

Fall & Winter | 2022-2023




# Portage Park & Rec Activity Guide

The Portage Park and Recreation Department's mission is to enrich the community by providing affordable, diverse recreational opportunities to encourage physical fitness and mental health while building community bonds and enhancing the quality of life by providing safe, welcoming parks and recreational facilities. Community through people, parks, and programs.



Graydon Schwartz

Register online at  
[portage.recdesk.com](https://portage.recdesk.com), or stop in  
our office at  
701 W Slifer St, Portage.

 608-742-2178



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**Everyone's Welcome**– The programs that we offer are open to anyone that would like to participate, regardless of ability, experience, race, gender, or sexual orientation.

**Employment Opportunities**- Anyone interested in part-time or seasonal employment with the Portage Park & Recreation Department should visit our website, or contact our department for information about open positions.

**You Snooze....You Lose**- Nothing kills a program quicker than waiting until the last minute to register. If we do not meet the minimum number of participants by the registration deadline, the program will be canceled. We also set registration maximums for each program based on staff, equipment, and space, so be sure to register early in order to reserve your spot before they are all gone!

**Say 'Cheese'**- For program promotional purposes, photographs may be taken of participants. If you do not wish to have your photo, or photos of your children taken, please notify our department.

**Residents vs. Non-Residents**– All program and park shelter rentals will list 2 prices under the description. (example- \$15/\$25). The first price is for residents of the City of Portage or Pacific Township. The second price is for non-residents (Lewiston, Caledonia, Fort Winnebago, Pardeeville, etc.). Non-resident fees are charged to help our department continue to maintain our programs and facilities.

**Scholarships**– The City of Portage wishes to offer our programs and activities to all area children. If financial assistance is needed for a child's participation, please contact our department for more information. Park Shelter Rentals and select programs do not qualify for our scholarship program.

**Typos/Mistakes**– Occasionally, there may be an error in days, times, registration requirements, pricing, or location in our program descriptions. When such errors occur, our staff will do everything possible to correct the situation promptly. Our department reserves the right to change program schedules as needed to accommodate demand or school/community conflicts.

**Program Refund Policy**– Refunds will be granted if requests are made seven (7) days prior to the scheduled start of the activity. Please contact our department if you have questions regarding refunds due to medical or unavoidable circumstances. All refunds carry a \$5.00 processing fee.

**Facility Rental Refund Policy**– Refunds for facility rentals will be granted if requests are made thirty (30) days prior to scheduled rental. Extenuating circumstances are occasionally considered. All refunds carry a \$10.00 processing fee.

# KARATE

## Karate Basics

This class is for ages 6+ who are at the introductory level of karate. Participants will learn martial arts fundamentals and a strong emphasis will be put on building confidence, focus, discipline, and respect. Each student will have the opportunity to test at the end of the session. This program is for participants with less than a green belt status.



## Karate Intermediate

This is our mid-level karate and will help build and improve the karate participants' skills and knowledge. This program is designed for experienced karate participants and will be fun for all age levels and participants.

## Karate Advanced

This program is a step above our Karate Basics program and will teach advanced karate skills to ages 6+. Participants in this program must be a green belt or higher to participate in this class.

**Ages:** 6+

**Dates:** (Monday and Thursday Nights)

- Session 5: August 29-October 20
- Session 6: October 27– December 29

\*any participant can register for any session, and registration is currently open for these two sessions\*

More sessions will be announced in December, with sessions beginning in January

**Fees:** \$20-Residents / \$30-Non-residents (per session)

**Location:** City Hall Basement (115 W Pleasant St)

**Times: Basics** 5:00-6:00pm

**Intermediate** 6:00-7:00pm

**Advanced** 7:00-8:00pm

\*There may be additional classes scheduled for Belt Testing\*

## IMPORTANT REGISTRATION INFO

Most Fall programs will open for registration on Monday, August 22nd at 8am! You can register for our Youth Programs on our website ([portage.recdesk.com](http://portage.recdesk.com)). Login or create an account, and then select the 'Programs' tab. If you are creating a NEW ACCOUNT, it may take up to 24 hours for your account to be approved, so please create new accounts well in advance of the Registration Opening date.

