

the Conservationist

A Quarterly Publication of the Forest Preserve District of DuPage County **Summer 2020**

Welcome Back!

The Return of the
Blanchard's Cricket Frog

Rocks With Guts

Forest Preserve Updates



Forest Preserve District of DuPage County

from the president



If you thought you missed something in your mailbox when April rolled around you were correct. As we readied to send out the spring issue of the *Conservationist* a lot was going on in Illinois, and because most of our spring content had to do with programming, we opted to pull the issue rather than send out outdated information.

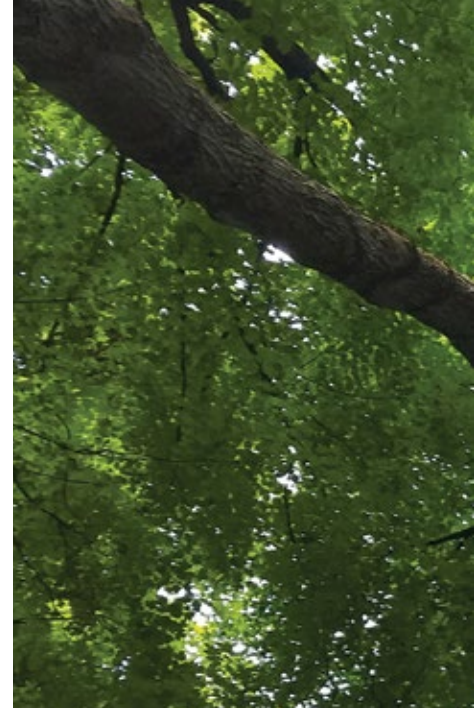
Much has happened since then and change is occurring rapidly with the state in phase 4 of Restore Illinois. Although our visitor centers remain closed for the safety of our guests as well as our staff, preserves remain open and visiting is a great way to improve your mood and reduce stress during these challenging times. Spending time in nature is more important now than ever, and if you follow the tips on the back page, just 5 minutes in a DuPage forest preserve can make a world of difference. And with gyms still with limited access, our 166 miles of trails continue to provide consistent ways to exercise. (Plus you burn 10% more calories if you run on a trail instead of a treadmill!)

We are continually looking at the best ways to safely reopen our facilities and programming as well. Most forest preserve special use areas are now open, we are accepting online reservations for picnic shelters and the family campground at Blackwell, and we are taking phone reservations for several of our youth-ground campgrounds. Our summer events calendar may not be as extensive as those in the past, but if you turn to Page 10 you'll find we've adapted some perennial outdoor favorites to meet current social distancing guidelines.

We look forward to offering even more activities, some even before the next *Conservationist* hits your mailbox, so make sure to visit dupageforest.org for the latest!

Daniel Hebreard

President, Forest Preserve District of DuPage County



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BOARD MEETINGS

For schedules and agendas or to watch live or recorded meetings, visit dupageforest.org.



THE CONSERVATIONIST

Summer 2020, Vol. 56, No. 3

Community Relations Director

Tony Martinez Jr.



FOREST PRESERVE DISTRICT OF DUPAGE COUNTY

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dupageforest.org

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On the cover: Blanchard's cricket frog © Meghan Cassidy

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

© Chris Harrison

© m_ignoffo

news & notes

PLEASE NOTE

At press time the information in News & Notes is correct, but as Restore Illinois guidelines change, so might the Forest Preserve District's lineup. For the latest, visit dupageforest.org.

PICNIC SHELTERS *Now Open*

Great news! DuPage forest preserve picnic shelters are again open and ready for reservations.

Following Restore Illinois phase 4 guidelines, capacities are at 50%. This means that even the largest shelters cannot have more than 50 people and that a few sites are not available. Groups with reservations can choose to either sanitize picnic tables when they arrive or have Forest Preserve District staff do so for a \$65 fee. Portable and pit toilets are open, and flush restrooms are expected to open in late August.

