



GOTOPEKA » QUALITY OF LIFE »
RECREATION

THERE IS ALWAYS SOMETHING TO DO AROUND TOPEKA

SPORTS

The [Topeka Pilots](#), a member of the North American Hockey League, offer exciting play at the Kansas Expocentre.

Washburn University Athletics span from track and field to football and everything between. Check out the schedule for upcoming events at wusports.com

The [Capital City Crushers](#) is Topeka's female roller derby team.

[Hummer Sports Park](#) hosts a variety of sporting events from baseball and soccer to indoor swimming.

There are multiple recreational leagues organized by the city of Topeka and Shawnee County as well.

FESTIVALS AND SPECIAL EVENTS

January: Kansas Day Celebration



February: [Kansas Silent Film Festival](#)

March: St. Patrick's Day Parade and Street Fair

April: [ERC Designer Showhouse](#); Tulip Time; [Great Plains Rowing Championship](#)

May: Cinco de Mayo Celebration

June: [NHRA Summer Nationals](#); [Mountain Plains Art Fair at Washburn University](#); [Topeka Tinman Triathlon](#); [Sunflower Music Festival](#); Juneteenth

July: Spirit of Kansas Celebration; [Sunflower State Games](#); Fiesta Mexicana; Shawnee County 4-H Fair

August: [Railroad Festival](#)

September: Inter-Tribal Pow Wow; Huff 'n Puff Balloon Rally; Cider Days; [Sertoma Great Topeka Duck Race](#); [Aaron Douglas Art Fair](#)

October: [Apple Festival](#)

November: [Winter Wonderland](#)

December: [Winter Wonderland](#); [Festival of Trees](#); Holiday Happenings; [Miracle On Kansas Avenue](#).

LAKES AND RECREATION

[Lake Shawnee](#) is located immediately adjacent to the city limits. This 400-acre lake is a picturesque setting for sailing, boating, camping, swimming, fishing and provides recreational facilities for amateur sporting activities.



If you enjoy water sports, hunting and camping, you'll love the Topeka/Shawnee County area. Just 15 miles to the northeast is Lake Perry covering more than 11,000 acres with two marinas, a yacht club, and many camping areas. This beautiful tree lined lake is a local favorite.

Twenty miles east of Topeka is Lake Clinton. Clinton is a major fishing lake with many of the same amenities as Lake Perry, including boating, swimming and skiing.

Lake Pomona is just 35 miles south of Topeka. This 4,000-acre lake offers the same wide variety of activities, including project areas for hunting in season.

Milford Lake provides some of the best fishing in Kansas. Several state records have come from the lake. Largemouth, smallmouth, striped and white bass, along with channel catfish, walleye and crappie are favorites with the anglers. Milford Lake is 65 miles west of Topeka.

Another major lake, Melvern Lake is thirty-nine miles southwest of Topeka with more than 6,900 acres of water surface. Melvern has all the usual amenities and boasts of six park areas for recreation.

Tuttle Creek Lake, approximately 60 miles west of Topeka, is Kansas' largest lake covering more than 13,350 acres with 104 miles of shoreline. Tuttle Creek lies in the Flint Hills Region and offers a unique combination of woodland and grassland for recreational activities.

VISITING TOPEKA

Whether you plan to stay one night or several nights, there is lots to see and do in Topeka. Check out the local attractions, shop at the mall or in one of the many specialty shops, pause for a cup of coffee or a meal.

You'll find a current Visitor's Guide in all of our hotels, motels and bed and breakfast properties, or through Visit Topeka Inc., located at 1275 S Topeka Blvd.

The [Visit Topeka](#) website lists attractions and overnight accommodations.

VOLUNTEERING IN TOPEKA

Topekans are known for caring about one another. People from all walks of life volunteer their time and talents for a multitude of organizations and agencies always reaching out to help others and to promote our high quality of life.

From delivering Meals on Wheels to helping with the Race Against Breast Cancer to serving as a reader to an elementary school student there's opportunity to get involved!



Several resources are available:

Civic Organization List: Available through the Chamber of Commerce office, this list gives a contact person and number for over 200 civic groups from the Topeka Audubon Society to the Washburn Walkers. E-mail the [Topeka Chamber](#) or drop by the Chamber office, 120 SE 6, Suite 110. Or, you can find the full list elsewhere on this website: [Civic Organizations](#)

Volunteer Center of Topeka: The [Volunteer Center](#) at the United Way acts as a referral service for individuals wishing to volunteer in the community. Call 785.272.8890.

MORE TO DO

[seveneightfive](#), a lifestyle magazine focusing on area entertainment venues with reviews, commentary and the entertainment industry, keeps readers up-to-date on events happening around town. The magazine provides a list of great local options for things to do in Topeka.

Also, check out these helpful community calendars:

- The Topeka Capital-Journal's [Online Event Calendar](#).
- The Topeka 365 [Calendar of Events](#).
- The Topeka Capital-Journal's [Food and Flicks](#) online site.