

# the Conservationist

A Quarterly Publication of the Forest Preserve District of DuPage County

**Spring 2021**

**Lighting for Wildlife**

**Planting Native Shrubs**

**Spring Program Calendar**



**Forest Preserve District of DuPage County**



# from the president



As I write this, to say “happy spring” seems a bit premature, but the calendar is there to reassure us that warmer weather is truly around the corner. Here at the Forest Preserve District we’re ready!

As we continue to navigate through new ways of doing things, we’re working diligently to offer some of our most popular programs safely. Our biggest spring event, our annual Native Plant Sale, is a prime example. We’re taking our usual lineup of native flowers, grasses, shrubs, and trees and adding the ease of online ordering to last year’s curbside pickup to create our most convenient sale yet! Place and pay for your order in advance online, and pick up your plants on May 14 or 15 at Mayslake Peabody Estate. Just pull up and let us do the work. You don’t even have to get out of your car to drive home with a great selection of plants for your yard. Details are on the back page.

You’ll find we’re also bringing back a lineup of guided programs from our perennially popular bird walks and forest hikes to outdoor tours of Mayslake Peabody Estate and Kline Creek Farm.

As with all of our offerings you can find the latest (including exciting details on upcoming visitor center reopenings) 24/7 at [dupageforest.org](http://dupageforest.org) and by following us on Facebook, Twitter and Instagram.

Last but not least, we’ve hired a new executive director, Karie Friling, who will be joining our Forest Preserve District family on April 9. Our current leadership team has the organization moving in a great direction, and the addition of Karie’s experience, talent and proven leadership will give us even more momentum as we implement our districtwide master plan.

Spring is on its way to DuPage forest preserves, and we hope you’re looking forward to it as much as we are!

**Daniel Hebreard**

President, Forest Preserve District of DuPage County



## BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS

### President

Daniel Hebreard, Woodridge

### Commissioners

Marsha Murphy, Bloomingdale — District 1

Tina Tyson-Dunne, Lombard — District 2

Linda Painter, Hinsdale — District 3

Jeff Gahris, Wheaton — District 4

Barbara O’Meara, Naperville — District 5

Al Murphy, West Chicago — District 6

### Executive Director

Ed Stevenson



## BOARD MEETINGS

For schedules and agendas or to watch live or recorded meetings, visit [dupageforest.org](http://dupageforest.org).



## THE CONSERVATIONIST

Spring 2021, Vol. 58, No. 2

### Community Relations Director

Tony Martinez Jr.



## FOREST PRESERVE DISTRICT OF DUPAGE COUNTY

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630-933-7200, TTY 800-526-0857

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

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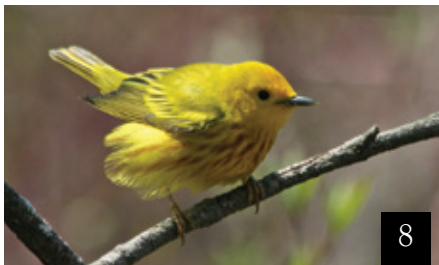
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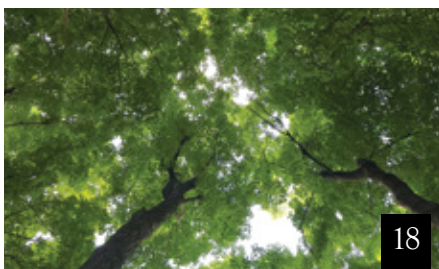
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## OUR *Mission*

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



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

## 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. You can link directly to live streaming video from the Forest Preserve District's Facebook page at [facebook.com/dupageforest](https://facebook.com/dupageforest) and from [dupageforest.org](http://dupageforest.org).

Details on how to submit public comments and links to agendas, minutes, and recordings of previous meetings are at [dupageforest.org](http://dupageforest.org) under "Our Board."

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.



