

2026

FALL FUN GUIDE



Fall into fun: Your guide to adventure in Albert Lea!

Library
Pages 3-6

Recreation
Pages 7-10

Senior Center
Page 11

Community info
and events
Pages 12-16



Explore our city

221 E. Clark St.
507-377-4300

www.cityofalbertlea.org



Take the scenic route!

Albert Lea offers several routes to walk and bike for commuting, running errands and having fun:

- Blue Zones Walkway around Fountain Lake (cityofalbertlea.org/blue-zones-walkway)
- Sidewalk and trail along Main Street from Highway 13/69 to County Road 38
- Blazing Star State Trail from Frank Hall Park, 505 Frank Ave., to Myre-Big Island State Park, 19499 780th Ave.

Albert Lea Community Theatre (ACT)

Check out ACT's upcoming lineup:

"Marriage is Hazardous to Your Health," Oct. 1-10.

The show tells the story of Eddie's midlife crisis and his escape from his picture-perfect family to establish a swinging bachelor's pad in New York City. The comedy, with a cast of three women and two men, is about new and old relationships and touches anyone who has ever fought and forgiven.



"Disney's Frozen," Dec. 3-13. Based on the hit 2013 film of the same name, "Frozen" reveals how true love can take many forms and how the bond between sisters is truly special. With music by Kristen Anderson-Lopez and Robert Lopez, this family show is a great way to celebrate the holiday season. Note: the Dec. 9 performance will be sensory friendly with less light and sound effects.

Season tickets go on sale Aug. 1. The box office will offer individual show tickets starting Sept. 1.

Visit actonbroadway.com or call toll-free 1-877-730-3144 for show times and tickets.

All events take place at the Marion Ross Performing Arts Center, 147 N. Broadway Ave.

Albert Lea Art Center

Located at 101 S. Broadway Ave., the Albert Lea Art Center offers exhibits by local artists and many unique items for sale in the gift shop, Art on Broadway, all year long. Open Wednesday-Friday, 10 a.m. to 4 p.m., and Saturdays, 10 a.m. to 1 p.m. Call 507-373-5665 for more information.

Freeborn County Arts Initiative

The Freeborn County Arts Initiative, 224 S. Broadway Ave., offers bimonthly scheduled exhibits and programming. Visit www.fc.ai.us for more information.

History Center of Freeborn County

Did you know Albert Lea is home to several famous celebrities? Discover their stories - and much more - at the History Center of Freeborn County, 1031 Bridge Ave., Albert Lea.

Explore engaging exhibits, interactive displays and programs that bring Freeborn County's history to life.

Museum hours:

- Wednesday: 10 a.m. to 7 p.m.
- Thursday and Friday: 10 a.m. to 4 p.m.
- Saturday: 9 a.m. to 1 p.m.

Visit the beautiful Itasca Rock Garden, 2129 Itasca Road, open daily from 10 a.m. to 7 p.m. through September. Admission to the Rock Garden is free.

For more information, visit lovehistory.org or call 507-373-8003.

Call 2-1-1 for human services help

Minnesota United Way offers free, confidential health and human services info 24/7 in all languages. Call 2-1-1 or visit 211unitedway.org.



Look for events, festivals and things to do on our
Community calendar

cityofalbertlea.org/community-calendar



Albert Lea Public Library

211 E. Clark St., Albert Lea, MN

507-377-4350

No fee for programs



Hours:

Monday:	9 a.m. - 6 p.m.
Tuesday:	9 a.m. - 8 p.m.
Wednesday:	9 a.m. - 6 p.m.
Thursday:	9 a.m. - 6 p.m.
Friday:	1-5 p.m.
Saturday:	Closed
Sunday:	1-5 p.m.

Library programs for pre-schoolers

Storytime

Mondays and Tuesdays,

Sept. 8 to Nov. 24 at 10 a.m.

Join us for stories, songs and movement to support literacy development and learning in young children.

Nighttime Storytime

Tuesdays, Sept. 1, Oct. 6, and Nov. 3 at 6:30 p.m.

Come in your pajamas for stories, songs and movement to support literacy development and learning in young children.

Music and Movement

Thursdays, Sept. 10 to Nov. 19 at 10 a.m.

Join us for music, dancing, singing and stories to support literacy development and learning in young children.

Polar Express Storytime

Tuesday, Dec. 1 at 6:30 p.m.

Children are invited to join us for stories and crafts at our Polar Express storytime in the Children's Library. Come in your pajamas and "all aboard" for fun.



Library programs for grade-schoolers

Intro to Book Pals

Thursdays, Sept. 10, Oct. 8, Nov. 12, and Dec. 10 at 3:45 p.m.

Kids in grades 1 and 2 are invited to an introduction to Book Pals, a book club just for kids. Each month, kids will read, discuss and participate in activities related to a different story. Registration is required for each month.

