



WESTCHESTER PUBLIC LIBRARY

Adventures in Kayaking

Over the past year, Westchester Library staff have done our very best not only to offer more frequent programs but more unique programs, as well. From free glasses at eclipse parties to flying drones to Chicago-Style hot dogs, we've wracked our brains trying to bring first-rate events to our community. It is in this same spirit that I am extremely excited to announce our coolest, most innovative program offering so far—**Kayak Adventures!**

That's right! Westchester Library is partnering with the Forest Preserve District of Cook County (FPDCC) on a "kayak gear library" project known as the **Greater Maywood Paddling Program**. This project was made possible by a CBS Eco-Media Grant. Its purpose is to celebrate the installation of a much-needed boat launch at Maywood Grove, located at Ohio Street and Des Plaines Avenue in Maywood, Illinois. As a community partner, the Greater Maywood Paddling Program will enable the Westchester Library to outfit our patrons with kayaking gear for part of the day and lead you on kayak adventures in local waters for **FREE**.

In April, four members of our Library staff received several hours of in-depth instruction directly from the FPDCC's outdoor recreation experts to become certified paddle leaders. This included safety and emergency procedures, gear training, weather and water level guidelines, and, most importantly, plenty of on-water practice. With this training now completed, our staff is certified and all ready to lead groups!

Programs will begin next month, so look for ads and announcements soon. We anticipate interest will be very high, so be prepared to register at your first opportunity. While registration limits will likely be met quickly, we will be offering these

programs well into the autumn season.

Groups will meet at the designated time and place where we will have full access to the FPDCC's kayak gear library. That means all necessary equipment will be provided free of charge, including solo and tandem kayaks, paddles, personal flotation devices, etc. Our paddle leaders will then train and guide groups of registered participants on their adventures.

While this is certain to be a super fun time and a great way to commune with our beautiful landscape during Illinois' Bicentennial Year, in some ways, it is not too different from what Westchester Library has always done: provide access. We provide access to books, music, movies, public computers, and now 3D printers. So why not kayaks?

Patrick Callaghan is the Adult Services Manager

Vacation Reminders

Memorial Day is the start of long, relaxing weekends and vacations. If you're going out of town this summer, ask our circulation staff about a "vacation loan" for any books you bring along. Also, make sure your Library card won't expire while you are away, in case you plan to download any ebooks or audiobooks from **MyMediaMall** or **Axis 360**.

Illinois Bicentennial Programs

FOSSIL HIKE FIELD TRIP



We invite you to join us for a field trip to **Sagawau Environmental Learning Center** in Lemont for a morning hike through a fossil quarry. Meet at Westchester Library at 9:00 am, and a bus will take our group to the site where we will learn about the formation of Silurian Sea fossils, visit an ancient coral reef, and go on a 1-mile hike to the quarry. Be sure to bring your sun screen, a hat, and bottled water! This program is limited to 37 people only. Reservations must be secured with a deposit (\$5 per person), which will be fully-refunded on the day of the program. This is an all-ages event, but children must be accompanied by an adult. (The bus will return attendees to the Westchester Library no later than 1:00 pm.)

SUNDAY, MAY 27 @ 9:00 AM

✓ **Registration and deposit are mandatory.**
Contact (708) 562-3573 (ext 3)



COMING SOON — KAYAK ADVENTURES!

Be sure to watch our website, Facebook page, and future newsletters for announcements about **FREE** upcoming on-water kayaking adventures!
You won't want to miss this opportunity — Details to come!

Summer Hours Begin Memorial Day Weekend

The Library will be **closed Sunday, May 27 and Monday, May 28** for Memorial Day, marking the start of our Summer Hours.



Summer Hours (through Labor Day)

Monday - Thursday 9:30 am-**8 pm**
Friday 9:30 am-6 pm
Saturday 9:30 am-5 pm

Closed Sunday

YOUTH PROGRAMS AT THE LIBRARY



Wednesday Movies

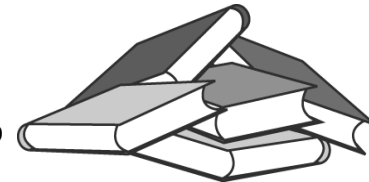
May 2: The Parent Trap
May 9: Coco
May 16: Ferdinand
May 23: Spirited **6:00 pm**

Summer Reading Programs

Youth & Teen

The **Youth** and **Teen** departments are preparing awesome Summer Reading programs to be announced in the June newsletter! Registration begins **Friday, June 1** downstairs in the Youth department. Summer reading events will begin **June 11**.

Page Turners Reading Club June 1 - July 31



Summer marks the start of the **Page Turners Reading Club**, open to any adult with a valid Westchester Public Library card! Participation is easy: when you finish reading a book (ebooks and audiobooks qualify also), fill out an entry form at the Circulation Desk or Adult Reference Desk so you can be entered into the drawing for prizes in August.



WESTCHESTER PUBLIC LIBRARY • 10700 Canterbury Street • Westchester, IL 60154
708-562-3573 • TTY/TDD 708-562-9364 • askus@westchesterpl.org • www.westchesterpl.org
Hours: Monday-Thursday 9:30 am-9:00 pm, Friday 9:30 am-6:00 pm, Saturday 9:30 am-5:00 pm, Sunday 1:00 pm-5:00 pm.
Library Director Fidencio Marbella • Board of Trustees John Lamberti, president, Gerald Chenski, Demitrus Evans, Jenice Hampton, Elizabeth Hunter, Janette Maldonado, and Fred Poppe • Board Meetings on 4th Monday of every month.