

Summer Recreation Guide 2025

June-September

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GRILL SAFELY THIS SUMMER



Plenty of people can be found working their grilling magic year-round. But the vast majority of people do the bulk of their grilling over the summer, when warm temperatures contribute to a relaxed atmosphere that makes outdoor cooking and dining that much more appealing.

The relaxing nature of summer can make it easy to overlook safety, particularly when grilling. However, the right safety measures when cooking over an open flame can prevent home fires and other accidents that can cause injury and even death. In recognition of the many things that can go wrong when grilling, the Federal Emergency

Management Agency and the U.S. Fire Administration offer these simple fire safety tips that every grillmaster can keep in mind as summer grilling season hits full swing.

- **Only use a grill outside.** Grills should never be used indoors, and that includes in garages with the doors open. Before lighting a flame, make sure the grill is at least three feet from siding, deck rails and eaves.
- **Establish a safe zone around the grill.** A three-foot safe zone around the grill can decrease the likelihood that pets will run into and potentially tip over the grill. Kids can be taught to respect this zone as well so they avoid being burned.
- **Open a gas grill before lighting it.** Charcoal grills, hybrid grills and smokers cannot be lit unless the lid is lifted. That isn't the case with gas grills, but gas grills should never be lit with the lid closed. If a gas grill is lit with its lid closed, gas can build up inside and that could cause an explosion. Even if there's some summer rain falling, open the lid on a gas grill before turning the ignition switch.

- **Keep an eye on the grill at all times.** It's tempting to walk away from a grill while food is cooking, but someone should always be tasked with staying close to the grill. If cooks must walk away, ask another adult to stay close to the grill until you return. All it takes is a few seconds for a fire to start.
- **Clean the grill regularly.** Regular cleaning of the grill is both healthy and safe. Cleaning helps to ensure the cooking surface is clean and unlikely to cause food poisoning. But a grease-free grill also poses less of a fire hazard than one that hasn't been cleaned.
- **Let coals cool before discarding them.** Coals from the grill should be given ample time to cool before they're removed from the grill and discarded.
- **Remember to turn the gas valve to the off position after cooking.** When cooking with gas grills, cooks must remember to turn the valve to the off position once all the food has been cooked.

Simple safety measures can ensure summer grilling season goes off without a hitch.

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4 STRATEGIES TO KEEP KIDS OCCUPIED ON LONG CAR TRIPS

Road trips and self-driving vacations tend to produce their own unique moments and memories, but that doesn't mean they don't share certain characteristics. Lately, those characteristics might be high gas prices and more traffic as many vacationers drive in an effort to circumvent the escalating cost of air travel. For parents, one component of road trips to count on like clockwork is the moment when kids ask, "Are we there yet?"

A frustration moms and dads from all walks of life and across all generations can share, bored children calling out from the backseat can try any parent's patience. Thankfully, parents can utilize these four strategies to keep kids occupied on long car trips.



1. Take out the tablet. Unlike their own parents, modern moms and dads have a reliable ally in the fight against backseat boredom. Tablets can be loaded with all sorts of entertainment, from e-books to movies to interactive activities to school lessons. Rules governing device usage may be a part of life at home, but parents can relax those rules on the road to ensure kids stay occupied until the family arrives at its destination.
2. Encourage kids to scrapbook the trip. If a road trip involves visiting multiple destinations, parents can encourage kids to spend some time scrapbooking their experiences in the backseat. Kids can write about the previous day's activities and paste ticket stubs and other mementos from the trip into their book.
3. Transform the backseat into a play area. Parents may prefer their vehicles remain toy-free most of the time, but transforming the backseat into a play area can ensure kids have plenty of things to do and less time to dwell on how long it's taking to get from point A to point

- B. Avoid packing anything that can be turned into a projectile, especially for children who aren't yet school-aged. But be sure to include some books, puzzles, dolls/ action figures, and handheld games.
4. Time the trip well. Of course, kids don't necessarily need to be actively engaged in an activity in order to be occupied during a road trip. If possible, depart in the wee small hours of the morning, which can pay a host of dividends. Leaving before sunrise reduces the chances of being stuck in traffic, thus cutting back on the amount of time the family spends in the car. Leaving early also increases the chances that kids will spend a good portion of the trip sleeping in the backseat. Road trips with young kids in tow can try any parent's patience. But some useful strategies to keep kids occupied on long car trips can make such excursions much more enjoyable for everyone.

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SIMPLE SAFETY TIPS FOR WATER SPORTS ENTHUSIASTS

Bodies of water like lakes, rivers and oceans often elicit fond memories of fun times spent under the sun. Safety should always be a priority when spending time on the water, especially when participating in water sports, including swimming and water skiing.

According to the World Health Organization, more than 40 people die by drowning every hour of every day, which equates to around 372,000 deaths each year. Many of those deaths, the vast majority of which occur in low- or middle-income countries, are preventable, and safety is at the core of drowning prevention. Though drowning incidents are not as prevalent in the United States and Canada as they are elsewhere in the world, the popularity of water sports in both countries underscores the importance of revisiting the various ways to stay safe when out on the water.

• **Take water sports lessons.** The carefree nature of spring and summer can make it easy for water sports enthusiasts to forgo lessons before trying their hands at water skiing and wakeboarding. But such lessons can teach

people techniques that can keep them safe on the water. Courses teach everything from how to get up and out of the water to how to properly handle a tow rope. They also can teach boaters how to navigate waters while towing skiers, tubers and wakeboarders.

• **Learn hand signals and go over them before getting in the water.** The National Safety Council emphasizes the importance of basic hand signals, which can be used to help boaters communicate with the people they're towing. Hand signals are vital because water sports tend to be noisy, so nonverbal communication may be the only way boaters can communicate with the people they're towing. Signals can be used to communicate anything from directions of turns to speed requests to the condition of the person being towed. A list of hand signals can be found at www.boaterexam.com/safety/safety-common-hand-signals.aspx.

• **Inspect tow lines.** The NSC advises inspecting tow lines prior to beginning. Such inspections can confirm that tow lines are not caught in the propeller or wrapped around



anyone before the activity begins.

• **Wait for the propeller to stop before getting back on the boat.** People being towed should always wait for propellers to stop before climbing back into the boat. It doesn't take long for propellers to stop, and those extra few seconds can dramatically reduce risks for accidents or injuries.

• **Avoid water sports at night.** Visibility is compromised once the sun goes down. That can make it hard for boaters to see any obstacles that might appear in the water, and it also makes it very difficult for them to communicate with the people they're towing. As a result of such difficulties, the NSC urges water sports enthusiasts to only engage in such activities during daylight hours.

Water sports make summer even more fun. Safety should always be the utmost priority for anyone involved in such activities.

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POPULAR INSECT REPELLENT PLANTS



Homeowners choose plants for their properties based on a number of variables. Some may be into growing their own foods, while others desire their gardens to be an awe-inspiring mélange of bright colors and alluring scents. There's no wrong reason to plant a fresh garden, but some plants offer extra benefits, such as repelling insects. Insects can be a nuisance and a threat to individuals' overall health. According to the American Academy of Family Physicians, insect-borne diseases are viral and bacterial illnesses that develop from insect bites. Mosquitoes,

sand flies and fleas are some examples of insects that can pass on disease. Fever, chills, headache, and muscle soreness are just a few of the more common symptoms linked to insect-borne diseases. The good news for avid gardeners is that certain plants can help repel insects and provide the additional benefits like fresh food and aesthetic appeal that so many people love.

- **Basil:** The aroma of fresh basil is enough to compel any gardener to make a place for it in their garden. But there's more to fresh basil than its scent, as the Farmers Almanac notes it can be used to repel mosquitoes and moths.
- **Lavender:** Fleas, flies, mosquitoes, and moths are not fans of this aromatic and colorful member of the mint family. Bees tend to be drawn to lavender, a durable plant that many garden centers recommend in areas prone to drought or hot summers without much precipitation.
- **Mint:** Mint is another plant that is instantly recognizable for its aroma.

But mint lovers may not realize that it's also great for keeping ants at bay. Mint also can be used to repel mosquitoes, but gardeners with no experience planting mint should plant it in pots. That's because the Farmers Almanac notes mint is an especially aggressive spreader that can quickly take over a garden. Separating mint in pots can prevent it from bullying its way into other plants' domains.

