

**AGENDA
CHILlicothe CITY COUNCIL
CITY COUNCIL CHAMBER
FEBRUARY 9, 2026
7:00 P.M.**

CALL TO ORDER

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

ROLL CALL BY CLERK

READING OF MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETING BY CLERK

PETITIONS AND COMMUNICATIONS BY CLERK

PETITIONS AND COMMUNICATIONS FROM THE MAYOR AND ALDERPERSON

COUNCIL COMMITTEE COMMUNICATIONS

ANYONE WITH BUSINESS CONCERNING CITY GOVERNMENT

PRESENTATION OF BILLS, TRANSFERS AND PAYROLLS FOR PAYMENT AND DISCUSSION

MAYOR HUGHES

- 1. Presentation – Kevin Yates**
 - **The 2025 Chillicothe Park District Community Impact Report**
 - **Eat Local, Play Local Campaign**
 - **River & Rails Fest Sponsorship Package**

PUBLIC WORKS COMMITTEE – ALDERPERSON SHARP

- 1. Approve – Reimbursement to ARPA Fund**
- 2. Present – 2026 Landscape Waste Drop Off Schedule**
- 3. Approve – Purchase – Altitude Valve Repair Kit**

JUDICIAL COMMITTEE – ALDERPERSON GEHRIG

- 1. Approve – Ordinance – Regarding Insufficient Grave Spaces and Buy Back Procedures**
- 2. Approve – Ordinance – Amending Fees – Electrical Permits**

ADJOURNMENT

AGENDA CLERK

**CITY OF CHILLICOTHE
COUNCIL MEETING
MINUTES OF A REGULAR MEETING
FEBRUARY 9, 2026**

A regular meeting of the City Council of the City of Chillicothe, Peoria County, Illinois, met in Regular Session in person February 9, 2026 at 7:00 P.M. with Mayor Michael D. Hughes presiding and with proper notice having been posted.

Mayor Hughes called the meeting to order at 7:00 P.M.

The Pledge of Allegiance, to the Flag of the United States of America, was recited.

Chairman Hughes directed Clerk Byrnes to take roll.

Present:
Mayor Michael D. Hughes
City Clerk Jill M. Byrnes
City Treasurer Andrea Bredeman

Alderspersons Present:
Barry Bredeman, Patricia Westerman-Connor,
Brett Cantwell, Michael Crabtree, Courtney Gehrig,
Sandi Levell, Patrick Semtner, Gary Sharp

Also Present:
City Attorney Kevin Day
Police Chief Jeremy Cooper
Office Manager Denise Passage
Assistant Office Manager Chelsea White
Economic Development Director Amanda Beadles
Superintendent of Public Works Shawn Sutherland

Others Absent:
Attorney Taylor Cascia
City Engineer Josh Harken

Chairman Hughes declared a Quorum present

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The Minutes of the Regular Council Meeting on January 26, 2026 were presented. Motion Alderperson Semtner, second Alderperson Crabtree, that the Council dispense with the reading of the Minutes of the January 26, 2026 Regular Council Meeting and approve the Minutes as presented.

Motion Carried Via Voce vote.

PETITIONS AND COMMUNICATIONS BY THE CLERK:

Clerk Byrnes presented the following Committee and Commission Minutes:

1. Cemetery & Parks Committee – 1/20/2026
2. Public Works Committee – 1/21/2026
3. Judicial Committee – 1/28/2026
4. Marketing & Tourism Commission – 2/2/2026

Communications by the Clerk:

1. City Budget Report – 1/2026
2. City Collector's Report – 1/2026

The nomination for the Civic Achievement Award and Volunteer of the Year Award have been distributed to each elected official, please complete the form and return to EDC Director Beadles by February 20, 2026.

Motion Alderperson Bredeman, second Alderperson Crabtree, that the petitions and communications as presented by Clerk Byrnes be accepted and placed on file.

Motion Carried Via Voce vote.

PETITIONS AND COMMUNICATIONS FROM THE MAYOR AND ALDERPERSONS:

Alderperson Crabtree encouraged all elected officials to attend the 1st Tuesday Business Meeting, held at City Hall. Alderperson Crabtree stated it is a good opportunity to meet and gather information on the local businesses, their struggles and how they work together to address those struggles.

