

# the Conservationist

A Quarterly Publication of the Forest Preserve District of DuPage County

Winter 2014

## A Look at DuPage Wetlands

### TEENAGE WILDLIFE

The World of a Young Coyote

### McDowell Grove

The Road to Restoration



# from the president



Some of my favorite memories are from childhood winters — sledding, ice skating, snow forts and snowball fights. The first dustings of the year always take me back to those days. But they take me forward, too, to a season's worth of ways to enjoy DuPage County's forest preserves.

At a time of year when many of us seem to have one excuse or another to stay indoors, the Forest Preserve District's rangers, naturalists and volunteers counter with dozens of reasons to step outside instead. Trail fans can get their blood pumping with brisk guided walks through the woods, and gardeners can keep their work gloves in shape by helping to restore one of our forest preserves' great natural habitats. For all of those first-timers out there, we offer introductions to ice fishing, snowshoeing and cooking over a campfire as well as our annual "Wonders of Winter" event, which offers a little bit of everything if you can't decide which option sounds best.

There are also plenty of activities that only agencies like the Forest Preserve District can offer. Have you ever tried to cut ice from a frozen lake by hand or tap a sugar maple tree? Or taken a romantic nighttime walk through the woods near Valentine's Day? And when's the last time you tried your luck on a frozen DuPage County lake at an ice fishing tourney?

But even the heartiest souls need an occasional break from winter weather, so our calendar features plenty of indoor offerings, too, such as archery, art classes, concerts and natural-history presentations. You can even spend an afternoon learning to knit or bake bread by a wood-burning stove in an 1890s kitchen. And if your New Year's resolution is to become more involved, our volunteer open house on Jan. 11 may present the ideal way to do so.

From special programming to the trails, centers and open areas people enjoy every day, I'm proud of what the Forest Preserve District is able to offer residents of DuPage County and hope you'll take advantage of this season's lineup in particular. Spring may not be just around the corner, but personally, I won't mind the wait.

**D. "Dewey" Pierotti Jr.**

President, Forest Preserve District of DuPage County



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For schedules and agendas,  
visit [dupageforest.org](http://dupageforest.org).



## THE CONSERVATIONIST

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# contents

Vol. 50, No. 1 | **Winter 2014**

**4 News & Notes**

**6 Teenage Wildlife**

**8 Winter Calendar**

**17 Rounding the Bend**

**19 Explore: Wetlands**

**22 Directory**

**23 Map**

**On the cover:** Eastern skunk cabbage generates enough heat to melt its way through snow, making it one of the earliest wetland bloomers. © Colin Purrington

## OUR *Mission*

To acquire and hold lands for the purpose of preserving the flora, fauna and scenic beauty for the education, pleasure and recreation of DuPage County citizens



© Alex Ranaldi

4



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6



8



17



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19

# news & notes



## SNOWY, Frozen Fun

Before you put on your mittens and head outdoors, visit the “Winter Activities” page in the “Recreation” section of [dupageforest.org](http://dupageforest.org) for information on snow tubing and snowshoe rentals at Blackwell, cross-country skiing, ice fishing, and other seasonal fun.

## WETLAND WORK AT WATERFALL GLEN

At Waterfall Glen Forest Preserve in Darien, the District has completed a new 0.5-mile section of the Main Trail, eliminating the section south of Musk Turtle Marsh that frequently closed due to flooding. The new trail is on high ground through woodlands that contain “kettle hole” wetlands — shallow, glacier-made areas that usually hold water only in spring and early summer. To counter any effects the new trail might have on neighboring ecosystems, the Forest Preserve District will restore areas around the marsh and through the woods to create richer, less fragmented habitat for native wildlife.

## TRAIL Talk

The Forest Preserve District is working with several local agencies to bring two important links to the West Branch Regional Trail. One 1.4-mile segment will connect St. Charles Road at Timber Ridge Forest Preserve in West Chicago with Lies Road at West Branch Forest Preserve in Carol Stream. A 3-mile stretch will join Winfield Mounds Forest Preserve in Winfield with West DuPage Woods Forest Preserve in West Chicago, connecting with downtown Winfield along the way.

The two are some of the few remaining links needed to complete the 22-mile West Branch Regional Trail, which will ultimately extend from the North Central DuPage Regional Trail in Hanover Park south to the I&M Canal Trail near Channahon.



## GET YOUR 2014 PERMITS

Annual permits for private boats, model crafts and off-leash dog areas are now available. Camping and picnic reservations begin Jan. 2, 2014. Call (630) 933-7248, or stop by District headquarters at Danada Forest Preserve in Wheaton.



## OBSERVE YOUR PRESERVE

Forest preserve fans of all ages can now explore DuPage County’s natural areas with even more depth with the help of the District’s new Observe Your Preserve website, which offers photos and descriptions of habitats, plants, and animals and educational tools for teachers and their students. Visitors in the field with smartphones or tablets can search for species based on their location and post their own site-specific observations and images. To see and share what’s going on in your neck of the woods, visit [dupageforest.org/observe](http://dupageforest.org/observe).

## BRING THE OUTDOORS IN

Invite a Forest Preserve District speaker to your next meeting, and learn the latest about DuPage County’s forest preserves, from ecological restoration projects to innovative, hands-on educational programs. Speakers are available through April 15. Call (630) 933-7246.



# PUBLIC Meetings

Forest Preserve District commission meetings and planning sessions are open to the public and take place at District headquarters at 35580 Naperville Road in Wheaton. Schedules and agendas are available in advance at [dupageforest.org](http://dupageforest.org). Normally, commission meetings are at 9 a.m. on the first and third Tuesdays of the month, and planning sessions are at 9 a.m. on the second and fourth Tuesdays. At both the board discusses District business and hears public comments as well as staff reports; at commission meetings, the board also votes on agenda items.

# MANY Thanks

The Forest Preserve District thanks the following donors who contributed to its efforts between Aug. 1 and Oct. 31. To make your own tax-deductible donation or to learn how sponsorships and financial support can benefit the District, visit [dupageforestgiving.org](http://dupageforestgiving.org).



## Special-Event Business Sponsors

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## Gifts of Note

Friends of Danada — \$7,300 for the Danada Equestrian Center farrier station  
Lieselotte Gengler — \$5,000 for the Mayslake Restoration Society  
McGraw Hill Education — \$4,969.50 for cage improvements at Willowbrook  
L.L. Bean — \$2,557.50 in recreational equipment  
ComEd Exelon — \$2,500 for Willowbrook Wildlife Center community outreach efforts  
Luxurious Productions — \$1,000 for improvements at Fullersburg Woods  
Luann Spiros — \$1,500 to the Friends for tribute benches at Waterfall Glen and Oldfield Oaks  
McDonald's Corporation — \$1,500 to the Friends for a matching gift for Luann Spiros  
Tellabs — \$5,000 to the Friends for Family Expeditions



## “HOO” LOVES YA, WILLOWBROOK

In November, wildlife lovers and other supporters from across the county donated 176 ornaments — many handmade — to the nonprofit Friends of the Forest Preserve District of DuPage County for its “Owl Be Home for Christmas” community tree at the McCormick Museum at Cantigny Park. By participating in the program, the Friends received \$2,500, which it donated to Willowbrook Wildlife Center in Glen Ellyn. If tallies at the end of December show that visitors voted for the Friends’ tree more than the others on display, the center will receive an additional \$2,500.

