

# The TreeLine

*A quarterly publication from the Forest Preserve District of Kane County*

[www.kaneforest.com](http://www.kaneforest.com)

*Summer 2023*





The mission of the Forest Preserve District of Kane County is to acquire, hold and maintain lands within Kane County that contribute to the conservation of natural and historic resources, habitats, flora and fauna; and to restore, restock, protect

and preserve such lands for the environmental education, recreation, pleasure and well-being of all Kane County citizens.

The District is governed by the Forest Preserve Commission. Kane County Board members serve as the Forest Preserve Commission. They are:

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- Mavis Bates, President Pro Tem, District 4
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The TreeLine is published quarterly by the Forest Preserve District of Kane County. Issues are mailed or emailed to all subscribers, based on their preference. To subscribe to the print or electronic edition (or both), call 630-232-5980 or email forestpreserve@kaneforest.com and request your free subscription to The TreeLine.

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The Forest Preserve District of Kane County has been recognized as an Illinois Distinguished Accredited Agency by the Illinois Association of Park Districts (IAPD) and the Illinois Park and Recreation Association (IPRA). The two statewide associations administer the Illinois Distinguished

Accreditation program with the goal of improving the delivery of park and recreation services to Illinois residents.

**Cover Photo**

A Virginia Ctenucha Moth was spotted at Dick Young Forest Preserve in Batavia by Naturalist Josh Libman.

# Get to know mysterious and magical moths

The 12th annual National Moth Week is July 22-30, 2023. Attend our virtual program to learn how to become a real Citizen Scientist during National Moth Week. Submit moth observational data on iNaturalist — an easy to use smartphone app. Then, come out to LeRoy Oakes Forest Preserve to learn about and see up close some of the beautiful moths that emerge under cover of night, in our own backyards.

**Virtual: Celebrate National Moth Week 2023!**

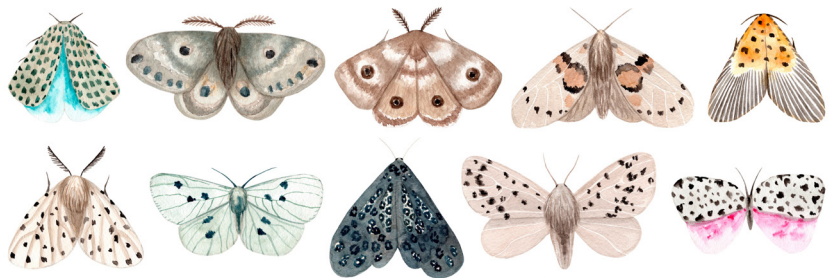
Released via our social media pages on Thursday, July 27

- Facebook: <http://www.facebook.com/forestpreserve>
- Instagram: <https://www.instagram.com/forestpreserve>
- YouTube: [http://bit.ly/youtube\\_forestpreserve](http://bit.ly/youtube_forestpreserve)

**In-person: Moth Mania ★**

Wednesday, Aug. 2; 7:30-9 p.m.

LeRoy Oakes Forest Preserve  
37W700 Dean St., St. Charles  
Fee: \$2/person



## Rusty Rodeo

Help naturalists round up as many Rusty Crayfish as we can find, in an effort to reduce their numbers. Join us in the water with dip nets to collect, identify and remove some Rusties. Prepare to get wet! Wear closed-toe shoes and clothes that can get muddy.



Saturday, Aug. 12; 10 a.m. - 12 p.m.  
Glenwood Park Forest Preserve  
1644 S. River Street, Batavia  
FREE

Saturday, Aug. 12; 10 a.m. - 12 p.m.  
Meet on the west side of the Fox River at the Historic Piano Factory Pedestrian Bridge, off Indiana Street  
FREE



# Catch what's in bloom in our local forest preserves!

## All-Ages Programs

All ages are welcome to attend these programs unless otherwise specified. Children must be accompanied by an adult. Organized groups must schedule a separate tour. Advance registration is required for all nature programs, unless otherwise specified. To register, call 630-444-3190 or email [programs@kaneforest.com](mailto:programs@kaneforest.com).

### Nighttime Nature Series ★

Explore the nocturnal world with a naturalist! These “after hours” programs provide a glimpse into the lives of wildlife that we don't usually get to see.

### Firefly Flash ★

Fireflies, or lightening bugs, are an iconic summer sight in Kane County. These little insects blink their messages to other fireflies, and fascinate us in the process. Unfortunately, the numbers of all local firefly species are dwindling. In this evening adventure, we'll learn about the science behind a firefly's glow, the life cycle of a firefly, and the threats to firefly populations. The program will conclude with a hike through a field of flashing fireflies, while we net and study these bioluminescent wonders.

Thursday, July 27; 8-9 p.m.  
Campton Forest Preserve  
4N379 Town Hall Rd., St. Charles  
Fee: \$2/person

### The Wonder and Beauty of Fireflies ★

Few creatures evoke memories of a Midwestern summer more than fireflies. Learn about the science of bioluminescence, the ecological role that fireflies play, and ways you can help fireflies thrive and continue to bring us joy. We'll round out the

evening with fun family games and catch-and-release studies of fireflies that are fluttering and flashing through the darkening skies.

