

Free and Inexpensive Summer Fun, 2019

Here is a list of free and inexpensive things to do in the area. Tag us on Twitter to show us pictures of your summer adventures! Also, be sure to let us know if there are any great activities we missed. For an online version and printable calendar, go to Longfellow Elementary School's website <https://loes.hcps.org/>. Be sure to call ahead, or check websites for the most up to date information regarding weather closings, or schedule changes. We wish your family a safe and enjoyable summer!

Need more ideas? Try <https://www.thepennyhoarder.com/smart-money/100-free-summer-activities/>.

<p>Anytime Outings</p>	<p>Visit a Fire Station: Drop by any time and ask for a tour! https://www.howardcountymd.gov/Departments/Fire-and-Rescue/Fire-Stations</p> <p>Visit a library: https://hclibrary.org/classes-events/ Your child can take a class or join the summer reading program. The Baltimore County Public Libraries have a hands-on learning area called "Storyville" at their Woodlawn Branch for children birth to age 5. Check it out here: https://www.bcpl.info/youth/storyville.html</p> <p>Visit a local playground: Howard County Playgrounds: https://www.howardcountymd.gov/Departments/Recreation-and-Parks/Parks-and-Planning/Playgrounds For more playground details and photos, visit https://camom.net/playground.</p> <p>Visit the Smithsonian National Zoo (3001 Connecticut Ave., NW Washington, DC 20008): General info: 202-633-4888. Summer hours-Grounds: 8 a.m. to 7 p.m. (last admittance 6 p.m.), Exhibit Buildings: 9am - 6pm (<i>Amazonia opens at 10 a.m. year round</i>), Dining & Shopping: 10 a.m. to 5 p.m., Visitor Center: 8 a.m. to 6 p.m. https://nationalzoo.si.edu/ Free Admission.</p>
<p>Camps</p>	<p>When you are looking at a ten-week long summer, you may want at least one week to be planned for you. There are a variety of camps offered each week in our area. Most camps provide before and after care for parents who work outside of the home and many can be half or full-day. Half-day camps cost less and still give your child the benefit of skill-building, and socialization with peers. Although camps can be expensive, scholarships are available. https://www.columbiaassociation.org/membership/membership-programs/ https://www.ymcamn.org/scholarships</p>
<p>Concerts (Free)</p>	<p>Lakefest at the Downtown Columbia Lakefront (10275 Wincopin Cir, Columbia, MD 21044): The FREE LakeFest Weekend includes three days of live music, an invitational arts and crafts show, strolling performers, festival food, and an array of activities and entertainment for all ages. 6/14/19 (5pm-10:30 pm), 6/15/19 (12pm-10:30pm), and 6/16/19 (12pm-7pm). https://columbiainfest.org/# or https://columbiainfest.org/lakefest-2019/</p> <p>Lurman Theatre: Lurman Woodland Theatre is an outdoor community amphitheater. Free concerts that include many musical styles are held every weekend in June, July, and August. Call 1-877-278-0961 for up-to-date concert information. Lurman Woodland Theatre is located on the grounds of Catonsville High School in Baltimore County. There are two Lurman entrances with parking – the Hilltop Road entrance at approximately 614 Hilltop Road and the Bloomsbury Avenue entrance at approximately 425 Bloomsbury Avenue. Each have a Lurman sign to indicate the theatre entrance. Park in the outer parking lots and walk into the theatre. http://www.lurman.com/</p> <p>Sunset Serenades at Centennial Park (10000 Rt 108, Ellicott City): Grab a blanket, have a picnic, and enjoy the sounds of summer! For information, call 410-313-4700. Schedules subject to change. For a recorded announcement about cancellation due to weather, call 410-313-4451 after 5pm on</p>