- **Lemongrass:** Lemongrass is a tropical grass that's so fragrant it's often used in perfumes. Lemongrass contains citronella, which many people associate with repelling mosquitoes. A potted lemongrass plant can repel these unwanted guests, keeping them away from decks, porches and/or patios all summer long.
- **Chrysanthemums:** The Farmers'

Almanac® recommends using chrysanthemums, which repel a range of insects from bedbugs to fleas to ants, as border plants around a home. That's because they contain the natural insecticide pyrethrin, which can serve as something of an insect-repelling boundary around a home. Insects are unwanted guests around a home each spring, summer and fall. Certain plants can help repel insects and serve as an eco-friendly alternative to insecticides.



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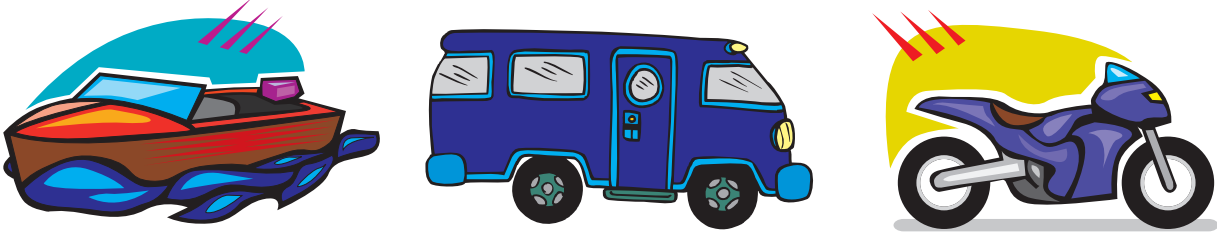
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Saturday 8:00-3:00

EXPLAINING THE SUMMER SOLSTICE

Each year, people in the Northern Hemisphere eagerly await the arrival of the summer solstice. The solstice was a key cultural event in many ancient communities, but in modern times, it marks an opportunity to celebrate the arrival of summer as well as the longest day of daylight and the shortest hours of night. The summer solstice occurs as a result of the tilt of Earth's rotational axis. According to Time and Date, as Earth orbits the sun over the course of each year, its axis always points in the same direction in space. The Northern Hemisphere angles toward the sun for half the year and away for the other half. When the North Pole is nearest to the sun, this is known as the summer solstice in the Northern Hemisphere. In the Southern Hemisphere, the solstices are reversed. The exact day that the solstices occur can vary by a day or two depending on the Earth's rotation. For 2025, the summer solstice occurs on Friday, June 20, 2025 at 9:41 pm CDT. Along the border of the United States and Canada, daylight will last approximately 15 hours.

DON'T FORGET TO INSURE THOSE NEWLY PURCHASED SUMMER TOYS!!



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SUMMERTIME SKIN PROTECTION STRATEGIES

Summer is a season to soak up some sun and enjoy the generally more laid back atmosphere that's become synonymous with the months of June through August. Though no one wants to dampen the summer fun, it's important to note that the season should not be entirely carefree. In fact, emphasizing skin protection is vital to ensuring the season is both fun and safe.



summer sun.

• **Wear sunscreen every day.** The American Society for Dermatologic Surgery urges individuals to wear sunscreen every day in the summer. No two people are the same, and that's evident in the various skin types. People with fair skin may already know from experience that they need to apply sunscreen in the summer. But ASDS notes even people with naturally darker skin that tends to tan instead of burn need to wear sunscreen every day as well. The ASDS recommends applying roughly one ounce of sunscreen two to three times each day in summer. Sunscreen should have a minimum sun protection factor (SPF) of 30. It's possible to get sunburn even in cooler climates or on cloudy days when time in direct sunlight is minimal. So the sunscreen rule can apply year-round, but is especially important in summer when people tend to spend more time outdoors than during other times of year.

• **Opt for protective clothing.** The ASDS notes that unbleached cotton, tightly woven T-shirts or shorts, and wide-brimmed hats provide excellent protection against the sun. Many manufacturers now offer high-SPF clothing that absorbs UV rays. Pairing such clothing with daily applications of sunscreen can be a great way to protect skin against

• **Pay attention to your skin.** Routine skin examinations in summertime can uncover warning signs of skin cancer. For example, the ASDS notes that discoloration, a changing mole or a rough red patch of skin are early warning signs of skin cancer. Contact a dermatologic surgeon immediately if any of these signs are detected.

• **Avoid sunbathing to reduce sunburn risk.** The ASDS notes the only way to prevent exposure to potentially harmful sunburn is to stay in the shade. Though many consider a little color in summertime harmless, the reality is that skin cancer develops over time and sunburn is dangerous. Each sunburn a person gets increases his or her risk of developing skin cancer, so even a mild sunburn that disappears in a day or two can have a long-term and potentially deadly impact.

Fun in the summer sun is part of what makes the season so special. But it's imperative that people take steps to protect their skin from sun damage when enjoying warm summer days in the great outdoors.



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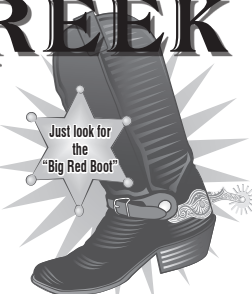
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HOW TO BUILD A BETTER BURGER

Backyard barbecue season is starting to heat up. Although many people grill all year long, grilling season kicks into high gear in spring and summer. Burgers will always be quintessential grilling fare. It should come as no surprise that the month of May is National Hamburger Month. That's likely due to Memorial Day weekend, which many view as the unofficial start of summer, being one of the first times of the year people begin grilling burgers. Despite burgers' popularity, it's easy to make mistakes when preparing them. These tips can help anyone build a better burger.

Use freshly ground meat

Buying ready-made ground meat (of any variety) is taking a gamble because you don't know when it was ground, how many animals it came from or how it was handled. By freshly grinding the meat at home you will have greater control over the cut of meat and the fat content. Personally ground meat will be fresher, especially when you get nice cuts of meat directly from your local butcher. Top chefs suggest dicing cold meat into chunks and freezing for about 10 minutes prior to grinding for the best results.

Fat is key

For the most juicy, flavorful burger, you'll want a ratio of 80 percent meat to 20 percent fat. Some people like to eat lean, but with a burger, the fat will



be necessary and it's better to select leaner meats for other dishes.

Don't overwork the meat

Handling the burger patties too much can lead to dense, tough burgers. Gently shape the burgers into round, 1-inch thick, flat discs. To prevent the burgers from rounding in the middle during cooking, press a dimple with your thumb in the center of the patty to help it cook evenly. It's a smart idea to weigh each patty to ensure uniformity of size and even cooking.

Don't add salt early on

Salt added to the ground meat before it's shaped can draw the liquid out of the meat, leaving a dry burger behind. Sprinkle salt sparingly while it is cooking for flavoring.

Avoid overcooking

Most health authorities recommend not leaving any pink meat in a burger made from ground meat. According to BBC Good Food, burgers can be cooked for 5 to 6 minutes on each side for medium and 8 to 9 minutes per side for well done. For the best results, use a food thermometer to check internal temperature. The USDA says ground meat, whether it's pork, veal, beef, or lamb, should be cooked to 160 F

Flip as desired

The cooking resource Serious Eats debunked the myth that burgers should only be flipped once. Flipping the burger repeatedly, as often as once every 15 seconds, encourages faster, more even internal cooking and can dramatically reduce cooking time.

Keep the patties separate

Let everyone build their own burgers, as keeping the cooked meat away from the burger buns for as long as possible will reduce the chances of the juices making the buns soggy. Soft, squishy buns tend to make for good burger eating, as they will not overwhelm the meat with too much crusty bread. The smell of grilling burgers is in the air. Ensure that every burger is a masterpiece by utilizing some important cooking tips.

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Atkinson, NE 68713

402-340-5718

Call for an appointment

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SUMMER FUN FOR ACTIVE SENIORS

Seniors may have more time for leisure and recreation than working adults, and the summer months provide ample opportunities to get active. After months of chilly temperatures, seniors in various parts of the country may be eager to get outdoors and enjoy some fun in the sun.