Saturday, July 29; 8-9 p.m.  
Hampshire Forest Preserve  
44W880 Allen Rd., Hampshire  
Fee: \$2/person

### Moth Mania ★

Get out into the night to celebrate our most important nocturnal pollinators. We'll learn about the unusual beauty, life cycles, and habitats of moths, and then head into the field to explore the fascinating moth biodiversity of LeRoy Oakes Forest Preserve. Prepare to be amazed as we observe some local species up close with the aid of various moth attractants.

Wednesday, Aug. 2; 7:30-9 p.m.  
LeRoy Oakes Forest Preserve  
37W700 Dean Street, St. Charles  
Fee: \$2/person



### Perseid Meteor Shower Viewing ★

Fingers crossed for clear skies as we look skyward for the annual Perseid meteor shower! Our naturalist will help hone your stargazing skills as we seek out the constellation Perseus and the meteors associated with it

during this annual sky phenomenon. Learn about the legend of Perseus and other star lore associated with nearby constellations. Leave your flashlights at home, but bring a chair and blanket so you can relax and comfortably view the night sky.

Sunday, Aug. 13; 8-10 p.m.  
Camp Tomo Chi-Chi Knolls  
40W095 Freeman Rd., Gilberts  
Fee: \$2/person

### Pollinators on the Prairie

Pollinator species are vital to the lives of many of our local plants and animals. Come and learn about the types of animals that pollinate prairie flowers and discover why pollination is so important to all of us. We'll enjoy a walk through the tallgrass prairie to look for and admire pollinators.

Tuesday, June 20; 10-11 a.m.  
LeRoy Oakes Forest Preserve  
37W700 Dean Street, St. Charles  
FREE

### Summer Bird Watching

Enjoy the changing seasons as we hike, look, and listen for the birds inhabiting our forest preserves this summer. District naturalists will cover basic bird identification skills and share a few interesting stories along the way.

Wednesday, June 7; 9-10 a.m.  
Jon J. Duerr Forest Preserve  
35W003 Rte. 31, South Elgin  
FREE

Saturday, July 22; 9-10 a.m.  
Muirhead Springs Forest Preserve  
42W855 Bahr Rd., Hampshire  
FREE

Sunday, Aug. 20; 9-10 a.m.  
Aurora West Forest Preserve  
40W032 Hanks Rd., Aurora  
FREE

# EXPLORE NATURE DURING WEEK IN THE WOODS OUTDOOR CAMPS

Summer campers explore woodland wonders, get feet wet in local streams, and learn new skills during these five-day nature camps! Naturalists will lead hikes, activities, games and nature-based crafts based on a different nature theme, each day.

Summer camp is for three age groups: (1) Children ages 4-5; (2) Children entering 1st through 5th grades; and (3) Children entering grades 6th through 8th.

## Tools of the Trade: Becoming a Naturalist

**June 12 to June 16 | 9 a.m. - noon**

Kids entering grades 6th-8th

Creek Bend Nature Center/LeRoy Oakes Forest Preserve

37W700 Dean St., St. Charles

Fee: \$145/child

## Nature Exploration

**June 19 to June 23 | 9 a.m. - 11:30 a.m.**

Ages 4-5

Creek Bend Nature Center/LeRoy Oakes Forest Preserve

37W700 Dean St., St. Charles

Fee: \$145/child

## Tracking & Survival

**June 26 to June 30 | 9 a.m. - noon**

Kids entering grades 1st-5th

Johnson's Mound Forest Preserve

41W600 Hughes Rd., Elburn

Fee: \$145/child

## Fun and Fit in the Forest

**July 10 to July 14 | 9 a.m. - noon**

Kids entering grades 1st-5th

Fabyan Forest Preserve

1925 Batavia Ave., Geneva

Fee: \$145/child

## Nature's Super Heroes

**July 17 to July 21 | 9 a.m. - noon**

Kids entering grades 1st-5th

Burnidge Forest Preserve

14N035 Coombs Rd., Elgin

Fee: \$145/child

## STEAM in Nature

**July 24 to July 28 | 9 a.m. - noon**

Kids entering grades 1st-5th

Creek Bend Nature Center/LeRoy Oakes Forest Preserve

37W700 Dean St., St. Charles

Fee: \$145/child



**To register, call 630-444-3190 or email [programs@kaneforest.com](mailto:programs@kaneforest.com).**

Detailed camp information will be provided upon registration.

## Yarn Art Social Circle

Join Naturalist Erica Lemon for a monthly circle of conversation over yarn art. Bring your own knit, crochet, or other yarn art project to work within a group of like-minded yarn enthusiasts. Share tips and patterns with others while picking up pointers and ideas from friends old and new. This series of programs meets monthly at the cozy Creek Bend Nature Center. Yarn crafters of all skill levels are welcome. Register for one class or the entire year! An adult must accompany children under age 18.

