

2017 Summer Schedule



feel free





PRESIDENT'S LETTER

As a resident of Cook County, I have participated in and enjoyed a variety of special events and amenities offered throughout the Forest Preserves of Cook County. From camping and hiking to exploring nature centers and attending special events, I have experienced first-hand the incredible opportunities available to both residents and visitors. These exceptional offerings, along with many others at the Forest Preserves, have always given me the ability to escape the stresses of daily life and provided a sense of feeling free – free to relax, free to explore and learn, free to make myself and loved ones healthier.

With this sentiment in mind, the Forest Preserves of Cook County is launching a new tagline – feel free. This rebranding effort showcases our nearly 70,000 acres of preserves which provide visitors endless opportunities to create their own adventure; they are a home for plants and animals to thrive; and they make ourselves and our communities healthier.

If you are looking for a starting point, I recommend a night (or two) of camping at one of our five campgrounds. In addition to being an affordable, family-friendly experience, Forest Preserves campers can enjoy a number of free weekend campground activities, including Friday and Saturday night campfires, Friday and Saturday evening programs, and Saturday afternoon activities and hikes.

Interested in learning about the plants and animals that thrive here? Feel free to spend an hour or two exploring a Nature Center or attending one of our many educational programs. Looking for ways to spend a day making yourself healthier? Find a nearby trail or waterway for a hiking/biking or paddling excursion, or consider taking on the nearly 300 steps at Swallow Cliff.

There are so many options. And when you're surrounded by 70,000 acres of wild and wonderful, there's no better place to feel free.

We hope to see you in the Preserves!

Toni Preckwinkle,
President
Forest Preserves of Cook County



feel free

TABLE OF CONTENTS

- 4-5 Crabtree Nature Center
- 6-7 Little Red Schoolhouse Nature Center
- 8-9 River Trail Nature Center
- 10-11 Sagawau Environmental Learning Center
- 12-13 Sand Ridge Nature Center
- 14-15 Trailside Museum of Natural History
- 16 Bird the Preserves
- 17 Films in the Forest
- 18-19 Special Events
- 20 Paddling
Forest Jams
- 21 Postcards from the North Branch Trail
Pavilion Rentals
Party for the Preserves
- 22-23 Camping Programs
- 24-25 Family Aquatic Centers
- 26 Go Ape Treetop Adventure
Golf
Off-Leash Dog Areas
- 27 Boat Rentals
Bike Rentals
Concessions
Outdoor Recreational Activities



**SUMMER
CAMP LISTINGS**
[fpdcc.com/events/
category/day-camps](http://fpdcc.com/events/category/day-camps)

The FPCC is committed to providing equal, integrated participation for individuals with disabilities. Please contact the Nature Center of your program choice 72 hours in advance to request reasonable accommodations and to obtain more information about site accessibility. For accommodations for specific camping and outdoor recreation activities throughout the Forest Preserves, please contact us at experience.nature@cookcountyil.gov or at 708-386-4042.

LET'S MOVE! OUTSIDE

The Forest Preserves of Cook County has joined the Let's Move! Outside initiative in partnership with the YMCA of Metropolitan Chicago to encourage more youth and families to explore the outdoors. Look for this icon to find opportunities to play, learn, work and serve on public lands this spring. Check out the Facebook page at facebook.com/LetsMoveOutsideChicago to follow events.



#birdthepreserves

Look for this icon throughout the brochure to find birding events taking place all over the Forest Preserves. Visit fpdcc.com/birding for more info.

Support for this project was generously provided by the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service through Chicago Wilderness with additional funding from the Forest Preserve Foundation.



CONSERVATION@HOME

Learn more about our Conservation@Home certification by attending a Conservation@Home program at several of our Nature Centers. And visit fpdcc.com/conservationathome for more information about creating an environmentally friendly yard.



Coordinated in partnership with University of Illinois Extension, Conservation@Home is a program of The Conservation Foundation. The Forest Preserves of Cook County is pleased to be a partner.



NATURE CAT

Adventurers, look for the Nature Cat logo on page 4 to find an event where you can meet Nature Cat! Visit any of our Nature Centers, campgrounds or special events to get your Tracking Nature Cat in the Forest Preserves of Cook County kit. wtw.com/naturecat • fpdcc.com/nature-cat



Crabtree

NATURE CENTER

THROUGHOUT THE SUMMER

Explore Nature Play

Build forts and climb a spider web as you explore Crabtree's 3-acre nature play area.

Open Every Day

ART IN NATURE SERIES

Ages teens & up. Registration required.

Oil Painting Demonstration

Join artist Mort Luby for a demonstration of his painting technique and skill.

Sunday, June 11 • 1 pm

Poetry Workshop – Nature Symbolism in Poetry

We will explore nature poems about the seasons, plants, water and wildlife as symbols of renewal, strength or loss. Be inspired by Crabtree's flora and fauna to create your own poetry. Led by poet Tamara Tabel.

Sunday, July 16 • 1 pm



Mixed Media Birds

Learn how to up-cycle materials into whimsical collage representations of local birds. Taught by artist Karen Sako.

Sunday, August 13 • 1 pm

EVENING PROGRAMS

Registration required.



Twilight Canoe Trip

Explore a local lake in a canoe at twilight. *Adults only.*

Friday, June 23 • 6:30 pm



Light up the Night with Fireflies

Join a naturalist for a hike to look for fireflies as they light up the night.

Friday, June 30 • 8 pm

Nocturnal Narratives

Hear timeworn tales about creatures of the night and experience the woods on this naturalist-led hike.

Friday, July 7 • 8 pm

Bats

We'll learn about these mysterious creatures, then look for them in the dark.

Fridays, July 28 • 8 pm; August 11 & 18 • 7:30 pm

Pond Dippin'

Cool off this summer by dipping a net into our pond and seeing what small creatures live there. Be prepared to get muddy and wet.

Saturday, June 10 • 1 pm

Who's Your Daddy?

The roles that fathers play in the animal kingdom vary greatly from species to species. An informative inside program will be followed by a short hike to look for "dads at work."

Sunday, June 18 • 1 pm



Bring on the Butterflies

Learn about our local butterflies and how you can make your yard more butterfly-friendly.

Sunday, June 25 • 1 pm



4

JULY

Red, White & Blue

Hike Bur Edge Trail and try to spot flowers, fruits or animals wearing America's Independence Day colors.

Sunday, July 2 • 1 pm

Frog Finders

Can you tell the difference between a frog and a toad? Did you know frogs can be identified by just their croak? We'll search for and learn to identify the frogs that call Crabtree home.

Sunday, July 9 • 1 pm

Catching Dragons

They may not breathe fire, but they did live with dinosaurs! Come learn about dragonflies and damselflies and practice your catch and release skills.

Saturday, July 15 • 1 pm

Wetland Wonders Walk

Join a naturalist on a walk to explore various wetland ecosystems. Look for birds, frogs, mammals and plants that rely on these vital waters.

Sunday, July 23 • 1 pm

Habitat Hike

The wetlands, prairie and forest all have their own unique story of survival. Join a guided 1.5-mile hike to explore the wide variety of habitats along the way.

Sunday, July 30 • 1 pm



AUGUST

Bugapalooza

Explore insects with activities and crafts. Who will you catch (and release) on your insect safari?

Sunday, August 6 • 1 pm

Summer Ramble

Take a naturalist-led hike and see what's happening along the way during the summer season.

Saturday, August 12 • 1 pm



Solar Eclipse

The moon will be passing in front of our nearest star. Weather permitting, you can stop by to see the partial solar eclipse with our filtered scope.

The eclipse will start at 11:54 am.

Monday, August 21 • 11:45 am

Cicadas

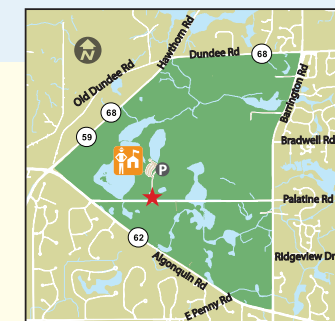
Lurking below the soil for most of the year, these insects crawl to the surface and make themselves known during the August heat. Learn about their secretive beginnings which later become a part of the summer through throughout our area.

Sunday, August 20 • 1 pm

Dog Days of Summer Stroll

Enjoy the sights, sounds and sunshine of late summer on a guided leisurely walk while learning about the seasonal signs of summertime along the way.

Sunday, August 27 • 1 pm



Crabtree Nature Center
3 Stover Road, Barrington Hills
847-381-6592

Hours (March – October)
Building: 9 am – 5 pm
closed Fridays
Grounds: 8 am – 5 pm daily

5

Little Red Schoolhouse Nature Center

THROUGHOUT THE SUMMER

Animal Afternoons

Many animals call the Nature Center home. Meet one of these animals during a casual afternoon encounter.

Sundays, June 11 & July 9 • 1:30 pm

S.E.N.I.O.R.S.

Are you a senior who wants to stay active and remain a lifelong learner? Nature will inspire a different activity at each gathering.

Registration required. Seniors only.

Thursdays, June 8, July 6 & August 10 • 10 – 11 am



Yoga in the Woods

A 1-mile hike and yoga set to the sounds of nature will leave you in a relaxed and peaceful state.