Verity/Shutterstock.com



## ROAD WORK RESUMES NEAR YORK WOODS

Starting in May, Oak Brook will continue work near York Woods to improve the intersection of York and Harger roads. When completed, the project will eliminate the need to use the Roosevelt Road interchange to access Harger Road from northbound York Road. It will also make it easier and safer to access York Woods via the Salt Creek Greenway Trail by creating a trail underpass below Harger Road.

As construction continues, the Harger Road parking lot will remain open, but sections of the Salt Creek Greenway Trail may periodically close, especially when work begins on the north side of the new underpass. Detour signs will offer alternative routes. The village expects the bulk of the work to wrap up by the end of the year.

## DISTRICT WELCOMES *New Executive Director*

On March 16 the Board of Commissioners approved the hire of Karie Friling as the agency's new executive director. Friling will join the Forest Preserve District on April 9. The position reports to the board and is responsible for general leadership and staff management; financial management; commissioner relations; community and volunteer relations; and external management.

Friling was most recently the village manager for Homer Glen and previously served as assistant village manager and director of development services for Orland Park. She has a B.A. from Western Illinois University and a master's in public administration from Southern Illinois University.

"Our current leadership team has the organization moving in a great direction, and the addition of Karie's experience, talent and proven leadership gives us even more momentum as we implement our districtwide master plan," said Forest Preserve District President Daniel Hebreard.

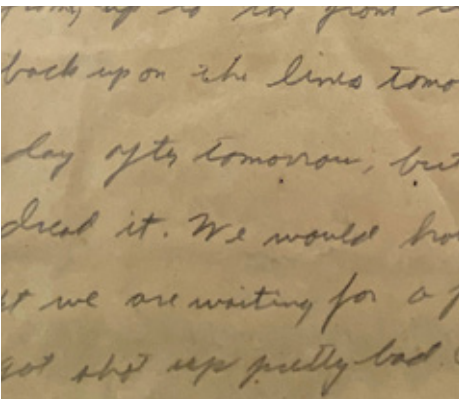


COLLECTIONS Corner

Like natural pearls, historical treasures can be found when you least expect them. In 2019, while picking up after a Junior Golf Association event at the clubhouse at Maple Meadows in Wood Dale, a Forest Preserve District employee discovered one such treasure: a letter written by a serviceman to his parents during World War II.

In the letter, author Garold tells of writing his loved one, Luealla, during the Pacific's rainy season when he received "in-coming mail" of a different sort. His troop at "Rock Core HQ" was struck by enemy artillery fire. Garold escaped to the safety of a nearby bunker, but his truck exploded, and his buddy died from the shelling. In the letter, Garold conveys the unadulterated dread experienced by soldiers in a foreign land while anticipating the imminent return to the front lines.

Garold's letter captures only a brief moment. We don't know what happened to his family, if he returned from the front lines, or who last held the letter. That's why the Forest Preserve District is now looking to readers of the *Conservationist* for help. If you have further information that may help restore this letter to its proper place, please call the Forest Preserve District at 630-933-7090.



MANY Thanks

The Forest Preserve District thanks the donors who contributed to its efforts Dec. 1, 2020 – Jan. 31, 2021. To learn how your financial support can benefit the District, visit [dupageforest.org/friends](http://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](http://dupageforest.org/donate).


Gifts of Note

- Schuler Family Foundation  
\$2,000 — Willowbrook Wildlife Center
- Ranch Spur Charitable Trust  
\$1,500 — Greatest needs
- Joel Herning  
\$1,000 — Willowbrook Wildlife Center
- David Augustyn  
\$500 — Willowbrook Wildlife Center
- DuPage Birding Club  
\$500 — Willowbrook Wildlife Center  
Adopt an Animal
- Sheila Norgaard  
\$500 — Willowbrook Wildlife Center
- Roux Associates  
\$500 — Willowbrook Wildlife Center
- Gary Ulfig  
\$500 — Willowbrook Wildlife Center