# DANCE

Whether your child aspires to become a professional dancer or you just want to improve their coordination, provide some exercise, or just have fun, this dance program has something for everyone! Our Dance Program is designed to introduce dancers to the world of dance in a fun and relaxed environment. Each class will learn 1-2 dances to perform at a recital held in April!

**Ages:** 3+

**Dates:** Week of September 25th through April. Specific schedules will be emailed prior to the class starting.

## Tuesdays:

3-4 Year Olds: 5:45-6:15pm

## Wednesdays

5-6 Year Olds: 5:00-5:30pm (A)

5-6 Year Olds: 5:35-6:05pm (B)

7-9 Year Olds: 6:10-6:50pm (A)

7-9 Year Olds: 6:55-7:35pm (B)

10-14 Year Olds: 7:40-8:20pm

## Sundays:

5-6 Year Olds (Technique): 4:00-4:30pm

Tap: 4:35-5:05pm

7-9 Year Olds (Technique): 5:10-5:55pm

10-14 Year Olds (Technique): 6:00-6:45pm

15+ Lyrical: 6:50-7:35pm

15+ Jazz: 7:40-8:25pm



NEW! We have added classes for the more advanced/older dancer. High school age dancers now have the option to take a jazz, or lyrical class or both!

\*\*Dancers are allowed to participate in more than one class if they choose to! Sunday Technique classes are for more experienced dancers to refine technique and form and will help in other classes. **Specific dance shoes will be required for all classes.**

**Location:** City Hall Basement (115 W Pleasant St)

**Fee:** \$55-Residents / \$65-Non-residents

(Does not include cost of costume and shoes)

**Min/Max:** 4/14 per class- register early because spots will fill quickly!!

**Registration Dates:** August 22nd - September 23rd



# YOUTH FLAG FOOTBALL

Fall is football season! We are happy to offer a Flag Football Program this fall, and it will feature instructional practices on Tuesday nights, and game days on Saturday mornings.

**Ages:** K-2nd— 5:00-5:45pm on Tuesdays  
9:00-10:00am on Saturdays  
3rd-5th— 5:45-6:30pm on Tuesdays  
10:00-11:00am on Saturdays



**Dates:** Tuesdays, September 27, October 4, 11, 18,  
Saturdays, October 1, 8, 15, 22

**Location:** Outfield grass of the Ball Diamond at the Portage Fairgrounds (North end near the Dog Park)

**Fee:** \$25-Residents / \$35-Non-residents

**Min/Max Per Age Group:** 12/30

**Registration Dates:** August 22nd - September 23rd

# WINTER CHEER CAMP

Join the PHS Competition Cheer Team for a day of fun learning cheers, band dances, stunts, and more! Participants will get to perform at a Varsity basketball game halftime show!

**Date:** December 10th

**Game Performance:** December 15th

**Location:** PHS Wrestling Room

**Time:** Camp- 9:00am - 12:00pm; Game- 7:00pm

**Fee:** \$10

**Min/Max:** 5/40

**Age:** 7-14

**Registration Dates:** November 1- December 1



# OPEN GYMS

We will be offering Open Gyms again this year at Bartels Middle School. We will provide some equipment, but feel free to bring your own basketballs, volleyballs, etc.

**Dates:** Sundays, November 6 - March 5  
(no Open Gym on 12/25, 1/1)

**Times:** Youth/Family Open Gym— 9:00-10:30am  
Adult Open Gym— 10:30am-Noon

**Location:** Bartels Middle School

**Cost:** FREE

# ADULT BASKETBALL OPEN GYM

Adult Basketball Open Gym is open to both men and women, but participants must be at least 18 years old to participate.

