

This is a list of activities to do with young children in and around the Hartland area. These are activities that Matthew and I enjoy doing together, as well as resources that I use. I hope it's helpful!

There are so many beautiful and fun trails to explore! Scavenger hunts can make the hike even more fun and interesting for kids. You can find them online or make up your own. Here are some of our favorite trails:

Paradise Springs Nature Area; W374 S8640 County Rd N, Eagle, WI 53119.

A natural area located in the Southern Kettle Moraine Forest, minutes away from Old World Wisconsin.

This is a very cool place that Matthew and I just discovered. It is a ½ mile loop and self-guided tour which takes you through the remnants of what used to be a spring water bottling plant and beautiful resort. The water is crystal clear, and it is so fun to look at and walk on/in the remains of what used to be and imagine what it was like. There's even a waterfall!

There's also a preserved 1850's German log home across the street!

This is a State Park area, so you will need a yearly state park sticker or day pass.

Annual admission sticker rates	Annual	Reduced Rate Annual*
Vehicle with WI license plates	\$28	\$15.50
Vehicle with WI license plates, resident age 65 and older	\$13	--
Vehicle with out-of-state plates	\$38	\$20.50

**Reduced rate annual stickers are for additional vehicles registered to the same household address.*

Daily admission sticker rates	Daily*	Devil's Lake Daily	Peninsula & Willow River Daily
Vehicle with WI license plates	\$8	\$13	\$10
Vehicle with WI license plates, resident age 65 and older	\$3	\$3	\$3

**Daily sticker rate applies to all properties except Devil's Lake, Peninsula and Willow River state parks.*

Kettle Moraine State Forest - Lapham Peak Unit; W329 N846, County Rd C in Delafield, WI 53018

Lapham Peak is a Wisconsin state park located in the Kettle Moraine State Forest. It is just south of Delafield and seven miles west of Waukesha. The park entrance is two miles north of the Glacial Drumlin State Trail.

Lapham Peak has an elevation of 1,233ft above sea level, and is the highest point in Waukesha County. You can climb the wooden observation tower that is 45ft high; it gives a fantastic view of southeastern WI.

The Ice Age Trail is a 1200 mile trail that goes through Wisconsin. There are parks and trails all over the place that are part of this. Here are two we frequent:

Ice Age Trail: Monches; 6030 Cty Tk Q, Colgate, WI 53017

3.7 mile point-to-point trail located near Hartland. It features a river, which is a great place to look for frogs and other interesting creatures! This trail is good for all skill levels.

Wisconsin Veterans Memorial Riverwalk; Access at St. John's Park on Hwy C in Delafield, or right by Cushing Park

Situated along the Bark River in Delafield, the walk contains 10 memorial sites honoring veterans from each major conflict in U.S. history beginning with the American Revolution and up through the war on terror. This is a great way to teach your kids some history while being outside moving around. Depending on the child's age, of course, this part may be skipped altogether. The trail itself is fun goes right by Cushing Park and through another playground.

Hiking Resources:

www.iceagetrail.org

www.alltrails.com (also an app, which I keep on my phone to find trails while we're out)

Retzer Nature Center; S14 W28167 Madison St, Waukesha, WI 53188

Matthew and I love this place! The nature center is packed full of so many nature artifacts, as well as animals. We have spent an hour in here observing, learning, and having fun. The trails take you to a pond, an apple orchard, and an observation deck. This is definitely one of our favorite spots!

Horwitz DeRemer Planetarium; Inside Retzer Nature Center

A planetarium so close to home! So cool! Outside of the actual planetarium are models and educational reading material. They have shows most Wednesdays in the summer (\$3), and are also hosting a whole week of activities in July to commemorate the 50th anniversary of the Apollo 11 moon landing.

Library Fun

I cannot think of a better, richer resource for free summer fun than your local libraries! Matthew and I go to several area libraries and sign up for their summer reading programs. Each library has fun and enriching activities each day of the week, and for all different age groups (birth-adult)! It is pretty much guaranteed you will find Matthew and I at one or more libraries multiple days of the week, because they really do have fantastic programs for kids and families!

Some of the activities we've seen include:

-Astronaut Camp -Mad Science -Glow in the dark dance party

-Slime Time -Performers such as children's musicians and magicians

-Showcases of bugs, animals, and science -Movies at the library -Lego building

There are many more! Just head to your local library and ask for the summer reading program information.

When you complete a week's worth of reading and activities with your child (or they do them independently) you can show what you've done to the reference librarian and your child will get their pick of coupons from many businesses and attractions in the greater Milwaukee area and Waukesha County. There are over 50 sponsors (that I have seen) who donate coupons to these reading programs! Sometimes, depending on the library and availability, your child will also get to choose a new free book to take home and enjoy!

Many of the libraries have **Milwaukee County Zoo** passes you can check out!

Thursday night concert series; Nixon Park, Hartland

Every Thursday, 5/23-9/26, Nixon Park hosts a new band and has free concerts. You can play with the kids at the park while enjoying live music!

Family Movies

Mary Poppins

Thursday, 8/8/19, 8:00 p.m.; Hartland Fire Dept. 150 Lawn St. Hartland

Bernie the Dolphin

Friday, 8/23/19, 8:00 p.m.; Nixon Park

Henry Vilas Zoo, 702 S Randall Ave, Madison, WI 53715

This makes a great day trip! Pack a lunch and some snacks and drive to Madison for a fun filled day. This zoo is completely free! No admission, no parking fees. It is worth the trip. There are many animals here—some Milwaukee County Zoo doesn't have! There are also rides and a playground for the kids. In my opinion, it's worth the drive!

Milwaukee Public Museum

MPM has **free admission every 1st Thursday of every month**. You will still have to pay for parking, but it makes taking the kids to the museum much more affordable.

<https://allevents.in>

I just discovered this resource and it has been so helpful in letting me know what events are happening around us on any given day. Matthew and I attended a really cool art event I never would have known about if not for this app. Just type in the area you want to explore, and it will show you events in that city for that day/weekend.