COUNCIL COMMITTEE COMMUNICATIONS:

None

ANYONE WITH BUSINESS CONCERNING CITY GOVERNMENT:

Luke Harvey, 13620 North Ashton Parkway, Chillicothe, a Medina Township trustee, addressed the Council requesting a code change to, Section 38-32 - Specific acts declared nuisance, stating

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that beekeeping within the corporate boundaries of the city is declared to be a nuisance for any person. Mr. Harvey would like to have the Council or appropriate Committee consider allowing for beekeeping, stating the benefits of beekeeping, such as the library, that sells the honey they produce, and he is unaware of any instances of bee stings at the library. Mr. Harvey also stated he is currently working with an IVC student and IVC district to further educate beekeeping at IVC. After discussion it was the consensus of the Council to add this to the February 25, 2026 Judicial Committee meeting agenda.

Motion Alderperson Crabtree, second Alderperson Gehrig, that the bills as presented be paid and the payrolls and transfers be approved.

Roll Call Vote was:

Ayes: **Bredeman, Cantwell, Connor, Crabtree,
Gehrig, Levell, Semtner, Sharp**

Nays: **None**

Chairman declared motion carried.

MAYOR HUGHES:

Kevin Yates, 531 N. Bradley Ave., Chillicothe Park District, addressed the Council with an update on the Park District. (See attached Community Impact Report and upcoming event flyers). Mr. Yates emphasized the Parks/Facilities, Total Households and Population Served as well as Shore Acres Pool Visitors, Program Participants, Facility Rentals and Community Programs and Activities all while maintaining their current tax rate for the last 18 years. A new development in north Peoria will also be included in Chillicothe Park District boundaries, helping to keep the tax level low. Mr. Yates also discussed the Chillicothe Parks Foundation established in 2023, a separate entity from the Park District, it is not a taxing body, has its own board and line of funding.

An assessment of the skate park is planned for 2026 which is 15 years old, and possible renovation of Shore Acres pool, bath house and clubhouse.

The Park District has over 1 million social media views annually.

Mr. Yates also discussed the Chillicothe Parks Foundation Exclusive Chillicothe Business Partnerships, (see attached flyer partnership details) and the Eat Here, Play Here Campaign. Four local restaurants, Molly's, Castaways, Gilmore's and Nat's are currently participating, the Park District does a special event with each restaurant where you dine at one the participating

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restaurants, keep your receipt, attend a Park District event and place your receipt in the Park District receptacle for a monthly \$50.00 gift card drawing to one of those restaurants.

The River & Rails Fest is a 3-day event at Three Sisters Park, July 23-25, featuring a carnival, food vendors, a car show, and live music running daily from 4-11:00 p.m. There will be no cost to enter the carnival, however wrist bands are required for the rides. No camping is being offered.

Mr. Yates discussed the upcoming River & Rails Fest and stressed is not a part of the Park District and receives no tax dollars from the Fest, however, the Parks Foundation is a significant beneficiary receiving \$2.00 from every ticket sold with an estimated 20 -25,000.00 tickets sold, again stressing there is no financial investment from either the Park District or the Parks Foundation.

PUBLIC WORKS COMMITTEE:

Motion Alderperson Sharp, second Alderperson Bredeman, that the Council approve the transfer of \$9,735.11 from the Water/Sewer Fund to ARPA Fund for the reimbursement of an expense for Fluoride Scales.

Roll Call Vote was:

Ayes: **Bredeman, Cantwell, Connor, Crabtree,
Gehrig, Levell, Semtner, Sharp**

Nays: **None**

Chairman declared motion carried.

ANNOUNCEMENT:

Alderperson Sharp announced the 2026 Landscape Waste Drop off Schedule, which will begin March 18, 2026. (See attached).

Motion Alderperson Sharp, second Alderperson Crabtree, that the Council approve an expenditure of \$2,965.00, payable to Core & Main for the purchase of an altitude valve kit for the Walnut Tower. Payable from the Water/Sewer Fund.

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Roll Call Vote was:

Ayes: Bredeman, Cantwell, Connor, Crabtree,
Gehrig, Levell, Semtner, Sharp

Nays: None

Chairman declared motion carried.

JUDICIAL COMMITTEE:

Motion Alderperson Gehrig, second Alderperson Bredeman, that the Council approve Ordinance No. 26-02-02, an ordinance regarding insufficient grave spaces and buy back procedures.

Roll Call Vote was:

Ayes: Bredeman, Cantwell, Connor, Crabtree,
Gehrig, Levell, Semtner, Sharp

Nays: None

Chairman declared motion carried.

