

**FALL
2024**

SOAR

**Special Opportunities
Available in Recreation**



REGISTRATION BEGINS AUGUST 8!



Special Opportunities Available In Recreation

Office Address: 109 E. Olive St., Bloomington, Illinois 61701
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 115 E. Washington, Bloomington, Illinois 61701
 (309) 434-2260

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What is SOAR?

SOAR is a community therapeutic recreation program serving individuals unable to successfully participate in traditional recreation programs. Leisure, social, and developmental skills are emphasized to promote the highest level of recreation participation possible. SOAR is jointly sponsored by the City of Bloomington and Town of Normal Parks and Recreation Departments.

Most individuals with disabilities are eligible to participate in SOAR activities. Persons from youth to adults who are in special education classes, workshops, nursing homes, or who have leisure needs not met by traditional recreation programs are eligible. This includes individuals with developmental, physical or learning disabilities; sensory, genetic or behavior disorders; autism or emotional difficulties.

Mission Statement

The SOAR program exists to maintain and enhance the quality of life for individuals with disabilities through comprehensive, specialized recreation programs, activities, and special events.

Americans With Disabilities Act

Special Opportunities Available in Recreation (SOAR) will comply with the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA), which prohibits discrimination in the provision of services, programs, or facilities to individuals with disabilities. SOAR will make reasonable accommodations in recreation programs to enable participation by an individual with a disability who meets essential eligibility requirements for that program. The ADA requires that recreation programs offered by SOAR be available in the most integrated setting appropriate for each individual. Call (309) 434-2260 if you have any questions about the SOAR policy regarding the ADA or believe you have been unfairly discriminated against by SOAR.

Questions/Information

Please contact the SOAR office with any questions regarding eligibility, registration procedures, scholarships, transportation, or the SOAR program in general at (309) 434-2260. TDD for the hearing impaired at (309) 829-5115. Fax: (309) 434-2483. Website address is BloomingtonParks.org/SOAR. Hotline: (309) 434-2386.

Special Information

Inclusive Programs

SOAR recognizes that every individual with special needs and abilities does not always require a SOAR program. The SOAR staff are available to assist and advise participants concerning appropriate placement in SOAR, Bloomington and/or Normal Parks and Recreation Department programs. SOAR staff will contact the appropriate recreation department staff and work with the instructor to assure the participant a smooth transition if they wish to be integrated into a recreation department program.

Full-Time Staff

Holly Polley, CTRS - Program Manager

hpolley@cityblm.org

Registration, Financial Assistance, Fitness/Sports Programs, Special Olympics Programs

Taylor Burlingame, CTRS - Program Manager

tburlingame@cityblm.org

Cultural Events Programs, Special Interest Programs, Special Events Programs, Youth Programs, Transportation, Volunteers, Inclusion

Seasonal & Part-Time Staff

SOAR is fortunate to have a number of qualified and talented seasonal and part-time staff. Thank you to the following Summer staff for their continued support, dedication, and fine work!

Molly Bordewick
Klara Bouman
Beth Clark
Sally Clark
Katie Clothier
Ritchie D'Costa
Sharon D'Costa
Ellie Degenhart
Doug Dowell
Michele Evans
Peja Gant
Ella Haynes
Miranda Henson
Kim Kelleher
Reith Kohli
Holly Marquis
Paige McKinnery
Randi Meyer
Rachael Minter
Larry Quanstrom
Maddie Rankin
Bethany Reeser
Eric Ritter
Maggie Ryan
Carsyn Seeley
Julie Smith
Glen Wetzell
Kim Workman
Haylee Zimmerman

Attire at SOAR Programs

Participants should dress comfortably for all programs and special events. Please keep in mind what the weather is like, if the program will be held inside or outside and what the program will involve. Wear clothes that can get dirty and stained to all craft and cooking programs. Sometimes accidents happen and new/good clothes can get ruined! Dress for activity and comfortable movement in all Special Olympics, sports and exercise programs. Athletic shoes and athletic clothing are required. Do not wear blue jeans to any sports programs or practices! Special attire requirements are often suggested in memos sent out for special events.

Volunteers in Action

SOAR uses a wide variety of volunteers to assist in weekly programs and special events. Volunteers help with program activities and events and work closely with participants to provide an enjoyable and quality leisure experience. Past volunteers have been community residents, college students, and community service groups. Thank you to all the individuals who helped make the Summer program session a success by volunteering their time to assist with one or more programs. SOAR is currently accepting volunteers for Fall programs. If you are interested in volunteering, please contact Taylor at tburlingame@cityblm.org or call (309) 434-2260.

Medication Dispensing

SOAR staff may dispense medication to participants during extended programs and trips. In order for SOAR staff to do this, a parent/guardian will need to complete a medication dispensing form and complete a dispensing procedure each time medication is needed. SOAR staff may not perform an injection or any other medically or physically invasive procedure. Please call the SOAR staff at (309) 434-2260 if you have any questions or would like a copy of any of these forms: permission for medication dispensing, medication dispensing procedures, and invasive procedure policies.

Photo/Video Policy

On occasion, SOAR staff may photograph or videotape participants at programs, special events, and facilities. These photos are for SOAR use only and may be used in publications, brochures, social media, pamphlets, flyers, or video productions. If you do not want your photo published contact Holly or Taylor.

Insurance

Individual accident and medical insurance for program participants is not provided by SOAR, Bloomington, or Normal Parks and Recreation Departments.

Staff Ratio

SOAR currently staffs most programs with one staff to every four participants. If a participant will need more assistance or won't be able to participate within this structure, please let staff know at registration so appropriate staffing may be secured (*if possible*). Please note in brochure write-ups any exceptions to this 1:4 ratio.

Code of Conduct:

Participant Guidelines

Equal Access - No participant shall on the basis of race, gender, creed, national origin, or disability be denied equal access to programs, activities, services, or benefits or be limited in the exercise of any right, privilege, advantage, or opportunity.

Behavior - Participants are expected to exhibit appropriate behavior at all times. The following guidelines have been developed to make SOAR programs safe and enjoyable for all participants. Additional rules may be developed for particular programs as deemed necessary by staff. Participants shall:

- Show respect to all participants and staff.
- Refrain from using foul language.
- Refrain from causing bodily harm to other participants or staff.
- Show respect for equipment, supplies, and facilities.

Discipline - A positive approach will be used. SOAR reserves the right to dismiss a participant. **Each situation will be evaluated on its own merit.**

Thanks to Our Volunteers who helped this Summer!