Gifts of Note to the Friends of the Forest Preserve District

- Anonymous  
\$5,000 — Greatest needs
- Larry Larson  
\$3,000 — Greatest needs and Natural Resources
- Harold and Mary Bamford III  
\$2,000 — Willowbrook Wildlife Center
- Michael and Diane Webb  
\$2,000 — Mayslake Peabody Estate and Willowbrook Wildlife Center
- Seth Becker and Helen Nam  
\$1,570 — Willowbrook Wildlife Center
- Patrick and Mary Mauro  
\$1,100 — Mayslake Peabody Estate
- Anonymous  
\$1,000 — Greatest needs
- P.R. Davis  
\$1,000 — Adopt a Blanding's Turtle and Natural Resources

- David Ginther  
\$1,000 — Willowbrook Wildlife Center  
Adopt an Animal
- Carol McGee  
\$1,000 — Mayslake Peabody Estate and Willowbrook Wildlife Center
- Elaine Novak-Jans  
\$1,000 — Greatest needs
- Dawn Sullivan  
\$1,000 — Danada Equestrian Center
- Ronald Crayton  
\$600 — Greatest needs
- Anonymous  
\$500 — Greatest needs
- Anonymous  
\$500 — Willowbrook Wildlife Center
- Anna and Benjamin Becker Family, Paul Becker  
\$500 — Willowbrook Wildlife Center
- Dennis and Debra Dean  
\$500 — Willowbrook Wildlife Center
- Michael Firman and Marilyn Schweitzer  
\$500 — Greatest needs
- Corryn Greenwood  
\$500 — Willowbrook Wildlife Center
- Judith Grey  
\$500 — Belleau Woods restoration
- Craig Holderness  
\$500 — Greatest needs
- Ed Kett and Jennifer Chidlow  
\$500 — Greatest needs in memory of Jackson Kuncil
- John Schofield  
\$500 — Greatest needs
- Mark and Heather Yeager  
\$500 — Willowbrook Wildlife Center
- Daniel and Cheryl Zinnen  
\$500 — Natural Resources



“Dark sky” light fixtures like this one at the Forest Preserve District headquarters office feature a shield on top that directs the light down and prevents it from spreading.

# Lighting for Wildlife

by **TOM VELAT**, NATURAL RESOURCES

**D**uPage forest preserves close one hour after sunset, but that doesn’t mean the animals that call them home call it a night. Many species only become active when the stars come out. But if you step outside your home at night, you may notice there aren’t as many stars as there were when some of us were kids. The culprit? Light pollution, the overabundance of artificial light in the environment, especially excessive or misdirected light, that not only affects the number of stars we see but can also affect how we — and wildlife — function at night.

People are familiar with air pollution such as smog. It’s visible during the day, and we definitely notice it when we take a breath. Light pollution is nothing we can smell or easily see, but like smog it can have a negative effect on our well-being. Like other animals, humans have a “circadian rhythm,” the natural wake-sleep cycle that takes place every 24 hours. According to research cited by the Illinois Coalition for Responsible Outdoor Lighting, overly bright nighttime ambient light can disrupt this rhythm, increasing levels of stress and incidents of disease. Relatively recent studies show that wildlife can experience similarly negative reactions.

Moths are a good example. We know they’re attracted to lights at night, but most people don’t realize moths often stay at artificial light sources well after the sun comes up and the lights go off. This disrupts the insects’ reproductive successes and larval development and makes them easy pickings for predators that learn to frequent these spots.

There aren’t many studies on large wild mammals, but a few

on small nocturnal ones suggest that light pollution affects them as well. In one study, mice exposed to the same type of light present on a typical Chicago night showed notable decreases in activity. How this relates to larger mammals in the wild has yet to be studied.

Birds, unfortunately, are perhaps our area’s most noticeable examples of the hazards of light pollution. According to the Chicago Audubon Society, over 250 species of migrating birds move through the area each spring and fall, about 5 million individual birds each season. One study from 2017 showed that artificial light, usually from skyscrapers, has a dramatic effect on some of them. Many birds are attracted to the lights and tend to gather around the source in large groups, wearing themselves out. As they do so, they either collide with the buildings, succumb to exhaustion, or become weakened, vulnerable prey for hungry predators.

