



Legislation Text

File #: 23-0620, **Version:** 1

PROPOSED CALENDAR OF EVENTS

Department: Department of Conservation and Experiential Programming

Summary: Forest Preserves of Cook County Calendar of Events and Activities 12/12/2023 - 1/22/2024

Please check the Forest Preserves of Cook County's website for updates and changes.

Tuesday, 12/12; 6pm

Dark Sky Walk, Little Red Schoolhouse Nature Center, Willow Springs

Walk in the world's largest Urban Night Sky Place during the darkest night of the month.

Thursday, 12/14; 6pm

Winter Fire Building Workshop, Camp Dan Beard, Northbrook

Learn fire building skills and stick around for a story and s'mores around the fire *Registration required. Please visit the website for more information.*

Thursday, 12/14; 1pm

Forest Therapy Walk, Rolling Knolls, Elgin

A Certified Forest Therapy guide will help you awaken your senses and renew your bond with nature. *Registration required. Ages 18 and up. Please call (773) 758-8899.*

Friday, 12/15; 7pm

Evening Owl Prowl, River Trail Nature Center, Northbrook

A guided walk on our trails to search for local owls. *Registration required by 12/13. Please call (847) 824-8360. Ages 8 and up.*

Saturday, 12/16; 1pm

Owl Program, Crabtree Nature Center, Barrington

Join us for an indoor presentation to learn about unique adaptations of owls that make them silent, skilled nocturnal hunters.

Saturday, 12/16; 10am - 12:30pm

Winter Pop-Up Fun, Evans Field, River Grove

Borrow a pair of our snowshoes, help with litter pickup, warm up by a fire and play in the snow!

Sunday, 12/17; 5:30am

Dawn Owl Prowl, Trailside Museum, River Forest

Listen for owls as part of the annual Christmas Bird Count with John Elliott of the Chicago Bird Alliance. *Registration required. Ages 10 and up. Please call (708) 366-6530.*

Saturday, 12/16; 3:30pm - 7pm

Winter Bonfire, Camp Shabbona, South Holland

Join us as we celebrate the beginning of winter with a large bonfire, artmaking, nature walks and more.

Thursday, 12/21; 10:30am - 1:30pm

Winter Break-Out Adventure, Thatcher Woods, River Forest

School is out! Join us for fun and adventure during winter break. Snowshoeing hikes, tracking, shelter building and other winter activities.

Thursday, 12/21; 6:30pm - 9pm

Winter Solstice Night of Lights Walk, Little Red Schoolhouse Nature Center, Willow Springs

A self-guided candlelit walk through our woods will delight visitors as we celebrate the shortest night of the year.

Thursday, 12/21; 7pm

Winter Solstice Lantern Walk, Crabtree Nature Center, Barrington

Celebrate the longest night of the year with an evening lantern walk. *All ages.*

Saturday, 12/23; 10am

Experience Winter: Winter Resident, Sagawau Environmental Learning Center, Lemont

Bring the family and enjoy a trail hike with a naturalist. *Registration required. Please call (630)257-2045.*

Tuesday, 12/26 through Monday, 1/1; 11am - 1pm

Kwanzaa Celebration, Dan Ryan Woods Visitor Center, Chicago

Seven days of music and nature-based activities following the seven principles:

Day 1: Dec 26 - Umoja (Unity)

Day 2: Dec 27 - Kujichagulia (Self-Determination)

Day 3: Dec 28 - Ujima (Collective Work & Responsibility)

Day 4: Dec 29 - Ujamaa (Cooperative Economics)

Day 5: Dec 30 - Nia (Purpose)

Day 6: Dec 31 - Kuumba (Creativity)

Day 7: Jan 1 - Imani (Unity)

Wednesday, 12/27 through Thursday, 12/28; 9am - 3pm

Winter Break Craft Camp, Sand Ridge Nature Center, South Holland

Get creative and learn some new skills. Projects will include woodburning, painting and fiber arts. *Registration required. Ages 9-13 and families. Please visit the website for more information.*

Wednesday, 12/27; 10am

Experience Winter: Nature Hike, Sagawau Environmental Learning Center, Lemont

Bring the family and enjoy a trail hike with a naturalist. *Registration required. Please call (630)257-2045.*

Wednesday, 12/27; 1pm - 3:30pm

Teen Exploration Day: Snowshoeing and Fire Building, Camp Bullfrog Lake, Willow Springs

Enjoy the Preserves on snowshoes then learn different methods for fire building outdoors and make s'mores! Snowshoes provided; 4" of snow required. *Registration required. Please visit the website for more information.*

Wednesday, 12/27; 1:30pm

Winter Secrets Hike, Trailside Museum, River Forest

Bring the family on a walk to see what is happening above, within, and beneath the snow. *Registration required. Please call (708) 366-6530.*

Saturday, 12/30 through Sunday 12/31; 9:30am - 11:30am

Restoration Workday, Sagawau Environmental Learning Center, Lemont

Join a naturalist as we help restore our ecosystems by removing invasive species. *Registration required. Ages 10 and up. Please call (630)257-2045.*

Saturday, 12/30; 1pm - 3pm

Winter Play Day, Crabtree Nature Center, Barrington

Drop by for outdoor and indoor family fun. Visit the self-directed activity stations and discover seasonal nature through play and exploration.