**Cost:** Free

**Dates:** Monday Nights, November 7 thru March 6  
(no Open Gym 12/26 or 1/2)

**Location:** Bartels Middle School

**Times:** 7:00-9:00pm

(times subject to change depending on school district athletic events)

# ADULT VOLLEYBALL

Our Adult Coed Volleyball league on Wednesday nights will run November through February at Bartels Middle School. We will not have a scoring official this year, so teams will be required to keep track of their own scores and report it to the site supervisor.



**Team Fee:** \$140 with completed roster

\*Roster forms can be found on our website\*

**Registration Dates:** August 22 thru October 1

**Location:** Bartels Middle School

**Game Nights:** Wednesday Nights

**Season Dates:** November - February

# PUMPKINS IN THE PARK-ING LOT

Back again this year is our popular Halloween event, Pumpkins in the Park-ing Lot! Stop by our office on Thursday, October 20th and pick up a trick-or-treat bag with some fun surprises! Kids will be able to pick out a free pumpkin and play a few small games.

**Date:** Thursday, October 20th

**Location:** Portage Park & Rec Office  
(701 W Slifer St)

**Time:** 3:00-6:00pm

**Fee:** Free!





# YOUTH BASKETBALL TEAMS

**Girls—** The Portage Girls Basketball Club will be handling all Girls Basketball teams this fall and winter. Information for registration and about the organization can be found on the Portage Park & Rec website ([portage.recdesk.com](http://portage.recdesk.com)), under the Youth Orgs tab.

**Boys—** The Portage Boys Hoops Club will handle all Boys Youth Basketball Teams. More information on their teams, registration, and organization can be found at [www.pbhc.com](http://www.pbhc.com)

# SAFE SITTER ESSENTIALS

This class will teach middle schoolers how to be a safe, responsible babysitter. Safety skills, child development and behavior tips, rescue breathing, first aid, and general responsibilities will be covered in this course. Upon passing this class, children may gain employment within their community with their certification, and parents will be able to feel more comfortable and confident leaving an elder child to watch their younger siblings.

**Dates:** Saturday, September 17th  
Saturday, October 29th  
Saturday, November 12th

**Times:** 9am-2:30pm

**Location:** Park & Recreation Office (701 W. Slifer St.)

**Ages:** 11-15

**Fee:** \$35/\$45

**Registration:** Currently Open online! Registration closes the Monday prior to each class

**Min/Max:** 2/6 per class



# ICE SKATING

Ice Skating will be available at Pauquette Park this winter. The weather will determine when we are able to safely clear the ice, so we will post updates on our Facebook page when the ice is safe to skate on. Please follow safety signs that are posted around the pond.

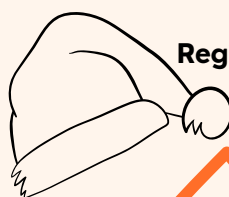
# A CALL FROM SANTA

Would your little one like to receive a phone call from Santa this year? We are happy to partner with the Portage Optimists Club to offer this FREE event on Sunday, December 11th. You will fill out a form for each child, and Santa will use that to have a conversation with them and get them excited for the Holiday Season! Call From Santa forms will be available in November and will be located at the Park and Recreation office and on our website. Please drop off or mail completed forms to the Park and Recreation office, 701 W. Slifer Street, Portage, WI 53901.

**Date:** Sunday, December 11th

**Registration Deadline:** Friday, December 9th

**Fee:** FREE!



# YOUTH HOCKEY

Thunderbird Youth Hockey (based in Baraboo) is open to boys and girls ages 4-14. First-year skaters skate for free, and equipment is provided! Check out [thunderbirdyouthhockey.com](http://thunderbirdyouthhockey.com) for more information about Youth Hockey and Open Skate times!

