

Newcomers Guide to Huntsville

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Information adapted from the Huntsville Times Newcomers Guide 2008-2009
www.al.com/huntsville/newcomers/

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Welcome to the Huntsville/Madison County Area

UAH would like to welcome you to the Huntsville/Madison County. This guide serves as an Answer Book for your questions about the area. Included in this guide is useful information about getting settled in the area, as well as enjoying the many activities that Huntsville has to offer. While we have provided much useful information, if you have additional questions or concerns please do not hesitate to use the hyper-links provided in the book as well as other contact information listed.

Who to call

911 should ALWAYS be your first call in an emergency. It is the universal number to get help on the way quickly.

Non-emergency numbers

Huntsville Police Department: 722-7100
Huntsville Fire & Rescue: 722-7120
Madison Police Department: 722-7190
Madison Fire & Rescue: 772-7192
Madison County Sheriff's Department: 722-7181
County volunteer fire departments: 722-7171
Huntsville-Madison County Rescue Squad: 536-2720
HEMSI (Madison County's ambulance service): 722-7150
Alabama State Troopers: 533-4202
Alabama State Troopers, from cell phone: Dial *HP (*47)
FBI office: 539-1711
Marine police: 888-903-7659



Health Providers and Services

Student Health Services

Located in the University Center
Room UC 203
(256) 824-6775
By Appointment only 8:15-12 and 1:30-5pm
www.uah.edu/wellness/

Student Health Services provides on-campus health care for currently enrolled students. There is a small charge for office visits. Services include treatment for acute illness (ex: sore throat, cold and flu, stomach problems, sprains and strains, and gynecological needs), preventative health services (ex: pap smears, physical exams, and laboratory tests), health counseling, and testing.

Faculty/Staff Clinic

301 Sparkman Drive
Spragins Hall 127D
Huntsville, AL 35889
(256) 824-2100
www.uah.edu/clinic/

Hours of Operation: Patients are seen from 7:30am-11:30am Monday through Friday
Clinic is open from 7:30am- 4:00pm Monday through Friday
The faculty/staff clinic is on-campus healthcare for faculty and staff, as well as visiting scholars. Services include those of common illness as well as skin conditions, vaccines, and laboratory testing.

Public Health Services (covered by United Healthcare Insurance)

UNIVERSITY WALK-IN FAMILY CARE
501 Wynn Drive. 890-8700

AMERICAN FAMILY CARE
8151 Whitesburg Drive. 882-9711
4550 University Drive. 713-0560
7559 Hwy 72 West, Madison 562-0850

Huntsville Hospital

101 Sivley Road
Huntsville, AL 35801
(256) 265-1000
www.hhsys.org

Tertiary, acute and general care, trauma center, neurological intensive care, cardiac intensive care, MedFlight air ambulance, Kids Care critical care transport unit, FirstHeart coronary critical care transport unit, Comprehensive Cancer Institute, wellness centers, Huntsville Hospital for Women & Children with neonatal intensive care, 24/7 pediatric emergency and intensive care, Women's Center. 881 beds.

Crestwood Medical Center

One Hospital Drive
Huntsville, AL 35801
(256) 429-4000
www.crestwoodmedcenter.com

Acute care, Bariatric Center, Cancer care, Cardiology, Cardiopulmonary, Dentistry, Dermatology, Diagnostic services, Maternity Center, Surgery, Therapy services. 150 beds.

Health Department

256-539-3711
301 Max Luther Drive
Vaccinations, health information and other services. 8 a.m. to 5 p.m. weekdays.

Mental Health Center

256-533-1970
4040 S. Memorial Parkway
Treatment programs for all types of mental illness, emotional disorders, adult and adolescent substance abuse. Open 8 a.m. to 5:30 p.m. Monday-Thursday, 8 a.m. to 5 p.m. Fridays.



Huntsville Utilities: Water, Electric, Gas and Sewage

112 Spragins St. SW
 Huntsville, AL 35801
 (256) 535-1200

Huntsville Utilities is owned by the City of Huntsville and is the area's largest provider of residential and commercial water, electricity gas and sewage. Requirements to apply and set up a new account are:

- (1.) 2 forms of valid identification, such as a valid driver's license, military ID or social security card
- (2.) A \$300.00 deposit
- (3.) A \$60.00 non-refundable service fee



Driver Licensing and Vehicle Registration

Alabama Department of Public Safety

1115A Church Street
 Huntsville, AL 35801
 (256) 539-0681

<http://www.dps.state.al.us>

Hours: M-F 8:00am-Noon & 12:30pm-4:30pm

At the Alabama Department of Public Safety one may apply and test for an Alabama State drivers license, gain information regarding highway and traffic safety, criminal investigations, and missing children.



Public School Systems

Huntsville City Schools

200 White St., Huntsville
428-6800

www.hsv.k12.al.us

Superintendent: Dr. Ann Roy Moore

Registration: Kindergarten children must be 5 on or before Sept. 1, and first-grade children must be 6 or older on or before Sept. 1. To register, parents should bring to their neighborhood school: the child's birth certificate; the child's Social Security card; the child's Alabama certificate of immunization (blue form); proof of residency; and emergency telephone numbers. For more information, call pupil services at 428-6890.

Madison County Schools

1275-F Jordan Road,
Huntsville
852-2557

www.madison.k12.al.us

Superintendent: Dr. Terry Davis

Registration: Kindergarten children must be 5 on or before Sept. 1, and first-grade children must be 6 or older on or before Sept. 1. To register, parents should bring to their neighborhood school: the child's birth certificate; the child's Social Security card; the child's Alabama certificate of immunization (blue form); proof of residency; and emergency telephone numbers.



Public Libraries

Madison Public Library

130 Plaza Blvd.
Madison, AL 35758
(256) 461-0046

<http://www.hpl.lib.al.us>

Huntsville-Madison County Public Library

915 Monroe Street
Huntsville, AL 35801
(256) 532-5940

<http://www.hpl.lib.al.us>



Media in the Valley

Local Newspaper

The Huntsville Times
2317 S. Memorial Parkway
532-4000
www.al.com
Published daily

Local Radio

WAAO FM 103.7- Country

WRTT FM 95.1- Rock

WJAB FM 90.9- Jazz (A&M University)

WBHP AM 1230- News/Talk

WRSA FM 96.9 Adult Contemporary

WTKI AM 1450 Sports

KIH20 Huntsville's National Weather Service forecast and warning station.