Saturday, June 3; 4-5:30 p.m.  
Creek Bend Nature Center  
37W700 Dean St., St. Charles  
FREE

Saturday, July 1; 4-5:30 p.m.  
Creek Bend Nature Center  
37W700 Dean St., St. Charles  
FREE

Saturday, Aug. 26; 4-5:30 p.m.  
Creek Bend Nature Center  
37W700 Dean St., St. Charles  
FREE

## Rusty Rodeo

There are underwater invaders in our local streams and rivers and we want you to help us find them! Our culprit is the Rusty Crayfish, a tiny aquatic creature that is an invasive species in Kane County. Help naturalists round up some Rusty Crayfish in an effort to reduce their numbers. Families are encouraged to join us in the water with dip nets to collect, identify and remove some Rusties. You might even find the biggest of these varmints or collect the greatest number of them. Prepare to get wet! Wear closed-toe shoes and clothes that can get muddy. We will have some dip nets to loan, but bring your own if possible. You can even create and bring your own crayfish catching invention – prizes will be awarded for the best design!



*This is a partnership program with the Forest Preserve District of Kane County, St. Charles Park District, Fox Valley Park District, Friends of the Fox, Center for Great Lakes Literacy and Illinois-Indiana Sea Grant.*

Saturday, Aug. 12; 10 a.m. - 12 p.m.  
Glenwood Park Forest Preserve  
1644 S. River St., Batavia  
FREE

Saturday, Aug. 12; 10 a.m. - 12 p.m.  
Meet on the west side of the Fox River at the Historic Piano Factory Pedestrian Bridge, off Indiana Street  
FREE



## Youth Programs

Advance registration is required for all nature programs, unless otherwise specified. To register, email [programs@kaneforest.com](mailto:programs@kaneforest.com) or call 630-444-3190.

### Youth Kayak Fishing Experience

Get out on local lakes with a professional kayak fishing instructor from Chi-Yak Adventures. Using watercrafts specifically designed for anglers, you're sure to get into secret spots not reachable from shore. Whether you are looking to learn the skills involved in fishing from a watercraft or to pick up a few pointers for improving your angling skills, this is the program for you! Take one, two or all three sessions. We will provide the pedal kayak, safety equipment, kayaking instruction and fishing gear required to get you out on the water safely and catching fish effectively! Bring your own tackle box, water, sunscreen and a snack. We require registration at least one week prior to the program and full payment at time of registration. This program is for youth entering grades 6-12.

Wednesday, July 19; 8 a.m. - 12:30 p.m.  
Big Rock Forest Preserve  
46W072 Jericho Rd., Big Rock  
Fee: \$99/person

Tuesday, July 25; 8 a.m. - 12:30 p.m.  
Grunwald Forest Preserve  
02S035 Lorang Rd., Elburn  
Fee: \$99/person

Friday, Aug. 4; 8 a.m. - 12:30 p.m.  
Oakhurst Forest Preserve  
1680 Fifth Ave., Aurora  
Fee: \$99/person



Photo by Enviro Education Manager Barb

## NEW! Little Saplings Safari

During the summer months, we're taking our Little Saplings on a safari! This popular monthly program is geared for 3-5 year olds, but we welcome siblings up to age 8 to join the safaris. Each month, we'll travel to a unique Kane County forest preserve to explore new habitats and different sites in nature. Your child will enjoy naturalist-led hikes, water exploration, farm animal visits and experience nature at night! Get ready to discover new places and new faces! *A parent or caregiver must accompany child. Please register all participating children.*

### A Farmer's Life

Thursday, June 15; 10-11 a.m.  
Brunner Family Forest Preserve  
18N681 Illinois 31, West Dundee  
Fee: \$5/child

### Creatures of the Night\*

Thursday, July 20; 7:30-8:30 p.m.  
Elburn Forest Preserve  
45W061 Rte. 38, Elburn  
Fee: \$5/child  
\*Bug spray advised.

### Creek Critters\*

Thursday, Aug. 17; 10-11 a.m.  
Glenwood Park Forest Preserve  
1644 S. River St., Batavia  
Fee: \$5/child  
\*All participants must wear shoes and be prepared to be in the water. Sunscreen and bug spray advised.

## Eco-Lab: Dissect a Perch

Come join us for a night of cool aquatic science discoveries! Our naturalist will teach you the skills needed to be able to examine and dissect your own perch. You may be surprised to learn how much humans have in common with fish as we explore comparative anatomy. You'll also see first-hand the many unique adaptations that enable fish to breathe underwater, and swim long distances. Each participant will receive their

own specimen to dissect, and a set of professional dissection tools to use during the class. *This program is for youth aged 14 and above. We require registration at least two weeks prior to the program and full payment at time of registration.*

Tuesday, July 11; 6:30-8 p.m.  
Creek Bend Nature Center  
LeRoy Oakes Forest Preserve  
37W700 Dean St., St. Charles  
Fee: \$25/person

## Story Time at Creek Bend Nature Center

Join a librarian from the St. Charles Public Library for read-aloud stories, finger plays, songs and more during this fun program for children from infancy through age 5. If the weather is mild, we'll take the activities outdoors. Stay and enjoy the interactive exhibits in the Nature Center, following the program. For the grand finale of your storytime experience, head out to a nearby LeRoy Oakes Forest Preserve trail to read a second book on the StoryWalk®. *No registration required.*

Wednesday, June 14; 10:30-11 a.m.  
Creek Bend Nature Center  
LeRoy Oakes Forest Preserve  
37W700 Dean St., St. Charles  
FREE