Motion Alderperson Gehrig, second Alderperson Gehrig, that the Council approve Ordinance No. 26-02-03, an ordinance regarding electrical inspection fees.

Roll Call Vote was:

Ayes: Bredeman, Cantwell, Connor, Cantwell,
Gehrig, Levell, Semtner, Sharp

Nays: None

Chairman declared motion carried.

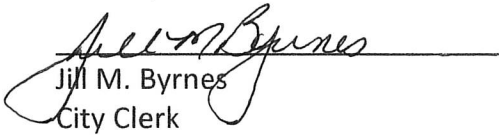
Alderperson Semtner asked for an update on discussions with the Chillicothe Fire Protection District regarding the Intergovernmental Agreement. Attorney Day addressed the update stating that a meeting was held, the Fire District's attorney was present by phone, discussions were productive however ongoing. Attorney Day stated that the Fire District explained that their district is larger than the corporate boundaries and there may not be a willingness on their part to adopt a specific Fire Code and apply it outside of the City, where the county Fire Code would take precedence. Attorney Day stated that the issue of Fire Codes would potentially be

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discussed at a future Council meeting, currently our City Code states that the City adopt whatever Fire Code is adopted by the Fire Protection District, the Fire District did confirm that they had not adopted a Fire Code since they had become the Chillicothe Fire Protection District. The Fire District suggested that the City adopt a Fire Code that they would enforce. Per Attorney Day discussions are ongoing, there were no specific decisions made on code enforcement inspectors at this time, and no definitive time line was established.

Motion Alderperson Sharp, second Alderperson Levell, that the meeting adjourn at 7:41 p.m.

Mayor Hughes declared the meeting adjourned.


Jill M. Byrnes
City Clerk



COMMUNITY IMPACT

REPORT



FISCAL YEAR 2025
June 1, 2024 - May 31, 2025

About Us

It is the mission of the Chillicothe Park District to improve the quality of life for the residents of our district by providing quality recreational services while preserving and enhancing our natural resources.

Overview

This annual report serves as a comprehensive reflection of our achievements, financial stewardship, and ongoing commitment to fostering an inclusive and sustainable park system our community can be proud of.

3

FULL TIME
EMPLOYEES

10

PARKS/
FACILITIES

5,514

TOTAL
HOUSEHOLDS

≈ 20,000

POPULATION
SERVED



DID YOU KNOW?

The Chillicothe Park District maintains over 200 acres of public space, and its taxing district includes Chillicothe and Medina Townships.



Activities and Participants

Through seasonal programs and community-centered events, the District creates engaging experiences that bring residents together.

22,590

Shore Acres Pool Visitors

3,204

Program Participants

160

Facility Rentals

85

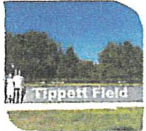
Community Programs &
Activities

Building for the Future

2025 Accomplishments



Shore Acres "Play for All" Playground



Tippet Field Renovation



Infrastructure Improvements at Shore Acres Park



Receipt of Property Donation & Removal of Structure



Upgraded Program Opportunities

Upcoming for 2026



COMPLETED:
Trail Resurfacing at Stone Water Park



COMPLETED:
Receipt of Property Donation & Removal of Structure



IN PROGRESS:
Skatepark Equipment Assessment



IN PROGRESS:
Shore Acres Pool Master Plan

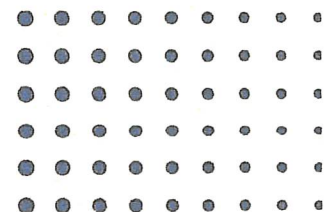


IN PROGRESS:
Shore Acres Clubhouse Restroom Renovation Plan



IN PROGRESS:
Strategic Priorities Community Survey

Your Next Adventure
IS JUST A STEP AWAY



Outreach

The Park District also maintains an active presence on social media to share updates, promote programs and events, highlight parks and facilities, and connect with the community. This combination of in-person programming, special events, and digital outreach helps foster strong community involvement and encourages residents to stay active, informed, and engaged throughout the year.



