



# A museums crawl across Central Iowa...

Celebrate the history & culture of our small, rural communities; Share our heritage & history as we showcase 17 museums offering a look at our past.

**2016 Museum Days Live!**  
**September 24 & 25**  
**10 am – 5 pm**

Download a list of participating museums & information:  
[www.iowaheartlandrcd.org](http://www.iowaheartlandrcd.org)

Sponsored by Iowa Heartland Resource Conservation & Development, Inc.

## GENERAL INFORMATION

Plan your own self-guided tour through Central Iowa as you explore the unique history of our rural communities!

...Brought to you by Iowa Heartland Resource Conservation & Development & the Regional Cultural Council, a grant from the USDA and the University of Iowa.

Here's some tips to plan your own excursion(s):

**1. Museum Listings Designed to Maximize Your Tour.** Participating museums are listed alphabetically, as well as by county. We've also included a map of Central Iowa showing locations to aid in your journey!

**2. Times & Days Open.** Most museums are open from 10 am to 5 pm on Saturday, September 24th and Sunday, September 25th. However, be sure to check the participating museum listing for exact times and dates. There are some variations!

**3. Admission Fees & Complimentary Tickets.** Many museums are free, but a few do charge admission. Note that in the museum listings it will specify if two complimentary adult tickets are available. If so, go to [www.smithsonianmag.com](http://www.smithsonianmag.com) and search for Museum Day Live! The tickets must be printed out or downloaded prior to admission to your visit. (Note: You are only able to download tickets for one museum.)

**4. Get Your Passport Stamped & Win a Prize!** Pick up your passport at any participating museum; visit a minimum of 3 museums on the 24th & 25th; complete a survey; and enter to win an original watercolor by Iowa artist Laura Lengeling and a subscription to the Smithsonian magazine!

**5. For More Information.** Visit the various websites/Facebook page for each museum or go to [www.iowaheartlandrcd.org](http://www.iowaheartlandrcd.org) to download the brochure.

## Iowa Heartland RC&D | Regional Cultural Council

Ken Barthelman | Jasper Co. Historical Museum | Newton  
Cheri Doane | Central College | Pella  
Linda Klepinger | Centre for Arts & Artists | Newton  
Kevin Lair | Westbrook Artists' Site/ISU Instructor | Winterset  
Pete Malmberg | Dallas Co. Conservation | Perry  
Butch Niebuhr | Retired City Manager | Perry  
Chris Nolte | Madison Co. Health Care System | Winterset

The Iowa Heartland RC&D is a 501(c)(3) corporation serving the citizens of Dallas, Jasper, Madison, Marion, Polk and Warren counties for the purpose of improving the quality of life through economic development and resource conservation.

### Iowa Heartland RC&D Officers & Board of Directors

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Iowa Heartland RC&D Executive Director

For more information, visit [www.iowaheartlandrcd.org](http://www.iowaheartlandrcd.org).



## PARTICIPATING MUSEUMS

- 13 Coal Ridge Church & Museum
- 7 Colfax Historical Society Museum
- 1 Dexter Museum
- 2 Forest Park Museum
- 3 GAR Lodge & Museum
- 4 Iowa Fire Museum
- 10 Iowa Quilt Museum
- 8 Jasper County Historical Museum
- 11 John Wayne Birthplace & Museum
- 12 Madison County Historical Complex
- 14 Marion County Historical Society
- 16 Melcher-Dallas Coal Mining & Heritage Museum
- 15 National Sprint Car Hall of Fame & Museum
- 5 Redfield Museum
- 17 Runnells Historical Society
- 6 Voas Museum
- 9 Wagaman Mill & Museum



## DALLAS COUNTY

### Dexter Museum (1)

725 Marshall Street  
Dexter, IA 50070  
[www.dexteriowa.org](http://www.dexteriowa.org)

The Dexter Fall Festival is on the 24th - adding to this year's museum tour! A program on the White Pole Road is scheduled at 1:30, with exhibits highlighting the Bonnie & Clyde and the Dexfield Park Shootout, Harry Truman's visit to Dexter in 1948 and the Old Dexfield Amusement Park that opened in 1915. Hours: Saturday 10 – 5 | Sunday 12 noon – 3 pm. No admission fee.

### Forest Park Museum & Arboretum (2)

14581 K Avenue  
Perry, IA 50220  
[www.co.dallas.ia.us/Parks](http://www.co.dallas.ia.us/Parks)

The original 5 acre plot was developed in the 1940's by Eugene Hastie – farmer, author and local historian. The museum opened to the public in 1953 and features the electric Dynamo, believed by some to be a perpetual motion machine. Three new exhibits will be showcased. 10 m – 5 pm Saturday & Sunday. No admission fee.

### Grand Army of the Republic (G.A.R.) Lodge & Museum (3)

1213 Thomas Street  
Redfield, IA 50233  
[www.co.dallas.ia.us/Parks](http://www.co.dallas.ia.us/Parks)

The GAR Lodge is the only remaining building on its original site in Redfield. A devastating fire in 1900 leveled the entire block, other than the Lodge. It has been restored to its 1880's appearance. 10 am – 5 pm Saturday & Sunday. No admission fee.

### The Iowa Fire Museum & Fire Prevention Education Center (4)

1122 2nd Street  
Perry, IA 50220  
Facebook – Iowa Fire Museum

The museum collection spans over 5 generations of the Reynolds/Eiteman family (1889-present), with the largest collection of pre-1915 pictures from the Iowa Firefighters Association conventions. No admission fee.