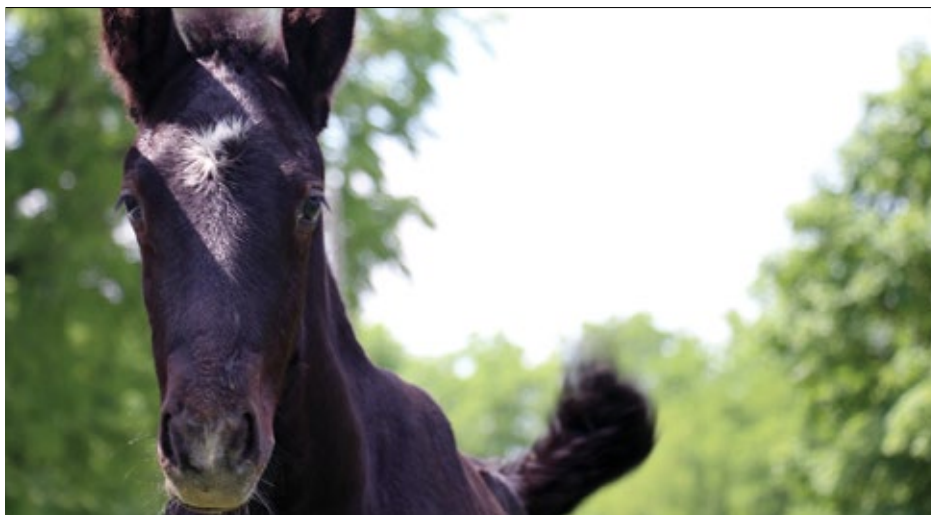
To reserve a shelter visit dupageforest.org and click "Registration & Permits," or call Visitor Services at 630-933-7248 at least three full business days in advance.



DAILY WATERCRAFT PERMITS NOW ONLINE

Daily private watercraft permits are now available online 24/7 and through Visitor Services weekdays 8 a.m. – 4 p.m. and Saturdays through Aug. 29 9 a.m. – 2 p.m. There are no longer steel lockboxes at the four private watercraft lakes.

To purchase a permit, visit dupageforest.org, click "Registration & Permits" and "Purchase Permits." Then, scroll down to "Daily Watercraft Permit." Detailed instructions are also posted at each lake.



OH, BABY!

The Friends of the Forest Preserve District and Danada Equestrian Center are hosting an online "Oh, Baby! Shower" between Aug. 1 and Sept. 7 to raise \$3,000 for Duke, the newest addition to the Danada herd. Money raised will help pay for the colt's first year of care and training. Each donor who gives \$20 or more will receive a hand-drawn portrait capturing the personality of Duke or a Danada horse of choice, each created by a center volunteer or employee. For more information, visit dupageforest.org/oh-baby-shower.

Born May 25, Duke is the first horse to be born at Danada in 10 years. Weather permitting, visitors can see the colt and his mother, Daisy, in the paddock each morning 8 – 8:30 a.m. (The grounds and surrounding forest preserve are open, but the barn and other buildings remain closed due to COVID-19.) They can also follow Duke's antics at [facebook.com/danadaequestriancenter](https://www.facebook.com/danadaequestriancenter).



SELECT YOUTH-GROUP CAMPSITES REOPEN

The youth-group campgrounds at Churchill Woods, Greene Valley, Pratt's Wayne Woods and Waterfall Glen are reopening Aug. 1 and are now taking reservations. Following phase 4 guidelines of Restore Illinois, sites will be limited to 50% of their normal capacity.

The Herrick Lake youth-group cabin will not be reopening at this time, and the Blackwell campground remains closed due to habitat restoration work along Spring Brook.

The areas are exclusively for youth groups, which are defined as recognized, nonprofit organizations whose members are 17 or younger, and only members of these groups with their accompanying leaders may camp in these areas. As always, advanced reservations are required through Visitor Services at 630-933-7248.



OH NO! FORGET TO CALL US FRIDAY?

Need help with that shelter reservation, private watercraft permit or off-leash dog area question on Saturday morning? Visitor Services is open 9 a.m. – 2 p.m. Saturdays through Aug. 29. These hours are in addition to the regular 8 a.m. – 4 p.m. Monday – Friday schedule.

Give us a call at 630-933-7248 or email permits@dupageforest.org. If visiting the office at 3S580 Naperville Road in Wheaton, please note that you must wear a mask that covers your nose and mouth and follow the social-distancing floor markers.

A CLOSER LOOK

at Historic St. James Farm

A walk through St. James Farm offers a look at beautiful natural scenery, and this summer, special displays offer a look at some of the site's cultural history, too.

Select buildings are open, and a few feature items from the property's years as a working farm. In the milk house, for instance, visitors can see vintage pails and Bowman Dairy milk containers; a ball-bearing cream separator; and a show trunk used at one of the farm's annual "Field Days," which showcased the farm's Guernsey cows.

The farm served as a benchmark for breeding Guernseys, and its owners, the McCormicks, shared their knowledge of the breed and the pasteurization process with area dairy farmers not only to enhance milk production but also to give back to their community.



BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS *Meetings*

For the safety of visitors as well as staff, until further notice, all Board of Commissioners meetings will be online only. For details on how to watch meetings live, submit public comments, or watch recordings of previous meetings, visit dupageforest.org and click "Our Board." Links to agendas and minutes are posted there as well.