Wednesday, July 12; 10:30-11 a.m.  
Creek Bend Nature Center  
LeRoy Oakes Forest Preserve  
37W700 Dean St., St. Charles  
FREE

Wednesday, Aug. 9; 10:30-11 a.m.  
Creek Bend Nature Center  
LeRoy Oakes Forest Preserve  
37W700 Dean St., St. Charles  
FREE

## Read Aloud Stories at the Nature Center

Double down on your storytime fun with a Town & Country Public

Library youth librarian. *Contact the Town & Country Public Library at 630-365-2244 to register.*

Thursday, June 29; 10-10:30 a.m.  
Creek Bend Nature Center  
LeRoy Oakes Forest Preserve  
37W700 Dean St., St. Charles  
FREE

Thursday, July 27; 10-10:30 a.m.  
Creek Bend Nature Center  
LeRoy Oakes Forest Preserve  
37W700 Dean St., St. Charles  
FREE



## Adult Programs

Advance registration is required for all nature programs, unless otherwise specified. To register, email [programs@kaneforest.com](mailto:programs@kaneforest.com) or call 630-444-3190.

## Senior Stroll

Seniors are invited to join District naturalists each month to explore a different preserve and learn about the natural and cultural history surrounding the land. Dress for the weather – these outdoor programs celebrate the change in seasonal surroundings. Each meeting includes a pleasant ramble lasting about an hour, followed by refreshments and social time in the shelter. *No registration required.*

Thursday, June 1; 10 a.m. - 12 p.m.  
Johnson's Mound Forest Preserve  
41W600 Hughes Rd., Elburn  
FREE; donations accepted

Thursday, July 6; 10 a.m. - 12 p.m.  
Burlington Prairie Forest Preserve  
13N240 Engel Rd., Sycamore  
FREE; donations accepted

Thursday, Aug. 3; 10 a.m. - 12 p.m.  
Blackberry Maples Forest Preserve  
43W231 Main St., Elburn  
FREE; donations accepted



## Trek with a Naturalist

Get your 10,000 steps in during these invigorating naturalist-led hikes. This monthly program is designed for those who like active hiking all year long. We visit different preserves each month. The naturalist will stop occasionally to interpret the ecology of the preserve as we walk – but the main goal is to cover ground! This program is for ages 18 and above.

Thursday, June 15; 6-8 p.m.  
Gunnar Anderson Forest Preserve  
719 Batavia Ave., Geneva  
FREE

Thursday, July 20; 6-8 p.m.  
Oakhurst Forest Preserve  
1680 Fifth Ave., Aurora  
FREE

Thursday, Aug. 17; 6-8 p.m.  
Pingree Grove Forest Preserve  
14N187 US Rte. 20, Hampshire  
FREE

## Nurtured by Nature

Experience the healing effects of nature. Studies show that time outdoors can relieve stress, boost your immune system, improve sleep and contribute to overall good health. During this monthly series, we'll incorporate gentle stretching, deep breathing, and a focus on awareness during these walks designed to nurture the mind, body and spirit. *This program is for ages 18 and above.*

Sunday, June 18; 10-11 a.m.  
Brunner Family Forest  
Preserve  
18N681 Illinois 31, West  
Dundee  
FREE

Sunday, July 16; 10-11 a.m.  
LeRoy Oakes Forest Preserve  
37W700 Dean St., St.  
Charles  
FREE

Sunday, Aug. 13; 10-11 a.m.  
Fabyan West Forest Preserve  
1925 Batavia Ave., Geneva  
FREE



## Healing Hikes

These monthly meditative walks are for anyone who is grieving the loss of a loved one. The hikes are over gentle terrain, and will include poems, nature activities, and periods of silent reflection so that we can access the healing powers of nature and community. Please dress for the weather, bring a photo of your loved one(s), and wear comfortable walking shoes. Registration is suggested, but not required. This program is for ages 18 and above.

Saturday, June 17; 10-11:30 a.m.  
Blackberry Maples Forest Preserve  
43W231 Main St., Elburn  
FREE

Saturday, July 15; 10-11:30 a.m.  
Grunwald Farms Forest Preserve  
02S035 Lorang Rd., Elburn  
FREE

Saturday, Aug. 19; 10-11:30 a.m.  
Campton Forest Preserve  
4N379 Town Hall Rd., St. Charles  
FREE

## Explore the Fox River by Kayak

Tour our local waterways during these paddling adventures! Our 2023 kayaking series begins with a lake-based basic paddling skills class, followed by shorter and less-strenuous river sessions for beginners. As the summer progresses, choose increasingly longer and more technical paddles for intermediate skill levels.

