



Summer FUN in Southeastern PA

Arranging for responsible supervision of children during summer months when school is no longer in session can be challenging for working parents. The following is a list of recreational options we encourage you to explore. You may be surprised to find that alternatives to school-based recreational programs do exist.

Activity programs are often available through town recreational departments and local civic groups. Organizations such as the YWCA and YMCA, boys and girls clubs, scouting programs, the Police Athletic League (PAL) and even local libraries and churches may offer viable options. County and municipal departments of parks and recreation offer some wonderful low-to-no cost options for children of ALL ages. Other resources may be found in local community programs that serve children and families throughout the year.

Below you will find information about some of these resources. Our listing has been organized by county and begins with links that provide information on programs throughout the SEPA area. County-specific programs follow.

CAMP DATABASES AND WEBSITES OFFER A GOOD STARTING POINT

Local YMCAs offer activity programs, day camps and more. You can find a comprehensive list of YMCAs in the [SEPA 2-1-1 Resource Database](#). Use the search term “YMCA” and remember to click the button that says “Search for Matching Provider and Service Names” to get the desired listing. You can limit your search to the county of interest to you by identifying that county on the portion of the screen that says “Enter a Location”.

Boy Scouts/Girl Scouts

- [Boy Scouts of America](#) offer programs for boys from 6 years to 20 years old. Call 215-988-9811 for more information. Learn about locations, prices and deadlines for their [summer camping programs](#).
- [Girl Scouts of Eastern Pennsylvania](#) supports programs for girls 5 years to 17 years old. Call 215-564-4657 for more information. GSEP offer day camps, neighborhood day camps, resident camps and troop and family camping activities. Learn more about these [camping programs](#).

Free Summer Movies and More

Find out how you can enjoy free movies, bowling, roller skating and more this summer by visiting [Freebies](http://freebies.about.com/od/familyactivities/tp/free-summer-movies.htm) [http://freebies.about.com/od/familyactivities/tp/free-summer-movies.htm].

Bucks County

[Bucks County Library System](#)

[<http://www.buckslib.org/>]

Bucks County has an extensive library system. You'll find a full list of locations on their website. Another section of the [site](#) is devoted specifically to children (youngsters and teens) offering information on summer reading recommendations as well as local activities and events.

[Bucks County Parks and Recreation](#)

[<http://www.buckscounty.org/government/ParksandRecreation>]

In addition to the eight parks that exist in Bucks County you will find nine different recreational sites that offer opportunities to enjoy swimming, tennis and golf among other things and three nature centers. In addition to a full listing of [activities and events](#)

[<http://www.buckscounty.org/government/ParksandRecreation/Programs/SpecialEvents>], you will find a description of each location on the [website](#)

[<http://www.buckscounty.org/government/ParksandRecreation>].

Chester County

[Chester County Library System](#)

[<http://www.ccls.org/>]

The Chester County Library system includes over eighteen local libraries each of which offers free programs and events for children and adults. A complete [activity listing](#)

[<http://ereserve.ccls.org/evanced/lib/eventcalendar.asp?ln=ALL>] is posted on the [county site](#)

[<http://www.ccls.org/>] where you will also find information about each library location.

[Chester County Parks and Recreation](#)

[<http://www.chesco.org/index.aspx?nid=178>]

Chester County supports four county parks, a farm and a sanctuary. At these locations you will find opportunities for camping, boating, fishing, and play areas. Hiking is available on three regional trails the county maintains. Learn about all of these offerings and associated activities and events [here](#) [<http://www.chesco.org/index.aspx?nid=178>].

[Youth summer camps](#) [<http://www.chesco.org/index.aspx?NID=2316>] and a [Youth Discovery Series](#) [<http://www.chesco.org/index.aspx?NID=1224>] are also available through the park system

Delaware County

[Delaware County Libraries](#)

[<http://www.delcolibraries.org/>]

Delaware County's public library system is extensive. The site provides library [locations and hours](#) [http://www.delcolibraries.org/LibraryInformation_LocationsHours.htm], and a link to individual library pages where you will find information about local activities and events. A countywide listing of events can also be found [here](#).

[<http://www.eventkeeper.com/code/events.cfm?curOrg=delco>]

Municipal Parks

[<http://www.co.delaware.pa.us/depts/parks.html>]

The Delaware County Park System offers opportunities for low- to no-cost fun.

The county's [Summer Festival in Rose Tree Park](#)

[<http://www.co.delaware.pa.us/summer/2014schedule.pdf>] offers residents a full summer of musical performances at no cost.

Montgomery County

Montgomery Public Libraries

[<http://www.montcopubliclibraries.org/>]

This public library system provides a listing of library locations, programs and events

<http://www.montcopubliclibraries.org/>. Their [services for children and teens](#)

[<http://www.montcopubliclibraries.org/kids.html>] include book clubs, free summer science programs, online resources and a book giveaway program for youngsters.

Parks and Recreation

[<http://www.montcopa.org/index.aspx?nid=336>]

Parks throughout the county offer opportunities for outdoor fun and exercise. Green Lane Park offers a free [Summer Concert Series](#) [<http://www.montcopa.org/index.aspx?NID=871>]. Access a full [Programs and Events Listing](#) [<http://www.montcopa.org/index.aspx?nid=336>] of countywide activities. Individual links to parks describe the unique nature of each location and provide further details on local events.

Download the [Montgomery County Activity Program](#)

[<http://www.montcopa.org/DocumentCenter/View/6161>]

Philadelphia County

[ASAP/After School Activities Partnerships](#) has provided after school recreational and enrichment activities to Philadelphia kids since 2002. The organization maintains a citywide directory of after-school enrichment and recreation programs in Philadelphia, featuring more than 1,000 entries. Updated throughout the year, it is available as a searchable document on their website. Information provided is subject to change. Parents and caregivers should contact the sites listed directly to learn more about the programs offered in summer months. Look for [programs in your neighborhood](#).