4,593

Facebook Followers



678

Instagram Followers



1,054,000

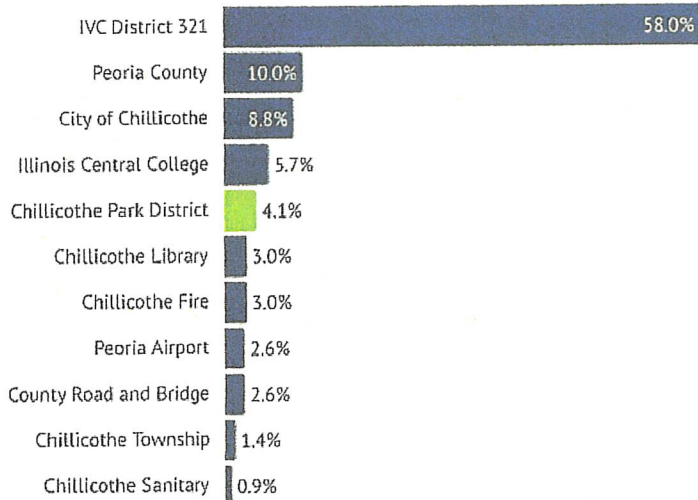
Social Media Post Views

Financial Stewardship

The Chillicothe Park District manages resources responsibly and transparently with long-term sustainability in mind. Through careful budgeting, ongoing monitoring of revenues and expenses, competitive purchasing practices, and thoughtful planning for capital needs, we ensure that taxpayer dollars, program fees, donations, and grant awards are used efficiently.

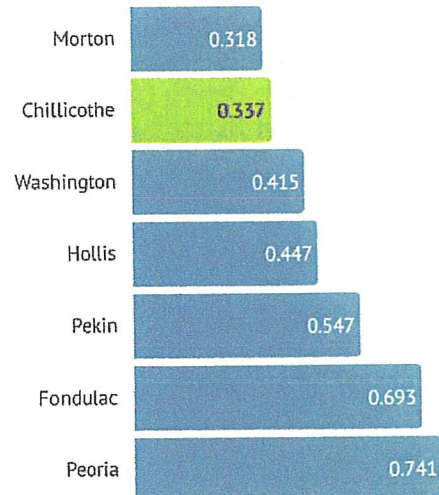
Chillicothe Residents Tax Percentage Comparison

*Percent of each property tax dollar collected

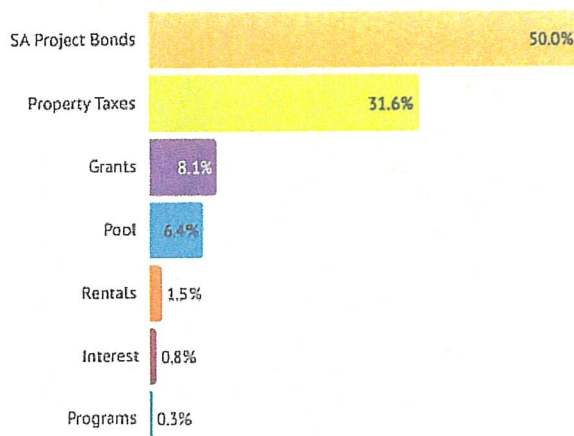


Area Park District Tax Rate Comparison

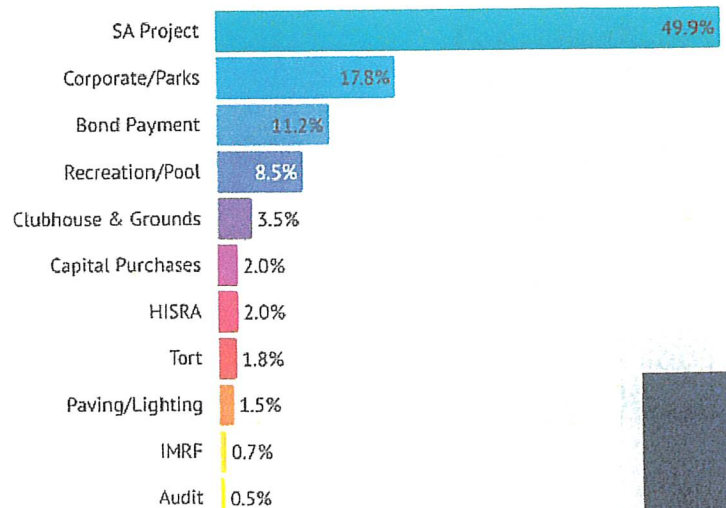
* Tax Rates per equalized asessed value



Chillicothe Park District Revenue \$3,673,260



Chillicothe Park District Expenditures \$3,233,040



Chillicothe Parks Foundation

Established in 2023, as the 501C3 supporting entity of the District, our volunteers firmly believe that parks, pools, and green spaces are the heartbeat of every thriving community. They are where families come together to play, where neighbors become friends, and where memories are etched into the fabric of our lives. Our mission is to create and maintain inclusive parks that serve as sanctuaries of joy, relaxation, and inspiration for all.



