Benld  
Enjoy live entertainment, an exotic animal educational show, business expo and the Tour De Coal Bike Ride.  
(217) 839-4888  
coalcountrychamber.com

**September 24**

**Wabash Festival**

E. Krack St., Forrest  
Come and enjoy a ride on the train, street vendors, games for kids, live entertainment, hayrack rides, a street dance, cruise-in and more!  
(815) 657-8226  
forrestil.org

**September 24 – 25**

**Apple 'n Pork Festival**

Multiple Locations, Clinton  
This annual festival celebrates harvest held on the grounds of the C.H. Moore Homestead. Sample mouth-watering apple and pork treats – from pork chili, BBQ ribs and pig ears to apple fritters, taffy apples, cider and, of course, apple pie! There's also live entertainment, hundreds of crafters, and a flea market with over 300 vendors and 100,000 in attendance.  
(866) 433-9488  
clintonillinois.com

**September 24 – 25**

**Vermilion County Civil War Days**

Kennekuk County Park, 22296A Henning Rd., Danville  
Experience the sites and sounds of the Civil War period. Come and see the battle re-enactments, craftspeople and period merchants. Enjoy a trip back in time.  
(217) 442-1691  
illianacivilwar.org

**September 24 – 25**

**Broom's Orchard Apple Festival**

12803 Broom Rd., Carlinville  
The farm market is stocked full of freshly picked apples, sweet cider, Amish-made apple butter, preserves, butters, no-sugar spreads, Illinois honey, popcorn, nuts, salsa, Village candles and other specialty items. M & A Stables will have pony rides. The Corn Maze, Straw Maze and the playground area are available at no cost. Wagon rides through the orchard are always a fun experience. Crafters will set up next to the playground with their wares.  
(217) 854-3514  
broomorchard.com

**September 24 – 25**

**27th Annual Cruise Nite & Car Show**

Community Park, Jacksonville

One of the area's largest cruise nights! Watch the cruise on Saturday night and stay for the car show on Sunday. This event brings in classic and antique autos for a weekend of fun for young and old alike.

(217) 243-2131

[jacksonvilleil.org](http://jacksonvilleil.org)

**September 29 – October 1**

**Greenup Fall Festival**

Downtown Greenup

Features parade, car show, horseshoe tournament, quilt show, scavenger hunt, crafts, food, entertainment and more!

(217) 923-3401

**September 30 – October 1**

**36th Annual Chestnut Festival**

Main Street, St. Francisville

The Women's Club of St. Francisville planted a number of Chinese Chestnut trees in the spring of 1967; this was one of their annual civic projects. This prompted the organization of the first Chestnut Festival in 1976. The event features a parade and vendors.

[lawrencecountyillinois.com](http://lawrencecountyillinois.com)

**October 1 – October 31**

**The Scream Haunted Adventure**

602 North Mercer St., Decatur

Experience the bone-chilling excitement of Scream Haunted Adventure! Tiptoe through an abandoned warehouse—home of hundreds of monsters, demons and beasts. Shhhh ... don't SCREAM! You'll awaken the spirits of the dead as they hash out their horrifying stories ... Face your biggest fear—whatever it is—or let fear chase you screaming out the emergency exit.

Friendly Ghost/Monster Day: October 30, 3 – 5:00p.m.

(217) 423-4222

[decaturscram.com](http://decaturscram.com)

**October 1 – 2**

**3<sup>rd</sup> Annual Fall Festival**

Lincoln Log Cabin, 402 S. Lincoln Hwy. Rd., Lerna

Volunteer Pioneers will sponsor the 3<sup>rd</sup> Annual Fall Festival. Activities will include children's games, doll making, hearth cooking and weaving along with perennial contest favorites, a three-legged race, a cast iron skillet toss and the two-man saw contest.

(217) 345-1845

[lincolnlogcabin.org](http://lincolnlogcabin.org)

**October 1 – 2**

**Ropp Road Round-Up Festival**

Ropp Jersey Cheese and Rader Family Farms, 1238 Ropp Rd., Normal

The festival will feature everything autumn including pumpkins, fall food, crafts, face-painting, hayrack rides, music, and more! The kids will love the straw maze and tower, caterpillar rides, Little Village and little barnyard. A five-acre corn maze will be featured, along with a smaller, less challenging Kiddie Korn Maze for youngsters.