### Redfield Historical Museum (5)

814 First Street  
Redfield, IA  
[www.redfieldia.com](http://www.redfieldia.com)

The museum preserves the history of one of the oldest and most colorful towns in Dallas County. Originally known as New Ireland, the community became famous for its high quality brick and tile production and for a unique natural cliff along the Raccoon River known as Hanging Rock. Stories of the colorful brick yard workers and many other events that took place in this unique part of Iowa are featured. No admission fee.

### Voas Museum (6)

19286 Lexington Road  
Minburn, IA 50167  
[www.co.dallas.ia.us/Parks](http://www.co.dallas.ia.us/Parks)

Features displays of rocks, fossils and minerals from around the world. Rare native elements, great quartz specimens are featured. 10 am – 5 pm Saturday & Sunday. No admission fee.

## JASPER COUNTY

### Colfax Historical Society Museum (7)

900 North Walnut Street  
Colfax, IA 50054  
Facebook – Colfax Historical Society & Museum

Take a step back in time when Colfax was known for its mineral springs, water, hotels and coal mines. See the antique souvenir collections of mineral water, “resort” hotels, bottles and more. Also featured is a coal mine exhibit and “close-to-nature” exhibit that later turned into the Monroe Table Company. No admission fee, but will accept free-will donations. Open Sunday Only – 10 am – 5 pm.

### Jasper County Historical Museum (8)

1700 South 11th Avenue West  
Newton, IA 50208  
[www.jaspercounty museum.com](http://www.jaspercounty museum.com)

“Best small museum in the country” according to a recent visitor. The museum has the best in- depth industrial history of the “washing machine center of the world.” No admission fee THIS WEEKEND ONLY, but will accept free-will donations.

### Wagaman Mill & Museum (9)

200 East Street  
Lynnville, IA 50153  
[www.lshawks.org/community/newsletters](http://www.lshawks.org/community/newsletters)

See hands-on demonstrations at an historic mill. Features a working wheel and turbine. No admission fee, but will accept free-will donations.

## MADISON COUNTY

### Iowa Quilt Museum (10)

68 East Court  
Winterset, IA 50273  
[www.iowaquiltmuseum.org](http://www.iowaquiltmuseum.org)

The Iowa Quilt Museum is the only museum in the state that is dedicated solely to the American Quilt and the art of quilting. Two complimentary adult tickets can be obtained by going to [www.smithsonianmag.com](http://www.smithsonianmag.com) and search for Museum Day Live!, with normal admission of \$6 for adults, \$4 children 3-12.

### John Wayne Birthplace & Museum (11)

205 S. John Wayne Drive  
Winterset, IA 50273  
[www.johnwaynebirthplace.museum](http://www.johnwaynebirthplace.museum)

Only museum in the country celebrating the life and movies of legendary film star John Wayne. Brief presentations will be made by Brian Downs, formally with the Chicago Tribune who interviewed John Wayne and helped develop the museum. Admission is Adults \$15 | Seniors \$14 | Children (8 – 12) \$8 | Children 7 & younger free.

### Madison County Historical Complex (12)

815 South 2nd Avenue  
Winterset, IA 50273  
[www.historyonthehill.org](http://www.historyonthehill.org)

Established in 1904, the complex has evolved into an 18 acre site, with 14 buildings. The crown jewel is the 1856 Bevington-Kaser House. A vast array of collections are on display. Two complimentary adult tickets can be obtained by going to [www.smithsonianmag.com](http://www.smithsonianmag.com) and search for Museum Day Live! Free admission on Saturday, with normal admission of Museum/\$3; House/\$3; Combo/\$5 on Sunday. Hours: Saturday – 11 am to 4 pm | Sunday – 1 pm to 5 pm.

## MARION COUNTY

### Coal Ridge Church & Museum (13)

1034 IA S71  
Knoxville, IA 50138  
[www.redrockarea.com](http://www.redrockarea.com)

Music will be played on the antique pump organ and the church piano at 11 a.m. and 3 p.m., provided by Dr. Davis Folkerts. An oral history of Coal Ridge (the lost village) and the church/museum will be given by Eunice Folkerts, with a complimentary booklet is available. The church building (on the National Register of Historic Places) is unaltered since it was built more than 105 years ago and displays pictures and scrap books documenting its story.

### Marion County Historical Society (14)

Marion County Park  
306 Willets Drive  
Knoxville, IA 50138  
Facebook – Marion County Historical Society, Knoxville, IA

Tour the museum building as well as an original school house, church, stage coach inn, log cabin, depot and replica of a general store. Period craft demonstrations will be featured. No admission fee for the tour. Free-will donations accepted.

### Melcher-Dallas Coal Mining & Heritage Museum (16)

101 NE Center (entrance on Main St)  
Melcher-Dallas, IA 50163  
Facebook – Melcher-Dallas Coal Mining Msm

Features a coal mining shaft, with museum celebrating the heritage of area. No admission fee.

### National Sprint Car Hall of Fame (15)

1 Sprint Capital Place  
Knoxville, IA 50138  
[www.sprintcarhof.com](http://www.sprintcarhof.com)

Learn about all things relating to sprint car racing! Two complimentary adult tickets can be obtained by going to [www.smithsonianmag.com](http://www.smithsonianmag.com) and search for Museum Day Live!, with normal admission to Museum of \$ . Hours: Saturday – 8 am to 6 pm | Sunday – 12 noon to 5 pm.

## POLK COUNTY

### Runnells Historical Society (17)

201 Brown Street  
Runnells, IA 50237  
Facebook – Runnells Historical Society

Located in a century old church, this building has served as a landmark in this community for years and now houses the museum. Open both Saturday and Sunday, with an ICE CREAM SOCIAL on Sunday, 1 – 4 pm. No admission fee.