Normally, commission meetings are at 8 a.m. on the first and third Tuesdays of the month; planning sessions, 8 a.m. on the second and fourth Tuesdays. At both the board hears public comments and staff reports, discusses business, and votes on agenda items.

**NEWS & NOTES
CONTINUED ON PAGE 12**

Welcome Back

by **DAN THOMPSON**, NATURAL RESOURCES

After an absence of nearly 50 years, the Blanchard's cricket frog has returned to DuPage forest preserves!

The Blanchard's cricket frog is a member of the tree frog family, which in DuPage includes boreal chorus frogs and spring peepers. Its common name is a nod to well-known herpetologist Frank Blanchard and to the subset of frogs it belongs to, which can jump a bit like crickets. Its skin is typically light brown with dark spots and occasional green highlights; in most cases there's a dark triangle behind the eyes. Like other tree frogs it has small sticky pads on its toes, but it spends its time on the ground and not in trees, so these pads are not well-developed. Unlike other tree frogs it has bumpy skin that makes it look a bit like a toad.

At 1.5 inches long, though, and with the ability to change color based on its surroundings, the Blanchard's cricket frog is rarely seen. But now that it's returned to DuPage, it's starting to be heard. Males call during the mating season (usually April into summer) to attract females but sound more like insects than frogs. The clicks they make sound like tiny stones or marbles being tapped together.

Blanchard's cricket frogs live near the edges of lakes, ponds, streams, and marshes, where they primarily feed on small terrestrial and aquatic insects and spiders. Environmentally, they and other amphibians play important roles in the food web, serving as both predators and prey and keeping things ecologically balanced. As predators, they help keep insect populations in check; as prey, they sustain a variety of birds, mammals, reptiles, and other amphibians.

Amphibians as a group are important to humans and the environment. For people, they serve as environmental indicators. Most amphibians have thin skin, which makes them highly sensitive to pollutants and other ecological factors. Negative environmental changes are quickly reflected by an increase in malformations, reproductive problems and population declines. Amphibians also provide a source of biomedicines that can help with a variety of human health issues.

In the 1960s the Blanchard's cricket frog was considered one of the most abundant frogs in northeastern Illinois, but these small amphibians disappeared quite suddenly. The reason is still unclear, but researchers speculate it was the result of less stringent regulations on pollutants such as PCBs and the use of the pesticide DDT. DDT in particular is well-known for the damage it does to the eggs of birds of prey (think California condors and bald eagles), but it may play an equally detrimental role in declining populations of frogs and other amphibians.

Fortunately, the socially driven environmental movement of the 1970s spurred the establishment of the Environmental Protection Agency in 1972 and the Endangered Species Act in 1973, and DDT and other pesticides were soon banned. This turned around the fate of many species, including the Blanchard's cricket frog quite likely.

A few years ago, Forest Preserve District ecologists were accompanying their counterparts from the Illinois Natural History Survey through Will County when they spotted Blanchard's cricket frogs along a corridor that connects Will and DuPage. It took a few years, but Forest Preserve District



© jeannevc



© Allan Clayton

▲ Blanchard's cricket frogs have the ability to change color to match their surroundings, a great form of camouflage.



© Chris Harrison

▲ The clicking call of a male Blanchard's cricket frog sounds like two small stones being tapped together.

ecologists and volunteer frog monitors started hearing and seeing the frogs in DuPage forest preserves as well. Volunteers continue to focus on Blanchard's cricket frogs and play a key role in tracking the amphibians as they slowly spread into additional areas.

Today DuPage has not only Blanchard's cricket frogs but also bald eagles, ospreys and other birds of prey, all living, breeding and successfully raising young once again. They're great examples of how we all benefit with a healthier and more ecologically diverse world. As years pass on, the hope is that the sound of tapping pebbles will heard even more. •



© Bill Schur

▲ Blanchard's cricket frogs are important predators that help keep insect populations in check.



© Kenneth Bader

▲ At just 1.5 inches, Blanchard's cricket frogs are likely heard during the breeding season before they're ever seen.



Rocks With Guts

by JESSI DEMARTINI, NATURAL RESOURCES

© Philippe Blais

The water is clear, the sun is out, and I'm walking in the river, bending and peering down to the bottom, scanning each rock closely to find one with guts. Yes, a rock with guts. That's a friendly term used by eco-nerds like me for a living, breathing, filter-feeding animal commonly called a freshwater mussel.

Native freshwater mussels are "bivalved mollusks." This means they have two shells protecting a soft inner body. They're found in most DuPage rivers and streams and are related to the saltwater varieties many people eat. They come in all shapes, sizes, colors, and designs, making it tricky to figure out which is which, and have names such as fatmucket, round pigtoe, plain pocketbook, and slippershell.