(309) 275-8765

[bloomingtonnormalcvb.org](http://bloomingtonnormalcvb.org)

**October 7 – 8**

**Candlelight Tour**

Lincoln's New Salem State Historic Site, 15588 History Ln., Petersburg  
Bring the family and experience New Salem after dark. Interpreters will welcome you into the reconstructed log homes of the village where Lincoln lived for six years.

(217) 632-4000

lincolnsnewsalem.com

**October 7 – 8**

**9<sup>th</sup> Central Illinois Bragging Rights BBQ Competition**

Downtown Arthur

More than 50 top competition BBQ teams from as far away as Florida and all the top teams in the Midwest gather to vie for the bragging rights in this KCBS-sanctioned event. There will be plenty of BBQ vendors, large and small smokers and equipment to investigate, and lots of nationally ranked BBQ experts to talk to. The Thrill of the Grill is a special included contest for the not-quite-ready-for-prime-time backyard enthusiast.

(800) 722-6474

cibr-bbq.com

**October 7 – 9**

**Scarecrow Daze and Touchstone Energy Balloon Fest**

Forest Park, 308 E. North 9th St., Shelbyville

Take part in many activities, including "Make it, Take it" scarecrows, guess the weight and quantities, scavenger hunts, demonstrations, food, crafts and much more.

(217) 774-2221

lakeshelbyville.com

**October 7 – 31**

**Haunted Decatur Ghost Tours**

Avon Theatre, 426 N. Water St., Decatur

Hosted by author Troy Taylor, the Haunted Decatur Tours explore the eerie folklore and ghostly tales of

Decatur's most haunted places.

(217) 422-8151

haunteddecatour.com

**October 8 – 9**

**Harvest Festival**

Rockome Gardens, 125 N. County Rd. 425 E., Arcola

Celebrate the harvest at Rockome Gardens, complete with old-time demonstrations, open-fire apple butter, cider and more!

(217) 268-4106

rockome.com

**October 8 – 9**

**Broom Orchard Pumpkin Festival**

Broom Orchard, 12803 Broom Rd., Carlinville

The farm market will be stocked with the usual goodies, including several apple varieties and sweet cider. You can search for the perfect jack-o-lantern at the 5-acre pumpkin patch, or choose from a pre-picked selection of pumpkins, gourds and fall decor. Try the corn or straw maze, play in the playground, see the live entertainment and take a ride on a wagon through the orchard. Cider, slush, hot dogs, nachos and homemade caramel apples will be available for

purchase.  
(217) 854-3514  
broomorchard.com

**October 8 – 9**

**Indian Summer Festival**

Lincoln Museum Garden, 2301 E. Lake Dr., Springfield  
Brilliant fall colors make the perfect backdrop for this family festival featuring food, crafts, music and kids' activities.  
(217) 529-1111  
imgnc.org

**October 9**

**Old Fashioned Apple Festival**

Okaw Valley Orchard, RR2 Box 124, Sullivan  
Bring your own lawn chair and enjoy free music and entertainment! Inflatables, large playground, picnic area, craft and food vendors, pony rides, goat-cart rides through orchard, "apple chunkin" contests and more! Also visit the Apple Country Store and Bakery featuring fresh apple dumplings, apple fritters and fresh baked pies.  
(217) 728-8269  
okawvalleyorchard.com

**October 13 – 31**

**Boo at the Zoo**

71 S. Country Club Rd., Decatur  
Enjoy a safe Halloween with fun for the entire family! Dress up or come as you are as hundreds of jack-o-lanterns guide you through the spooky treat stations. Take a ride on the Fright Night Express and the Endangered Species Carousel with not-so-spooky rides from 5:30-6:30 p.m. Weekends only.  
(217) 421-7435  
scovillzoo.com

**October 14 - 15**

**Jack-O-Lantern Spectacular**

Rees Carillon, Washington Park, Springfield  
Imagine meandering through 2011 hand-carved, illuminated jack-o-lanterns in beautiful Washington Park by the Rees Carillon! Enjoy the Tree of Lights, spooky music and a tasty treat.  
(217) 753-6219  
carillon-rees.org

**October 15 – 16**

**Fall Festival – "Surviving the Winter"**

Lincoln's New Salem State Historic Site, 15588 History Ln., Petersburg  
Over 180 years have passed since the "deep snow" of 1830-1831. How did our ancestors survive the harsh winters in the early 19th century? Join us at New Salem as we showcase the activities necessary to survive a winter in the 1830s – clothing preparation, sewing quilts and coverlets, soap and candle making, insulating homes, chopping firewood, smoking meat, food preservation and more.  
(217) 632-4000  
lincolnsnewsalem.com

**October 21 – 23****Flatcon Gaming Convention**

Interstate Center, 2301 W. Market St., Bloomington

Three full days of gaming! Games include miniature board and card games. Tournaments will be played and a variety of genres will be represented. Vendors will be displayed.