The U.S. Centers for Disease Control and Prevention recommends that adults age 65 and older get at least 150 minutes of moderate-intensity aerobic activity each week. There are plenty of ways for active seniors to meet this exercise goal and have some fun along the way. The following are some good starting points.

- Join or start a walking club. Walking is a great way to stay in shape and work the mind as well. View new sights along the way by changing the route each time you go. Walking with friends can pass the time and provide the motivation to keep going.
- Catch a sporting event. Attending a sporting event can be an entertaining way to spend several hours, and that includes amateur and recreational sports. Catch a grandchild's swim meet or a baseball game for an action-packed way to connect with loved ones and get out.
- Take a fishing charter. Casting a rod from a dock or pier is perfectly acceptable, but securing a spot on a fishing charter is a great way to spend hours out on the water enjoying the scenery and the sport of fishing. Plus, there's the added benefit of enjoying the fruits of your labors by cooking the day's catch for dinner once you arrive home.
- Be a tourist. Many cities and towns have their own tourism boards and showcase interesting spots that have historical significance or appeal to other interests.

Be a tourist for the day - even in an area with which you are familiar. Hop on a trolley or sightseeing bus to view the town as an outsider.

- Spend time swimming. Swimming is a low-impact activity that can work the body in many different ways. Devote time to doing a few laps in the pool. Or make a day of going to a lake or another body of water to wade out and enjoy some strokes in nature. Stick to swimming areas that are monitored by lifeguards for optimal safety.
- Tend to a garden. Gardening is a great form of light exercise that can produce rewarding results. If you don't have a garden or enough space for one at home, many neighborhoods have community gardens in which you can secure a plot.
- Visit a fair or farmer's market. The warm weather months are a peak time for outdoor activities, including various community fairs and farmer's markets. Chances are you can find a farmer's market nearby most days of the week, but especially on the weekend. A town market or state fair is a great way to get out and walk, play games of chance or enjoy some live entertainment.

Check your community calendar for local events.

Active seniors can embrace long, warm summer days to enjoy plenty of time away from home.



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Mon., July 28 Ladies Scramble
Sat., Aug 2 Alumni Tournament
Thurs., Aug 7 Dr. Kopp Steak & Sweet Corn Feed
Sat., Aug 9 Hospital Foundation Scramble
Sun., Aug 17 Adult/Child Tournament

Senior's Scrambles
2nd Tuesday of the month
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Manager: Kathi Wright • Superintendent: Jason Johansen
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4TH ANNUAL
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FRIDAY, JUNE 6, 2025
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Registration: 6:30pm
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For more information please contact
Cassie Stelling 402-928-0630

GET FIRED UP ABOUT CAMPFIRE COOKING

Camping season revs up when the temperature warms. In a recent survey by Kampgrounds of America, Inc., the main reasons people say they go camping are to reconnect with nature, spend time with family and friends and reduce stress and relax. The roughly 40 million people who go camping in the United States each year also may have food on their minds. Campfire cooking - which involves cooking over an open fire and eating outdoors - makes camping that much more enjoyable for many people. Campfire cooking is about simplicity of ingredients and ease of cooking. Chances are campers do not want to lug too many cooking instruments to the campsite, so ingredients that are portable and can cook quickly over an open fire are attractive. Cast iron skillets, grills and Dutch ovens often are the gear of choice. Here are some delicious campfire meals to try on your

next camping trip.

Campfire Casserole
Mix your favorite ground meat (beef, chicken or pork) with kidney beans and cubed bacon (leftover from breakfast works well). Add barbecue sauce or diced tomatoes, depending on your preference. Allow to simmer in a Dutch oven on low for 45 minutes to an hour. Season to taste. During the last 10 minutes of cooking, place refrigerated biscuits over the top of the casserole, cover and cook until the biscuits are done.



Seafood No-Boil
Cut foil sheets about 12 inches long. Add 5 to 6 shrimp, one quarter of an ear of corn, a few slices of smoked andouille sausage, a lemon slice, and seasonings to taste. Fold the foil packets carefully to seal in the ingredients. Place the packets on a grill over the campfire and allow to cook for around 10 to 15 minutes.

Skillet Pizza
Place a little cornmeal and oil on the bottom of a cast iron skillet. Spread refrigerated pizza dough out on the skillet. Cover with pizza sauce, cheese and favorite toppings and cook over the fire until the cheese boils and the crust browns.

Campsite Cobbler
Line a Dutch oven with aluminum foil. Mix together a yellow cake mix, 1 1/4 cups water and 1/2 cup canola oil and pour over two cans of a favorite pie filling flavor in the pot. Prepare the campfire for low heat. Put the Dutch oven in the ashes and cover with remaining ash or charcoal briquettes. Cook until bubbly, around 30 to 40 minutes.

Campfire cooking is delicious, and few things can beat eating tasty foods under an open sky.

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SUMMERTIME PROJECTS FOR KIDS

Summer slide is a concept that has been on educators' minds since 1996, when the first comprehensive study on the topic was published. Students lose significant knowledge in core subjects over the summer break, and those losses increase each year. There's much parents can do to help their children continue learning over the summer.

Educational projects may be a good start. Here's a brief list of educational projects children can work on this summer.

- Conduct informal science experiments, such as growing the biggest vegetable or studying butterflies or insects that visit the backyard.
- Maintain a journal about adventures during summer vacation through personal narratives or even through creative fictional accounts based on the child's experiences.
- Search for patterns in nature, such as those in shells or flowers.
- Learn about money by keeping tallies on souvenir purchases or the cost of items in stores.
- Calculate distances from home by using maps and mileage.
- Become amateur meteorologists, keeping track of changing weather patterns and which signs indicate precipitation.
- Stock up on summer reading books that everyone in the family can enjoy while sitting poolside or at the beach.
- Visit a museum or a local point of interest and learn about something historical.

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7:30 p.m. - Rodeo

SATURDAY, JUNE 28
6 p.m. - Mutton Bustin'
6:30 p.m. - Rodeo

CONCERTS:
8 p.m. - Borderline
9 p.m. - Conner Smith
10 p.m. - Gavin Adcock

SUNDAY, JUNE 29
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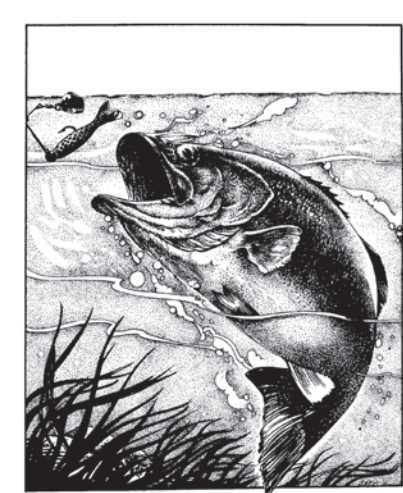
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TOP PLACES TO FISH IN NEBRASKA



With 450 lakes and streams open to public fishing, deciding where to fish in Nebraska can sometimes be challenging, but the following water bodies have proved to be Nebraska's best fishing spots year after year.

MERRITT RESERVOIR With the variety of fish and habitats, there is something for every angler—regardless of their favorite fish or favorite way of fishing. Merritt is the home of the hook & line state record muskellunge and channel catfish, and fishing on Merritt is equally good on the ice or open water.

LAKE MCCONAUGHY Lake McConaughy is the state's largest reservoir and has been the fishing destination for untold numbers of Nebraska anglers over generations. As the reservoir has aged, its habitat has changed and so has the fishing. Historically it offered excellent panfish, rainbow trout, and striped bass. Currently, McConaughy is perennially one of the best walleye waters in the state, and usually one of the best for trophy walleyes.

LEWIS AND CLARK SRA - GAVIN'S POINT DAM Many people believe that all of the Missouri River reservoirs belong to the Dakotas. Most of them might, but the last one, Lewis and Clark Lake, is on the Nebraska/South Dakota border. Lewis and Clark Lake itself is an excellent fishery for catfish, walleye, sauger, smallmouth bass, big white bass and who knows what else that might swim down the Missouri River.

Walleye and sauger fishing are excellent and this water is Nebraska's best smallmouth bass fishery. There are acres and acres of backwater habitats to explore and catch crappies, largemouth bass, rock bass and northern pike. A person could spend years exploring and catching fish on this stretch of water and never get bored with the fishing or the scenery.

