

# Channahon, Illinois Community Profile Overnight Itinerary



Incorporated in 1961, Channahon provides a thriving environment for families and businesses. A name given by the original Potawatomi inhabitants meaning "meeting of the waters," Channahon is indeed where the powerful forces of three rivers meet to form the heart of the Illinois & Michigan National Heritage Corridor. The Village of Channahon prides itself as being a family oriented, attractive community that provides economic diversity, high quality schools, parks and public services for all of its residents. Route 66 originally traveled through nearby Joliet until it was bypassed in 1940 with a new alignment that ran through Plainfield and Channahon. Portions of Route 66 in Channahon also parallel the I&M Canal (Illinois & Michigan Canal State Trail). The alignment of Route 66 went through the community during the 1940 to 1977 era. The population is 12,560 as of the 2010 census.



Channahon is located on the north side of the Illinois River, and has several access points that open up all kinds of fun on the water—boating, water skiing, fishing, or just relaxing near the

water's edge. There are also miles of hiking and biking trails along the historic I&M Canal, and plenty of woods and fresh air in their Forest Preserves. For the avid golfers, check out Heritage Bluffs Golf Course, and 18-hole award-winning course that's right off of I-55. And if you're looking for fun things to do with the kids during the summer, Channahon Park district has lots of great programs, and also runs the popular Tomahawk Aquatic Center.

#### **ATTRACTIONS:**



#### **Channahon State Park**

Channahon State Park provides the perfect historical experience for visitors of all ages. This 21-acre site was established in 1932 and is considered to be the official trailhead for the Illinois & Michigan Canal State Trail. In the park, visitors can tour Locks 6 & 7 and also the original locktender's house at Lock 6. It also features camping, picnicking, fishing, trail access and canoeing. An interpreter is on site four days a week to provide information. Public programs and tours are available as well as organized group and school group programs.

Story Street along the DuPage River

(815) 467-4271

Channahon State Park Official Website

#### **McKinley Woods**

This 525-acre preserve is home to a variety of plant species, the queen snake and over 99 bird species, such as the cedar waxwing, bald eagle, and purple martin. It offers a variety of amenities and activities, that include a canoe/kayak launch, access to shoreline fishing, geocaching and also 1.75 miles of paved trails on the peninsula that lead bicyclists, hikers, and cross-country skiers through woodlands and wetlands, with beautiful waterfront views. Kerry Sheridan Grove and Frederick's Grove are the two access areas to the preserve.

McKinley Woods Road

(815) 722-9470

McKinley Woods Official Website

#### Four Rivers Environmental Educational Center

Four Rivers Environmental Education Center rests within a picturesque setting. Nestled among oak trees and positioned where the Des Plaines, DuPage, and Kankakee Rivers meet to form the Illinois River. Four Rivers offers a stunning view of the outdoors and peaceful surroundings for conferences, banquets, weddings and more! Located at McKinley Woods and Kerry Sheridan Grove, this center offers a variety of public programs and events throughout the year, including nature programs and interpretive hikes.

25055 S Walnut Lane (815) 722-9470

Four Rivers Environmental Educational Center Official Website

#### **Briscoe Burial Mounds**

Briscoe Burial Mounds are among 20 to 25 of their kind along the Upper Illinois River Valley. These Native American burial mounds were constructed in 1200 to 1500 A.D., during the Mississippian Period. In 1940 and 1964 the mounds were excavated and revealed nine distinctive pieces of pottery and the remains of sixteen bodies. The mounds were restored and the bodies still remain there.

Front Street along the Des Plaines River (815) 726-6600

Briscoe Burial Mounds Official Website



# **Dollinger Family Farm**

At this 158-year-old family farm, visitors can take a walk through history and visit the old Catholic Cemetery on the hill, a place where many stories rest. This little part of the world also hosts one of the best Civil War Reenactments in the state. With over 500 reenactors, this experience is sure to make you relive a piece of American History. But that's not all, Dollinger Farms also hosts the world's largest obstacle race, the Warrior Dash.

7502 E Hansel Road

(815) 467-6766

**Dollinger Family Farm Official Website** 

#### **Heritage Bluffs Public Golf Club**

Heritage Bluffs is the pride of the Channahon Park District, and has been one of Chicagoland's highest rated golf courses since it opened in 1993. It offers a challenge for the serious player and fun for the more casual player across its rolling acres that offer scenic beauty unlike most Chicago-area courses. The tranquil surroundings make a day playing golf fun and relaxing. Heritage Bluffs is a Certified Audubon Cooperative Sanctuary and has received a 4-Star rating from Golf Digest magazine.