Each session, participants will receive dry-land instruction on basic kayaking techniques from an experienced instructor. Then, we'll take to the water for a naturalist-led exploration of the fascinating local ecology. Participants meet at the take-out location and are shuttled to the put-in. All instruction is done at the put-in. Choose any number of sessions; you can take one, two, or all six! Boaters must be 16 years or older and be able to hold breath under water while wearing a properly-fitted life jacket; independently turn from a face-down to a face-up position while keeping head above water; effectively communicate with the instructor and other participants; and manage all mobility and personal care independently or with the assistance of a companion. *Registration is required at least one week prior to the program, and full payment is due at the time of registration. Fees include the use of a kayak, personal floatation device, and paddle.*

### Session #1

Sunday, May 21; 10 a.m. - 12 p.m.  
Put-in location: Oakhurst Forest Preserve  
Take-out location: Oakhurst Forest Preserve  
Paddle distance: Less than one mile  
Skill level: Novice Skills Training  
Fee: \$69/person

### Session #2

Sunday, June 25; 10 a.m. - 1 p.m.  
Put-in location: Jon J. Duerr Forest Preserve  
Take-out location: Ferson Creek Park  
Paddle distance: 3-4 miles  
Skill level: Beginner  
Fee: \$89/person; or provide your own kayak for \$45/person

### Session #3

Sunday, July 16; 10 a.m. - 2 p.m.  
Put-in location: Jon J. Duerr Forest Preserve  
Take-out location: Ferson Creek Park  
Paddle distance: 4-5 miles  
Skill level: Beginner/Intermediate  
Fee: \$89/person; or provide your own kayak for \$45/person

### Session #4

Saturday, Aug. 26; 10 a.m. - 2 p.m.  
Put-in location: Jon J. Duerr Forest Preserve

Take-out location: Ferson Creek Park  
Paddle distance: 4-5 miles  
Skill level: Beginner/Intermediate  
Fee: \$89/person; or provide your own kayak for \$45/person

#### Session #5

Saturday, Sept. 23; 10 a.m. - 3 p.m.  
Put-in location: Glenwood Park Forest Preserve

Take-out location: McCullough Park  
Paddle distance: 4-5 miles with portage  
Skill level: Intermediate  
Fee: \$89/person; or provide your own kayak for \$45/person

#### Session #6

Sunday, Oct. 8; 10 a.m. - 3 p.m.  
Put-in location: Glenwood Park Forest Preserve

Take-out location: McCullough Park  
Paddle distance: 4-5 miles with portage  
Skill level: Intermediate  
Fee: \$89/person; or provide your own kayak for \$45/person



## Learn from the Experts Programs

These classes about local ecology are taught by experts in the field. This award-winning program series is co-sponsored by the Forest Preserve District of Kane County, the St. Charles Park District, and the Geneva Park District. These programs are for ages 18 and above. Call 630-444-3190 or email [programs@kaneforest.com](mailto:programs@kaneforest.com) to register.

### Sense of Place: Tekakwitha Woods Forest Preserve

From dance hall to spiritual retreat center, Tekakwitha Woods has had a fascinating history. Learn about the cultural history, including the decades when the Sisters of Mercy lived here. This guided hike will include discussion of the ecology of the beautiful area as well.

Saturday, June 3; 9:30-11 a.m.  
Tekakwitha Woods Forest Preserve  
35W076 Villa Maria Rd., St. Charles  
Fee: \$10/person

## Exploring Moths

While butterflies get a lot of the publicity, there are many more species of moths in Illinois than there are species of butterflies. This program will showcase the unique aspects of these insects, explore their habitats, and detail their overall importance.

Thursday, June 8; 6:30-7:30 p.m.  
Peck Farm Park  
4038 Kaneville Rd., Geneva  
Fee: \$10/person

## Towards Resilient and Equitable Food Systems

Have you ever wondered how our food supply is intimately linked to climate change? Eco.Logic is an education, arts, and community building non-profit that inspires people to take tangible action to address climate change. The Executive Director of Eco.Logic, Rozina Kanchwala, will teach us about the interconnections of climate, food, farm workers, and public health, and explain how our role as a consumer can impact these connections.

Tuesday, June 6; 7-8:30 p.m.  
Barbara Belding Lodge  
Brewster Creek Forest Preserve  
6N921 IL Rte. 25, St. Charles  
Fee: \$15/person

## Illinois' Freshwater Mussels

Plain pocketbooks, white heelsplitters, ellipses – these are just a few of the mussel species that call the Fox River watershed home. Learn about the life strategies, cultural history and conservation status of these wonders of the benthic world. Class will begin indoors at Creek Bend Nature Center and finish outdoors with a field session in Ferson Creek.

Saturday, July 22;  
9-11 a.m.  
Creek Bend Nature Center  
LeRoy Oakes Forest Preserve



37W700 Dean St., St. Charles  
Fee: \$10/person

## NASA'S James Webb Space Telescope – PLUS a Star Party

The James Webb Space Telescope (JWST) is the largest, most powerful space telescope ever built. Together with leaders of the Fox Valley Astronomical Society (FVAS), we'll explore the fascinating images released by NASA from the JWST that help unlock the history, and reveal the beauty, of our universe. Our presenters will bring you the captivating story of what the JWST is and how it works. Immediately following the presentation, we will have a star party! Our friends from the FVAS will set up telescopes outside and welcome you to observe the night sky. Weather permitting, this is your chance to directly observe planets and deep space objects that inspire a true appreciation for our dark skies. Note: this is a repeat of the sold-out program offered in December 2022.