BOX BUTTE RESERVOIR Way out west in the Nebraska panhandle sits Box Butte Reservoir. Another irrigation reservoir, water levels do fluctuate on Box Butte and during droughts can be relatively low. However, even then there is enough water to support fish, and the water in Box Butte is excellent quality. Couple that with hard, even rocky bottoms, aquatic vegetation, and at times flooded timber and you have another reservoir that provides great habitat and a variety of species of fish.

Box Butte has a high density of northern pike, along with walleye, bass, and large channel catfish. A variety of panfish, bluegills, yellow perch, crappies, rock bass and even pumpkinseeds are found in its waters.

SANDHILLS LAKES Already mentioned were the uniquely Nebraska sandhills in the north-central part of the state. The natural lakes nestled in those sandhills are also unique. Nebraska has few natural lakes, not created by man, and that alone makes these waters special. Their incredible productivity makes them outstanding fisheries.

A number of sandhill lakes can provide some of the best panfish fishing

to be found anywhere. These lakes are known for producing bluegills as big as any place. The yellow perch fishing can be excellent as well as black crappies as big as garbage can lids. That is not all. Some sandhill lakes support northern pike in abundance and can produce some of the fattest, prettiest largemouth bass you've ever seen!

Because of their shallow depths the sandhill lakes can be choked with an abundance of submerged aquatic vegetation during the summer. For that reason, fishing is usually best in spring, early summer and fall, but most Nebraska anglers will tell you the very best time to fish the sandhill lakes is through a hole in the ice.

BURCHARD LAKE The curse of Nebraska geography is that much of our fishing water is found "out west" while the majority of our population lives in the eastern part of the state. There is not a body of water in eastern Nebraska that is not fished hard. In spite of that, Burchard Lake continues to consistently produce some of the best largemouth bass fishing in Nebraska.

In addition to the excellent bass fishing, Burchard offers good fishing for bluegills, black crappies and channel catfish. There are also remnant populations of yellow perch and a few walleye that continue to survive.

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July 26

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THE BENEFITS OF ATTENDING SUMMER CAMP

Summer camp is something akin to a rite of passage for millions of youngsters each year. Many adults look back fondly on their experiences at summer camp, often crediting such times as formative periods in their lives.

Summer camp benefits children in myriad ways. Recognition of the many advantages of attending summer



camp can serve as a great reminder of just how fun it can be for children to spend their time away from school at a camp of their choosing.

Campers continue to socialize throughout summer. Socializing isn't just for the school year. While children in high school might be independent enough to come and go with their friends during summer break, kids who are still in elementary school or middle school might not be old enough to handle such freedom. That can make it hard to stay in touch with friends, which in turn can contribute to feelings of boredom and loneliness. Camp provides ample opportunities for young children to socialize during a time of year when they might not see their school friends as often as they're used to.

Campers can expand their horizons. Though some summer camps are exclusive to residents of certain communities, many tend to feature children from numerous towns or municipalities. Such camps provide an opportunity for campers to expand their horizons by engaging with youngsters who come from different backgrounds. Indeed, the Graduate School of Education at Harvard University notes that summer camp may be the

first time children spend substantial amounts of time with people whose backgrounds differ from their own.

Camp can get kids off their devices. Modern children are growing up in a digital world, and parents know how hard it can be to get kids to put down their devices and get outdoors. But the key to making that pivot could be access to outdoor play spaces. A 2025 study from researchers at the University of Michigan published in the journal Health and Place found that efforts to reduce kids' screen time are more successful when children are given a chance to play outside. Many summer camps are structured around outdoor play, making them a potentially invaluable ally as parents seek to help children cut back on the time they spend using their devices. Children who do not attend camp and live in households where both parents work or in single-parent households where Mom or Dad works may be forced to spend much of summer indoors, which could increase the frequency with which they turn to devices to occupy their time.

Camp adds structure to summer days. Once a school year ends, the structure a school day provides vanishes into thin air. Couple that with extracurricular activities that go on hiatus during summer vacation, and kids accustomed to structure are left with little to do and no need to schedule their time. That can add an aimlessness to summer days. Camp can provide the structure kids are accustomed to but still offer a break from responsibilities like homework or the commitments required of extracurricular activities.

There's no shortage of benefits to enrolling youngsters in summer camp, where kids can socialize, grow and get off their devices while engaged in structured but stress-free activities.

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Starting at 5 p.m.
Music Provided by DJ Alan Tomme

Dance To:
Starting at 9:30 p.m.

John Scalia and the Dirty

Poker Run
Check-in at the 386 Tap west of the grocery store 10 a.m.
Kicks Starts up at 11 a.m.

Cruise the Burg
5-8 p.m.

BBQ Supper
5 p.m.

Raffle Drawing
9 p.m.

14:32
CRUISE Show and Shine

1-4 p.m.
Ballfield in Park off of Hwy. 14
No Entry Fee • People's Choice • Club Choice
Long Drive in 400-400-400 or 400-400-400-400
Contact "How Long It'll Take to Blow Up a Car" at 2 p.m.

Funded in part by the Boone County Visitors Promotion Fund

WORD SCRAMBLE

Rearrange the letters to spell something pertaining to dog days of summer.

DCLOEO


Answer: Cooled

WORD SCRAMBLE

Rearrange the letters to spell something pertaining to summer.

RSFURE

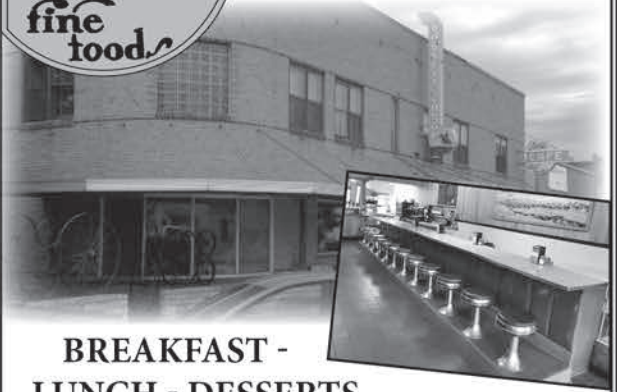
Answer: Surfer



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The NRD Exploration challenges participants to explore as many NRD recreation areas as they can between March 1, 2025 and September 19, 2025. Join in on the fun this summer!




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TRICKS FOR PLANNING YOUR SUMMER GETAWAY

Summer is a popular time of year. Boasting balmy temperatures and a relaxed atmosphere, summer can seem like a months-long vacation, even for those who spend time at home lounging around the pool or soaking up some late-afternoon rays on the patio.

Even if life at home is a little more laid back in the summer, many still are eager to go on vacation and embrace those feelings of rest and relaxation. Navigating family members’ schedules and competing for time during this peak travel season can complicate summer vacation planning. Thankfully, these tips can make scheduling that summer getaway a little easier.

• **Identify your blackout dates.** Likely there already are some things on the calendar that are unmovable, such as kids’ summer camp schedules or high school or travel sports practices. Take a calendar and block out any can’t-do dates as soon as you know them. This

helps to identify the days and weeks that are free.

• **Start planning early.** It’s best to get a jump-start on vacation planning early in the year. In fact, you might want to make it a New Year’s resolution. The early bird gets the worm, so booking early can ensure you won’t be caught paying more by booking last-minute. Narrow down your list of desired destinations, choose a spot and start pricing out travel and accommodations. If you find a great deal, book it.

• **Set price alerts.** Many travel sites enable you to set up search parameters so that you’ll get automated messages with deals that match your budget. Keep in mind that some airline sites may track your search history, and prices may fluctuate if you keep checking out the same flights. Clear your cookies and cache or use a different computer or tablet for each search to get the most competitive price.



• **Check for work conflicts.** Before booking a trip, ensure that others in your department will not be out the same days. Often companies frown upon having too many people out concurrently because they need to keep the work flowing. It’s best to float your vacation days with coworkers or a supervisor well in advance to ensure there are no conflicts.

• **Delegate some of the work.** Ironing out all of the details of a vacation means having many moving parts, which can be stressful. Farm out some of the tasks to others in the family or your group of friends depending on who is traveling together. One person can be in charge of researching transportation, while another can secure rental cars and still another can figure out meals and any excursions while on the trip. Breaking up tasks makes it collectively easier on all.

