

NORTH LIBERTY'S **BEAT THE BITTER WINTER GAMES** AND GOOD CHEER



Get ready, winter. North Liberty's comin' for ya.

It's no secret lowans are bad at winter. So to combat their seasonal apprehensions, a committee of North Liberty residents brainstormed a new event, aptly named Beat the Bitter, aiming to get folks out of the house to interact with their community for some winter fun.



Thanks to the participation of local businesses, what started as a one-day event in February 2016 has since expanded into an entire week of games and festivities to celebrate the 2018 winter season. The festival offers more than 50 individual events, beginning with the Freezin' for a Reason Polar Plunge on Sunday, Jan. 28, to support Falco, the NLPD's

newest canine officer. The week's lineup also includes snorkeling lessons, beer dinners, scavenger hunts, table-top games, library programming, ladies nights, winter sports, and more for all ages.

The core events take place on Fire & Ice Friday, Feb. 2, with tons of free activities for people of all ages. Festivities will start in the afternoon with horse-drawn carriage rides, ice carvings, a meet-and-greet with literary characters, a community bonfire with s'mores, hot chocolate, and more. Activities new to this year's festivities include a wood carving, fire baton performances, tug of war, and a learn to curl demo on the Penn Meadows Ice Rink. Fire & Ice Friday culminates in a fireworks show at 7 p.m., catering to young families who can't stay out late.

Guests are also welcome to come watch Winter Games Saturday, Feb. 3, where community members will compete in curling, kickball and

JAN. 28 - FEB. 3, 2018 **FESTIVAL GUIDE**

broomball tournaments. And be sure to strap on a pair of skates for the newly introduced ice rink at Penn Meadows Park, open all season as weather permits with free skate rental provided by the North Liberty Recreation Center.

To check out the full list of affiliated events, visit beatthebitter.com. Embrace the winter season as a community, and be sure not to miss this once-a-year occasion.



STAY CONNECTED

 BeatTheBitter.com

 [beatthebitternl](https://www.instagram.com/beatthebitternl)

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

More than 50 events this week!

There's no excuse for not having something to do Jan. 28 through Feb. 3 in North Liberty. Throw hibernation out the window and embrace winter with the passion of a Norseman with activities for all ages. Here is just a highlight of what's on tap this week.

Visit BeatTheBitter.com for a full listing of events and event details. Some events require pre-registration.



FREEZIN' FOR A REASON POLAR PLUNGE • Jan. 28

Support the newest member of the NLPD squad, K-9 Falco, with an icy plunge into Centennial Park's pond.

ICE SKATING • Seasonal

Take advantage of Penn Meadows Park's 100-foot by 115-foot outdoor ice rink installed on top of the tennis courts.

NEARLY IMPOSSIBLE SCAVENGER HUNT • Jan. 28-Feb.3

Explore areas of North Liberty you know and some you aren't familiar with. Five items will be released online each day.



BEER DINNER • Jan. 29

Reserve a seat at Red's Alehouse for this 6-course meal carefully paired with their favorite brews. Tickets on beatthebitter.com.

INTRO TO HOMEBREWING • Jan. 30

Visit BIY Homebrew Supply located off of Ranshaw Way for an introduction to homebrewing beer and wine, with samples.

WE RUN SCAVENGER HUNT • Jan. 31

Enjoy a fun and exciting evening as the We Run staff challenges you to run or walk to find landmarks around the community.



FAT TIRE BIKE RIDE • Feb. 3

Join Sugar Bottom Bikes for a 20-mile off-road group ride. Mountain or cyclocross bikes will be required.

KICKBALL, CURLING AND BROOMBALL TOURNAMENTS • Feb. 3

These tournaments require pre-registration to play but make plans to come out to Penn Meadows Park to cheer teams on!

BOY SCOUTS ANNUAL CHILI SUPPER • Feb. 3

Enjoy homemade chili with all the fixings for only \$5. Proceeds support North Liberty Boy Scout Troop 216.

SNOW VOLLEYBALL • Feb. 1

Let's be honest: no one likes sand between their toes. Trade sand for snow and compete in J&A Tap's Snow Volleyball tournament.

FIRE & ICE FRIDAY • Feb. 2

Friday night is FREE family night at Beat the Bitter. Enjoy horse-drawn carriage rides, performances, fireworks and more!

5K-ISH OBSTACLE RUN • Feb. 3

Navigate a dozen obstacles in the tundra of Penn Meadows Park. All participants receive a finisher medal. Registration required.