They may not be as cute and fuzzy or as noticeable as other wild animals, but freshwater mussels are an important part of the natural history of North America. The United States has the world's greatest diversity of freshwater mussels, but 213 of the country's 297 known species are threatened, endangered,

or extinct, including half of the 80 species that once lived in Illinois. Statics like these make freshwater mussels the most endangered group of animals in the world.

There's a lot about freshwater mussels that make them interesting creatures, but one of the most fascinating features is the animal's complex life cycle. Depending on the species, a female freshwater mussel can produce thousands to millions of larvae, which are called "glochidia." But these larvae can't develop unless they briefly attach to specific types of fish. This particular fish is now a "host" to the larvae, while the larvae are considered a parasite to the host fish. It's a one-way relationship.

To increase the odds the glochidia can find their hosts, female mussels have evolved complex strategies to attract specific fish by mimicking prey items the fish would like to eat. When a fish tries to eat this "prey," the female releases the glochidia.

Each larva attaches to the gills or fins of the fish, and a cyst forms around it. It remains for two or more weeks until the glochidium develops into a juvenile. At that point, the

tiny mussels detach and settle along the streambed, leaving their hosts no worse for the wear. It's likely not surprising, but because in part to this complex but necessary chain of events only two in 1 million glochidia live to produce glochidia of their own.

These "rocks with guts" may be easy to miss on a paddle down the West Branch DuPage River, but there's no overlooking the invaluable "ecosystem services" they offer to the greater aquatic environment, either directly or indirectly, by simply doing what they do.

An example of the simplest ecosystem service is the mussel's shell. Alive or dead, a shell provides habitat for macroinvertebrates, crayfish, fish, algae, moss and other organisms.

The majority of freshwater mussels' ecosystem services are a little more complex, but some result simply from how they eat.

Freshwater mussels are "filter feeders." They draw food into their soft bodies by pulling in large amounts of water through an "incurrent siphon." As they do so, they take in bacteria (even *E. coli*), algae and other organic matter that's suspended in the water. One mussel can filter more than 6 gallons of water a day in this way, and large groups, or "beds," of mussels can filter enough to decrease pollutants and increase water clarity across an entire waterway.

Mussels further decrease pollutants by storing elements such as nitrogen, phosphorous and carbon for decades in their soft bodies, lessening the negative effects these nutrient pollutants can have on the environment. (They're an underwater biological treatment plant that doesn't cost a thing!) When freshwater mussels deposit the remains of their different meals onto the sediment via an "excurrent siphon," the mix of digested and undigested waste creates a source of food for other creatures, including other mussels.

Freshwater mussels provide additional ecosystem services when they burrow into the sediment. Each mussel has a large muscular foot, which it uses to move around and secure itself to the riverbed. As it burrows, it releases oxygen trapped between the fine particles and holds sediments together, keeping them from flowing downstream during heavy rains.

But while freshwater mussels work quietly underwater, their numbers are being negatively affected by floods, droughts, and elevated water temperatures triggered by climate change and human activities. These factors are putting this imperiled group of animals in greater jeopardy.

To help bolster natural populations of freshwater mussels in DuPage, the Forest Preserve District is propagating and rearing different species of mussels at its Urban Stream Research Center at Blackwell Forest Preserve, the only facility of its kind in Illinois. In spring 2017 alone the Forest Preserve District released over 24,000 captive-reared mussels along 18 miles within the West Branch DuPage River.

The hope is that efforts like these will allow these remarkable "rocks with guts" to remain in urban river systems, providing such significant ecosystem services simply by working quietly under the water. •



© n. ignoffo

▲ The opening on the right is the mussel's "incurrent siphon," which takes in water, oxygen and food. On the left is the "excurrent siphon" that releases waste.



© Philippe Blas

▲ Many female mussels have "lures" they display to attract fish. Mussel larvae need to latch on to certain fish to develop.



© Aaron Hoff

▲ A freshwater mussel has a muscular foot (a white one is shown here), which it uses to move around or burrow into the streambed.

summer calendar



PLEASE NOTE

At press time the information in the summer calendar is correct, but as Restore Illinois guidelines change, so might the Forest Preserve District's lineup. For the latest, visit dupageforest.org.

Bird Walk 18051

Join a 90-minute naturalist-led observational walk to see how the diversity of birds changes through summer. You must bring a mask that covers your nose and mouth and wear it if there's less than 6 feet between you and other hikers. Ages 18 and up. \$5 per person. Register online or at 630-850-8110.