- | | |
|-----------------|-----------------------|
| Missie Bird | Courtney Lahr |
| Bryse Boester | Sherry Lilienthal |
| Chase Boester | Griffin McCluskey |
| Bruce Broughton | Carolyn Moon |
| Zach Burlingame | Matthew Newell |
| Beth Clark | Chuck Peifer |
| Stuart Darragh | Jon Porwick |
| Jon Davis | Larry Quanstrom |
| Ritchie D'Costa | Eric Ritter |
| Sharon D'Costa | Maggie Rutenbeck |
| Megan DeAngelo | Buffy Ryan |
| Doug Dowell | Maggie Ryan |
| Will Dowell | Dennis Sapp |
| Ellenie Dyrby | Verlinda Sapp |
| Kyle Eades | Susan Silvey |
| Flint Greil | Chloe Smith |
| Greg Hayward | Matthew Sprague |
| Joe Heaser | Barb Wells |
| Mary Jo Johnson | Jamie Wielgopolan |
| Rob Kelley | Dee Wilson |
| Brian Lahr | Faith Lutheran Church |

Late Pick-Up Policy

Please double check the pick-up time and be prompt! Program instructors would appreciate your consideration because they have additional work responsibilities after the program and sometimes have another program to lead.

Cell Phone Policy

Participants are not to use their phone during programs and are asked to keep their cell phone in a pocket, purse, bag, etc. during the entire program. SOAR can't be held responsible if a participant loses his or her phone. If a participant uses a cell phone during a program or the phone becomes a distraction to the participant, SOAR staff will ask for the phone to be put away. This policy will be enforced out of respect for the other participants and staff during a program.

Parent Observation Guidelines

Parents are encouraged to leave the program area during events so participants can give their full attention to the instructor. Thank you.

Participant Expectations

SOAR provides healthy community leisure opportunities for individuals with disabilities. While participating in our programs, we stress socialization skills, appropriate behavior, and personal appearance. For the dignity and acceptance of individuals with disabilities, and for their overall self-esteem and enjoyment at community outings, the staff has several expectations of participants. We ask that you assist us in fulfilling these basic guidelines. The participant guidelines were developed for the betterment of our participants, their self-esteem and normalization.

Program Times

SOAR staff and instructors are at the facility for the designated program time only. Individuals providing transportation for participants should make drop-offs and pick-ups at the listed times. Please do not leave a participant at a program/program site unless there is staff present. We know that emergencies arise, but try to let staff know if you will be early or late!



Check Out Our Website

BloomingtonParks.org/SOAR

Follow us on Facebook

Facebook.com/cityblmSOAR

Program Holidays

In observation of the following holidays, SOAR will be closed on the following dates:

Labor Day
Monday, September 2

Thanksgiving Day
Thursday, November 28

Christmas Eve
Tuesday, December 24

New Year's Eve
Tuesday, December 31

Veterans Day
Monday, November 11

Day After Thanksgiving
Friday, November 29

Christmas Day
Wednesday, December 25

New Year's Day
Wednesday, January 1

Identifying Program Benefits

Active



Programs marked with this icon are considered to be active in nature. These programs are beneficial to a healthy lifestyle through physical activities. These programs are recommended for individuals who seek to improve their overall health by promoting an active lifestyle through exercise.

Independence



Programs marked with this icon are used to promote independence while still providing a structured and safe environment. These programs are recommended for individuals who are looking to increase their independence around the house, as well as out in the community.

Social Skills Development



Programs marked with this icon are used to promote social skills development through activities with their peers. These programs are recommended for individuals interested in growing social skills out in the community.

Creativity



Programs marked with this icon allow individuals to express their creativity through a variety of outlets. These programs are recommended for individuals who are interested in learning about new creative opportunities in a space that will give them a chance to show off their creative talents.

Motor Skills Development



Programs marked with this icon promote the development of motor skills. These programs are recommended for individuals who can benefit from continued development and strengthening of motor skills while participating in recreation activities.

Special Olympics



Programs marked with this icon are associated with Special Olympics. These programs are recommended for individuals who are interested in playing sports at a competitive level.

Education



Programs marked with this icon are designed to educate individuals on various topics. These programs are recommended for those looking to learn in a recreational setting.

Sensory Exploration



Programs marked with this icon are specifically designed for engaging our senses. These programs are recommended for individuals seeking sensory exploration through ways of exploring, discovering, problem-solving, and creativity.

Program Legend



Door to Door Transportation
(Transportation details are located on the inside back cover)



Participant will need to bring money to the program

Example Program Ages 14+



Program description helps you understand the program's focus. This program's icons indicate that it promotes **Creativity** and **Sensory Exploration**.
Min 6; Max 12



TRAINING PROGRAMS

Purpose of SOAR Special Olympics Training Programs:

To provide eligible individuals 8 years of age or older from the Bloomington/Normal area with quality training programs that will prepare them for area, district, regional and/or state competition in a variety of Special Olympics sports on a year-round basis.

Requirements to Participate in SOAR Special Olympics Training Programs:

Individuals who meet Special Olympics eligibility requirements and wish to participate in a SOAR Special Olympics training program must complete the SOAR registration procedure for that program. In addition, a Special Olympics Illinois Athlete Medical Form, valid through the entire sport's season, must be on file with SOAR before practice begins.

Expectations For SOAR Special Olympics Training Programs:

Athletes participating in a SOAR Special Olympics training program must meet the minimum requirements of training in that sport in order to participate in competition. These requirements will include participation in the minimum number of required training sessions for that sport at a level which is considered appropriate for the sport and the athlete.

Special Olympics Snowshoeing
Ages 12+



This program is great for maintaining fitness during the fall/winter months. Athletes that can walk or run and like being outside during cool, brisk weather will have a great time learning and practicing the skills needed for snowshoeing. Fundamental skills such as equipment use, proper strides, and fall recovery will be introduced. Skill development, lead-up activities and competition preparation will all be a part of this training program. This is a Special Olympics sports training program. Registration and a valid Special Olympics Medical Form, that is good through February 14, 2025, must be on file at the SOAR office by Friday, September 20 to participate. Athletes who participate will compete in a Special Olympics Region Competition in December (date TBD) in Mendota. Athletes that receive a gold medal/1st place finish will be eligible to compete in the Special Olympics Illinois State Winter Games, which will be held in early February of 2025 at Eagle Ridge Resort in Galena. Additional practices will be held before Winter Games.

Min 4; Max 12

Location: Ewing Park II

Day: Saturdays

Dates: 10/5–11/23

Time: 9:30-10:30AM

Fee: \$40



SOAR Special Olympics Pizza and Karaoke Night
Athletes, partners, their families, and anyone who wants to recognize our SOAR athletes for their achievements



Celebrate the accomplishments of SOAR's Special Olympics athletes for the second half of this year (July-December). SOAR will provide pizza, water, and salad. After dinner, a brief program honoring athletes who participated in the following sports will follow: Softball, Unified Golf, Bowling, Unified Tennis, and all Volleyball programs. Each person wanting to attend must register individually.

No limit but MUST pre-register!