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<p>Concerts (Free)</p>	<p>the day of the performance. Refreshments available for sale. https://www.howardcountymd.gov/sunsetserenades</p>
<p>Community and Nature Centers</p>	<p>HoCo Conservancy (Mt. Pleasant Location, 10520 Old Frederick Rd, Woodstock, MD, 21163, 410-465-8877): Trails open dawn to dusk daily. Nature Center Monday – Saturday 9 am – 3 pm (closed on Sat. in the winter). https://www.hcconservancy.org/</p> <p>North Laurel Community Center (9411 Whiskey Bottom Rd, Laurel, MD 20723): Offers free, drop-in recreation programs. http://www.howardcountymd.gov/nlcc</p> <p>Robinson Nature Center (6692 Cedar Lane, Columbia, MD 21044, 410-313-0400.): Visit interactive exhibits for children and outdoor walking trails. Call the facility status line before heading out at 410-313-4452 for the most up-to-date information on facility delayed openings and facility closings. Daily admission for the center and trails: \$5/adults, \$3 for children aged 3-17, and free for children under 3. Closed on Monday and Tuesdays. Thursday-Saturday 9:00 am – 5:00 pm, Sunday Noon-5pm. www.howardcountymd.gov/Robinson</p> <p>Roger Carter Community Center (3000 Milltowne Drive, Ellicott City, MD 21043, 410-313-2764): State-of-the-art community center that includes a swimming pool, splash pad, basketball and volleyball courts, fitness equipment and classes, a climbing wall, and much more. Drop-in passes are \$5.00/person for ages 3 and up. Aged 2 and under are free. https://www.howardcountymd.gov/rccc.</p>
<p>Fairs and Festivals</p>	<p>Books in Bloom festival (Merriweather Post Pavilion. 10475 Little Patuxent Pkwy, Columbia, MD 21044): A free daylong festival celebrating the joy of books and reading. June 2, 2019. 11:00 am - 4:00 pm. http://www.dtcpartnership.com/booksinbloom/</p> <p>Howard County Pow-Wow/American Indian Show & Festival (HoCo Fairgrounds, 2210 Fairgrounds Road, West Friendship, MD 21794.): Enjoy Native American dancing, singing, craft demonstrations and storytelling. Event takes place in air conditioned facilities. July 20, 2019 (10am - 7:00 pm. Parade of Nations starts at noon), July 21, 2019 (10am - 6pm). \$9/ages 9 and up, \$6/ages 3-12, free/under age 2. Native American food will be available for purchase. https://www.visithowardcounty.com/event/26th-annual-pow-wow/5662/ Request a \$1 coupon by emailing powwow@vance.net.</p> <p>Howard County Fair (The Howard County Fairgrounds. 2210 Fairgrounds Road, West Friendship, MD 21794): A wide variety of animals, shows, and exhibits makes this fair a yearly treat. August 3, 2019 - August 10, 2019. Gates are open 8am - 11 pm. Most exhibits are open from 10am - 10pm. Amusement rides are open from noon-11 pm on Saturdays and Sundays, and from 2pm - 11pm Monday - Friday. Free Parking. Children under 10 years old are free when accompanied by an adult. \$5/person (10 years and older), \$2/person for seniors aged 62 and older. A valid Military ID will admit you (including your spouse and children aged younger than 18) for FREE all day on August 4, 2019. https://howardcountyfairmd.com/fair-101/</p> <p>Howard County Living Farm Heritage Museum Summer Fest (12985 Frederick Road, West Friendship, Maryland, 21794): Watch museum members operate antique construction equipment (shovel, cranes, track loaders, crawlers, and graders) from the early 1900s to the 1960s. Weather permitting, their annual grain harvest will be held. June 22, 2019 - June 23, 2019. Activities run 9 am - 4 pm. \$5/person aged 2 and older. http://www.farmheritage.org/june.html</p>