Local Television

WHNT Channel 19 CBS (Columbia Broadcasting System)

WAAY Channel 31 ABC (American Broadcasting Company)

WAFF Channel 48 NBC (National Broadcasting Company)

WZDX Channel 54 FOX (Fox Broadcasting Company)

WHIQ Channel 25 PBS (Public Broadcasting Service)



Getting Around Huntsville

Air Travel

Huntsville International Airport
(256) 772-9395
www.hsvairport.org

Airlines that Fly into Huntsville International Airport

American Airlines
1-800-433-7300
www.aa.com

Northwest Airlines
1-800-225-2525
www.nwa.com

Continental Airlines
1-800-523-3273
www.continental.com

US Airways Express
1-800-428-4322
www.usair.com

Delta Air Lines
1-800-221-1212
www.delta.com

United Express
1-800-538-2929
www.united.com

Taxi Services

American Cab Company
2008 Triana Blvd SW
Huntsville, AL
(256) 536-9959

Huntsville Cab Co.
3401 8th Ave.
Huntsville, AL
(256) 539-9444

Rocket City Cab
2107 Holmes Ave. NW
Huntsville, AL
(256) 534-4524

Bus Transportation Services

Huntsville Shuttle

500-B Church St.
427-6811

M-F, 6 a.m.-6 p.m.

http://www.hsvcity.com/PublicTran/public_trans.php

Regular fare is \$1. Fare for people with disabilities, Medicare Card holders, children 6 and under and student with valid student ID is 50 cents. Transfers are Free.

The Tourist Loop (Trolley)

500-B Church St.
427-6811

Daily 6:40 a.m. to 6:40 p.m.

Saturdays 8:40 a.m.-7:10 p.m., Memorial Day through Aug. 9.

Downtown route free on weekends, 7 p.m.-2 a.m.

http://www.hsvcity.com/PublicTran/public_trans.php

Fare is \$1 per trip. All-day pass is \$2. Half fare is available for Seniors 60+ with medicare card, children under 6, students with valid ID and disabled.

Greyhound Bus Lines
601 Monroe St.
534-1681
www.greyhound.com/home/



Wi-Fi “Hot-Spots” Not an exclusive list; only a sample

UAHuntsville Campus free wifi available with uah login

Quiznos
4314 University Drive NW
Huntsville, AL 35816
(256) 712-6979

Fed Ex Kinko’s
4711 University Dr. NW
Huntsville, AL 35816
(256) 830-4959

Starbucks
3421 Memorial Parkway NW
Huntsville, AL 35810
(256) 851-1463

Books-A-Million
1001-7 North Memorial PKWY
Huntsville, AL 35801



Fine Arts Organizations

Museums

Alabama Constitution Village
Address: 109 Gates Ave. at Madison Street, just off the Courthouse Square in downtown Huntsville. Take Interstate 565, Exit 19 and go south on Jefferson Street five blocks.
Hours: Open Tues-Sat 10am-4pm (Mar-Oct). From the day after Thanksgiving through Dec. 23 open 5 to 9 p.m. for Santa's Village.

Closed Jan. and Feb.

Prices: \$12 for adults, \$10 for seniors 55 and over, \$10 Youth 4-17, \$5 for toddlers.

Phone: 564-8100

www.earlyworks.com

Explore Alabama's 200-year-old heritage as villagers in period clothing take time from their daily chores to guide you through eight reconstructed Federal-style buildings. Hear the whir of the spinning wheel, smell the aroma of freshly baked bread and help turn the great wheel lathe in the cabinet maker's shop. Purchase freshly baked cookies and browse among unique Alabama crafts in the Confectionery Shop.

Burritt on the Mountain - A Living Museum

Address: 3101 Burritt Drive. Take U.S. 431 (Governors Drive) east from city. Turn left onto Monte Sano Boulevard. Follow signs.

Hours: April through October, Tuesday through Saturday 9 a.m. to 5 p.m., Sunday noon to 5 p.m.; November through March, Tuesday through Saturday 10 a.m. to 4 p.m., Sunday noon to 4 p.m.

Closed Mondays, Thanksgiving, Christmas Eve, Christmas Day and New Year's Day.

Prices: \$8 for adults; \$7 for seniors, military, \$5 students (13-17); \$4 for children ages 3-12; Children 2 and under FREE

Phone: 536-2882

www.burrittonthemountain.com/

Burritt On the Mountain is a museum of regional history housed in the former mountaintop home of Dr. William Henry Burritt. The remarkable 14-room mansion built in the shape of an X in the 1930s is insulated with 2,200 bales of wheat straw. The Historic Park contains restored farm buildings that interpret rural life during the years 1850 through 1900. Nature trails wind through a forest. The grounds offer a panoramic view of Huntsville and the Tennessee Valley.

EarlyWorks Children's Museum

Address: 404 Madison St., at the intersection of Williams Avenue

Hours: Tues-Sat 9am-4pm all year. Closed Thanksgiving, Christmas Eve, Christmas Day and New Years day.

Prices: \$12 for adults, \$10 for seniors age 55 and over, \$10 for Youth ages 4-17, \$5 for Toddlers.

Phone: 564-8100

www.earlyworks.com

EarlyWorks is a history complex in the heart of downtown Huntsville. Children will like the 16-foot talking tree as it spins traditional folk tales, and touchable displays encourage creative, educational play. Special events are presented year-round for all ages. This area provides meeting and reception space for weddings, teacher workshops and corporate events. Making up the EarlyWorks history trio in addition to the museum are Alabama Constitution Village and the Historic Huntsville Depot.

Harrison Brothers Hardware

Address: 124 South Side Square

Hours: Weekdays 9 a.m. to 5 p.m., Saturdays 10 a.m. to 4 p.m.

Prices: Free

Phone: 536-3631

The landmark store, established in 1879, is a combination museum and operating business selling rocking chairs, hardware, garden ornaments, old-fashioned toys, souvenirs and gifts.

Historic Huntsville Depot Museum

Address: 320 Church St., Exit 19 (Jefferson Street) from Interstate 565

Hours: Tues-Sat 10am-4pm (Mar-Dec)

Closed: Thanksgiving, Dec 24 & 25, all of Jan & Feb, limited hours first 2 weeks of May due to Whistlestop

Prices: \$12 for adults, \$10 for seniors ages 55 and over, \$10 for ages 4-17, \$5 for Toddlers.

Phone: 564-8100

www.earlyworks.com

Built in 1860, the three-story Historic Huntsville Depot brick terminal is one of America's oldest railroad structures. Tour the building to examine Civil War graffiti and period artifacts. The tour begins with a brief multimedia history of Huntsville, and a robotic ticket agent describes working for Southern Railway at the turn of the century. Outside, climb on locomotives and ride the Depot Express around the spacious grounds. The Train & Trolley Shop offers railroad memorabilia for sale.

Huntsville Museum of Art

Address: 300 Church St. S., exit 19 off Interstate 565

Hours: **Closed Monday**, Tuesday, Wednesday, Friday and Saturday 11 a.m. to 4 p.m., Thursday 11 a.m. to 8 p.m.,

Sunday 1 to 4 p.m.