Location: Miller Park Pavilion, Main Level

Day: Wednesday

Date: December 18

Time: 6:30PM–8:30PM

Fee: \$5



Special Olympics

Special Olympics Basketball

Ages 12+

Athletes with basic motor and cognitive skills appropriate for basketball team play and competition are eligible for this program. Emphasis will be on fundamental skills, game knowledge, and sportsmanship. This is a Special Olympics sports training program. Registration and a valid Special Olympics Medical Form, that is good through March 2025, must be on file at the SOAR office by Friday, October 27 to participate. Individuals who successfully complete this program will be eligible to compete in the Special Olympics Basketball



District G Tournament that will be held January 19, 2025 (tentatively). A minimum of three games will be scheduled for each SOAR basketball team prior to the Region G Basketball Tournament. Teams who receive a gold medal at the Region G Basketball Tournament will advance to the State Basketball Tournament, which will be held in early March in Bloomington-Normal. Teams that advance to the State Basketball Tournament will have additional practices scheduled in February and March.

PLEASE NOTE THE PLAYER ASSESSMENT NIGHT ON MONDAY, AUGUST 26.

Min 10; Max 48

Location: Lincoln Leisure Center, Gym

Practices will either be on Tuesday night or Thursday nights depending on which team you will be placed on. Below are practice dates/times:

Levels	Day	Time	Date	Fee
Phoenix	T	5:30-7:00PM	11/12-1/14 (NOT 12/24 & 12/31)	\$40
Hawks	T	7:00-8:30PM	11/12-1/14 (NOT 12/24 & 12/31)	\$40
Falcons	TH	5:30-7:00PM	11/7-1/16 (NOT 11/28, 12/26 & 1/2)	\$40
Eagles	TH	7:00-8:30PM	11/7-1/16 (NOT 11/28, 12/26 & 1/2)	\$40

Special Olympics Powerlifting

Ages 14+

This is a Special Olympics competition training program for athletes. Registration and a valid Special Olympics Medical Form, that is good through June 2025 must be on file at the SOAR office by Friday, January 3, 2025, to participate. Practices are held at Power & Fitness Gym.



Athletes will train to compete in the squat, deadlift, and bench press. Team members who have completed the training requirements of this program will be eligible to participate in the Special Olympics Region Event held in March 2025 in Bloomington. Athletes who receive a gold medal at the Region Event will be eligible for the Special Olympics Illinois Summer Games at Illinois State University June 13-15, 2025. Athletes advancing to Summer Games will have additional training sessions scheduled later. Only athletes that have been training with Power & Fitness Gym will be eligible to participate in this program.

Individuals training in this sport will not have the option to compete in Athletics, Soccer, or Swimming

Min 4; Max 8

Location: Power & Fitness Gym

Day/Dates: Practice times to be scheduled with coaches at Power & Fitness Gym. Please contact Holly if you need help contacting Power & Fitness Gym.

2024 Special Olympics Competition Dates:

September 22

Regional Volleyball Tournament,
Decatur

December 7

State Bowling Tournament,
Landmark Lanes in Peoria

October 5

East Central Sectional Bowling,
Peoria

Date/Location TBD

Snowshoe Qualifier

October 12

Region Bocce Tournament,
Mattoon

Date/Location TBD

Region G Basketball Tournament

October 19-20

State Fall Games (Volleyball),
Rockford

Date/Location TBD

Winter Games

Date/Location TBD

State Basketball



Special Olympics

Volunteer at the

Midwest Food Bank

Dates/Times TBD
Contact Taylor Burlingame
at tburlingame@cityblm.org
if you are interested
in volunteering.



SOAR

Special Opportunities
Available in Recreation

**REGISTER
EARLY!
CLASSES
FILL UP FAST!**

Sports & Fitness

Recreational Bowling

Ages 10+



Here's your chance to bowl just for fun. No competition, no stress, and no hurry. Participants will be assigned to lanes and bowl two games during the scheduled program time. This is the SOAR bowling program where socialization is a part of the game! Individuals must be able to bowl two games independently or with a ram. **We do NOT use bumpers.**
Min 6; Max 30 per session

Location: Pheasant Lanes, Bloomington

Day: Mondays

Dates: 9/9-11/25

Time: 10:00-11:00AM OR 4:00-5:00PM

Fee: \$15 payable to SOAR (registration fee) and \$84 payable to Pheasant Lanes (lane fee)



Cardio Fitness

Ages 12+



Get fit with SOAR. This program will focus on exercises designed to get our heart rate up and improve cardiovascular endurance. Participants will complete a variety of exercises each week. Activities will be geared to the health level of each individual with a target goal of improving health, fitness, and well-being.

Min 6; Max 12

Location: Lincoln Leisure Center, Room 202 & Gym

Day: Mondays

Dates: 9/9-11/25

Time: 6:00-7:00PM OR 7:15-8:15PM

Fee: \$36



Seat to SOAR

Ages 12+



Get off your seat and soar with the SOAR walk/run club! This program encourages the lifetime fitness activities of walking and running. By using a progressive training program and walk/run mentors, you will be able to increase fitness and endurance at your own pace. The ultimate goal of this session is to be ready to independently enter one of the many walk/run events in the area such as the Thanksgiving Turkey Trot in Bloomington!

Min 4; Max 12

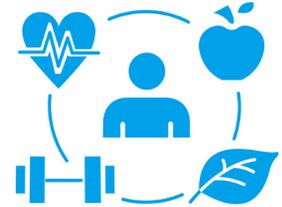
Location: White Oak Park

Day: Tuesdays

Dates: 9/10-10/15

Time: 5:00-6:00PM

Fee: \$18



Foot Golf

Ages 8+



Kicking! Walking! Chatting! Social Exercise! Try your foot at a great sport, while enjoying the beautiful fall days out at Weibring Golf Course. This will be a 4-week "league". Unified Partners and friends are welcome to join you on the course.

Min 4; Max 16

Location: Weibring Golf Course at ISU

Day: Sundays

Dates: 9/15-10/6

Time: 3:30-5:00PM

Fee: \$20



Sensory Skate

Ages 8+



We're back on the ice! This program will introduce you to basic skills in ice skating. No prior experience is necessary. This program is specially adapted for individuals with disabilities to learn introductory ice-skating techniques, learn balance, and feel comfortable on the ice. Skate rental is included in the program fee. Be sure to wear long pants and layers. This program incorporates the use of several volunteers so that each skater, or pair of skaters, has an assistant on the ice.

Min 3; Max 8

Location: Bloomington Ice Center

Day: Sundays

Dates: 9/15-10/20

Time: 2:00-2:30PM

Fee: \$36



Walk the Zoo

Ages 14+

Here's a great opportunity to get your steps in for the day, with a beautiful view of the Miller Park Zoo. Feel free to register a walking partner too! We've mapped a course and will walk the entire zoo with a few stops to check out the animals and grab some water and some pics! Be sure to wear your walking shoes and bring a water bottle.

Min 4; Max 8

Location: Meet at Front Entrance to Miller Park Zoo

Day: Thursdays

Dates: 9/19-10/24

Time: 9:00-10:00AM

Fee: \$20



Dance to SOAR I

Ages 12+

Spend an hour dancing your way to fitness! Get your heart rate up and get your whole body working as you move to the tunes. No slow dance romance here, this is a workout!