A yoga instructor will guide you through proper posture focusing on simple breathing, strength, and flexibility. Please wear comfortable clothing and hiking shoes, and bring your own yoga mat or beach towel. *Registration required. Ages 16 & up. Limit 25.*

Sundays, June 11 & July 9 • 10:30 – 11:45 am

Mother Nature and Me

Children 3–5 years old and their favorite adult will learn more about nature through exploration and other outdoor activities. *Registration required. Limit 15 children.*

Wednesdays, June 28 (Beetles), July 5 (Snakes) & August 9 (Grasshoppers) • 10:30 – 11:30 am

R.I.P Workday

Assist us with Removing Invasive Plants.

Individuals and families welcome. *Not suitable for ages 9 yrs. and younger. Participants 10–14 yrs. old must be accompanied by an adult.*

Saturdays, June 10, July 8 & August 12 • 10 am – Noon

Nature Play Days

Enjoy various themed activities throughout the summer in our Nature Play Area.

Saturdays, July 15 (Water) & August 19 (Sticks) • 1:30 pm

EVENING PROGRAMS

Night Sky Programs

Peak at the universe through telescopes; guided by the Chicago Astronomical Society.

Saturday, June 3 • 8 – 11 pm

International Space Station and Satellites

Saturday, July 8 • 8 – 11 pm

Constellation Mythology

Saturday, August 5 • 7:30 – 10:30 pm

Solar Eclipse

Friday Night Frogs

Assist a naturalist as we monitor for our late season frogs. *Registration required. Ages 12 & up. Limit 15.*

Friday, June 30 • 8:30 – 10 pm

What Glows in the Dark?

Discover why fireflies glow in the dark before hiking our 1.75-mile Black Oak trail. Search for glow-in-the-dark objects along the way on this flashlight free adventure. *Registration required. Family program.*

Saturday, July 22 • 8 – 9:30 pm

Sunset Hike

Enjoy an after hours, 2-mile hike at a relaxed pace. We will explore the trails, look for flora and fauna, and take in the beauty of nature lit up by the sunset hues.

Wear comfortable shoes. *Registration required. Adults only. Limit 20.*

Friday, August 25 • 6:30 – 7:45 pm



JUNE

NATURE IS ACCESSIBLE!

Visitors of all abilities are invited to celebrate nature through accessible activities.

Wednesday, June 7 • 10 am – 2 pm



Pond Dip

Come out for a morning “dip” in the pond as we investigate the macroinvertebrates that live there. Appropriate clothing and footwear is recommended for muddy conditions. *Registration required. Ages 8 & up. Limit 10.*

Saturday, June 17 • 10:30 – 11:30 am

Make Your Own Bug Spray

Create homemade bug repellents the natural way without chemicals. Essential oils and herbs are just a few ways to help ward off insects during the summer months. Materials will be provided. *Adults only. Registration required. Limit 15. \$10 per person.*

Saturday, June 24 • 1:30 – 3 pm

JULY



Build Bird Box

Nesting season is drawing near, but it's never too early to plan for next year. Learn about summer nesting birds

and build your own wren or chickadee nest box. Materials will be provided. *Registration required. Ages 10 & up. Limit 10. \$5 per person.*

Saturday, July 1 • 1 – 2:30 pm

Coyotes: Facts & Fallacies

The media has distorted the facts about coyotes. We will dispel myths about the coyote, and then explore the grounds for about one hour looking for signs of coyotes. *Registration required. Family program.*

Saturday, July 29 • 10 am – Noon

Little Red Schoolhouse

Nature Center
9800 Willow Springs Rd,
Willow Springs
708-839-6897

Hours (March – October)

Building: 9 am – 5 pm
closed Fridays
Grounds: 8 am – 5 pm daily

AUGUST

Mosses of Cook County

Come join us for a 1-mile hike as we investigate these non-vascular wonders that cover much of the forest floor. *Registration required. Adults only. Limit 10.*

Sunday, August 13 • 1:30 pm

Spectacular Solar Eclipse

Watch this rare natural phenomenon here. We will have telescopes ready for viewing during the entire partial eclipse of the sun. The sun will be at maximum eclipse at 1:19 pm with 87% coverage.

Monday, August 21 • Noon – 2:45 pm

Nature Baby

Enjoy a leisurely, naturalist-led sensory hike where you and baby will explore and investigate the natural world together. Continue the fun with a nature play date following the hike.

Registration required. Ages 2 & under accompanied by a caregiver.

Wednesday, August 23 • 10 – 11 am



Turtle Shells: The Evolution of the Perfect Defense

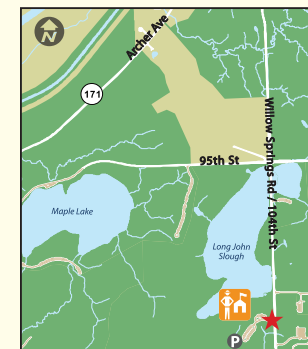
Learn the evolutionary history behind turtle shells, and why form and function varies so greatly among species. *Registration required. Ages 10 & up. Limit 15.*

Saturday, August 26 • 1:30 – 2:30 pm

Solar Viewing

Sungazing through a telescope is a great way to view our most powerful star. We will demonstrate how to use a telescope safely when viewing the sun. *Weather permitting.*

Sunday, August 27 • 1:30 pm





River Trail

NATURE CENTER

THROUGHOUT THE SUMMER

What's on the Menu?

Join us at feeding time to learn about our display animals and their unique habits.

Saturdays & Sundays • 3 pm

Small Serendipity

Join us for a nature story and craft or other activity. *For preschool and kindergarten aged children with an adult.*

Wednesdays, June 14 & 28; August 2, 16 & 30 • 10 am

Summer in the Woods

Enjoy summertime in the woods on a casual nature walk with a naturalist.

Sundays, June 4, July 9 & August 6 • 1:30 pm



Animal Encounter

Learn about some local animals and their amazing adaptations.

Sundays, June 18, July 16 & August 20 • 1:30 pm

EVENING PROGRAMS



Join us on a summer's night for a unique, nature-themed program. *Registration required at least two days prior. Cost varies by program. Check-in begins 15 minutes before program start time.*

Twilight Hike

Some of our local wildlife begin their day just as the sun begins to set. Learn about these animals and more on a guided walk. *\$3 per person.*

Friday, June 9 • 7:30 pm
Wednesday, July 26 • 7:30 pm

Fireside Tales

Enjoy a summer sunset with stories and snacks around a campfire. *\$3 per person.*

Wednesday, June 21 • 7:30 pm
Wednesday, July 5 • 7:30 pm
Friday, August 18 • 7:30 pm



JUNIOR NATURALISTS

Summer Season

Celebrating our 21st year of Jr. Naturalists, children, ages 7 through 12, work on independent projects and attend special programs to learn about nature through each of the four seasons. *Call or visit for more information. Registration required. Initial Fee: \$10. Continuing seasons: \$5 each.*



River Trail at Night

Adults are invited to enjoy the nature center at their leisure. Enjoy a casual picnic dinner, hike our trails, sit by the campfire, roast marshmallows or enjoy the exhibits inside. *Adults only. \$10 per person.*

Thursday, June 29 • 7 - 10 pm
Friday, August 4 • 7 - 10 pm

Sunset Nature Photography

An outdoor workshop combining the skills of both a naturalist and a photographer. Focus on natural scenes in the early evening bathed in the changing tones of the setting sun. *Adults and teens only. Registration required by 7/5. Location will be provided upon registration.*

Saturday, July 8 • 7 - 9:30 pm

Bats

Separate fact from myth about these fascinating creatures while watching for them over the lawn and river. *\$3 per person.*

Wednesday, August 9 • 8 pm

JUNE

The Buzz on Bees

Visit our beehives and pollination garden as we learn about the important role honeybees play in nature.

Sunday, June 11 • 1:30 pm



Seniors in all Seasons: Birds and Birdwatching

It's never too late to learn something new. Drop in for programs and activities all about birds. Refreshments will be served. *Call for more information. This program is offered in partnership with the Wildbird Shack.*

Tuesday, June 27 • 10 am - 2 pm



River Round-Up

Bring a change of shoes because we'll be jumping in the river to examine what lives below the surface of the water.

Sunday, June 25 • 1:30 pm

AUGUST

People's Choice Awards

Stop by and vote for your favorite River Trail animal. Immediately following we will introduce the winner in an educational program for all ages.

Sunday, August 13 • 1:30 pm



JULY



American Raptors

Visit America's national symbol, the Bald Eagle, and discover the unique characteristics that help our native birds of prey to survive.

Sunday, July 2 • 1:30 pm

Life Under a Log

You will be surprised at the many things that live in, on and under a rotting tree. Help us look for insects, spiders and other cool creatures.

Sunday, July 23 • 1:30 pm

Bug-a-Palooza

Learn about the amazing diversity of insects as we catch and release.