[Submit your camp/activity program listing](#).

[Boys and Girls Clubs of Philadelphia](#) programs and services promote and enhance the development of boys and girls by instilling a sense of competence, usefulness, belonging and influence. The Club is a safe place to learn and grow - all while having fun. 1518 Walnut Street, Suite 712. Call 215-735-8818 to learn more or [find a club near you](#).

[Caring People Alliance \(CPA\)](#) is a comprehensive, community based human service agency that includes: a Boys and Girls Club; day care, after school programs, youth development, summer camps, and year-round recreation programs. Find the CPA near you:

- Central Office- 8 Penn Center, 1628 JFK Blvd., Suite 800 - 215-545-5230
- 2435 S. 15th St (NE corner of 15th and Porter St.) - 215-218-0800
- 1701 N. 8th St- 215-763-0900
- 3512 Haverford Ave- 215-386-4075

Have a Fun, Safe Philly Summer – an initiative that was recently launched, this site provides information about organizations hosting summer programming across the city, in every neighborhood. Young people, parents, mentors and teachers can find more information on structured and drop-in activities throughout the summer at recreation centers, libraries, computer centers and parks. There is also information on the nearly 1,000 sites offering free meals for youth this summer.

Philadelphia Parks and Recreation provides a comprehensive list of activity programs that are offered in the city including after-school programs and [camps](#).

Kids in Center City Philadelphia hosts a site that is sponsored by the William Penn Foundation and the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania. Here you will find a calendar of events, as well as an extensive list of cultural institutions; camp, activity programs, maps and “other fun stuff” (pages to color, memory games and coloring contests...)

MainLineCamps.com 2014 provides a full listing of camps in the Philadelphia area and organizes them by their special focus or a distinguishing characteristic including: academics; computers; creative; day; faith-based; language; nature; overnight; performance; science; special needs; sports; teen travel; and township camps.

Police Athletic League (PAL) The mission of PAL is to offer young people a viable and constructive alternative to the “street life”. They serve over 28,000 children in Philadelphia with a full range of programs. Learn more about programs offered this summer by calling 215-291-9000. [Find your local PAL](#).

The Salvation Army Kroc Center has dozens of sports, arts, aquatic and education programs for children, teens, and adults. Their day camp is eight weeks long from 8:30 AM to 4:30 PM. Registration packets will be available on April 28, 2014 at the Family Resource Center. The Center is located at 4200 Wissahickon Avenue. Call 215.717.1200 for information or visit their [website](#).

YMCA of Philadelphia & Vicinity provides activities and programs throughout the year. Summer Camp activities include field trips, swimming, sports and activities that help campers discover the importance of living a life full of fitness and nutrition. [Find a camp in your area](#). See what’s happening at the [YMCA in your neighborhood](#).

DAY CAMPS AND PROGRAMS WITH A FOCUS

The American Red Cross of Southeastern Pennsylvania runs a free program that trains youth between the ages of 10 and 14 in disaster preparedness, First Aid, CPR, swimming and leadership skills by using hands-on activities, games and interactive workshops. Morning snacks

and lunch are included. Camp Save-a-Life will be held at the Red Cross House located at 40th Street and Powelton Avenue in Philadelphia. Camp sessions are one week in length from June 23-August 15. Contact Katie Parsell at 215.299.4067 or by email at Katie.Parsell@redcross.org. [Download an application.](#)

[Neighborhood Bike Works](#) is a youth development program in West Philadelphia that serves youth ages 8-17 with several programs that teach bike safety and responsibility including: *Earn a Bike, Summer Cycling Camp, and more*. Their [Summer Cycling Day Camp](#) offers youth, ages 8-14 the opportunity to recondition and earn a bike, helmet and lock in just two weeks. Youth complete the Earn-A-Bike curriculum in two weeks, participate in fun outdoor activities, go on educational field trips and learn about safe cycling, nutrition and healthy lifestyles. Classes are limited to 12 campers and are offered in half-day and full-day sessions. Registrants must know how to ride a bike and be able to ride for 20 minutes to participate in this camp. Registration is first-come, first-serve, beginning April 1. They are located at 3916 Locust Walk. Email camp@neighborhoodbikeworks.org for more information. Half-day sessions are offered at 1426 West Susquehanna Avenue.

[LEAPS' \(Lacrosse Education Attitude Perseverance Success\)](#) mission is to enrich the lives of youth through lacrosse and education, as well as instill the importance of a healthy and active lifestyle. Call 215-951-0330, ext 2190 for information about their many free programs. – Learn about their [summer camps](#).

MORE COMMUNITY RESOURCES

[Smith Memorial Playground and Playhouse](#) in East Fairmount Park is open for FREE to children 10 and younger and their adult caregivers for unstructured physical and imaginative play. The playhouse is open to youngsters age 5 and younger. Weekly story time, monthly arts and crafts sessions, and several special kids' celebrations take place throughout the year. For more information, including visiting hours, directions, and how to schedule a group visit or birthday party, contact Smith at 215-765-4325.

Public Libraries are often a good source of summer programs for reading and activities and Philadelphia has 54 branches located throughout the city. Find a [library near you](#).

Please contact us at info@211sepa.org if you know of other resources that would be suitable for our summer activity listing.

2-1-1 SEPA strives to put people in need of assistance, in touch with those who can help. Dial 2-1-1 from any phone in the five-county area to reach a resource specialist who will help you find a solution to the challenges you face.

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