

# THE DETROIT RIVERFRONT

## 2025 EVENTS AND PROGRAMMING GUIDE



DETROIT  
**RIVERFRONT**  
CONSERVANCY



## Welcome to an exciting season on the Detroit Riverfront!

As one of Detroit's most beautiful family-friendly destinations, the Detroit Riverfront has something for everyone. Millions of people visit the riverfront each year for recreation and wellness, peace and solitude, excitement and fun and often to take part in our world-class programs and events.

This guide will be a useful tool in helping you make the most of your visit to the riverfront. In it, you'll find a complete list of programs and special events for the 2025 season, as well as a map and descriptions for each of the parks and greenways managed by the Detroit Riverfront Conservancy.

For more than 20 years, the Conservancy has led a tremendous transformation along the Detroit Riverfront and we're proud of the significant progress we've made so far. Looking to the future, we're excited as we continue marching toward our ultimate vision of 5.5 miles of revitalized riverfront from bridge to bridge and the grand opening of Ralph C. Wilson, Jr. Centennial Park in October.

A day on the Detroit Riverfront can be as relaxing—or as exhilarating—as you'd like it to be. Explore the Riverwalk. Marvel at public art along the Dequindre Cut and Southwest Greenway. Participate in a fitness program. Rent a bike. Play a game of chess. Or, immerse yourself in a good book on a secluded bench.

Enjoy your time here, and we hope to see you again soon.

Rachel Frierson  
Vice President of Operations & Programming



# THE DETROIT RIVERFRONT 2025 EVENTS AND PROGRAMMING GUIDE

PAGE 3



**RECURRING PROGRAMMING**

PAGES 5-6



**SPECIAL EVENTS**

PAGE 7



**RIVERFRONT MAP**

PAGE 9



**CULLEN PLAZA**

PAGE 10



**ROBERT C. VALADE PARK**

PAGE 11



**MT. ELLIOTT PARK**

PAGE 12



**GABRIEL RICHARD PARK**

PAGE 13



**DEQUINDRE CUT**

PAGE 14



**MAYOR DENNIS W. ARCHER GREENWAY / SOUTHWEST GREENWAY**



## RECURRING PROGRAMS • 2025

### MONDAY

#### Riverfront Herbal Walk Series

May 12, June 9, July 14,  
August 11, September 8  
5:30 to 7 p.m.  
Cullen Plaza

#### Volleyball at Valade with Come Play Detroit\*

May to October  
6 to 9:30 p.m.  
Valade Park

#### Mindful Mondays

July 7 - August 25  
7 to 8 p.m.  
Gabriel Richard Park

### TUESDAY

#### We Run 313 Two Mile Tuesdays

May - December  
6 p.m.  
Archer Greenway

#### Motown Roller Club Meet Up

May 6 & 27, June 3 & 24,  
July 1 & 29, August 5 & 26  
Learn to Skate 6 to 7 p.m.  
Group Roll 7 to 9 p.m.  
Valade Park

#### Detroit Volleyball Club Summer League\*

June 2 - September 16  
6 to 9 p.m.  
Valade Park

#### Detroit RiverWalkers\*

June 10 - August 19  
8 to 10 a.m.  
Cullen Plaza

#### Dance Fusion with Curtis L. Ivery Health & Wellness Education Center

June 10 - August 26  
6 to 7 p.m.  
Cullen Plaza

### WEDNESDAY

#### Wise Guys Chess Club Wisdom Wednesdays

March - October  
6 to 9 p.m.  
Valade Park

#### Work from the Park

May 21, June 18, July 16,  
August 20  
9 a.m. to 5 p.m.  
Valade Park

#### Zumba on the Greenway with Vámonos

June 4 - August 27  
5 to 6 p.m.  
Southwest Greenway

#### Unwind and Align with Urban Solace\*

June 11 - September 24  
8 to 9 a.m.  
Valade Park

*All dates and times are subject to change. For a full listing of events, dates, times and other information, please visit [detroitriverfront.org/things-to-do](https://detroitriverfront.org/things-to-do)*



