

Summer 2021 Activities in Charlottesville & Albemarle County

***Walking, Hiking, Biking, Mountain Biking, Tennis, Pickle Ball, Golf, Disc Golf,
Skate Boarding, Swimming, Fishing, Canoeing, Kayaking, Paddle Boarding***

Albemarle County Parks – 2021 Summer Swim Season

[Parks & Recreation | Albemarle County, VA](#) or (434) 296-5844

Enjoy Lake Beach Swimming at [Chris Greene](#), [Mint Springs](#), and [Walnut Creek Park](#) this

Summer Season – June 17 - August 22, 2021

- Days/Hours of Operation: Thursday-Sunday 11am - 7pm
- Fees: \$3 per adult, \$2 per child (3-12); Free admission for children under 3 and adults 62 and up. Daily Entry Only, No Season Passes Available.
- Canoe/Kayak Rentals: Available at Chris Greene Lake and Walnut Creek Lake.

Charlottesville Parks and Recreation – 2021 Summer Swim Season

[Coronavirus Updates | Charlottesville, VA](#) or (434) 970-3260

- May 29: Spray Grounds at Belmont Park, Forest Hills Park, Greenleaf Park and Tonsler Park will open for the 2021 summer season.
- May 29: Crow Recreation Center and Indoor Pool and Washington Park Pool.
- August 1: Smith Aquatic & Fitness Center will open.
- Onesty Family Aquatic Center will remain closed due to staff constraints. The goal is to reopen this facility as soon as possible once staffing levels are fulfilled.

NOTE: Reservations will be required for entry to all facilities including the above except for Key Center and Tonsler Center. Reservations can be made online or by calling the facility you are interested in reserving.

NOTE: Covid-19 safety precautions and rules will include face coverings:

- Patrons will be required to wear a face covering when entering/exiting and when traveling between areas within an indoor facility.
- Patrons will not be required to wear a face covering when participating in fitness activities, swimming, or using fitness equipment.

Area Parks, Nature Areas and Trails

Albemarle County Parks and Trails

[Parks | Albemarle County, VA](#)

[Trails, Greenways, and Blueways | Albemarle County, VA](#)

Charlottesville City Parks and Trails

[Map of Charlottesville City Trails](#)

Botanical Garden of the Piedmont

[Botanical Garden of the Piedmont | Celebrating Virginia's Flora \(piedmontgarden.org\)](#)

- The Garden is open to you every day, even if the gate is closed. There is a kiosk filled with information about the Garden as well as areas to sit, relax and enjoy nature.
- Access from Melbourne Road near the intersection to the John Warner Parkway (across the street from the CHS football stadium). There is parking available on Melbourne Road.
- **NOTE:** Leashed dogs are allowed.

Meadowcreek Trail in Greenbrier Park

<https://cvillegreenbrier.weebly.com/trail-plan.html>

- .5-mile+ **accessible**, 8-foot wide, crushed stone/boardwalk flat trail for walking/biking along the restored Meadowcreek stream bed. There are a few benches for resting.
- Access points with parking are off Greenbrier Drive and Brandywine Drive, but the easiest is at Jamestown Drive.
- **NOTE:** Leashed dogs are allowed.

Ivy Creek Natural Area

<https://ivycreekfoundation.org/>

- .75-mile **accessible** paved flat trail for walking from the parking lot. (Restrooms)
- The Ivy Creek Natural Area (ICNA) is a 215-acre preserve bordering the South Fork Rivanna Reservoir with 6 miles of trails.
- **NOTE:** Dogs are not allowed at Ivy Creek Natural Area.

John Warner Parkway Trail

<https://www.traillink.com/trail/john-w-warner-parkway-trail/>

- 2-mile **accessible** paved trail for walking/biking from East Rio Road to Route 250 Downtown with steep switchback at trail head.
- Accessible from E. Rio Trailhead with parking at CATEC. Easier access points are parking at Melbourne Road or Route 250 Allied Shops area.
- **NOTE:** Leashed dogs allowed.

