

Madison Parks Fall Festival featuring Craft Show and Big Rig Gig

September 29, 9a.m. – 3p.m.

Elver Park, 1250 McKenna Blvd, Madison

Fall Festival website at <http://www.cityofmadison.com/parks/celebrate/FallFestival.cfm>

Madison Parks Fall Festival has something for everyone, showcasing the area's artistic talent with outdoor arts and crafts and providing an up-close look at the unique trucks and heavy machinery used around Madison.

Madison Parks is pleased to host the first Fall Festival, featuring a craft show and the Big Rig Gig on Saturday, September 29, from 9am-3pm. The Craft Show will include artists and crafters selling original pieces such as quilts, jewelry, paintings, and other decorative items. At the same time, the Big Rig Gig provides kids of all ages a chance to get an up-close look at all the unique trucks and heavy machinery used in the City of Madison. It will also provide an opportunity for attendees to meet the people who use these trucks on a day-to-day basis. Additionally, Madison Parks will offer hayrides around Elver Park for \$2 per person. It will be an event the whole family can enjoy with many types of art on display, handmade items, massive trucks and machinery, and hay rides fall festival. Admission is free to the public and will be held outdoors at Elver Park at 1250 McKenna Boulevard, Madison, WI 53719.

Vendors wishing to participate in the craft show can still sign up online.

If driving to the event, parking is available in Elver Park. Guests are encouraged to bike or ride a bus to the event! Do you need directions? Visit the following websites to plan your trip: Bike Madison (<http://www.cityofmadison.com/bikemadison/>) or Madison Metro (<http://www.cityofmadison.com/metro>).

September 2012



In Training: Mud Run

Get down and dirty this fall! Each Sunday, complete a variety of challenges including playground obstacles, running drills, agility and balance play and some fun surprises to prepare you for the Madison Mud Run on Sunday, October 28. T-shirt included in the fee. Race registration is NOT included in the fee and must be completed separately. Information at www.msqr.org.



Hey Familys! Check out the great selection of MSCR fun fitness events for the whole family!

Family Fitness Night
Friday 10/12
@ Hoyt-MSCR
6:00-8:00 pm FREE!

Zombie Zumba &
Vampire Hustle
Friday 10/26
@ Hoyt-MSCR
6:00-8:00 pm \$3

Fairytale Fitness Night
Saturday 10/27
@ MSRC-Odana
6:00-7:30 pm \$1

For more information
and to register, visit:
www.msqr.org

Have Bales of Fun on Madison Parks Hayrides

<http://www.cityofmadison.com/parks/celebrate/hayrides.cfm>

Enjoy a crisp fall afternoon or evening with a hayride in Madison Parks. Madison Parks is offering hayrides in Cherokee Marsh, Elver, Warner, and Olin Parks beginning September 27 through November 21. Madison Parks hayrides will treat your group to a tour of a beautiful park and enjoy friendly campfire with 'smores.

There are two options for your family or group to enjoy a Madison Park Hayride.

1. Special Event hayrides - \$2/person Madison Parks is hosting 4 different special events where you or your family can enjoy a hayride, campfire, s'mores for \$2/person hayrides. No reservation is necessary for these rides, and they are perfect for small family outings.

- September 29, 9a.m. – noon – Fall Festival at Elver Park
- October 20, 1-4p.m. – Hikes & Hayrides at Cherokee Marsh
- October 26, 2-5p.m. for Downtown Madison Family Halloween
- November 17, 6:30-8:30p.m. – Holiday in Lights at Olin Park

2. Book your own personal hayride trip! The booked rides are perfect for scout troops, church groups, or birthday parties - Madison Parks hayrides will treat your group to a tour of a beautiful park and enjoy friendly campfire with s'mores. Each hayride trip is one hour: 30 minute ride, 30 minute campfire and s'mores Please note that participants will need to enter/exit the wagon using a step ladder.

For a listing of potential dates, times & locations for your group's own booked hayride, please visit the Madison Parks Hayride website.

Back by popular demand – see the Fantasy Holiday in Lights in Olin Park from a haywagon! Experience this Madison holiday tradition in a unique way. Get your friends and family together, snuggle up under some warm blankets and enjoy the beautiful lights and the downtown lights in the background. Book your new holiday tradition today. Dates for Fantasy Holiday in Lights Hayride tours are: November 12 – 23, 5:30p.m. & 6:45p.m.