## CONNECT With Us 24/7

Looking for DuPage County forest preserve news between issues of The Conservationist? Then check out the “Follow Our Tracks” section of [dupageforest.org](http://dupageforest.org). You can link to our Facebook, Twitter, YouTube, Pinterest and Historypin pages and even sign up for our monthly e-newsletter. Getting the latest on your favorite forest preserves has never been easier!



# Teenage Wildlife

**S**o you're a teenager, a boy most likely, and it's late fall. Temperatures are in the 20s at night, and on some mornings you awake covered in snow. You spent the summer learning the ropes from your parents and playing with your siblings, but now your folks are giving you the boot. Granted, you're a coyote, an animal that can live in prairie, forest, savanna or subdivision, but that doesn't mean things are going to be easy.

In the beginning, life as a young coyote is fairly protected. Pups are born in April and are fed by their mother for about a month. After that, both parents take shifts bringing food to the den, at first eating and regurgitating it to make it easier to digest. Male coyotes are so committed to their roles as parents that they'll continue to care for weaned young even if their partners die.

These parenting partnerships make coyotes different than most mammals. While not necessarily monogamous for life, it's not uncommon for male and female coyote pairs to stay together year after year.

By July the pups — now “young adults” in coyote years — are self-sufficient, and the family is ready to

leave the den. Only coyotes with newborn pups use dens for shelter; the rest of the year they sleep in open areas, preferably on lower ground protected from the wind.

Sightings of families may contribute to the idea that coyotes live and hunt as wolves do in packs, but wolf packs can contain unrelated individuals. Coyotes remain in parent-offspring units and usually hunt alone or in male-female pairs; prey in DuPage County isn't big enough to merit a group effort.

Many first-year females remain with their parents through the following summer, picking up valuable mothering skills as they help with the next litter. But for males it's a different story. By December the innate urge to find territories — and mates — of their own causes most to separate from their families. A second, smaller wave of dispersals may occur in January when dads evict any stragglers as their patience decreases with the advent of the mating season.

Finding areas that other coyotes haven't claimed is difficult. Established males patrol their territories with fervor, especially around the breeding season. A newcomer may only be able to spend a tenuous day or two on someone





◀ Like people, coyotes take advantage of the ease of established trails.

else's turf hunting voles, mice, squirrels, rabbits and birds before being discovered. It may stay in an area if it senses the resident male is ailing (coyotes can pick up a remarkable amount of information from other coyotes' scat) but these cases are not common. Many travel miles in a day trying to find a safe place to hunt and sleep, a quest that can take them out of the county — or the state. Either by choice or by circumstance some never leave this nomadic life.

The influx of independent but inexperienced roaming young males is one reason coyote sightings increase this time of year. There aren't more coyotes; there's just more movement. This activity may also account for sightings in town centers, especially ones that contain a stretch of the Illinois Prairie Path or other regional trail. Like humans, coyotes are trail fans and use them for easy navigation.

Space constraints coupled with coyotes' tolerance of

humans mean that two- and four-legged encounters are not unusual, especially February through June, when a coyote may shadow forest preserve trail users for a few hundred yards with a careful but calm eye as they pass through its family's home turf. Although rare, a coyote may become confrontational if the "visitor" is a domestic dog, a close cousin that instinct can easily translate into a threat.

This type of encounter is the main reason wildlife agencies advise people to always keep an eye on their pets, even in fenced-in yards, and to remember to make loud noises and "look big" if a situation turns troublesome. Information on how to address coyote encounters is on [dupageforest.org](http://dupageforest.org) under "Plants, Animals and Habitats" and "Living With Wildlife."

Even when coyotes learn to negotiate life's obstacles, most never reach age three. Cars are the main culprits in this area, responsible for 70 percent of coyote deaths each year. Malnutrition and diseases such as mange combine to create a close second. A minority of coyotes ever see old age.

It seems a fate unbecoming a species that has survived for so long. Coyotes were in North America thousands of years before humans and not the humans who started arriving from Europe in the 1400s but the groups who migrated from Asia during the late Pleistocene period 16,500 years ago. Over the centuries, coyotes have earned credit for creating the Earth and bringing fire, even life, to humankind.

For most DuPage County inhabitants, the teenage years aren't easy, but coyotes couldn't remain the resilient, enduring species they are without them. •

◀ Often mistaken for a sign that a group has treed its prey, howling is instead used to reunite family members after a night of solitary hunting or to establish territory.



▲ In winter, coyotes usually travel in mated pairs, although couples may often be joined by female offspring.



# winter calendar

See pages 10 through 16 for program descriptions.  
Cancellation policies vary by program.



S	M	T	W	T	F	S
<b>jan</b>			1	2	3	4
5	6	7	8	9	10	11
12	13	14	15	16	17	18
19	20	21	22	23	24	25
26	27	28	29	30	31	

S	M	T	W	T	F	S
<b>feb</b>						1
2	3	4	5	6	7	8
9	10	11	12	13	14	15
16	17	18	19	20	21	22
23	24	25	26	27	28	

S	M	T	W	T	F	S
<b>mar</b>						1
2	3	4	5	6	7	8
9	10	11	12	13	14	15
16	17	18	19	20	21	22
23	24	25	26	27	28	29
30	31					

## January

- |  |   |
|--|---|
| <p><b>2</b> Archery for All Ages</p> <p><b>3</b> Archery for All Ages<br/>Home-Schoolers "Closer Look" Field Trip:<br/>Small Birds of Prey<br/>Sit and Stitch</p> <p><b>4</b> Volunteer Restoration Workday</p> <p><b>5</b> Archery for All Ages<br/>Ice Fishing for Beginners</p> <p><b>6</b> Forest Fitness Walk</p> <p><b>7</b> Archery for Adults</p> <p><b>10</b> Knitting for Beginners<br/>Sit and Stitch</p> <p><b>11</b> Hard-Water Classic<br/>Knitting for Beginners<br/>"Step Up and Volunteer!" Open House<br/>Volunteer Restoration Workday</p> <p><b>12</b> Prehistoric Elephants of DuPage<br/>Winter Basics</p> <p><b>13</b> Art at Mayslake: Teen Open Art Studio Begins</p> | <p><b>14</b> Art at Mayslake: Exploring<br/>Watercolors Begins<br/>Art at Mayslake: Introduction to<br/>Relief Printmaking Begins</p> <p><b>17</b> Sit and Stitch</p> <p><b>18</b> Beekeeping for Beginners Begins<br/>Ice Fishing for Beginners<br/>Music at Mayslake: Elmhurst Symphony<br/>Orchestra and First Folio Theatre</p> <p><b>19</b> Archery for Beginners<br/>Volunteer Restoration Workday</p> <p><b>20</b> Forest Fitness Walk</p> <p><b>23</b> Ice Harvest</p> <p><b>24</b> Sit and Stitch</p> <p><b>25</b> Ice Harvest<br/>Volunteer Restoration Workday</p> <p><b>26</b> Cast-Iron Cooking<br/>Ice Harvest</p> <p><b>30</b> Ice Harvest</p> |
|--|---|