Sunday, July 30 • 1:30 pm

Sunrise Nature Photography

An outdoor workshop combining the skills of both a naturalist and a photographer. Focus on amazing nature scenes. *Adults and teens only. Registration required by 8/23. Location will be provided upon registration.*

Saturday, August 26 • 6 - 9 am

Family Fish School

Have fun with your family learning about fish and fishing with the Forest Preserve's Fish Biologist. *Limited equipment available or bring your own. Registration required.*

Sunday, August 27 • 11 am - 2 pm



River Trail Nature Center
3120 Milwaukee Avenue,
Northbrook
847-824-8360

Hours (March - October)
Building: 9 am - 5 pm,
closed Fridays
Grounds: 8 am - 5 pm daily



photo by Paul Dacko

THROUGHOUT THE SUMMER

Canyon Tours

Sagawau Canyon highlights the geology of Northeastern Illinois. Hike is over rough terrain, wading through a stream is necessary. *Registration in person or by phone, starts the Monday prior to the program date. No groups. Space is limited.*
Sundays, June 4 & 18; Saturdays, July 1, 15 & 29 • 10 am

Out in the Field

See the world through the eyes of a naturalist. Be a part of a field excursion to use your powers of observation to help identify ecological connections.
Saturday, June 3; Sunday, July 2 • 1 pm

Botanic Illustrations

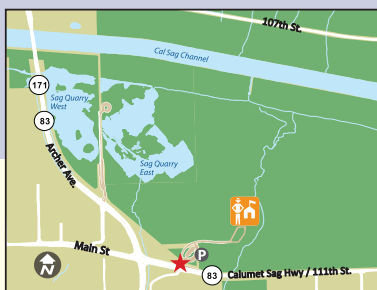
Learn artistic techniques to capture a plant's beauty during the growing season. *Registration required. Adults and interested teens.*
Sundays, June 25, July 9 • 1 pm

Dragonfly Oasis

See what's under the scope at Sagawau's Dragonfly lab. Visit the Quarry to observe adult dragonflies and dip net for nymphs. Moderate 1-mile hike to Quarry. *Ages 12 & up. Registration required.*
Tuesdays, June 20, July 18 • 10 am

Bird Banding

Join Sagawau's banders to observe this important method of studying birds. *Children must have adult supervision. Weather permitting.*
Wednesdays, June 21 & 28; July 12, 19 & 26 • 9 am – Noon



EVENING PROGRAMS



Enjoy naturalist-led programs as daylight extends into evening. *Registration required, beginning two weeks prior to program date.*

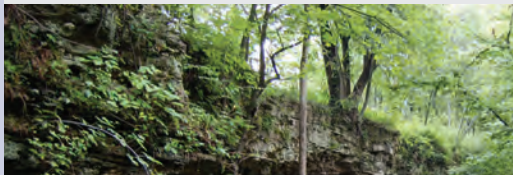


Bird Banding

Join Sagawau's banders to observe this important method of studying birds. *Children must have adult supervision. Weather permitting.*
Thursday, June 15 • 5 – 7 pm

Canyon Tour

Sagawau Canyon highlights the geology of Northeastern Illinois. Hike is over rough terrain, wading through a stream is necessary. *No groups. Space is limited.*
Thursdays, June 29, July 13 • 5 – 7 pm



Cook County Coyote Project

Learn how coyotes live in the urban matrix of Chicagoland, as we share results of a 17-year study conducted in the Forest Preserves of Cook County. *Adults and interested teens.*
Thursday, July 27 • 6 – 8 pm

Songs of Summer

Listen to the orchestra of insects and birds and learn how they use sound to communicate.
Thursday, August 10 • 5 – 7 pm



Hummingbird Watch

Take a seat and enjoy watching the hummingbirds in our viewing area next to the farmhouse. A naturalist will discuss their behavior and how to attract them to your yard.
Thursday, August 24 • 5 – 7 pm

Sagawau Environmental Learning Center
 12545 W 111th St, Lemont
 630-257-2045

Hours
 Building: 9 am – 4 pm
 Grounds: 8 am – 4 pm

JUNE

Ornithology 101: Reproductive Biology

Learn about avian reproductive biology followed by hiking into the field to observe nesting behaviors. *Registration required. Adults and interested teens.*
Saturday, June 10 • 10 am – Noon

The Return of the River Otter

This indoor program will focus on why river otters returned to our local waterways and how local biologists track their movement through Cook County. *Registration required. Adults and interested teens.*
Sunday, June 11 • 1 pm



Conservation@Home: Native Bee Nests

How social are native bees? Native bee species are often solitary nesters in wood or soil. Learn ways to attract these pollinators to your backyard. *Registration required. Adults and interested teens.*
Saturday, June 17 • 1 pm

Damselflies in the Field

These smaller cousins of dragonflies can be a challenge to identify. Our site monitor will give tips on how to identify these smaller cousins of dragonflies. *Registration required. Adults and interested teens.*
Saturday, June 24 • 1 pm

AUGUST

Sunflowers

Sunflowers paint our prairies and woodlands with warm, yellow splendor. Learn techniques to identify this diverse family of plants. *Registration required. Adults and interested teens.*
Saturday, August 5 • 10 am



Hummingbird Sit

Take a seat and enjoy watching the hummingbirds in our viewing area next to the farmhouse. A naturalist will discuss their behavior and how to attract them to your yard.
Saturday, August 26; Sundays, August 6 & 20 • 10 am – Noon

Getting to Know the Grasses

Grasses are one of the largest plant families and one of the most challenging to identify. We will introduce the language of grass anatomy and go for an identification hike. *Registration required. Adults and interested teens.*
Sunday, August 13 • 1 pm

JULY

Beetle Blitz

An introduction to common beetle families followed by a field biodiversity survey. *Registration required. Adults and interested teens.*
Saturday, July 8 • 10 am – 1 pm

Butterfly Lab

Drop in on Sagawau's Butterfly Lab to learn about the local lepidopterans. See who emerged and learn ways to support conservation efforts.
Tuesday, July 11 • 10 am – Noon

Ornithology 101: The Mechanics of Flight

Learn how hollow bones and feathers offer the perfect mix of biology and physics making avian flight a reality. *Registration required. Adults and interested teens.*
Sunday, July 16 • 10 am



Conservation@Home: Gardening for Pollinators

Use native plants to attract pollinators to your garden. *Ages 12 & up. Registration required.*
Saturday, July 22 • 1 pm

Milkweeds and More

Native milkweeds provide a base of operations for many insects. Learn about the relationships dependent on milkweed. *Registration required. Adults and interested teens.*
Sunday, July 23 • 1 pm

Summer Prairie

Change is commonplace in the tallgrass prairie. Hike around the David Blenz Prairie to observe the plants as they transform from buds to colorful blooms. *Ages 12 & up. Registration required.*
Sunday, July 30 • 10 am

Tree Key

Learn how to identify trees by looking at leaf characteristics, tree shape and habitat. *Registration required. Adults and interested teens.*
Sunday, August 27 • 1 pm

HUMMINGBIRD FEST

Celebrate the beauty of these amazing birds. Join us for activities, viewing and demos of how the birds are banded for tracking and research purposes.
Saturday, August 19 • 9 am – 2 pm

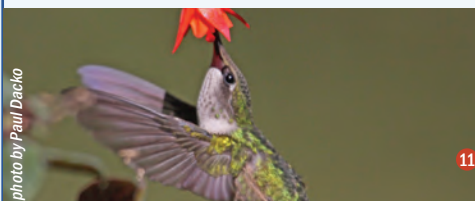


photo by Paul Dacko

THROUGHOUT THE SUMMER

Wee Wonders Series

Children in preschool and kindergarten are invited to their very own nature program. We'll explore a different subject each month. **Saturdays, June 3 (What Lives in the Water?); July 1 (Log Cabin Story Time); August 5 (Trees, Please!)** • 10 am

Live Healthy, Discover Nature! Hike

Join our monthly hiking club. One of our naturalists will lead a vigorous hike on our trails.

Saturdays, June 3, July 1, August 5 • 1:30 pm



Pioneer Living

Have you ever wondered what life was like 200 years ago? Visit our cabins and find out what the pioneers experienced.

Sundays, June 4, July 2, August 6 • 1:30 pm

Sand Ridge 101

What can you see and do at Sand Ridge Nature Center? Join us on a guided tour that includes a live animal presentation and cabin tour.

Sundays, June 11, July 16, August 20 • 1:30 pm

EVENING PROGRAMS

The Astronomer's Night Sky

View the moon and other celestial wonders through telescopes, clear skies permitting. In the event of poor skies, an astronomy slide show will be presented. *Register by 5/31.*

Friday, June 2 • 8:15 pm

Frog Calling

Join us for an evening program and learn about frogs and their calls. Identify our local species by their sounds. *Register by 6/6.*

Friday, June 9 • 8 - 9:30 pm

Animals of the Night Hike

Join us as we review the habitats of nocturnal animals such as skunks, opossums, raccoons and bats. Then we'll head outside to see what critters are out and about. *Register by 7/12.*

Friday, July 14 • 8 pm

JUNE

Drawing Nature

Join University of Illinois Extension Master Gardeners for a program that will help you see nature the way an artist does. By combining drawing skills and plant observation, you will learn how to draw what you see. *For beginners and experienced artists.*

Saturday, June 10 • 10:30 am

Poison Ivy

Learn how to accurately identify poison ivy and its look-a-likes on a naturalist-guided nature walk. *For ages 6 & up.*

Saturday, June 10 • 1:30 pm

ANNUAL "JUNETEENTH" CELEBRATION

Join us as we celebrate freedom, family and country with our historical Underground Railroad program and history displays, including interactive interpretive hikes, traditional music, a wild edibles display, period recipe samples, a craft and more.

