

Camera Club Activity Ideas

Outside of regular club meetings

Suggestion: small group gatherings. Might meet in a designated spot to car pool.

--Designated Saturday morning or early evening, at least 5 times a year. Including summer when club does not meet. Early evening gatherings also could be done during the week.

There could be more trips if there is more interest. The idea is, people who ask for suggestions would have several people there to respond and hopefully, give guidance.

--Invite other camera enthusiasts to come along, even if they are not in the club. This could induce people to join.

Possible Destinations:

--Months to visit **Neale Woods** Spring **April - May** : Wild flowers and migrating birds .
September for trees and understory, leaves. (try for twice a year)

--Fontenelle Forest wildflowers, migrating birds, **May - June**. Forest. Wetlands **fall (try for twice a year)**

--Heron Haven (off 120th and Maple). Small birds, trees, undergrowth, herons, frogs. **spring -fall**

--Glacier Creek Preserve (14810 State Street, Bennington, 68007) **August--September for prairie flowers** Can get guided tour.

--Schramm Park **spring - fall**

--Pacific Preserve, 16230 Pacific Street, 68118 Nature trail opened in 2018. Described as "peaceful". Recommended for "nature pictures." **Summer - fall.**

--Veteran's Park in Papillion, Halleck Park Road, 68046 The Butterfly Garden (in the shape of a butterfly) contains native flowers that host butterflies and other pollinators. **summer**

--Lauritzen Gardens (Membership or admittance fee) **spring- fall**

--Hitchcock Nature Center 27792 Ski Hill Loop, Honey Creek, Iowa 51542 **spring and fall migrations, old trees, undergrowth**

--Lake Manawa State Park, 1100 South Shore Drive, Council Bluffs (pelicans) & Big Lake (\$5 entry fee for using Iowa state park) **Spring and fall.**

--Sunken Gardens in Lincoln, 2600 D Street, Lincoln 68502 **spring - fall.** Rose Garden and Children's Zoo right across the street for additional photo ops. Nice restaurants. **Day trip.**

--**Spring Creek Prairie Audubon Center**, (Lincoln area) 11700 SW 100th Street, Denton, NE (just outside of Lincoln) 68339 **spring, fall**

--**De Soto Bend National Wildlife Refuge** during **fall migration, summer for herons** resident eagle pair.

--**Waubonsie State Park** 2585 Waubonsie Park Rd, Hamburg, Iowa 51640 Known for vistas Of Iowa's Loess Hills. Ridgetop prairies. Shaded woodland valleys. On Lewis and Clark Historic Trail. Camping available.

--**Forest Lawn Cemetery** (part of the Nebraska Statewide Arboretum system) Old trees, birds, deer. **spring – fall.**

--**Mormon Cemetery**, Winter Quarters, 3301 State Street, 68112 & Museum. Old trees, birds. Chance for indoor photography in museum. **spring - fall**

--**Florence** (Old Mill) Inside and outside photography **spring- fall**

--**Joslyn** Inside and outside photography **all year.** Flash photos may be restricted in some areas inside.

--**murals** around town in Omaha **all year**

--**Memorial Park** summer, especially fireworks display in **July**

--**Mahoney State Park** **spring-fall** gardens, woods, birds

--**Platte River State Park** small waterfall and stream, birds, gray squirrels. **Spring to fall.**

--**Bayliss Park** (Council Bluffs) fountain, gardens **spring to fall**

--**Pella Iowa Tulip Festival (May 1-3, 2025) Day trip**

--**Orange City Tulip Festival (May 15-17, 2025) Day trip**

--**Southeast Nebraska Memorial Cancer Garden spring -fall** Multiple gardens. Amazing spot for butterflies in late summer-early fall.

--**Gage Park, Topeka, Kansas** (635 SW Gage Blvd, 66606) (outstanding tulip display in April) (Classic homes, Fountains in town) Day trip.

--**Des Moines Botanical Gardens**

--**Loess Bluff National Wildlife Reserve**, Mound City, Missouri (**November** for snow geese, and trumpeter swans) (**mid-December** for eagles, trumpeter swans) (**Summer** for muskrats, frogs, Blue Heron, king fishers, hawks, Red-winged blackbirds) There is abundant wildlife, year-round. Day trip. Restaurants in Mound City.

Old Churches. In Omaha and in the surrounding country. **Year round.** Opportunities for indoor and outdoor photography. **Examples:** Cathedral and St. John's Church on Creighton's campus. Other suggestions welcomed.