823 Fanzine Subscribers

Monthly newsletter sent out to donors and participants featuring upcoming activities and news with a 40.2% Opened Rate



General Donations

156 General Donors contributing \$17,900.11 to non specified Foundation campaigns or specific Chillicothe Park District facility enhancements



Sponsored Projects

The Chillicothe Parks Foundation contributed \$40,000 to the Chillicothe Park District Shore Acres Park OSLAD Project



1,302

Special Event Participants

*Dive-In Movie
Party in the Park: "Play for All"
Hide & Seek with the Police
Hills & Hollow 5K Walk & Run
Grinchmas Party*



This park is amazing. Very clean and interactive for kids. Multiple fun things I have never seen b4. We had such a great time. If your looking for a free safe place to take your kids this is it.

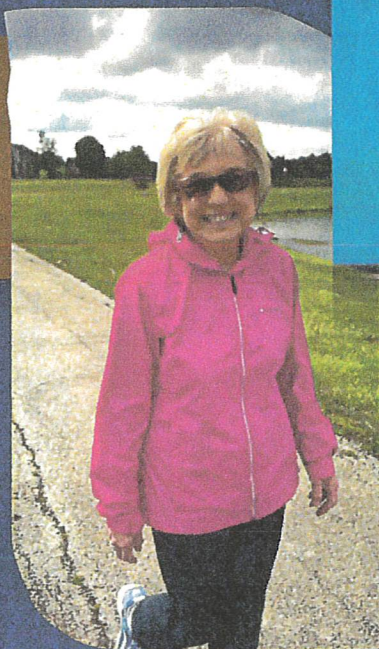
- Randy M

There's always something fun happening at the Chillicothe Park District, and the staff is AMAZING!

- Amy Thompson, Resident

This park is the kind of place you find and kinda don't want to tell others about because it feels like a best kept secret

- Abi Amstutz



This is a wonderful place to take kids!!! The splash pad is seriously amazing. Best one I have ever seen! Excellent job Chillicothe Park Board!

- Teri Herman



It's taken so many people to make sure we have these great parks for our enjoyment! Thanks to all throughout the years that supported our creative CHILLICOTHE PARK DISTRICT!

- Dianne Colwell, Resident

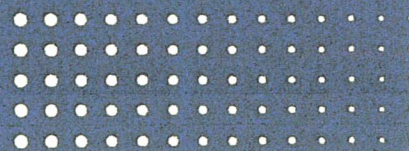
Contact Details:

www.chillicotheParkDistrict.org

309-274-3409

chilliparks@chillicotheParkDistrict.org

100 Park Blvd. Chillicothe, IL 61523



CHILlicothe PARKS FOUNDATION



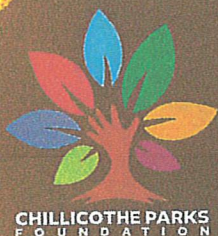
EXCLUSIVE BUSINESS PARTNERSHIP GUIDE



Where Music Meets the Midway

JULY 23-25, 2026 | THREE SISTERS PARK

River & Rails Fest is a three-day destination event blending live music, carnival attractions, and community pride. A partnership with River & Rails Fest positions your business at the heart of the region's newest experience while supporting local parks and community enrichment.