Thursday, Aug. 17; 6:30-9 p.m.  
Creek Bend Nature Center  
LeRoy Oakes Forest Preserve  
37W700 Dean St., St. Charles  
Fee: \$10/person

## Summer Tree Identification

Learn to identify trees when they are fully leafed out. Environmental Education Manager Barb McKittrick will begin indoors with a review of basic plant morphology and an overview of the different techniques used to examine and ultimately identify summer trees. We'll then head into the woodlands to examine leaves,

bark, twigs, and fruit to identify a number of common native hardwood trees.

Saturday, Aug. 19; 9-10:30 a.m.  
Johnson's Mound Forest Preserve  
41W600 Hughes Rd., Elburn  
Fee: \$10/person





## Virtual Programs

Experience nature, right from the comfort of your own home with our virtual program offerings. Follow us on social media @forestpreserve for the latest and greatest happenings!

### Guess the Forest Preserve! 📱

The Kane County Forest Preserve District encompasses more than 23,000 acres of woodlands, wetlands and prairies across nearly 100 properties. How long will it take you to figure out which preserve is featured in this virtual, video presentation?

Released via our social media pages on Thursday, June 29

- Facebook: <http://www.facebook.com/forestpreserve>
- Instagram: <https://www.instagram.com/forestpreserve>
- YouTube: [http://bit.ly/youtube\\_forestpreserve](http://bit.ly/youtube_forestpreserve)

## Celebrate National Moth Week 2023! 📱

With an estimated 500,000 different species, moths are among the most diverse organisms on Earth! National Moth Week was created to celebrate the beauty, life cycles, and habitats of moths. “Moth-ers” of all ages and abilities are encouraged to learn about, observe and document moths in their backyards, parks, and neighborhoods. Learn how, using just a smart phone, you can become a real Citizen Scientist during National Moth Week to help ecology professionals determine moth population numbers and map moth distribution patterns. After participating, you’re bound to look at moths in a whole new light!

Released via our social media pages on Thursday, July 27

- Facebook: <http://www.facebook.com/forestpreserve>
- Instagram: <https://www.instagram.com/forestpreserve>
- YouTube: [http://bit.ly/youtube\\_forestpreserve](http://bit.ly/youtube_forestpreserve)

## Nurtured by Nature 📱

From forest bathing to bird watching, being in nature has been proven to have positive health effects. Scientists have learned that time spent in nature can decrease stress, blood pressure, mental fatigue and even insomnia. Join us as we take a walk in the woods and utilize our senses to explore nature and feel ‘present.’ Then take your own hike to drink in nature’s healing powers.

Released via our social media pages on Thursday, Aug. 31

- Facebook: <http://www.facebook.com/forestpreserve>
- Instagram: <https://www.instagram.com/forestpreserve>
- YouTube: [http://bit.ly/youtube\\_forestpreserve](http://bit.ly/youtube_forestpreserve)

## Explore Museums with Passport to Adventure



Take an adventure at area museums with the Passport to Adventure program. Participating Forest Preserve District of Kane County sites include: Creek Bend Nature Center, the Durant House Museum and Pioneer Sholes School in St. Charles, and the Fabyan Villa Museum in Geneva. The Passport program encourages children and their caregivers to visit a variety of history, nature, science and art museums to explore the people, events and environment of the area. Children ages 4 through 12 will experience the world around them through exhibits and activities at each site. The program is sponsored by the Illinois Parks & Recreation Association, the Kane-DuPage Regional Museum Association and a host of other partner agencies. Passports are available in May at Creek Bend Nature Center. For more information about the program, call 630-444-3190.

## Save the Date — Harvest of the Acorn Moon Festival — Sept. 24

Harvest of the Acorn Moon Festival  
Sunday, Sept. 24; Noon - 3 p.m.  
Oakhurst Forest Preserve  
1680 Fifth Ave., Aurora



# Preservation Partners of the Fox Valley Summer Programs

## Textile and Tool Day

**At the Durant House:** Learn how families worked with wool, flax, and cotton to spin, weave, and stitch as they created textiles in the 1800s. Watch demonstrations on quilting and try your own hand with a thread and needle. **At the Sholes School:** Learn the craft of paper-weaving and create your own artwork to take home.

Sunday, June 18; 1-4 p.m.  
LeRoy Oakes Forest Preserve  
37W700 Dean St., St. Charles  
Suggested donation: \$3/adult and \$1/child



## Pickle Palooza

Join us for an afternoon of old-timey pickling fun! Our pickling cucumbers should be perfectly ripe! The Durant garden grows fresh dill and garlic for you to use in making your own jar of pickles. We'll supply everything you need. One jar of pickles per family, please.

Sunday, July 16; 1-4 p.m.  
LeRoy Oakes Forest Preserve  
37W700 Dean St., St. Charles  
Suggested donation: \$3/adult and \$1/child

## Pioneer Day Camp at Durant House Museum

We invite kids to journey back in time to explore pioneer life. This unique, hands-on camp provides immersive experiences where learning history is fun! This summer's focus will be on how resourceful early settlers were. Campers will make their own candles, learn tin punching, use a sling shot, walk to the creek, study plants and press their favorite flowers and grasses. Spaces are limited for this four-day camp. Please complete the online registration form at: <https://www.ppfv.org/summer-camps>

July 24 to July 27; 9-11:30 a.m.  
Kids entering grades 3-6  
Durant House Museum/LeRoy Oakes Forest Preserve  
Fee: \$60/child



## Bread and Butter Sunday

Get back to basics and learn how pioneers made bread and biscuits by hand. Visitors may help churn fresh cream into butter. These tasks, done weekly, were essential for every farm family, not only fulfilling the family's needs but also for bartering too. There will also be a display of old butter molds and butter stamps.