Book Pals: Grades 3-4

Tuesdays, Sept. 22 to Oct. 20 at 3:45 p.m.

Kids in grades 3-4 are invited to join the library for Book Pals, a book club just for kids. This fall kids will read "Charlotte's Web" by E.B. White and participate in activities related to the story. Registration is required.

Book Pals: Grades 5-7

Mondays, Sept. 21 to Oct. 19 at 3:45 p.m.

Kids in grades 5-7 are invited to join the library for Book Pals, a book club just for kids. This fall, kids will read "City of Ember" by Jeanne DuPrau and participate in activities related to the story. Registration is required.

Pokémon Club

Thursdays, Sept. 17, Oct. 15, Nov. 19 and Dec. 17 at 3:30 p.m.

Elementary school aged children are invited to join us for Pokémon Club! The club meets once a month to play the Pokémon Trading Card Game.

Library special events

Pooh Party

Sunday, Oct. 11 at 2 p.m.

Winnie the Pooh is turning 100 and we are having a party to celebrate! Join us for activities, games and cake related to this fictional character.

BINGO

Thursday, Oct. 15 at 2 p.m.

Join us during fall break for BINGO in the Children's Library.

Family Event: Shape Turkey

Sunday, Nov. 8 at 2 p.m.

Bring the whole family and join us for a fun afternoon of crafting in the Children's Library. In November, attendees will make a shape turkey.

Wings of Fire Fest

Tuesday, Nov. 17 from 4 to 6 p.m.

Join us for a "Wings of Fire" celebration featuring activities and games based on the popular chapter book series.

Family Event: Button Tree Frame

Sunday, Dec. 13 at 2 p.m.

Bring the whole family and join us for a fun afternoon of crafting in the Children's Library. In December, attendees will make a button tree frame.

Read to a Dog

Sundays, Nov. 8 and Dec. 13 from 2 to 3:30 p.m.

Read to a Dog provides a chance for children to read aloud to a therapy dog for 10 minutes. Research shows that reading to a dog can help build important literacy skills in kids, especially reluctant readers. Children may bring their own books to read or borrow a book from the library. Registration is preferred; drop-ins will be accommodated if schedule allows.

Family Reads

Dec. 6 to Jan. 31

Families with children are invited to sign up as a team and record reading minutes. Teams have no limit, so get everyone involved in the fun! Teams earn raffle tickets for every 60 minutes read. Sign up for the program starting on Monday, Nov. 30.



Library events for tweens and teens

Tween and Teen Hangout

Tuesdays, Sept. 8, Oct. 13, Nov. 10 and Dec. 8 from 3:30 to 5:30 p.m.

Drop in to the library for Tween and Teen Hangout! A variety of activities will be available, including Nintendo Switches, tabletop games, crafts and more. Snacks will be provided.

Tween and Teen Drop-in Crafts

Wednesdays, Sept. 16, Oct. 21, Nov. 18 and Dec. 16 from 3:30 to 5:30 p.m.

Stop by the Albert Lea Public Library after school for drop-in crafts. There will be multiple crafts to choose from or you can create your own masterpiece. All supplies will be provided.

Spirit Tees

Thursday, Sept. 3 at 4 p.m.

Get ready for homecoming season and make a spirit tee at the library! All supplies will be provided. Registration is required.

Creepy Clay Creations

Thursday, Oct. 1 at 4 p.m.

Bring your creativity and come prepared to make a creepy clay creation that is sure to scare your friends and family. All supplies will be provided. Registration is required.

Universal Yum - South Korea

Thursday, Nov. 5 at 4 p.m.

Learn about South Korea by sampling and rating some of their most popular snacks. Registration is required.

Winter Cake Pop Decorating

Thursday, Dec. 3 at 4 p.m.

Put your decorating skills to the test and make a winter themed cake pop. Registration is required.



Library programs for adults

Needles, Pins and More

**Thursdays, Sept. 3, Oct. 1, Nov. 5, and Dec. 3
from 10 a.m. to noon**

Bring your current small craft project and work on it with others in the community. All types of crafts are welcome.

Adult Craft Night

**Tuesdays, Sept. 8, Oct. 13, Nov. 10, and Dec. 8
at 4:30 and 6 p.m.**

Join the Albert Lea Public Library for adult craft night on the second Tuesday of each month. Attendees will complete a different craft each month. All supplies are provided. Registration is required. Please register for one session only, 4:30 or 6 p.m.

Sept. 8: Woven coasters

Oct. 13: Fuse bead creations

Nov. 10: Recipe scrapbook

Dec. 8: Bedazzled candle holder

Fountain Lake Readers book club

**Thursdays, Sept. 10, Oct. 8, Nov. 12, and Dec. 10
at 10 a.m.**

The Fountain Lake Readers book club meets monthly to discuss a broad range of fiction book titles. Copies of the book for each month are available at the library. New members are welcome.