Saturday, June 17 • 10 am - 3 pm



Bryology

Ever wonder what that green stuff is that grows on rocks and tree trunks? It's moss. Come learn about one of the least understood, but quite common, members of the plant kingdom.

Saturday, June 24 • 1:30 pm

Evening in the Cabin

Drop in as we open up the cabin for an evening. Experience what pioneer life might have been like with a wild edibles display and activities of the time. *Register by 7/19.*

Friday, July 21 • 7 - 8:30 pm

Aerial Acrobats

The southern flying squirrel is an animal that is common, yet rarely seen. Join us on a search for this secretive animal while we walk the trails as the sun sets. *Register by 8/9.*

Friday, August 11 • 8 pm



Nightjars

This family of mysterious birds that feed while in flight are observed all summer long. Come learn about their unusual

habits, dispel some myths and walk the trails at dusk as we seek out these graceful fliers.

Register by 8/23.

Friday, August 25 • 7 pm

JULY

Photo Meet-up

This monthly series is led by a naturalist and will highlight a natural area with scenic vistas, interesting plants and wildlife. *For all photographer levels and camera types.*

Saturday, July 8 • 10 am



Drummers in the Forest

Sand Ridge is one of the few places you can see all seven of the Cook County woodpeckers. Come learn about the birds that seem to defy the laws of physics and make the forest echo with their heads.

Saturday, July 8 • 1:30 pm

Conquer Your Fears

If snakes make you want to slither away or frogs and toads make you jump, this program is for you. Learn about some commonly misunderstood animals and why they are not scary after all. Program includes live animals and a short hike.

Saturday, July 15 • 1:30 pm



Feathered Homes

Ever wonder what it looks like inside a woodpecker's nest? Have you pondered why owls steal other birds' nests? Answer these questions and more as we investigate the how, why, when and where of bird nesting.

Saturday, July 22 • 1:30 pm

Powerwalk the Greenway

Get out and get active with a naturalist by exploring remnant prairies and savannas along the Burnham Greenway Trail. Meet just outside the Green Lake Aquatic Center building, 1100 River Oaks Drive, Calumet City.

Saturday, July 29 • 1:30 pm



Ecosystem Exploration

What is an ecosystem? This hike will explore eight different ecosystems found at Sand Ridge. Wear comfortable, closed-toe shoes and be prepared for the weather. *Register by 7/28.*

Sunday, July 30 • 1:30 pm



Sand Ridge Nature Center
15891 Paxton,
South Holland
708-868-0606

Hours (March - October)
Building: 9 am - 5 pm
closed Fridays
Grounds: 8 am - 5 pm daily

AUGUST

Everyday Scientist

Your observations of plants and animals anywhere and anytime can change the world. Learn how you can help collect information used by scientists to better understand our planet and save species.

Saturday, August 12 • 1:30 pm

The Wonder of Salamanders

What are salamanders? Find out through an interactive presentation. See a live salamander up close. *Ages 12 & up.*

Sunday, August 13 • 1:30 pm



Reptilemania

Learn about some native ectotherms, or cold-blooded animals, that make their homes here. Participants will have the opportunity to see and touch a variety of reptiles.

Saturday, August 19 • 1:30 pm

Partial Solar Eclipse

You can witness the 87%-maximum partial solar eclipse through properly-filtered telescopes, under the supervision of our staff astronomer. *In the event of uncooperative local weather, a related slide program will be presented from Noon - 2 pm.*

Monday, August 21 • 11:30 am - 3 pm

Summer Wildflower Walk

Join us for a hike to identify and marvel at some summer wildflowers in bloom.

Saturday, August 26 • 1:30 pm

SUMMER CAMPS

Summer Eye-opener Camp (Ages 7-8)

Children will enjoy four mornings of fun activities and nature exploration. *Register by 6/19. Space is limited. \$20.*

Monday - Thursday, June 26 - 29 • 9:30 am - Noon

Summer Eye-opener Camp (Ages 9-10)

Children will join in nature-themed activities and games during four mornings of outdoor fun. *Register by 7/3. Space is limited. \$20.*

Monday - Thursday, July 10 - 13 • 9:30 am - Noon

Outdoor Adventures Camp (Ages 11-13)

Children will enjoy five fun and challenging mornings learning outdoor survival and improving teamwork skills. *Register by 7/17. Space is limited. \$25.*

Monday - Friday, July 24 - 28 • 9:30 am - Noon



TRAILSIDE

Museum of Natural History

THROUGHOUT THE SUMMER

Bird House Contest

Stroll the trail and view creative bird houses built by visitors, then vote for your favorite.

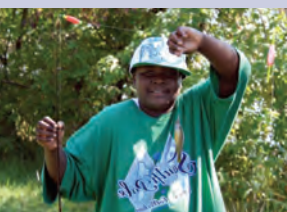
Every day through August 31; winners announced Sept 1

Nature Story Time

Nature-inspired stories, followed by a craft and snack. *For children ages 3-6 with adult.*

Thursdays, June 1 & 15; July 6 & 20;

August 3 & 17 • 10:30 am



Family Fishing

Learn fishing safety, how to bait hooks and cast, then spend time fishing on our pond. Use our rods, or bring your own. *Limited space. Registration required.*

Saturdays, June 3, July 22, August 12 •

10 – 11:30 am

“Bone” Appétit

Join us at feeding time to learn about Trailside’s outdoor resident animals.

Sundays, June 4, July 30, August 27; Saturdays, June 10, July 1, August 5; Tuesday, July 4 • 1 pm

Makin’ Music Bluegrass Jam

We’ll help you make a simple musical instrument, or bring your own instrument, then join the fun in a bluegrass jam circle. Everyone is invited to play and/or listen.

Sundays, June 11, July 9, Aug 13 • 1 – 3 pm



Trailside Museum of Natural History

738 Thatcher Ave, River Forest
708-366-6530

Hours (March – October)

Building: 9 am – 5 pm, *closed Fridays*

Grounds: 8 am – 5 pm daily

JUNE

TRAILSIDE MUSEUM’S 85TH ANNIVERSARY

Celebrate 85 years of nature education and programming at Trailside Museum. Enjoy an ice cream social, join in a bluegrass music jam, participate in family-friendly historical activities, meet some of our animals and much more.

Sunday, June 11 • Noon – 3 pm



Our Great Rivers

Learn about our local rivers—the Des Plaines, the Chicago Rivers, and the Calumet—in a presentation by Kara Riggio of the Metropolitan Planning Council (MPC). We’ll discover what the MPC and their partners are doing to make these rivers cleaner, more inviting and more productive. Afterwards, we’ll take a short guided nature hike to view the Des Plaines River. *For adults and teens.*

Saturday, June 17 • 1 pm



Nesting Birds Walk

Join John Elliott of Chicago Audubon Society to look and listen for summer resident birds, and learn about territory, courtship and nesting. Binoculars available. *Best for ages 8 & up. Registration requested.*

Sunday, June 18 • 7:30 am

Father’s Day Walk

Dads and their families can enjoy a guided walk by our pond and through the woods, while learning about wildlife fathers. *Register by 6/17.*

Sunday, June 18 • 1 pm

Summer Stroll

Enjoy a leisurely guided nature walk along our trails at the beginning of the summer season. *Family program.*

Saturday, June 24 • 10 am

Bugland

Let’s take the “UG” out of BUG. Learn what makes insects special, and go on a safari to catch some insects with sweep nets. *Family program; dress to be off-trail.*

Sunday, June 25 • 1 pm

JULY



Beginning Bird Walk

Join a naturalist on a guided bird walk to learn how to get started in the enjoyable hobby of bird watching. We will provide

the binoculars. *Family program.*

Sunday, July 2 • 9 am

Discover Thatcher Woods with Your Camera

Learn how to take wall-worthy photos of nature at this Forest Preserves of Cook County gem. Develop an understanding of how time of day and perspective can help you use the sun to its best advantage in your photographs. Led by Jack Carlson, certified professional photographer, in partnership with Chicago Botanic Garden. \$59/\$47.20. Register at chicagobotanic.org/education or call 847-835-8261.

Saturday, July 8 • 9 am – Noon

Parent/Child Woodland Ramble

Enjoy a shady walk in the woods with your kids as we take an interactive look at trees, wildflowers and creatures great and small. *Family program.*

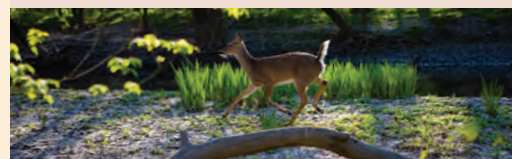
Saturday, July 15 • 1 pm



Adult Color-Rama

How long has it been since you colored? Relax and unwind as you color in nature prints using colored markers. All materials provided. *For adults.*

Sunday, July 16 • 1 – 2:30 pm



Wildlife Watch

Join us for a slow-paced and very quiet hike with many stops to view our wildlife as they go about their daily lives. *For adults and ages 10 & up.*

Sunday, July 23 • 10 am

Ant Scientists Wanted

Come help with a citizen scientist project to discover what ants are living at Trailside and your home. *For adults and families.*

Saturday, July 29 • 1 pm

EVENING PROGRAMS

Nature (Play) Night Drop-Ins

Drop by and meet us in the nature play area for special activities. Also, help us develop ideas for future elements at the play area. *Family program.*

Thursdays, June 1, July 13 • 6 – 8 pm



Full Moon Hike

Join us for a restful twilight nature hike as the full moon rises. We’ll also have a telescope and a spotting scope set up at the end for lunar viewing, weather permitting. *Family program. Register by 6/8.*

Friday, June 9 • 8 – 9:15 pm

AUGUST

Wildflower Hike at Thatcher Prairie

Enjoy a guided hike through a nearby restored prairie, to view glorious prairie wildflowers and other treasures. Meet at the Forest Preserves’ Silver Creek Picnic Area, on the east side of 1st Ave, between North Ave and Chicago Ave.