Now – Sept. 4 8 a.m., 11 a.m. & 2 p.m. Fullersburg Woods
Fridays



Egg Collecting 18239

Join this first-time opportunity at Kline Creek Farm! Register and then bring up to nine friends or family members to collect eggs from the chicken coop to take home. (The number of eggs you collect will vary.) As you collect, a costumed interpreter will teach your group about chickens and the role they played on an 1890s farm. Everyone in your group must wear masks that cover the nose and mouth. All ages; under 18 with an adult. \$15 per group up to 10 people. Register online or at 630-876-5900.

Now – Sept. 19 2:30 – 3 p.m. Kline Creek Farm
Thursdays, Fridays & Saturdays

Forest Hike 17907

Enjoy the wonders of the preserves with a naturalist, and get some healthy exercise on a brisk 90-minute walk. You must bring a mask that covers your nose and mouth and wear it if there's less than 6 feet between you and other hikers. Ages 18 and up. \$5 per person. Register online or at 630-850-8110.

Now – Sept. 2 9 a.m., Noon & 3 p.m. Fullersburg Woods
Wednesdays

Centering Meditation Walk 18276

Rediscover your center during a peaceful meditation walk, which will head in each of the cardinal directions, making stops for guided meditations and opportunities for reflection, journaling, and relaxation. After the walk, spread out and use your experience to create a mandala using supplied materials. You must wear a mask that covers your nose and mouth. Ages 18 and up. \$10 per person. Register online or at 630-206-9566.

Aug. 1	9 – 10:30 a.m.	Mayslake
Aug. 5	6 – 7:30 p.m.	Mayslake
Aug. 15	9 – 10:30 a.m.	Mayslake
Sept. 25	8 – 9:30 a.m.	Mayslake
Sept. 26	9 – 10:30 a.m.	Mayslake





Registering on dupageforest.org?

Here's a quick way to find your program online.

1. Visit dupageforest.org and click "Registration & Permits."
2. In the search box, enter the five-digit number next to the program name in this calendar.
3. If a program has more than one date, time or location, click "More" to find the one you want.

Fresh Air Friday 17917

Breathe deep on a guided walk through the forest preserve. You must bring a mask that covers your nose and mouth and wear it if there's less than 6 feet between you and other visitors. Ages 18 and up. \$5 per person. Register online or at 630-580-7025.

Aug. 7	Noon – 1 p.m.	St. James Farm
Sept. 4	Noon – 1 p.m.	St. James Farm



Marvelous Monarchs 17924

Learn about our beautiful native monarch butterflies and how you can help them and other pollinators on a leisurely walk to find monarchs in their various stages. Leave with a packet of milkweed seeds to start your own native garden at home! You must bring a mask that covers your nose and mouth and wear it if there's less than 6 feet between you and other visitors. Ages 12 and up; under 18 with an adult. \$5 per person. Register online or at 630-580-7025.

Aug. 16	2 – 3 p.m.	St. James Farm
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Mayslake Hall Gardens and Grounds Tour 18268

What do a prairie, a "gentleman's farm" and an English heritage garden have in common? They're all part of the diverse history of the natural landscape that surrounds Mayslake Hall. Discover how nature and humans shaped the land during this guided, outdoor walking tour. You must wear a mask that covers your nose and mouth. Ages 12 and up; under 18 with an adult. \$10 per person. Register online or at 630-206-9566.

Aug. 8 & 12	9 – 10 a.m.	Mayslake
Aug. 14	6:30 – 7:30 p.m.	Mayslake
Sept. 9	9 – 10 a.m.	Mayslake
Sept. 18	6:30 – 7:30 p.m.	Mayslake



Nature Walk

Discover new and exciting nature facts and finds as you explore the preserve on a casual 45-minute Saturday walk with an experienced naturalist. You must bring a mask that covers your nose and mouth and wear it if there's less than 6 feet between you and other hikers. All ages; under 18 with an adult. \$2 per person (credit card only). No registration. Questions? Call 630-850-8110.

Now – Sept. 26 Saturdays	9 a.m. – 2 p.m. at the top of the hour	Fullersburg Woods
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MANY Thanks

The Forest Preserve District thanks the donors who contributed to its efforts between Nov. 1, 2019, and May 31, 2020. To learn how your financial support can benefit the District, visit dupageforest.org/friends. To give to the Friends of the Forest Preserve District, the 501(c)(3) nonprofit fundraising arm of the District, visit dupageforest.org/donate.