Bring Your Own Lunch and Learn

**Thursdays, Sept. 10, Oct. 8, Nov. 12, and Dec. 10
at noon**

Bring your lunch and join us for an hour of learning in the City Council Chambers on the top floor of City Hall, 221 E. Clark St.

Sept. 10: Renter's Rights with Southern MN Regional Legal Services

Oct. 8: Wheels of Murder with author Jeff Sauve

Nov. 12: History of the Albert Lea Fire Department with Firefighter Brandi Krenz

Dec. 10: ALPL Staff's Favorite Books from 2026

Choose Your Own Book Club

Tuesdays, Sept. 15, Oct. 20, and Nov. 17 at 6 p.m.

Connect with fellow readers and grow your reading list in this casual book discussion group. Join us to talk about the books you've read or are currently reading.



3D Printing: Design Class

Thursdays, Sept. 17 and Nov. 19 at 5 p.m.

Learn about designing and printing in 3D. Participants will use Tinkercad to create and customize designs and print them with the library's 3D printer. Participants do not need to have 3D printing experience, but should have basic computer skills. Adults and teens are welcome to attend; tweens can attend with a caregiver. Registration is required.

3D Printing: Open Lab

Thursdays, Oct. 15 and Dec. 17 at 5 p.m.

Access the library's 3D printing resources to make your designs come to life. Library computers, the 3D printer and PLA filament will be made available for prints. Participants should have prior experience with 3D printing. Staff will be available to answer questions and assist with troubleshooting. Adults and teens are welcome to attend; tweens can attend with a caregiver. Registration is required.

To register for a program, stop by the library,
211 E. Clark St., Albert Lea, register online at
alplonline.org, or call 507-377-4350.

All programs are FREE OF CHARGE.

Book Bedazzling Drop-in for Adults

Tuesday, Sept. 29 from 4:30 to 8 p.m.

Bring a book and turn it into a dazzling piece of art during this drop in craft session.

Book Tasting: ALPL Staff's Favorite Books from 2026

Tuesday, Dec. 15 at 6 p.m., City Council Chambers

Join us for a relaxed evening of bookish exploration and conversation. Participants will peruse a menu of titles curated by library staff, all available to check out after the program. December's selections will feature the library staff's favorite books published in 2026.



Library services

Books by Mail: Free library delivery

If illness, disability, or lack of transportation keeps you from visiting the library, the staff will mail books and media straight to your home for free.

How it works

- **Borrow:** Receive a canvas mailing bag with library books, CDs, and DVDs.
- **Enjoy:** Items check out for four weeks, with one two-week renewal allowed if no one is waiting.
- **Return:** Simply flip the mailing label, place materials inside, zip-tie the bag, and drop it in the mail. Return postage is included.

How to sign up

- **Apply:** Submit the Books-by-Mail application by mail, email, or in person.
- **Register:** The library will check your account or create a new one for you.
- **Connect:** A library staff member will call you to discuss your reading preferences and start your first delivery.

Questions? Call the Albert Lea Public Library at 507-377-4350.



Library Printing and Tech Services

The Albert Lea Public Library provides computers, hotspot checkouts, and public printing. Patrons can print from library computers or personal devices.

- Black and white: 10 cents per page
- Color: 25 cents per page

Details: alplonline.org/online-services/technology

Multilingual Resources

Service videos: Available in English, Spanish, and Karen on the library's YouTube channel at youtube.com/AlbertLeaPubLib.

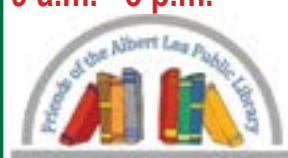
Fun Guide: Available in English and Spanish at cityofalbertlea.org/recreation.

Staff host all library programs in English unless otherwise noted.

SHOP THE FOUNTAIN LAKE BOOKSTORE

**Located on the
bottom floor of the
Library/City Hall
211 E. Clark St., Albert Lea**

**Open Monday-Thursday
9 a.m. - 3 p.m.**



All proceeds support
programming and equipment at
the Albert Lea Public Library



Albert Lea Recreation

701 Lake Chapeau Drive

Albert Lea, MN • 507-377-4370

Register online at: cityofalbertlea.org/recreation-registration

or at the Recreation Office, open 7:30 a.m. - 4 p.m. weekdays

Cash, checks and credit cards accepted



Pavilion rental information

Looking for a place for family reunions or birthday parties? The city rents facilities at Edgewater, Pioneer and Fountain Lake parks. Facilities must be rented for a minimum of 2 hours. Cancellations must be made 30 days prior to use to receive a refund. No refunds due to weather. Prices do not include sales tax. All parks and facilities are tobacco-free. Alcohol may only be served by a business with an on-sale liquor license who also holds a catering permit as an incidental part of food service.