Family program. Register by 8/5.

Sunday, August 6 • 1 pm



Late Summer Nature Hike

Enjoy a guided hike through the late summer woods with a naturalist. *Family program.*

Saturday, August 19 • 1 pm

Snakes Alive Drop-In

Meet one of Trailside’s snakes, learn about local snakes and make a snake craft to bring home.

Drop-in family program.

Sunday, August 20 • 1 – 2:30 pm

(Almost) Total Solar Eclipse

Learn about and view our closest star, the sun, through a special filter on our telescope as we experience an (almost) total solar eclipse. The maximum coverage of our sun by the moon will be between 1 – 1:40 pm.

Monday, August 21 • 12:30 – 2:30 pm



Birds at the End of Summer

As days grow shorter, nature begins the dramatic change from summer to fall. Some birds are already

migrating; many more will soon join them on their journey south. Chicago Audubon’s John Elliott will help you find migrants and learn more about them. *Binoculars available. Registration requested.*

Saturday, August 26 • 7:30 am



Evening Moths

Learn about and view the often overlooked “butterflies of the night,” moths. We’ll set out bait and black lights—prepare to be surprised. *For adults and ages 8 & up. Register by 7/26.*

Thursday, July 27 • 7:30 – 9 pm

Bats – Night Stalkers

Learn about these mysterious flying mammals, and see and hear live bats flitting about outside using special equipment. *For adults, and children 10 & up. Register by two days prior.*

Thursdays, August 3 & 31 • 7:30 – 9 pm

BIRD THE PRESERVES JUNE

Audubon Great Lakes/Citizens for Conservation Bird Hike to Spring Creek Headwaters
North end of Wichman Rd, Barrington Hills, IL
Encounter nature with naturalist Wendy Paulson. RSVPs required: djacobson@audubon.org. Waterproof boots, binoculars. Somewhat strenuous hike. Check citizensforconservation.org for last-minute changes.
Friday, June 2 • 7 am

Chicago Ornithological Society Birding Trip to Eggers Grove, 11201 S Avenue B, Chicago
Meet at southernmost parking lot. Look for warblers and breeding birds. Visit chicagobirder.org for updates and contact info.
Saturday, June 3 • 7:30 am

Chicago Ornithological Society Birding Trip to Skokie Lagoons, Erickson Woods Parking Lot, 1651 Willow Rd, Winnetka
Meet at Willow Road parking lot. Look for spring migrants. Visit chicagobirder.org for updates and contact info.
Tuesday, June 6 • 7:30 am

Chicago Ornithological Society Birding Trip to LaBagh Woods, Irene Hernandez Family Picnic Area, 4500 W Foster Ave, Chicago
Look for breeding birds and lingering spring migrants. Visit chicagobirder.org for updates and contact info.
Saturday, June 10 • 7 am

Chicago Botanic Garden Bird Walk: Summer Nesting Birds at Barbara Brown Nature Reserve
South end of Chicago Botanic Garden, 1000 Lake Cook Rd, Glencoe
Identify songs and perform a bird survey. Dress for the weather; bring binoculars, field guide. Leader: Alan Anderson. Fee: \$15.20 members, \$19 non-members. Register at chicagobotanic.org/education.
Saturday, June 10 • 7:30 am

Evanston North Shore Bird Club Birding Trip to Plum Creek, 22349 Burnham Ave, Chicago Heights
Meet at lot at east side of Burnham Rd, about 1 mile south of Sauk Trail. Josh's favorite local summer birding spot. Leader: Josh Engel. Limit 10, RSVP: jengel2@fieldmuseum.org.
Saturday, June 17 • 7:30 am

Chicago Ornithological Society Birding Trip to Crabtree/Baker's Lake
Meet at Old Stover Trailhead parking lot, Palatine Rd and Stover Rd, Barrington. Look for breeding birds. Visit chicagobirder.org for updates.
Saturday, June 24 • 7 am - Noon

JULY

Chicago Ornithological Society Birding Trip to Paul Douglas Grassy Ridge Meadow, W Central Rd between Ela and Freeman, Hoffman Estates
Meet at Grassy Ridge Meadow parking lot. Breeding grassland, wetland birds. Visit chicagobirder.org for updates and contact info.
Saturday, July 15 • 7:30 am

THROUGHOUT THE SUMMER

Audubon Great Lakes/Citizens for Conservation Bird Hike to Galloping Hill Penny Road Pond, Penny Rd west of Old Sutton Rd, South Barrington
Encounter nature with naturalist Wendy Paulson. RSVPs required: djacobson@audubon.org. Waterproof boots, binoculars. Somewhat strenuous hike. Check citizensforconservation.org for last-minute changes.
Friday, June 9 • 7 am
Sunday, June 18 • 5 pm

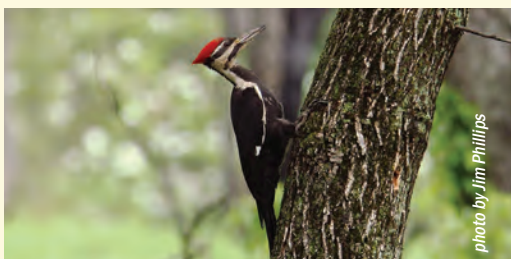


photo by Jim Phillips

Chicago Audubon Society Birding Trip to Bemis Woods
Bemis Woods North, Wolf Rd between 31st and Ogden, Westchester
Breeding woodland birds; perhaps Pileated, Red-headed Woodpeckers, Summer Tanager. Leader: Douglas Stotz, dfstotz@gmail.com. Meet at easternmost part of lot. Updates: chicagoaudubon.org.
Wednesday, June 14 • 7:30 am
Wednesday, July 12 • 7:30 am
Wednesday, August 30 • 7:30 am



FILMS IN THE FOREST

Join us for movie nights. Different feature films with a nature connection will be presented along with family-friendly activities based on the film. Pack a picnic dinner and enjoy an evening of fun and entertainment at scenic preserve venues. For more information, call 312-415-2970 or email experience.nature@cookcountyl.gov. **Pre-movie activities start at 6:30 pm. Movie begins at dusk.**

Thursday, June 15
"The Angry Birds Movie" **Rated PG**
Find out why the birds are so angry. When an island populated by happy, flightless birds is visited by mysterious green pigs, it's up to three unlikely outcasts to figure out the pigs' true motives for coming and save the birds.
Thatcher Woods, 8030 Chicago Avenue, River Forest

Tuesday, July 11
"The Incredibles" **Rated PG**
Follow the adventures of a family of undercover superheroes as they try to save the world in this fun, warm-hearted Pixar film.
Rolling Knolls, 11N260 Rohrssen Road, Elgin
Rain Location: Rolling Knolls Pavilion 11N260 Rohrssen Road, Elgin

Thursday, July 13
"The Jungle Book" **Rated PG**
After a threat from the tiger Shere Khan forces him to flee the jungle, a man-cub named Mowgli embarks on a journey of self-discovery with the help of panther, Bagheera and free spirited bear, Baloo.
Eggers Grove, 11201 S Avenue B, Chicago
Rain Location: Sand Ridge Nature Center 15891 Paxton Ave, South Holland

Thursday, August 10
"Hidden Figures" **Rated PG**
The incredible story of three African-American female mathematicians at NASA who played a vital role in one of the greatest operations in history and in turn re-shaped the US space program and restored the nation's confidence.
Kickapoo Woods, 144th & Halsted, Riverdale
Rain Location: Dan Ryan Pavilion 8700 South Western Ave, Chicago

Thursday, August 17
"Finding Dory" **Rated PG**
The friendly but forgetful blue tang fish, Dory, begins a search for her long-lost parents, and everyone learns a few things about the real meaning of family along the way.
Rubio Woods, Grove 2
5800 Midlothian Turnpike, Midlothian
Rain Location: Camp Sullivan 14630 Oak Park Ave, Oak Forest

Tuesday, August 22
"Zootopia" **Rated PG**
Zootopia is a mammal metropolis where all animals live together. When Zootopia's first bunny officer Judy Hopps arrives, she jumps at an opportunity to prove herself, even if it means partnering with a cynical con artist fox.
Swallow Cliff North, 10267 Calumet Sag Road, Palos Hills

Wednesday, August 30
"Batman" **Rated PG-13**
In Tim Burton's classic, millionaire philanthropist Bruce Wayne transforms into the crime-fighting hero known as Batman.
Caldwell Woods, 6350 W Devon Ave, Chicago
Rain Location: Mathew Bieszcza Volunteer Resource Center, 6100 North Central, Chicago

WELLNESS IN THE WOODS

Visit fpdcc.com/wellness to find our travelling wellness pop up events. Check back often as new programs are added.