#### Detroit DanceAbility Drop-In Workshop

June 25, July 23, August 27  
11 a.m. to 12:30 p.m.  
Cullen Plaza

#### Moonlight Yoga\*

July 30, August 13, August 27  
8 to 9:30 p.m.  
Gabriel Richard Park

### THURSDAY

#### Volleyball at Valade with Come Play Detroit\*

May - October  
6 to 9:30 p.m.  
Valade Park

#### We Run 313 5k/10k Thursdays

May - November  
6:30 p.m.  
Valade Park

#### Detroit RiverWalkers\*

June 12 - August 21  
8 to 10 a.m.  
Cullen Plaza

#### Yoga in the Park with Urban Solace\*

June 12 - September 25  
6 to 7 p.m.  
Milliken State Park

#### Reading & Rhythm on the Riverfront\*

July 10 - August 14  
10 a.m. & 11:30 a.m.  
Gabriel Richard Park

### FRIDAY

#### Zumba on the Greenway with Vámonos

May 23, June 27, July 25,  
August 29  
6 to 7 p.m.  
Southwest Greenway

#### Yoga in the Park with Urban Solace\*

June 13 - September 26  
10 to 11 a.m.  
Milliken State Park

#### Reading & Rhythm on the Riverfront\*

July 11 - August 15  
10 a.m. & 11:30 a.m.  
Gabriel Richard Park

### SUNDAY

#### Intro to the Detroit Riverfront Walking Tours

May 11 - August 31  
11 a.m.  
Cullen Plaza



\* Pre-registration required. Register at [detroitriverfront.org/things-to-do](https://detroitriverfront.org/things-to-do)

## SPECIAL EVENTS • 2025

### DEQUINDRE CUT SPRING CLEANUP

**Saturday, April 19**  
**10 a.m. to 1 p.m.**  
Dequindre Cut

### RAIN BARRELS ON THE RIVERFRONT\*

**Sunday, April 27**  
**12:30 to 3 p.m.**  
Gabriel Richard Park

### RIVERFRONT FISH FEST\*

**Saturday, May 3**  
**10 a.m. to 2 p.m.**  
Milliken State Park & Harbor

### LABYRINTH WALK

**Saturday, May 17**  
**1 p.m.**  
Gabriel Richard Park

### MOVIE NIGHT AT VALADE PRESENTED BY HURON- CLINTON METROPARKS

**Tuesday, May 20**  
**6 p.m.**  
Valade Park

### SOUND BOWL MEDITATION WORKSHOP

**Wednesday, May 28**  
**7 to 8 p.m.**  
Gabriel Richard Park

### DETROIT RIVERFRONT RUN\*

**Saturday, June 7**  
**10K 8:40 a.m. & 5K 9 a.m.**  
Cullen Plaza

### JUNETEENTH JUBILEE

**Saturday, June 21**  
**10 a.m. to 4 p.m.**  
Valade Park

### SHIMMER ON THE RIVER\*

**Thursday, June 26**  
**5 to 9 p.m.**  
Valade Park

### DETROIT YOUTH SPORTS SHOWCASE

**Saturday, August 16**  
**11 a.m. to 2 p.m.**  
Cullen Plaza

### EASTERN MARKET AFTER DARK

**Thursday, September 18**  
**6 to 10 p.m.**  
Dequindre Cut Freight Yard

### RALPH WILSON PARK GRAND OPENING

**October**  
Ralph Wilson Park

### DIA DE LOS MUERTOS CELEBRATION

**Saturday, November 1**

*Dates and times are subject to change. For a full listing of events, dates, times and other information, please visit [detroitriverfront.org/things-to-do](https://detroitriverfront.org/things-to-do)*

## RALPH C. WILSON, JR. CENTENNIAL PARK



Rendering of Ralph C. Wilson, Jr. Centennial Park

Opening in October of 2025, Ralph C. Wilson, Jr. Centennial Park is a vibrant urban green space that celebrates the city's waterfront and rich cultural history. Spanning 22 acres along the Detroit River, the park offers stunning views, beautiful tree-lined walking trails, and multiple recreational areas for visitors to enjoy.



This transformational space will feature four main zones, including the Delta Dental Play Garden, the Huron-Clinton Metroparks Water Garden, the DTE Foundation Summit and the William Davidson Sport House.

The Detroit Riverfront Conservancy will be hosting a grand opening celebration for Ralph Wilson Park this October. The community is invited to join the celebration that will feature musical performances, local food vendors, activities for visitors of all ages and fun for the whole family. To stay up to date with Conservancy news, including information about the grand opening of Ralph Wilson Park, subscribe to our email updates by scanning the code.