## February

- 1** Volunteer Restoration Workday  
Wonders of Winter
- 2** Ice Fishing for Beginners
- 3** Forest Fitness Walk
- 4** "Step Up and Volunteer!"  
Q-and-A Session
- 7** Home-Schoolers "Closer Look"  
Field Trip: Signs of Wildlife  
Sit and Stitch
- 8** Romantic Night Hike  
Taffy-Pulling Party  
Volunteer Restoration Workday
- 9** Owls of DuPage  
Snowshoe Hike
- 10** Art at Mayslake:  
Adult Painting Begins
- 15** Ice Fishing for Beginners  
Taffy-Pulling Party
- 16** Archery for Beginners  
Ice Fishing for Beginners
- 17** Art at Mayslake: Introduction  
to Drawing Begins  
Forest Fitness Walk  
Tapping Into Fun
- 21** Sap Collectors
- 22** Taffy-Pulling Party
- 23** Cast-Iron Cooking
- 28** Sap Collectors

## March

- 1** Volunteer Restoration Workday
- 2** Big, Bad and Beautiful: Your Backyard  
Birds of Prey
- 3** Art at Mayslake: Basic Design  
With Collage Begins
- 4** Art at Mayslake: Exploring  
Watercolors Begins  
Art at Mayslake: Introduction  
to Stained Glass Begins
- 7** Home-Schoolers "Closer Look"  
Field Trip: Frog Calls Part I  
Sap Collectors  
Sit and Stitch
- 8** Bread-Baking Class  
Music at Mayslake:  
Chicago Gay Men's Chorus  
Volunteer Restoration Workday
- 9** Music at Mayslake:  
Elmhurst Symphony Orchestra  
What's Cookin'?
- 13** Spring Night Hike
- 15** Bread-Baking Class  
Music at Mayslake: Acappellago  
Night Owl Ball  
Volunteer Restoration Workday
- 16** Volunteer Restoration Workday
- 22** Bread-Baking Class
- 23** Volunteer Restoration Workday  
What's Cookin'?
- 24** Art at Mayslake: Drawing and  
Painting Native Animals Begins  
Art at Mayslake: Teen Open  
Art Studio Begins
- 29** Painted Turtles  
Trout Fishing for Kids  
Volunteer Restoration Workday
- 30** Meet the Kitchen Maid
- 31** Spring Break Spruce Up

# winter calendar



## Archery for Adults

Try your hand at archery inside one of the District's registered national historic landmarks. Equipment provided. Ages 18 and up. Free. Registration begins Dec. 24. Call (630) 933-7248.

Jan 7	10 – 11:30 a.m.	Mayslake
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## Archery for All Ages

Learn basic archery techniques in an indoor, family-friendly setting. Equipment provided. Ages 7 and up; under 18 with an adult. Free. Registration begins two weeks prior. Call (630) 933-7248.

Jan 2	1 – 2:30 p.m.	Mayslake
Jan 3 and 5	10 – 11:30 a.m.	Mayslake



## 1890s Living

Kline Creek Farm in West Chicago  
(630) 876-5900

*Registration is not required for these free programs.*

### BLACKSMITHING DEMONSTRATIONS

Stop by the wagon shed to see the blacksmith repair equipment and demonstrate the tools and techniques of the trade. Demonstrations ongoing.

**Saturdays 1:30 – 3:30 p.m.**

### LAMBING

See the season's new lambs — some as they're being born — and learn about the role livestock played on an 1890s farm.

**Feb. 17 – March 31**

**Thursdays – Mondays 9 a.m. – 5 p.m.**

## Archery for Beginners

Discover the basic techniques of this classic sport, and learn about equipment and rules in an indoor setting. Equipment provided. Ages 7 and up; under 18 with an adult. Free. Registration begins two weeks prior. Call (630) 933-7248.

Jan 19	1 – 2:30 p.m.	Herrick Lake
Feb 16	1 – 2:30 p.m.	Herrick Lake

## Art at Mayslake

Unless noted, each program meets six times. To register, call (630) 206-9566.

### Adult Painting

During this eight-part program, learn about composition, color mixing and elements of design. All levels welcome. Mondays. Adults only. \$150 per person.

Feb 10 – Mar 31	Noon – 2:30 p.m.	Mayslake
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### Basic Design With Collage

Explore collage by working with magazines and found, altered and repurposed papers during this eight-week course. Mondays. Adults only. \$165 per person.

Mar 3 – Apr 21	9 – 11:30 a.m.	Mayslake
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### Drawing and Painting Native Animals

Hey, kids, work on the basics or improve your skills by combining art with the study of animals. Mondays except April 14. Ages 9 – 11. \$125 plus \$10 supply fee per person.

Mar 24 – May 5	4 – 5:30 p.m.	Mayslake
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### Exploring Watercolors

Join one of the four programs below, and enhance your artistic style while painting in a beautiful, relaxed setting. Tuesdays. Adults only. \$125 per person.

#### Beginner

Jan 14 – Feb 18	1 – 3:30 p.m.	Mayslake
Mar 4 – Apr 8	1 – 3:30 p.m.	Mayslake

#### Intermediate-Advanced

Jan 14 – Feb 18	10 a.m. – 12:30 p.m.	Mayslake
Mar 4 – Apr 8	10 a.m. – 12:30 p.m.	Mayslake





### Introduction to Drawing

Learn the basics using simple methods and an array of subjects including a live model. Mondays. Adults only. \$125 plus \$10 model fee per person.

Feb 17 – Mar 24     3 – 4:30 p.m.     Mayslake

### Introduction to Relief Printmaking

Learn the basics, and use linoleum to create hand-printed works of art. Tuesdays. Adults only. \$125 plus \$25 supply fee per person.

Jan 14 – Feb 18     4 – 5:30 p.m.     Mayslake

### Introduction to Stained Glass

Gain an introduction to cutting, design, lead construction, soldering and framing. Tuesdays. Adults only. \$125 plus \$175 supply fee per person.

Mar 4 – Apr 8     4 – 6 p.m.     Mayslake

### Teen Open Art Studio

Teens, join one of the two nine-part programs below, and enhance your intermediate or advanced painting or drawing techniques in pastels, acrylics, watercolors, charcoal and other mediums in an open-studio setting. Mondays except Jan. 20, April 14 and May 26. Ages 13 – 19. \$200 plus \$25 supply fee per person.

Jan 13 – Mar 17     6 – 8 p.m.     Mayslake  
Mar 24 – Jun 2     6 – 8 p.m.     Mayslake

### Beekeeping for Beginners

Learn about honeybees and beekeeping, including how to assemble a hive and care for a colony, during this six-part course, which meets the third Saturday of each month January through June. Adults only. \$25 per person. To register, call (630) 876-5900.

Jan 18 – Jun 21     9:30 – 11:30 a.m.     Kline Creek Farm

### Big, Bad and Beautiful: Your Backyard Birds of Prey

Meet some of the most common raptors in DuPage County, and learn how they have adapted to living in our environment. Ages 8 and up; under 17 with an adult. \$2 per person; \$5 per family. Registration begins Feb. 17. Call (630) 942-6200.

Mar 2     1:30 – 3 p.m.     Willowbrook

### Bread-Baking Class

Learn how to bake bread the 1890s way, and take home a pan of rolls with instructions and recipes. Ages 10 and up; under 15 with an adult. \$25 per person. To register, call (630) 876-5900.