SPECIAL EVENTS

Share the Trails

Look for our staff and volunteers along the trails with info and giveaways throughout the Forest Preserves. And be sure to check out our Share the Trail website at fpdcc.com/stt.

June 3 & 4

July 15 & 16

August 26 & 27

October 21 & 22



Commissioner Timothy O. Schneider's Fishing Derby

Busse Woods/Lake, Grove 25

Bring your friends, family and fishing gear and try to catch the largest, smallest or squirmiest fish. To register, call 847-640-1632 or email tim.schneider@cookcountyl.gov and provide a name, address, email, phone number and number attending.

Sunday, June 4 • 9 am – Noon



Beaubien Woods Celebration I-94 & Doty Ave, Chicago

Enjoy this annual family event held in partnership with Fishin' Buddies and the Calumet Stewardship Initiative. Fish, explore, canoe and more. Canoe slots are limited; groups welcome. Register online at fishin-buddies.net/beaubiencelebration.

Saturday, June 10 • 11 am – 3 pm



Nature Discovery Day

Swallow Cliff Stairs, 10267 Calumet Sag Rd, Palos Hills

The kids are out of school. Drop in for a fun afternoon of nature discovery and check out what's new at Swallow Cliff Stairs. We'll have stair races, obstacle courses, nature hikes, nature based art making, kite flying and more. Drop-in event, call 312-533-5751 for more information.

Thursday July 6 • 11 am – 2 pm



Kids' Fest

Wampum Lake, I-90/94 & Thornton-Lansing Rd, Thornton-Lansing

Enjoy fishing, hiking, canoeing, archery and other fun activities at this free outdoor extravaganza for kids of all ages. Presented in partnership with Fishin' Buddies and the Youth Conservation Conference. Register online at fishin-buddies.net/kidsfest.

Saturday, July 8 • 10 am – 4 pm



Concert at the Cliff

Swallow Cliff Visitors Center, 10267 Calumet Sag Rd, Palos Hills

In partnership with the Village of Palos Park, enjoy the summer sounds of Pirates Over 40. Bring your chairs, blankets and picnic baskets for a relaxing evening. Call 708-671-3760 or visit palospark.org for details.

Thursday, July 13 • 6 – 8:30 pm

Outdoor Block Party

Camp Shabbona Woods, 15810 Torrence Ave, Calumet City

Join us in this urban preserve for a block party celebration. Enjoy games, hikes and more. Co-hosted by the Youth Outdoor Ambassadors and Alumni. For more information call 312-415-2970.

Saturday, July 15 • Noon – 4 pm



Insect Fest

Cummings Square, 536 N Harlem Ave, River Forest

Come celebrate and learn about insects. Explore how pollinators help us. Build a bug playground. Follow the migratory patterns of monarch butterflies and learn how to create habitat for them locally. For more information, call 708-386-4042. *All ages.*

Thursday, July 20 • 11 am – 2 pm

5th Annual Teen Exploration Day Powderhorn Lake, 13843-14387 S. Brainard Ave, Burnham

Join us for our 5th annual Teen Exploration Day. This event is teen-focused, with activities highlighting outdoor adventure and education. Try your hand at canoeing, tree climbing, restoration activities, guided hikes, learning about conservation and engaging with other youth. For more information or to register groups of more than 10, email experience.nature@cookcountyl.gov or call 708-386-4042 ext 19.

Thursday, August 3 • Noon – 4 pm



Back-to-School Paddle & Archery Day

Rolling Knolls, 11N260 Rohrssen Rd, Elgin

Come celebrate the start of the school year with an exciting day of paddling, archery, pond dipping and more at one of our newest preserves—Rolling Knolls! Gear and equipment provided. For more information or to reserve a group spot, call 708-386-4042, ext. 26.

Saturday, August 5 • 10 am – 2 pm



CAMBr Meltdown

Pulaski Woods, 9800 Wolf Rd, Willow Springs

The CAMBr Meltdown is Chicagoland's premiere mountain biking event, with racing for all ages and abilities. *Free for spectators.*

Sunday, August 6 • 9 am – 5 pm

Dan Ryan Woods 100th Anniversary

Dan Ryan Woods, 87th & Western, Chicago

Commemorate the 100th anniversary of Dan Ryan Woods with guided hikes, archery, information about the preserve and Dan Ryan himself and so much more. At night, enjoy a free Forest Jam concert outside the Dan Ryan Woods Pavilion. For more information, call 312-415-2970.

Sunday, August 27 • 2 – 7 pm

ARCHERY



Archery equipment is provided for all programs. *Minimum age for programs is 10 years old.* Call 312-386-4042 for more information.

Adult Archery & Nature Hike

Thatcher Woods, 8030 Chicago Ave, River Forest

Adults of all age are invited to stay active and try their hand at a new or old pastime. Enjoy a brief nature hike on the trails to end. Come out and give it a shot! Call 312-533-5751 to reserve a space today.

Thursday, June 1 • 10:30 am – 12:30 pm

Archery 101

Never tried archery before? Attend one of these sessions to learn all things archery: history, bow parts and proper technique.

Wednesday July 12 • 3:30 – 6 pm

Bremen Grove, Grove 1
16061 Oak Park Ave, Tinley Park
Call 312-386-4042 Ext. 22

Thursday, July 27 • 3:30 – 6 pm

Deer Grove West – Grove 1
W Dundee Rd at Pepper Tree Dr, Palatine
Call 312-386-4042 Ext. 26

Thursday, August 24 • 3:30 – 6 pm

Dan Ryan Woods, Grove 5
87th & Western, Chicago
Call 312-386-4042 Ext. 27



PADDLING



Bring your own canoe or use one of ours. We have a limited number of boats available. Canoe instruction provided. Paddling for ages 5 & up.

Little Calumet River Day at Kickapoo Woods Kickapoo Woods Boat Launch

144th & Halsted, Riverdale

Help clean the river (either on shore or on the water) and/or take a canoeing or kayaking lesson. Learn how you can make a difference in terms of the health of the river and life it supports. Clean up tools, and lunch will be provided. *All ages, but participants must be at least five to go in a boat. Groups welcome.* Register at calumetwaterwaystewards.com. **Saturday, June 3 • 10 am – 2:30 pm**

Picnic & Paddle

Saganashkee Slough Boat Launch

Kick off your Monday the right way with a leisurely paddle around Saganashkee Slough. Take a break on your boat, enjoy lunch while viewing surrounding wildlife. Beginners welcome. Call 312-533-5751 to reserve a spot. **Monday, July 24 • 1 – 2:30 pm**

Full Moon Celebration Paddle

Skokie Lagoons, Tower Rd Boat Launch

Join us for a unique paddle as we celebrate the full moon. This is more than a canoe trip—it's an experience full of surprises you won't soon forget. Call 312-533-5751 to reserve a spot. **Wednesday, August 9 • 6 – 9:30 pm**

Upper Des Plaines River Paddle & Clean-Up Dam No. 1 Woods East

901 S Milwaukee, Wheeling

Join our clean-up efforts as we paddle along the river, learn about aquatic life, and why it is important to keep our rivers clean. Tools provided. To reserve your spot, call 708-386-4042.

Saturday, August 19 • 9:30 am – 2 pm

FOREST JAMS

Head out to our summer concert series and participate in group jam sessions, learn about making instruments from natural and recycled materials and enjoy concerts by local musicians. For more information, call 312-415-2970 or email experience.nature@cookcountylil.gov.

Pre-activities start at 5:30 pm. Concert runs from 6:30 – 8 pm.

Tuesday, June 20

Green Lake Aquatic Center
1100 River Oaks Dr, Calumet City
*Rain Location: Sand Ridge Nature Center
15891 Paxton Ave, South Holland*

Thursday, June 29

Cermak Aquatic Center
7600 W Ogden Ave, Lyons

Tuesday July 25

Camp Sullivan
14630 Oak Park Ave, Oak Forest

Tuesday, August 8

Whealan Pool, 6200 W Devon Ave, Chicago
Rain Location: Mathew Bieszcztat Volunteer Resource Center, 6100 North Central, Chicago

Sunday, August 27

Dan Ryan Pavilion, 87th and Western
Part of Dan Ryan Woods 100th anniversary celebration. Note: start time will be earlier.

Thursday, September 7

Cummings Square, 536 N Harlem Ave, River Forest



SAVE THE DATE

A River Thru History, Des Plaines Valley Rendezvous

Columbia Springs, Willow Springs

Look back 200 years to frontier life and enjoy food, music, crafts, reenactments, canoe races, games and more. Park free at UPS parking lot at Willow Springs Road and 7th Street and take the shuttle bus to the site. *Adult admission \$10; family pass \$25 for 1 or 2 adults and up to 4 children; seniors (over 62) \$5; children (6-17) \$5. Free for kids under 6. Cash only. More info at aRiverThruHistory.com.*

Saturday, September 9 • 10 am – 5 pm

Sunday, September 10 • 10 am – 4 pm

POSTCARDS FROM THE NORTH BRANCH TRAIL

In August, when you visit the North Branch Trail with its newly completed southern extension, be sure to also participate in Postcards from the North Branch Trail.