BerryPepper Days

June 19-22, 2025

Weekend long events:

- **Community Wide Garage Sales** – Friday and Saturday - maps at Gragert’s Grocery, Midwest Bank, 59 Express, and Husker C-Mart
- **Historical Center Open** – Friday & Saturday from 8AM - 4:30PM, Sunday from 8AM-4PM
- **Free Swimming** – Thursday through Sunday – Swimming Pool Open: Thursday & Friday noon - 7 PM, Saturday noon-5PM, Sunday open after parade
- **Ball Tournaments** – Saturday and Sunday @ Creighton ball fields
- **Polka Dot Entertainment** – Strolling town Friday through Sunday. May include: face paint, balloons, stilt walking, air brush tattoo & circus skills

Wednesday, June 18

- **BINGO** - 7PM @ The 812
- **Tiger Tavern Food Truck** - 11AM-8PM @ The Lot on Main Street

Thursday, June 19

- **Meal** - 11AM-1PM hosted by Creighton Booster Club at The Lot on Main Street, serving hamburgers and hot dogs. Free will donation
- **Pool Party** – 4PM-6PM hosted by Avera Creighton Hospital @ Creighton pool, free swimming
- **Meal** - 5PM-7PM hosted by Creighton Community Country Club, serving brisket sandwich and sides
- **Cruise Night** - 6PM, tune into Creighton Radio 95.9 FM for music and trivia
- **Grandpa Dan’s Popcorn** - 6PM at the Creighton Community Country Club
- **Music** - 7PM @ Creighton Community Country Club Music by The OutBack Band, bring lawn chairs

Friday, June 20

- **Meal** - 11AM-1PM at Senior Center hosted by Midwest Bank, serving sandwich and salad. Free will donation with proceeds going to the Creighton Historical Center
- **Sidewalk Chalk** - Creighton Public Library after Polka Dot Entertainment
- **Polka Dot Entertainment** – 9:30AM @ Creighton Public Library, 2PM @ Avera Care Center, 5PM show @ City park
- **8 and Under Baseball** - 5PM start @ bottom field
- **Road Rally** - 5:30PM start on North Clark by cemetery
- **Street Dance**- 8PM – midnight, music by: The Traynr Band, entry fee: \$10
- **Meal** - hosted by St. Ludger on Main Street during street dance, serving pulled pork and pork nachos
- **Grandpa Dan’s Popcorn** - On Main Street during street dance
- **GoldStar Concessions** - on Main Street during street dance, serving funnel cakes and other goodies

Money Bears begin Monday, June 16. Tune in to KNIL-LP 95.9 FM Creighton Community Radio.

BerryPeppers available at:

- * Swimming Pool
- * Husker C-Mart
- * Gragert’s Grocery
- * 59 Express

Weekend food and drink options:

- * 59 Express
- * Husker C-Mart
- * Blooms & Beans
- * Subway
- * Creighton Community Country Club
- * Elaine’s Tavern in Winnetoon
- * Castle Rock Burgers food truck in the alley of 721 Main Street

Thank You to Our 2025 Creighton Area Chamber of Commerce Members and BerryPepper Days Sponsors!

We appreciate your support!

NOT RESPONSIBLE FOR ACCIDENTS

Saturday, June 21

- **Ambulance Breakfast** –7AM - 11AM @ Fire & Rescue Hall
- **8 and Under Baseball** – 9AM start @ bottom field
- **5K Walk/Run** – 8:30AM registration with 9AM start @ Creighton Community Country Club
- **Sand Volleyball** - 11AM @ Creighton Community Country Club. \$100 per team Contact Kasey Kuhl 402-929-3991 or Cassidy Tyler 402-358-0013.
- **Faith United Church Lunch** – 11AM - 2PM @ church, serving walking tacos and hot dogs. Free will donation
- **Bingo** – 2PM-4PM @ Bruce Park Terrace Community Room, limited to first 50 people, age 12 and older, 1 card per person, prizes. Free will donation - will be used for future bingo gatherings
- **Creighton High School Alumni Banquet** – at Creighton High School: Social Hour 5:00PM – 6:00PM, Dinner and Entertainment to follow

Fun in the Park! 3PM—7 PM @ City Park, bring lawn chairs

• Starting @ 3PM	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Coin Dig• Vendors• Face Painting• Bounce Houses by UBounce• Drinks by The 812 - serving all evening• Funnel Cakes by Bowman Concessions• Grandpa Dan’s Popcorn• Shaved Ice by Goldstar Concessions
• Starting @ 3:15PM	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Critter Close-Ups
• Starting @ 4PM	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Polka Dot Entertainment: Peter’s Danger Circus Spectacular!
• Starting @ 5PM	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Ribfest & BBQ – Serving from 5 PM to 7 PM• FREE Will Donation for Hamburger or Hot Dog meal• Extra for Ribs — 3 Ribs for \$5• Cornhole Tournament - 4:30PM registration, \$20 per team. 20 team limit• Music by Payton Schroeder @ 5PM• Music by Kimberly Meyer @ 7PM

Sunday, June 22

- **Veterans’ Chicken Feed** – 11AM-1PM @ St. Ludger’s Social Hall
- **Grand Parade** – 2PM Pre-register by contacting Tara Gragert 402-360-3667 or day of registration at noon @ North Central PPD’s parking lot-West Main Street
- **Creighton FFA Turtle Races** – after parade @ Creighton Community Country Club
- **Creighton Softball Association Duck Races** – after parade @ Creighton Community Country Club 1 for \$2, 3 for \$5, 7 for \$10. 1st place = \$100, 2nd place = \$75, 3rd place = \$50 To purchase ducks, contact: Midwest Bank, Jill Meyer, or Jennifer Hoffman
- **Polka Dot Entertainment** – after turtle and duck races - “The Great Escape Show” @ Creighton Community Country Club, bring lawn chairs
- **2 person golf scramble** - 3:30PM registration, 9 holes, \$15 per team. Carts are limited
- **Meal** - 4PM-7PM hosted by Creighton Fire Department, serving hamburgers and hot dogs @ Fire & Rescue Hall

get out AND ENJOY

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Spaghetti Supper

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SATURDAY

JUNE 7

5 FUN FACTS ABOUT THE MONTH OF AUGUST

Summer is in full swing in August. Come the eighth month of the calendar year, temperatures outside tend to be especially steamy and individuals and families are doing all they can to make the most of the last full month of summer. As summer winds down, individuals can ponder these fun facts about the month of August.

1. Not unlike July, August is named after a notable individual associated with ancient Rome. Augustus Caesar, also known as Octavian and sometimes referred to as Caesar Augustus, was the first Roman emperor. Augustus's reign was a lengthy one, beginning in 27 B.C. and lasting until his death in A.D. 14. Augustus's maternal great-uncle was Julius Caesar, who happens to be the namesake of July.

2. August weather can make some people uncomfortable, and that has made the month part of what's become known as "The Dog Days of Summer." The Farmer's Almanac indicates that the moniker is linked to the rising of Sirius, the Dog Star. Ancient Egyptians, Romans and Greeks believed that the rising of Sirius in mid- to late-summer caused the temperatures to rise and conditions to become less comfortable. Though temperatures remain hot and

3. Millions of adults feel there's no more refreshing beverage on a warm summer evening than a cold beer, and that may be even more so on the first Friday of August. That day marks International Beer Day®, which began as a local event in the western United States in 2007 but has since spread globally. More than 200 cities in 80 countries and across six continents now celebrate International Beer Day®, and celebrants can take part by enjoying a cold one and/or giving a loved one a beer. This year's celebration will take place on Friday, August 4.

4. One of the most enduring motion pictures in Hollywood history premiered in August nearly 85 years ago. "The Wizard of Oz" starring Judy Garland premiered at the Orpheum Theatre in Green Bay, Wisconsin,

on August 10, 1939. The Hollywood premiere at the famed Grauman's Chinese Theatre occurred just five days later.

5. August is a notable month for one of the world's most accomplished athletes. American swimmer Michael Phelps took center stage at the 2008 Summer Olympics in Beijing when he won a total of eight gold medals, setting a record for the most gold medals by an athlete in a single Olympic Games. Phelps won his eighth gold medal in Beijing on August 17 in the 4 x 100-meter medley relay, officially eclipsing fellow American swimmer Mark Spitz, who had won seven gold medals at the 1972 Summer Olympics in Munich.