McIntire Park Trails

<https://charlottesville.gov/659/Trails>

- A number of nature trails run along the creek and through mature forests at McIntire Park. Triangle Trails behind the YMCA have been redone and are suitable for all levels of mountain biking.
- Access entering the trails behind the picnic shelters, to the north of the baseball fields, or from the CHS bridge with plenty of parking.
- **NOTE:** Dogs are allowed off-leash in designated parts of McIntire Trails on Tuesdays, Wednesdays, and Thursdays

Pen Park Fitness Trail

<https://charlottesville.gov/659/Trails>

- .5-mile **accessible** paved loop for walking with 20 exercise stations and benches with slight changes in grade.
- Access behind the picnic shelters with parking. (Restrooms by playground)
- **NOTE:** Leashed dogs allowed.

Pen Park Nature Trail

<https://charlottesville.gov/659/Trails>

- 1.5-mile trail along the Rivanna River. This trail is a combination of a wider main path and side trails that offer closer views of the river. The main trail is very flat and wide, good for jogging or hiking.
- Access the trailhead behind the picnic shelters with parking, off the fitness trail. (Restrooms by playground)
- **NOTE:** Leashed dogs allowed.

Ragged Mountain

<https://www.trailforks.com/trails/ragged-mountain-outer-loop/>

- The Ragged Mountain Natural Area is a 980 acre preserve surrounding the Ragged Reservoir with 5 miles of trail.
- **NOTE:** Dogs are not allowed at Ragged Mountain Natural Area.

Riverview Park Trail at Rivanna Greenbelt

<https://www.visitcharlottesville.org/listing/riverview-park-%26-rivanna-greenbelt/266/>

- 2.3-mile **accessible** paved trail for walking/biking, which is flat. starting at Riverview Park along the scenic Rivanna River.
- Access and parking at Riverview Park. (Portable Restrooms)
- **NOTE:** Dogs are allowed off-leash on designated portions of the trail within Riverview park on Tuesdays, Wednesdays, and Thursdays only.

Rivanna Trails

<http://www.rivannatrails.org>

- The Rivanna Trails circumnavigate the City of Charlottesville with walking/biking.
- **NOTE:** Check for specific information on leashed dogs on the various trail sections.

Saunders Trail at Monticello

www.monticello.org/site/visit/saunders-monticello-trail

- 4-mile **accessible** paved/boardwalk trail for walking/biking on the south side of the Thomas Jefferson Parkway. (Rt. 53) with a maximum grade of 5%. (Restrooms at Visitors Center)
- Access and parking from Monticello Visitor Center lot at the head and Kemper Park with limited parking.
- **NOTE:** Leashed dogs allowed.

Sentara Martha Jefferson Walking Trail

<https://www.mypacer.com/routes/114894/sentara-martha-jefferson-park-charlottesville-virginia-usa>

- 1-mile **accessible** paved trail (narrower than other trails) for walking around three picturesque ponds with lush grassy areas for sitting.
- Access and parking on lower parking lots near the large pond with the swan as the grade is steeper at upper access points near Sentara buildings.
- **NOTE:** Leashed dogs allowed.

Orchards and Farms

Carter Mountain Orchard

<https://chilesfamilyorchards.com/orchards/carter-mountain-orchard>

- Masks required in lines and inside buildings.
- Food available at Country Store & Bakery and the Mountain Grill.
- No picnicking/Restrooms available.
- **NOTE:** No dogs allowed.

Chiles Orchard

<https://chilesfamilyorchards.com/>

- Masks required in lines and inside buildings.
- The Farm Market offers specialty treats including cider, donuts, ice cream and fudge.
- Picnicking is welcomed/Restrooms available.
- **NOTE:** No dogs allowed.

Central Virginia Orchards and Farms

<https://www.visitcharlottesville.org/things-to-do/orchards-farms/>

Other Outdoor Recreation Ideas

Charlottesville Community Bikes

<https://www.cbikes.org>

Contact: info@cbikes.org / 434-260-0893

Charlottesville Community Bikes (CCB) is a nonprofit bicycle shop that promotes environmentally sound transportation, recycles bicycles, and makes cycling accessible in Charlottesville, VA. Their programs include:

- **Voucher Bike Program:** free bikes for adults in need
- **Free Kids' Bike Program:** free bikes (24" wheels and smaller) to kids 12 and under.
- **Refurbished Bike Shop:** CCB sells refurbished bikes to help the community access affordable bikes and to help fund the free bike programs.
- Bicycle **repairs**

NOTE Shop Location Change: Until June 10: 405 Avon Street. From June 15 onward: 917#D Preston Ave (behind Sticks Kebab Shop + Mona Lisa Pasta) **Hours:** Tuesday and Thursday 11:00 am – 5:00 pm; Friday and Saturday 11:00 am – 3:00 pm.