From mid-August to mid-October, participants can walk, bike or run along the North Branch Trail and post a selfie or photo of themselves at postcard-themed “social stations” along the trail. Post your photo on Facebook, Instagram or Twitter with the hashtag #NBTPostcard, and be entered to win Forest Preserves prizes. Any participant can pick up a North Branch Trail sticker at designated locations along the North Branch Trail.

More details including contest entry rules, sticker pick-up locations and a map of the social stations can be found on fpdcc.com/NBTPostcard.

NORTH BRANCH TRAIL



PAVILION RENTALS

The Forest Preserves of Cook County offers affordably priced rental pavilions that are ideal venues for weddings, family reunions and more. For booking information, call 773-792-0149, email pavilion.rentals@cookcountylil.gov or visit fpdcc.com/pavilions.

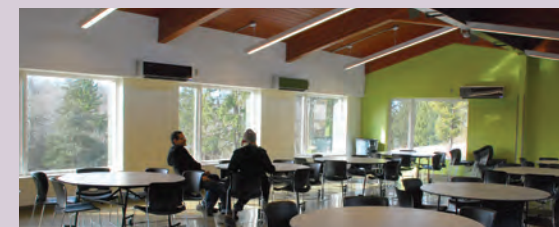
Mathew Bieszcztat Volunteer Resource Center
6100 N Central, Chicago

Thatcher Woods Pavilion
8030 Chicago Ave, River Forest

Dan Ryan Woods Pavilion
8700 South Western Ave, Chicago

Swallow Cliff Pavilion
IL Rt 83 (Cal Sag Rd) & US Rt 45

Rolling Knolls
11N260 Rohrssen Rd, Elgin



Party for the Preserves

September 23 & 24



Don't Miss

Celebrate your Forest Preserves and all the great activities available throughout our 70,000 acres. We're kicking off the week of National Public Lands Day with celebrations at two of our campgrounds. Learn more at fpdcc.com/party.

Saturday, September 23
Camp Bullfrog Lake
9600 Wolf Rd, Willow Springs

Sunday, September 24
Camp Dan Beard
200 Portwine Rd, Northbrook



FOREST PRESERVES OF COOK COUNTY

CAMPING

fpdcc.com/camping

1-855-YES-CAMP



Camp Reinberg • Camp Bullfrog Lake • Camp Sullivan

RATES: APRIL – OCT		COOK COUNTY RESIDENT		NON-RESIDENT	
TYPE	CAPACITY	SUN – WED	THU – SAT	SUN – WED	THU – SAT
Tent/RV Electric	6	\$35	\$50	\$45	\$60
Tent (Non-Electric)	6	\$30	\$35	\$40	\$45
Small Cabin	8	\$50	\$80	\$60	\$90
Large Cabin	10	\$100	\$125	\$110	\$135
Small Bunkhouse	16	\$115	\$165	\$125	\$175
Large Bunkhouse	36	\$150	\$250	\$160	\$260
Group Sites*	30–60	\$20/tent		\$30/tent	

- **Camp Reinberg**
1801 N Quentin Palatine
- **Camp Bullfrog Lake**
9600 Wolf Rd Willow Springs
- **Camp Sullivan**
14630 Oak Park Ave Oak Forest

Camp Dan Beard • Camp Shabbona

RATES: APRIL – OCT		COOK COUNTY RESIDENT		NON-RESIDENT	
TYPE	CAPACITY	SUN – WED	THU – SAT	SUN – WED	THU – SAT
Tent Site	6	\$30	\$35	\$40	\$45
Small Cabin	8	\$50	\$80	\$60	\$90
Large Cabin	10	\$85	\$100	\$95	\$110
Group Sites*	30–60	\$20/tent		\$30/tent	

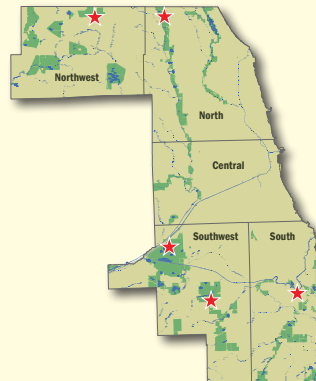
- **Camp Dan Beard**
200 Portwine Rd Northbrook
- **Camp Shabbona Woods**
15810 Torrence Ave Calumet City

FREE Weekend Campground Activities

- Friday & Saturday night campfires
- Friday & Saturday evening programs
- Saturday afternoon activities and hikes

Open to all registered campers.
(Memorial Day-Labor Day)

22



FAMILY CAMPOUTS

These special overnight events for families are a great intro to camping. Basic skills training, a cookout and outdoor activities are included. As part of the fun, families can take part in special onsite activities or festivals at nearby Nature Centers. The cost is \$75 for family groups up to 6. Camperships are available for families with financial need. For more information and an application, call 708-386-4042.

Camp Shabbona: Friday, June 16 • check in 5 – 7 pm through Saturday, June 17 • 1 pm with the Juneteenth Celebration at Sand Ridge Nature Center

Camp Reinberg: Saturday, August 12 • 3 pm through Sunday, August 13 • 1 pm

CAMPGROUND WATERCOLOR DRAWING

Camp Bullfrog Lake, Willow Springs
Kathleen Marie Garness is the 2017 Artist-in-Residence with the Forest Preserves of Cook County. This workshop will introduce using watercolor pencil as a landscape drawing medium. Participants will make a small nature journal and receive a selection of supplies to take home and continue their creative work. Must register for art class at fpcccampgrounddrawing.eventbrite.com.
Wednesday, June 14 • 5 – 7 pm

CAMPING 101

Camping 101 is a free hands-on workshop designed to teach basic camping skills to first time campers. Learn tent set-up, campfire building, dressing for camping, camping etiquette and more.

No registration is required. Perfect for families and novice campers. The programming is from 5 to 7 pm.

Camp Bullfrog Lake • June 14, July 18

Camp Dan Beard • August 15

Camp Reinberg • June 7, July 26

Camp Shabbona • August 15

Camp Sullivan • June 28, August 23

CLIMBING WALL



The indoor rock climbing wall is now open at Camp Sullivan. Registered campers can sign up for one free hour of climbing on a first come, first served basis. Additional climbing time can be reserved for an additional \$5 for each hour of climbing time. Reserve a time slot at check-in. Hours of operation vary. Must bring signed waiver with you, available at fpdcc.com/camping/camp-sullivan. Contact Camp Sullivan for more details: 312-636-0041.

CAMP & CLIMB

The upper level of the Camp Sullivan Activity Barn is available for Camp & Climb party rentals. Renters will have exclusive use of the upper level barn and climbing wall for two hours, as well as access to tables and chairs, use of the attached kitchen and upper deck, as well as equipment and staff to facilitate the climbing wall. Party prices range from \$310 to \$500 based on number of climbers. Call 855-YES-CAMP for more information.

CLIC TRAINING



Camp Sullivan, Oak Forest

The Camping Leadership Immersion Course (CLIC) Training is an overnight course that provides skills such as camping equipment use and care, outdoor activities, teamwork and nature-based education for leaders of school, community, Scouting or youth groups. After completing this training, you and your group of up to 30 are eligible to borrow tents, sleeping bags, sleeping pads and cookware for a one-night campout at Camp Sullivan. For more information, email experience.camping@cookcountyil.gov.
Saturday, September 9 – Sunday, September 10

23



The Forest Preserves and Swim Chicago Southland are working together to bring you 100,000 gallons of water fun this summer. Swim, splash and cool off this season at one of our three Family Aquatic Centers. From water slides to lazy rivers to scenic Forest Preserve views to family play areas, our three pools bring a little something for everyone to enjoy. All pools offer a variety of multi-generation programming, including Chicagoland's premier swim school, low-impact water fitness classes, special events, pool party options and more.

All Family Aquatic Centers are staffed by professional and certified lifeguards. Please follow the direction of the lifeguards at all times. Guardians are responsible for supervising their children; lifeguards are responsible for responding to emergencies. Children under 8 years old and children who cannot swim must be within arm's reach of an adult at all times. Only US Coast Guard-approved floatation devices will be allowed on non-swimmers. Swim safely!



This year we will be offering programming through Swim Chicago Southland and CELTS Swim School

SwimAmerica, including swim lessons for every age, every ability and every level.