Min 4; Max 12

Location: Lincoln Leisure Center, Room 202

Day: Wednesdays

Dates: 10/16-11/6

Time: 6:00-7:00PM

Fee: \$16

Dance to SOAR II

Ages 12+

Spend an hour dancing your way to fitness! Get your heart rate up and get your whole body working as you move to the tunes. No slow dance romance here, this is a workout!

Min 4; Max 12

Location: Lincoln Leisure Center, Gym

Day: Wednesdays

Dates: 1/8-1/29

Time: 6:00-7:00PM

Fee: \$16



Martial Arts & Yoga

Ages 15+

In this class we will study Bruce Lee's Jun Fan kick boxing/Jeeet Kune Do. We will also explore Dog Brothers Martial Arts focusing on bilateral movement and the coordination of the upper and lower body. Additionally, we will delve into Yoga movement for increased strength, balance and flexibility.

No previous martial arts experience is required for this class. Guru Terry and friends will lead this class.

Min 5; Max 20

Location: Lincoln Leisure Center, Room 205 & Gym

Day: Wednesdays

Dates: 9/4-11/13

Time: 5:30-6:45PM

Fee: \$60

SOAR Mall Walkers

Ages 14+

Let's hit the mall!! Not to shop...but to exercise!!! The mall is not only a great place to shop, but a great place to walk - especially during those cold winter months. There will be no shopping at this program, just walking and talking with our friends! Please wear comfortable walking shoes as we will see how many laps we can make it around the mall during our hour there.

Min 4; Max 10

Location: Eastland Mall North Entrance off of Empire Street

Day: Thursdays

Dates: 1/9-2/27

Time: 10:30-11:30AM

Fee: \$24



**REGISTER
EARLY!
CLASSES FILL
UP FAST!**

Cultural Arts

Creative Clay Creations



Ages 14+

Dive into the world of air-dry clay with our new exciting program! We will learn essential techniques such as molding, sculpting, and texturing. Everyone will be able to create their own personalized project to take home and enjoy for years to come.

Min 6; Max 12

Location: Lincoln Leisure Center, Room 107

Day: Mondays

Dates: 9/9-10/14

Time: 6:00-7:00PM

Fee: \$24

Autumn Crafts



Ages 14+

It's Fall, Y'all! We'll create some cool harvest crafts to bring in the fall season. All projects will feature a fall theme and incorporate the beautiful fall colors. Be sure to wear clothes that can get messy as we'll use paint and glue.

Min 6; Max 12

Location: Lincoln Leisure Center, Room 107

Day: Mondays

Dates: 9/9-10/14

Time: 7:15-8:15PM

Fee: \$24



Festive Creations



Ages 14+

Get into the holiday spirit with us! We will make a variety of crafts that will be sure to brighten up your home and spread holiday cheer to your loved ones. Be sure to wear clothes that can get messy as we'll use paint and glue.

Min 6; Max 12

Location: Lincoln Leisure Center, Room 107

Day: Mondays

Dates: 10/21-11/25

Time: 6:00-7:00PM

Fee: \$24

Ornament Making



Ages 14+

Let's trim the tree! Create some ornaments to hang on your own tree or to gift to a friend or family member for the holidays. We'll use a variety of different materials to create some fun holiday themed ornaments. Be sure to wear clothes that can get messy as we'll use paint and glue.

Min 6; Max 12

Location: Lincoln Leisure Center, Room 107

Day: Mondays

Dates: 10/21-11/25

Time: 7:15-8:15PM

Fee: \$24



Music Experience



Ages 15+

Make music with us! Participants will engage in a variety of musical games and activities as they explore instruments, movement, and song. LIVE and recorded music, combined with adapted movements and instruments will meet each ability level and engage all participants to their fullest potential. This multi-sensory experience is developed and facilitated by the therapeutic and educational team at Developing Melodies.

Min 6; Max 10

Location: Lincoln Leisure Center, Room 203

Day: Tuesdays

Dates: 9/17-10/22

Time: 6:00-7:00PM

Fee: \$60



Cooking

Pizza & Sweet Treats

Ages 14+

Join us each week as we make a new flavor of pizza and sweet treats. In this program, we will roll, mix, and sprinkle our way to a yummy meal. Everyone will help prepare the meal and work together to clean up. Come hungry and roll up your sleeves because a full meal will be prepared each week.

Min 6; Max 14

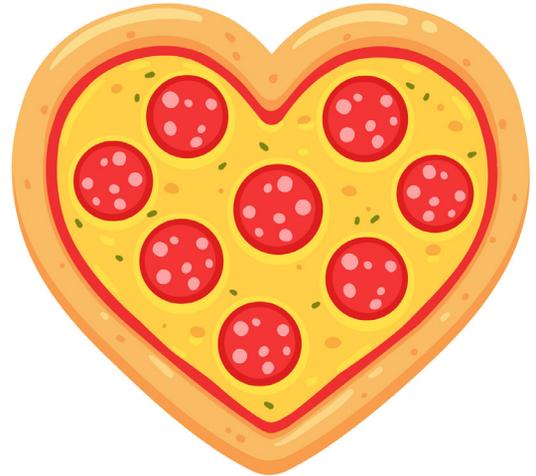
Location: Miller Park Pavilion, Lower Level

Day: Wednesdays

Dates: 9/11-10/2

Time: 6:00-8:00PM

Fee: \$20



Lunch Bunch

Ages 22+

Come cook a yummy lunch with friends at the adult center. In this program, we will chop, dice, slice, and mix our way to a delicious lunch. Everyone will help prepare the meal and work together to clean up. The group will also plan the next week's meal and create our shopping list. Come hungry because a full meal will be prepared.

Min 6; Max 14

Ages	Location	Day	Time	Dates	Fee
22+	Miller Park Pavilion	M	11:30AM-1:00PM	9/9-9/30	\$20
22+	Miller Park Pavilion	M	11:30AM-1:00PM	11/4-11/25	\$20
22+	Miller Park Pavilion	M	11:30AM-1:00PM	1/6-1/27	\$20

Daytime Hangout

SOAR Daytime Hangout

Ages 22+

Come spend some time with SOAR! We will have a hangout time from 10am – 2pm where you can come and go as you please. During this time, you will have the options to play games, watch a movie, do a craft, chat with friends and more. Feel free to stay the whole time or just come for a little bit! If you do plan on staying the whole time, please bring your lunch! We will have snacks and water as well! There will be 2 sessions of this program. You may sign up for one or both sessions. Also, drop-ins will be allowed for each day for a cost of \$6 per day.

Min 4; Max 10

Heads Up: Since this program is an open-house style, we will not have a 1:4 ratio of 1 staff per 4 participants.

Location: Miller Park Pavilion, Lower Level

Levels	Day	Time	Dates	Fee
Session 1	Mon	10:00AM-2:00PM	10/7-10/28	\$24
Session 2	Mon	10:00AM-2:00PM	12/2-12/16	\$18



HOLIDAY PERFORMERS



Ambulatory, Ages 16+



Here's your chance to shine! Have fun and gain confidence while developing your special talents on the stage. If your talent is dancing or acting, we're looking for you! Everyone will perform and have a great time focusing on presenting a holiday-themed show. Participants must be able to go up and down stairs with little to no assistance and follow verbal instructions. The program will conclude with a dress rehearsal on Wednesday, December 4 and the actual performance on Thursday, December 5. Dress rehearsal and show will be held at Heartland Community College. Attendance is mandatory each week, including dress rehearsal. Please check your calendar for conflicts before registering as participants will only be allowed to miss 2 rehearsals and MUST attend dress rehearsal.

