

**Illinois State Rally
Lake Shelbyville
Agenda**

Lithia Springs

1989 State Hwy 16
Shelbyville, IL 62565-9378

Select sites 82 to 124

Check-in time is 5:00 pm and check-out time is 4:00 pm

Information: (217)774-3951

Getting There:

From Shelbyville, Illinois, go three miles east of Shelbyville on State Route 16 to County Road 2200E. Turn left and go two miles to County Road 1500N. Turn left again and drive 1.4 miles to the campground.

GPS Info. (Latitude, Longitude):

39.43444, -88.76
39°26'4"N, 88°45'36"W

Thursday, May 14th

Arrival Day – check-in time is 5:00 pm

Happy hour 5:45 to 6:45 pm – Getting acquainted

Dinner on your own

Friday, May 15th

9:00 am – Group Breakfast

Bring your own breakfast to cook on community grills.

We will eat together at common site.

Daily Activities:

10:00 am Bean bag tournament

Afternoon Tour of lake on float boat

See separate attached list of activities to select desired activity.

5:00 pm Happy Hour

6:30 pm Group dinner

Bring your own entrée and a dish or dessert to pass.

7:30 pm Campfire

Saturday, May 16th

9:00 am – Rally Breakfast – French toast, sausage, juice and coffee

Daily Activities:

10:00 am Bean Bag Tournament

Arthur Illinois is Amish country and is about 40 mile and 50 minutes away. On Saturday, May 16th in Arthur, are the following activities:

1. Amish Craft Market (10 -4 pm)
2. Touch a Truck (11-3 pm)
3. Chat Kingery Blue Grass Festival (2 to 7 pm)

Afternoon *See separate attached list of local activities to select desired activity.*

5:00 pm Happy Hour

6:30 Rally Dinner

Pork loin entrée will be provided; bring a side dish or dessert to pass.

7: 15 pm Region 5 Rally discussion

7:30 pm Campfire

Sunday, May 17th

Breakfast – on you own

Sunday Worship – on your own. *See separate attached listing of local churches.*

11:00 Rally wrap up and goodbyes.

Note: Site check out time is 4:00 pm

Available Activities

Boating:

Tour lake on [pontoon boat](#). [Lithia Spring Marina](#)

A boat can take 12 people; ½ day Friday rate for boat is \$115 (about \$10 per person for full boat)

Hiking:

Maps can be found at www.tinyurl.com/LakeShelbyville

Coon Creek Trail

0.7 Miles

Located in Coon Creek Campground, this .7 mile trail is self-guided. Among the highlights are a lookout tower, swinging bridge, and succession pond. A variety of trees, flowers, and ferns are identified along this truly scenic trail

Camp Camfield Trail

1.2 Miles & 5 Miles

These two trails are 1.2 and 5 miles. Both offer picturesque views of the lake and outdoor amphitheatres. These trails pass by ponds which are not only photogenic, but are also excellent fishing sites, as well. This trail system is designated a National Recreation Trail. A well designed mountain biking trail is also available in the area. Click [here](#) for CIMBA



Okaw Bluff Trail

1.2 Miles

Located at the entrance of the Okaw Bluff Group Camp, this 1.2 mile trail winds along a bluff overlooking the lake and next to a 100-acre wetland. It includes two photographic stands and a wetlands/waterfowl viewing stand. There are prime areas to view migrating waterfowl and shorebirds during the winter and spring migrating seasons.

Chief Illini Trail

11.3 Miles

A National Recreation Trail, this 11-mile trail is a scenic journey winding across rolling hills and prairies offering close-ups of the lake. The trail begins at Lone Point Campground and ends at Eagle Creek State Park. A trail camping shelter is available by reservation only and only available to hikers who hike the entire trail. Call 217-774-3951, ext 2 for details.

Little Chief Illini Trail

2.7 Miles

This trail is the first 2 miles of the Chief Illini Trail, beginning at Lone Point Campground and ends near Arrowhead Campground.

Wolf Creek Trails

For refreshing walks in the forests, Wolf Creek contains 7 hiking trails. For invigorating wintertime activity there is a 16 1/2-mile snowmobile trail, and for the equestrian there is a scenic 15-mile equestrian trail and a 16.5 mile snowmobile trail.

Eagle Creek Trails

Five marked nature trails for tranquil & refreshing sojourns in the forest, as well as access to the 11-mile Chief Illini trail for the more adventurous hiker and a 3-mile cross-country ski trail for invigorating wintertime activity.