For information on rentals, contact the Recreation Department at 507-377-4370 or reserve online at cityofalbertlea.org/recreation-registration. All pavilion rentals, except Edgewater Bay Pavilion, close for the season on Oct. 12.

Photo policy

The City of Albert Lea may photograph participants in programs and special events, or people in parks or on park property, and use these images in city promotions. The media may also use images in their coverage of Albert Lea events, programs and facilities. The photos are not made available for commercial/private sector marketing and advertising, endorsement, trade or sales.

Program cancellation

The City of Albert Lea will issue a full refund when a class or program is canceled due to low enrollment. Class participants will be notified of a canceled program through email.

Inclusion support

The Recreation Department provides an atmosphere in which individuals with special needs can interact, play and socialize with their peers in an inclusive environment. Recreation staff will do their best to assist with modifications and volunteer support to help make each experience successful. Please let staff know at registration if any modifications or support is needed.

Participation waiver

Participation in any Albert Lea Recreation program, class or activity is voluntary. By enrolling in these programs, you indicate that you have no physical conditions, health history or illness that would make your participation hazardous to your health or others.

Questions and volunteer opportunities

Consider giving your time and talents through volunteering with the Albert Lea Recreation Department. For more information, individuals, businesses and social groups should contact Recreation Coordinator Dani Bakken at dbakken@ci.albertlea.mn.us or 507-377-4368.



SEASONAL JOBS

The Recreation Department will be hiring for part-time seasonal jobs for fall and winter!

OPEN POSITIONS:

- Learn to Skate instructor (minimum age is 18 years)
- Learn to Skate junior instructor (minimum age is 14 years)
- Zamboni driver/rink supervisor (minimum age is 18 years)
- Arena attendant (minimum age is 16 years)
- Warming house attendant (minimum age is 16 years)

Apply online! Check the website for postings:
governmentjobs.com/careers/albertlea



Recreation programs

507-377-4370
cityofalbertlea.org

Safety Day 2026

Tuesday, Sept. 15 from 4 to 6 p.m.

Morin Park, 222 St. Mary Ave.

No fee or registration required

Join Safety Day, a fun, hands-on event for the whole family! Explore emergency vehicles, meet local police officers, firefighters, and first responders, and learn important safety tips in an interactive and kid-friendly way. From fire safety and water safety to bike and pedestrian safety, there's something for everyone. Safety Day is a great opportunity to connect with community partners, ask questions, and help kids build confidence around everyday safety, all while having fun!

Weight Training with Annie

Mondays and Wednesdays,

Oct. 19 to Dec. 9 from 5:30 to 6:45 p.m.

United Methodist Church, 702 Highway 69 S.

Annie Olson is an experienced instructor who will be leading a weight training class that is suitable for people of varying fitness levels. Please bring an exercise mat, towel and one set of hand weights at desired weight. Schedule subject to change.

Cost: \$40 for city residents,

\$45 for non-residents

Learning through Movement

Oct. 20, 27 and Nov. 3 from 4 to 5 p.m.

United Methodist Church, 702 Highway 69 S.

This program is for children ages 4-5. Get ready to move, play and learn! This high-energy class for preschoolers blends music, dance, and a S.M.A.R.T. (stimulating maturity through accelerated readiness training) obstacle course with engaging storytime and movement-based literacy activities. Each session supports early learning standards while keeping kids active and having fun. Open to children of all abilities. Parents are welcome to remain in the building during class; however, to support student engagement and independence, classroom spaces are reserved for participants only.

Cost: \$30

Registration deadline: Oct. 15

Check out the directory of parks, trails and fun spots!

Explore Albert Lea's parks, trails, and fun spots on the city's website: cityofalbertlea.org/departments/parks/parks-trails-fun-spots. Search by name, location, or amenities.



Young Athletes

Tuesdays, Oct. 6 to Nov. 10 from 6 to 7 p.m.

United Methodist Church, 702 Highway 69 S.

The Recreation Department is partnering with United Preschool to offer Young Athletes. This program is an extension of Special Olympics and is designed to introduce participants to basic sports skills. Young Athletes is an inclusion program, open to children of all abilities. The program is tailored to children ages 4-6, providing them with a fun and engaging environment to develop their athletic abilities. Children of all skill levels are welcome to join this program.

Cost: \$20 for the 6-week session

Registration deadline: Oct. 1

Adult Volleyball

Mondays and Wednesdays starting Sept. 21

Fall volleyball leagues are open to players age 15 and older, with games at the Albert Lea National Guard Armory, 410 Prospect Ave. Women's League games are on Monday nights and the Co-Ed League games are on Wednesday nights. The season ends with a single elimination tournament. Officials are not utilized, teams are responsible for making their own calls. First game starts at 6:30 p.m.

