

Allegan

Located on both sides of the Kalamazoo River, Allegan is one of the most picturesque sites in the state. The downtown waterfront, now called the Riverfront Plaza, was the inspiration for founding businessmen to establish a village in 1833. They considered the site a prime location for industry, due to its potential for water power and water-bound transportation and dense forests. By 1835, a dam and sawmill had been established and Allegan was part of the lumber trade.

Today, Allegan hosts 11 parks that vary from an active 63-acre sports complex to a peaceful pocket park that encourages local wildlife and enhances the beauty of its surroundings. Allegan Parks have been designed with both visitor and resident in mind, so there is something for everyone and a variety of activities for all ages.

Allegan is also home to one of the largest extant bridges. A simple ornamental-style, wrought iron bridge replaced an earlier structure at an ancient Native American ford across the Kalamazoo River. In 1983, the bridge was restored after citizens and City officials rescued it from demolition. For the project, Allegan received the National Historic Preservation Award, one of fifteen such honors in the United States.

Parks

Allegan is home to many beautiful parks that offer lots to do. Walk down Riverfront Park's boardwalk, which runs along the Kalamazoo River, or canoe or kayak around the Mill District. Throw the ball around at the Allegan Sports Complex, or let your dog run off-leash in Jaycee's dog park. Allegan's parks have something for everyone!



Spend the Day in Allegan



Stop by a park for a game or a picnic, and then stroll Allegan's picturesque downtown and stop in for some shopping at Allegan's many shops. Don't forget to get an ice cream cone or have dinner at one of Allegan's delicious restaurants.

For More Information



Please visit www.cityofallegan.org for more information on park amenities.

CITY OF ALLEGAN

Parks



Allegan's Parks

A GUIDE

1 Cook Street Park

This is a peaceful pocket park with a flowing creek and a path linking Cook and River streets.

Cook Street

2 Water Street Riverfront Park

This park includes a gazebo, a picnic table, park benches and a scenic boardwalk.

North of Water Street, along Kalamazoo River

3 Allegan Dam and Canoe Portage

The Allegan Dam and Canoe Portage is in the City's historic mill district. The dam, originally constructed in the late 1800s to provide water power and later electricity to saw mills, is a great place to fish or just sit and listen to the roar of the water. Portage your canoe with ease. Docks can be reached by an ADA-accessible walk and paved parking is available.

Mill District Road

6 Wellness and Sports Complex

This 63-acre park is a can't-miss for sports lovers. The park features four baseball fields, two softball fields, a batting cage, a football field, four soccer fields, a picnic shelter, playground equipment, full-service restrooms, a one-mile paved walking loop, and the future trailhead for a mountain bike trail.

At 29th Street and 114th Avenue in Allegan Township

5 John Mahan Park

This beautifully landscaped park features amphitheater-style seating that leads down to a gazebo/stage. Watch a town event from a picnic table, or grab a seat on the grass to take in a stunning sunset.

On Brady Street, east of Riverfront Plaza

4 Trestle Trail Park

This linear park runs parallel to Jaycee Park and a beautiful wetland preservation, with a picturesque pedestrian bridge that leads over the Kalamazoo River. The bridge is a converted railroad trestle bridge built around the turn of the 20th Century.

200 Monroe Street, adjacent to Jaycee Park

11 Jaycee Park

This park has something for everyone! Stop by the skate park, let your dog run off-leash at the dog park, play a game at the basketball court or game field, or try your luck fishing. Kids will love the Kid Kingdom playground. Picnic tables, restrooms, and other amenities are also available.

200 Monroe Street

10 Hanson Park

Visit this park for the views of the Kalamazoo River, stay for the new play structure. Launch your canoe or kayak from the new barrier-free launch, completed in June 2016.

Behind Griswold Auditorium at 401 Hubbard Street, west of Riverfront Plaza

9 Riverfront Park

Walk the 600-foot Kalamazoo River boardwalk from John Mahan Park to Hanson Park, with views of downtown, the historic bridge (which is illuminated at night), six river fountains, and a lily pond. Take in the views as you fish or have a picnic, and visit Veterans Memorial on the west end of the riverfront. Visit or even perform on the new stage and plaza area completed in 2015.

Parking at Riverfront Plaza

8 Sue Lange Memorial Park

This unique, lovely pocket park, with its formal garden, is the perfect spot to read a book or just listen to the bubble of the fountain.

Intersection of Marshall and Bond streets