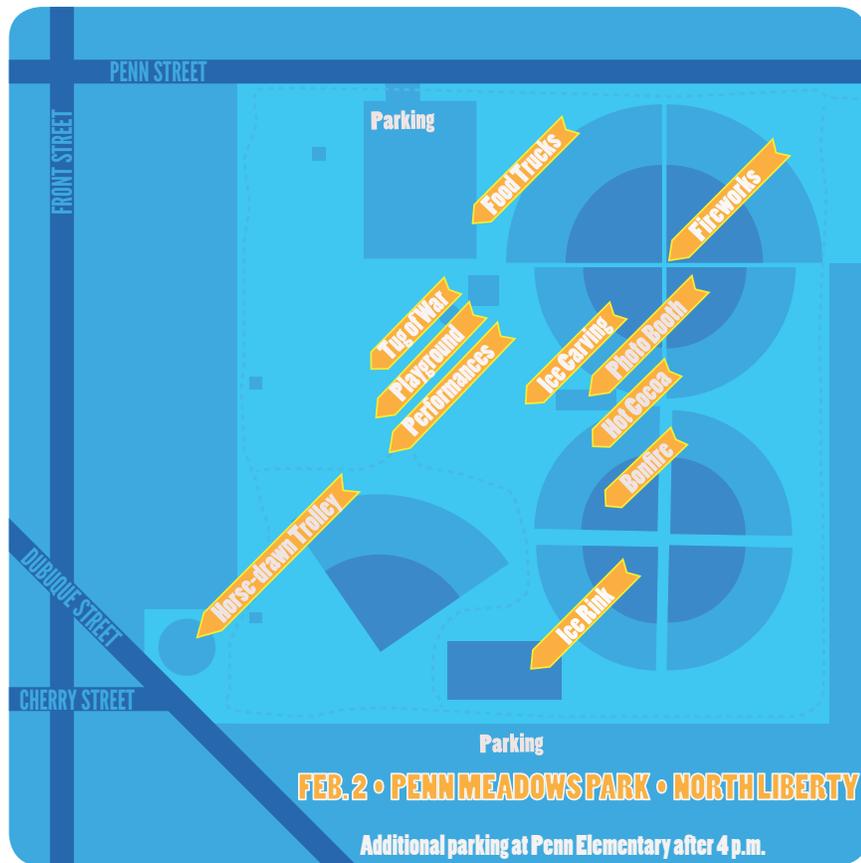


FIRE & ICE FRIDAY

FEBRUARY 2 • PENN MEADOWS PARK • 3-9 P.M.

Friday night is free family night for Beat the Bitter, and it's all about the fire and ice. Take a ride in a horse-drawn carriage, watch master ice sculptors in action, skate on the outdoor ice rink, warm up by the community bonfire, and more.

Bundle up and bring along blankets—or maybe even your sled to sit in—for a 15-minute fireworks show starting at 7 p.m! All events subject to change pending weather.



WHAT'S HAPPENING WHEN...

HORSE-DRAWN CARRIAGE RIDES • 3-6 P.M.
Take a magical ride around Penn Meadows Park.

CHARACTER MEET & GREET • 3-7 P.M.
Meet Chase from Paw Patrol!

KIDS PLAYGROUND • 3-7 P.M.
Let kids be kids on a winter playground.

ICE CARVING • 3-8 P.M.
Watch a master carver in action.

HOT CHOCOLATE • 3-8 P.M.
Enjoy a free cup from Adam Schechinger.

FOOD TRUCKS • 3-8 P.M.
Grab dinner at the park.

PHOTO BOOTH • 3-8 P.M.
Capture the fun at GEICO's photo booth.

ICE SKATING • 3-9 P.M.
Borrow skates to enjoy Penn Meadows Ice Rink.

WOOD CARVING • 4-7 P.M.
Watch a block of wood turn into a piece of art.

FIRE BATON PERFORMANCES • 4:30 & 6:30 P.M.
Enjoy performances from Ambition Baton Twirling.

COMMUNITY BONFIRE • 5-9 P.M.
Warm up around the bonfire—s'mores provided!

LEARN TO CURL • 6-8 P.M.
CR Curling Club is ready to teach you how to play!

TUG OF WAR • 6 P.M.
Go head-to-head with your neighbors.

FIREWORKS • 7 P.M.
Enjoy a 15-minute winter fireworks show!

VIEW A FULL SCHEDULE OF EVENTS AT BEATTHEBITTER.COM

