

CANAAN VALLEY • BLACKWATER FALLS • TUCKER COUNTY

GET TUCKER'D



Rainy days can be a drag for everyone, but in particular the charged up young children. It is no secret we have to be creative in Tucker County on these days. Here are our top 10 suggestions:

1. Big Johns Family Fixings is the closest thing to a “Chucky Cheese” we have, arcade games and massive pizzas is what they do best. For more hands on games like air hockey and miniature basketball, head to Canaan Valley State Park arcade in the main lodge. Smiley’s Fun Zone takes inside fun to the next level. A 45 minute drive to Deep Creek, Maryland is awarded with Lazer Tag, kids bowling, indoor bumper cars and more.
2. A 35 minute drive from Canaan Valley is Seneca and Smoke Hole Caverns. Guided tours and amenities are available. Both caverns are located nearby Seneca Rocks and Seneca Rocks Nature Center. Locals Tip: When it is raining in Tucker County, often times there is no rain a short distance to the east, in places like Seneca Rocks.
3. Most Saturday and Sunday afternoons The Purple Fiddle in Thomas, WV offers free live music. Perfect for those that can’t keep their feet still to the sound of a beat.
4. Indoor swimming pools are available seven days a week. For a modest price anyone can enjoy these amenities at Canaan Valley State Park.
5. Gem mining in the Adventure Cave at Mountain Trail Rides in Canaan Valley. Armed only with a hard hat, mining lamp, bucket and shovel, visitors of all ages enter a fabricated cave in complete darkness in search of over 200 different rocks, minerals, shells, gems and fossils.
6. Put on those rain jackets and embrace the rain. Take a short hike and let the kids be kids. Jump in puddles, chase insects, and gets those hands dirty! Just don’t forget to bring towels to dry off with for the drive home.
7. Weather forecast are now a dime a dozen, plan ahead. This is the perfect opportunity to introduce the technology inclined nine year old to board games, puzzles and card games. Ranger Janes in Thomas is specifically geared to kids’ fun. The Dollar General store in Davis carries puzzles, etc.
8. Blackwater Falls State Park and the Canaan Valley National Wildlife Refuge Nature Centers are another option for staying busy on rainy days. Interactive displays, children specific activities and education fill out part of the day.
9. There are two Cinema 8 movie theatres in nearby Elkins, WV and Deep Creek Lake, Maryland. Each location have different offerings on a rainy day, so plan accordingly.
10. Scenic Durbin and Greenbrier Railroad train rides depart daily through the summer and fall from Elkins, WV. There is actually quite a variety of trips that explore the river valleys of the Allegheny Mountains. Coal fired steam train rides are also located in Cass, WV for those willing to drive an extra 45 minutes.