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MAY 25
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JUNE 1
SHAMROCK DIESEL REPAIR

JUNE 8
SOUTHSIDE MINI MART / STUART VILLAGE INN

JUNE 15
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JUNE 22
WALLINGER FINANCIAL SERVICES, LLC

JUNE 29
STUART COMMUNITY FOUNDATION

INDEPENDENCE DAY RACE
JULY 6
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JULY 20
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JULY 27
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FRIDAY, AUGUST 8
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SATURDAY, AUGUST 9
Beef BBQ Cook-Off
Demolition Derby
"Modern Kowboy"

~~4-H Events~~

4-H Events throughout the week:

Shooting Sports • Small Animal Show • Horse Show
Static Project Check-in • Hog, Sheep & Goat Show
Bonus Auction • Beef Show • Dairy, Chicken & Rabbit Show

25 THINGS YOU MUST DO BEFORE SUMMER ENDS

1. Go for a picnic.

2. Unplug and go connect with your real life friends.

3. Go find your nearest body of water.

4. Walk somewhere.

5. Try something you've never tried before.

6. Start a garden.

7. Plank yourself three times a day.

8. Go on a vacation.
9. Have a BBQ.

10. Do some house work.

11. Attend a parade.

12. Go see some fireworks.

13. Go hiking and camping.

14. Get yourself some fruity drinks.

15. Volunteer.

16. Have a garage sale.

17. Attend a bonfire.
18. Visit the zoo.

19. Find a movie drive in.

20. Take a nap in a hammock.

21. Watch a sunset from an epic location.

22. Go to an outdoor concert.

23. Pick some wildflowers or fruit.

24. Enjoy some summer sports.

25. See a summer blockbuster.



Exhibits:

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Wash House/Summer Kitchen

Blacksmith Shop

Pioneer Log Cabin

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S	L	E	M	O	N	A	D	E	B	O	O	T	H	G	K	H	W	B	T

Find the words hidden vertically, horizontally, diagonally, and backwards.

WORDS

AGRICULTURE

BALLOONS

BANNER

BOOTH

BUMPER CARS

CHICKENS

CHILDREN

COTTON CANDY

ENTERTAIN

ENTRANCE

FAIRGROUNDS

FERRIS WHEEL

FESTIVAL

FIELDS

FUNNEL CAKE

GATHERING

LAUGHTER

LEMONADE

LIVESTOCK

POPCORN

RIDES

SNACKS

SUMMER

TICKETS

Solution on page 21

—

MAKE WATERMELON THE CENTERPIECE OF MEALS

—

Few things are as delicious and refreshing as watermelon on a warm day. Watermelon grows quite readily in summer and is often ready to pick after three months of growing time. Harvesters look for a pale buttery yellow spot on the bottom of watermelon (the ground spot), indicating ripeness. However, shoppers can do their part and pick perfect watermelon at the store.

The fruit should be firm, symmetrical and free from bruises, cuts or dents. The melon also should be heavy, as it is comprised of 92 percent water.

Most people immediately think of watermelon as a sweet snack or as a palate cleanser after an evening meal, but watermelon is equally at home in savory dishes as it is in

sweet offerings. You may enjoy this recipe for “Zesty Watermelon Chicken Salad Tortilla Cups” courtesy of The National Watermelon Promotion Board and recipe author Shannon Kohn. This is a great warm weather meal that looks impressive and is both cool and filling for summer entertaining.



ZESTY WATERMELON CHICKEN SALAD TORTILLA CUPS

Makes 12 servings

- 4 8-inch flour tortillas
- ¼ cup softened cream cheese
- 2 tablespoons mayonnaise
- 1 tablespoon cayenne pepper sauce
- 2 tablespoons chopped green chiles
- 1 cup cooked, chopped chicken
- 1½ cups chopped watermelon
- ¼ cup roasted, salted pumpkin seeds (pepitas)
- ¼ cup sliced green onions

1. Preheat oven to 375 F.
2. Using a 4-inch cookie cutter or cup, cut rounds out of each tortilla. Press one tortilla round down into each cup of a 12-cup muffin pan.
3. Bake for 8 to 10 minutes or until tortilla cups are light brown and crispy. Remove from oven; allow to cool.

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B

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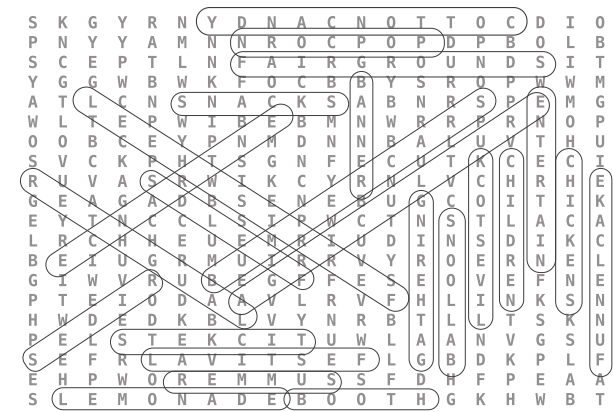
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RODEO FUN FACTS

Historical Origins:
Rodeo's roots are not exclusively American. The traditions of rounding up cattle and horse-riding skills were developed by Spanish vaqueros in the 1800s and later combined with the skills of Eastern ranchers.

Spanish Influence:
The word "rodeo" comes from the Spanish word "rodear," which means "to surround" or "to herd".

Women in Rodeo:
Women have been part of the rodeo scene since the 1890s and have excelled in various events, especially barrel racing.

Rodeo and Vaudeville:
During the off-season, many rodeo performers toured with vaudeville shows, which were theatrical variety entertainment.

Barrel Racing:
Barrel racing is a popular event in rodeo, and it's predominantly dominated by female equestrians.

National Finals Rodeo:
The first National Finals Rodeo was held in Dallas in 1959.


Professional Bull Riding:
PBR was founded by 20 cowboys who each contributed \$1,000 to get the association started.

Trevor Brazile:
Trevor Brazile holds the record for the most world championships in PRCA history (23) and the most all-around world championships (13).

Rodeo Clowns:
Rodeo clowns not only entertain but also have a crucial role in protecting cowboys from the livestock.


The Grand Entry:
Many rodeos begin with a Grand Entry, which includes a ride in the arena and the singing of "The Star-Spangled Banner".

Meteorological Start Date
June 1st




The start of Summer is marked by the Summer Soltice each year.

Meteorological End Date
August 31st




Summer Olympics happen every four years.

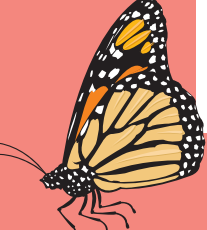
There are 300 different varieties of watermelon.




The largest ice cream scoop weighed 3010 pounds.



facts about SUMMER




Monarch butterflies spend the Summer in North America.




The Eiffel Tower grows taller in the Summer

June July August

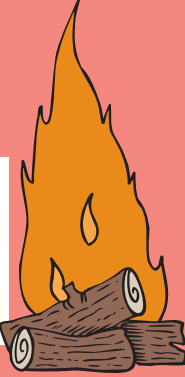


More thunderstorms happen during the summer than any other time of year.


The Frisbee started as a pie plate.




The largest bonfire ever was the height of a 15 story building.



August is the most popular birthday month.



Astronomical Start Date
June 20th



Astronomical End Date
September 22nd

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?Did You KNOW?

Bird feeders can be placed at different levels, including on the ground, on a table top or higher. This allows various birds to enjoy a meal.




WORD SCRAMBLE

Rearrange the letters to spell something pertaining to summer activities.


N C S T E T O


Answer: Contest



?Did You KNOW?

The precise number of species that live in the ocean is unknown. However, some studies estimate there are about 2.2 million marine species.






Nature FACT!

These parts of Earth affect and regulate the planet's climate, among other things.

Answer: Oceans


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According to the Skin Cancer Foundation,

skin damage builds up over time, beginning with a person’s very first sunburn.

The more a person’s skin burns, the greater his or her risk for skin cancer becomes.