CHILLICOTHE EXCLUSIVE BUSINESS PARTNER OPPORTUNITIES



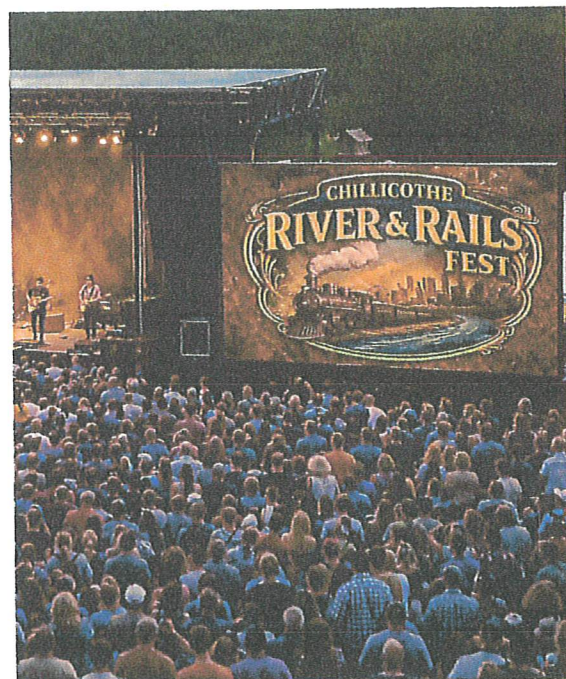
Where Music Meets the Midway

River & Rails Fest is a four-day destination event blending live music, carnival attractions, and community pride. A partnership with River & Rails Fest positions your business at the heart of the region's newest experience while supporting local parks and community enrichment.

FOUNDER'S CIRCLE

\$2,000

- ★ One complimentary rental of Shore Acres Clubhouse or an outdoor pavilion, subject to availability and within the calendar year
- Business Partner for six Chillicothe Parks Foundation special events
- Chillicothe Parks Foundation Promotional Item Package
- Website Recognition as Corporate Partner with Link
- Vendor Space at the Chillicothe River and Rails Festival
- Festival-week social media recognition as a Pre- & Post-Game Stop, including promotion of local business offers
- Festival Banner
- River & Rails Promotional Item Package
- Concert Video Wall Advertisement
- ★ 10 General Admission concert passes per day
- ★ \$3,170 Value



JULY 23-26, 2026 THREE SISTERS PARK

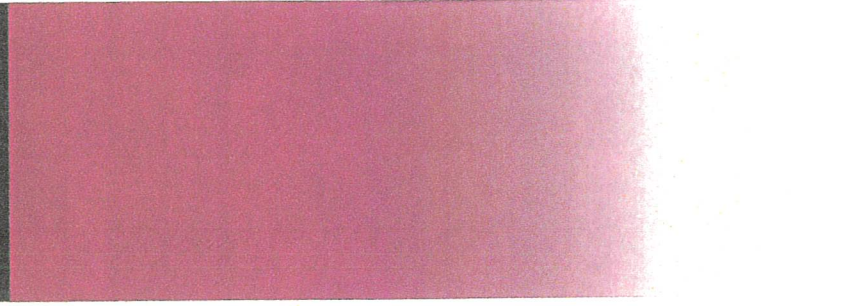


Where Music Meets the Midway

LEGACY PARTNER

\$1,500

- ★ Business Partner for six Chillicothe Parks Foundation special events
- Chillicothe Parks Foundation Promotional Item Package
- River & Rails Promotional Item Package
- Vendor Space at the Chillicothe River and Rails Festival
- Festival-week social media recognition as a Pre- & Post-Game Stop, including promotion of local business offers
- Festival Banner
- Website Recognition as Corporate Partner with Link
- Concert Video Wall Advertisement
- ★ 8 General Admission concert passes per day
- ★ \$2,136 Value



STEWARD PARTNER

\$1,000

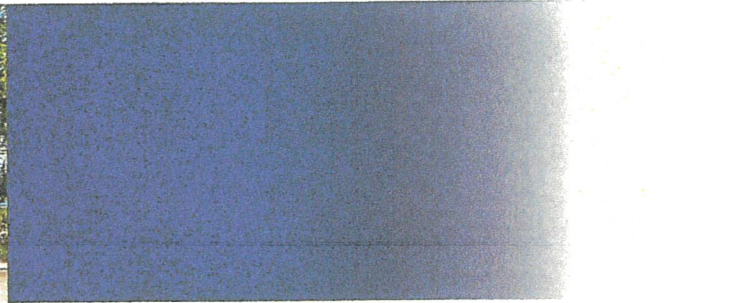
- ★ Business Partner for four Chillicothe Parks Foundation special events
- ★ Festival-week social media recognition as a Pre- & Post-Game Stop
- Chillicothe Parks Foundation Promotional Item Package
- River & Rails Promotional Item Package
- Concert Video Wall Advertisement
- ★ 5 General Admission concert passes per day
- ★ \$1,335 Value



CELEBRATION PARTNER

\$500

- ★ Business Partner for two Chillicothe Parks Foundation special events
- Chillicothe Parks Foundation Promotional Item Package
- River & Rails Promotional Item Package
- ★ Concert Video Wall Advertisement
- 2 General Admission concert passes per day
- \$534 Value