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<p>Fairs and Festivals (continued)</p>	<p>Solar Fest (Alpha Ridge Park, 11685 Old Frederick Road, Marriottsville, MD 21104): A fun evening of science, engineering, arts, crafts, astronomy, and more for all ages to enjoy. Activities include Inflatables, demos, arts and crafts, games, telescopes, and prizes. July 13, 2019, 6:30 pm - 9pm. Pre-Registration is required. To register, call 410-313-7275 go to www.howardcountymd.gov/rap or register in person at 7120 Oakland Mills Road, Columbia. \$8/ages 5 -11 until July 5. After that date tickets are \$10.</p>
<p>Family Events</p>	<p>After-Hours at the Robinson Nature Center (6692 Cedar Lane, Columbia, MD 21044): June 7, 2019, July 5, 2019, August 2, 2019. 6pm-9pm. \$5/Adult, \$3/child, free/children under age 2 https://www.howardcountymd.gov/RNC/programs.</p> <p>Belmont Manor & Historic Park Open House (6555 Belmont Woods Road, Elkridge, MD 21075, 410-313-0200): This unique site is not usually open to the public. Come and explore the 18th century Manor, historic outbuildings, historic cemetery, aqua garden, carriage house, and original barn. Enjoy a self-guided tour, participate in the scavenger hunt, and meet the animals. August 18, 2019, 1pm-5pm. Free for all ages. https://belmontmanormd.com/open-house/</p> <p>Columbia Association Events (Various locations): Check out this link for a list of free and inexpensive events: https://www.columbiaassociation.org/events/</p> <p>Family Friendly Fireworks Display along the Columbia Lakefront (10275 Wincopin Circle, Columbia, MD 21044, 410-715-3161): July 4, 2019. Live bands and children's activities available. Blankets, chairs, and picnics are welcome. Free event, food is for sale onsite. https://www.visithowardcounty.com/event/howard-county%E2%80%99s-july-4th-fireworks/9670/</p> <p>Family Wellness Day (Centennial Park, 10000 Clarksville Pike, Ellicott City): A FREE fun event for the whole family. June 2, 2019. 10:00 am - 3:00 pm http://www.wepromotehealth.org/family-wellness-day.aspx</p> <p>KidsDay (Columbia Sports Park, 5453 Harpers Farm Road): Free activities include inflatables, crafts, face painting, mini-golf, batting cages, kids Zumba, and more. Free for kids under 12 and certain CA members. All others require a fee. Food and drinks available for purchase. June 8, 2019, 10am-2:00 pm. https://www.columbiaassociation.org/event/kidsday/</p> <p>Rockburn Open Car Show (Rockburn Branch Park West, Montgomery Road Entrance, 6105 Rockburn Branch Road, Elkridge, MD 21075): Saturday August 17, 2019, 10am-2pm. Show is free to the public. https://www.howardcountymd.gov/RockburnOpenCarShow</p> <p>Ranger Walk - Reptiles and Amphibians (Font Hill Wetlands Park, 3520 Font Hill Drive, Ellicott City, MD 21043): Learn about the wonderful world of reptiles and amphibians. 8/3/19, 1pm-2pm. Free. https://allevents.in/maryland/park-ranger-walk-reptiles-and-amphibians/200017281031101#</p> <p>Read with a Ranger (Centennial Park - tables near the playground, south area of the park. 10000 Rt. 108, Ellicott City, MD 21042): Join a park ranger to explore the nature world through books. Bring a bagged lunch to enjoy after the reading. Ideal for pre-school and elementary-aged children. 6/26/19, 7/24/18, 8/21/19, 11:00 am - noon. Free. https://www.facebook.com/events/centennial-park/read-with-a-ranger/1256316367852514/</p>

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<p>Family Events</p>	<p>Roger Carter’s 6th Anniversary Celebration (Roger Carter Community Center, 3000 Milltowne Drive, Ellicott City, MD 21043, 410-313-2764): Music, snowballs, giveaways, and birthday cake. No pre-registration is required. June 15, 2019, noon-1:30 pm. https://www.howardcountymd.gov/rccc</p> <p>Star Parties, all ages (Alpha Ridge Park, 11685 Old Frederick Rd., Marroittsville, MD 21104): Enjoy the night sky through telescopes set up by the Howard Astronomical League in HAL’s Observatory. At this relaxed, casual, family event, view live images projected onto a big screen. Info/weather updates: www.howardastro.org. June 8, 2019, July 20, 2019, August 10, 2019. Dusk until about 11:00 pm. Free.</p>