# TOT SPORTS SAMPLER



Join us as we introduce your little ones to all sorts of sports in this Tot Sports Sampler! Each week, we'll introduce and practice the basic skills of sports like basketball, soccer, football, and more!

**Dates/Times:** TBA (will finalize by Dec. 12, but we are aiming for Saturday mornings in January)

**Ages:** 4-6 year olds

**Fee:** \$15/\$25

**Registration Dates:** December 12th - January 6th

**Min/Max:** 8/15 per session

# SWIM LESSONS

Each session of swim lessons includes 8 classes

Red/White/Blue Classes- \$27/\$37    Level 1 thru Level 6- \$37/\$47    Parent & Child Classes- \$15/\$25

## SUNDAY FALL SESSION

Dates: September 25-November 20  
(No class October 31)

**Registration Opens Aug. 22 at 8am**

## SUNDAY WINTER SESSION

Dates: January 8-February 26

**Registration Opens Dec. 12 at 8am**

TIME	CLASS #1	CLASS #2
1:00-1:30p	Parent/Child	Level 1
1:35-2:05p	Red Level	Level 2
2:10-2:40p	White Level	Level 3 (2:10-2:55)
2:45-3:15p	Blue Level	
3:20-3:50p	Parent/Child	Level 2
3:55-4:25p	Red Level	Level 4 (3:55-4:40)
4:30-5:00p	Level 1	
5:05-5:35p	Blue Level	Level 5/6 (5:05-5:50)
5:40-6:10p	White Level	
6:15-6:45p	Level 2	Level 1

TIME	CLASS #1	CLASS #2
1:00-1:30p	Blue Level	Level 1
1:35-2:05p	Parent/Child	Level 2
2:10-2:40p	Red Level	Level 5/6 (2:10-2:55)
2:45-3:15p	White Level	
3:20-3:50p	Parent/Child	Level 2
3:55-4:25p	Level 1	Level 3 (3:55-4:40)
4:30-5:00p	Blue Level	
5:05-5:35p	Red Level	Level 4 (5:05-5:50)
5:40-6:10p	White Level	
6:15-6:45p	Level 2	Level 1

### IMPORTANT REGISTRATION INFO:

You can register for our Swim Lessons on our website ([portage.recdesk.com](http://portage.recdesk.com)). Login or create an account, and then find the Swim Lessons under our 'Programs' tab. If you are creating a NEW ACCOUNT, it may take up to 24 hours for your account to be approved, so please create new accounts well in advance of the Registration Opening date.

### OPEN SWIM INFO:

We will post our Open Swim Hours for each month on our website ([portage.recdesk.com](http://portage.recdesk.com)) under the Pool tab, as well as on our Facebook page. Hours will vary each month and will depend on pool and lifeguard availability.

Open Swim- \$3 per swimmer (cash only)

# LIFEGUARDING COURSE

Sign up on our website for the program titled Lifeguard Course Interest Form in order to be placed on a list to receive more information about our next Lifeguard Certification Course! Upon passing the Lifeguard Course, participants will be eligible to begin working as a Lifeguard at the Rusch Pool and Silver Lake Beach. Participants must be at least 15 years old to enroll in the course.



## 2023 PARK SHELTER RENTALS

2023 Park Shelter Rentals will be accepted beginning on January 3rd, 2023. Reservations of these facilities can be completed on our website or in our office. The City of Portage has tons of great Park Shelters to rent for your Graduation Parties, Birthday Parties, Family Reunions, or whatever event you are planning for 2023! Costs vary depending on the facility, so please see our website for individual prices as well as descriptions and info for each facility.

## WINTER VEHICLE STORAGE

Looking to store a boat, camper, motorcycle, or any other vehicles indoors over the winter? We offer storage in enclosed, locked buildings at the Fairgrounds, as well as under our open-air shelters. This is a first come, first served event. We do not take reservations.