(309) 829-3976

flatcon.com

**October 22****Spookapalooza**

Avon & Lincoln Theaters, 426 North Water St., Decatur

Join us for a weekend of ghostly bus tours, free monster movies, and chilling overnights in one of the most haunted towns in the Midwest. Come along for intense investigations of these supernaturally charged theaters! Spend the night looking for the theaters' ghosts and also get a history and tour of the theaters as well.

(217) 422-8151

haunteddecatur.com

**November 2 – 20****The Blessings of the Table: Thanksgiving at Clover Lawn**

David Davis Mansion, 1000 West Monroe Dr., Bloomington

Sarah Davis brought the traditional Thanksgiving celebration to Bloomington, and the David Davis Mansion tour features the bountiful foods, family celebrations and charitable customs which were popular during her New England childhood.

(309) 828-1084

daviddavismansion.org

**November 10 – 13****The Baby Fold Festival of Trees**

U.S. Cellular Coliseum, 101 South Madison St., Bloomington

The annual Festival of Trees welcomes visitors to enjoy the sights and sounds of the holidays!

The spectacular Christmas décor, entertainment and special events will entertain all ages.

Come and enjoy a wide variety of custom-designed trees, including a selection of celebrity trees, a gingerbread village, unique centerpieces and festive wreaths. All items are available for bid in a silent auction. The Festival of Trees is in its 18th year as a family-centered community event. Proceeds from the festival benefit The Baby Fold, a local organization serving children and families.

(309) 454-1770

festoftrees.org

**November 12 – 19****Provena's Festival of Trees – Danville**

David S. Palmer Arena, 100 W. Main St., Danville

Winter wonderland of Christmas trees, wreaths, gingerbread houses, music and entertainment.

(217) 442-6583

**November 17****Night of Lights Parade**

Downtown Danville

Christmas parade with lighted floats and bands concludes with Santa and the lighting of the Christmas tree in Temple Park.

(217) 443-3886

downtowndanville.org

**November 18 – December 25**

**Mattoon Lightworks**

Peterson Park, Mattoon

Enjoy the lights of the season in beautiful Peterson Park. Over 50 magnificent light displays, many of which are animated.

(217) 258-6286

mattoonillinois.org

**November 18 – December 30**

**Shelbyville Festival of Lights**

Forest Park, Shelbyville

Come and enjoy this beautiful drive-through display that has been rejuvenated to include all the displays from the years past.

(217) 774-1342

**November 25, December 2, 9, 16, 23 & 30**

**Candlelight Tours**

Dewilt County Museum, 219 E. Woodlawn, Clinton

Come and enjoy a candlelit tour of the C. H. Moore Homestead, an 1870 Victorian Mansion listed on the National Register. Also take a look in the gift shop and view the live entertainment.

Tours will take place on Friday evenings from November 25 through December.

(217) 935-6066

chmoorehomestead.org

**November 27**

**Santa's Arrival & Old-Fashioned Christmas**

Effingham Courthouse

Visitors can enjoy buggy rides, visits/photos with Santa, hot chocolate, coffee, and more.

(217) 342-4147

visiteffinghamil.com

**November 30, December 3, 10 & 17**

**Santa's House on Mr. Lincoln's Square, Clinton**

After Santa completes his duties at the Christmas parade, and before he heads back to the North Pole, you'll find him at his house on Mr. Lincoln's Square!

(217) 935-3364

clintonilchamber.com

**December 1 – 25**

**Wonderland-in-Lights Christmas Display**

Community Park, E. Temple Ave., Effingham

See Santa in the chimney, the Nativity and many other animated and non-animated winter lights on display. Motorcoach tours welcome!