Cost: \$150 per team



MEAFUN
Oct. 15-16

Follow our Facebook page for
updates on fun MEA weekend events!

www.facebook.com/albertlearec

Skating and hockey

Catch college hockey at the arena

The Albert Lea City Arena is home to the Waldorf University (Forest City, Iowa) men's hockey program. Catch the Warriors in action this season! Details, including their game schedule, are available at: www.waldorfwarriors.com.

Albert Lea Figure Skating Club

The Albert Lea Figure Skating Club provides a skating environment that fosters both recreational and competitive skating. The club, its coaches, board members and skaters are members of the United States Figure Skating Association. Follow the club on Facebook (www.facebook.com/AlbertLeaFigureSkatingClub) or check out the club's website at: www.alfsc.org.

Albert Lea Hockey Association

Join a youth hockey team today! Visit albertlea.pucksystems2.com for registration deadlines, team levels, and association details.



**HALLOWEEN
ROCK ON ICE**

**Saturday, Oct. 31
from 7 to 9 p.m.**

**\$5, includes skate rental
Costume contest, DJ and prizes!**

ALBERT LEA CITY ARENA
701 Lake Chapeau Drive



**UGLY SWEATER
SKATE**

Sunday, Dec. 20 from 4:30 to 6 p.m.

**\$5, includes skate rental
Ugly sweater contest, music and prizes!**

Albert Lea City Arena
701 Lake Chapeau Drive



**Santa's mailbox is
coming to town!**

Drop off your letter to Santa at these
convenient locations Nov. 30-Dec. 19:

- City Hall, 221 E. Clark St.
- City Arena: 701 Lake Chapeau Drive

Santa can't wait to hear from all
the girls and boys in Albert Lea!

Be sure to include your return
address so he can write back!

Skating and hockey



Outdoor rinks and warming houses

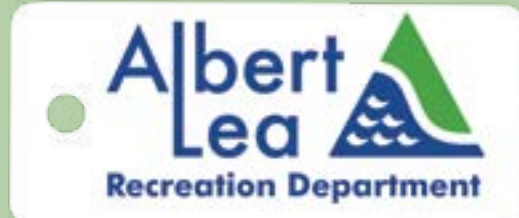
Outdoor rinks and warming houses will open this winter, when weather permits, at the following parks:

- Academy, 910 Frank Hall Drive
- Hawthorne, 915 Garfield Ave.
- Hayek, 1215 Clark St.
- Lakeview, 102 Willamor Road

There is no fee to skate or rent skates, though skate sizes are limited. Skates available at Lakeview Park only.

GET YOUR ARENA SKATE CARD!

20 admissions for \$60. The reloadable card can be used for open hockey, public skate and special events like Rock on Ice. Skate rental not included.



Public Skate: Glide into fun!

Various dates and times

Starting in October, ice rinks at the Albert Lea City Arena, 701 Lake Chapeau Drive, are open for public skating at various times. Be sure to check the calendar online at: cityofalbertlea.org/recreation-registration or follow "Albert Lea Recreation" on Facebook (www.facebook.com/albertlearec).

Cost:

- \$4 when school is in session (includes skate rental).
- \$5 on non-school days. Additional \$2 for skate rental.
- Register online: cityofalbertlea.org/recreation-registration.



LEARN TO
SKATE
USA

Session 1: Oct. 18 to Nov. 22

Session 2: Jan. 10 to Feb. 14

Participate in Learn to Skate through the U.S. Figure Skating Association! This program is designed for beginning hockey players, figure skaters or any ice skaters age 3 and up. Participants will be placed in groups based on skill level:

- Snowplow Sam: 1 - 4 (ages 3 - 5)
- Basic Skills: 1 - 6 (ages 6 and up)

Participants are encouraged to provide their own helmets

Sundays, choice of: 2 to 2:30 p.m.; 2:40 to 3:10 p.m.; 3:20 to 3:50 p.m.

Fee includes a Learn to Skate membership, skate rentals (skate sizes are limited) and 2 passes to public skate at the City Arena.

Register online: cityofalbertlea.org/recreation-registration

Sundays
\$50
per session

Albert Lea Senior Center

1739 W. Main St.
507-373-0704

Open Monday - Thursday, 8:30 a.m. to 4 p.m., Friday, 8:30 a.m. to noon

The Senior Center's mission is to coordinate and provide programs and services to enrich the lives and health of our seniors through educational, social and recreational activities.



Membership

Cost for the membership is \$30 and is available to anyone 55 and older. If you are a member of the YMCA, membership is free.

Monthly Birthday Party

Second Monday of the month following BINGO (around 2:30 p.m.)