Mar 8, 15 and 22     10 – 11:30 a.m.     Kline Creek Farm  
and 1:30 – 3 p.m.



### Cast-Iron Cooking

Help prepare a hearty meal over an open campfire, and learn tips for cooking with cast iron. Ages 5 and up; under 18 with an adult. \$10 per person ages 13 and up; \$5 ages 5 – 12. Registration begins two weeks prior. Call (630) 933-7248.

Jan 26     1 – 3:30 p.m.     Herrick Lake  
Feb 23     1 – 3:30 p.m.     Herrick Lake

### Forest Fitness Walk

Join a naturalist for a brisk weekly walk, and enjoy some exercise as you take in the wonders of the woods. Adults only. \$6 per person per walk. \$40 per 10-program pass. To register, call (630) 850-8110.

Jan 6 and 20     8:30 – 10 a.m.     Fullersburg Woods  
Feb 3 and 17     8:30 – 10 a.m.     Fullersburg Woods

# winter calendar



## Cultural Events

*Mayslake Peabody Estate in Oak Brook*  
[mayslakepeabody.com](http://mayslakepeabody.com)

### FIRST FOLIO THEATRE'S "ROUGH CROSSING"

Two playwrights struggle to finish their latest hit while saving their show and their stars from disaster. Ages 10 and up with an adult. \$22 – \$37 per person. For tickets, call (630) 986-8067 or visit [firstfolio.org](http://firstfolio.org).

**Jan. 29 – March 2**

**Wednesdays, Fridays and Saturdays 8 p.m.**

**Sundays 3 p.m.**

### FIRST FOLIO THEATRE'S "SALVAGE"

The life of an owner of a collectables store turns topsy-turvy when a mysterious woman enters with valuable items that should no longer exist. Ages 14 and up with an adult. \$22 – \$37 per person. For tickets, call (630) 986-8067 or visit [firstfolio.org](http://firstfolio.org).

**March 26 – April 27**

**Wednesdays, Fridays and Saturdays 8 p.m.**

**Sundays 3 p.m.**

### MAYSLAKE PEABODY ESTATE FACULTY ART EXHIBIT

Take in a diverse range of works from instructors who teach at Mayslake. All ages. Free. Registration not required. Call (630) 206-9566.

**March 5 – May 2**

**Mondays – Fridays 9 a.m. – 3 p.m.**

**Saturdays 9 a.m. – 1 p.m.**

### RESTORATION-IN-PROGRESS TOURS

Learn about the past and future of this historic 1920s Tudor Revival-style mansion. All ages. \$5 per person. Registration required for group tours. Call (630) 206-9588.

**Beginning Jan. 18**

**Wednesdays 11 a.m. and 12:30 p.m.**

**Saturdays 9:30, 10, 11 and 11:30 a.m.**

### WATERCOLORS ART EXHIBIT

Enjoy works by students from Mayslake's "Exploring Watercolors" programs. All ages. Free. Registration not required. Call (630) 206-9566.

**Jan. 16 – March 1**

**Mondays – Fridays 9 a.m. – 3 p.m.**

**Saturdays 9 a.m. – 1 p.m.**

## Hard Water Classic

Take part in a competitive ice fishing tournament on Blackwell's Silver Lake. Awards ceremony and door prizes will follow fishing. Anglers must bring their own bait and gear. All ages. \$15 per person in advance at [dupageforest.org/hwclassic](http://dupageforest.org/hwclassic); \$20 per person at the event. For information, visit the registration website or call (630) 876-5931.

Jan 11

Noon – 3:30 p.m.

Blackwell



## Home-Schoolers "Closer Look" Field Trips

Learn about forest preserve flora and fauna. Ages 5 and up; under 18 with an adult. \$5 per family per program. Registration begins two weeks prior. Call (630) 942-6200.

### Frog Calls Part I

Learn about the sounds frogs make and how to interpret them.

Mar 7

6:30 – 8:30 p.m.

Willowbrook

### Signs of Wildlife

Find evidence wild animals leave behind that lets us know they were there.

Feb 7

6:30 – 8:30 p.m.

Willowbrook

### Small Birds of Prey

Take a look at some common but seldom-seen raptors.

Jan 3

6:30 – 8:30 p.m.

Willowbrook





© Manuel Diaz

## Ice Fishing for Beginners

Learn about safety, equipment, techniques and tips for forest preserve lakes. Fishing will follow if conditions permit. Equipment and bait provided. Ages 6 and up; under 18 with an adult. Free. Registration begins two weeks prior. Call (630) 933-7248.

Jan 5	1 – 3 p.m.	Herrick Lake
Jan 18	12:30 – 2:30 p.m.	Songbird Slough
Feb 2	1 – 3 p.m.	Herrick Lake
Feb 15	1 – 3 p.m.	Pratt's Wayne Woods
Feb 16	12:30 – 2:30 p.m.	Hidden Lake

## Ice Harvest

See the tools and techniques farm families used to cut and store ice before mechanical refrigeration. Weather permitting, help cut and transport ice from the Timber Lake to the icehouse. All ages. Free. Registration not required. Call (630) 876-5900.

Jan 23, 25, 26 and 30	1 – 4 p.m.	Kline Creek Farm
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## Knitting for Beginners

Learn the basic skills of knitting and how to make a dishcloth. Take home yarn, knitting needles and a pattern. Ages 10 and up; under 15 with an adult. \$25 per person. To register, call (630) 876-5900.

Jan 10 and 11	10 – 11 a.m.	Kline Creek Farm
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## Meet the Kitchen Maid

See the newly restored servant's room at Mayslake Hall, and hear about the work it took to run a wealthy household in the 1920s through a first-person portrayal of a British kitchen maid. All ages. \$10 per person. To register, call (630) 206-9566.

Mar 30	11:30 a.m. – 2 p.m.	Mayslake
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## Music at Mayslake

### Acappellago

Spend an evening filled with the sounds of a cappella as this chamber choir performs "Escape to ... Critical Mass." All ages. \$17 per adult; \$15 per student or senior. For tickets, visit [acappellago.org](http://acappellago.org).

Mar 15	7:30 p.m.	Mayslake
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## Chicago Gay Men's Chorus

Enjoy this popular ensemble's spring cabaret. Ages 8 and up; under 18 with an adult. \$50 VIP seating; \$25 general admission. For tickets, visit [cgmc.org](http://cgmc.org).

Mar 8	7:30 p.m.	Mayslake
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## Elmhurst Symphony Orchestra

Take in an afternoon of classical music as members of the ESO present "The Intimate Baroque." Adults only. \$25 general admission; \$23 ages 65 and up; \$7 students. For tickets, visit [elmhurstsymphony.org](http://elmhurstsymphony.org).

Mar 9	3 p.m.	Mayslake
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## Elmhurst Symphony Orchestra and First Folio Theatre

Be in the audience as the ESO and First Folio collaborate for the first time and present Stravinsky's "The Soldier's Tale." Adults only. \$25 general admission; \$23 ages 65 and up; \$7 students. For tickets, visit [elmhurstsymphony.org](http://elmhurstsymphony.org).