Prices: \$8 adults; \$7 for students ages 12-18, military and seniors; children ages 6-11 \$4, children under 6 and museum members free.

Phone: 535-4350

www.hsvmuseum.org

Tour the leading visual arts center in North Alabama. The museum has a growing collection of paintings, prints, sculpture and art objects. Five galleries accommodate changing original exhibits and traveling exhibitions. Educational programs include tours, art classes for all ages, art workshops and lectures. A gift shop offers art-related books, cards, posters and other items.

North Alabama Railroad Museum

Address: Chase Depot, 694 Chase Road; from Interstate 565 take Exit 19B, from Pratt Avenue turn north onto Meridian Street, 3

miles, turn east onto Chase Road.

Hours: Museum open May-September 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. daily for viewing, study and photographing. Museum staff present Wednesday and Saturday. Train operations April through November.

Prices: Guided tours on train days for adults \$4, children 6-11 \$2; train excursions adults \$12, children under 12 \$8; self-guided walking tour of depot and grounds, free.

Phone: 851-6276

www.suncompsvc.com/narm/

The North Alabama Railroad Museum makes it possible to relive the glory days of the iron horse. The site is at the crossroads of what once was the Memphis & Charleston Railroad and the Nashville, Chattanooga and St. Louis Railroad. The museum's depot and excursion diesel locomotive have been authentically restored. The renovated 1937 depot contains railroad memorabilia and a reference library. Enjoy an audio-visual presentation in a railcar and see the interior of a restored Railway Post Office car, a day coach and a Pullman sleeping car.

Sci-Quest

Address: 102-D Wynn Drive, exit 15 from I-565 to Old Madison Pike, right on Wynn Drive.

Hours: Monday -Friday 9 a.m. to 5 p.m., Saturday 9a.m. to 6 p.m., Sunday 11a.m. to 5 p.m.,

(Last Admission always taken one hour before closing)

Prices: Adults \$9, seniors \$8.50, children 3-18 \$8, children 2 and under free; admission plus Immersive Theater show adults \$12, seniors \$11.50, children 3-18 \$11, children 2 and under free; free for members.

Phone: 837-0606

www.sci-quest.org

More than 150 interactive science exhibits are designed to engage, educate and entertain. In addition to permanent and traveling exhibits, Sci-Quest offers education programs for children ages 4 through sixth grade. Groups visiting Sci-Quest can have an in-depth educational experience by participating in a Science Encounter demonstration.

State Black Archives Research Center and Museum

Address: Alabama A&M University, James H. Wilson Building

Hours: Monday through Friday 9 a.m. to 5 p.m., other hours by appointment

Prices: Donations

Phone: 372-5846

View exhibits, documents and artifacts on black history and culture and gain a greater awareness of the achievements, contributions and the role blacks play in the world. The museum strives to educate people on racial and cultural diversity.

U.S. Space & Rocket Center

Address: 1 Tranquility Base, near intersection of Bob Wallace Avenue/Sparkman Drive and Interstate 565, Interstate 565, Exit 15

Hours: 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. daily, closed Thanksgiving, Christmas Eve, Christmas Day, New Year's Eve and New Year's Day.

Prices: \$20 for adults, \$15 for children ages 6-12 for museum, and park. For the Imax Theater, \$8 adults and children ages 3-12

Phone: 837-3400, 721-7114, 800-637-7223

www.spacecamp.com/museum

This space attraction features interactive exhibits and simulators surrounding Apollo, Mercury, Gemini and space shuttle exploration, as well as artifacts. Rockets developed in Huntsville range from the U.S. Army boosters that put America's first satellite and astronauts in orbit to NASA's Saturn V moon rocket and the space shuttle. See the U.S. Space Camp Mission Center Complex where visitors conduct simulated missions. Feel the power of 4 G's of force aboard the Space Shot ride and the G-Force to experience three times the force of gravity.

Veterans Memorial Museum

Address: John Hunt Park, 2060-A Airport Road

Hours: Memorial Day to Labor Day, Wednesday through Saturday 10 a.m. to 5 p.m., rest of year Wednesday through Saturday 10 a.m. to 4 p.m., other hours by appointment

Prices: \$5 adults, \$4 seniors and \$3 for students under 18

Phone: 883-3737

www.memorialmuseum.org

View military memorabilia from 1776 to present with emphasis on the 20th century. Reminisce about military experiences. Group tours for veterans and students.

1819 Weeden House Museum

Address: 300 Gates Ave.

Hours: Mondays through Fridays 11 a.m. to 4 p.m.

Prices: \$5 for adults, \$4 for seniors, \$2.50 for children ages 12 and under

Phone: 536-7718

The Weeden House, built in 1819, is Alabama's oldest building open to the public. It is the birthplace of 19th-century poet and artist Maria Howard Weeden. This residence is the only home in the Twickenham Historic District open as a museum and is a superb example of Federal architecture with elaborate interior and exterior details.



Gardens

Huntsville Botanical Garden

Address: 4747 Bob Wallace Ave., between the U.S. Space & Rocket Center and Jordan Lane, take Exit 15 off Interstate 565.
 Hours: April-September: Monday through Saturday 9 a.m. to 6 p.m. (except Thursdays), Thursdays 9 a.m.-8 p.m., Sunday noon-6 p.m.; October through March: Monday through Saturday 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. and Sunday 12pm to 5 p.m.; closed Thanksgiving, Christmas Eve, Christmas Day, New Years Eve and New Year's Day
 Prices: March-November \$12 for adults, \$10 for seniors age 55 and over, \$8 for children 3-18, children under 2 free; December-February, \$10 adults, \$8 seniors, \$6 children; extra charge during the Galaxy of Lights
 Phone: 830-4447

www.hsvbg.org

The garden offers year-round festivals including the Spring Festival of Flowers in April, a summer exhibit with kids in mind, Scarecrow Trail in the fall and the nationally recognized holiday light show, Galaxy of Lights. The beautiful 112-acre garden has floral collections, inviting woodland paths and broad, grassy meadows. Annuals and perennials are ablaze with color from early spring through late fall. A brick pavilion is the focal point of the aquatic garden. The Tessman Butterfly House is a showplace for color on the wing June through September. A G-scale garden train winds through a bonsai forest. The fern glade and demonstration vegetable garden have interpretive labels. Shuttles with driver are available at no charge for those needing assistance.



Theater

Fantasy Playhouse Children's Theater and Academy

Address: Offices & arts center are at 3312 Long Ave., but plays are presented in the Von Braun Center Playhouse, 700 Monroe St.
 Phone: 539-6829

E-mail: fpacademy@knology.net

Tickets: Season and individual show tickets are sold. Call 539-6829.