Join the monthly birthday parties where members celebrate you! Sponsored by Cargill.

Memory Care Cafe

First Monday of the month at 2 p.m.

Third Wednesday of the month at 2 p.m.

A safe place for people with memory loss and their caregivers to enjoy activities, share conversation, learn, and feel connected. Mondays are music themed, Wednesday activities vary.

Coffee with a Cop

First Wednesday of the month at 9:30 a.m.

Enjoy a cup of coffee with local law enforcement officers. This is your chance to ask questions and build relationships with officers in the community.

Tech Thursday

Sept. 17 and Dec. 3 at 11 a.m.

Bring your phone, tablet, laptop, or whatever device you need help with!

Defensive Driving Course

Sept. 11 from 12:30 to 4:30 p.m.

Nov. 6 from 9 a.m. to 1 p.m.

Save 10 percent on your auto insurance for 3 years.

There are NO written or behind the wheel tests! To register and pay for this class, please call 320-308-1400 or 888-233-1294 or visit mnsafetycenter.org.

End of Summer BBQ

Friday, Aug. 28 at 11 a.m.

As the season winds down, gather for good food and great company. The menu features a classic pulled pork sandwich spread with all the best trimmings: Cost: \$12 for members, \$16 for non-members.

Lake Minnetonka Luncheon Cruise

Friday, Sept. 18

Bus leaves the center at 9 a.m. and returns at 4 p.m.

Treat yourself to a relaxing afternoon on the water! Cruise along as you enjoy a fully narrated tour, paired with a delicious, fresh lunch. Cost: \$105 for members, \$115 for non-members. Register by Sept. 3.

Jackpot Junction Casino

Saturday, Oct. 10

Bus leaves the center at 10 a.m. and returns at 9 p.m.

Cost: \$65 for members, \$75 for non-members. Register by Oct. 1

80s Brunch

Friday, Oct. 23 from 10 to 11 a.m.

Brunch is on us if you're 80+! Getting older has its perks and one of them is the annual fall brunch to celebrate all the octogenarians. Younger, less experienced folks can come and have fun too! Cost: Free for members age 80 and up. \$12 for under age 80 and non-members.

Mayowood Mansion Christmas Tour

Thursday, Nov. 5

Bus leaves the center at 9:30 a.m. and returns at 4 p.m.

Experience the magic of the holiday season with a guided, one-hour walking tour of the beautifully decorated Mayowood Mansion! Before the tour, participants will stop for lunch together. Cost: \$70 for members, \$80 for non-members. Register by Oct. 14.

Christmas Party

Friday, Dec. 11 at 11:30 a.m., Edgewater Bay Pavilion

Enjoy lake views while savoring delicious food. Try your luck at winning some amazing prizes in the raffle. Cost: TBD.

OKTOBERWEEN

TRUNK OR TREAT

**Saturday, Oct. 31,
12:30 to 3 p.m.**

**History Center of Freeborn County
1031 Bridge Ave.
Free admission**



**Trunk or treat from local organizations!
Free Face Painting by Let's Face it!
Pet and kid costume contest!**



OKTOBERWEEN

**Freeborn County Fairgrounds
1105 Bridge Ave., Albert Lea**

**Friday, Oct. 23 5-10 p.m.
Saturday, Oct. 24 3-10 p.m.
Friday, Oct. 30 5-10 p.m.
Saturday, Oct. 31 3-10 p.m.**

**Cold brews and live music
Food trucks
Games in the beer gardens
Kids carnival with bounce houses,
pumpkin crafts, and more!**

Admission Info:
\$5 includes 2 premium activities like the
Haunted House or Archery Tag!
Kids 5 and under get in FREE
Cash only at the gate



Shape the future of Albert Lea

**Apply for a spot on a City Board
or Commission!**

- Airport Advisory Board
- Board of Appeals
- Library Advisory Board
- Parks and Recreation Advisory Board
- Planning Commission

Applications are available in the
mayor's office on the top floor of
City Hall, 221 E. Clark St., or online at
[cityofalbertlea.org/government/boards-
and-commissions/](http://cityofalbertlea.org/government/boards-and-commissions/)



Albert Lea, Minnesota




**The Midwest's Largest
Historical Reenactment
of Early America**

**October 3rd - 4th, 2026
40th Annual Event**

**Over 1,000 Participants, Ethnic Food & Crafts
300 Tipis, Lodges & Shelters, & Stage Entertainment**

Musical Entertainment
Blue Groove Bluegrass • Wild Goose Chase Cloggers
Roe Family Singers • Curtis and Loretta
Twin Prop Jane (Saturday Only) • Bill Cagley
Wandering (Saturday Only)

**Voted one of the TOP 100 EVENTS in
North America by the American Bus Association**

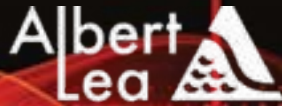
Visit our Website for Tickets and Information
www.bigislandfestivalandbbq.org or Call 1-507-373-3938

LIVE ON THE EDGE!