The SCF notes that the same ultraviolet (UV) rays that damage skin alter a tumor-suppressing gene. That alteration gives injured cells a smaller window to repair before a tumor becomes cancerous. Five or more sunburns in a lifetime doubles a person’s risk for melanoma, which can be deadly. That cumulative effect underscores the need to emphasize skin protection methods, such as wearing sunscreen and avoiding exposure to the sun between the hours of 10 a.m. and 4 p.m.



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SUDOKU

6			8			5	2	9
4	2	8	9		7			
9	5		3					
					3		1	
		6						3
	1			9	4	7	5	2
1	8				5			
		4	1			2	8	
		9			8	1	4	7

Level: Beginner

Here’s How It Works:
Sudoku puzzles are formatted as a 9x9 grid, broken down into nine 3x3 boxes. To solve a sudoku, the numbers 1 through 9 must fill each row, column and box. Each number can appear only once in each row, column and box. You can figure out the order in which the numbers will appear by using the numeric clues already provided in the boxes. The more numbers you name, the easier it gets to solve the puzzle!

7	4	1	8	3	2	6	9	5
5	8	2	6	9	1	4	7	3
9	3	6	5	7	4	2	8	1
2	5	7	4	6	3	8	1	9
3	6	8	2	1	5	9	4	7
4	1	6	3	8	7	5	6	2
8	7	4	9	2	3	1	5	6
1	9	3	7	5	6	8	2	4
6	2	5	1	4	8	7	3	9

Math Blocks

Fill in the missing blocks with numbers between 0-10.
The numbers in each row add up to the totals on the right.
The numbers in each column add up to the totals on the bottom.

10		4	16
	6		16
0		2	5
19	11	7	

0	3	2
6	6	1
10	2	4
Solution		

Double Word Puzzle

Unscramble the words to reveal the sentence.

M J P U

O R F G
1 2 4

S K E L A
5 8

D P T E O L A
6 9 3 10 7

1 2 3 4

C C H
5 6 7 8

9

Y
1 10

Answers: Jump, Frog, Lakes, Tadpole, Frog catches a fly.

8 GAMES TO TRY AT THE NEXT BACKYARD BASH

Games can enhance any outdoor function. Whether at the beach or in one's backyard, activities can keep guests entertained in between the food and other refreshments. And the good news is that most games designed for these types of functions are appropriate for players across a wide range of ages.

The following are eight games that can add to the excitement of any outdoor gathering.



1. Ladder toss: Also known as ladder golf, this game requires players to toss string-attached balls onto a ladder-shaped target. Points are awarded depending on which rung the ball lands on.
2. Kubb: Pronounced "KOOB," this Swedish lawn game believed to have originated during the era of the Vikings and is best described as a blend of bowling and horseshoes. Two teams compete to knock over their opponents' wooden blocks by throwing batons.
3. Cornhole: Many people have played cornhole, which involves tossing bean bags at the cornhole board. The objective is to get the bag into the hole or on the board to score points. The game can be played as singles or doubles. The first team to reach 21 points wins.
4. Spikeball®: Also called Roundnet, this two-on-two sport is played by hitting a ball off a net with the goal of preventing the opposing team from returning the ball within three touches.
5. Ring toss: This is another game that tests hand-eye coordination. Players take turns tossing the rings onto the target pegs. Each peg is worth a

- different number of points. The first player to reach the agreed-upon amount of points wins.
6. Connect four in a row: Giant versions of familiar tabletop games also are available for yard use. With this game, players need to get four chips in a row, either up and down or diagonal.
 7. Kan Jam®: Similar to cornhole or horseshoes, Kan Jam® features two teams of two that alternate between throwing a frisbee and trying to deflect it. The goal is to get the frisbee into the can.
 8. Rollers: Goals are placed 25 feet apart and then players roll wooden discs to try to get closest to the goal. Each side of the disc has a different number to determine the point value.

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Fall Craft/Vendor Show & Car Show: October 18

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5 FUN FACTS ABOUT THE MONTH OF JULY

July is synonymous with fun in the sun. In the northern hemisphere, July is typically characterized by sunny days, warm weather and long hours of daylight, making it an ideal month to enjoy a little rest and relaxation. Though it might be a great time for some R&R, July also boasts an interesting history. As revelers soak up some sun this summer, they can ponder these fun facts about the month of July.

1. July is named after a person whose been famous for thousands of years. According to the Farmer's Almanac, Roman dictator Julius Caesar developed the precursor to the Gregorian calendar used today. Though that made him worthy of a month named in his honor, it didn't do much to protect him during his life, as Caesar was famously assassinated in 44 B.C.

2. July is a celebratory month for fans of revolution. American Independence Day (July 4) and Bastille Day (July 14), which commemorates the storming of the Bastille and the dawn of the French Revolution in 1789, are among the notable revolutionary moments celebrated in July.

3. Baseball historians know that many significant events in the game have taken place in July, and some records set in the month have withstood longer than others. On July 12, 1931, Mel Ott of the New York Giants hit his 100th career homerun, becoming the youngest player to reach that milestone. Ott was 22 years and 132 days old when he set the mark, which still stands today.

4. One of the more famous statements in United States history was uttered in July, though it wasn't within American borders or even on the planet Earth. On July 20, 1969, American astronaut Neil Armstrong, after stepping onto the surface of the moon, declared, "That's one small step for man, one giant leap for mankind."

5. Two men who played integral roles in the American colonies gaining their independence from Great Britain both passed away on July 4th, the day that celebrates that very independence. On July 4th, 1826, former presidents John Adams and Thomas Jefferson, who were once friends, then political rivals and, finally, friends again, passed away within hours of each other.



**Friday
thru
Sunday**

**July 25-27,
2025**

Antiques, Crafts, Flea Market * Pieces of the Good Life Quilt Show * Beauty and the Beast Car Show "Junk in the Truck" Sales * Pool Party * Dinosaur Hunt Oakdale Country Club Pitch Tournament Fire Hose Water Fights * Bouncy House Dunk Tank * Flowers * Community Church Service Food Trucks * Beer Garden * Tilden Prairie Days Family Parade * Fireworks *Tilden Public Library Presentation * Friday Night Street Dance with Kenny K. and the Dead Cowboys * John Peterson Concert * Teen Dance B.J. Jamison Concert —tickets available at Tilden County Line Insurance and Norfolk Real Estate Solutions or at the gate

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July 26**

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Tegan Nissen
8:30 pm

Scotty McCreery
9:30 pm

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Thursday, July 24
Ultimate Bull Riding
7:30 pm

Friday, July 25
The Outlaws
Truck & Tractor Pull
6:15 pm

Sunday, July 27
Demo Derby
6:00 pm

Thursday, July 24 to Sunday, July 27

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GREELEY DAYS RODEO

July 19th & 20th, 2025 at 7:30 pm

EVENTS:

Bull Riding • Tie-Down Roping • Team Roping
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Ladies Breakaway Roping

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Limited to First 20 Contestants
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9 FACTS ABOUT THE DECLARATION OF INDEPENDENCE

The Declaration of Independence is a document that indicates the founding principles of the United States of America.



The declaration was issued by the Continental Congress on July 4, 1776, and announced the separation of the 13 British colonies in North America from the United Kingdom.

That significance means the public may want to learn more about the Declaration of Independence. Here are some key facts.

1. While Thomas Jefferson wrote the Declaration of Independence, it was carefully reviewed and modified by other members of the Continental Congress, notably John Adams and Benjamin Franklin.
2. The Continental Congress actually voted for independence on July 2, 1776. The written

Declaration was dated July 4, 1776, but it wasn't actually signed until August 2nd of that year. John Adams thought July 2nd would be marked as the national holiday.

3. Fifty-six delegates signed the Declaration of Independence, but not all were present on that day in August.

4. While many know that John Hancock signed first, with his prominent signature readily visible, it is believed that Thomas McKean of Delaware was the last person to sign.

5. Others signed according to state delegation and in columns, starting with the northernmost state (New Hampshire) to the southernmost

- (Georgia).
6. About 200 copies of the Dunlap Broadside were printed. Today, 26 copies remain.
 7. The original rough draft of the Declaration of Independence has been lost.
 8. The Declaration of Independence was not universally accepted, and many people in the colonies remained loyal to the British monarchy and opposed American independence.
 9. The Declaration of Independence has a message written on the back of it. It reads, "Original Declaration of Independence dated 4th July 1776."