For more than 40 years Fantasy Playhouse Children's Theater has been bringing the magic of theater to young people. Delightful costumes, elaborate scenery and plays that spark the imagination are standard fare at Fantasy. Children of all ages participate and so do many adults. Fantasy's production of Charles Dickens' "A Christmas Carol" is a Yuletide tradition in Huntsville. Fantasy also offers year-round theater classes for all ages and a Kindermusik program at its arts center.

Flying Monkey

Address: 2211 Seminole Drive

Phone: 479-2369

www.flyingmonkeyarts.org

Flying Monkey Arts Center is a not-for-profit community arts collective that encourages, supports and promotes events, workshops and studios featuring but not limited to music, film, theater, dance, puppetry, visual and performance art with a focus on experimental works for mature audiences.

Renaissance Theatre

Address: 1216-B Meridian St.

Phone: 536-3117

www.renaissancetheatre.net

Tickets: Typically \$12-\$14. For details, call 536-3117.

Located in a renovated old building in a mill village, Renaissance presents a diverse season of plays each year. Some are classics, and others are experimental works.

Theatre Huntsville

Address: Plays presented in the Von Braun Center Playhouse, 700 Monroe St., except for "Shakespeare on the Mountain," which is presented in the summer in outdoor venues such as the Monte Sano State Park Amphitheater. Mailing address is P.O. Box 654, Huntsville 35804. The office, hours by appointment, is at 1701 University Drive, Suite One.

Phone: 536-0807

E-mail: thhsv@hiwaay.net

www.theatrehsv.org

Tickets: There are a variety of ticket combination specials. Regular season shows are \$14 for adults and \$12 for seniors, students and active military. Call 536-0807 for details.

Theatre Huntsville, a nonprofit community theater, was formed six years ago with the merger of Huntsville Little Theatre and Twickenham Repertory Company. Each year, a variety of plays are produced, ranging from Shakespeare to Agatha Christie, Clare Boothe Luce and Larry Shue.



Music

Concerts in the Park (A Summer Event Only; May-September)

Address: All concerts are held outdoors near the Eternal Flame in Big Spring International Park downtown, 200 Church St. The Arts Council's office is in the Von Braun Center, 700 Monroe St.

Phone: 519-2787

Tickets: Free admission

This popular series of free outdoor concerts of diverse musical styles takes place each Monday through the summer from 6:30 to 8 p.m., with a special Labor Day concert from 6 to 9 p.m. Audience members bring chairs, blankets and picnics, or purchase snacks in the park. The concerts are a co-production of the City of Huntsville through its Division of Recreation and Landscape Management and the Arts Council.

Huntsville Chamber Music Guild

Address: Most concerts are at Trinity United Methodist Church, 607 Airport Road.

Tickets: For details on season or individual tickets, call 824-6540.

The Huntsville Chamber Music Guild, which will begin its 52nd season, began as an informal group of musicians performing for its own enjoyment. Today, it presents world-renowned artists and ensembles in top-quality recitals in conjunction with major educational residencies and encounters for students and teachers.

Huntsville Community Chorus Association

Address: Office at 3312 Long Ave. Stage musicals presented in the Von Braun Center Playhouse, 700 Monroe St. Concerts presented in the VBC Concert Hall.

Phone: 533-6606

Tickets: Call 533-6606 for information or to purchase season or individual tickets.

HCCA, the area's oldest performing arts organization, began in 1946; its name changed from Trichoral to HCCA in 1950. This nonprofit organization offers the best in choral music and musical theater. HCCA provides learning opportunities for children and young adults through scholarships and through sponsorship of the Huntsville Community Children's Chorus and the Madrigal Singers. There are opportunities for all ages to perform or work behind the scenes. Chorus membership is by audition, usually held prior to the fall season.

Huntsville Symphony Orchestra

Address: Von Braun Center, 700 Monroe St.

Phone: 539-4818

www.hso.org

Tickets: Season and individual concert tickets are sold to the Classical Series, Mainly Mozart Series and special events. Call 539-4818.

The Huntsville Symphony Orchestra, directed by Carlos Miguel Prieto, celebrated 50 years during the 2004-05 season. Huntsville is fortunate to have a fully professional orchestra whose members come from a number of cities throughout the state. Guest artists include such performers as Yo-Yo Ma and Art Garfunkel.



Dance

Community Ballet Association

Address: Office and studios at 800 Regal Drive. Performances are usually in the Von Braun Center Concert Hall, 700 Monroe St.

Phone: 539-0961

E-mail: info@huntsvilleballet.org

www.communityballet.org

Tickets: Sold through Ticketmaster outlets or by phone at 800-277-1700 or 551-2345. For more information, call 539-0961.

The Community Ballet Association is now in its 40th season of presenting dance in Huntsville. The ballet school and the Huntsville Ballet Company are housed in a building near Parkway Place mall. Top guest dancers, such as the Hubbard Street Dance Chicago and the North Carolina Dance Theatre, are brought to town. The ballet company's annual production of "The Nutcracker" is a local holiday tradition that usually sells out.

Alabama Youth Ballet Theatre

Address: 1405-C Weatherly Plaza. Performances scheduled for Merrimack Hall.

Phone and ticket info: 881-5930.

Troupe, ages 8-adult, schedules two performances annually - A Yule Tide Ballet in December that incorporates parts of the Nutcracker and other pieces, and the annual spring repertory performance in April. Performance are mainly ballet, but also incorporates jazz and modern. Directed by David Herriott and Keren Gibb.

North Alabama Dance Center

Address: Performances in the Von Braun Center Concert Hall, 700 Monroe St.

Phone: 837-8033

Tickets: Free admission

The troupe typically presents one public performance per year.



Recreation in Huntsville

Recreation leagues

Huntsville's recreational leagues are divided into four zones. Residents, both young and grown-ups alike, have plenty of choices when it comes to recreational play in the area:

www.hsvcity.com/recreation

Youth Sports

Football (American)

Registration: Last two weekends in July and first in August each year. Weight restrictions apply to age groups except for flag football (ages 5-6). Ages as of Aug. 1.

Freshman (7-8)

Sophomore (9-10)

Junior (11-12)

Basketball

Registration: Last two weeks in October and the first weekend in November each year. Available to boys and girls (8-under, 10-under, 12-under, 14-under, 16-under). Ages as of Sept. 1.

Baseball/Softball

Registration: Last two weekends in February and first one in March each year (8-under, 10-under, 12-under, 14-under, 16-under). Baseball age as of April 30, softball age as of Aug. 1.

Volleyball

Registration: Last two weekends in July and first one in August each year. Co-ed (10-under, 12-under, 15-under, 18-under). Ages as of Sept. 1.