COMMUNITY PARTNER

\$250

- Business Partner for one Chillicothe Parks Foundation special event.
- Chillicothe Parks Foundation apparel
- River & Rails apparel
- 2 General Admission concert passes per day
- \$534 Value



- 1,000,000+ digital impressions across social media, email, and partner platforms
- National touring artists including Chris Janson, Vincent Mason, Parmalee, Daughtry, and more
- 20,000+ attendees over four days — families, young professionals, and regional visitors
- Unmatched local visibility through on-site signage, stage mentions, and digital promotion
- Year-round community impact by supporting Chillicothe Parks Foundation programs and public spaces

A combined partnership with the Chillicothe Parks Foundation and the Chillicothe River & Rails Fest is an investment in both everyday community life and moments that bring us all together. The Parks Foundation supports the spaces families enjoy year-round, while River & Rails creates a high-energy celebration that showcases the heart of Chillicothe. Together, they offer local businesses meaningful visibility and a lasting way to support the community we call home.



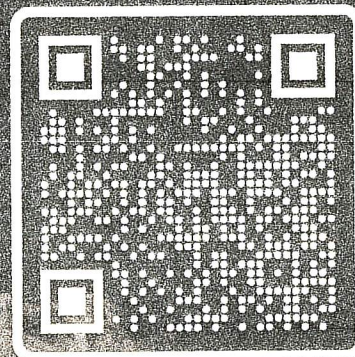
Payments made to: Chillicothe Parks Foundation



Where Music Meets the Midway



JULY 23-25, 2026
THREE SISTERS PARK
CHILLICOTHE, ILLINOIS



Where Music Meets the Midway

23

JULY

THURSDAY

CHRIS JANSON

GEORGE BIRGE | JOHN FOSTER | TAYLOR BRUNINGA

24

JULY

FRIDAY

VINCENT MASON

PARMALEE | CHAYCE BECKHAM | WILL MOSELEY

25

JULY

SATURDAY

DAUGHTRY

DIRTY HONEY | AND MORE...

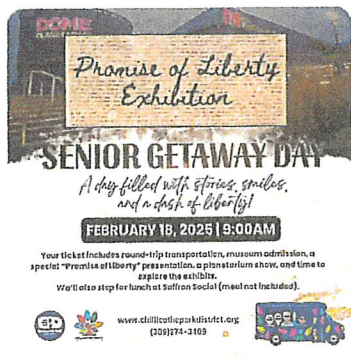
RIVERANDRAILSFEST.COM

(309)274-3409

BENEFITING



UPCOMING *Events*

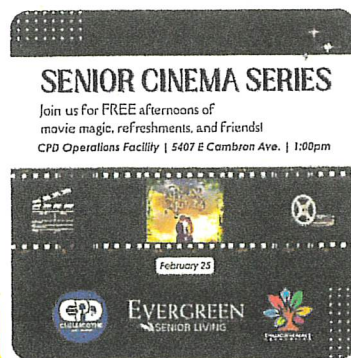


9:00 AM

Senior Getaway Day

Our upcoming Getaway Trip brings history, discovery, and good company together.

Feb
18
2026



1:00 PM

Senior Cinema Series

Join us for an afternoon of movie magic, refreshments, and friends as we enjoy the beloved classic *The Princess Bride*. Inconceivable fun awaits!

Feb
25
2026



6:00 PM

Senior Prom

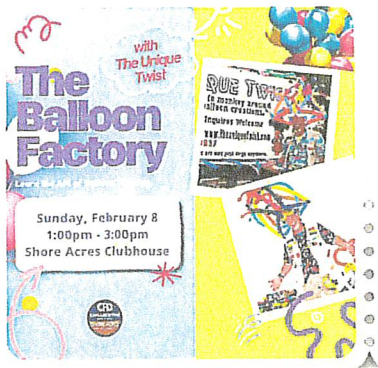
Save the date for a magical evening of music, memories, and dancing under the stars. Senior Prom is coming soon!