Jan 18	2:30 p.m.	Mayslake
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## Night Owl Ball

Attend this annual fundraiser to benefit improvements at Willowbrook Wildlife Center, and enjoy dinner, dancing, a live and silent auction, and more. Adults only. \$75 per person. For tickets, call (630) 942-6200.

Mar 15	6 – 11 p.m.	Naperville-Lisle Hilton
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# winter calendar



© Wes Gibson



## Owls of DuPage

Find out why people give a hoot about owls, and learn about species that live in DuPage. Ages 12 and up with an adult. \$2 per person. Registration begins Jan. 26. Call (630) 942-6200.

Feb 9	2 – 4 p.m.	Willowbrook
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## Painted Turtles

Look at and learn about turtles, and make a pet-rock turtle for home. Ages 6 – 12 with an adult. \$3 per craft. Registration begins March 10. Call (630) 942-6200.

Mar 29	10:30 a.m. – Noon	Willowbrook
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## Prehistoric Elephants of DuPage

Hear about the fantastic discoveries of mastodons and mammoths in DuPage. Ages 12 and up with an adult. \$1 per person. Registration begins Dec. 29. Call (630) 942-6200.

Jan 12	2 – 4 p.m.	Willowbrook
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## Romantic Night Hike

Enjoy a lantern-lit self-guided walk through the woods with your sweetheart; then, warm up with hot cocoa and roasted marshmallows around a cozy fire. Adults only. \$10 per couple due at registration. To register, call (630) 850-8110.

Feb 8	7 – 9 p.m.	Fullersburg Woods
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## Sap Collectors

Hike to the sugarbush to collect sap from sugar maple trees. Ages 6 and up; under 14 with an adult. \$3 per person due at registration. To register, call (630) 850-8110.

Feb 21 and 28	4 – 5 p.m.	Fullersburg Woods
Mar 7	4 – 5 p.m.	Fullersburg Woods

## Sit and Stitch

Enjoy some camaraderie and pick up pointers while you work on your own crocheting, quilting or knitting in the farmhouse. Ages 10 and up; under 15 with an adult. Free. Registration not required. Call (630) 942-6200.

Jan 3, 10, 17 and 24	11 a.m. – 1 p.m.	Kline Creek Farm
Feb 7	11 a.m. – 1 p.m.	Kline Creek Farm
Mar 7	11 a.m. – 1 p.m.	Kline Creek Farm

## Snowshoe Hike

Hear about the history of snowshoeing, and pick up some basic safety tips. Then, step into a pair of snowshoes, and hit the trail with a ranger. Equipment provided. Ages 10 and up; under 18 with an adult. Free. Registration begins Jan. 27. Call (630) 933-7248.

Feb 9	1 – 3 p.m.	Herrick Lake
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## Horse-Drawn Sleigh Rides

*Danada Equestrian Center in Wheaton*

Enjoy a ride through prairies and woodlands as you learn about this historic preserve. These 12- to 15-minute rides depart every 20 minutes. All ages. \$5 per person ages 13 and up; \$2 ages 5 – 12; under 5 free. Tickets are available at the main barn (cash or check only) 30 minutes before the first ride of the day on a first-come first-served basis. Danada uses wagons if less than 4 inches of packed snow covers the trail and cancels rides if the weather is severe. Groups of 15 or more should reserve private rides, which have different fees and dates. Call (630) 668-6012.

**Jan. 5 – Feb. 23**  
**Sundays Noon – 3 p.m.**





© David Davis



### Spring Break Spruce Up

Spend part of your spring break helping with spring cleaning at the farm. Ongoing activities include cleaning the animal pens, sweeping the house and weeding the kitchen garden. All ages. Free. Registration not required. Call (630) 876-5900.

Mar 31      10 a.m. – 4 p.m.      Kline Creek Farm

### Spring Night Hike

Experience a forest preserve after dark, when animals move about undisturbed. Ages 7 and up; under 18 with an adult. Free. Registration begins Feb. 27. Call (630) 206-9581.

Mar 13      7 – 8:30 p.m.      Mayslake

### “Step Up and Volunteer!” Open House

Learn about volunteer opportunities with the Danada Equestrian Center, Fullersburg Woods Nature Education Center, Kline Creek Farm, Mayslake Peabody Estate, Natural Resources, St. James Farm, Trail Patrol, Volunteer Ranger Experience, Volunteer Services and Willowbrook Wildlife Center. All ages; under 14 with an adult. Free. Registration not required. Call (630) 933-7681.

Jan 11      9 a.m. – Noon      Danada/Headquarters

### “Step Up and Volunteer!” Q-and-A Session

Get detailed information on the Forest Preserve District’s volunteer programs, ask questions and decide which option fits your interests and schedule. All ages; under 14 with an adult. Free. Registration not required. Call (630) 933-7681.

Feb 4      6:30 – 7:30 p.m.      Danada/Headquarters

### Taffy-Pulling Party

Tour an 1890s farmhouse, and learn how kids lived more than a century ago. Then, make taffy from molasses to take home during this one-hour program. Ages 6 and up; under 18 with an adult. \$6 per person. To register, call (630) 876-5900.

Feb 8, 15 and 22      9:30 and 10:45 a.m.      Kline Creek Farm  
and 1:15 and 2:30 p.m.



### Tubing and Snowshoeing

*Mount Hoy at Blackwell Forest Preserve in Warrenville*

When 3 or more inches of snow covers Mount Hoy, take a thrilling 800-foot ride down the hill, or explore Blackwell’s trails by snowshoe. Inner tube rentals are \$5 per tube per day and end at 3:30 p.m. (Only District inner tubes are permitted.) Snowshoe rentals are \$5 for two hours and \$10 per day and end at 2 p.m. For snow conditions, call the Outdoor Report at (630) 871-6422.

**Saturdays and Sundays through Feb. 23  
Plus Jan. 1, 2, 3 and 20 and Feb. 17  
9 a.m. – 4 p.m.**

# winter calendar



## Tapping Into Fun

Learn about the history of maple-sap collection, and then hike to the sugarbush to tap a sugar maple tree. Ages 6 and up; under 14 with an adult. \$5 per person. To register, call (630) 850-8110.

Feb 17	10 – 11:30 a.m. and 1 – 2:30 p.m.	Fullersburg Woods
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## Trout Fishing for Kids

Introduce your young anglers to trout fishing at this preseason special event just for them. Bait provided. Ages 15 and under with an adult. Free. Registration not required. Call (630) 933-7668.

Mar 29	8 a.m. – Noon	Wood Dale Grove
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## Volunteer Restoration Workday

Help restore a natural area by removing nonnative vegetation or planting seed. Ages 8 and up; under 18 with an adult. Free. To register, call (630) 933-7681 at least five business days in advance. Groups of five or more must call 10 business days in advance.

