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They can get their free copy by “Liking” my Facebook pages: [1000ThingsToDo](#) OR [HallofFameMoms](#). Please send them to that link. Thank you!

For questions or inquiries about being featured or advertising availability in my (possible) fall-fun/back-to-school and homeschool guide email me at [halloffamemoms@gmail.com](mailto:halloffamemoms@gmail.com).



**Thank you for grabbing your free copy of my 2nd annual “Ohio Family-fun Summer Survival Guide”!** This guide will link you to so many wonderful Ohio family-friendly places to visit, read reviews and provide many ideas for some free and cheap summer family-fun.

Sometimes it just helps to “live” through someone else's visit to get a feel for what a place has to offer. Will it be a good fit for your family? Will it be worth your time and money? I hope the reviews linked to within this guide will help you make the right decisions for your family.

**What's new in the guide this year?** This year I've partnered up with several other talented resourceful Ohio bloggers. Be sure to take a few minutes to check out each of their blogs and see all they have to offer residents and visitors of our great state of Ohio! I also have a few advertiser/sponsors.

**You'll find special money-saving discount offers** from the following places: Amazone in Medina, the Great Lakes Science Center in Cleveland, the iShop Sites (where I have bought discounted family fun for my own family!) – PLUS, Fort Rapids Indoor Waterpark Resort in Columbus is giving away an overnight stay to help me kick off my new summer fun guide!

***Let's kick things off with lots of free and cheap things to do!***

## **Free, Cheap & Outdoors**

“Affordable” is getting to the heart and soul of family-fun for our family. All you have to do is look for your local parks, sprays, and splash pools. My sister-in-law has raved about what they have in the Columbus area. We live in NE Ohio so we are more familiar with places like [Stark Parks](#) in Stark County and we've gone hiking at the Gorge in Akron. My husband and I have been to Hocking Hills as well, years ago. As a family we've just begun discovering the [Ohio & Erie Canalway Tow Path](#). And don't forget the city parks.

*PACK A PICNIC LUNCH, PLENTY OF WATER AND SUNSCREEN,  
GRAB YOUR BIKES OR HIKING BOOTS AND GET GOING!*

[Cleveland Metro Parks](#)

[Columbus and Franklin County Metro Parks](#)

[Beech Creek Butterfly House](#) & Gardens in Alliance (See one of their [Sensitive Plants move here!](#))

**NE Ohio sprays and splash pools.** Find over a dozen [FREE places here](#) among a list of 40+ possible places to get wet and cool off.

**Over 40 FREE indoor and outdoor pools** in Cleveland.

[Baylor Beach](#) in Navarre

[Wood's Tall Timbers](#) in New Philadelphia

[Clearwater Park](#) in Uniontown

[Clendening Lake](#) in Freeport

[Salt Fork Lodge](#) and Marina in East Cambridge

## **Family time is incredibly important!**

**Money should never stop you from having quality family time. Here are some ideas to get you thinking:**

Backyard water-balloon wars or soggy-sponge wars (*mom and dad vs. the kids?*)

Yard sprinklers or your neighbor's pool ... lakes or creeks

Fishing & Bird-watching & Boating

Check with your [local library for activities](#) offered.

Scavenger hunts and picnics while hiking, walking, and bike riding

Bubbles and Side-walk Chalk

DIY projects/ crafts, build a clubhouse, bird house – Check at Lowe's and Home Depot for kid project events.



\*[Click here](https://www.k12.com/ohva) or the ad to visit K12.com/ohva



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[Click here](https://www.cantonwomensclub.com) or the ad to visit the Canton Womens Club.com. Read about my visit [there here](#).

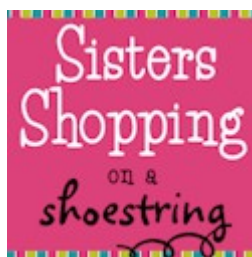


## Amusement Parks

Family-fun in Ohio doesn't always have to be costly, though usually there's no getting around shelling out some big bucks for the amusement parks. If places like Cedar Point, Geauga Lake, and King's Island are your thing and you want to cut costs I'd recommend packing your own food and drinks. For our family of four (kids being under 9 yrs of age) we have spent around \$20 for lunch inside the park. Here's a post I wrote about our visit to [Gauga Lake's Wild Water Kingdom](#) and our visit to [Cedar Point in 2012](#).