Gifts of Note

Harold and Mary Bamford III
\$2,000 — Willowbrook Wildlife Center

Nancy Mores
\$2,000 — Willowbrook Wildlife Center

Edmund Pereira
\$2,000 — Willowbrook Wildlife Center

Schuler Family Foundation
\$2,000 — Willowbrook Wildlife Center

Judy Johnson
\$1,000 — Willowbrook Wildlife Center

John Schroeder
\$1,000 — Danada Equestrian Center

Joel Herning
\$750 — Willowbrook Wildlife Center

Roux Associates Inc.
\$500 — Willowbrook Wildlife Center

Gifts of Note to the Friends of the Forest Preserve District

Timberlake Civic Association
\$50,000 — Land acquisition

Lori Brown Estate
\$12,500 — Willowbrook Wildlife Center

Chamberlain Group LLC
\$10,000 — Special Needs Adventure Day

Anonymous
\$5,000 — Willowbrook Wildlife Center

Illinois Clean Air Community Foundation
\$4,000 — West Chicago Prairie restoration

BP Foundation in recognition of Patricia Banaszak's volunteer hours
\$3,230 — Willowbrook Wildlife Center

Domtar Inc.
\$3,000 — Natural resources and land management

Larry Larson
\$3,000 — Greatest needs, Adopt a Blanding's Turtle and natural resources

Michael Firman and Marilyn Schweitzer
\$2,500 — Education, natural resources and Willowbrook Wildlife Center

Mike and Renie Wilson
\$2,500 — Greatest needs

Tom and Ruth Cloonan
\$2,000 — Willowbrook Wildlife Center

Michael Webb
\$2,000 — Mayslake Peabody Estate and Willowbrook Wildlife Center

Seth Becker and Helen Nam
\$1,615 — Willowbrook Wildlife Center in honor of Nathan Becker

Kriauciunas Family
\$1,500 — Greatest needs

David and Arlene DeMotte
\$1,000 — Greatest needs

David Ginther
\$1,000 — Willowbrook Wildlife Center

Patrick and Mary Mauro
\$1,000 — Mayslake Peabody Estate

Carol McGee
\$1,000 — Mayslake Peabody Estate and Willowbrook Wildlife Center

Elaine Novak-Jans
\$1,000 — Willowbrook Wildlife Center

Ranch Spur Charitable Trust
\$1,000 — Greatest needs

Richard James McCann Foundation
\$1,000 — Willowbrook Wildlife Center

Annette Thompson
\$800 — Adopt a Blanding's Turtle

Daniel and Cheryl Zinnen
\$800 — Belleau Woods restoration and Mayslake Peabody Estate

Garden Club of Downers Grove
\$700 — Willowbrook Wildlife Center and Mayslake Peabody Estate

Susan Reiker
\$600 — Greatest needs

Theodore Utchen
\$600 — Mayslake Peabody Estate

Brian and Kathleen Beggerow
\$500 — Willowbrook Wildlife Center

PR Davis
\$500 — Greatest needs in honor of Shannon Burns

Dennis and Debra Dean
\$500 — Willowbrook Wildlife Center

Phil and Amy Gelber
\$500 — Willowbrook Wildlife Center

Goldstein-McGrath Fund of the DuPage Foundation
\$500 — Willowbrook Wildlife Center

David and Connie Hill
\$500 — Mayslake Peabody Estate

Craig Holderness
\$500 — Greatest needs

Kathy Isoda
\$500 — Willowbrook Wildlife Center in honor of St. James Farm volunteers

Ann McGill-Wellborn
\$500 — Greatest needs

Gary and Judy Montgomery
\$500 — Mayslake Peabody Estate

Kathleen Murphy
\$500 — Kline Creek Farm

Sinclair Siragusa
\$500 — Willowbrook Wildlife Center

John and Marion Tableriuo
\$500 — Greatest needs

Peter and Danielle Tomczak
\$500 — Greatest needs



BLACKWELL *Under the Stars*

The family campground at Blackwell Forest Preserve is open for summer fun Friday and Saturday nights through Sept. 27.

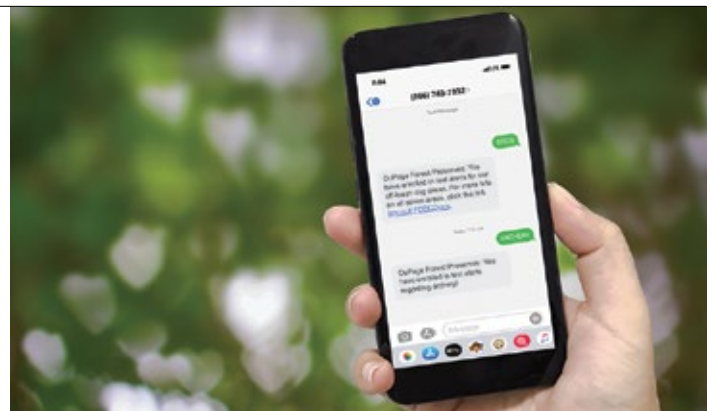
All sites are available, and this season the campground boasts a new water filling station for RVs. The sinks and toilets in the shower house are open, but the showers are not available nor are any of the campground’s pit toilets.