Jan 4	9 a.m. – Noon	Springbrook Prairie
Jan 4	9 a.m. – Noon	West Chicago Prairie
Jan 11	9 a.m. – Noon	Fullersburg Woods
Jan 11	9 a.m. – Noon	Warrenville Grove
Jan 19	9 a.m. – Noon	West Chicago Prairie
Jan 25	1 – 4 p.m.	Springbrook Prairie
Feb 1	1 – 4 p.m.	West Chicago Prairie
Feb 8	9 a.m. – Noon	Fullersburg Woods
Feb 8	9 a.m. – Noon	Warrenville Grove
Mar 1	9 a.m. – Noon	West Chicago Prairie
Mar 8	9 a.m. – Noon	Fullersburg Woods
Mar 8	9 a.m. – Noon	Springbrook Prairie
Mar 8	9 a.m. – Noon	Warrenville Grove
Mar 15	9 a.m. – Noon	West Chicago Prairie
Mar 16	9 a.m. – Noon	Churchill Woods
Mar 23	9 a.m. – Noon	Springbrook Prairie
Mar 29	9 a.m. – Noon	West Chicago Prairie

## What's Cookin'?

Take a self-guided stroll through the woods, and discover the secret of turning tree sap into syrup. Activities ongoing. All ages. Free. Registration not required. Call (630) 850-8110.

Mar 9 and 23	Noon – 3 p.m.	Fullersburg Woods
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## Winter Basics

Spend an afternoon with a ranger, and learn how to prepare for outdoor winter activities. Ages 7 and up; under 18 with an adult. Free. Registration begins Dec. 30. Call (630) 933-7248.

Jan 12	1 – 3 p.m.	Herrick Lake
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## Wonders of Winter

Discover the fun of visiting a forest preserve in winter while enjoying horse-drawn hayrides, ice fishing, geocaching, nature hikes and more. Activities ongoing. All ages. Free. Registration not required. Call (630) 933-7248.

Feb 1	10 a.m. – 1 p.m.	Mayslake
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# Rounding the Bend

## The Road to Restoration at McDowell Grove

Perhaps it began in 2005 with the announcement of a \$74 million cleanup of thorium along a stretch of the West Branch of the DuPage River and a \$10 million grant to rebuild the waterway and adjoining wetlands. Or in 2008 with the removal of a 70-year-old dam that was disrupting aquatic habitat. Or in 2012 when equipment carried away the last load of thorium-contaminated sediment. In any case, as 2014 begins, work remains, but a revitalized river at McDowell Grove Forest Preserve in Naperville is coming around the bend.

The Forest Preserve District of DuPage County and DuPage County Stormwater Management are currently working along 3 miles of the river within McDowell Grove to improve water quality. For its part, the county is creating a flood-control berm along River Road, expanding floodplain wetlands to increase stormwater-storage capacity,

and improving the river's ability to move floodwaters downstream. Details are online at [dupageco.org/wbdr](http://dupageco.org/wbdr). For the District, the multiyear project is a chance to further enrich ecological conditions in and out of the water.

Throughout the floodplain within McDowell Grove, District contractors have already started to target invasive phragmites and reed canary grass, whose impenetrable leaves and roots leave little room for competing vegetation or nesting wildlife. By replacing these species with native plants and adding these areas to its prescription burn schedule, the District hopes to keep the tenacious grasses in check. But phragmites and reed canary grass are not the only disruptive invasives at McDowell Grove.

In other areas, the thick, leafy branches of weedy bushes and trees are preventing groundcover from sprouting below. During a flood, with nothing to anchor the bare patches of

➤ Common arrowhead (*Sagittaria latifolia*)



© G. Lovell | ADCNR, bugwood.org

✓ Muskrat (*Ondatra zibethicus*)



© Cathy Andersen



▲ Green heron (*Butorides virescens*)



◀ Northern leopard frog (*Rana pipiens*)

© R. Routledge, Sault College, bugwood.org

soil that lie between the woody plants, the soil ends up in the river, where it buries fish eggs and coats respiratory and feeding appendages on mussels and aquatic insect larvae, such as dragonflies.

To help reduce the river's "sediment load" — all of those particles of eroded soil and fine sands that end up in the water — the District is selectively removing invasive and aggressive woody species such as box elder, buckthorn, honeysuckle, Siberian elm, Norway maple and black locust on roughly 30 acres. In their place, native grasses, sedges, rushes and flowers will secure the floodplain soil. It will be one of the more noticeable phases of this project but also one of the most vital for wildlife.

The District is also working within the river itself. Newly created rock riffles better connect the elevation of the river with that of the adjacent floodplain. As a result, during heavy rains these sections of the river can flow into the surrounding forest preserve. However, where the river is significantly lower than the land, things function quite differently.

"Think of a cross section of the river as a box that holds a certain volume of water," explains John "Ole" Oldenburg, the director of the Office of Natural Resources at the Forest Preserve District. "During a storm in an urbanized county like DuPage, when discharge into the river from downspouts, driveways, sewer grates and other features of our urban stormwater system is at its peak, the box quickly fills."

When water contained in the "box" is not yet able to spread into the surrounding forest preserve, volume and velocity are near maximum and the sediment load is high. This creates friction that erodes the riverbed and the bank.

"It's like an aquatic sand blaster," says Oldenburg.

In some parts of McDowell Grove this friction has cut into the "toe" of the riverbank — the area where the slope of the bank meets the riverbed — compromising the structural integrity of the entire bank and causing the top to wash away. But reinforcing the toe can help re-stabilize the bank. Cobbles installed along the toe not only withstand high velocities, which keeps the shape of the channel intact, but also lock in particles of soil, which allows aquatic vegetation to take root. This new plant life provides added structural support while offering important habitat to fish and aquatic insects.

By this summer, a new verdant river corridor will begin to take hold through McDowell Grove. Work has begun on the cobble-lined peninsula near Ferry Creek and will soon spread throughout other areas connected to the river. Tussock sedge, giant bur reed, fowl manna grass, and great and soft-stem bulrush will provide food, cover and nesting materials for waterfowl, muskrats and water birds. Arrowhead, blue flag iris, obedient plant, water willow, pickerel weed, spotted Joe pye weed, sweet flag and other flowers will offer ecological benefits to birds, bees and butterflies. As leopard frogs, crayfish, spiny softshell turtles and other amphibians, crustaceans and reptiles start to live among the emerging vegetation, great blue herons, American egrets, green herons and ospreys — perhaps an eagle — will likely follow. The benefits these changes will bring to anglers, paddlers, birders and casual visitors will only add to the restoration's success.

In 1935 the Forest Preserve District labeled McDowell Grove as "so picturesque it must be visited to be appreciated." Over the next few months as the forest preserve's floodplain blends even more with the restored river, the sentiment will continue to be worth repeating. •



# Water and a Changing Landscape

## Swamp. Marsh. Floodplain. Fen. Slough.

The names vary as much as the images they evoke. But what are these areas? They're not lakes, but some hold water year-round. They support plants and animals such as turtles, frogs and salamanders but not always fish. They are wetlands, and they're some of DuPage County's most historically controversial yet important habitats.

Winter may not sound like the best time to talk about wetlands, but it's fitting. Their story, after all, begins with ice. Ten thousand years ago, give or take, as the Wisconsin Glacier retreated to the north, the water, ice, silt and boulders it left behind sculpted a new North American landscape. On millions of acres — 10 million in Illinois alone — groundwater settled above or just below the surface. The ever-saturated earth couldn't hold the same amount of oxygen and other gases as drier soils, but hundreds of

species of plants adapted to the “anaerobic,” or “air free,” conditions. Some grew only in mineral-rich groundwater or in springtime when low-lying forests flooded. A few floated on the water, but most rooted in the ever-submerged soils, sprouting rigid stems with leaves and flowers that emerged above the water line. All, however, created some of the most biologically diverse ecosystems on the planet.