Cermak Family Aquatic Center

7600 W Ogden Ave, Lyons
708-447-0715

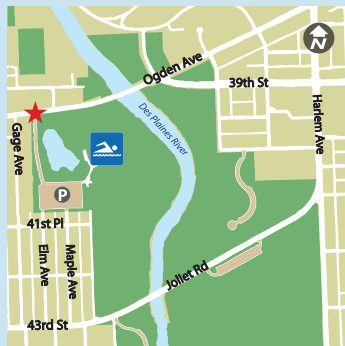


SUMMER HOURS

May 27 – 29 11 am – 7 pm
May 30 – June 2 2 – 7 pm
June 3 – Sept 4 11 am – 7 pm
(July 4 hours: 11 am – 5:30 pm)

SEPTEMBER HOURS (weather permitting)

September 5 – 8 2 – 7 pm
September 9 – 10 11 am – 7 pm
September 16 – 17 11 am – 7 pm



Green Lake Family Aquatic Center

1100 River Oaks Dr, Calumet City
708-862-1927

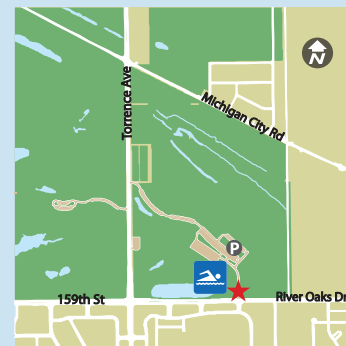


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SEPTEMBER HOURS (weather permitting)

September 5 – 8 2 – 7 pm
September 9 – 10 11 am – 7 pm
September 16 – 17 11 am – 7 pm



Whealan Pool Aquatic Center

620 W Devon Ave, Chicago
773-775-1666

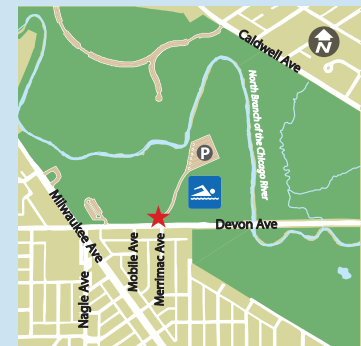


SUMMER HOURS

May 27 – 29 11 am – 7 pm
May 30 – June 2 2 – 7 pm
June 3 – Sept 4 11 am – 7 pm
(July 4 hours: 11 am – 5:30 pm)

SEPTEMBER HOURS (weather permitting)

September 5 – 30
Mon – Fri 2 – 7 pm
Sat – Sun 11 am – 7 pm



MAY 27
Free Admission
MAY 28-29
1/2 Off Admission

2017 Rates & Season Passes

Ages 3 and under	FREE
Ages 4-12	\$5
Ages 13 & up	\$7
Individual Pass	\$42
Family Pass (up to 4 members)	\$158
Family Pass (5 members)	\$189
Family Pass (6 or more members)	\$220

Check SwimFPDCC.com for daily hours and any changes.

Refunds are not available for any reason, including inclement weather.

Register for swim lessons, Aquafit, water rehabilitation classes and pool parties at SwimFPDCC.com. Fees range from \$7 for one class to \$200 for pool parties or \$400 to rent the entire pool.

H2WHOA! POOL PARTIES

Experience a water adventure, have a night of fun, be adventurous, enjoy the water in a new way. Check out our pre-designed Scout Parties and our variety of special events, or make it your own and book a pool party or get together at the Family Aquatic Centers.

AQUAFIT WATER FITNESS

A revolution in aquatic fitness, each AquaFit Water Fitness class achieves a unique fitness goal in weight loss, strength, flexibility and endurance. R.O.M.E. classes combine a high-power, in-pool workout using the water's resistance and the body's motion to create a result-oriented aquatics workout.

POOL FUN DAYS

Check the daily activity schedule located by the front entrance at each pool to find a list of games, activities and special events for children and adults, all designed to make your time at our aquatic centers a H2WHOA Family Fun Day.

FLICK & FLOATS

Join us for an after-hours pool party movie event. Bring your favorite pool float or rent one of ours. Lay back and enjoy a splash and a movie.

Whealan	Friday, June 30
Cermak	Friday, July 7
Green Lake	Saturday, Aug 26

GO APE TREETOP ADVENTURE



Experience the first-ever zip-line and treetop adventure

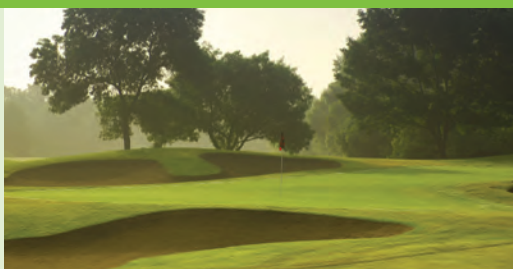
course in Cook County. More than a canopy tour, Go Ape Bemis Woods is made up of numerous rope ladders, 39 exciting crossings, a Tarzan swing and 5 zip lines. To make a reservation, visit goape.com.

Bemis Woods South
1100 Ogden Avenue, Western Springs
Open April – November



GOLF

The Forest Preserves' 10 golf courses and four driving ranges offer something for every golfer. Enjoy beautiful and well-maintained courses in a natural setting. To check for tee times and availability, visit forestpreservegolf.com or call 800-460-0010 for more information.



- Billy Caldwell** | 6150 Caldwell Ave, Chicago
- Burnham Woods** | Burnham Ave & 142nd St, Burnham
- Chick Evans** | 6145 Golf Rd, Morton Grove
- Edgebrook** | 6100 N Central Ave, Chicago
- George W. Dunne** | 16310 S Central Ave, Oak Forest
- Harry Semrow Driving Range** | 1150 E Golf Rd, Des Plaines
- Highland Woods** | 2775 Ela Rd, Hoffman Estates
- Indian Boundary** | 8600 W Forest Preserve Ave, Chicago
- Joe Louis** | 13100 S Halsted St, Riverdale
- Meadowlark** | 11599 31st St, Hinsdale
- River Oaks** | 1 Park Ave, Calumet City



BOAT RENTALS

Enjoy recreational boating on lakes and rivers throughout the Forest Preserves by renting a canoe, kayak or rowboat at one of our four rental sites. Rental sites are open daily from morning hours to sunset from May through late October. Visit chicagoriverpaddle.com for more info.

- Tampier Lake Boathouse**
Located near W 131st St & South Wolf Rd in Orland Park, 708-557-4148
- Maple Lake Boathouse**
Located near Wolf Rd & 95th St in Willow Springs, 708-361-0460
- Busse Woods Boathouse**
Located near E Higgins Rd & I-290 in Elk Grove Village, 224-415-6554
- Skokie Lagoons***
Located near Tower Rd & I-94 in Northfield, 847-414-5883

*Canoes and kayaks only at Skokie Lagoons.



BIKE RENTALS

There's no better way to see the Forest Preserves than by biking our trails. No bike? No problem: Bike and Roll Chicago now offers bike rentals at six Forest Preserves sites.

- Dan Ryan Woods** | 8700 S Western Ave, Chicago
- Caldwell Woods** | 6350 Devon Ave, Chicago
- Bunker Hill** | 6800 N Caldwell Ave, Chicago
- Harms Woods** | Golf Rd & Harms Rd, Morton Grove
- Tower Road** | Tower Rd & Forestway Dr, Glencoe
- Chicago Botanic Garden** | 1000 Lake Cook Rd, Glencoe

For more information, visit bikechicago.com or call 312-729-1000.

Season: April 15 – October 31
Hours of Operation: Daily, Sunrise to Sunset



TROPICAL SNO NOW OPEN

Tropical Sno is now open in Cummings Square on the corner of Lake Ave and Harlem Ave in River Forest. Tropical Sno will be open mid-May through mid-September and offers shaved ice with delicious flavors, made to order. Visit tropicalsnochicagoland.com for more info.



OFF-LEASH DOG AREAS

The Forest Preserves of Cook County currently operates three Off-Leash Dog Areas for visitors to let their dogs enjoy the Preserves without a leash. Please note that these are the only locations within the Forest Preserves where off-leash dogs are allowed. Visit fpdcc.com/dogareas for fee information and requirements.

- Beck Lake**
1000 N East River Rd, Des Plaines
- Miller Meadow**
2175 S 1st Ave, Forest Park
- Bremen Grove**
16061 Oak Park Ave, Tinley Park



OUTDOOR RECREATIONAL ACTIVITIES

Join our partners for additional outdoor recreation classes and activities in the Forest Preserves of Cook County.



LL Bean offers outdoor recreation classes and a variety of outdoor activities at Busse Woods in Elk Grove Village. Visit llbean.com/adventure for a complete schedule.



REI offers outdoor recreation classes and activities at locations throughout the Forest Preserves of Cook County. Visit rei.com/learn for complete details.



Trailbound Trips offers guided hikes and other group outdoor activities at locations throughout the Forest Preserves of Cook County. Visit trailboundtrips.com for complete details.



**FOREST
PRESERVES**
of Cook County

feel free

Don't you sometimes just want to escape? Explore the natural beauty of Cook County for an hour, a day or even a night. When you're surrounded by 70,000 acres of wild and wonderful there's no better place to feel free.

Toni Preckwinkle, President

Forest Preserve District Board of Commissioners

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Jerry Butler, 3rd District	John P. Daley, 11th District
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Deborah Sims, 5th District	Larry Suffredin, 13th District
Edward M. Moody, 6th District	Gregg Goslin, 14th District
Jesus G. Garcia, 7th District	Timothy O. Schneider, 15th District
Luis Arroyo, Jr., 8th District	Jeffrey R. Tobolski, 16th District
	Sean M. Morrison, 17th District

VOLUNTEER

If you have time, skills and enthusiasm to give, consider volunteering with the Forest Preserves. Our thousands of acres provide endless opportunities for individuals and groups to get involved. From removing invasive species to picking up litter to monitoring birds and other animals, volunteering is fun and meaningful. To find out more, visit fpdcc.com/volunteer.

General Headquarters, 536 N Harlem, River Forest, IL 60305 • 800-870-3666

fpdcc.com