Recreational soccer (football)

Registration: Last two weekends in July and first weekend in August each year (6-under, 8-under, 10-under, 12-under, 14-under, 16-under, 19-under). Ages as of Aug. 1.

Club soccer (competitive level) (football)

Rec. Plus (9-under, 10-under)

Premier (11-under, 12-under, 13-under, 14-under, 15-under, 16-under, 17-under, 18-under, 19-under)

Classic (11-under, 12-under, 13-under, 14-under, 15-under, 16-under, 17-under, 18-under, 19-under)

Hockey/ice skating

The Benton H. Wilcoxon Municipal Ice Complex at 3185 Leeman Ferry Road is one of the finest double rink facilities in the Southeast. Both surfaces are regulation NHL 200 by 85 feet and are used for hockey, figure skating and general public sessions. 883-3774

Adult Sports

Softball

Metro Kiwanis SportsPlex, 3590 Patton Road, 427-5792.

Spring, Summer and Fall Leagues: 10-game season, postseason tournament, season and postseason tournament trophies, teams provide game balls.

SportsPlex facility includes 6 lighted fields; 3 fields with 295-foot fences; 3 fields with 300-foot fences; electronic scoreboards; 2 concessions areas; intercoms to press boxes in dugouts; phones to the press boxes in dugouts; public address system on each field; playground equipment; two covered pavilions.

Baseball

19 and over

40 and over

Soccer

Volleyball

Tennis

Huntsville Tennis Center, 2305 Airport Road

The state-of-the-art center is located in John Hunt Park off Johnson Road. Features 24 clay courts (soft). Courts are lighted for night play.

Annual passes entitle members to unlimited play throughout the year.

Regular tennis rates are \$6 per person for two hours of play.

Reservations may be made up to a week in advance.

March: USTA Adult Spring League

June-July: Junior Team Tennis

July-August: USTA Mixed doubles

September-October: USTA Combo doubles

Hours: Monday-Thursday (8 a.m.-10 p.m.), Friday-Saturday (8 a.m.-8 p.m.) and Sunday (noon-6 p.m.)

The ball machine is available for use for \$10 for two hours of use. The \$5 court fee for non-members also applies. For unlimited use of the ball machine, an annual pass for \$100 is available. Call 883-3986 to make reservations.

Lessons: Range from \$21.50 for 30 minutes to \$45 for an hour, depending on the instructor.

Basketball

Adult Basketball League competition is at Berachah Gym at 3011 B. Sparkman Drive. Registration begins Nov. 1. The minimum 20-game season begins Dec. 1.

851-4010

Youth Services provides programs at these two centers:

Cavalry Hill Community Center 427-5800

Westside Community Center 427-5785

Recreation Programs

Basketball, martial arts, sewing classes, football, arts and crafts, field trips, volleyball, ceramics, seniors programs, piano lessons, aerobics.

Swimming

Natorium, 2213 Drake Ave., 883-3700.

Located in the Brahan Spring Park off Drake Avenue. It features 2 three-meter and 2 one-meter diving boards, and is 50 meters long by 25 yards wide. Facility has showers, lockers, sundeck, weight area and motorized roof that can be rolled back on warm days. The facility offers exercise classes and swimming and diving teams.

Prices: \$2 for adult or child, \$1 for seniors (65 and-over) and handicapped.

Monthly passes and family rates available.

Jim Williams Aquatic Center, 903 Monroe St., 427-5795

This renovated indoor facility located close to the Von Braun Center maintains a water temperature of approximately 90 degrees and is disabled accessible. Red Cross W.S.I. Lifeguarding, CPR and First Aid classes, water aerobics, aquatic exercise and swim classes for ages 6 months through adult are offered.

Dr. Richard Showers Sr. Pool, 4600 Blue Spring Road, 851-4003

Located inside the Dr. Richard Showers Sr. Center, it features 2 one-meter diving boards, a poolside hydraulic chair lift, is 25 yards by 15 yards, varies in depth from 3.5 feet to 12 feet and maintains a water temperature of approximately 84 degrees. Red Cross Swim Classes are available.

Community pools

Membership fee and dues required

Blossomwood: 1410 Woodmont Ave., 939-4860

Byrd Spring: Logan Drive, 882-1900

Camelot: 2443 Green Mountain Road, 883-6849

Chapman: 2099 Petus Drive, 539-9449

Greenwyche: 1200 Toney Drive, 883-8038

Hampton Cove: 2708 Hampton Cove Way, 533-3040

Jones Valley: 912 Tannahill Drive, 883-9492

Lily Flagg: 200 Lily Flagg Road, 881-9866

Monte Sano: 3609 Georgetta Drive, 533-0926

Mountain Springs: 905 Kennamer Drive, 539-7624

Piedmont: 509 Homewood Drive, 881-9727

Sharon Johnston: 783 Coleman Road, 379-9209

Sherwood: 518 Forrest Park Court, 837-2220

Whitesburg: 510 Sanders Road, 883-5847

Other recreational facilities

Brahan Spring Recreation Center, 3770 Ivy Ave., 883-3710

Cavalry Hill Community Center, 2900 Fairbanks St., 427-5800

Challenger Gym, 13555 Chaney Thompson Road, 883-3715

Fern Bell Recreation Center, 107 Sanders Drive, 883-3640

Hays Nature Preserve, 7153 U.S. Highway 431 South, 427-5116

Jaycee Community Building, 2180 Airport Road, 883-3728

Lakewood Community Center, 3601 Kenwood Drive, 851-4015

Max Luther Drive Community Center, 301 Max Luther Drive, 883-3903
 Merrimack Soccer Complex, 3501 Triana Blvd., 883-3903
 Optimist Recreation Center, 703 Oakwood Ave., 427-5775
 Scruggs Community Center, 600 Davis Circle, 427-5770
 Westside Community Center and Gym, 125 Earl St., 427-5785
 Skateboard Park, 200 Cleveland Ave. (behind Huntsville Depot), hours of operation: dawn to dusk.



Fishing, Boating and Jet-Skiing

Licenses: A resident fishing license is \$10.50 per year, and that covers all species. A separate saltwater license is required if you're saltwater fishing at the beach. Non-residents moving into the state must reside here at least 90 days continuously immediately prior to purchasing a resident license. Members of the U.S. military stationed in Alabama may purchase a resident license. Fishing licenses are valid for one year from date of purchase. There is a large fine for fishing without a license.

Boater license: Anyone born on or after Sept. 1, 1954, must successfully complete a state boater education examination and have the boater license designation on their driver's license. Failure to do so may result in fines if convicted of boating without a license. This also applies for jet-skiing.