This effect was noted as well in New York City near the nighttime memorial for victims of the Sept. 11 attacks. At the site, two beams of light, each with 44 xenon bulbs, rise into the sky to mark where the World Trade Center towers once stood. Now, however, the lights are turned off periodically for about 20 minutes, creating intervals of darkness that allow birds to disperse within minutes and continue their migration journeys.

Back in Chicago, many skyscraper inhabitants participate in the “Lights Out Chicago” program and either turn lights off or draw the blinds between 11 p.m. and sunrise from mid-March to mid-June and again mid-August through mid-November. Still, each season, volunteers from Chicago Bird Collision Monitors





- ▲ Using exterior lights triggered by sensors not only limits light pollution but can also save you money on your electric bill.



- ▲ Lights in downtown Chicago can interfere with migrating birds. Many property owners are pledging to turn off, dim or block unneeded lights to reduce this effect.

collect hundreds of injured birds, many of which end up at the Forest Preserve District's Willowbrook Wildlife Center. (The center is one of the few in northeastern Illinois that can accept and treat migrating birds.)

But light pollution doesn't stop at the Chicago city limits. From space, nighttime Chicago and the surrounding suburbs create one large swath of light, which can affect the sky we see and the animals that live in the preserves. Fortunately, you don't have to own a skyscraper to make a difference. On homes and in parking lots, special outdoor fixtures, many not more costly than traditional ones, focus light directly on the ground and shield it from shining upward. Light bulbs with long wavelengths (those near the red or amber part of the spectrum) minimize wavelengths that attract animals. Timers that shut lights off when not in use and sensors that turn lights on only when something moves by can also help.

You can also do your part by participating in community science projects that track light pollution. By using the "Loss of the Night" smartphone app and comparing which stars you can see at home and on the road, you can help researchers measure and understand the effects of light pollution and highlight areas that can benefit from its reduction.

The more we learn about light pollution, the more we'll better understand how it affects people and the wild animals that share the landscape with us. As you search for more information about this topic, it's hope you'll feel "empowered" and "enlightened." After all, responsible outdoor lighting not only saves energy and money but can also help "lighten" the load for wildlife and ourselves. •

## Celebrate Dark Skies!

April 5 – 12 is International Dark Sky Week, a celebration of the night sky and raising awareness of light pollution. In addition to stepping outside on a clear night and counting all of the stars and planets overhead, it's a reason to take time to think about ways to fight light pollution at home.

For instance, does the outside lighting on a house serve a specific safety purpose, such as illuminating a sidewalk or driveway? Does the light have a shield so it falls only where it's needed (versus spreading overhead)? Is the amount of light appropriate for the task? (Too much light can actually create a glare on certain surfaces.)

If part of your springtime to-do list includes updating exterior fixtures, keep these points in mind and shop in support of dark skies!



# spring calendar

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## PLEASE NOTE

At press time the information in the spring calendar is correct, but as Restore Illinois guidelines change, so might the Forest Preserve District's lineup. For the latest, visit [dupageforest.org](http://dupageforest.org).

## April

- 2** Bird Walk  
Breath of Fresh Air: Centering Meditation Walk  
Fresh Air Friday  
Watch Out for Woodcocks!
- 3** Breath of Fresh Air: Centering Meditation Walk
- 5** Forest Hike
- 6** Archery: Adults
- 7** Evening Forest Hike
- 9** Bird Walk  
Peabody's Pages Book Club Three-Part Morning  
Discussion Begins
- 10** Fishing: Families  
Lantern-Lit Night Hike  
Watch Out for Woodcocks!
- 12** Forest Hike
- 13** Peabody's Pages Book Club Three-Part Evening  
Discussion Begins
- 14** Evening Forest Hike

- 16** Bird Walk  
The Challenge: Trivia Quiz Game
- 17** Nature Walk  
Women's Outdoor Adventure Series: Fishing
- 18** Earth Day: Work for Wildlife
- 19** Forest Hike
- 21** Evening Forest Hike
- 22** Earth Day Stroll  
Wildflower Walks
- 23** Bird Walk
- 24** National Go Bird Day: Bird Walk for Beginners  
Nature Walk
- 26** Forest Hike  
Mayslake by Moonlight
- 27** Mayslake by Moonlight
- 28** Evening Forest Hike
- 29** Wildflower Walks
- 30** Bird Walk