**Move-In Dates:** Fri, October 21st 8am-11am  
Sat, October 22nd 8am-9am

\*Unable to make those dates? Call our office the following Monday to inquire about an individual appointment, if we have space available.

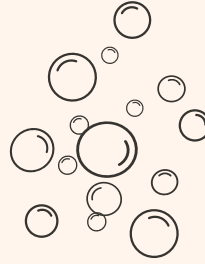
**Move-Out Date:** Sat, April 1, 2023 8am-9am

\*Early Move-Out is **NOT** an option\*

More information and pricing can be found on our website, [portage.recdesk.com](http://portage.recdesk.com). Look under the 'Forms' tab for 'Winter Vehicle Storage' or follow our Facebook page, [Facebook.com/portageparknrec](https://www.facebook.com/portageparknrec)

## PORTAGE YOUTH SWIM TEAM

If you are interested in joining the Portage Piranhas Youth Swim Team, please check out their website [www.portageyouthswimteam.com](http://www.portageyouthswimteam.com) for information on their next sessions!



## EMPLOYMENT

We are always looking for hard working and responsible staff members to join our team! Positions include seasonal park maintenance, mowers, program supervisors, youth recreation instructors, lifeguards, and swim lesson instructors. For complete job descriptions, and more details please feel free to visit the employment tab on our website at <http://portage.recdesk.com>. If you are interested in a Lifeguarding position, or taking a Lifeguarding Certification course, please contact our department for more information. Summer park maintenance job postings for the 2023 season will open in February and will be posted until filled. Staff looking for part time jobs working with our Recreation programs or Lifeguarding are encouraged to apply any time, as we have programs running year round. However, if high school or college aged kids are looking to work our Recreation programs next summer, please apply by March 1, 2023.

## PORTAGE PUBLIC LIBRARY

Be sure to check out the Portage Public Library for more great programs and events throughout the year! They have programs for youth, teens, AND adults to keep the whole family entertained!  
**Website:** [portagelibrary.us](http://portagelibrary.us)



# PARK PROJECT UPDATE

## SKATEPARK PHASE 3

Construction on Phase III of the Portage Family Skatepark at Goodyear Park is under way! The Portage Family Skatepark organization fundraised for Phase III to add a new kidney-bowl for the intermediate and advanced skaters. Construction is expected to wrap up this Fall, with a grand re-opening tentatively scheduled for Saturday, September 24th. Be sure to follow our Facebook page for updates.



## LINCOLN PARK BUILDING

The Lincoln Park Food Pantry building will be going through some rehab work on the exterior of the building to fix some cracking bricks.

## PARK SHELTER ROOF UPGRADES

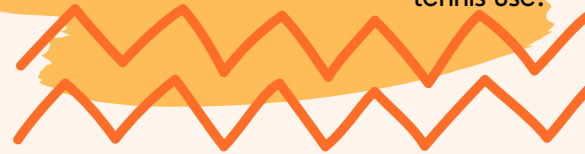
This fall we will be replacing the roofs on 3 of our park shelters (Collipp-Worden #1, Pauquette Park #2, and Silver Lake Beach). The metal roofs we are installing will help slow the deterioration of the shelters and increase their lifespan.

## BALL FIELD UPDATE

Construction on a 2nd ball field at the Fairgrounds was completed this spring, with the first games on the new field being played during the Columbia County Fair. We are also working to remove the outdated backstops at the Little League Complex and replacing them new chain-link backstops.

## PICKLEBALL COURTS

We will be resurfacing the current tennis/pickleball courts at Pine Meadow Park and installing pickleball courts with permanent nets and painted lines. We are hoping to continue offering Introduction to Pickleball programs, as well as adding pickleball leagues. This court will no longer be available for tennis use.



## 2023 SPRING & SUMMER ACTIVITY GUIDE

Our Spring/Summer Activity Guide next year will come out in March, so be sure to pay attention to our Facebook page and website next spring for information on all of the programs, swim lessons, and events we have planned for next year!