Advanced reservations are required, which campers can easily make online at dupageforest.org (just click on “Reservations & Permits”) or through Visitor Services at 630-933-7248 weekdays 8 a.m. – 4 p.m. and Saturdays through Aug. 29 9 a.m. – 2 p.m. Campers interested in weekend sites, though, need to make reservations by 4 p.m. Thursday.

SIGN UP FOR TEXT ALERTS

The Forest Preserve District has made making it even easier to get updates on the features you use and love the most. Simply text keywords WATERCRAFT, ARCHERY, DOGS, GOLF or EVENTS (one word per text) to 866-743-7332 to get messages on closures and conditions that affect private watercraft, the archery range, and off-leash dog areas and updates on golf courses and special events. Message and data rates apply.

See terms and conditions at dupageforest.org/stay-connected.



COLLECTIONS CORNER

Taking the next step in museum collections best practices, the Forest Preserve District has migrated its electronic artifacts records into a professional cloud-based collections storage system. This comprehensive register documents the objects the Forest Preserve District holds in public trust. The new software is a more secure environment and allows collections staff to bring mobile devices to artifacts for cataloging instead of carrying items to a desktop computer. This makes the overall process quicker and eliminates the need to handle artifacts, which can be fragile.

One exciting prospect is a public-facing feature the software company is developing that may allow the creation of online exhibits, bringing residents even closer to the cultural and natural history of their forest preserves.

directory



PLEASE NOTE

At press time, forest preserves and golf courses are open, but as Restore Illinois guidelines change, so might the Forest Preserve District's lineup. For the most recent information, including which select features are accessible at each center, visit dupageforest.org.

HEADQUARTERS

35580 Naperville Road
Wheaton • 630-933-7200
TTY 800-526-0857
dupageforest.org
forest@dupageforest.org

Visitor Services
630-933-7248

Volunteer Services
630-933-7233

Conservationist Subscriptions
630-933-7085

**Development & Friends of the
Forest Preserve District**
630-933-7097

Law Enforcement
630-933-7240

HOURS

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

ACCESSIBILITY

If you have accessibility needs or concerns, please call the District's ADA coordinator at 630-933-7683 or TTY 800-526-0857 at least 48 hours before your visit.