Albert Lea Skate Park

Open 9 a.m. - 9 p.m. daily
at the City Beach,
300 Johnson St.
No admission fee



Great idea for a park amenity or rec program?



Share your concepts for a NEW park feature, amenity, or recreational program such as trail improvements, sports courts, playgrounds, or events.

Complete the online project proposal form at:
cityofalbertlea.org/parksproject.

The Parks and Recreation Board will review submissions and recommend promising projects to the City Council.

Projects must meet this mission: To provide quality recreational opportunities and to plan, acquire, develop and maintain quality, attractive parks and facilities that enhance the quality of life in the community of Albert Lea.



Gather. Discover. Grow.

FALL REGISTRATION OPENS AUGUST 10

Enrichment Opportunities for Youth + Adults:
Fitness • Finance • Retirement Planning • Hobbies • Daytime Trips

Rock Gym: Tuesdays, Fridays & Saturdays, 6:00-9:00pm

Adult Education: Free GED testing + English classes

Early Childhood/ECFE: Early Childhood/ECFE: Preschool classes, parenting classes, toddler series + events for ages 0-5

Tiger Cub Child Care: Openings, scholarships
+ Child Care Assistance welcomed

View programs and register online:
AlbertLeaCommunityEd.org

Brookside Education Center
211 W Richway Dr | Albert Lea
507-379-5318



ALL PASSENGERS RIDE FREE!

To and from your medical appointments at
MAYO CLINIC HEALTH SYSTEM
Albert Lea and Waseca

Call our dispatch office for more
information and to book your rides!



507-433-2379

www.smartbusmn.org

Like us on **facebook**

RECREATIONAL FIRE RULES:



- Must use a fire ring or pit
- Keep size under 3x3 feet
- Burn dry wood only; no trash
- Must stay 25 feet from buildings
- Must have water nearby
- Competent adult supervision required

A message from:



cityofalbertlea.org/departments/fire

Top 10 E-Bike Safety Tips for kids (and parents)

HELMETS EVERY RIDE

No helmet, no ride. Parents should model this every time.

RESPECT THE SPEED

E-bikes are faster than regular bikes. Start slow and build skills.

BE SEEN AT ALL TIMES

Use lights, wear bright clothing and add reflectors.

FOLLOW THE RULES OF THE ROAD

Stop at signs, use hand signals, and ride with traffic.

NO DISTRACTIONS

No phones or headphones. Stay alert and aware.

CHOOSE SAFE ROUTES

Stick to bike paths or low-traffic streets.

PRACTICE SMART RIDING SKILLS

Work on braking, turning, and scanning for hazards.

RIDE PREDICTABLY

Avoid sudden moves. Be consistent so drivers can anticipate you.



DO A QUICK SAFETY CHECK

Check brakes, tires, and battery before every ride.

LEAD BY EXAMPLE

Kids learn from you. Ride safely and follow the rules.



A message from the Albert Lea Police Department

Small Steps. Stronger Albert Lea.

The healthiest habits aren't complicated - they're part of everyday life.

Blue Zones Albert Lea helps make it easier to:

- Walk and bike more
- Meet neighbors
- Join community activities
- Enjoy parks and trails
- Build healthy routines together

This Fun Guide is full of opportunities to move together, make new friends and join the fun. Whether taking a stroll or attending a local event, every step helps create a healthier Albert Lea.



cityofalbertlea.org/services/blue-zones

Adopt a Storm Drain!

Keep your neighborhood clean and protect local waterways.



Sweep up! Rake up! Pick up!

Sign up to adopt a drain



Keep your drain clear



Track your impact



ADOPT A STORM DRAIN
A project of Hamline University and Shell Rock River Watershed District.

SRRWD
SHELL ROCK RIVER WATERSHED DISTRICT

Sign up today!
adopt-a-drain.org



HOUSEHOLD HAZARDOUS WASTE COLLECTIONS

WEDNESDAYS, 9 a.m. - 3 p.m.



2020 Pioneer Trail, Albert Lea
(off the East end of Hammer Road)

'Leaf' it out of storm drains!



Please help protect local lakes from nutrients that grow algae by keeping leaves and other debris out of storm drains. Learn more on the Shell Rock River Watershed District website: www.shellrock.org.

Connect with your CITY COUNCIL



Mayor
Rich Murray



Ward 1
Rachel Christensen



Ward 2
Larry Baker



Ward 3
Ted Herman



Ward 4
Reid Olson

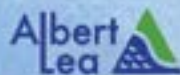


Ward 5
Keith Van Beek



Ward 6
Brian Anderson

- Attend meetings the 2nd and 4th Mondays at 7 p.m., City Hall Council Chambers, 221 E. Clark St.
- Call or email your councilor with questions and ideas
- Watch meetings live and on demand
- Go to cityofalbertlea.org/government/city-council for contact info, agendas, minutes and ALTV link.