Info: www.outdooralabama.com or the Alabama Department of Conservation and Natural Resources in Decatur at 256-353-2637.

Hunting/fishing

Licenses are available at most outdoors stores, tackle shops and at county courthouses.

www.dcnr.state.al.us

Phone: 334-242-3465.



Professional and College Sports

Huntsville Speedway

Track: Quarter-mile banked asphalt track.

Season: March-October

Location: 357 Hegia Burrow Road, off Hobbs Island Road.

Tickets: \$15 for adults, \$10 students (13-17), \$5 children (7-12), Free children 6 and-under are

Phone: 882-9191.

www.huntsvillespeedway.com

Racing: Late Model Stock Car, Super Modified, Street Stock, Mini-Stock, Hobby, Buzz, Hot Shots, Legends, Mod Lites, SuperTrucks competing on Friday nights.

Huntsville Dragway

Track: One-eighth mile concrete track.

Location: Located 7 miles northwest of Huntsville on Alabama 53.

Phone: 256-859-0807

www.huntsvilledragway.com

Weekly schedule (excluding special event weekends): Friday night Test & Tune, 6-11 p.m. military \$5, kids(12 and under) free, \$10 to watch or \$15 to run; Saturdays R&R Weekly Bracket Series, gates open at 3 p.m., time trials at 4:30 p.m., first round at 6:30 p.m., \$10; Midnight Madness, Saturday nights 9 p.m.-11 p.m., \$10 to watch or \$15 to race.

Children 12-and-under free.

Huntsville Stars

Double-A baseball

Season: April-first week of September

Tickets: general admission (\$8). Full season and weekend season tickets available. Other deals include a senior citizens' discount, an AAA discount, military, all-faith day and other special events that coincide with the days of the week.

Phone: 882-2562

www.huntsvillestars.com

Tennessee Valley Vipers

arenafootball2

South Central Division

Season: April-July

Phone: 256-518-6160

Huntsville Havoc

Ice hockey

Season: October-April

Tickets: Gold adult \$18, Gold youth, senior, military \$16; general admission adult \$13, youth, senior, military \$11. Season and group tickets available, as are 10-person, 4-person and 2-person ice suites.

Phone: 256-518-6160

www.huntsvillehavoc.com



Area Public Golf Courses

Huntsville

Becky Peirce Municipal Golf Course (880-1151), 2151 Airport Road, public and semi-private, 18 holes. Green fee range: \$18-\$22. Tee times suggested.

Harvest Hills Golf Course (890-0705), 791 Harvest Road, public and semi-private, 18 holes. Green fee range: \$20-\$24. Tee times not required.

Monrovia Golf Course (837-9469), University Drive and Jeff Road, public and semi-private, 18 holes. Green fee range: \$12-\$20. Tee times not required.

Robert Trent Jones Trail at Hampton Cove, Highlands and River courses (551-1818), public and semi-private, 36 holes, plus par-3 course. Green fee range: \$40-\$55 (yearly trail cards available). Walk anytime, tee times suggested.

Sunset Landing (464-5050), 346 James Record Road, public and semi-private, 18 holes. Green fee range: \$16-\$30. Tee times recommended.

Richland Golf Center (858-6622), 10028 N. Memorial Parkway, public, 9 holes. Green fee range \$5-10. Tee times not required.



Huntsville Shopping Centers

Madison Square Mall

Mall hours: Monday through Saturday 10 a.m. to 9 p.m.; Sunday 1 to 6 p.m.

Anchor stores: J.C. Penney, Dillard's, Sears

Total stores: 120, including eateries

Location: University Drive (U.S. 72) and Research Park Boulevard

www.madisonsquaremall.com

Parkway Place

Mall hours: Monday through Saturday 10 a.m. to 9 p.m.; Sunday 1 to 6 p.m.

Anchor stores: Dillard's

Total stores: 83

Location: 2801 S. Memorial Parkway

www.parkwayplacemall.com

Bridge Street Town Centre

Mall Hours: Monday-Thursday 10:00am-9:00pm; Friday-Saturday 10:00am-10:00pm; Sunday 12:00pm-7:00pm

Anchor Stores: New York & Company, Old Navy, ULTA, Westin Heavenly Spa, Barnes & Noble, Apple

Total Stores: 70

Location: At the corner of Old Madison Pike and Research Park Boulevard in the heart of Cummings Research Park

www.bridgestreethuntsville.com



Annual Events in the Valley

January

Dr. Martin Luther King Unity Breakfast: In celebration of civil rights leader Martin Luther King Jr.'s birthday, the Delta Theta Lambda Chapter of Alpha Phi Alpha fraternity sponsors its breakfast with a keynote speaker. Von Braun Center North Hall, 533-1953.

February

Annual Black History Month: Alabama A&M University Office of Information and Public Relations plans and sponsors a monthlong celebration, 851-5846.

Antique and Collectible Show and Sale: More than 60 vendors have rare toys, dolls, coins, books, military and sports memorabilia and other items. Jaycees Community Building, John Hunt Park, 880-0680.

Bridal Fair: Florists, carriage and limousine services, photographers and videographers, caterers, formal wear and dress shops and entertainment professionals offer tips and information about their services. Von Braun Center, 830-8300.

"Celebrating Black History Thru Jazz": Sponsored by the Tennessee Valley Jazz Society-Huntsville, www.tvjs.org.

Annual Boat and Watersports Show: The area's largest boating, water sports and fishing show. Von Braun Center South Exhibit Hall, 533-1511.

March

Huntsville Times Engineering and Technology Career Fair: The chance to learn more about career opportunities in high-tech fields. Bring resumes. Huntsville Marriott, 830-2222.

"Spring Burst" Hike Series: Discover wildflowers on free guided hikes of the Land Trust's most popular public trails. Land Trust of Huntsville & North Alabama, 534-5263 or www.landtrust-hsv.org.

NEACA Craft Show: The Northeast Alabama Craftsmen's Association sponsors three major shows each year. Von Braun Center exhibit halls, 883-2199.

April

Spring Festival of Flowers: Flowers bloom in profusion during this month long event at the Huntsville Botanical Garden, 830-4447.
Bonsai Show: The Bonsai Society answers questions and demonstrates styling and techniques at the Huntsville Botanical Garden, 830-4447.

"Spring Burst" Hike Series: Discover wildflowers on free guided hikes of the Land Trust's most popular public trails. Land Trust of Huntsville & North Alabama, 534-5263 or www.landtrust-hsv.org.

Panoply of the Arts: This is the city's biggest arts event, providing four days of visual and performing arts downtown. Big Spring International Park, 519-2787.

Spring Farm Days: The entire family can learn about how life on the farm used to be, featuring animals and demonstrations of traditional chores. Burritt on the Mountain - A Living Museum, 536-2882.