Tuesday, 1/2; 10am

New Year's Resolution Walk, Trailside Museum, River Forest

Fulfill your resolution of being more active by taking a brisk guided walk on our trails at Trailside. *Registration required. Ages 18 and up. Please call (708) 366-6530.*

Tuesday, 1/2 through Thursday, 1/4; 10am - 12pm

Winter Break Camp, Little Red Schoolhouse Nature Center, Willow Springs

Children will enjoy three fun filled days with outdoor activities, art making and s'mores at the fire. *Cost: \$35 per child. Ages 9-12.*

Tuesday, 1/2; 11am

Resolution Walk, Sand Ridge Nature Center, South Holland

Take steps towards your health goals during this light, 1-mile nature walk. *Registration required. Please visit the website for more information.*

Wednesday, 1/3; 11am - 2pm

Winter Exploration Day, Dan Ryan Woods, Chicago

Bring the whole family and enjoy winter in the Preserves with snowshoeing, nature hikes, art, campfires and more!

Thursday, 1/4 through Saturday, 1/6; 10am - 12pm

Winter Camp, Rolling Knolls, Elgin

Explore activities while learning the significance of the winter season in Native American culture. Presented by Trickster Cultural Center. *Registration required. Please call (773) 758-8899.*

Tuesday, 1/4; 1pm - 2:30pm

Family Winter Scavenger Hunt and Campfire, Trailside Museum, River Forest

Enjoy a winter afternoon on a self-guided scavenger hunt. Afterwards, enjoy refreshments around the campfire.

Saturdays, 1/6 through Sundays 1/21; 9am

Beginner Cross-Country Ski Lessons, Sagawau Environmental Learning Center, Lemont

Learn to ski with a certified Professional Ski Instructor of America. *Registration required. Cost: \$20 per person. Please call (630)257-2045. Ages 12 and up.*

Saturday, 1/6; 1pm - 3pm

Birding & Board Games, Little Red Schoolhouse Nature Center, Willow Springs

Watch and learn about winter birds at our feeders while playing nature-themed board games. *Ages 14 and up.*

Sunday, 1/7; 1pm

The Science of Snow, Crabtree Nature Center, Barrington

Learn about the winter season, how snowflakes form and how snow can keep you warm through hands-on indoor and outdoor activities.

Wednesday, 1/10; 10am - 12pm

Animal Olympics Trail; Bemis Woods-South, Western Springs

Kids and families can walk a short, looped trail in a fun test of human versus animal abilities! Prize awarded after completion.

Thursday, 1/11; 10am - 12pm

Winter Workshop: Printmaking, Matthew Bieszczat Volunteer Resource Center, Chicago

Calling all creatives! Join us for our themed sessions as we explore printmaking. *Registration required. Please visit the website for more information.*

Thursday, 1/11; 6pm

Dark Sky Walk, Little Red Schoolhouse Nature Center, Willow Springs

Walk in the world's largest Urban Night Sky Place during the darkest night of the month.

Friday, 1/12; 6pm - 8pm

Teen S'mores Night, Dan Ryan Woods Visitor Center, Chicago

Hang out by the fire with friends and enjoy a sweet treat. *S'mores and supplies provided.*

Saturday, 1/13; 10am - 12pm

Teen Exploration Day: Day of Service; Miller Meadow-North, Western Springs

Teens and families, give back this MLK day. Join us for a litter clean-up in celebration of Martin Luther King, Jr. *Grove 2.*

Saturday, 1/13; 10am - 12pm

MLK Service Day Celebration, Rolling Knolls, Elgin

Participate in restoration, celebrate the legacy of Martin Luther King, Jr., and warm up with hot beverages. *Registration required. Ages 10 and up. Please call (773) 758-8899.*

Monday, 1/15; 10am - 2pm

MLK Day of Service & Brush Pile Burn, Eggers Grove, Chicago

Learn what it takes to keep our forest healthy and participate in a day of service. *S'mores provided.*

Monday, 1/15; 10am - 1pm

MLK Day of Service & Brush Pile Burn, Dan Ryan Woods Pavilion, Chicago

Celebrate Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. with a day of service. Join us for an afternoon of litter clean-up, crafts and cocoa! *Registration required. For groups of 10 or more. Please visit the website for more information.*

Monday, 1/15; 9am - 2pm

MLK Day of Service, Sand Ridge Nature Center, South Holland

Stop by the nature center to participate in a self-led litter pick-up. *Garbage bags and disposable gloves are available. Registration required. Please visit the website for more information.*

Monday, 1/15; 1pm

MLK Day Restoration, Crabtree Nature Center, Barrington

Put on some gloves and join us in removing invasive species. *Teens can earn service hours. Tools and eye protection provided. Ages 8 and up with adult.*

Thursday, 1/18; 9:30am - 11:30am

Creative Sustainability Workshop, Swallow Cliff Pavilion, Palos Park

Give items a second life by turning them into an ornament, decoration, or bird feeder. Learn to extend the life of clothing with simple mending techniques. *Registration required. Supplies provided or bring your own. Please visit the website for more information.*

Saturday, 1/20; 8:30am

Bird and Bagel Bird Walk, Trailside Museum, River Forest

Nosh on bagels and coffee inside, then head outdoors for a guided bird walk with John Elliott of the Chicago Bird Alliance. *Registration required. Please call (708) 366-6530.*

Saturday, 1/20; 1pm

Skier 101, Sagawau Environmental Learning Center, Lemont

Come with all your cross-country ski questions! Find your answers by attending this crash course before hitting the snow. *Registration required. Please call (630)257-2045.*

Saturday, 1/20; 7pm

A “Winters” Night, River Trail Nature Center, Northbrook

Join us for a guided walk in the dark woods and learn about nocturnal animals. *Registration required by 1/18. Cost: \$3 per person. Please call (847) 824-8360.*