Fishing in Charlottesville/Albemarle Area

No activity can be as rewarding as relaxing near waterway with fishing pole in hand and line in the water. Check out our parks that provide/allow fishing.

- [Beaver Creek Park](#)
- [Chris Greene Lake](#)
- [Darden Towe Park](#)
- [Mint Springs Valley Park](#)
- [Totier Park](#)
- [Walnut Creek Park](#)

NOTE: There are wheelchair accessible fishing peers at Chris Greene, Mint Springs and Beaver Creek. No fishing license is required for those under 16.

Meadowcreek Golf Course at Pen Park

<http://www.meadowcreekgolf.org>

- Driving Range – Bring your driver and a basket of 40 balls is \$7.
- Putting Green – Bring your putter and practice on the green at no charge.
- Grill at Meadowcreek – <https://www.meadowcreekgolf.org/menu.html>
 - To Go/outdoor seating for anyone (year-round).
 - Connect with a walk on an area trail.
- **NOTE:** Masks are required for everyone only in the restrooms.

Putt Putt Charlottesville

<https://puttputt.com/charlottesville/>

- Individual Game - \$6 (18 holes)/\$10 (36 holes)
- **NOTE:** Masks are not required.

Special Olympics – Area 3 Summer Sports

Contact: Rose Ann Gamma, Special Olympics Area 3 Coordinator, sovaarea3@yahoo.com

- Summer Sports
 - Tennis on Saturday from 4:00 - 5:00 pm at Albemarle High School thru June 26.
 - Track and Bocce on Sundays from 4:00 – 5:00 pm at Charlottesville High School thru June 27.
- **VERY IMPORTANT**
 - **To participate** in either sport, you must contact Rose Ann Gamma to receive the forms on Covid 19 and Liability Release to be completed beforehand.
 - You MUST sign up to attend. We will not be taking any walk ins. This includes athletes, coaches and volunteers.
- **NOTE:** We are still on very strict protocol from Special Olympics, including a mask must be worn at all times.

Thursday Evening Sunset Series at Carter Mountain Orchard

[Thursday Evening Sunset Series | Chiles Family Orchards](#)

Contact: hello@CarterMountainOrchard.com

- Every Thursday evening (5:00 – 9:00 pm) from May 6 – September 30, 2021.
- Reserved Tickets are required for these events and must be purchased online advance at \$10 for age 12 and older.
- Event admission begins at 5:00 pm with music starting at 6:00 pm. Bring lawn chairs and blankets or come early for a picnic table on our terrace or decks. Food trucks and wine, cider etc. available for purchase; No outside food or drink may be brought in.
- **NOTE:** Everyone is requested to wear a mask inside any building and restrooms.

Wild Rock Nature Play and Discovery Center

[Wildrock | Nature Play and Discovery Center](#) or (434) 825-8631

- Wild Rock offers over twelve play zones inviting imaginative play. Most play elements are geared to children three to twelve. Adult supervision is required.
- Playscape Reserved Times (\$20)
 - Two-hour play block can be reserved during open community days — Wednesday, Friday, or Saturday.
 - Playscape reservations now for openings Monday through Saturday in the summer months.
 - Your reservation is for one parking spot and entry for all passengers. To allow for ample room for social distancing, only 3 reservations are available per time slot.
 - **NOTE:** The entire playscape area is wheelchair accessible.
- **NOTE:** Mask-wearing and social distancing measures will be in place. Scholarships for all programs are available upon request.

Indoor Activities in Charlottesville & Albemarle County

- **Saturday, May 28, 2021**, Governor Ralph Northam today lifted Virginia's universal indoor mask mandate to align with [new guidance](#) from the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC). The CDC guidelines state that fully vaccinated individuals do not have to wear masks in most indoor settings, except on public transit, in health care facilities.
- Businesses retain the ability to require masks in their establishments. So check with the local establishment to see if the policy has changed.