(800) 772-0750

effinghamil.com

**December 2 – 4**

**Annual Christmas Market**

Downtown Carlinville

Experience tents with artisans and food vendors, horse-drawn carriage rides, tours of historic

sites and more.  
(217) 854-3552  
carlinvillechristmasmarket.com

**December 2 – 16**

**Holly Jolly Jasper County Christmas**

Newton Square, Newton

Takes place the first three weekends in December. A Christmas celebration to honor Jasper County-born Burl Ives. Horse and buggy rides, characters and Santa; shops will be open late.  
(618) 783-3399

**December 3**

**Christmas in the Heart of Charleston**

Courthouse Square, Charleston

A celebration of the old-fashioned Christmas on Charleston's historic downtown square. Holiday parade, carriage rides, live reindeer, refreshments, entertainment and Santa!

5:00 p.m.-8:00 p.m.

(217) 348-0430

charlestontourism.org

**December 3**

**Holiday Time Travel Annual Home Tour**

East side of Downtown Taylorville Square, Taylorville

From log cabins to lakeside villas, tour eight decorated homes from three centuries. Christmas during '30s coal mine wars remembered. Discover shops with flair on the square.

(217) 824-9447

visittaylorville.com

## TRAILS TO ADVENTURE

**Through September 18**

**Murphysboro Apple Festival – 60th Year**

13th & Walnut Sts., Murphysboro

The Murphysboro Apple Festival is Southern Illinois' longest running family festival, featuring the largest parade in the region! A few of the many events during the festival include an apple peeling contest, apple pie eating contests, arts & crafts, the Murphysboro Clarkes vintage baseball team tourney, special exhibits at the General John A Logan Museum and so much more.

(618) 684-3200

murphysboro.com

**September 17**

**Annual Shrimp Festival**

Downtown Golconda

Enjoy shrimp cooked more ways than you can imagine, locally grown prawns for purchase, helicopter and carriage rides, music and entertainment, beer and wine tents and lots more.

mainstreetgolconda.org

**September 22 – 24**

**Annual Murphysboro BBQ Cook-Off**

17th Street Bar & Grill, 214 N. 17th St., Murphysboro

People come from miles around for the catfish, for the barbeque, for dancing and fun at this annual event, which is held at 17th & Pine St. The annual catfish cook-off is scheduled for Thursday evening. On Friday the Grand Buffet and Street Dance are held. Judging and announcement of this year's winner of the Barbecue championship is scheduled on Saturday evening.

[murphysboro.com](http://murphysboro.com)

**September 30 – October 2**

**Fluorspar Festival**

Rosiclare

Learn all about the Illinois state mineral: fluorite. Tour the museum, grab a pick and shovel and try to find your own! Parade, carnival, quilt show, pageant and food. Bike show on Saturday and car show on Sunday.

(618) 285-3445

**September 30 – October 2**

**Southern Illinois Irish Festival and Celtic Fair**

Turley Park, Carbondale

The Celtic Fair is cultural celebration with special concerts, dance workshops and demonstrations, Celtic arts and crafts, merchandise and children's activities.

[silirishfest.org](http://silirishfest.org)

**October 1**

**Carbondale Downtown Art & Wine Fair**

Jackson Square, Carbondale

Shawnee Hills Wine Trail Association will be joining the Carbondale Main Street Association once again to hold a very classy event. Fantastic wines, with a variety of local artists and artisans, downtown stores and restaurants open. This event provides something for everyone to enjoy.

[carbondaledawf.com](http://carbondaledawf.com)

**October 1 – 2**

**Heritage Festival**

Jefferson County Historical Village, 1411 N. 27th St., Mt. Vernon

Craft demonstrations, music and a ham & beans lunch, along with other foods, are available at this family-friendly event. Authentic log cabins and museum containing Jefferson County memorabilia are all featured.

[jchs.mvn.net](http://jchs.mvn.net)

**October 1 – 30**

**Bandy's Pumpkin Patch and Corn Maze**

15020 Pumpkin Patch Rd., Johnston City

Great fall fun for the whole family with 10-acre corn maze, kids' play barn, straw maze, plus plenty of pumpkins. Open 9:00 a.m. – 6:00 p.m. every day. Groups may make reservations.

(618) 983-8676

[bandypumpkinpatch.com](http://bandypumpkinpatch.com)

**October 9**

**Golconda Fall Festival**

Downtown Golconda

Celebrate the fall season with a farmers market, arts and craft vendors and local musical entertainment.