Hidden Springs Trails

Opossum Hollow Nature Trail, 3/4 mile in length. The Big Tree Trail, 1 mile in length, features a sycamore 78 inches in diameter, one of the largest to be found in Illinois. Rocky Spring Trail, 3 miles in length. Seventeen miles of fire lanes also provide access to remote areas of the forest.

Chautauqua Auditorium

217) 774-5531

Chautauqua Auditorium, built in 1903, is one of the few left in the state. Shelbyville's Chautauqua Auditorium was at one time the entertainment center of the community. It is located on Northeast Ninth street (in Forest Park) in Shelbyville. The bowled floor provided seating for 5,000 and above the stage are Grecian statues designed by Robert Root. The interior floor space of the building is 15,000 square feet and there are no posts inside the structure. The roof is supported by a unique series of beams and supports in the ceiling. It is the largest building of its kind anywhere in the world and is included on the National Register of Historic Places. Famous speakers were William Jennings Bryan and Billy Sunday, and vibrant musicians and performers including the John Phillips Sousa Band. It is used for several events throughout the year. The 1st phase of restoration will begin in late August 2014. To learn about the restoration and fundraising, please visit www.shelbyvillechautauqua.com.



Memorial Sunken Garden

Forest Park was established in 1857 as the county fair grounds. In 1932 Forest Park was given to the city of Shelbyville. The Federal Civil Works Administration built a swimming pool and bathhouse, which replaced the old swimming hole, which is now the location of the Memorial Sunken Garden.

As part of an effort to beautify the park, Rev. Knapp and Stan Young researched sunken gardens and turned what had become an unsightly trash dump, into a place of beauty. They visited Bellingrath Gardens in Mobile, Alabama for inspiration.

Over the years park employees and concerned citizens have beautified and maintained the Memorial Sunken Garden. About nine years ago, park employees replaced two thirds of the terracing as the original stone had disintegrated. Trees which had been planted around the area had died and have been removed. It became apparent to the Garden Club that the area needed to be refurbished and brought back, as close as possible, to its original design and purpose. The garden is complete and is used for education, as a wedding venue, and for its beauty. To learn more:

www.memorialsunkengarden.org



Historical Sites

Lincoln Public Square Eternal Flame

The Lincoln Public Square & Eternal Flame houses the Soldiers & Sailors Monument, designed by local artist, Robert Marshall Root. The square was erected in 1907 in memory of the fighting men in the county.

The square also has a plaque in honor of Abraham Lincoln who practiced law in Shelbyville. A plaque for Horace Tallman, the inventor of the first mechanical pick-up hay baler also sits on the square. Flags are placed around the square from Memorial Day to Labor Day honoring those who fight for our country.

On July 3, 2002, an eternal flame was dedicated to the men and women who have served in past wars. The black granite base of the flame contains etchings, such as General Douglas MacArthur wading ashore in the Philippines in 1945, Marines raising the flag at Iwo Jima in World War II and Shelbyville resident August West.



Shelby County Courthouse

(217) 774-4421

In 1871, the Committee on Public Buildings reported to the County Board that the Courthouse (located on the Public Square) was too small and unsafe. In November 1872, voters approved the proposed new courthouse. The lot, just north of the Public Square, was purchased for \$800.00.

The building was built in 1879 (at a cost of \$72,987) and was dedicated on April 13, 1883. The courthouse is currently undergoing renovations to the exterior and interior of the building and installation of geothermal. The renovations are planned to be finished by 2013.

The upper courtroom, remodeled due to fire, houses historic paintings including Robert Root's depiction of the Lincoln-Thornton Debate in Shelbyville that launched Lincoln's national political career.

Courtrooms are open for viewing generally when court is not in session (free admission). Hours: 8-4 on weekdays. It is located on the corner of Main & Washington in Shelbyville.



Shelby County Historical and Genealogical Society

(217) 774-2260 or (217) 774-4082

Shelby County Historical and Genealogical Society is a library for researchers. There are historic artifacts on display. Built in 1892, the building was formerly the Shelby County Jail and sheriff's residence.

Hours: 5-7 pm Tuesdays and 9 am to Noon on Wednesday & Saturday. Donations are welcome. It is located on the corner of South First & Washington in Shelbyville.



