

Summer Family Fun in RI – 2018

2018 Summer Library Reading Programs include lots of entertainment options. If you miss one at your local library you can just go to another library.

<http://www.olis.ri.gov/reading/srp/>

Calendar of Events <http://www.olis.ri.gov/reading/srp/schedule.php>

Be sure to check out your **local library for free or discounted passes to local museums and attractions** that can be loaned to you with your library card. Every library has passes to different places that are local to them. Many passes offer free or discounted admission and if you have a library pass from any town in RI you can check out a pass from another town's library if it is available. For example, the South Kingstown Library doesn't have passes to the Coggeshall Farm in Bristol, but the Bristol Library does. Take your South Kingstown Library pass to the Bristol Library and simply borrow their pass for the day for a free admission. You can use your SK library pass at the Cumberland Library for a free pass to view the Museum of Work and Culture in Woonsocket.

You can even check out passes to zoos and aquariums that may have a reciprocal agreement with one that's not listed. For example, if you check out a pass for the Boston Museum of Science, you could use that pass to go to the Dr. Seuss Museum in Springfield instead, or the Franklin Park Zoo in Boston instead of the Roger Williams Zoo.

This list is outdated so please check with the library first to see if they still carry the pass.

<http://kidoinfo.com/pass-it-on-from-your-local-library/>

RI DEM Great Outdoor Pursuit

Participating is easy! Sign up your children under 18, print out a game passport, and collect stickers at our participating events and activities. Last year our family participated in fishing, archery, clam digging (you get to keep what you catch), boating and other outdoor events all free.

The 2018 adventure begins in May on **Kids to Parks Day** and continues all summer long. Be sure to check back on their Facebook page too as the list keeps growing.

<http://www.riparks.com/RIOutdoorsPursuit/>

<http://www.riparks.com/>

RI Salt Pond Coalitions; Safari's and Kayak/Canoe Paddles – None scheduled yet, but check in to see updated schedules. Each year, our Salt Pond Safaris introduce dozens of kids to the wonders of the salt ponds. Using a 30' seine net, we will do our best to catch a variety of aquatic creatures to introduce to the children. They require pre-registration for safaris as we can only comfortably accommodate about 15 children.

<http://www.saltpondscoalition.org/Calendar.html>

RI Free Summer Concerts are happening all over the state!

This blog has free summer events for kids, and adults all year long and all over the states. Check out the calendar as it is always being updated.

<https://riblogger.com/your-guide-to-free-summer-concerts-in-rhode-island/>

<https://riblogger.com/things-to-do-in-rhode-island/>

RI Fruit Growers Association Farm Scavenger Hunt

Explore the beauty and bounty of farms across our diverse Ocean State landscape while solving picture clues along the way in exchange for prizes. The Farm Scavenger Hunt began in 2011 with players setting out to sample the state's apple orchards and has now grown to 32 participating farms including pick-your-own, nurseries, family-friendly vineyards, Wright's Dairy Farm, and the ever-surprising The Fantastic Umbrella Factory.

<http://www.rifruitgrowers.org>

2018 PDF Map.

<http://www.rifruitgrowers.org/2018-ScavengerHunt.pdf>

Providence Free Events and Attractions

<http://www.goprovidence.com/things-to-do/free-events-and-attractions-in-providence/>

The 2018 info is not posted yet, but Showcase Cinema's offers free **Bookworm Wednesday's**, a fun and rewarding summer reading program developed to encourage young children to read during the summer months, Bookworm Wednesdays entitles kids to free admission to a select children's film when they present a book report at a participating Cinema de Lux, Showcase, or Multiplex Cinemas box office. Accompanying parents or guardians and children under six years of age receive free admission and do not need to submit a book report. Bookworm Wednesdays will resume in summer 2018.

<https://www.showcasecinemas.com/programs/kids-and-families/bookwormwed>

Gallery Night is a FREE, fun-filled way to experience Providence's exciting art scene!

On the third Thursday of every month, from March through November, twenty-one of the city's hot "art spots" open their doors, inviting you to a visual arts party.

<https://www.gallerynight.org/>

Providence Children's Museum

Admission is free on "MetLife Family Friday - Free at Five!" sponsored by MetLife Foundation.

Check the [calendar](#) for details. Admission is free for Electronic Benefits Transfer (EBT) cardholders, as part of the Museums for All program.

<http://www.childrenmuseum.org/hours.asp>

Rhode Island School of Design Art Museum – Want to see a real Mummy? Or a Monet, Da Vinci, Manet? Admission is free every Sunday (10 am–5 pm) and on the third Thursday evening of each month (5–9 pm). <http://risdmuseum.org/visit/>

Rhode Island Historical Museums – Some have fee’s, but check your local libraries first for a free or discounted pass.

<http://www.censusfinder.com/rhode-island-historical-museums.htm>

https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/List_of_museums_in_Rhode_Island

<https://www.discovernewport.org/things-to-do/museums/> Newport Library has many passes for their museums including the International Tennis Hall of Fame.