24355 W Bluff Rd (815) 467-7888

Heritage Bluffs Public Golf Club Official Website



# **Illinois and Michigan Canal**

History buffs, nature lovers and sportsmen will thrill to the sights and sounds of the 96-mile route of the Illinois and Michigan Canal. Along its banks are numerous state parks, restored historical sites, and abundance of wildlife and distinctive landscapes, ranging from bluffs to rolling hills.

(815) 942-0796

Illinois and Michigan Canal Official Website



# **Forest Preserve District of Will County**

Enjoy camping, picnicking, fishing, canoeing, hiking, bicycling, sledding, ice-skating and other activities.

17540 West Laraway Road (815) 727-8700

Forest Preserve District of Will County Official Website

#### **MAJOR EVENTS:**



**Dollinger Family Farm Civil War Days** 

Dollinger Farms hosts their annual Civil War Days in mid-October. Over 500 re-enactors participate in this annual event. Relive History with President Lincoln, or General Thomas. There are live horses, booming cannons, and a spectacular battle scene! Come experience a piece of American History at the "battlefield."

7502 E Hansel Road (815) 467-6766

Dollinger Family Farm Civil War Days Website

#### **Warrior Dash**

The Warrior Dash is billed as the world's largest running series. The course is held on challenging and rugged terrain, and participants come from all over to compete in feats of courage and strength, like sprinting over fire, trudging through mud and scaling at least 12 obstacles during this fierce 5K. From couch potatoes to novice runners to extreme athletes, Warrior Dash truly is an event for all athletic abilities.

7502 E Hansel Road 312-980-9983

Warrior Dash Website



# **Frosty 5 Mile**

Have an invigorating February winter run at the annual Frosty 5 Mile! Runners of all ages are invited to brave the cold. The first 250 runners will receive an official Frosty 5 Mile stocking cap. Runners are invited to stay after the race for pizza and awards.

24920 Sage Street

815-467-7275

Frosty 5 Mile Official Website



## Fierce Fiesta 5K Run

If you like Taco Tuesday or Fiesta Friday, then you should join the fun for a run through the scenic Heritage Bluffs Public Golf Club. With a few challenging hills to add to the fun, runners will be rewarded with a margarita, tacos and nacho bar! Runners will receive an official race t-shirt, food, entertainment and more!

24355 W Bluff Rd 815-467-7275

Fierce Fiesta 5K Run Official Website



#### **Athletico Firefly 5K**

The race is held during the Channahon Three Rivers Festival. There will be prizes for the top overall male and female finishers, top overall male/female residents and the top three finishers in each age category. Refreshments will be available after the race for all participants. 24935 W Sioux Dr.

815-467-7275

Athletico Firefly 5K Official Website



# **Three Rivers** Festival

Since 1990, this popular signature community festival has been providing entertainment while raising funds for local organizations. Featuring a carnival, beautiful baby contest, wine tasting, bean bag tournament, parade noon on Sunday, food booths, live music and entertainment are offered at this community wide summer festival.

24856 W Eames St

815-467-7275

Three Rivers Festival Facebook Page

## **AMENITIES:**



# Village of Channahon

24555 S. Navajo Dr. Channahon, IL 60410 (815) 467-6644

Village of Channahon Official Website



## **Channahon Park District**

24856 W Eames St. Channahon, IL 60410 (815) 467-7275

Channahon Park District Official Website



Heritage Corridor CVB Visitors Center - Joliet 30 N. Bluff Street Joliet, IL 60435 (815) 727-2323

Heritage Corridor CVB Official Website

Heritage Corridor Channahon Website

# **Channahon Accommodations**



Manor Motel 23926 W Eames St. Channahon, IL 60410 (815) 467-5385 Manor Motel Official Website

<u>Channahon EDC Dining Listings</u> <u>Channahon EDC Shopping Listings</u>

CLICK HERE - Channahon Google Map



# Illinois Route 66 Scenic Byway

700 East Adams Springfield, IL 62701 (217) 525-9308 info@illinoisroute66.org www.illinoisroute66.org