Registration: Call Madison Parks Office at 266-4711
Cost: \$85.00 per group (1-24 people). Advance registration required.

For more information, please call 266-4711 or visit Madison Parks at <http://www.cityofmadison.com/parks/celebrate/hayrides.cfm>



Quilts in Bloom
Sept 22 - Oct 14
10 am - 4 pm daily

Every fall, Olbrich's Atrium is blooming with an amazing array of original art quilts. Visitors can marvel at the beautiful landscape quilts that, from a distance, could be mistaken for a painting. The show also exhibits traditional patchwork quilting in a variety of patterns and colors. A rainbow of chrysanthemums and other fall foliage are arranged to complement the color palettes in each quilt. The show is open from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. daily, September 22 through October 14. A \$2 admission donation is appreciated by all visitors.

The Thursday Quilting Friends host their annual Art Quilt Sale in Olbrich's lobby from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. the first two weekends of the show, September 22-23 and 29-30. Peruse through piles of handmade quilts and other smaller quilted creations.

Take home a bit of the show at the Quilt Show Plant Sale on October 15. Select plants and flowers from this year's Quilts in Bloom will be available for purchase on Monday, October 15, beginning at 12 p.m., while supplies last!



Thai Fest at Olbrich

September 23, 12- 4 p.m.

The shining red and gold Thai Pavilion at Olbrich Botanical Gardens is a piece of art and a symbol of international friendship, while the Midwest-style tropical garden that surrounds it is unique in our region.

Come help celebrate the 10th Anniversary of Olbrich's Thai Pavilion and Garden at Thai Fest, a celebration of Thai culture. Thai Fest is Sunday, September 23 from noon to 4 p.m. and admission is free.

Enjoy traditional Thai dancers with live musicians from the Thai Cultural and Fine Arts Institute of Chicago, taste traditional Thai dishes sold by local restaurateurs, or try a children's art activity based on Thai culture.

The Thai Pavilion was a gift from the Thai government and the Thai Chapter of the University of Wisconsin Alumni Association. It opened to the public on June 15, 2002.

The Thai Garden reaches its peak growth and bloom in September, transforming it into a stunning Thai escape. It's a great time of year to commemorate 10 years of this unique Thai sala and garden in our community!

Thai Fest Activities:

12 – 4 p.m.

10th Anniversary Art Exhibit

Works inspired by the Thai Garden and Sala

Loy Krathong Demonstrations

By the UW-Madison Thai Student Association

Loy Krathong Family Activity

While supplies last, including a take-home project

By Olbrich's Education Department

Thai Cuisine

Available for purchase, prepared by Sa Bai Thong

1 p.m.

Anniversary Program at the Thai Pavilion

Performances at 12:30 and 2:30 p.m.

Thai Cultural & Fine Arts Institute of Chicago

Thai dances with live musicians



Madison B-Cycle's ArtBike Program Raises over \$1,100 for Boys and Girls Club

(Madison, WI) – The Madison B-cycle bike sharing program concluded its ArtBike project on August 31st, having raised over \$1,100 for the Boys and Girls Club of Dane County. Ten B-cycle bikes, disassembled by DreamBikes, were repurposed in the spring to be painted by youth members of the Boys and Girls Club. These bikes, now with colorful designs rather than the usual B-cycle red, returned to circulation around Madison August 1st. For the month of August, each time an ArtBike was ridden, Metcalfe's donated \$1 to the Boys and Girls Club totaling \$1,106 over the course of the month.

The ArtBike program not only surpassed its goal of raising \$1,000 for the Boys and Girls Club, but also broke new ground in the benefits bike sharing can bring to a community. This is the first project of its kind. By giving users the opportunity to support local organizations through their use of the bike sharing program, Madison B-cycle has discovered another benefit bike sharing can bring to communities.

For more information on Madison B-cycle: <http://madison.bcycle.com/>



Discover Madison's Wild Side

Madison Parks is hosting free monthly tours of Madison Conservation Parks. The tours are led by a Madison Parks staff member and co-sponsored by the Madison Audubon Society. Each tour will focus on a different park and unique natural feature of that park. Madison Parks has 14 conservation parks comprising over 1600 acres. Each conservation park focuses on the restoration of native plant and animal communities while providing educational areas and opportunities for all. For more information on Madison's Wild Side – visit: <http://www.cityofmadison.com/parks/parks/conservation/>

September 12, 6:30p.m.