Unique Attractions:

Best Wedding Chapel

(217) 774-7809

The Best Wedding Chapel is nestled in mid-west Illinois in the historic town of Shelbyville. Dedicated in the 1870's this former Catholic church features Gothic style architecture, 14 foot original stained-glass windows, and a 33 foot cathedral ceiling with a small archway separating the vestibule from the nave.

It is now the home & business of the Best family. This wedding chapel is available as a traditional, as well as non-traditional wedding, or vow renewal site. It is located at 159 N. Washington Street in Shelbyville.



Trick My Truck transformed Darrell Best's 1942 American La France Fire Truck into a mobile wedding chapel. The episode aired in early 2009 on CMT. September 2010, it made "Ripley's Believe It or Not!" and in 2012 the "Guinness Book of World records".

For more information, please call or visit www.bestweddingchapel.com.



Goat Tower

The only one in the United States, the Tower of Baa is a goat tower modeled after a tower that Dave and Marcia Johnson saw in a wine magazine from South Africa. The original goat tower was in Portugal.

Dave Johnson built this tower for his Saanen goats. The tower gives the goats shade as well as a place to climb that they would normally get in their native Switzerland. The tower is 31 feet tall and has 5,000 bricks with 276 spiral steps that encompass the tower. It is located on Wolf Creek Road.

1968 N 2500 E Road

Lat. N39 30.2, Long. W88 40.61



Pam and Bob Boarman Chevy BelAir Museum

(217) 774-4919

This museum opened in 2005 with Bob's private collection of Chevy's. The building is decorated in 50's sock-hop style with black and white checkered floors. The walls are lined with 50's memorabilia, Chevy clocks and neon signs. A jukebox takes you back to that popular time in history. The museum has eight vintage cars as well as a 1993 Indy Pace Car with only 28 miles on it. The museum was built so the cars could be in a controlled environment. Mr. Boarman restored most of the cars himself and has been collecting cars for over 25 years, reminding him of his youth. The museum is located at 224 West Main Street in Shelbyville. It is open Monday through Friday 8-7 pm and Saturdays from 8-6 pm.



Thompson Mill Covered Bridge

The Thompson Mill Covered Bridge was built in 1868 to span the Kaskaskia river. The road that the bridge is located on was once an important route between Effingham and Springfield.

This 157 foot bridge is one of only five covered bridges remaining in Illinois. It is the narrowest out of those bridges, with a width of only 10 feet, 7 inches. Although traffic is no longer allowed on the bridge, you can still drive up to see how the bridge was built and admire the natural setting. It is located 4 miles east of Cowden. Watch for signs on Rt. 128 in Cowden.

Village Hall 217-768-6326.



Wineries

[Vahling Vineyards](#)

(217) 6862-5409

[Willow Ridge Vineyards & Winery](#)

(217) 738-2323

Listing of Churches in Shelbyville Illinois

[First Presbyterian Church](#)

201 Chestnut
Shelbyville, IL
(217) 774-3624

[Immaculate Conception Catholic Church](#)

1029 East Northland Drive
Shelbyville, IL
(217) 774-3434

[Holy Cross Lutheran Church](#)

1201 N Chestnut St.
Shelbyville, IL
(217) 774-2952

Saint John Lutheran Church

RR 3
Shelbyville, IL
(217) 774-2481

St. Paul's Lutheran Church

1300 W South 3rd Street
Shelbyville, IL
(217) 774-2015

[Fellowship Baptist Church](#)

413 W North 5th Street
Shelbyville, IL
(217) 774-3636

First Baptist Church

1000 W North 6th Street
Shelbyville, IL
(217) 774-4582

Shelbyville First United Methodist Church

205 W Main Street
Shelbyville, IL
(217) 774-4131

Wesley Chapel United Methodist

RR 1
Shelbyville, IL
(217) 774-9586

[First Christian Church](#)

202 S Broadway St
Shelbyville, IL
(217) 774-2667

[First Assembly of God Church](#)

108 S Oak St
Shelbyville, IL
(217) 774-3277

[Cornerstone Community Fellowship](#)

2100 North Shelby County Rd
Shelbyville, IL
(217) 774-5526

[First Church of The Nazarene](#)

701 W North 3rd St
Shelbyville, IL
(217) 774-

[Shelbyville Christian Church](#)

200 N Hickory St
Shelbyville, IL
(217) 774-2716