# RIVERFRONT MAP

**1 Southwest Greenway**  
See page 14.

**2 Ralph C. Wilson, Jr. Centennial Park**  
*Opening this October.*  
See page 6.



**3 Hart Plaza**  
1 Hart Plaza

**4 GM Plaza**  
300 Atwater Street

**5 Cullen Plaza**  
See page 9.

**6 Dequindre Cut**  
See page 13.

**7 Milliken State Park & Harbor and the Outdoor Adventure Center (OAC)**  
1900 Atwater Street (State Park)  
1801 Atwater Street (OAC)

**8 Aretha Franklin Amphitheatre**  
2600 Atwater Street

**9 Robert C. Valade Park**  
See page 10.



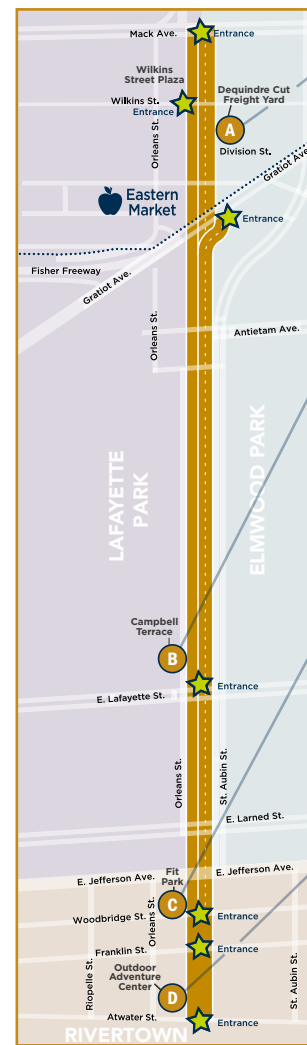
**10 Mt. Elliott Park**  
See page 11.



**11 Gabriel Richard Park**  
See page 12.

**12 Mayor Dennis W. Archer Greenway**  
See page 14.

## 5 DEQUINDRE CUT



## CULLEN PLAZA



### 1340 Atwater Street

Since opening in 2007, **Cullen Plaza** has become a popular destination for some of the most-visited attractions along the Detroit Riverfront, such as the Cullen Family Carousel, Bank of America Children's Playscape, Diamond Jack Boat Tours and Wheelhouse Detroit Bicycle Shop.

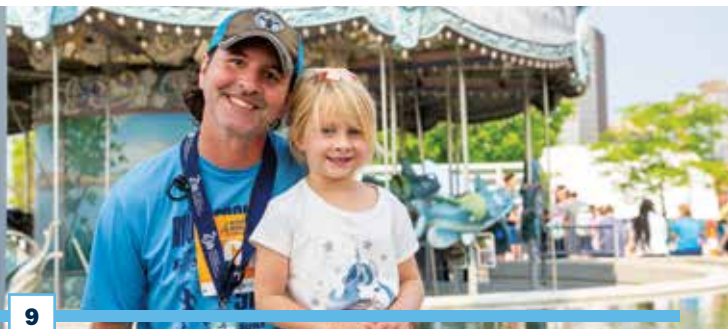
RIVERFRONT CAFÉ AND  
TIKI BAR

Please check website for  
hours (seasonal).



## AMENITIES

- Free parking in paved lot
- Plaza and partially covered pavilion
- Wheelhouse Detroit Bicycle Shop
- Diamond Jack Boat Tours
- Glass map of St. Lawrence Seaway
- In-laid granite map of riverfront
- Bank of America Playscape
- Cullen Family Carousel Open Memorial Day - Labor Day
- Bike repair station
- Reflecting fountains
- Riverfront Café and Tiki Bar
- Restrooms and drinking fountains
- Security office 24/7
- Free public WiFi



## ROBERT C. VALADE PARK



### 2670 Atwater Street

**Robert. C. Valade Park** is the newest park along the Detroit Riverfront. In late 2019, the park made its debut as a family-friendly destination that features a sandy beach, colorful playscapes, delicious food options, a barbecue pavilion, Detroit's only floating bar and more.



## AMENITIES

- Free parking
- Indoor/Outdoor seating
- Large, sandy beach and lush lawn
- Children's playscapes
- Sand volleyball
- Musical sensory garden
- Free public WiFi
- Community barbecue pavilion
- Restrooms and drinking fountains

VALADE CAFÉ  
& BOB'S BARGE

Please check website for  
hours (seasonal).





## MT. ELLIOTT PARK



### 110 Mt. Elliott Street

On a hot and sunny summer day, there's no finer place for free, family-friendly fun along the Detroit Riverfront than at **Mt. Elliott Park**. Among the park's attractions, the Gilbert Family Schooner is a universally-accessible shipwreck-themed splash pad that is open Memorial Day to Labor Day (weather dependent).