May
2
2026

www.chillicothe-park-district.org
(309) 274-3409



UPCOMING *Events*

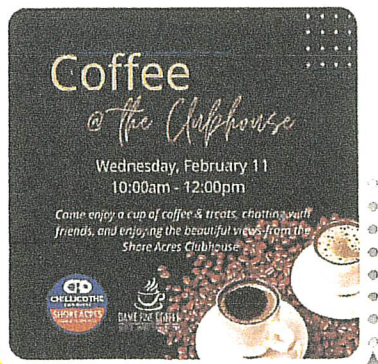


1:00 PM

The Balloon Factory

Learn, create, and take home fun balloon creations at our Balloon Factory.

Feb
8
2026



10:00 AM

Coffee @ the Clubhouse

Sip coffee, enjoy treats, and relax with friends as the IVC Jazz Band provides live music at Coffee @ the Clubhouse.

Feb
11
2026



1:00 PM

The Color Studio

Experience a guided painting class and create your own artwork with friends at The Color Studio.

Feb
15
2026

www.chillicotheParkDistrict.org
(309)274-3409

**CHILLICOTHE RESIDENTS
YARD WASTE DROP OFF SCHEDULE
MARCH 2026 – NOVEMBER 2026
OPENS MARCH 18, 2026 – LAST DAY NOVEMBER 25, 2026**

The Drop Off Site is located in the 200 Block of Moffitt Street. Coming from Rt. 29 (Fourth St.) Turn East on Moffitt Street cross the Rail Road Tracks and the Drop off entrance will be to your left. If you are coming down Second Street you will go to the end of Second Street and turn west on Moffitt Street and before you cross the Rail Road Tracks it will be to your right.

OPENS WEDNESDAY, MARCH 18, 2026

MARCH

Starting March 18: WEDNESDAYS: 10:00 A.M. to NOON & 4:00 P.M. – 6:00 P.M.
SATURDAYS: 8:00 A.M. TO 1:00 P.M.

APRIL - WEDNESDAYS: 10:00 A.M. to NOON & 4:00 P.M. – 6:00 P.M.
SATURDAYS: 8:00 A.M. TO 1:00 P.M.

MAY - MONDAYS: 4:00 P.M. – 6:00 P.M. (CLOSED MEMORIAL DAY)
WEDNESDAYS: 10:00 A.M. – NOON & 4:00 P.M. - 6:00 P.M.
SATURDAYS: 8:00 A.M. – 1:00 P.M.

JUNE - MONDAYS: 4:00 P.M. – 6:00 P.M.
WEDNESDAYS: 10:00 A.M. – NOON & 4:00 P.M. – 6:00 P.M.
SATURDAYS: 8:00 A.M. – 1:00 P.M.

JULY - MONDAYS: 4:00 P.M. – 6:00 P.M.
WEDNESDAYS: 10:00 A.M. – NOON & 4:00 P.M - 6:00 P.M.
SATURDAYS: 8:00 A.M. – 1:00 P.M. (CLOSED INDEPENDENCE DAY)

AUGUST - MONDAYS: 4:00 P.M. – 6:00 P.M.
WEDNESDAYS: 10:00 A.M. – NOON & 4:00 P.M. – 6:00 P.M.
SATURDAYS: 8:00 A.M. – 1:00 P.M.

SEPTEMBER – MONDAYS: 4:00 P.M. – 6:00 P.M. (CLOSED LABOR DAY)
WEDNESDAYS: 10:00 A.M. – NOON & 4:00 P.M. – 6:00 P.M.
SATURDAYS: 8:00 A.M. – 1:00 P.M.

OCTOBER - MONDAYS: 4:00 P.M. – 6:00 P.M.
WEDNESDAYS: 10:00 A.M. – NOON & 4:00 P.M. – 6:00 P.M.
SATURDAYS: 8:00 A.M. – 1:00 P.M.

NOVEMBER - MONDAYS: 8:00 A.M. – 10:00 A.M. & 3:00 P.M. – 5:00 P.M.
WEDNESDAYS: 10:00 A.M. – NOON & 3:00 P.M. – 5:00 P.M.
SATURDAYS: 8:00 A.M. – 1:00 P.M.

LAST DAY IS WEDNESDAY, NOVEMBER 25, 2026

PUBLIC COMMENT:

Meeting: City Council Meeting Date: 2/9/2026

Time: 7:00 p.m. Place/Room: City Hall

Name	Address	Phone
1. Amy Burkett	412 N 2nd	956 451 3000
2. Kevin Yates (Chillicothe park district)	531 W Bradley Ave	309-274-3409
3. Luke Harvey	13620 N Ashton Pkwy	309 229 9873
4.		
5.		
6.		
7.		
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