<p>Get Active!</p>	<p>Bowling (Bowlero Columbia, 7100 Carved Stone Road, Columbia, MD 21045, 410-381-7750): Call or otherwise look up single game costs. Bowlero does offer summer game passes which are valid Monday-Thursday from opening – 8pm, and Friday-Sunday from opening to 6pm. Summer passes are good from May 20, 2019 – September 2, 2019 and allow for up to three games per day plus shoe rental. Summer passes are \$34.95/ages 15 and under, and \$45.95/age 16 and over. Passports are also available for an additional fee that are usable at all participating locations nationwide. https://www.bowlero.com/summer-games</p> <p>Camping, Fishing, Hiking, Picnicking, Climbing, Boating, Junior Rangers Program: All are free or have a nominal entrance fee at our beautiful Maryland State Parks. Our closest state park, Patapsco, is only ten minutes away by car. Play your trip by visiting the website: http://dnr.maryland.gov/publiclands/Pages/default.aspx</p> <p>Centennial Park Boat Rentals (10000 Route 108, Ellicott City, MD 21042. South entrance): Once in the park, take the second right and park in the top lot. Walk down the pathway next to the access road to the concessions area and boat rental dock. Check their website for updated hours and information. Call 410-313-7303 for the most up-to-date information including inclement weather closings. Please note that a separate \$10 deposit and photo ID is required with all rentals. https://www.howardcountymd.gov/adventureshac. Howard County resident Boat Rentals prices: 2 or 4 Seat Paddle Boat, canoe, single or double kayak: \$15/half hour ; Fishing boat with trolling motor* \$35/half day (4 hours) <i>Half-price boat rentals Every Tuesday and Wednesday June - August</i></p> <p>Every Kid in a Park Pass: Every year, beginning September 1, all kids in the fourth grade have access to their own Every Kid in a Park pass at www.everykidinapark.gov. This pass provides free access to national parks across the country. This pass is good from September 1 – August 31 so be sure to look into it if you have a child that just completed 4th grade (for this summer), or starts 4th grade in the fall.</p> <p>Free Fishing: in Maryland you can fish without a licence on the first two Saturdays in June (June 1, 2019 and June 8, 2019), and on the 4th of July. Additionally kids under the age of 16 can always fish without a licence. https://dnr.maryland.gov/Fisheries/Pages/free-fishing.aspx</p> <p>HoCO Teen Club (Roger Carter Community Center: 3000 Milltowne Drive, Ellicott City, MD 21043): Join a diverse group of teens to represent Howard County youth and promote programs and events at the county’s community centers. Bring your creative ideas and help develop new activities for teens. Monthly meetings focus on developing leadership, social networking, and marketing skills. Earn service-learning hours at the meetings and events. Attend four or more meetings and receive a</p>

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<p>Get Active!, (continued)</p>	<p>free center membership. Free for kids aged 11-16. https://www.howardcountymd.gov/Teens</p> <p>Main Event (10300 Little Patuxent Pkwy #2520 Columbia MD 21044, 410- 995-9009): Sunday - Friday deal: pick an activity (bowling, laser tag, billiards, and more). Cost is \$7/activity/person for the entire day. Note that bowling shoes are not included in the price. https://www.mainevent.com/funspecials/7-dollar-activity</p> <p>Shadowland (9179 Red Branch Rd, Columbia, MD 21045, 410-740-9100): Friday night special (from 6pm-midnight): \$6/person/game, plus \$1 pizza slices. https://www.shadowlandadventures.com/friday-night-special/</p>