Sunday, Aug. 20; 1-4 p.m.  
LeRoy Oakes Forest Preserve  
37W700 Dean St., St. Charles  
Suggested donation: \$3/adult and \$1/child

## Campgrounds are open for the season: May 1 - Oct. 15

Family camp sites are available right here in Kane County! You can get away from it all — without spending it all. Paul Wolff Campground in Elgin and Big Rock Campground in Big Rock offer RV sites with electric and water hook-ups, as well as primitive (tent-only) sites. Both campgrounds are within beautiful Kane County forest preserves where, among other amenities, you'll enjoy miles of hiking trails. Camp sites range from \$12 to \$35 per day. For more information, call our Campground Hotline at 630-444-1200 or visit [www.kaneforest.com](http://www.kaneforest.com).

**Big Rock Campground**  
Big Rock Forest Preserve  
46W499 Granart Rd., Big Rock

**Paul Wolff Campground**  
Burnidge Forest Preserve  
38W235 Big Timber Rd., Elgin



# Meetings, nature programs, volunteers events and more

## June

- 1 Senior Stroll - 10 a.m.  
Johnson's Mound Forest Preserve
- 3 Sense of Place: Tekakwitha Woods - 9:30 a.m. - Tekakwitha Woods Forest Preserve
- 3 Yarn Art Social - 4 p.m.  
Creek Bend Nature Center
- 6 Towards Resilient and Equitable Food Systems - 7 p.m. - Brewster Creek
- 7 Summer Bird Watching - 9 a.m.  
Jon J. Duerr Forest Preserve
- 8 Executive Committee - 8:30 a.m.  
Kane County Government Center
- 8 Exploring Moths - 6:30 p.m.  
Peck Farm Park
- 13 Forest Preserve Commission - 9 a.m.  
Kane County Government Center
- 14 Story Time at Creek Bend Nature Center - 10:30 a.m. - Creek Bend Nature Center
- 15 Little Saplings Safari - 10 a.m.  
Brunner Family Forest Preserve
- 15 Trek with a Naturalist - 6 p.m.  
Gunnar Anderson Forest Preserve
- 17 Healing Hikes - 10 a.m.  
Blackberry Maples Forest Preserve
- 18 Nurtured by Nature - 10 a.m.  
Brunner Family Forest Preserve
- 20 Pollinators on the Prairie - 10 a.m.  
LeRoy Oakes Forest Preserve
- 25 Explore the Fox River by Kayak - 10 a.m.  
Voyageur Landing Forest Preserve
- 27 Finance & Administration Committee - 2 p.m.  
Kane County Government Center
- 29 Land Acquisition Committee - 8:30 a.m.  
Kane County Government Center
- 29 Planning & Utilization Commission - 9 a.m.  
Kane County Government Center
- 29 Read Aloud Stories at the Nature Center - 10 a.m. - Creek Bend Nature Center
- 29 Guess the Forest Preserve! 🖨️  
Virtual Program

## July

- 1 Yarn Art Social - 4 p.m.  
Creek Bend Nature Center
- 6 Executive Committee - 8:30 a.m.  
Kane County Government Center
- 6 Senior Stroll - 10 a.m.  
Burlington Prairie Forest Preserve

- 11 Forest Preserve Commission - 9 a.m.  
Kane County Government Center
- 11 Eco-Lab: Dissect a Perch - 6:30 p.m.  
Creek Bend Nature Center
- 12 Story Time at Creek Bend Nature Center - 10:30 a.m. - Creek Bend Nature Center
- 15 Healing Hikes - 10 a.m.  
Grunwald Farms Forest Preserve
- 15 Aquatic Invasive Species - 10 a.m.  
Creek Bend Nature Center
- 16 Nurtured by Nature - 10 a.m.  
LeRoy Oakes Forest Preserve
- 16 Explore the Fox River by Kayak - 10 a.m.  
Ferson Creek Park
- 19 Youth Kayak Fishing Experience - 8 a.m.  
Big Rock Forest Preserve
- 20 Trek with a Naturalist - 6 p.m.  
Oakhurst Forest Preserve
- 20 Little Saplings Safari - 7:30 p.m.  
Elburn Forest Preserve
- 22 Summer Bird Watching - 9 a.m.  
Muirhead Springs Forest Preserve
- 22 Illinois' Freshwater Mussels - 9 a.m.  
Creek Bend Nature Center
- 25 Youth Kayak Fishing Experience - 8 a.m.  
Grunwald Farms Forest Preserve
- 25 Finance & Administration Committee - 2 p.m.  
Kane County Government Center
- 27 Land Acquisition Committee - 8:30 a.m.  
Kane County Government Center
- 27 Planning & Utilization Commission - 9 a.m.  
Kane County Government Center
- 27 Read Aloud Stories at the Nature Center - 10 a.m. - Creek Bend Nature Center
- 27 Celebrate National Moth Week! 🖨️  
Virtual Program
- 27 Firefly Flash - 8 p.m.  
Campton Forest Preserve
- 29 The Wonder and Beauty of Fireflies - 8 p.m. - Hampshire Forest Preserve