<https://www.goprovidence.com/things-to-do/attractions/>

<https://www.tomaquagmuseum.org/>

<http://www.rispmuseum.org/> Rhode Island State Police Museum

<http://rimosa.org/visit/>

<https://www.rhodeislandjewishmuseum.org/>

<https://southcountymuseum.org/>

<http://sos.ri.gov/rihrab/museums.html>

<http://www.museumsusa.org/museums/?k=1271400%2cState%3aRI%3bDirectoryID%3a200454%3bCurrentDate%3aJan+23+2006+12%3a00AM%3b>

<https://www.seabeesmuseum.com/>

Connecticut

Eastern CT is also known as the “Last Green Valley”. There lots of outdoor events listed on the National Heritage Corridor website that are constantly being updated. As with many of the previous weblinks, “like”ing or following their Facebook page will keep you up to date. <http://thelastgreenvalley.org/>

USS Nautilus Submarine Museum is free!

It’s a beautiful new museum building with free parking and easy access on and off I 95.

<http://www.usnautilus.org/>

Massachusetts

Free Museum Fun Fridays

Our Free Fun Fridays offer visitors no-cost admission to many of the most treasured cultural venues in Massachusetts. This program was created to increase access and enrichment opportunities for children and families throughout Massachusetts during the summer months.

Every Friday, from the end of June through the end of August, multiple sites are open for free. <http://highlandstreet.org/programs/free-fun-fridays>

2018 Schedule of Free Events

http://highlandstreet.org/sites/default/files/program_download/free-fun-friday-2018-english-schedule.pdf

Visit one of **Rhode Island’s U.S. Fish and Wildlife Refuges** for Free Summer programs

https://www.fws.gov/uploadedFiles/Region_5/NWRS/North_Zone/Rhode_Island_Complex/ProgramCalendar.pdf

<https://www.fws.gov/refuge/ninigret/>

National Parks and Heritage Corridors in Rhode Island

<https://www.nps.gov/blac/index.htm>

<https://www.nps.gov/state/ri/index.htm>

Be sure to check with your own towns or other towns **Parks and Recreation Departments** for other opportunities for Free family events such as Narragansett's free movies on Wednesday nights at the town beach and free outdoor concerts on Friday nights!

<https://narragansettri.gov/546/Gazebo-SummerFall-Concerts>

Westerly also holds free movie nights at Misquamicut Beach

<https://www.oceanchamber.org/events/details/big-screen-movies-on-the-beach-2018-misquamicut-22470>

TO BE UPDATED soon, as an example Narragansett Parks and Recreation hosts Movies on the Beach <http://www.narragansettri.gov/333/Upcoming-Events>

Or some other websites:

<http://www.onlyinyourstate.com/rhode-island/outdoor-activities-ri/>

<http://www.onlyinyourstate.com/rhode-island/state-parks-ri/>

Check out your local Land Trust for activities and trail maps for hiking!

<http://rilandtrusts.org/landtrustdays/>

The REI Store at Chapel View in Cranston offers many free classes on outdoor activities throughout the year. Check out their website for an up to date schedule.

<https://www.rei.com/stores/cranston.html>

On **September 22, 2018, Smithsonian Magazine hosts The Museum Day Live!** With each email address you register (*hint, hint*) the ticket provides free admission for two people. Museum Day Live! is an annual celebration of boundless curiosity hosted by Smithsonian magazine. Participating museums and cultural institutions across the country provide entry to anyone presenting a Museum Day Live! ticket.

<http://www.smithsonianmag.com/museumday/museum-day-live-2017/>

Bike Rhode Island – RIDOT Bike Paths and Maps. In the past 20 years, RIDOT has built an impressive network of bike paths, offering more than 60 miles of off-road cycling in all regions of the state. <http://www.dot.ri.gov/community/bikeri/>

RI Blue Ways and Greenways – Paddle your way around Rhode Island.

http://www.exploreri.org/paddle_across_ri.html

<http://www.exploreri.org/waterTrails.php>

Visit every carousel in the RI area:



Crescent Park Looff Carousel

End of Bullock's Point Avenue, East Providence, RI
(401) 435-7518 or (401) 433-2828

Cost: \$1 per ride

Summer hours: Open Thursday — Sunday, Noon — 8pm

Flying Horse Carousel, Watch Hill

Bay Street, Watch Hill, RI
(401) 348-6007

Hours of Operation: Open weekends only until June 18. Open every day during the summer.

Slater Memorial Park Carousel

Route 1A, Pawtucket, RI
(401) 728-0500, x 252

Carousel Village, Roger Williams Park

100 Elmwood Drive, Providence, RI
(401) 785-9450 ext. 261

Cost: \$1 per ride

Easton's Beach Carousel

175 Memorial Boulevard, Newport, RI
(401) 845-5810

Cost: \$1 per ride

Summer Hours: Open seven days a week from 11am — 6pm