Owen Park, 6021 Old Sauk Road
Explore the late summer wild flowers in the prairies and the ponds and their wildlife.

October 10, 5:30p.m.

Cherokee Marsh, North Unit, 6098 North Sherman Ave.

Cherokee Marsh is the largest wetland in Dane County and is home to a spectacular variety of plants and wildlife. We'll see wetland and oak woodland restoration projects.

Freakfest Headliners Announced

Tickets go on sale Friday, September 14

Mountain Dew, Madison.com, Ticketmaster, Frank Productions, and True Endeavors are excited to announce the details of the region's biggest Halloween bash – Freakfest 2012! This year's event will take place Saturday, October 27 on State Street in downtown Madison. Gates will open at 7:00 PM with tickets available at the gate for \$12. \$8 advance tickets go onsale this Friday, September 14th at 10:00 AM at the Coliseum box office, Ticketmaster, by phone at (800) 745-3000, online at www.frankproductions.com, or at several businesses in the State Street area (see website for details). The business ticket outlets will be selling tickets through Friday, October 26 and there is no service charge at any of those locations (only service charges on tickets sold at Ticketmaster outlets, by phone, or online). Participating businesses are designated with special multicolored posters with the Freakfest logo and the words "Freakfest Tickets Available Here". Tickets on the day of the event will be available at booths near the entrances beginning at Noon and continuing through the end of the event or when the street reaches capacity.

We are able to announce the following artists and events for this year's Freakfest:

Mac Miller; Big Gigantic; Nobody Beats The Drum; Roster McCabe; Kids These Days; Gentlemen Hall; Kyle & Keem, OYE! , A.N.T., The Lately

Please visit www.freakfestlive.com for:

- Ticket purchase link -VIP info
- List of State Street ticket outlets
- List of acts and up to date show schedule
- Printable festival site map
- Directions on area parking and street closures

The First Tee continues success at Monona Golf Course



The First Tee program at the Monona Golf Course is wrapping up after a successful second year in the Madison area. The program is part of a nationwide initiative that aims to impact the lives of young people by providing educational programs that build character, instill values, and promote healthy choices through the game of golf. The professional golf instructors of First Tee are highly dedicated to their work of positive youth development through the game of golf and have been specifically trained by The First Tee. The Nine Core Values™

values the instructors integrate into their lessons are confidence, responsibility, sportsmanship, perseverance, courtesy, judgment, honesty, integrity, and respect. These values are the foundation for making healthy, responsible, and smart decisions throughout life. The South Central Wisconsin First Tee Chapter has mentored over 400 youth age 6-17 in the past 3 years of the program by teaching them these nine core values, as well as how to play the game of golf.



The Monona Golf Course was chosen by The First Tee as a perfect place to establish its home because of its dedicated professional staff, beautiful, playable golf course, and the large golf range making it ideal for teaching. The Monona First Tee Program, a part of the South Central Wisconsin First Tee Chapter, had a total of 125 youths participating in the program this past summer.



Another 96 youths participated in the chapter's affiliate location at Nine Springs Golf Course in Fitchburg. Youth participants in the chapter's programs came from Madison's North, South and East sides, as well as Verona, Fitchburg, Cottage Grove, DeForest and McFarland. Scholarships for youth in financial need were available to over 40% of participants, ensuring everyone got a chance to participate in the First Tee Program. Aside from learning how to apply the Nine Core Values to their everyday

lives, participants also learned the etiquette, rules, and techniques of golf, all of which were reinforced by volunteer mentors accompanying the youth on the course. "While many of the participants have played golf before, about half of the participants were new to the game and walked away with great life skills and the ability to play a fun game with friends, thanks to our wonderful coaching staff and first-rate mentors," said Joni Dye, Executive Director of the chapter.

While the program was clearly a success on paper, testimony from youth and their parents who participated in First Tee show just how much of a positive impact it had on their lives.