## August

- 2 Moth Mania - 7:30 p.m.  
LeRoy Oakes Forest Preserve
- 3 Executive Committee - 8:30 a.m.  
Kane County Government Center
- 3 Senior Stroll - 10 a.m.  
Blackberry Maples Forest Preserve
- 4 Youth Kayak Fishing Experience - 8 a.m.  
Oakhurst Forest Preserve

- 8 Forest Preserve Commission - 9 a.m.  
Kane County Government Center
- 9 Story Time at Creek Bend Nature Center - 10:30 a.m. - Creek Bend Nature Center
- 12 Rusty Rodeo - 10 a.m.  
Glenwood Park Forest Preserve
- 13 Nurtured by Nature - 10 a.m.  
Fabyan West Forest Preserve
- 13 Perseid Meteor Shower Viewing - 8 p.m.  
Camp Tomo
- 17 Little Saplings Safari - 10 a.m.  
Glenwood Park Forest Preserve
- 17 Trek with a Naturalist - 6 p.m.  
Pingree Grove Forest Preserve
- 17 NASA's James Webb Space Telescope - 6:30 p.m. - Creek Bend Nature Center
- 19 Summer Tree Identification - 9 a.m.  
Johnson's Mound Forest Preserve
- 19 Healing Hikes - 10 a.m.  
Campton Forest Preserve
- 20 Summer Bird Watching - 9 a.m.  
Aurora West Forest Preserve
- 22 Finance & Administration Committee - 2 p.m.  
Kane County Government Center
- 24 Land Acquisition Committee - 8:30 a.m.  
Kane County Government Center
- 24 Planning & Utilization Commission - 9 a.m.  
Kane County Government Center
- 26 Explore the Fox River by Kayak - 10 a.m.  
Ferson Creek Park
- 26 Yarn Art Social - 4 p.m.  
Creek Bend Nature Center

*NOTE: All events are subject to change/cancellation. Please register in advance, so that we have accurate numbers and can contact you if a program is moved or canceled.*

## Join us for Volunteer Workdays

Volunteer Restoration Workdays are wonderful individual and family experiences for all-ages. No registration is required unless you're attending with a group of 10 or more. Please make sure to dress for the weather. We recommend wearing boots or heavy duty shoes and bringing your own water bottle, gardening/work gloves and safety/sunglasses. Please arrive 5-10 minutes prior to the workday start time, and make sure to sign-in with the workday leader. If you have any questions, please call the Volunteer Coordinator at 630-762-2741. See our monthly list of workdays online at <https://kaneforest.com/volunteer> or click on the QR code, here.



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**NATURE PROGRAM INFORMATION**

**Registration is required for all programs unless otherwise noted.**

To register for programs and/or schedule school or scout field trips: call 630-444-3190 or email [programs@kaneforest.com](mailto:programs@kaneforest.com). Telephone reservations are accepted Monday - Thursday, 8 a.m. - 4 p.m.

**Payment**

Make checks payable to the Forest Preserve District of Kane County. Mail to:

Creek Bend Nature Center  
 LeRoy Oakes Forest Preserve  
 37W700 Dean St.  
 St. Charles, IL 60175

Programs are free unless otherwise indicated. Fee assistance is available upon request.

**Cancellations**

Please call us if you need to cancel, so that we may contact others on our wait list.

**Special Accommodations**

Anyone who requires a modification of policies or procedures to participate in a program should call the environmental education manager at (630) 444-3191, at least two weeks in advance of a program. Anyone who requires an auxiliary aid or service for effective communication or participation in a program should contact the Forest Preserve District's ADA Coordinator at Voice: 630-444-3095 or 630-232-5980, TTY Relay: 800-526-0844, email at [ada@kaneforest.com](mailto:ada@kaneforest.com) or mail at 1996 S. Kirk Rd., Ste. 320, Geneva, IL 60134, as soon as possible, but no later than 72 hours before the scheduled event.

**Program Waiver and Release**

The Forest Preserve District of Kane County (FPDKC) is committed to conducting its programs and activities in a safe manner and holds the safety of participants in high regard. The FPDKC continually strives to reduce risks and insists that all participants follow safety rules and instructions that are designed to protect the participant's safety. All registrants will be asked to sign a waiver and release.

**Photo Release**

By registering for a program, you consent to and authorize the use of any photographs and other audiovisual materials for promotional purposes, including printed material, educational activities, exhibitions, or for any other use for the benefit of the District.

**Creek Bend Nature Center**

Monday - Thursday: 10 a.m. - 4 p.m.  
 Saturday & Sunday: Noon - 4 p.m.

**Social Media**

-  [www.facebook.com/forestpreserve](http://www.facebook.com/forestpreserve)
-  [www.twitter.com/forestpreserve](http://www.twitter.com/forestpreserve)
-  [www.instagram.com/forestpreserve](http://www.instagram.com/forestpreserve)
-  [www.pinterest.com/forestpreserve](http://www.pinterest.com/forestpreserve)
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