

THE DETROIT RIVERFRONT

2024 EVENTS AND PROGRAMMING GUIDE



DETROIT
RIVERFRONT
CONSERVANCY

detroitriverfront.org



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 2024 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 2025 opening of Ralph C. Wilson, Jr. Centennial Park on the West Riverfront.

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. Enjoy some live music. 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
Senior Director of Programs and Public Spaces



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MAYOR DENNIS W. ARCHER GREENWAY/SOUTHWEST GREENWAY/RALPH C. WILSON, JR. CENTENNIAL PARK

RECURRING PROGRAMS • 2024

MONDAY

Herbal Walk & Talk

May 20, June 17, July 15,
August 19, September 16
6 to 8 p.m.
Cullen Plaza

Mindful Mondays

July 15, July 29,
August 12, August 26
6:30 to 8 p.m.
Gabriel Richard Park

Volleyball at Valade with Come Play Detroit*

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

TUESDAY

Detroit RiverWalkers*

June 11 - August 20
8 to 10 a.m.
Cullen Plaza

Motown Roller Club Meet Up

May 7 & 28, June 4 & 25,
July 2 & 23, August 6 & 27
Learn to Skate 6 to 7 p.m.
Group Ride 7 to 9 p.m.
Valade Park

Detroit Volleyball Club Summer League*

June 4 - July 22
6 to 9 p.m.
Valade Park

Zumba with Curtis L. Ivery Health & Wellness Center

June 11 - August 20
6 p.m.
Cullen Plaza

WEDNESDAY

Wise Guys Wednesdays Chess Club

6 to 9 p.m.
Valade Park

Black Bottom Live Music Series presented by D. Cipher

July 10 - August 14
6 to 9 p.m.
Campbell Terrace, Dequindre Cut

Tai Chi with Urban Solace*

June 12 - September 25
10 to 11 a.m.
Milliken State Park

Work from the Park

May 29, June 26, July 31,
August 28, September 25
9 a.m. to 5 p.m.
Valade Park

Detroit DanceAbility Drop-In Workshop

May 22, June 26, July 24,
August 28, September 25
11 a.m. to 12:30 p.m.
Cullen Plaza

Moonlight Yoga*

August 7, August 21, September 4
8 to 9:30 p.m.
Gabriel Richard 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*



THURSDAY

Reading & Rhythm on the Riverfront*

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

Detroit RiverWalkers*

June 13 - August 22
8 to 10 a.m.
Cullen Plaza

Yoga in the Park with Urban Solace*

June 13 - September 26
6 to 7 p.m.
Milliken State Park

Volleyball at Valade with Come Play Detroit*

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

We Run 313 5k/10k Group Run

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

FRIDAY

Reading & Rhythm on the Riverfront*

July 12 - August 16
10 a.m. and 11:30 a.m.
Gabriel Richard Park

Yoga in the Park with Urban Solace*

June 14 - September 27
10 to 11 a.m.
Milliken State Park

SATURDAY

Intro to the Detroit Riverfront Walking Tours

May 4 - August 31
1 p.m.
Cullen Plaza

SUNDAY

Pack Walk with Canine to Five

Every Third Sunday
10:30 a.m.
Valade Park



* Pre-registration required. Register at detroitriverfront.org/things-to-do

SPECIAL EVENTS • 2024

DEQUINDRE CUT SPRING CLEANUP

Saturday, April 20
11 a.m. to 1 p.m.
Dequindre Cut

RAIN BARRELS ON THE RIVERFRONT*

Sunday, April 21
12:30 to 3 p.m.
Gabriel Richard Park

STURGEON DAY

Saturday, May 4
10 a.m. to 2 p.m.
Milliken State Park & Harbor

SOUTHWEST GREENWAY HEALTH CRAWL

Saturday, May 11
11 a.m. to 2 p.m.
Southwest Greenway

"IGNORE THE NOISE" DOCUMENTARY SCREENING

Wednesday, May 15
6:30 to 8 p.m.
Valade Park

DEQUINDRE CUT FREIGHT YARD OPENING NIGHT

Friday, May 17
6 to 9 p.m.
Dequindre Cut Freight Yard

DRINKING WITH DOGS

May 21
6 to 9 p.m.
Dequindre Cut Freight Yard

DETROIT RIVERFRONT RUN*

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

KIDS FISHING FEST*

Sunday, June 9
Noon to 4 p.m.
Milliken State Park & Harbor

SHIMMER ON THE RIVER

Monday, June 10
5 to 9 p.m.
Valade Park



JUNETEENTH ON THE CUT

Wednesday, June 19
2 to 7 p.m.
Campbell Terrace, Dequindre Cut

DRINKS X DESIGN

Thursday, July 11
5:30 to 8:30 p.m.
Dequindre Cut Freight Yard

DETROIT YOUTH SPORTS SHOWCASE

Saturday, August 17
11 a.m. to 3 p.m.
Cullen Plaza

IF THE RIVER COULD SING

Thursday, September 12
6 to 8:30 p.m.
Valade Park

EASTERN MARKET AFTER DARK

Thursday, September 19
6 to 10 p.m.
Dequindre Cut Freight Yard

SOIRÉE ON THE GREENWAY

October
Dequindre Cut Freight Yard

DETROIT HARVEST FEST AND FOOD TRUCK RALLY

October
Dequindre Cut Greenway

MARATHON WATCH PARTY

Sunday, October 20
8 a.m. to Noon
Dequindre Cut Freight Yard

DIA DE LOS MUERTOS

Saturday, November 2
11 a.m. to 3 p.m.
Valade Park

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



* Registration required at detroitriverfront.org/things-to-do

RIVERFRONT MAP

1 Southwest Greenway
See page 14.

2 Ralph C. Wilson, Jr. Centennial Park
Opening in 2025
See page 14.



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.



