

## Summer – How Can it Work for You?

Prepare your vacation days – it's summer! Here at Community First, we, just like many of us here in the Great Lakes State, know that summer is one of the best seasons Mother Nature has to offer. We also know that making the most out of summer can quickly lead to a sore wallet.

For those who think that enjoying yourself in the summer months is too expensive, think again! There are a multitude of ways you can make the most out of summer without using up most of your cash. Not only can summer be used for leisure activities, but you can take advantage of the nice weather to do some projects around the house to help save money in the winter months.

### Free & Inexpensive Activities:

- Visit a State Park
  - \$17 – Purchase a Michigan State Park Passport (valid for 1 year)
- Go Camping
  - If you're traveling this summer, a night at the campground is much cheaper than a hotel
- Free Local Festivals
  - Multiple towns host summer festivals, which include free and low-cost entertainment for the family
- Visit the Beach
  - Here in Michigan, we are blessed to be surrounded by a plethora of public lakes

### Projects to Prepare for Winter:

- Caulking Windows & Doors
  - This simple project can help make your home more efficient to heat and cool
- Fill Cracks in your Sidewalk or Foundation
  - These can fill with water and crack once the temperature drops, leading to more structural issues
- Trim Overhanging Branches
  - Doing this will mitigate the risk of them falling on your house or cars
- Insulate Water Lines
  - Check to make sure your water lines are properly and entirely insulated. This will prevent your pipes from bursting

These lists could be ever growing and those were just a few ways you can make the most of your summer. Visit your community library or township office to learn about any free events in your area or any free inspection or maintenance services they might be offering.

More Resources:

- [State of Michigan](#)
- [Trip Advisor / Montcalm County Activities](#)
- [GR Kids / Free Things to Do](#)

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***This information has been prepared for general informational purposes only and is not offered as and does not constitute legal advice.***