

## **Park Family Reunion, July 2016**

### **Blue Mound Day, Friday, July 15**

During the day on Friday, July 15, our reunion activities will be set in scenic Blue Mound State Park. Blue Mound is located about 25 miles west of Madison via US Highway 18/151. (See the Blue Mound website for directions.) AND, after the day at Blue Mound Park, some of you might want to stay in the area for an entertaining evening at the American Player Theater, an outdoor theatre located near Spring Green.

Here is an overview of our daytime event in Blue Mound State Park.

#### **Gathering place for our group**

We have rented an open-shelter with picnic tables for the day. The shelter will serve as our group's home base while we are at the park. We will have snack food, beverages and yard games set up at our shelter starting around 10:30 AM. There is also a playground in the picnic area. Here is a photo of our shelter (the only one in the park):

<http://dnr.wi.gov/topic/parks/name/bluemound/shelters.html>

#### **Picnic lunch**

**We'll serve lunch at 11:30 AM at the shelter.**

#### **Things to do**

##### **Swimming**

<http://dnr.wi.gov/topic/parks/name/bluemound/pool.html>

Blue Mound Park has a 1,950-square foot swimming pool and splash pad, newly renovated in 2015. The pool has a minimum depth of 3 feet and maximum depth of 4 feet. Bathrooms, showers and a changing area are available. Lockers for your belongings are also available, but you must bring your own lock.

The swimming area is open from **noon - 7 pm** on weekdays

Cost:

Ages 12 and under: \$1

Ages 13 and older: \$2

##### **Climbing the Observation Towers**

Observation towers are at the east and west ends of the picnic area. Each tower is 40 feet high. At the top of the towers, you can enjoy a panoramic view of the surrounding countryside hundreds of feet below. Trees on the north side of the picnic area, near the towers, have been trimmed to offer scenic views for those who cannot climb the observation towers.

##### **Hiking**

While all of the trails in the park are open to hiking, there are three trails designated as hiking-only: the Indian Marker Tree Trail, the self-guided Flintrock Nature Trail, and the Pleasure Valley Hiking Trail.

##### **Bicycling**

The park has 15.5 miles of challenging off-road, singletrack bicycle trails. A state trail pass is required of all bicyclists aged 16 and over (in addition to the vehicle admission sticker).

##### **Vehicle admission stickers**

<http://dnr.wi.gov/topic/parks/admission.html>

A vehicle admission sticker is required on all motor vehicles entering Blue Mound. You can buy your sticker when you get to the park or in advance. You can buy an annual sticker, for admission to all state parks and forests for the calendar year, or a daily sticker which is valid for the date of issue.

Rates for the day:

Vehicle with out-of-state plates: \$11

Vehicle with Wisc. license plates: \$8

Vehicle with Wisc. plates, resident age 65 and older: \$3

**General info about the park**

Blue Mound State Park is open from 6 AM to 11 PM daily.

For detailed info about the park, visit its website at

<http://dnr.wi.gov/topic/parks/name/bluemound/index.html>

Map:

<http://dnr.wi.gov/topic/parks/name/bluemound/pdfs/bluemoundparkmap.pdf>

For more information, contact Patty Park at [pattypark74@comcast.net](mailto:pattypark74@comcast.net) .