### AMENITIES

- Free parking
- Plaza and partially covered pavilion with seating
- Gilbert Family Schooner
- Fishing outlooks
- Bike repair station
- MoGo station
- Grassy picnic areas
- Restrooms and drinking fountains
- On-site security office
- Mt. Elliott Café  
Seasonal: Check website for hours.

## GABRIEL RICHARD PARK



### 7130 E. Jefferson Avenue

Perhaps the most tranquil of the parks located along the Detroit Riverfront, **Gabriel Richard Park** offers breathtaking views of Belle Isle and the MacArthur Bridge. Visitors to this lush park enjoy strolling through the colorful butterfly gardens or taking a contemplative walk through the paved labyrinth.

### AMENITIES

- Free parking in paved parking lot
- Christopher Stroh Plaza with partially covered pavilion and seating
- David K. Page Butterfly Gardens
- Birding scopes
- Bike repair station
- Winding paved labyrinth
- Fishing outlooks
- Gabriel Richard Fountain
- Restrooms and drinking fountains
- Community grills and picnic tables





## DEQUINDRE CUT



Between Atwater Street at the Riverfront and Mack Avenue in Eastern Market.

Formerly a Grand Trunk Railroad line, the nearly two-mile-long **Dequindre Cut** is a predominately below-street level greenway that runs parallel to St. Aubin Street between Mack Avenue and Atwater Street, just north of the riverfront.

### AMENITIES

- Blue Cross Blue Shield of Michigan Fit Park (Woodbridge entrance)
- Commissioned murals by local artists
- David Campbell Memorial Terrace (Lafayette entrance)
- MoGo station
- Bike repair station



Located between Division and Wilkins streets, the **Freight Yard** is a unique gathering space comprising nine repurposed shipping containers. For more information, visit our website. [detroitriverfront.org/DCFY](http://detroitriverfront.org/DCFY)



## MAYOR DENNIS W. ARCHER GREENWAY



Mayor Dennis W. Archer Greenway

The **Mayor Dennis W. Archer Greenway** provides east side residents with safe and convenient access to the Detroit Riverfront along a beautifully-landscaped paved pathway.

The greenway runs from Vernor to Jefferson and features a pedestrian plaza, benches, outdoor power stations and playscapes.

## SOUTHWEST GREENWAY



Southwest Greenway

The **Southwest Greenway** connects Ralph C. Wilson, Jr. Centennial Park with the Michigan Central mobility innovation district. Running along the historic site of May Creek and a former railway corridor, this path connects Corktown, Mexicantown, and communities throughout Southwest Detroit directly to the riverfront.

The Southwest Greenway is home to The Yard Graffiti Museum, an outdoor gallery dedicated to the preservation of the graffiti and underground history of this space.

Running from Bagley St. to Jefferson Ave., the greenway also features a play area with a zip line and climbing logs for younger visitors to enjoy.

For more information, visit our website.









DETROIT  
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CONSERVANCY

## PARK HOURS & INFORMATION

6 a.m. to 10 p.m. daily

[www.Detroitriverfront.org](http://www.Detroitriverfront.org)

 [detroitriverfrontconservancy](https://www.facebook.com/detroitriverfrontconservancy)

 [@DetroitRiverfront](https://www.instagram.com/DetroitRiverfront)



## ABOUT THE CONSERVANCY

The Detroit Riverfront encompasses over 7 miles of connected Riverwalk and greenways, including multiple parks and green spaces along the beautiful Detroit River.

The Detroit Riverfront Conservancy is a nonprofit 501(c)(3) dedicated to the establishment, improvement, operation, maintenance, security, programming and expansion of the Detroit Riverwalk and associated parks and greenways.

## HOW TO SUPPORT THE CONSERVANCY

The work of the Detroit Riverfront Conservancy is made possible through the support of people like you who use and love our parks and greenways, and want to help us continue our work. By making a tax-deductible gift to the Conservancy, you are not only playing a role in Detroit's revitalization, but also protecting our riverfront for future generations to enjoy. Visit [detroitriverfront.org/waystohelp](http://detroitriverfront.org/waystohelp)



Interested in volunteering your time? The Conservancy has numerous volunteer opportunities available for both groups and individuals. Visit [detroitriverfront.org/volunteers](http://detroitriverfront.org/volunteers) to learn more.

### DETROIT RIVERFRONT CONSERVANCY

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