Charlottesville Parks and Recreation Centers

- **Carver Recreation Center | Charlottesville, VA**
<https://www.charlottesville.gov/584/Carver-Recreation-Center>
 - Get information about the Carver Recreation Center amenities, activities, and admission options.
- **Crow Recreation Center | Charlottesville, VA**
<https://www.charlottesville.gov/600/Crow-Recreation-Center>
 - View information about Crow Recreation Center amenities, activities, and admission options.
- **Key Recreation Center | Charlottesville, VA**
<https://www.charlottesville.gov/601/Key-Recreation-Center>
 - Access information about the Key Recreation Center amenities, activities, and admission options.
- **Smith Aquatic & Fitness Center | Charlottesville, VA**
<https://www.charlottesville.gov/605/Smith-Aquatic-Fitness-Center>
 - Expected to reopen on August 1, 2021.
 - Find information about Smith Aquatic & Fitness Center amenities, activities, and admission options.
- **Tonsler Recreation Center | Charlottesville, VA**
<https://www.charlottesville.gov/611/Tonsler-Recreation-Center>
 - Peruse information about Tonsler Recreation Center amenities.

NOTE: Reservations will be required for entry to all facilities except for Key Center and Tonsler Center.

Reservations can be made online or by calling the facility you are interested in reserving access to for:

- Basketball Courts
- Volleyball Courts
- Fitness Centers
- Group Fitness Classes
- Gymnasiums
- Crow Indoor Pool Times (Coming Soon)

NOTE: As of May 18, 2021, all patrons are required to wear a face covering when entering/exiting and when traveling between areas within an indoor facility. Patrons do not need to wear a face covering in fitness activities, swimming or using fitness equipment.

Adaptive Recreation – Charlottesville Parks and Recreation

Contact: Email adaptiverecreation@charlottesville.gov or 434-962-9519 – to receive monthly newsletters (online)

Website: <https://www.charlottesville.gov/368/Adaptive>

Facebook: <https://m.facebook.com/charlottesvilleparksandrecreation/groups/>

- **Jump into Summer with Adaptive Recreation!**
Email Caitlin Marcotte at Caitlin.Marcotte@charlottesville.gov
 - Virtual programming will continue with new instructors and new programs!
 - All programs are free and drop-in and take place over Zoom.
- **In-person, Small Group Programming**
 - This will begin in late July/early August. Information will be posted online and sent out through the Adaptive Recreation newsletter via e-mail.
 - Registration and completion of the Adaptive Recreation Liability Form is required <https://cvilleparksandrec.formstack.com/forms/adaptivereleaseform>.
 - Once we have more, we will send it your way, but also subscribing to our FB page and newsletter is the best way to get info about programs for people.

Jefferson Madison Regional Library Branches

www.jmrl.org

Starting Monday, May 17 Tier Two Services began:

- Physical visits allowed up to a per-branch capacity threshold, no appointments required.
- Continue to place returns in the outside book drop.
- Please limit your visit to 2 hours.
- **NOTE:** Masks and social distancing are required.

Services available at present:

- Browsing/Checking out
- Computers (2 Hour Max)
- Making library cards
- Copying, Printing, Scanning & Faxing

NOTE: Check with your local branch for details on capacity and services.

- **Central Library (434) 979-7151**
www.jmrl.org/br-central.htm
- **Crozet Library (434) 823-4050**
www.jmrl.org/br-crozet.htm
- **Gordon Avenue Library (434) 296-5544**
www.jmrl.org/br-gordon.htm
- **Greene County Library (434) 985-5227**
<https://www.jmrl.org/br-greene.htm>
- **Louisa County Library**
<https://www.jmrl.org/br-louisa.htm>
- **Northside Library (434) 973-7893**
www.jmrl.org/br-northside.htm
- **Scottsville Library (434) 286-3541**
www.jmrl.org/br-scottsville.htm

Museums

African American Heritage Center at the Jefferson School

<http://www.jeffschoolheritagecenter.org>

- Self-Guided tours of permanent collection and changing exhibits
- **NOTE:** Masks are required.