### **Tips for taking young children to amusement parks:**

1. Plan your day ahead of time. Download/print the park's map and get an idea of what rides are applicable to your family so you don't waste your time waiting in lines unnecessarily.
  2. Pack your own food for the trip to and from the park or to eat during your visit. **Check the park rules first.**
  3. Bring dry clothes! Especially for the little ones. A long ride home at night in wet clothes is not very fun.
  4. Pack sunscreen, hats, and sunglasses as well as LOTS of bottled water!
  5. If you're using the a/c in the car bring some blankets along to keep your sleepy angels cozy on the ride home. See my post below for more...
- **See all of my** [7 Tips for Enjoying Cedar Point \(& other Amusement Parks\) with Young Children](#)
  - **Traveling long distance with kids?** You might want to read [7 Tips about What to Pack when Traveling Far with Children](#)
  - **Got teens?** You might like to read this post by The Traveling Praters: [10 Tips for Keeping the Peace while Traveling with Teens](#).



Sara Steigerwald is the owner of Northeast Ohio's largest Coupon/Deal and Frugal site, [Sisters Shopping on a Shoestring](#) (.com) and Giant Eagle Deals (.com). You can find store match-ups, frugal living ideas, and FREE resources found in Northeast Ohio. Sara is also a wife and mother to two young girls ages 6 and 4. In addition, she teaches sixth grade full-time in the public schools. Sara is available for public speaking, classes, and media.



[Couponing With Rachel](#) - Hi my name is Rachel and I'm a stay-at-home mom to three boys here in NE Ohio. I've been "couponing" for over 5 years and it has completely changed the way I shop! I love to not only find great local and national deals but I also like to share them with others. I hope that you will follow along with me on the money saving journey. Along with being a wife and mother I also write a weekly frugal based article in two local papers, The Chronicle Telegram, and Medina Gazette, appear regularly on the show New Day Cleveland and teach local coupon classes.

## **Indoor Water Park Resorts**

If you prefer indoor water fun Ohio has lots to offer. We've personally been to a few and I'll share the links to my reviews and pictures below so you can check them out for yourself. Places like these are nice for family reunions too! Everything under one roof – with beds! The wonderful thing about the waterparks we've visited is they all have different themes making them unique. They all offer additional activities for the family besides the waterpark.

**The following links lead to my reviews and/or videos of our waterpark visits.** Please note that any giveaways mentioned in these posts are over. Any current giveaways on my blog will be found [here](#).

[Castaway Bay in 2013](#)

Castaway videos: [Walk around the resort with us in 2012](#) and [the kiddie pool area in 2011](#) (Sandusky)

[Splash Harbor 2013](#) in Bellville (near Mansfield)

[Fort Rapids Indoor Waterpark Resort 2012](#) (HUGE family suite review) in Columbus

[Fort Rapids](#) (room for 6 cabin review) 2011

[Great Wolf Lodge](#) in 2011 Sandusky

[Kalahari](#) – Sandusky (never been here)

[Maui Sands Resort and Indoor Waterpark](#) (NEW & planning to visit May 2013!) – Sandusky

**Our family has plans to visit and review Maui Sands very soon! You can [subscribe here](#) to get my emailed updates if you'd like to read that review once its posted.**

**Enter to win!**

To celebrate my 2013 Summer fun guide,  
Fort Rapids Indoor Waterpark Resort  
is giving away one overnight stay with waterpark passes!  
**GO HERE TO ENTER FOR A CHANCE TO WIN!**



**Canton Stark County**  
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great ideas for creating family fun:***

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## OHIO BLOGGER spotlight



Couponing In Birdland is a Giant Eagle centered coupon blog. Each week we do a coupon match-up for the weekly sales flyer for Giant Eagle. A match-up is a list of all the items in the sales flyer "matched up" with the newspaper or printable coupons available. The match-ups are ready for Thursday's sale on Monday, so everyone has plenty of time to get ready! We have a General [How To Coupon](#) lesson, and also a [Giant Eagle Coupon lesson](#) to get anyone started on the road to saving.

[Click here](#) to visit Ohio Festivals.

## OHIO BLOGGER spotlight



Kristian Campana is the blogger behind [OhioFestivals.net](#), a festival resource where he has documented nearly 250 of the over 750 festivals listed on his site.

Born and raised in Ohio (with some living in New York City and Italy), Kristian loves to travel, eat and meet interesting people, which is why this Ohio blogging adventure will only continue.

## Museums, Zoos, & Aquariums

Summer time is a great time to visit museums. There are so many options for buying memberships. Did you know there are some places (at least 2 that I know of) that offer a combined Zoo and Science reciprocal membership program? Over the years I have gone both ways: some years I've just bought a single science museum membership and other years I've bought a combined membership. Currently we are members through the McKinley Museum in Canton.

- See this list of [7 Ohio Zoos](#) w/ pricing to help you pick the best Zoo membership for your family.



The two places I know of that offer the combined reciprocal program would be Boonshoft (Dayton, Ohio) and CuriOdyssey (California). You get free and discounted admission to hundreds of zoos and science museums.