Min 10; Max 20

Location: Lincoln Leisure Center

Day: Wednesdays

Dates: 10/16-11/20 *Dress Rehearsal 12/4 and Show 12/5*

Time: 6:15-7:30PM *Dress Rehearsal and Show 6:15-8:15PM*

Fee: \$35



Zoo Education



ZOOper Fridays



Ages 22+

Calling all animal lovers! Each month, we'll meet at the zoo to learn about different animals as well as get a chance to visit their habitat at the zoo. Wear your walking shoes and dress appropriately for the weather. This program includes 5 classroom dates and admission to the zoo.

Min 4; Max 10

Location: Drop off/pick up at front entrance of the Miller Park Zoo

Day: Fridays

Dates: 9/13, 10/18, 11/15, 12/20, 1/17

Time: 1:00-2:30PM

Fee: \$60



**MILLER PARK
ZOO**

EST. 1891

Teen & Adult Night Out Programs

Friday Night Teen Club

Ages 13-19

Get together one Friday a month with your fellow SOAR teen friends for a night on the town. Outings include movies, bowling, going to a game, or any other fun ideas we come up with as a group. Each week participants will need to pay for their own food and entertainment or admission expenses.

Min 6; Max 12

Location: Drop off/pick up at Lincoln Leisure Center unless otherwise noted

Day: Fridays

Dates: 9/13, 10/11, 11/8, 12/13 & 1/10

Time: 6:00-8:00PM

Fee: \$25 plus any extra costs depending on the chosen activity

Let's Get Out

Ages 27+

Get together one Friday a month with your fellow SOAR friends for a night on the town. Outings include movies, bowling, going to a game, or any other fun ideas we come up with as a group. Each week participants will need to pay for their own food and entertainment or admission expenses.

Min 6; Max 12

Location: Drop off/pick up at Lincoln Leisure Center unless otherwise noted

Day: Fridays

Dates: 9/20, 10/18, 11/15, 12/13 & 1/17

Time: 6:00-8:00PM

Fee: \$25 plus any extra costs depending on the chosen activity

Friday Night Out

Ages 20-26

Get together one Friday a month with your fellow SOAR friends for a night on the town. Outings include movies, bowling, going to a game, or any other fun ideas we come up with as a group. Each week participants will need to pay for their own food and entertainment or admission expenses.

Min 6; Max 12

Location: Drop off/pick up at Lincoln Leisure Center unless otherwise noted

Day: Fridays

Dates: 9/13, 10/11, 11/8, 12/13 & 1/10

Time: 6:00-8:00PM

Fee: \$25 plus any extra costs depending on the chosen activity



Youth Programs

Let's Take a Hike!

Ages 8-21

We'll ride out to a nearby hiking area and take in the sights and smells of the changing weather! A note will be sent to those that register to confirm the location when we get closer to program date.

Min 6; Max 12

Location: Drop off/pick up at Lincoln Leisure Center

Date: Saturday, September 14

Time: 1:00-3:00PM

Fee: \$6

SOAR for Starters

Ages 4-7

This program is targeted to youth that are too young for most other SOAR programs. A variety of activities including games, music, dance, fitness, crafts, and social activities will be provided. Development of fundamental motor skills and hand-eye coordination will be emphasized. A 1:2 staff to participant ratio will be provided. Dress in clothing for activity and wear gym shoes. Since some activities involve things like paint, participants should dress in clothes that can get messy.

Min 4; Max 8

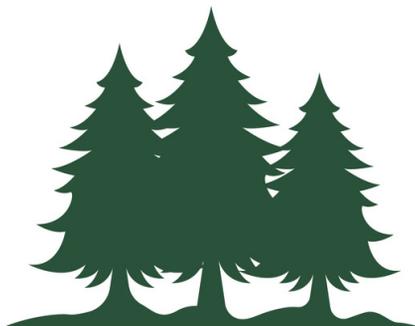
Location: Lincoln Leisure Center

Day: Saturdays

Dates: 9/14, 9/21, 10/12, 10/19, 11/16, 11/30, 12/14, 1/4 & 1/18

Time: 10:00-11:30AM

Fee: \$45



Youth Programs

Red Panda Day

Ages 8-21

It's the day of the Red Panda! We'll visit the Miller Park Zoo for some activities and actually go visit our own Red Pandas. If we have extra time, we may try to help clean up around the park.

Min 6; Max 12

Location: Miller Park Zoo
Date: Saturday, September 21
Time: 1:00-2:30PM
Fee: \$6



Cupcake Creations

Ages 8-21

Join us for a sweet and creative adventure in Cupcake Creations! We will unleash our creativity and turn ordinary cupcakes into extraordinary works of edible art! Be sure to wear clothes that can get messy!

Min 6; Max 12

Location: Lincoln Leisure Center, Room 107
Date: Saturday, October 12
Time: 1:00-2:30PM
Fee: \$6



Spooktacular Fun

Ages 8-21

Join us for a not-so-scary Halloween Spooktacular! We will have fun Halloween themed crafts, snacks, and games! Make sure to wear clothes that can get messy.

Min 6; Max 12

Location: Lincoln Leisure Center
Date: Saturday, October 19
Time: 1:00-2:30PM
Fee: \$6

Turkey Time!

Ages 8-21

Gather 'round while we celebrate Thanksgiving through a fun craft and a yummy turkey themed snack!

Min 6; Max 12

Location: Lincoln Leisure Center, Room 107
Date: Saturday, November 16
Time: 1:00-2:30PM
Fee: \$6

Big Game Day

Ages 8-21

Who doesn't love a giant version of a game? Jenga, Kerplunk, and other oversized games will be available for us to play together and have some fun!

Min 6; Max 12

Location: Lincoln Leisure Center, Gym
Date: Saturday, November 30
Time: 1:00-2:30PM
Fee: \$6

Gingerbread & Trick Shots

Ages 8-21

Perhaps baking, for sure decorating some gingerbread people... and while they bake we'll head to the gym to try our hands at some crazy contests making our trickiest trick shots!

Min 6; Max 12

Location: Lincoln Leisure Center, Gym
Date: Saturday, December 14
Time: 1:00-2:30PM
Fee: \$6

Just Chillin'

Ages 8-21

We'll spend a cozy day inside watching a movie and making some popcorn!

Min 6; Max 12

Location: Lincoln Leisure Center, Gym
Date: Saturday, January 4
Time: 1:00-2:30PM
Fee: \$6



What part of SNOW don't you understand?

Ages 8-21

Snow play, snow cones, and snowflakes.... Snow doubt about it, we're having a snow day!