# May

- 1** Lantern-Lit Night Hike  
Warbler Walk
- 2** Sheep Shearing Day
- 3** Forest Hike
- 5** Evening Forest Hike
- 7** Bird Walk  
Fresh Air Friday
- 8** Archery: Families  
Nature Walk
- 9** Fishing: With Mom  
Sheep Shearing Day
- 10** Forest Hike
- 12** Evening Forest Hike
- 14** Bird Walk
- 16** Sheep Shearing Day  
Wildlife Encounters: Raccoon
- 17** Forest Hike
- 19** Evening Forest Hike
- 21** Bird Walk  
The Challenge: Trivia Quiz Game  
Hoofprints Through History
- 22** Kayaking: Basics  
Nature Walk  
Warbler Walk
- 23** Sheep Shearing Day
- 24** Forest Hike
- 26** Evening Forest Hike  
Mayslake by Moonlight
- 27** Breath of Fresh Air: Centering Meditation Walk  
Mayslake by Moonlight
- 28** Bird Walk
- 29** Nature Walk  
Thanks for the Memories: Gratitude Walk
- 30** Sheep Shearing Day  
Thanks for the Memories: Gratitude Walk
- 31** Thanks for the Memories: Gratitude Walk

# June

- 4** Bird Walk  
Fresh Air Friday
- 5** Lantern-Lit Night Hike
- 11** Nature Poetry Walk
- 12** Hummingbirds: Navigating for Nectar  
Women's Outdoor Adventure Series: Archery
- 13** Birding by Boat
- 15** Archery: Adults
- 18** Parent-Child Nature Journaling  
The Challenge: Trivia Quiz Game
- 19** Fishing: Families
- 20** Fishing: With Dad
- 21** Summer Solstice Sunrise Hike
- 23** Mayslake by Moonlight
- 24** Breath of Fresh Air: Centering Meditation Walk  
Mayslake by Moonlight
- 25** Hoofprints Through History
- 26** Breath of Fresh Air: Centering Meditation Walk  
Fishing: Families  
Women's Outdoor Adventure Series: Kayaking
- 27** Wildlife Encounters: Woodchuck

## Visiting During COVID-19

As the state continues to operate under its Restore Illinois plan, the Forest Preserve District reminds visitors to follow a few simple guidelines when at the preserves.

- Stay home if you're sick or have been near someone who's sick.
- Wear a mask that covers your nose and mouth, especially if you're unable to remain more than 6 feet away from the next person.
- Practice social distancing, and stay at least 6 feet away from the next person.
- Bring your own water.
- Keep dogs leashed at all times.
- 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.



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## Plants & Wildlife

### Birding by Boat <sup>19240</sup>

Look for birds along the shore on this guided paddle. Bring your own kayak or canoe or rent one for an additional \$15. (Paddling experience is not required.) You must wear a mask that covers your nose and mouth. Ages 18 and up. \$10 per person. Register online or at 630-933-7248.

June 13	8:30 – 10:30 a.m.	Mallard Lake
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### Bird Walk <sup>19196</sup>

Learn ID tips and tricks while looking for migrating birds on this guided walk for beginners. You must wear a mask that covers your nose and mouth. Ages 18 and up. \$5 per person. Register online or at 630-933-7248.

April 2	7:30 – 9:30 a.m.	Blackwell
April 9	7:30 – 9:30 a.m.	Danada
April 16	7:30 – 9:30 a.m.	Herrick Lake
April 23	7:30 – 9:30 a.m.	Salt Creek Park
April 30	7:30 – 9:30 a.m.	Greene Valley
May 7	7:30 – 9:30 a.m.	W. DuPage Woods
May 14	7:30 – 9:30 a.m.	Lyman Woods
May 21	7:30 – 9:30 a.m.	St. James Farm
May 28	7:30 – 9:30 a.m.	Timber Ridge
June 4	7:30 – 9:30 a.m.	Dunham

### Earth Day: Work for Wildlife <sup>19111</sup>

Pitch in at Willowbrook Wildlife Center during the busy spring season, and help switch exhibit habitats from spring to summer along the outdoor trail. You must wear a mask that covers your nose and mouth. Ages 12 and up; under 18 with an adult. Free. Register online or at 630-942-6200.