<p>Get Creative!</p>	<p>Baltimore Museum of Art (10 Art Museum Drive, Baltimore, MD 21218): Has “Free Family Sundays” with art projects for kids and families to do together. Hands-on fun is every Sunday from 2pm-5pm. Here is the summer schedule: https://artbma.org/events/family.html.</p> <p>The Book Thing of Baltimore (3001 Vineyard Lane, Baltimore, MD 21218): The Book Thing is a place to pick up free books, donate books, or volunteer your time. Hours to pick up FREE books: Saturday and Sunday 9:00 am -5:00 pm. Volunteer hours: Monday-Friday, 10:00 am–4:00 pm, Saturday and Sunday: 9:00 am – 5:00 pm. Donations can be made 24/7. https://bookthing.org/#our_location</p> <p>Crafts at Lakeshore (Lakeshore Store (& outlet). 1620 E. Joppa Rd. Towson, MD 21286, 410-296-5888): Lakeshore hosts a free craft or event every Saturday from 11:00 am – 3:00 pm for kids aged 3 and up. https://www.lakeshorelearning.com/stores/free-crafts</p> <p>Galactic-Con (Howard County Fairgrounds, 2210 Fairgrounds Road, West Friendship, MD 21794): Family Friendly Comic Convention. Comics, toys, Legos, tabletop gaming, cosplay, and more. Visit www.galactic-con.com for tickets, schedule, and early bird information. Admission: \$10/person, \$20/Family pass (for up to 6 people). June 1, 2019. 11:00 am - 6:00 pm.</p> <p>Home Depot Kids Workshops (9051 Snowden River Parkway, Columbia, MD): A free class for kids held every month at all the Home Depot stores across the country. Must be accompanied by a parent. June 1, 2019, July 6, 2019, August 3, 2019, 9:00 am - 2:00 pm. https://www.thespruce.com/free-building-classes-for-kids-at-home-depot-1356791</p>
<p>Get Munching!</p>	<p>Centennial Park Adventure Shack (10000 Route 108, Ellicott City, MD 21042, South entrance, 410-313-7304): Once in the park, take the second right and park in the top lot. Walk down the pathway next to the access road to the concessions area and boat rental dock. https://www.howardcountymd.gov/adventureshack</p> <p>Visit a Farmer’s Market: Low cost idea: Give your child \$1-\$3 to spend at a local farmer’s market. Challenge them to pick a fruit or vegetable that they have never tried before. Farmer’s Markets happen on Wednesdays, Saturdays, and Sundays between May and November. Here is a link for a list of local farmers markets in Howard County: http://howardcountyfarmersmarkets.com/index.html</p> <p>Visit a pick-your-own farm: (Larriland Farm, 2415 Woodbine Road, Woodbine, MD 21797, 410-442-2605): Larriland Farm opens with strawberry season in late May/early June and ends with apple season in early November. Check their website http://www.pickyourown.com/ or call before you go to see what is available to be picked on any given day and for daily hours. Larriland Farm is closed on Monday. Here is a link for a list of other local pick-your own farms: http://www.pickyourown.org/MD.htm</p>

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<p>Historical Locations</p>	<p>Ellicott City Colored School (8683 Frederick Road, Ellicott City, MD,410-313-5131): Tours are offered Saturday and Sunday at 3pm, April - October. Private and group tours available year-round. For more information, call. http://ellicottcity.net/tourism/attractions/ellicott_city_colored_school/</p> <p>The Patapsco Female Institute Historic Park (3655 Church Road, Ellicott City, MD 21043,): Saturday and Sundays (starting May 4, 2019), 1:00 pm – 4:00 pm. Docent-led tours or self-guided visits are available. https://www.howardcountymd.gov/patapscofemaleinstitute</p> <p>Thomas Isaac Log Cabin (8394 Main Street, Ellicott City, MD 21043 410-313-0420): Saturday and Sundays (Starting 5/4/19), 1pm – 4pm. Docent-led or self-guided tours are available. Currently closed until further notice. https://www.howardcountymd.gov/HistoricSites#Tab_ModuleID_11674_TabID_1029</p>