"I would like to thank you for making this such a great program that is flexible with every family and their situation. Monona Golf Course is such a warm and welcoming place and I would suggest it to anyone. Not only will you learn to golf, but you learn the etiquette to life. Even looking back to when I started, I have morphed from a little boy into a mature teen. I am also excited to see these changes already taking effect in my little brother," said a local teen awarded a scholarship for the First Tee Program.

Parents also felt that the educational program and First Tee Staff were excellent at teaching their children important life lessons and values that they will retain for the rest of their lives. "Thanks for offering this opportunity! We have been so impressed with the First Tee program. It is very organized and the staff is knowledgeable and friendly", said one parent. "I don't even care whether my son learns to play golf well," said another father. "My son is here because you are teaching values I want my son to have," he said.

The First Tee Program is a great youth program and provides a fantastic outlet for Dane County youth to play golf, learn important values, and most importantly, have fun. The Madison Parks Division congratulates The First Tee of South Central Wisconsin staff and students on another successful year, and looks forward to seeing the program grow and expand.

For more information on The First Tee, visit: <http://www.thefirstteesw.org/Club/Scripts/Home/home.asp>

VISION:
To provide the ideal system of parks, natural resources and recreation opportunities which will enhance the quality of life for everyone.

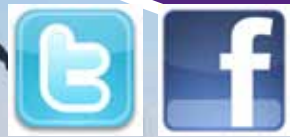
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MADISON MAYOR
Paul Soglin

MADISON PARKS SUPERINTENDENT:
Kevin Briski

MADISON PARK COMMISSIONERS:
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Alder Mark Clear
Alder Joe Clausius

play
MADISON PARKS



New Community Services Manager - Chris Pedretti

Madison Parks is happy to announce the hiring of the new Community Services Manager, Chris Pedretti. Chris' position is responsible for the oversight of the community events & programming, volunteers, Goodman Pool, Warner Park Community Recreation Center, marketing and community relations.

Chris received his BS in Recreation Management from UW-LaCrosse and his Masters of Business Administration from Edgewood College. He worked as a program supervisor for the city of Eau Claire Parks and Recreation Department, the Park & Recreation Director for the city of Monona, and most recently the Wellness Director for the Capitol Lakes Retirement Community.

"Chris Pedretti is a great addition to our Madison Parks Team," stated Kevin Briski, the Madison Park Superintendent. "He brings a wealth of knowledge about the park and recreation field to our community."

When he's not working for parks, he's playing in them with his family. Chris, along with his wife and two young sons enjoy just about anything in, on or around water. When they are not swimming or boating, his kids have also recently taken a liking to disc golf and are spending a lot of time honing their skills at Heistand Park course. Not only does he enjoy disc golf, but whenever he can, Chris tries to fit in a quick nine holes at Monona Golf Course, or 18 holes at Yahara Hills.

Chris is excited about this opportunity with Madison Parks. He is looking forward to working with the Madison Parks staff, partners, and user groups to provide the best recreational and park services for our community.

New Madison Parks Job Designed to Keep Playgrounds Safe

This summer Madison Parks added a new position to our staff. This position, titled Playground Technician, is responsible for the maintenance, repair and the safety of Madison Parks' playgrounds. With Madison ranked #1 in the nation for number of playgrounds, this is, indeed, an important job!

Kevin Boehm started this summer with Madison Parks, after working for the Waukegan Park District in Illinois. Kevin has 15 years experience in building and maintaining playgrounds. He views his job's most important task is to make the playground environment safe for kids. Kevin holds certifications in Park Maintenance Management and Certified Playground Safety Inspector (CPSI) both through the National Park and Recreation Association.

Kevin is approaching this new job by gathering baseline data on the 167 playgrounds in Madison's parks. Each playground will eventually have a thorough audit conducted. This audit will address each playground's safety compliance, ADA accessibility plans, and safety surface recommendations. He will be doing monthly inspections looking for damaged items, wear and tear and inspecting the safety surfaces. You can help the monthly inspections by reporting any damage or broken equipment to parks@cityofmadison.com

We welcome Kevin, his wife and their two kids to Madison. They are a family well-suited to our town. They love doing anything outdoors. Their young kids' favorite parks so far in Madison are James Madison, Elver and Olin Parks. But as their dad continues to work in every single playground in the parks – we are sure even more parks are going to make it to their favorite list!



play
MADISON PARKS