# CITY NEWS

**Fall Clean-Up:** October 8, 2022 8 a.m. – 2 p.m. at the Public Works Garage located at 616 Washington St.

**Guidelines for Brush Collection:** Remaining Brush Collection will take place the week of August 8, September 12, October 3, and November 7. Brush needs to be out in your boulevard by **7am Monday morning** to be picked up that week. Leaf and grass clipping bags must be separated from the brush and be out by **7am Monday morning** as well. Leaf and grass bags may be collected separately from our brush collection.

**Water Utility:** Portage Utilities recently partnered with the Wisconsin Dept. of Natural Resources (WisDNR) to conduct voluntary sampling of the drinking water in Portage for the presence of per- and polyfluoroalkyl substances (PFAS). PFAS are a group of human-made chemicals which have made their way into the environment through spills and/or discharges. Studies have indicated possible links between levels of PFAS and health effects in people. PFAS sampling was performed at several locations and the results were either undetectable (not present) or significantly below the Health Advisory Limit at all locations sampled. Therefore, at this time, the level of PFAS concentrations in the drinking water do not pose any health threat. The PFAS sample results can be found on the WisDNR website listed here:

**<https://dnr.wi.gov/dwsviewer/ContamResult>**

**Waste Water Reminders:** If you have a sanitary back-up after 4:30pm Monday-Friday, or on Saturday, Sunday, or a holiday, please call (608)742-2171.

## **Remaining 2022 Construction/Improvement Projects**

**Jefferson Street Stormwater Lift Station:** Specific construction dates to be determined. The project will consist of the complete replacement of the existing stormwater lift station located in the alleyway between Carroll St and Howard St from DeWitt St to Jefferson St. The project will incorporate new pumps, controls, force main, and a wet well to improve stormwater runoff.

**Portage Canal:** The Wisconsin Department of Transportation will be continuing with the next phase of the Portage Canal project which will include installation of a paved pedestrian path along the canal starting at Adams St and continuing to Morgan St. The path will include bench bump outs, lighting, and signage.

# 2022 Community Sponsors

ALLSTATE - SHELLY CIBULKA, AMERICAN FAMILY  
INSURANCE - SHEILA LINK, AMERICAN FAMILY INSURANCE  
- RILEY KUBATZKE, ARBOR GREEN INC, ASPIRUS, A&W,  
BINDL FAMILY CHIROPRACTIC, CASCADE MOUNTAIN,  
COMMUNITY BANK OF PORTAGE, COUNTRY PLUMBER,  
CRAIGS POPCORN CORNER, CRAWFORD OIL, CULVERS,  
CUTTING EDGE INSURANCE, DAVIS CONSTRUCTION CO,  
DON-RICK INSURANCE - TRICOR LLC, DW SPORTS  
CENTER, EDWARD JONES, ELECTRIC 1, GALLEY STUDIOS,  
GENERAL ENGINEERING, HAIR SENSATIONS, HART &  
OLSON FAMILY DENTISTRY, JOHNSON CHIROPRACTIC,  
KRUGER FAMILY INDUSTRIES (PENDA & TRIENDA),  
MACHINE LAB FITNESS, MCREATH ORTHODONTICS,  
MIDWEST DENTAL, PFLANZ, MANTEY, MENDRALA  
FUNERAL HOME, PORTAGE CROSSFIT COOPERATIVE,  
PORTAGE FURNITURE STORE, PORTAGE STATE BANK,  
RHYME, SCHULTZ SMALL ENGINE, SEUBERT FAMILY  
DENTISTRY, STATE FARM INSURANCE - SEAN MALONE,  
SUMMIT CREDIT UNION, TERRYTOWN PLUMBING,  
VFW POST 1707, WALMART, WALGREENS,  
WEISER CONCRETE, WISCONSIN RIVER TITLE,  
ZIMMERMAN PLUMBING

**THANK  
YOU!**