Min 6; Max 12

Location: Lincoln Leisure Center, Gym
Date: Saturday, January 18
Time: 1:00-2:30PM
Fee: \$6

Special Events

IWU Football Game

Ages 14+

Come out and support our IWU football friends as they take on the Carthage College Firebirds. Be sure to wear green and white to support the Titans!

Min 8; Max 20

Location: Drop off/pick up at Lincoln Leisure Center

Date: Saturday, September 28

Time: 12:00-4:00PM

Fee: \$12



TGIF

Ages 22+

Our favorite adult day program is back! We'll hit the road for some fun trips, do some in-town activities, and enjoy time with friends. Each Friday the program meets, lunch will be provided as well as an activity that will require some walking. Cost of lunch is included in the registration fee. Participants may bring spending money for souvenirs or snacks.

Min 6; Max 12

Location: Drop off/pick up at Lincoln Leisure Center

Day: Fridays

Date: 9/20-10/11

Time: 10:00AM-4:00PM

Fee: \$60

Halloween Bingo

Ages 12+

Join us at our spook-tacular Halloween Bingo night! We will play a few rounds of bingo, enjoy a yummy treat, and win some cool prizes!

Min 8; Max 30

Location: Miller Park Pavilion, Main Level

Date: Thursday, October 17

Time: 6:30-8:00PM

Fee: \$10

Pumpkin Painting Party

Ages 12+

How about a painted pumpkin for your front porch? Painted pumpkins last longer than jack-o-lanterns, require no sharp tools, and don't stink after a few days! We'll gather to decorate pumpkins using paint and other embellishments, then have a hot dog roast by the fire for dinner.

Min 6; Max 20

Location: Hike Haven

Date: Thursday, October 24

Time: 6:30-8:30PM

Fee: \$5

Halloween Dance

Ages 12+

Time to get your best costume out! Come celebrate Halloween with SOAR. A DJ will provide music for dancing. We will also have light refreshments.

Min 20; Max 60

Location: Miller Park Pavilion, Main Level

Date: Friday, October 25

Time: 6:00-8:00PM

Fee: \$10



Fall Hunt Around Town

Ages 12+

Here's a fun way to explore all the places in your own hometown! We'll meet in Uptown Normal for a Scavenger Hunt around town, then have some lunch. Dress for the weather and wear comfortable walking shoes.

Min 6; Max 12

Location: Drop off/pick up at Normal Public Library

Date: Saturday, November 2

Time: 9:30AM-12:30PM

Fee: \$10

Special Events

Craft-a-Palooza

Ages 14+

Calling all crafters! This session we will get ready for the holidays with Thanksgiving, Christmas, and winter themed crafts. We'll have lots of options, so you can create as many projects as you have time for. Some projects may need to be picked up at a later date, depending on drying time. Be sure to wear clothes that can get messy

Min 6; Max 12

Location: Lincoln Leisure Center, Room 107

Date: Saturday, November 9

Time: 2:30-4:30PM

Fee: \$10

Holiday Baking

Ages 16+

The holidays are filled with yummy desserts and sweet treats! In this program, we'll make mini-pies, cake pops and other delicious desserts. You'll be in the kitchen mixing, chopping, and baking, so roll up your sleeves and get ready to help. A full meal will not be served, just dessert.

Min 6; Max 15

Location: Miller Park Pavilion, Lower Level

Day: Mondays

Dates: 12/2-12/16

Time: 6:00-7:30PM

Fee: \$20



Holiday Dance

Ages 12+

Celebrate the holidays by dancing with friends. Music will be provided by a DJ and refreshments will be served. Santa and Mrs. Claus will also arrive to pass out gifts before you leave.

Min 20; Max 100

Location: Miller Park Pavilion, Main Level

Date: Friday, December 6

Time: 6:30-8:30PM

Fee: \$10

Christmas Party

Ages 12+

Time to celebrate the holidays with friends. At our Christmas party, we will eat yummy treats, create a gift for a friend, and play fun games. Be sure to dress festive and take lots of pictures with your friends.

Min 10; Max 30

Location: Miller Park Pavilion, Main Level

Date: Wednesday, December 11

Time: 6:30-8:30PM

Fee: \$5



Game Night

Ages 14+

We are busting out the board games, card games, and having lots of fun! Join us for a different game each week with friends. Bring your game face!

Min 6; Max 16

Location: Lincoln Leisure Center

Day: Wednesdays

Date: 1/8-1/22

Time: 6:00-7:30PM

Fee: \$16



Special Events

Bingo Blast

Ages 12+

Calling all Bingo Players! Join us for a dessert before we play a few rounds of bingo and win some cool prizes.
Min 8; Max 30

Location: Normal Community Activity Center
Date: Tuesday, January 28
Time: 6:30-8:00PM
Fee: \$10



Wii Games

Ages 14+

Do you love Wii sports and Just Dance? Let's get together for some games on the Wii. We'll enjoy some of the popular games and visit with friends. Due to the popularity of the program, it will be offered twice. Please only register for one date.
Min 4; Max 8

Ages	Location	Day	Time	Date	Fee
14+	Lincoln Leisure Center	W	6:30-8:00PM	December 4	\$6
14+	Lincoln Leisure Center	W	6:30-8:00PM	December 18	\$6

Monday Night Movies

Ages 14+

While the weather outside is frightful, we'll stay in with a fun movie and popcorn with friends! Join us at Lincoln Leisure Center for a movie night. Registration is per date. Participants may register for one or both movie dates.
Min 6; Max 12

Ages	Location	Day	Time	Date	Fee
14+	Lincoln Leisure Center	M	6:00-8:00PM	January 6	\$12
14+	Lincoln Leisure Center	M	6:00-8:00PM	January 13	\$12