Summer Schedule

May 24th
The Fabulous Accordion Festival
Featuring the Mark Vyhldal Orchestra

June 20th, 21st & 22nd
OZ Community Theatre Production
Featuring a cast of local talent

July 5th
Midwest Makers Market and Stars & Stripes Patriotic Concert
Featuring the Flatwater Jazz Orchestra

August 4th -9th
Missoula Children's Theatre Production-Hercules

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August 14 -17 | Mitchell, NE



2025 O'NEILL SHOPPER SUMMER RECREATION GUIDE

• CALENDAR OF EVENTS •

JUNE

T.B.D.	D.C. Lynch Carnival	Atkinson
1	Stock Car Races	Stuart
5-7	Spring Concert	Red Cloud
6	Ladies Golf Tournament	Springview
6	4th Annual Butch Anderson Memorial Bull Riding	Plainview
6-7	Garage Sale Weekend	Wayne
6-8	Clown Days	Plainview
7	St. Boniface Spring Shindig	Stuart
7	City Wide Garage Sales	Mitchell
7	City Wide Garage Sales	Atkinson
7	Ranch Rodeo	Norden
7	The Dirty Boot Band	Norden
7	5th Annual Car Show	Norfolk
8	Stock Car Races	Stuart
10-12	D.C. Lynch Carnival	Burwell
14	Hairball with Rival 5 Concert	Fort Randall Casino
14	Great American Comedy Festival	Norfolk
14	Fire Dept. Cruise Night & Dance	Petersburg
14	Hwy 20 Hot Rod Assoc. Car Show	Plainview
14	KBRX City Wide Garage Sales	O'Neill
14	Alumni Banquet	Elgin
14	Alumni Banquet	Winside
14	Ponca Creek Renegades Mini Barrel Racing Series	Verdel
15	Father's Day Golf Tournament	Springview
15	10th Annual Gene Topp Memorial Car Show	Winside
15	Stock Car Races	Stuart
18-19	Sandhills Ranch Expo	Bassett
18-21	Blue Grass Festival	Long Pine
19-22	Berry Pepper Days	Creighton
20	Cruise Main in Wayne	Wayne
20-22	OZ Community Theatre Production	Ord
20-21	Rock County Alumni Weekend	Bassett
20-21	Long Pine Outlaw Days	Long Pine
21	Westbound	Norden
21	Wheeler County Beef Progress Show	Bartlett
21	Mitchell Masters Golf Tournament & Live Auction	Mitchell
21	Poker Run Benefit for Travis Dozler	Elgin
22	Stock Car Races	Stuart
24-25	Carnival Days	Petersburg
27-28	City Wide Garage Sales	Burwell
27-28	Alumni Reunion	Burwell
27-29	Pancake Days	Butte
27-29	Clearwater's Big Rodeo	Clearwater
27-29	Wolbach Rodeo Days	Wolbach
28	Ponca Creek Renegades Mini Barrel Racing Series	Verdel
28	Alumni Weekend	Valentine
28	Pickup Pulls	Butte
28	Summer Fest Makers Market	Burwell
28	Springview FD Golf Tournament	Springview
28	The Windmill Market	Pilger
28-29	Alumni Weekend/Parade	Ainsworth
29	Cleawater Rodeo Concert feat. Connor Smith & Gavin Adcock	Clearwater
29	Stock Car Races	Stuart
30-July 2	Middle of Nowhere Days Carnival	Ainsworth

JULY

Every Friday	Sandlot Baseball	Springview
3	Logan Mize Concert	Burwell
4	Fireworks	O'Neill
4	Independence Day Celebration	Chambers
4	Fire Dept BBQ & Fireworks	Burwell
4	Community Potluck, Baseball & Fireworks	Springview
4	Car & Truck Show, Fireworks	Ainsworth
4-5	4th of July Celebration	Ericson
5	Stars & Stripes Concert	Ord
5	Midwest Makers Market	Ord
5-6	Boomfest	Norfolk
6	Stock Car Races/Fireworks Show	Stuart
8-13	Madison County Fair	Madison
11-12	Christmas in July	Atkinson
11-13	Wayne Chicken Show	Wayne
12-16	Boone County Fair	Albion
12	Classic Country Club	Norden
13	Springview Golf Club's Open Tournament	Springview
15	Aaron Watson & Bryce Leatherwood Concert	Albion
17	Elvis Tribute Concert	O'Neill
17-20	Summerfest	O'Neill
18	Cruise Main in Wayne	Wayne
18	Euchre Tournament	Royal
18	Minute to Win It	Niobrara
18-19	Niobrara Bridge Days	Niobrara
18-19	Nebraska Rocks	Norfolk
18-20	Greeley Days & Rodeo	Greeley
18-20	Burke Stampede Rodeo	Burke, SD
19	City Wide Garage Sales	Valentine
19	Celebration Day, Tractor Ride, BBQ	Royal
19	Sunset Sinners Opening for Sam Barber	O'Neill
20	Stock Car Races	Stuart
20	Alumni Banquet	Niobrara
20-25	32nd Annual STAR Party	Valentine
20-26	Garfield County Fair	Burwell

JULY

23-26	Nebraska's Big Rodeo	Burwell
23-27	Hall County Fair	Grand Island
24-26	Webster County Fair & Rodeo	Red Cloud
24-27	Wayne County Fair	Wayne
25-27	Tilden Prairie Days	Tilden
26	Nebraska's Big Rodeo Parade	Burwell
26	Janene & The Machine	Norden
26	Scotts Bluff County Fair Parade	Mitchell
26	The Windmill Market	Pilger
26	Springview FD Kid's Water Fight & Fun Day	Springview
26	Ponca Creek Renegades Mini Barrel Racing Series	Verdel
27	Stock Car Races	Stuart
28-Aug. 3	Rock County Fair & Rodeo	Bassett
31-Aug. 3	100th Wheeler County Fair	Bartlett

AUGUST

1-2	Garage Sale Weekend	Wayne
1-2	Missoula Children's Theatre-Little Red Riding Hood	Red Cloud
1-3	City Wide Garage Sales	Niobrara
1-3	100th Wheeler County Fair continues	Bartlett
1-3	Rock County Fair continues	Bassett
1-3	Street Car Days	Red Cloud
2	Crazy Days	Valentine
2	6th Annual Hotrods Car Show	Red Cloud
2	Lonesome Walker	Norden
3	Stock Car Races	Stuart
4-9	Holt County Fair	Chambers
4-9	Missoula Children's Theatre Production-Hercules	Ord
4-10	Cherry County Fair	Valentine
5	Burwell Bash Nationals Night Out	Burwell
7-10	Ponca Tribe of Nebraska Powwow	Niobrara
7-10	Knox County Fair	Bloomfield
8-9	Madison Gun Show	Madison
9	Glow Ball Golf Tournament	Springview
9	Rough Stock Rodeo	Clearwater
10	Stock Car Races	Stuart
14-17	Magic in the Western Skies/Old West Balloon Fest	Mitchell
15	Cruise Main in Wayne	Wayne
15-16	Jessica Loobey Band	Norden
15-17	Summer City Fest	Norfolk
15-17	Popcorn Days	North Loup
15-17	Keya Paha County Fair	Norden
15-17	Hay Days Celebration	Atkinson
22-Sept. 1	Nebraska State Fair	Grand Island
23-24	43rd Annual Nebraska State Antique Tractor & Horse Plowing Bee	Petersburg
30	The Windmill Market	Pilger
30	Ponca Creek Renegades Saddle Club Playday	Verdel
30	138th Old Settlers Reunion	Sparks
31	Ponca Creek Renegades Trail Ride	Verdel

SEPTEMBER

1	Ponca Creek Renegades Trial Ride	Verdel
6	Westbound	Norden
6	Mixed Golf Tournament	Springview
6	Chaduzza Cook-Off	Valentine
9-11	Husker Harvest Days	Grand Island
20	Greeley Irish Festival	Greeley
20	Classic Country Club	Norden
26	Nebraska Brass Concert	Bassett
26-27	Cowboy 200 & Cowboy 100	Atkinson
27	The Windmill Market	Pilger

Dear Summer,

I Love You.