<p>Movies</p>	<p>Belmont Blockbusters (6555 Belmont Woods Road, Elkridge, MD 21075): Bring a picnic and a blanket to enjoy a movie in the beautiful Belmont Manor & Historic Park. Popcorn is available. Check www.belmontmanormd.org or call 410-313-0200 for inclement weather. The large movie screen is located behind the manor. Movie starts shortly after dusk. Arrive early to enjoy the gardens. June 27, 2019 (Wreck It Ralph - Ralph Breaks the Internet, PG), July 18, 2019 (Disney's The Lion King, the original Version, G), August 1, 2019 (The Goonies, PG), August 15, 2019 (Princess Bride, PG), August 29, 2019 (Captain Marvel, PG 13).</p> <p>Centennial Park Lakeside Movies (Centennial Park South lawn area in front of the concert stage, 10000 Clarksville Pike, Ellicott City, MD 21042): Start time is around 8:15 pm (or when it gets dark). Schedules subject to change. For a recorded announcement about cancellations due to weather, call 410-313-4451 after 5pm on the day of the show. Concessions sold 3pm until the end of the movie. Space limited. Arrive early and carpool if possible. Park gates close once capacity is reached. Bring a flashlight to help navigate to your seats and your car after the movie. For info., call 410-313-4700. June 26, 2019 (The Sandlot, PG, 1993), August 26, 2019 (TBD) https://www.howardcountymd.gov/adventureshack</p> <p>Cinemark Summer Movie Clubhouse (closest theater: Cinemark Egyptian 24 and XD, Arundel Mills Mall, 7000 Arundel Mills Cir, Hanover, MD 21076): A kid-friendly summer movie series that runs from May 27, 2019-September 8, 2019. Attend for only \$1 per person, per movie or purchase a ten-week series punch card for only \$5, while supplies last. Theatres and showtimes: https://www.cinemark.com/summer-movie-clubhouse# With one exception, showtimes at Cinemark Egyptian 24 start at 9:30 a.m. and run on Wednesdays and Thursdays during the summer.</p> <p>Columbia Lakefront Movies: https://www.columbiaassociation.org/events/lakefront-summer-festival/</p> <p>Family Fridays Under the Dome at the Robinson Nature Center Planetarium (6692 Cedar Lane, Columbia, MD 21044): A full-dome movie preceded by a family-friendly planetarium presentation. Registration/info: 410-313-0400. If still available, tickets will be sold at the front desk on the day of the program. \$3/ticket plus admission to the Nature Center. Suggested age is ages 7 and up. Please arrive 15 minutes early to be seated. https://www.howardcountymd.gov/RNC/programs June 7, 2019, 3:45p - 4:45p or 6:30 p- 7:30p (Featuring: Astronauts) July 5, 2019, 3:45p - 4:45p or 6:30p - 7:30p (Featuring: We are Aliens) August 2, 2019, 3:45p- 4:45p or 6:30p - 7:30p (Featuring: Stars)</p> <p>Merriweather Movie Nights, 2019 (Merriweather Post Pavilion, 10475 Little Patuxent Parkway,</p>

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<p>Movies (continued)</p>	<p>Columbia, MD 21044): July 7, 2019. Gates open at 5:30 pm and the show will start at 6:30 pm. Enjoy the animated adventure “Small Foot” (PG) under the stars. The concession stand will be open. Children are free with a paid adult admission, \$10/adult. The film is about 90 minutes long. Here is the link to purchase tickets: http://www.dcacc.info/mppmovies</p> <p>Outdoor Summer Movies in Ellicott City (Wine Bin parking lot: 8390 Main street, Ellicott City, MD 21043, 410-465-7802): Every Saturday from the end of May through September. Movie starts at 9 pm though August and at 8 pm in September. Be sure to check their Facebook page for weather updates or cancellations. Here is a link to the movie showings: https://winebinec.com/event/movie-night-wine-bin/ Free parking on Ellicott Mills Dr, Lot F, or at the Courthouse (you can walk down Court Ave to this part of Main Street).</p>