Huntsville Ballet Company's Repertory Program: Classical favorites and new works. Von Braun Center Concert Hall, 539-0961.

Folk Life Festival: The Village springs to life with 1800s arts, crafts and activities. Alabama Constitution Village, 564-8100.

May

Cotton Row Run: A 10K (6.2-mile) run through the city streets has become a Memorial Day weekend tradition. Downtown Huntsville, 881-9077.

Pilgrimage of Homes: The tour includes houses in the Twickenham, Old Town and Five Points historic districts, residential gardens, First Presbyterian Church, the Masonic Lodge and more. Historic districts, 533-5723.

"Spring Burst" Hike Series: Discover wildflowers on free guided hikes of the Land Trust's most popular public trails. Land Trust of Huntsville & North Alabama, 256-534-5263 or www.landtrust-hsv.org.

Spring Ice Skating Show: Local ice skaters of all ages and levels exhibit their talents. Municipal Ice Complex, 883-3774 or www.iceskate.org.

Cemetery Stroll: Huntsvillians don clothing of past eras to represent town fathers and mothers, most buried in Maple Hill. Maple Hill Cemetery, 256-533-5723.

WhistleStop Festival & Rocket City BBQ: Live music, a children's area and outside vendors, culminating with a barbecue cook-off. Historic Huntsville Depot, 256-564-8100.

Alabama Down Home Blues Festival: A musical event that features a variety of performers in an outdoor setting. John Hunt Park, 256-536-4312.

June

Black Arts Festival: Two days of music and crafts with an African-American flair. On the grounds of WEUP Radio, 2609 Jordan Lane, 837-9387.

Jazz on the Patio: Bring chairs and blankets and enjoy continuous music. Huntsville Museum of Art patio, 300 Church St., 851-7402.

Scottish Festival and Games: Highland games and other entertainment from the old country. Dublin Park, Madison, 772-9300.

Tours of Historic Three Caves: Walking tours of former quarry that's becoming a natural cave. Reservations required. Land Trust of Huntsville & North Alabama, 256-534-5263 or www.landtrust-hsv.org.

Shakespeare on the Mountain: The Bard's work performed in an outdoor setting. Monte Sano Amphitheater, 536-0807.

July

Caribbean Day at the Park: A day of Caribbean music, food, games and culture. The public is invited. 665-8100

City Fireworks Celebration: The rockets' red glare lights up Huntsville, and entertainment is featured on the ground in this Fourth of July holiday tradition. Ditto Landing, 256-883-8100.

Folk Music Festival: Burritt on the Mountain - A Living Museum. Traditional sounds on the mountaintop, 536-2882.

Glaciers Family Festival: Live music outside, a children's area, cookout, ice skating, broomball and prize drawing. Municipal Ice Complex, 883-3774 or www.iceskate.org.

Tours of Historic Three Caves: Walking tours of former quarry that's becoming a natural cave. Reservations required. Land Trust of Huntsville & North Alabama, 534-5263 or www.landtrust-hsv.org.

Women's Distance Festival: Women's 5K (3.1 miles) and men's 5K runs, 533-9977.

August

Twickenham Doll Show and Sale: Doll enthusiasts are able to find bisque and plastic dolls as well as vinyl and reproduction dolls. Huntsville Depot Roundhouse, 320 Church St. www.huntsvillealdollclub.com or 881-4809.

Huntsville Times Engineering and Technology Career Fair: If you're looking for a new career or a change, come professionally dressed and bring resumes. Huntsville Marriott, 830-2222.

Huntsville Sprint Triathlon: Run/bike/swim. Huntsville Running Park & Natatorium, 533-6862.

September

Northeast Alabama State Fair: Rides, games, agricultural exhibits and contests. Huntsville Jaycees Fairgrounds, September, 883-5252.

Mountain Dulcimer Festival: This music festival includes jamming, exhibits, sales and workshops. Burritt on the Mountain - A Living Museum, 536-2882.

Labor Day Monte Sano 10K and 5K: The 6.2-mile and 3.1-mile runs at scenic Monte Sano State Park are held the first Saturday of September. Monte Sano State Park, 461-8356.

Old Fashioned Trade Day: Here's the chance to turn back the calendar with a laid-back downtown street fair, flea market, crafts booths and food. Madison County Courthouse Square, 539-0097.

"Autumn Ramble" Hike Series: Marvel at the lovely North Alabama fall foliage. Free guided hikes led by the Land Trust of Huntsville & North Alabama, 534-5263 or www.landtrust-hsv.org.

Big Spring Jam: This three-day outdoor music festival provides acts to suit every musical taste from rock to zydeco, with performances on a half-dozen stages, along with a children's area, artists and food vendors. Big Spring International Park, 551-2359.

Big Spring Jam 5K & Fun Run: Begins at Church and Monroe streets, 427-5226.

Moon Over Three Caves Dance: The cave is beautifully lit for this event with food and entertainment. Land Trust of Huntsville & North Alabama, 534-5263 or www.landtrust-hsv.org.

Oktoberfest: This four-day festival features German and American music, carnival rides, food and beverages. Redstone Arsenal Parade Field, 876-5232.

Trail of Tears Motorcycle Ride: A national convoy of motorcycles retraces the route Cherokee Indians followed during their forced relocation. Spencer Square and Publix Shopping Center on Madison Boulevard in Madison, 536-3702.

Scarecrow Trail: As autumn chills the air, scarecrows come out during September and October at the Huntsville Botanical Garden, 4747 Bob Wallace Ave., 830-4447.

October

Madison Street Festival: Features arts, crafts, food, games and a parade. Downtown Madison, 895-0948.

Gem & Mineral Show: Hosted by the Huntsville Gem & Mineral Society, the show is for anyone interested in lapidary arts, geology, paleontology or rocks in general. Von Braun Center, 880-0623.

North Alabama International Festival: Free Festival of cultures coordinated by the International Society of Huntsville and UAHuntsville Departments held on the UAHuntsville campus, Shelby Center Atrium. Event includes a wide variety of performances, table displays, vendors selling international goods and enjoying quality family and friend time as they learned quite a bit about the Melting Pot that is North Alabama while rocking to the rousing entertainment. Contact Belinda Ong at (256) 824-6432 or ongb@uah.edu

Taste of Huntsville: Enjoy the finest foods from more than 30 local restaurants and caterers, U.S. Space & Rocket Center off Interstate 565, 551-2230.

"Autumn Ramble" Hike Series: Marvel at the lovely North Alabama fall foliage. Free guided hikes led by the Land Trust of Huntsville & North Alabama, 534-5263 or www.landtrust-hsv.org.

Indian Festival: Features a number of old-time events and educational activities. Burritt on the Mountain - A Living Museum, 536-2882.