Kluge Rhue Aboriginal Art Collection

<https://kluge-ruhe.org/make-a-reservation/>

- Schedule a private self-guided 30-minute museum tour for groups of up to 8. We are currently open by reservation only and all programs are now virtual.
- Our hours for reservations are: **Tuesday: 10:30 am – 4:30 pm, Wednesday: 10:30 am – 4:30 pm, Thursday: 10:30 am – 8 pm, Friday: 10:30 am – 4:30 pm, Saturday: 10 am – 4 pm and Sunday: 1 pm – 5 pm**
- **NOTE:** Masks required, and all safety protocols followed.
- Connect a visit to a walk/picnic lunch on lush grass along the picturesque Sentara Martha Jefferson Trail.

McGuffey Arts Center

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

- **NOTE:** McGuffey Arts Center is currently operating with COVID-19 protocols for masking and social distancing.

Monticello Visitor Center

<https://www.monticello.org/exhibits-events/exhibits-at-the-visitor-center/>

- **Movie** (15 minutes) on Jefferson's World and **Exhibitions** in four indoor pavilions.
- **Farm Table Café** with patio seating is **open to the public** and does not require a ticket to Monticello from 9:30 am – 4:30 pm. Parking is free and easy.
- **NOTE:** As of May 14, 2021, face coverings are required for all staff and guests 5 and up.
- Connect a visit to a walk on the Saunders Trail and/or Kemper Park.

Other Indoor Recreation Ideas

AMF Summer Bowling Pass at Bolero (Formerly Keglers)

<https://www.bolero.com/summer-games> or (434) 978-3999

- A 2021 Adult pass is \$49.95, and a Child pass is \$34.95.
 - This enables one to bowl three games per day and includes shoe rental through Labor Day.
 - Summer Pass Hours are from opening to 8:00 pm Monday-Friday and Noon to 6:00 pm Saturday and Sunday
- **NOTE:** Bowling is a sport which is fully accessible for all abilities. Masks are required.

Brooks YMCA – Piedmont Family YMCA

<https://piedmontymca.org/about-brooks>

- Full-facility, 79,000-square-foot YMCA including 2 indoor pools, fitness center, gymnasium, walking track, group exercise, play zone,
- Reservations are currently required for: Aquatics, Basketball Court, Group Exercise, and Stay & Play. Please bring your own mat, ball, or equipment.
- **Financial Assistance Program** -Because of our nonprofit mission, at the Y, no one is turned away for their inability to pay. Through our “Open Door” financial assistance program, membership is available on a sliding scale based on income and membership type.
- An aide may accompany an individual requiring assistance.
- **NOTE:** Masks are optional for those who are fully vaccinated and required for those who are not.

Decades Arcade

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

- Admission is \$10 age 4 – Adult/ 3 and under free. Playtime is unlimited. If we reach maximum capacity, we start a waiting list.
- 30+ pinball machines showcasing the '50s to today, 40+ of the most popular arcade games from the '80s and '90s, and the hottest home gaming consoles from the '70s to today.
- **Hours:** Friday, 6:00 – 11:00 pm; Saturday, 2:00 – 11:00 pm and Sunday, 2:00 – 7:00 pm.
- **Main level is accessible.**
- **NOTE:** Masks are required to be worn at all times while inside if you are unvaccinated or it has been less than 14 days since their final vaccination shot. Gamers must physically distance at least 6ft from other gamers not in their party.

JUMP – Special Needs Jump

<https://jumpcville.com/special-events/>

- Jump around on 8,000 square feet of connected, world-class trampolines. Our trampoline field has over 50 trampolines, angled wall trampolines, plus 2 basketball goals and a dodgeball court.
- Reserve a time online for Open jump time slots Friday – Sunday. See web site for other special family times and prices.
- **NOTE:** Every person who jumps on our trampolines must first provide a valid/signed Jump Trampoline Park waiver. Those under 18 must have the waiver signed by their parent or legal guardian. Children 12 and under cannot be left off at JUMP on their own.

Tom Sox Baseball Games

<https://tomsox.com/>

- Full schedule of collegiate summer baseball team from June 5–July 25 at Charlottesville High School baseball field.
- Games and parking are FREE.
- Accessible to all.

C. Ribando/Information is believed to be current and correct as of May 28, 2021. A special focus is sharing ideas for outings for young adults with special needs and mentors. (cribando@comcast.net)