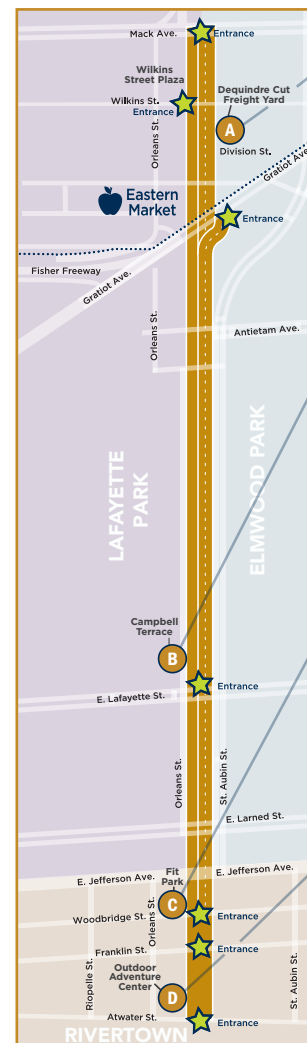
10 Mt. Elliott Park
See page 11.



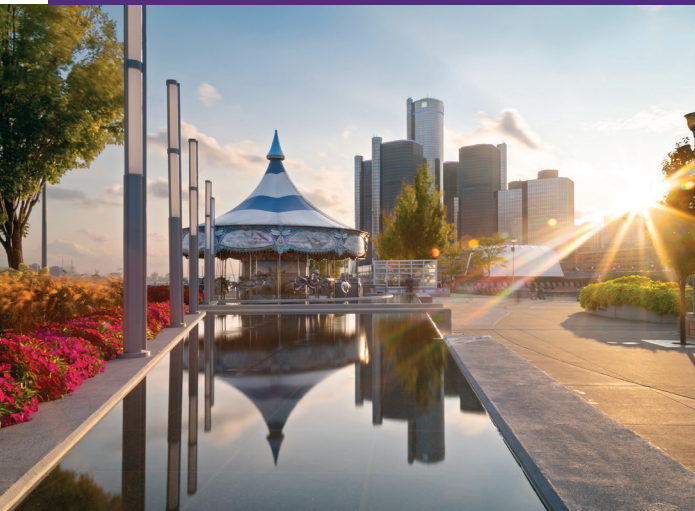
11 Gabriel Richard Park
See page 12.

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.

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 (*free!*)
Open Daily Noon to 7 p.m.
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

RIVERFRONT CAFÉ AND TIKI BAR HOURS

Riverfront Café:

Opens Friday, May 24
Mon - Tue 11 a.m. to 8 p.m.
Wed - Sat 8 a.m. to 9 p.m.
Sun 8 a.m. to 7 p.m.

Tiki Bar:

Opens Friday, May 24
Wed - Fri 4 to 9 p.m.
Sat 11 a.m. to 9 p.m.
Sun 11 a.m. to 7 p.m.



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
- **Café at Valade**
Beginning May 1
Wed - Sat 11 a.m. to 9 p.m.
Sun 11 a.m. to 7 p.m.
- **Valade Shed Bar + Bob's Barge**
Beginning May 1
Wed - Fri 4 to 9 p.m.
Sat 11 a.m. to 9 p.m.
Sun 11 a.m. to 7 p.m.

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 from 10 a.m. to 8 p.m. daily 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
Opens Friday, May 24
Wed - Sun Noon to 7 p.m.

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
- Plaza and partially covered pavilion with 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)
- Dequindre Cut Freight Yard Bar
Opening day Friday, May 17
Fri 4 to 10 p.m., Sat 11 a.m. to 10 p.m.,
Sun 11 a.m. to 8 p.m.
- MoGo station
- Bike repair station



Located between Division and Wilkins streets, the **Freight Yard** is a unique gathering space comprising nine repurposed shipping containers. Each Friday-Sunday from mid-May to mid-September, the Freight Yard features a wine and beer garden, food trucks and entertainment.



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.

RALPH C. WILSON, JR. CENTENNIAL PARK

1801 W. Jefferson

West Riverfront Park closed to the public in summer 2022 as the park prepares for its transformation into **Ralph C. Wilson, Jr. Centennial Park**, which will open in 2025.



Rendering of Ralph C. Wilson, Jr. Centennial Park



DETROIT
RIVERFRONT
CONSERVANCY

PARK HOURS & INFORMATION

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

www.Detroitriverfront.org



detroitriverfrontconservancy



@DetroitRiverfront



ABOUT THE CONSERVANCY

As the permanent stewards of the Riverwalk and the Dequindre Cut, the Detroit Riverfront Conservancy is responsible for raising the funds needed for the construction, operation, maintenance, security and programming of the public spaces located along the riverfront. The ultimate vision of the nonprofit Conservancy is to transform and revitalize 5.5 miles of riverfront from the Ambassador Bridge to Gabriel Richard Park, just east of the MacArthur Bridge to Belle Isle.

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



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

DETROIT RIVERFRONT CONSERVANCY

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