



PRESS RELEASE

Des Moines Parks and Recreation to Host Inaugural Fall Family Fun Fest on October 13

For Immediate Release:

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DES MOINES, IOWA – Wednesday, October 03, 2018 – Head down to the Union Park area for the first ever “Fall Family Fun Fest” on Saturday, October 13, which will feature a full slate of free activities. In the case of inclement weather, the event will be held on October 20.

Schedule:

- Noon – 1 p.m.: Food eating contests at Captain Roy’s (1900 Saylor Road)
- 1 – 5 p.m.: Youth Music Showcase at Captain Roy’s
- 5 – 7 p.m. in Union Park (725 Thompson Road)
 - Pre-Carved Pumpkin Contest
 - Face Painting
 - Free Rides on the Heritage Carousel
 - Inflatable Challenger Obstacle Course
 - Des Moines Police Department K-9 and Tactical Teams
 - Des Moines Fire Department Fire Prevention Unit and S’mores
 - Nature-Themed Candy Stations
- 6:45 p.m.: Free Flicks Movie “Ghostbusters” (1984 version)

Event Descriptions:

Food Eating Contests

Competitors must pre-register for one of the three separate eating contests: Potato Oles, Pumpkin Pie or Taco Burger eating. Participation is free and all food has been donated by Hy-Vee and Taco John’s. Each competition is six minutes in length and the winning participant will win a prize pack includes access to future Parks and Recreation activities as well as gifts cards from our sponsors. Only eight spots are available for each contest. Register online at dmparks.org.

Youth Music Showcase

Jam out with some of the best young local musicians at the Youth Music Showcase, presented in partnership with the Des Moines Music Coalition. This is a unique opportunity for bands or performers 18 years of age or younger to showcase their talent to the community. The first twelve bands to sign up are guaranteed a spot to perform. Each band must have an adult sponsor. A sample of the bands musicianship will be required to help members of the Des Moines Music Coalition assemble the lineup for the performance. Register online at dmparks.org.

Pre-Carved Pumpkin Contest

Bring your pre-carved pumpkin to compete for prizes in the pumpkin contest. Battery powered illumination only please. Prizes will be awarded for the funniest, scariest and most original pumpkin. No pre-registration is necessary. Winners will be announced at 6:30 p.m.

For more information about these activities, please contact Barb Baker at (515) 248-6330 or BLBaker@dmgov.org.

To get involved as a volunteer, please contact parksvolunteer@dmgov.org.

About Des Moines Parks and Recreation

Founded in 1892, the Parks and Recreation Department's mission is "Helping Des Moines Live Well, Play Hard and Protect the Earth." Our department is responsible for the management of 75 parks, over 4,000 acres of parkland, 81 miles of trails, seven cemeteries and numerous municipal facilities. In addition, we offer numerous programs in the areas of sports, urban conservation, environment education, sport instruction, volunteerism, rentals and special events. For more information on Des Moines Parks and Recreation programs or facilities, visit our website (www.dmparks.org), Facebook (facebook.com/desmoinesparks), Twitter ([@desmoinesparks](https://twitter.com/desmoinesparks)) and Instagram (instagram.com/desmoinesparks).