[visitgolconda.com](http://visitgolconda.com)

**October 15**

**Heifer in the Vines**

Alto Vineyards, Alto Pass

Heifer in the Vines is a local initiative to help the non-profit, Heifer International, to empower millions of families, lifting them out of poverty and hunger into self-reliance. The Alto Vineyards event will once again benefit Heifer International in their mission of "Passing on the Gift." Guests attending the afternoon fundraiser will enjoy family-style fun – including music, food, wine, bocce ball, silent auction and even a perennial seed swap – all to end poverty and hunger in a sustainable way.

(618) 893-4898

[altovineyards.net](http://altovineyards.net)

**October 15**

**Southern Illinois Harvest Festival**

Downtown Mt. Vernon

Head to Mt. Vernon this fall for the parade, chili cook-off, antique tractor show, car show, EAA fly-in, children's activities and much more!

(618) 242-3151

**October 15 – 16**

**38th Annual Fort Massac Encampment**

Fort Massac State Park, Metropolis

Annual Fort Massac Encampment celebrates the history of Fort Massac from the early French period until 1814. Military Units, Colonists, Sutlers and Native American reenactors portray the history of the fort with crafts, military drills, music, childrens' games and a mock battle.

(618) 524-5025

[metropolistourism.com](http://metropolistourism.com)

**October 15 – 16**

**Vulture Fest**

Downtown Makanda

Black vultures and turkey vultures fly and swoop in the skies surrounding Makanda each fall. Local residents await their return each fall as an end to the hot summer and the beginning of cooler fall weather. This event is a celebration of the vulture's annual migration with live music and displays by local artists for purchase.

(618) 457-6282

[villageofmakanda.com](http://villageofmakanda.com)

**October 22**

**Tour de Shawnee Bike Tour**

Horseshoe Lake Community Center, Olive Branch, Alexander Co.

Bicyclists meet at the Horseshoe Lake Community Center at 8:00 a.m. Organized bike routes of 15-, 30-, 45-, 62- and 100-mile rides will travel around the scenic Horseshoe Lake and the surrounding area. Entry fee includes event bag, chance for attendance prizes. Early registration includes commemorative t-shirt.

(866) 407-1450

tourdeshawnee.org

**November 25 – December 31**  
**Du Quoin Annual Holiday Lights Fair**

Du Quoin State Fairground, Du Quoin

Starting the day after Thanksgiving and continuing through the month of December. Come experience Du Quoin Tourism's transformation of the Du Quoin State Fairgrounds into a magical place with lights and decorations. The event features a 1 ½-mile drive through over \$250,000 worth of lighted displays as well as decorated trees, entertainment, food, crafts and visits with Santa in the Expo Hall. The light trail opens nightly from 5:30 – 9:30 p.m., and the Expo Hall will be open on the second and third weekends in December from 5:30 – 9:30 p.m. The Expo Hall features Santa's train ride and Santa's Workshop.

(800) 455-9570

[duquoin.org/tourism.htm](http://duquoin.org/tourism.htm)

**December 3**  
**21st Annual Lights Fantastic Parade**

Downtown Carbondale

Since 1990, this wintertime celebration has warmed the hearts of the young and young at heart. Drawing participants from many of the surrounding communities, over 60 entries including dancers, musicians and some very unique floats travel down Illinois Avenue with Santa Claus as the jolly conclusion.

[lightsfantastic.org](http://lightsfantastic.org)

**December 10**  
**Christmas House Tours**

Downtown Golconda

Visit historic Golconda and tour four homes, one church and the local museum. Christmas in the courtyard begins at 5:30 p.m. with refreshments and a visit from Santa.

(618) 683-6246

[visitgolconda.com](http://visitgolconda.com)

**December 11**  
**Olde Tyme Christmas**

Fort Massac State Park, 1308 E. 5th St., Metropolis

Re-enactors showcase the Christmas traditions of the French Colonial, American Revolutionary, Lewis and Clark, War of 1812 and Civil War periods in the fort. Massac Marines will show how a traditional Christmas night might have been for the French soldiers and villagers in 1759. Live music will be performed and refreshments served inside the museum.

(618) 524-4712

[metropolistourism.com](http://metropolistourism.com)