Photo Flea Market: Photography equipment for sale and trade, sponsored by Southerland's Photo. Von Braun Center East Hall, 539-9627.

November

Under the Christmas Tree: A favorite Christmas charity that benefits the private Randolph School. Exhibit halls are transformed into a shopping mall. Von Braun Center North Hall, 881-1701.

Delta Zeta Arts and Craft Show: For the craftsman, it's a great place to sell creations; for the shopper, it's a good place to buy Christmas gifts. Von Braun Center South Hall, 726-9969.

Fall Harvest Festival: Features a number of old-time events and educational activities. Burritt on the Mountain - A Living Museum, 536-2882.

Veterans Day Parade: Starts at Lot K at Clinton Avenue, 876-5400.

Santa's Village: Visit Santa's house, reindeer in their stables and elves in the toy shop. Alabama Constitution Village, 564-8100.

Galaxy Of Lights Walk-Through Nights: Walk through the winter wonderland of holiday lights. No cars allowed. Walkers admitted until 8. Huntsville Botanical Garden, 4747 Bob Wallace Ave., 830-4447.

Galaxy of Lights: A drive through a gallery of Christmas scenes and other fanciful figures in lights. Huntsville Botanical Garden, 4747 Bob Wallace Ave., 5:30-9 p.m. Thanksgiving through New Year's Eve, 830-4447.

December

Candlelight Christmas: More than 400 candle sconces and luminarias light the 15-acre mountaintop around the mansion. Burritt on the Mountain - A Living Museum, 536-2882.

NEACA Winter Craft Show: This show offers good Christmas shopping. Von Braun Center South Hall, 883-2199.

Rocket City Tuba Christmas: More than 100 tuba, sousaphone, baritone and euphonium players perform traditional Christmas songs. Huntsville Museum of Art, 535-4350.

Rocket City Marathon: A 26-mile race through the southern part of Huntsville. The starting line is downtown, 828-6207.

Spirit of Christmas Past: A nighttime drive through downtown areas, guided by luminarias, and tours of beautiful old homes. Twickenham and Old Town historic districts, 534-0429.

Kwanzaa: Tradition and Creativity: Focuses on traditional artifacts and other arts and crafts that reflect the creative aspects of Kwanzaa. Nov. 1 through Jan. 1. State Black Archives Center at Alabama A&M University, 372-5846.

"The Nutcracker": Presented by the Huntsville Community Ballet with music by the Huntsville Symphony. Von Braun Center Concert Hall, 539-0691.

WAAY 31 Christmas Parade: Santa Claus arrives officially in Huntsville. Downtown Huntsville, 533-3131.

Madison Christmas Parade: The city's holiday parade with music, floats and fun. Downtown Madison, 772-9300.

Galaxy of Lights: Through Dec. 31 at Huntsville Botanical Garden, 4747 Bob Wallace Ave., 830-4447.



Maps of UAH and Huntsville

<http://www.uah.edu/map/>

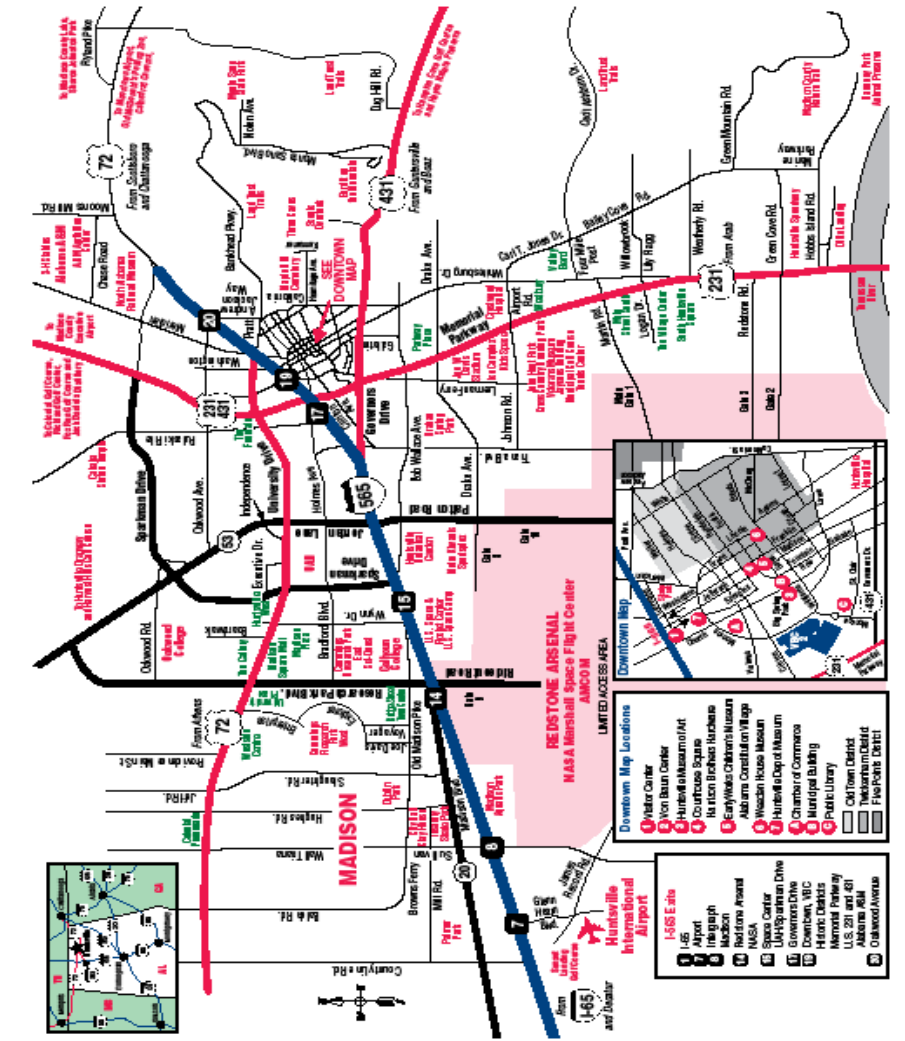


Huntsville City Map

<http://www.huntsville.org/>



HUNTSVILLE/MADISON COUNTY POINTS OF INTEREST



500 Church Street, Suite One • Huntsville, Alabama 35801 • 800.843.0468 • 256.551.2230 • Fax 256.551.2324 • www.huntsville.org

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Additional Informational Websites

<http://www.uah.edu> for information regarding the University of Alabama in Huntsville

<http://www.al.com/huntsville/newcomers/> for information on what to do and where to go

<http://www.accuweather.com> for Tornado watch, put in zip code – UAH is 35899

http://www.hsvcity.com/gis/greenways/greenways_main.htm - walks, cycle paths, etc