For centuries Native Americans used the plants and animals these areas supported to their advantage, but Europeans had little use for New World wetlands. They trapped wagons, bred mosquitoes and produced foul vapors that gave people malaria. (Alphonse Laveran wouldn't discover the parasite that caused the disease until 1880.) Rumors spread that one particular million-acre wetland in Virginia even housed lions. (To this day the 112,000-acre wildlife refuge that stands in its place carries the 300-year-old moniker the “Great Dismal Swamp.”) But man-eaters aside, wetlands' greatest adversary was the growing need for farmland.

Drier prairies readily sprouted wheat, rye and other grains, but wetlands were too soggy for plows or seeds. Land owners hand dug ditches to channel stormwater away from their crops, but no amount of digging could drain subsurface waters.

- ◀ Not all wetland wildlife shuts down for winter. Muskrats use underwater trails year-round to find aquatic plants. Most they eat, but some they use to reseal the openings to their protective lodges.



© Manuel Diaz



© Richard Hixson

- ▲ Without plenty of water and emergent vegetation, American bitterns and soras and other wetland-dependent species would be absent in DuPage County.

- ▼ Sandhill cranes rely on dormant cattails, grasses and sedges for nesting materials and camouflage during the nesting season.



© Richard Hixson

For that it would take a 5-inch U-shaped piece of clay.

Scotsman John Johnston's New York farm was plagued by underground springs, so in 1835 he sent away to his homeland for design plans for the clay tiles Scottish farmers buried to carry groundwater from their fields. American farmers soon realized that the tiles yielded not only drier but richer soils filled with centuries of untouched, nutrient-packed organic matter. Within a couple of decades, hundreds of manufacturers across the U.S. were providing farmers and developers with thousands of miles of underground drain tiles and millions of acres of dried fields.

Before he retired, Johnston had installed 72 miles of tile on his own 320-acre farm, reporting a tenfold increase in yield. For later farmers aided by steam-powered excavators, the transformations were even more extensive. As the Chicago Daily Tribune reported in 1899, one landowner with property afflicted by "dreary stretches of morass" and "black and slimy ooze" had "recovered" 33,000 acres with a network of ditches filled with "several hundred miles of tile drains ... as would best serve to extract the superfluous moisture from the marsh."

Even the region's 500,000-acre Kankakee Marsh with its "rank growth of wild grasses, brushes and weeds" wasn't too big for tiles to tackle. As a Chicago Daily Tribune special correspondent wrote in 1882, "That these great marshes can be successfully reclaimed, and converted into laughing fields and pastures is the firm conviction of all intelligent persons who have given the matter any serious attention."

In the 1900s, Americans' opinions of wetlands started to fluctuate with the water table, and for early conservationists, the ecological side effects of draining the land were becoming as exposed as the soil. "Little remains of nature's original construction," one University of Chicago botanist commented in 1912, as "orderly cultivation has supplanted her wild luxuriance." In 1924 a Chicago Tribune reporter repeated the sentiment, writing, "Migratory game in America today sees a greater danger from the exploiters of drained land projects than ever it did from the pot hunters ... all due to the unwise drainage ditches, the deepening and widening of our rivers."

The U.S. Department of Agriculture, U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, Army Corps of Engineers, Illinois Natural History Survey and other agencies joined the debate, some trying to offer regulatory balances, but drainage remained the mainstay. The Civilian Conservation Corps, heralded for its contributions to natural areas during the 1930s, repaired enough damaged tiles to dry over one million acres of wetlands in Illinois in one year alone, and the explosion of postwar development demanded even more dry land.

By the last quarter of the century, though, more people were familiar with the idea that wetlands were important to humans as well as wildlife. Wetlands, especially floodplain wetlands, held stormwater, releasing it slowly into the ground instead of sending it immediately into streets, rivers and communities downstream. The water could then percolate through wetland soils, which trapped fertilizers,





© Manuel Diaz

metals and other pollutants, before refilling natural underground aquifers and wells.

With support increasing, in 1989 the U.S. government enacted a “no net loss” wetland policy. Development would still occur, but if projects destroyed wetlands, they had to offset, or “mitigate,” the loss by ensuring the protection or creation of others in the region. Because healthy, untouched wetlands were rare by the end of the 20th century, restoration was the most feasible option. In DuPage County, agricultural tiles were still draining thousands of acres of forest preserves, which made the land a perfect candidate for the program.

A decade before “no net loss,” the Forest Preserve District had already started to restore wetlands at McKee Marsh at Blackwell Forest Preserve in Warrenville. The discovery of woolly mammoth bones — preserved for 13,000 years in that anaerobic soil — at the site in 1977 stole headlines, but today’s 100-acre McKee Marsh grabs plenty of attention from bird-watchers looking to add a northern shoveler, American coot, bufflehead, green-winged teal or one of 180 other species to their life lists. (To be fair, the bones still get their share of attention on display at Fullersburg Woods Nature Education Center in Oak Brook.)

One of the District’s first major mitigation-related restoration projects started in 1997. To offset work on the east side of the county, the District removed 12.6 miles of clay tiles below 120 acres at Pratt’s Wayne Woods Forest Preserve in Wayne. To further rehydrate the soil, it removed weedy brush such as nonnative buckthorn and honeysuckle and select, larger trees. Invasive woody plants are detrimental to wetlands because their

roots remove excessive amounts of water from the soil, moisture that’s permanently lost as it’s released into the air through plant respiration.

The District replaced the invasives with native species ideal for anaerobic soils, such as great Angelica, marsh marigold, shooting star, nodding ladies’ tresses and spotted Joe pye weed. In summer, the plants provide habitat for American bitterns, yellow-headed blackbirds, and breeding sandhill cranes and Virginia rails. In winter, the water itself offers irreplaceable below-ice refuge for hibernating reptiles and amphibians, such as the state-endangered Blanding’s turtle. In large part because of this biological diversity, in 2012 the state designated the 120 acres and an additional 136 as the Brewster Creek Marsh Nature Preserve.

Because wetland restoration work is a year-round effort, this winter the Forest Preserve District and DuPage County Stormwater Management are continuing work started in May to rehydrate 90 acres at West Branch Forest Preserve in Bartlett, funded in part by mitigation dollars from work at O’Hare Airport. When completed, the project will also restore the 34-acre Klein Fen, which includes a rare

“hanging” fen at the top, where mineral-rich groundwater discharges like a small erupting volcano. Details on the work at West Branch Forest Preserve is online at [dupageforest.org](http://dupageforest.org) under “Forest Preserve News” and “Plans and Projects.”

In Herrick Lake in Wheaton, Churchill Woods in Lombard, Waterfall Glen in Darien and other forest preserves throughout the county, revitalized wetlands offer places of great beauty — and purpose, even in winter. As author David M. Carroll attributes to his own favorite marsh this season, “The touch of the ascendant sun on ice at length gives birth to water, and water gives life to the year.” Fitting words for a landscape created by ice in the first place. •

- Thawing marshes provide much-needed meals to great blue herons that migrate back to DuPage County early in the year.



