

NEWS RELEASE

Rockford Area Convention & Visitors Bureau



Rockford Region Eclipses Summer and Prepares for Fall

Don't miss out on the autumn fun – from orchards to festivals to parks!

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

August 29, 2017

Rockford, IL – It is time to say goodbye to the summer season and get excited for fall festivities. Be adventurous and visit local events, festivals, preserves and over 100 acres of family-owned orchards in Rockford where you can indulge yourself with apple cider, cinnamon donuts and caramel apples. The Rockford region has the perfect atmosphere to help you enjoy the season.

“The Rockford region’s beauty increases with the extraordinary autumn colors. My family loves a great fall hike at Klehm Arboretum or Rock Cut State Park,” said Josh Albrecht, Rockford Area Convention & Visitors Bureau’s director of marketing & public affairs. “Our goal is to create a family friendly environment that offers various types of tourist activities for every season.”

Fortunately, the Rockford region has three great orchards that kick off the idyllic fall experience. Biting into that first crisp apple or smelling the cinnamon donuts being made is a moment many look forward to all year long. Visit **Curran's Orchard** in Rockford, **Edwards Apple Orchard West** in Winnebago and **Valley Orchard** in Cherry Valley for sweet treats and fun activities all season long.

Other events that are part of the Rockford Area Fall Scene include:

- Greek Fest (Sept. 8-10) – This annual festival features music, dancing, food, baked goods, Greek themed items for sale, and more!
- Roscoe Lions Club Annual Fall Festival (Sept. 8-10) – The annual Fall Festival features amusement rides, live music, parades and a raffle.
- Main Street Market by Urban Farmgirl (Sept. 9) – Shop over 150 vendors from across the Midwest – handmade artisans and purveyors of vintage goods – while enjoying amazing food and local music on three different stages.
- Greenwich Village Art Fair (Sept. 16-17) – The annual outdoor event features up to 150 artists, live music, vendors, activities, and more.
- Pec Thing Antique & Flea Market (Sept. 16-17) – Has over 500 vendors selling everything from antiques and collectibles to crafts and home good items.
- Hot Diggity Dog Festival (Sept. 17) – Pack up the pooch and get ready for a fun day dedicated to our lovable four-legged friends!
- World War II Days (Sept. 23-24) – Enjoy over 1,200 reenactors, 60 military vehicles, pyrotechnic battles, skirmishes, demonstrations and displays.
- Fall ArtScene (Oct. 6-7) – Brings out thousands of art lovers to galleries and studios all over town to enjoy new exhibits of original works.
- Oktoberfest (Oct. 6-7) – This annual event features live music, German food and beer, wiener dog races, and the “Bier Barrel Race.”
- Scarecrow Harvest Festival (Oct. 7) – Activities for all ages include scarecrow making, two horse-drawn wagons for rides, apple and pumpkin games, crafts, scavenger hunts, demonstrations and more!
- Cider n' Cinnamon Arts & Crafts Fair (Oct. 7-8) – More than 70 vendors will be displaying a variety of art, jewelry, crafts, clothing, vintage décor, and so much more!
- Autumn @ the Arboretum Fair (Oct. 8) – There will be scarecrow building, pumpkin decorating, face painting, horse-drawn wagon rides, and fall themed food and drinks available.

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- Head of the Rock Regatta (Oct. 8) – The Head of the Rock Regatta is a rowing race of 5,000 meters on the Rock River, beginning at Martin Park and finishing at the YMCA
- All Hallow's Eve (Oct. 21) – Bring your family to trick or treat in the safety of Midway Village Museum's charming Victorian Village! Families can enter the enchanted forest and more than 20 buildings will be decorated for Halloween.
- Trick or Trot (Oct. 22) – Run or walk through the Victorian village on the 3.1 certified course on paved or gravel trails. Wear your friendly Halloween costume!
- Spook-Tacular Haunts (Oct. 28) – Children are invited to come dressed in costume and explore the Garden in a new and spooky way! There will be trick or treating and birds in the garden from Hoo Haven.
- Veterans 5K Run & Walk (Nov. 4) – The run benefiting the Veterans Drop-In Center is on a flat, fast, beautiful course along the Rock River.
- The Price is Right Live – Stage Show (Nov. 10) – This interactive stage show gives eligible individuals a chance to "Come on Down" to win prizes!

One of the best parts about living in the Midwest is to be surrounded by the leaves changing colors. Anderson Japanese Gardens, one of the finest Japanese gardens in North America, is a great spot to reflect and be inspired by the meticulously landscaped foliage and winding pathways leading to stunning views. The 10-mile paved Rock River Recreation Path that begins in downtown Rockford along the Rock River and travels through some of Rockford's gardens and parks is yet another tranquil scene for adventurers to enjoy during this time of year.

The Rockford region is also dubbed a Real. Original. family town and fall is the perfect time to venture to places like the Discovery Center Museum (voted fourth finest children's museum in the country) and the Forest Preserves of Winnebago County where one million visitors from across the region visit 10,300 acres of woods, prairie, wetlands, rivers and ponds each year.

For more information to help you "Fall into Fun" or to download our Fall into Fun flyer, go online to www.gorockford.com/fall/.

*Rockford, Illinois, is a vibrant community with big-city amenities and a small-town feel. Rockford is surrounded by many attractive towns and villages, each with its own character and appeal, making up a metro area of more than 330,000 people. This is a welcoming place dotted with green, blessed by rivers and untroubled by congestion. If you're looking for the real, original heart of America, welcome home to the **Rockford Region**.*

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FOR MORE INFORMATION:

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