EDUCATION *Centers*

DANADA EQUESTRIAN CENTER
35507 Naperville Road
Wheaton • 630-668-6012

**FULLERSBURG WOODS NATURE
EDUCATION CENTER**
3609 Spring Road
Oak Brook • 630-850-8110

KLINE CREEK FARM
1N600 County Farm Road
West Chicago • 630-876-5900

MAYSLAKE PEABODY ESTATE
1717 W. 31st St.
Oak Brook • 630-206-9566

WILLOWBROOK WILDLIFE CENTER
525 S. Park Blvd.
Glen Ellyn • 630-942-6200

ST. JAMES FARM
25541 Winfield Road • Warrenville
630-580-7025

GOLF *Courses*

THE PRESERVE AT OAK MEADOWS
900 N. Wood Dale Road
Addison • 630-595-0071

MAPLE MEADOWS GOLF COURSE
272 S. Addison Road
Wood Dale • 630-616-8424

GREEN MEADOWS GOLF COURSE
18W201 W. 63rd St.
Westmont • 630-810-5330

PARTNER *Sites*

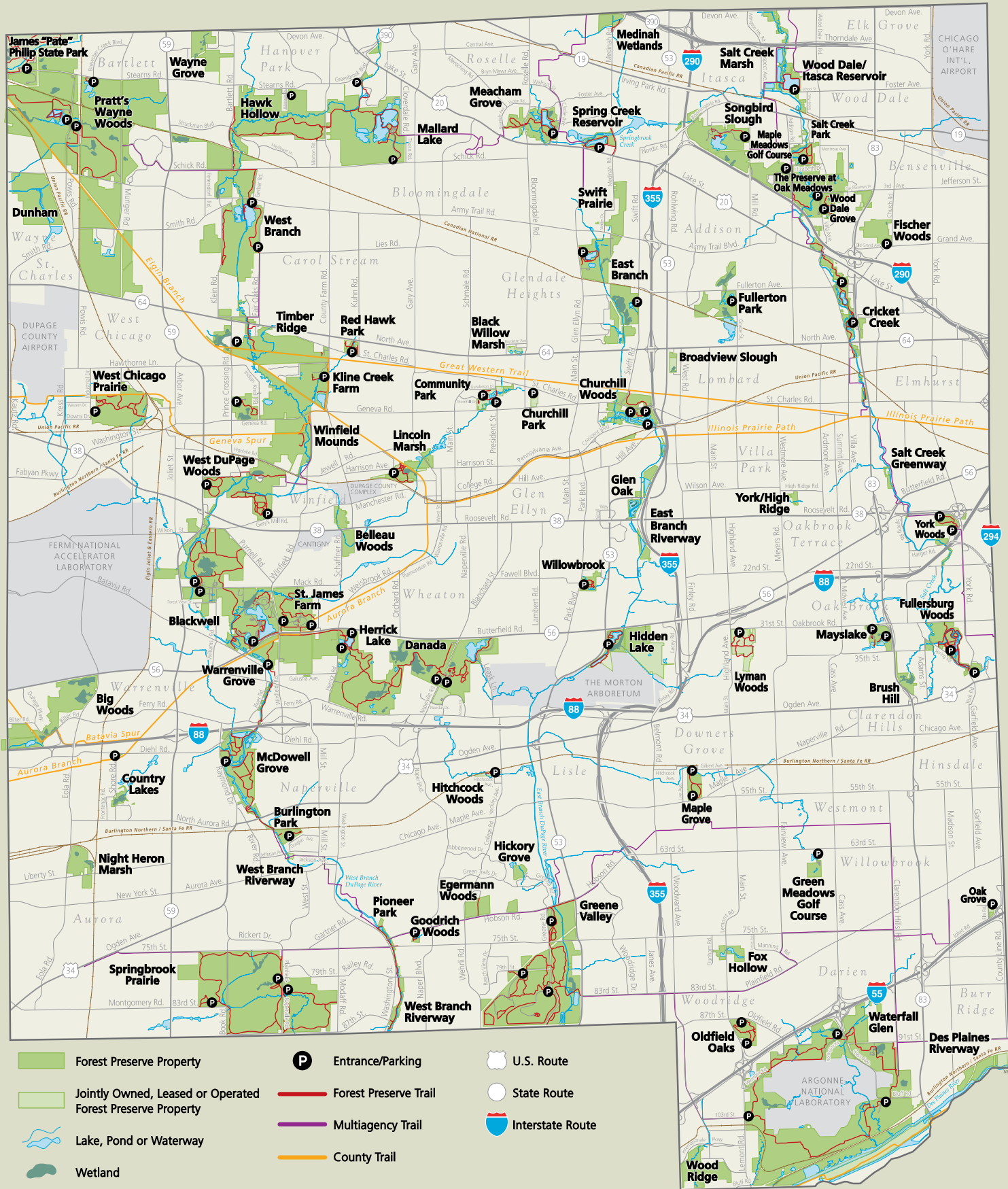
DANADA HOUSE
Wheaton • 630-668-5392

FISCHER FARM
Bensenville • 630-766-7015

GRAUE MILL AND MUSEUM
Oak Brook • 630-655-2090

BARTLETT NATURE CENTER
Bartlett • 847-608-3120

LYMAN WOODS NATURE CENTER
Downers Grove • 630-963-9388



- | | | |
|--|-----------------------|------------------|
| Forest Preserve Property | Entrance/Parking | U.S. Route |
| Jointly Owned, Leased or Operated Forest Preserve Property | Forest Preserve Trail | State Route |
| Lake, Pond or Waterway | Multiagency Trail | Interstate Route |
| Wetland | County Trail | |



please deliver to current resident

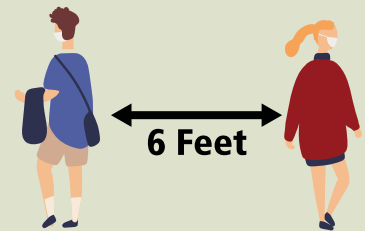
the Conservationist

A Quarterly Publication of the Forest Preserve District of DuPage County **Summer 2020**

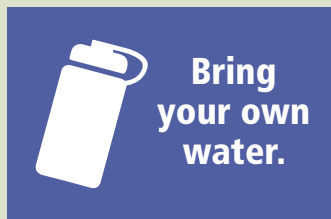
Visiting the Preserves During COVID-19

Stay home if you're sick or have been near someone who's sick.

Practice social distancing, and stay at least 6 feet away from the next person.



Wear a mask that covers your mouth and nose, especially if you're unable to remain more than 6 feet away from the next person.



Help keep the forest preserves clean. Place garbage in a trash or recycling container.



Benches and picnic tables are not sanitized. Please bring your own sanitizing wipes or table coverings.



Stay on the right side of the trail so others can pass. Let other visitors know when you're passing from behind, and stay at least 6 feet away as you do.

Keep dogs leashed at all times.