<p>Museums (Free)</p>	<p>African American Art Museum of Maryland (11711 East Market Place, Maple Lawn Community, Fulton, MD 20759, 301-490-6070): Small 1000 square foot Museum with over 400 items on display. Open Wednesday-Saturday, 10am-3pm. Other times are available by appointment for groups of 10 or more. Entrance to museum and a mini tour (if requested) is free. African American Experience Tour (by appointment only, includes hands on items such as musical instruments, stools, masks, etc.) is \$5/person. http://www.africanartmuseum.org/</p> <p>Baltimore Museum of Art (10 Art Museum Drive, Baltimore, MD 21218): “Free Family Sundays” with art projects for kids and families to do together. Hands-on fun is every Sunday from 2pm-5pm. Here is the summer schedule: https://artbma.org/events/family.html.</p> <p>Benjamin Banneker Historical Park & Museum (300 Oella Ave, Catonsville, MD 21228, 410-887-1081). Museum (Tues. – Sat. 10 am – 4 pm). Park (Sunrise – Sunset). https://friendsofbenjaminbanneker.com/</p> <p>B&O Railroad Station (3711 Maryland Avenue, Ellicott City, MD 21043, 410-313-1945): Be sure to follow the B&O Ellicott City Station Museum Facebook page for information on upcoming exhibits, events, and general museum information. . Closed on Monday and Tuesday. Wednesday (10am-2pm), Thursday (10am-2pm), Friday (10am-5pm), Saturday (10am-5pm), and Sunday (noon-5pm). https://www.facebook.com/ecborail/?ref=bookmarks</p> <p>Firehouse Museum (3829 Church Road, Ellicott City, MD 21043, 410-313-0420): Saturday and Sunday, 1pm-4pm. Docent-led or self-guided tours are available. https://www.howardcountymd.gov/HistoricSites#Tab_ModuleID_11674_TabID_1029</p> <p>Howard County Living Farm Heritage Museum (12985 Frederick Road, West Friendship, Maryland 21794.): Hiking, nature walk, horse, and bike trails are open 7 days week during daylight hours. Museum tours are available by request here: http://www.farmheritage.org/contact.html .</p> <p>Howard County Police Museum (Located in the Howard County Welcome Center. 8267 Frederick Road, Ellicott City, MD 21043, 410-313-1447): The museum is temporarily closed. https://www.hcpdmuseum.com/</p> <p>Smithsonian Institute in Washington DC is the world’s largest museum and research complex. All museums are free and increasingly have hands-on learning areas for children. https://www.si.edu/</p> <p>Walters Art Museum in Baltimore (600 N. Charles St., Baltimore, MD 21201, 410-547-9000): Free. Features a children’s play area in the basement and free art projects for kids every week.</p>

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(Free)	OPEN: Wed., Fri., Sat., and Sun. (10:00 am – 5:00 pm), Thursday (10:00 am – 9:00 pm). Check the website for a list of free or very low cost events coming up: https://thewalters.org .
Swimming	<p>Best Swimming Holes: Check out this site for the “Ten Best Swimming Holes” in Maryland: http://www.onlyinyourstate.com/maryland/swimming-holes-md/</p> <p>Columbia Association: The Columbia Association offers “Play” memberships that include pools, tennis, ice skating, and mini golf. There is a sliding scale membership available for income-qualified families. At full fee, the membership for a family costs \$67 for non-Columbia residents, and \$39 for Columbia residents. There is a free Sunday swim every month with a Columbia resident ID card. https://www.columbiaassociation.org/membership/membership-pricing/</p> <p>Roger Carter Community Center (3000 Milltowne Drive, Ellicott City, MD 21043, 410-313-2764): Daily fee: \$5.00/person. https://www.howardcountymd.gov/rccc</p> <p>Water Play at Home: If you want to stay home and enjoy some free fun, try having the kids wash the car, play in the sprinkler, draw with sidewalk chalk and erase it with water, or have a water balloon fight. Kid can also “paint” with a bucket of water and a paintbrush.</p>