***TIP! See [this post](#) to find out the 2 places I know that offer combined zoo and science museum membership. And what I recommend you do before you buy any membership like this.***



# CLINTON COUNTY

*An open invitation.*

May 25  
Snappin' Asparagus  
& Strawberry  
Festival

June 15-16  
Summer Solstice  
Lavender  
Festival

August 16-17  
Wilmington Art  
& Pottery  
Festival

June 7-8  
Banana Split  
Festival

July 6-13  
Clinton County Fair

September 6-8  
Clinton County  
Corn Festival

[Click here](#) or click this ad to visit Clinton County Ohio.com.

**\* \* \* \* SEE OUR OTHER OHIO REVIEWS! \* \* \* \***

[COLUMBUS FAMILY FUN](#)

[SANDUSKY FAMILY FUN](#)

[CLEVELAND FAMILY FUN](#)

[CANTON FAMILY FUN](#)

[GALLIPOLIS FAMILY TRIP](#)

[LAKE ERIE ISLANDS](#)



My name is Amanda K and I run the [One Momma Saving Money](#) website. I have two children, a 7 year old daughter and 5 year old son and I've been married to my husband for 12 years. I started my blog to share the coupon strategies and deals I've learned over the years. I do local store match up, recipes, crafts, reviews, giveaways and so much more. I also share Ohio family fun events, activities and even some giveaways! Head on over and take a look! Check out Amanda's list of [Ohio drive-in theaters](#) here.

## **Sandusky Fun**

[Lake Erie Shores and Islands](#) provides a **FREE discount card** to save you money on many things and a way to create an Itinerary to schedule your fun. [Go here](#) and print out your card and check everything out!

We spent a weekend in June 2012 exploring the Lake Erie Islands of South Bass (Put 'n Bay) and Kelleys. You can see my four part series about the family-friendly (no drinking/partying) fun we found.

[Part 1: The Islands we Visited](#) (introduction)

[Part 2: Marblehead & the Ferry](#)

[Part 3: Kellys Island & Camp Patmos](#)

[Part 4: Family-friendly on Put 'n Bay](#)

***OUR FAMILY IS PLANNING TO REVIEW THE NEW  
MAUI SANDS RESORT & EXPLORE PUT'N BAY IN MAY.  
SUBSCRIBE HERE FOR MY EMAILS IF YOU'D LIKE TO GET NOTICE WHEN THESE  
REVIEWS ARE POSTED.***

## OHIO BLOGGER spotlight



[Find Time for Fun\(Northeast Ohio Kids Calendar\)](#) - The premier local resource for family-friendly events and activities in Northeast Ohio. Never hear your kids say "I'm bored" again!

[Kids Eat Free in Northeast Ohio](#)

[Ohio Summer Camps](#)

[Things to Do with Kids in Northeast Ohio](#)

[Northeast Ohio Kids Calendar](#)

[100 Things to Do in Northeast Ohio this Summer](#)

## OHIO BLOGGER spotlight



These ladies live a smart, stylish, and simple life and love to share it with their customers and readers. Their BBT Tips Blog is jam packed full of frugal fashion tips, laundry and clothing maintenance helpers, spotlights on local businesses, [road trip adventures](#), and DIY craftiness. [Best Bib and Tucker](#), fashionable consignment shop and handmade market is run by the mother/daughter team of Barb and Megan Wise.

[Click here](#) to visit A Busy Mom of Two.

	<p>Hello! Angela here, from A Busy Mom of Two. I work full-time outside of the home, while being a full-time mom to a 9 year old son and 6 year old daughter.</p> <p>Together, my husband of 14 years and I, juggle life as parents of two active children. I share about new and tried &amp; true products, tips and tricks, DIY and recipes, activities for families and kids - specific local events and more.</p> <p>We are located in NEO and have been for 11 years now.</p>
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## OHIO BLOGGER spotlight



Print off this coupon for AMAZONE – [MyAmazone.com](http://MyAmazone.com)

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## Great Lakes Science Center *in Cleveland – near Brown's Stadium*

Receive \$3 off general admission when using the **promo code: FAMEMOMS** online at [GreatScience.com](http://GreatScience.com). Offer expires December 31, 2013. This offer does not apply to special exhibitions, OMNIMAX Theater or Steamship *William G. Mather*. Must be redeemed online. **Not valid over the phone or for walk-up sales.**

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## Save money on any of the iShop Sites!

Get \$25 off your purchase of \$75 or more with **code: HOFMOM**  
May 1 – June 30, 2013

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[iShopStark.com](http://iShopStark.com)

[iShopTcounty.com](http://iShopTcounty.com)

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