**REGISTER EARLY!
 CLASSES FILL UP FAST!**

SOAR Special Opportunities
 Available in Recreation

Facility Directory

Bloomington Ice Center

201 S Roosevelt Ave
Bloomington, IL 61701
(309) 434-2737

Eastland Mall

1615 E Empire St
Bloomington, IL 61701
(309) 663-5361

Ewing Park II

1001 Ethell Pkwy
Bloomington, IL 61701
(309) 434-2260

Government Center/ The Hub

115 E. Washington St
Bloomington, IL 61701
309-434-2260

Hike Haven

218 Tanner St.
Bloomington, IL 61701

Lincoln Leisure Center

1206 S. Lee St.
Bloomington, IL 61701
309-434-2819

Midwest Food Bank

2031 Warehouse Rd.
Normal, IL 61761

Miller Park Pavilion

1122 S. Morris Ave.
Bloomington, IL 61701
309-434-2255

Miller Park Zoo

1020 S. Morris Ave.
Bloomington, IL 61701
309-434-2255

Normal Community Activity Center

1110 Douglas St
Normal, IL 61761
(309) 454-9779

Normal Public Library

201 W College Ave
Normal, IL 61761
(309) 452-1757

Pheasant Lanes

804 N. Hershey Rd.
Bloomington, IL 61704
309-633-8556

Power & Fitness Gym

2902 Gill St
Bloomington, IL 61704
(309) 790-3094

IWU Shirk Center

302 E Emerson St
Bloomington, IL 61701
(309) 556-3196

Weibring Golf Course

800 Gregory St.
Normal, IL 61761
309-438-8065





SEPTEMBER 2024



Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday	
1	Labor Day (Office Closed)	3	Martial Arts & Yoga	5	6	7	
8	Rec Bowling Lunch Bunch Cardio Fitness Creative Clay Creations Autumn Crafts	9 Seat to SOAR	10 Martial Arts & Yoga Pizza & Sweet Treats	11	12	13 ZOOper Fridays Friday Night Teen Club Friday Night Out	14 Let's Take a Hike SOAR for Starters
15 Foot Golf Sensory Skate	16 Rec Bowling Lunch Bunch Cardio Fitness Creative Clay Creations Autumn Crafts	17 Seat to SOAR Music Experience	18 Martial Arts & Yoga Pizza & Sweet Treats	19 Walk the Zoo	20 Let's Get Out TGIF	21 SOAR for Starters Red Panda Day	
22 Foot Golf Sensory Skate Regional Volleyball Tournament	23 Rec Bowling Lunch Bunch Cardio Fitness Creative Clay Creations Autumn Crafts	24 Seat to SOAR Music Experience	25 Martial Arts & Yoga Pizza & Sweet Treats	26 Walk the Zoo	27 TGIF	28 IWU Football Game	
29 Foot Golf Sensory Skate	30 Rec Bowling Lunch Bunch Cardio Fitness Creative Clay Creations Autumn Crafts	31 Seat to SOAR Music Experience					



OCTOBER 2024



Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
		Seat to SOAR Music Experience	Martial Arts & Yoga Pizza & Sweet Treats	Walk the Zoo	TGIF	SO Snowshoeing East Central Sectional Bowling
		1	2	3	4	5
Foot Golf Sensory Skate	Rec Bowling Cardio Fitness Creative Clay Creations Autumn Crafts Daytime Hangout 1	Seat to SOAR Music Experience	Martial Arts & Yoga	Walk the Zoo	Friday Night Teen Club Friday Night Out TGIF	SO Snowshoeing SOAR for Starters Cupcake Creations Region Bocce Tournament
6	7	8	9	10	11	12
Sensory Skate	Rec Bowling Cardio Fitness Creative Clay Creations Autumn Crafts Daytime Hangout 1	Seat to SOAR Music Experience	Dance to SOAR I Martial Arts & Yoga Holiday Performers	Walk the Zoo Halloween Bingo	ZOOper Fridays Let's Get Out	SO Snowshoeing SOAR for Starters Spooktacular Fun State Fall Games Volleyball
13	14	15	16	17	18	19
Sensory Skate State Fall Games Volleyball	Rec Bowling Cardio Fitness Festive Creations Ornament Making Daytime Hangout 1	Music Experience	Dance to SOAR I Martial Arts & Yoga Holiday Performers	Walk the Zoo Pumpkin Painting Party	Halloween Dance	SO Snowshoeing
20	21	22	23	24	25	26
	Rec Bowling Cardio Fitness Festive Creations Ornament Making Daytime Hangout 1		Dance to SOAR I Martial Arts & Yoga Holiday Performers			
27	28	29	30	31		



NOVEMBER 2024



Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
						SO Snowshoeing Fall Hunt Around Town
					1	2
	Rec Bowling Lunch Bunch Cardio Fitness Festive Creations Ornament Making		Dance to SOAR I Martial Arts & Yoga Holiday Performers	SO Basketball Falcons SO Basketball Eagles	Friday Night Teen Club Friday Night Out	SO Snowshoeing Craft-a-Palooza
3	4	5	6	7	8	9
	Rec Bowling Lunch Bunch Cardio Fitness Festive Creations Ornament Making Veterans Day <i>(Office Closed)</i>	SO Basketball Pheonix SO Basketball Hawks	Martial Arts & Yoga Holiday Performers	SO Basketball Falcons SO Basketball Eagles	ZOOper Fridays Let's Get Out	SO Snowshoeing SOAR for Starters Turkey Time!
10	11	12	13	14	15	16
	Rec Bowling Lunch Bunch Cardio Fitness Festive Creations Ornament Making	SO Basketball Pheonix SO Basketball Hawks	Holiday Performers	SO Basketball Falcons SO Basketball Eagles		SO Snowshoeing
17	18	19	20	21	22	23
	Rec Bowling Lunch Bunch Cardio Fitness Festive Creations Ornament Making	SO Basketball Pheonix SO Basketball Hawks		Thanksgiving Day <i>(Office Closed)</i>	Day After Thanksgiving <i>(Office Closed)</i>	SOAR for Starters Big Game Day
24	25	26	27	28	29	30



DECEMBER 2024



Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
1	Daytime Hangout 2 Holiday Baking	SO Basketball Pheonix SO Basketball Hawks	Holiday Performers Dress Rehearsal Wii Games	SO Basketball Falcons SO Basketball Eagles Holiday Performers Show	Holiday Dance	State Bowling
8	Daytime Hangout 2 Holiday Baking	SO Basketball Pheonix SO Basketball Hawks	Christmas Party	SO Basketball Falcons SO Basketball Eagles	Friday Night Teen Club Let's Get Out Friday Night Out	SOAR for Starters Gingerbread & Trick Shots
15	Daytime Hangout 2 Holiday Baking	SO Basketball Pheonix SO Basketball Hawks	Wii Games SO Pizza & Karaoke Night	SO Basketball Falcons SO Basketball Eagles	ZOOper Fridays	
22		Christmas Eve <i>(Office Closed)</i>	Christmas Day <i>(Office Closed)</i>			
29		New Year's Eve <i>(Office Closed)</i>				



JANUARY 2024



Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
			New Year's Day (Office Closed)			SOAR for Starters Just Chillin'
			1	2	3	4
	Lunch Bunch Monday Night Movies	SO Basketball Pheonix SO Basketball Hawks	Dance to SOAR II Game Night	SO Basketball Falcons SO Basketball Eagles Mall Walkers	Friday Night Teen Club Friday Night Out	
5	6	7	8	9	10	11
	Lunch Bunch Monday Night Movies	SO Basketball Pheonix SO Basketball Hawks	Dance to SOAR II Game Night	SO Basketball Falcons SO Basketball Eagles Mall Walkers	ZOOper Fridays Let's Get Out	SOAR for Starters What part of SNOW don't you understand?
12	13	14	15	16	17	18
	Lunch Bunch		Dance to SOAR II Game Night	Mall Walkers		
19	20	21	22	23	24	25
	Lunch Bunch	Bingo Blast	Dance to SOAR II	Mall Walkers		
26	27	28	29	30	31	

Registration Information

How to Register for a Program or Activity

You must first establish your account: Visit BloomingtonParks.org

In the top right-hand corner, hover over “Register”

>A dropdown will appear

>Select Programs & Activities

This will take you to a new page:

If you previously had an account in our old system, you will need to select “Sign In” and enter the email address associated with the existing account, then click “Forgot your password?” This will then prompt you to create a new password.