For recycling electronics or disposing of other items that can't be recycled or reused,

take them to the Transfer Station

Fall Hours (Oct. 1 - Nov. 30)

Monday: noon - 6 p.m.
Tuesday: 11 a.m. - 3 p.m.
Wednesday: noon - 6 p.m.
Thursday: noon - 6 p.m.
Friday: 11 a.m. - 3 p.m.
Saturday: 9 a.m. - 4 p.m.
Sunday: Closed



2506 W. Richway Dr.
Albert Lea

cityofalbertlea.org/transfer-station

507-373-5013 or
507-377-4325 (engineering dept.)





221 E Clark Street
Albert Lea, MN 56007
cityofalbertlea.org

Farmers Market twice a week

Through Oct. 31, North Broadway Lot

- Wednesdays: 3:30 to 5:30 p.m.
- Saturdays: 9 a.m. to noon

Fresh produce, baked goods and more!

Viva la Independencia

Friday, Sept. 18

Central Park, 300 W. Clark St.

Mexican Independence Day, Día de la Independencia, is celebrated every year in September to commemorate the country's freedom from centuries of Spanish rule. Enjoy the food vendors, kids activities and El Grito parade along with dancing and music.

Halloween Spooktacular

Thursday, Oct. 29 from 4 to 7 p.m.

Historic downtown Albert Lea

Bring the kids for trick-or-treating at participating businesses with free photos at the Convention and Visitors Bureau, 132 N. Broadway Ave.

Small Business Saturday

Saturday, Nov. 28

Shopping local is a meaningful way to show appreciation for the unique character and charm these businesses bring to our community. When you shop at a local boutique, dine at a neighborhood restaurant, or use a service from a local artist, you're making a direct contribution to the stability and growth of our local economy.

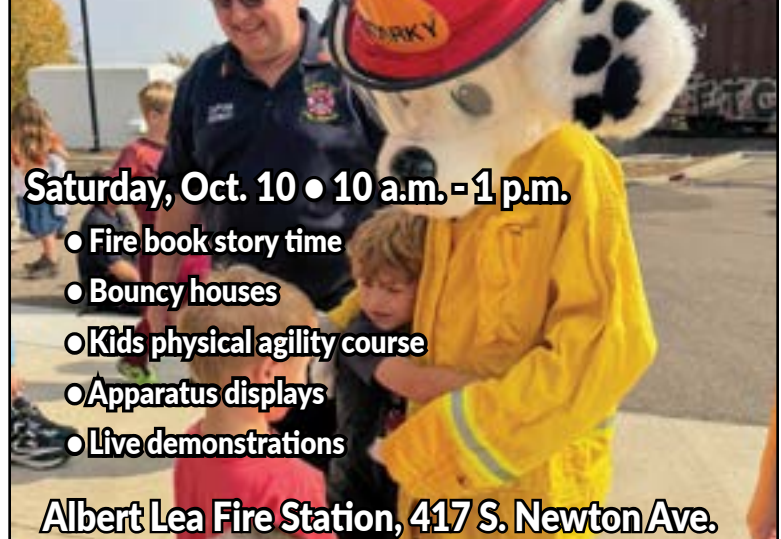
Annual Holiday Bazaar

Thursday, Dec. 10 from 4 to 6 p.m.

Historic downtown Albert Lea

Bring the family for store specials, wagon rides, photos with Santa, hot chocolate and goodies, and the Santa Cruise on Broadway Avenue. After the fun, come to Central Park, 300 W. Clark St., for a tree lighting to kick off the Trail of Enchantment.

FIRE PREVENTION OPEN HOUSE



Saturday, Oct. 10 • 10 a.m. - 1 p.m.

- Fire book story time
- Bouncy houses
- Kids physical agility course
- Apparatus displays
- Live demonstrations

Albert Lea Fire Station, 417 S. Newton Ave.

explore ALBERT LEA, MN

SAVE THE DATE

September

- 5..... Daisy Fest
- 15..... Safety Day
- 18..... Viva la Independencia
- 26..... Shop, Sip 'n Stroll
- TBD**..... Homecoming parade and window contest

October

- 3-4 Big Island Rendezvous
- 8-11..... Citywide garage sales
- 29..... Halloween Spooktacular
- 30-31 Oktoberween

November

- 6-7 Big Buck Shopping Opener
- 28..... Small Business Saturday

December

- 10..... Holiday Bazaar, Santa Cruise, Trail of Enchantment

EXPLOREALBERTLEA.COM