© Ian Crites

# directory



## GENERAL *Contacts*

### HEADQUARTERS

#### Street Address

35580 Naperville Road  
Wheaton, IL 60189

The headquarters office is open Monday through Friday from 8 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. The office is closed on Saturday, Sunday and select holidays.

#### Mailing Address

P.O. Box 5000  
Wheaton, IL 60189

#### Website

[dupageforest.org](http://dupageforest.org)

#### Email Address

[forest@dupageforest.org](mailto:forest@dupageforest.org)

#### Main Number

(630) 933-7200

#### TTY

(800) 526-0857

### THE CONSERVATIONIST SUBSCRIPTION LINE

(630) 933-7085

### FUNDRAISING AND DEVELOPMENT

(630) 871-6400

### LAW ENFORCEMENT

(630) 933-7240

### THE OUTDOOR REPORT

(630) 871-6422

### VISITOR SERVICES

(630) 933-7248

### VOLUNTEER SERVICES

(630) 933-7681

## GOLF *Courses*

### GREEN MEADOWS GOLF COURSE

18W201 W. 63rd St.  
Westmont, IL 60559  
(630) 810-5330

### MAPLE MEADOWS GOLF COURSE

272 S. Addison Road  
Wood Dale, IL 60191  
(630) 616-8424

### OAK MEADOWS GOLF COURSE

900 N. Wood Dale Road  
Addison, IL 60101  
(630) 595-0071



## PRESERVE *Hours*

Most forest preserves are open daily from one hour after sunrise until one hour after sunset.

## ACCESSIBILITY

Individuals with accessibility needs or concerns should contact the District's ADA coordinator at (630) 933-7683 or TTY (800) 526-0857 at least three business days before their visit.

## EDUCATION *Centers*

### DANADA EQUESTRIAN CENTER

35507 Naperville Road  
Wheaton, IL 60189  
(630) 668-6012

The center's office is open Monday through Friday from 8 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. and is closed on Saturday, Sunday and select holidays.

### FULLERSBURG WOODS NATURE EDUCATION CENTER

3609 Spring Road  
Oak Brook, IL 60523  
(630) 850-8110

The center is open daily April through October from 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. November through March hours may vary. It is closed on select holidays.

### KLINE CREEK FARM

1N600 County Farm Road  
West Chicago, IL 60185  
(630) 876-5900

The farm is open Thursday through Monday from 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. and is closed on Tuesday, Wednesday and select holidays.

### MAYSLAKE PEABODY ESTATE

1717 W. 31st St.  
Oak Brook, IL 60523  
(630) 206-9566

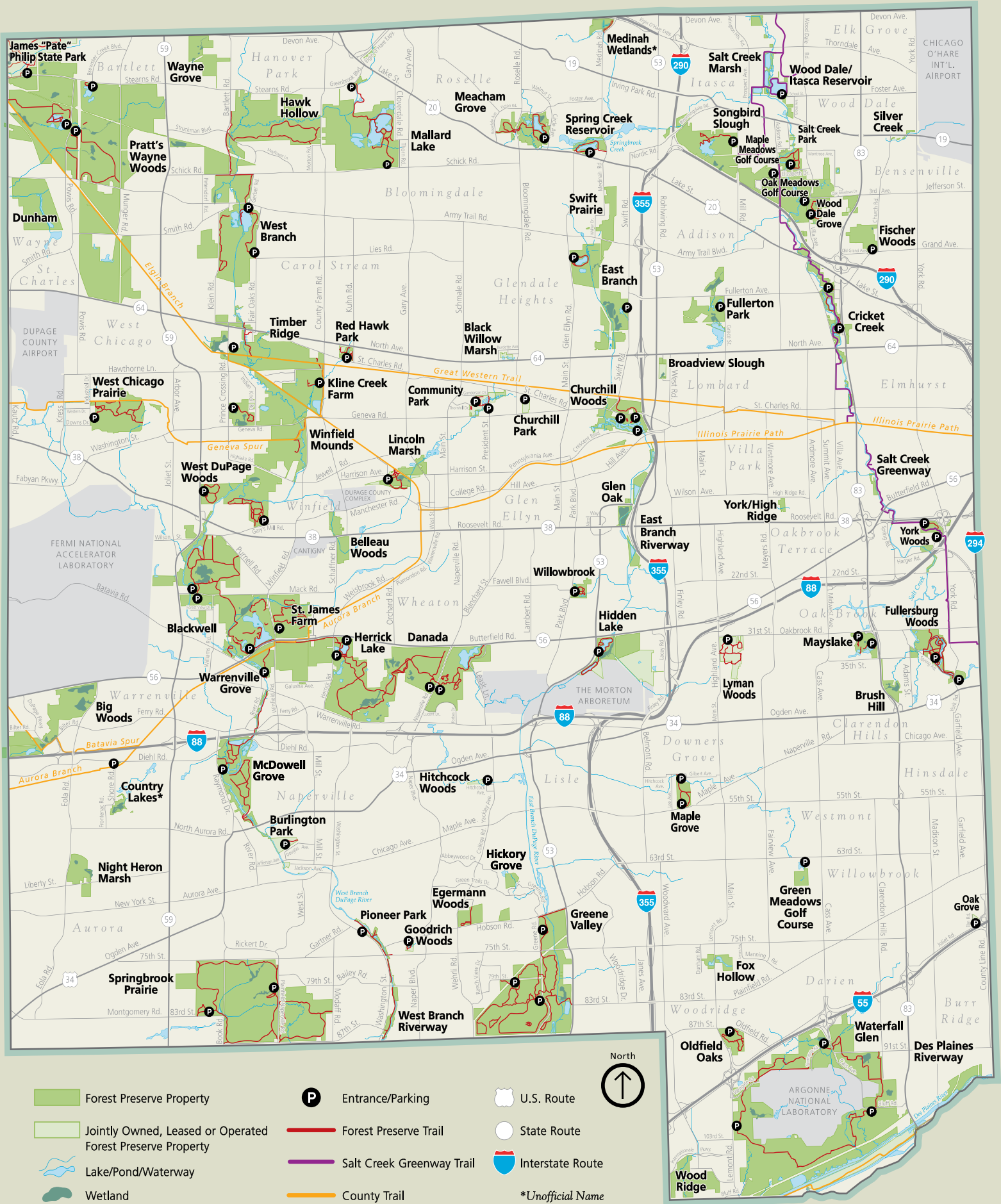
The estate is open only during scheduled programs and events.

### WILLOWBROOK WILDLIFE CENTER

525 S. Park Blvd.  
Glen Ellyn, IL 60137  
(630) 942-6200

The center and the surrounding Willowbrook Forest Preserve are open daily from 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. and are closed on select holidays.







P.O. Box 5000  
Wheaton, IL 60189-5000  
(630) 933-7200  
[dupageforest.org](http://dupageforest.org)

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# the Conservationist

A Quarterly Publication of the Forest Preserve District of DuPage County

**Winter 2014**

## This Winter

**Volunteer Open House**  
**Jan. 11**

**Wonders of Winter**  
**Feb. 1**

**Night Owl Ball**  
**March 15**

Open to Page 8 or visit  
[dupageforest.org](http://dupageforest.org) for details  
on these and other great events!



**Forest Preserve District of DuPage County**