If you did not have an account, you will need to “Create an Account.”

After your account has been established, you are ready to register for an activity or program by following the steps outlined below:

1. Click the Activities button on the registration home page.
2. Select the Activity Category that you would like to enroll into. Clicking the underlined name will show you a detailed Activity description.
3. Click the Enroll Now button if you wish to register for the Activity. Select the participant you wish to enroll. Click the Add to Cart button to register.
4. Next, sign into your online registration account by entering your Email and Password. Proceed to checkout by clicking the Continue button. From this screen you may remove Activities from your cart or view more Activities and add them to your cart.

*Please Note: If more than one family member will be attending the Activity, click on the button labeled, Add Another One (*located under the Shopping Cart screen*).

5. Confirm your Activity name, date and time, enrollee, and price.
6. Click Check Out to proceed with payment. You will be prompted that you are entering a secure site. Enter your credit card information on the Payment Information Page and agree to any required waiver(s) and confirm the payer meets the age requirement of “13 Years or Older”. Click Continue. This system accepts Visa, MasterCard, Discover, and American Express.

*Please Note: The name and address must match those that are on file with your credit card company. If the address shown is not your credit card billing address, click on the My Account button and change your residential address to match your credit card billing address.

- 7). Once your payment has been approved, your receipt will display. Please print a copy of your receipt for your records.

Other Ways to Register - Registration may be done online, in person, or through the mail. **Registration may be done in person at The Hub at 115 E Washington Street. Monday - Friday from 8:00 am to 4:30 pm or it may be mailed. Send to:**

**SOAR Program Registration
PO Box 3157
Bloomington, IL 61702-3157**

Notification of Acceptance - SOAR will notify you only if you have not been accepted into a program. Once the registration procedure has been completed and accepted by SOAR staff, you are registered. Please attend the program as scheduled in the brochure. Reminder memos are only sent for those events that state in the brochure ... “reminder memo will be emailed.”

Program Cancellation

1. A program will be cancelled if the minimum number of participants needed is not met. SOAR staff will notify people by email if this situation occurs.
2. In cases of bad weather, participants should call the SOAR office at **(309) 434-2260** or the Bloomington Parks & Recreation **HOTLINE** at **(309) 434-2386** after 3:00 pm to see if a program has been cancelled.

Typo, Human Errors, We Goofed...!?

Occasionally there may be an error in days, times, registration requirements, or fees in the brochure. If so, the staff will do everything possible to correct the situation promptly. Thank you for your patience and understanding should any of these situations occur.

Where Are We?

We are located at 109 E. Olive St., Bloomington, Illinois.

Registration Deadline - Online registration begins at **7:00AM on Thursday, August 8. Mail-in registration will begin on Thursday, August 8 at 8:00AM.** Registration won't be accepted for a program that has already begun. Registration deadline for all special events is one week prior to the date of each event if openings are available. **Please register early; many SOAR programs fill up quickly!**

Payment Plans - Full payment of program fees should be included with the registration form. However, payment plans can be arranged for those individuals who need to spread their payment out over several months. Payment in full must be received in the SOAR office prior to registering for a new program session. Payments for special events must be paid in full at the time of registration. No payment plans will be set up after Friday, August 23.

Financial Assistance Policy - Partial financial assistance is available for those who need it in order to pay the program registration fees. Those requesting assistance need to fill out a Scholarship Request Form (*contact SOAR for a form*) and submit it to Holly and Taylor, along with a completed registration form. Financial assistance will apply to new enrollment and cannot be retrospective or applied to activities/programs already paid for. Financial assistance is not provided for bowling fees or special events with contractual or admission costs. The deadline to request assistance for programs is Friday, August 23.

Refund Procedures

Refund Procedures

1. A full credit or refund will be issued if a program is cancelled by SOAR.
2. To be eligible for a requested refund, the request must be made no less than three business days prior to the start of the program.
3. A refund minus a \$5 service charge will be issued to participants withdrawing from a program.
4. Refunds of special event/program fees for which SOAR has incurred a cost due to ticket purchase, deposits, rentals, etc. will only be made if SOAR is given a 48-hour notice and the vacancy caused by the cancellation is filled. A \$5 service charge will be deducted.
5. A pro-rated refund may be given if a program is deemed inappropriate for an individual.
6. Credits for future registration costs will be issued for all refunds of \$20 or less.
7. Refunds will be issued by check on a monthly basis after being approved by the Bloomington City Council. Please allow at least three weeks for the processing of refunds.

Transportation

Transportation is available for some SOAR activities on a first-come, first-served basis for *Bloomington and Normal residents who have no other way to attend events. Car pools and the City transit system are recommended means of transportation. Please don't use transportation services as a "convenience". Many individuals have no other way to attend programs and services are limited. Programs in which transportation is available are followed by the symbol on the right.



To Receive Transportation:

1. Individuals needing to use door-to-door transportation services from SOAR must apply for this service separately for each program/event that it is available for. Applications for transportation services are available at the SOAR office, by contacting Taylor Burlingame at tburlingame@cityblm.org or by calling the office at (309) 434-2260.
2. The transportation service is limited and is reserved for individuals who could not otherwise participate in SOAR programs without it. If a participant has a parent or someone in the home that can drive the participant to/from programs, he/she should NOT register for transportation. This service is not to be utilized for convenience.
3. Transportation is also only available to those individuals who live within the Bloomington/Normal service area (listed below). SOAR reserves the right to cancel a participant's registration for transportation if they have access to other means of transportation or live outside of the service area in order to accommodate someone who meets eligibility.
4. Before a program is scheduled to begin, individuals will be sent notification of pick-up time for transportation for each requested program in the mail. This will be mailed at the beginning of the session for weekly programs or one week prior to a special event (if a memo is sent).
5. All transportation applications and requests must be received by August 23, 2024.

Bloomington/Normal residents eligible for transportation service need to reside within the following geographic area:

55 north,

74/55/51 bypass west

Six Points/Veteran's Parkway/Ireland Grove South

Towanda Barnes Road east

Questions/Information

If there are any questions regarding eligibility, registration procedures, scholarships, transportation, or the SOAR program in general, feel free to contact the SOAR office at **(309) 434-2260**. TDD for the hearing impaired at **(309) 829-5115**. Fax: **(309) 434-2483**. Website address is **BloomingtonParks.org/SOAR**.
Hotline: (309) 434-2386.

Email Holly Polley at hpolley@cityblm.org or Taylor Burlingame at tburlingame@cityblm.org



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109 E. Olive • PO Box 3157
Bloomington, IL 61702-3157

Current Resident or

DATED MATERIAL
DELIVER BEFORE
JULY 25, 2024

FALL REGISTRATION KICKS OFF AUGUST 8

SOAR

Special Opportunities
Available in Recreation



HOLIDAY PERFORMERS

THURSDAY, DECEMBER 5
7:00 PM