April 18	9 – 11 a.m.	Willowbrook
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### Hummingbirds: Navigating for Nectar <sup>19113</sup>

Learn how to ID hummingbirds by their appearance and behaviors, and discover how they help with pollination. Then, join a guided walk along the trails to look for these fascinating fliers. You must wear a mask that covers your nose and mouth. Ages 18 and up. \$5 per person. Register online or at 630-942-6200.

June 12	2 – 3 p.m.	Willowbrook
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### National Go Bird Day: Bird Walk for Beginners <sup>19216</sup>

Join this national celebration, and learn ID tips and tricks while looking for birds on a guided walk. You must wear a mask that covers your nose and mouth. Ages 12 and up; under 18 with an adult. Free. Register online or at 630-942-6200.

April 24	8:30 – 9:30 a.m.	Willowbrook
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### Nature Walk <sup>19185</sup>

Discover new and exciting nature facts and finds as you explore a preserve on a casual guided walk, which will be 2 miles or less. You must wear a mask that covers your nose and mouth. All ages; under 18 with an adult. \$5 per person. Register online or at 630-933-7248.

April 17	9 – 10 a.m. & 11 a.m. – Noon	Fullersburg Woods
April 24	9 – 10 a.m. & 11 a.m. – Noon	McDowell Grove
May 8	9 – 10 a.m. & 11 a.m. – Noon	Mallard Lake
May 22	9 – 10 a.m. & 11 a.m. – Noon	Wood Dale Grove
May 29	9 – 10 a.m. & 11 a.m. – Noon	Dunham





**Registering on [dupageforest.org](http://dupageforest.org)?**

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

1. Visit [dupageforest.org](http://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.

**Warbler Walk** 19212

Search for the bright, colorful feathers of neotropical migrating warblers on a guided hike. You must wear a mask that covers your nose and mouth. Ages 18 and up. \$5 per person. Register online or at 630-942-6200.

May 1 & 22	8:30 – 10:30 a.m.	W. DuPage Woods
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**Watch Out for Woodcocks!** 19172

Look for the amazing spring mating displays of the American woodcock on a guided hike. You must wear a mask that covers your nose and mouth. Ages 18 and up. \$5 per person. Register online or at 630-933-7248.

April 2	7 – 8:30 p.m.	W. Chicago Prairie
April 10	7 – 8:30 p.m.	Springbrook

**Wildflower Walk** 19169

Join a plant expert for a leisurely 1-mile walk through the woods to learn about spring wildflowers, including how to identify them and which varieties you can grow at home. You must wear a mask that covers your nose and mouth. Ages 18 and up. \$5 per person. Register online or at 630-933-7248.

April 22	2 – 3 p.m.	Fullersburg Woods
April 29	10 – 11 a.m.	Maple Grove

**Wildlife Encounters** 19346

Join a wildlife trainer, and experience first-hand what goes into caring for the center's residents. Learn about positive reinforcement training and how it enhances the animals' welfare; then, take part in a training session. You must wear a mask that covers your nose and mouth. Ages 18 and up. \$25 per person. Register online or at 630-942-6200.

May 16	2 – 3 p.m.	Willowbrook
Raccoon		
June 27	2 – 3 p.m.	Willowbrook
Woodchuck		

# Ways to Play

**Archery**

Whether you're new to the sport or looking for a refresher, join us to learn safety tips, proper shooting techniques and basic skills. Equipment provided. You must wear a mask that covers your nose and mouth. \$5 per person. Register online or at 630-933-7248.

**Adults** 19197

Ages 18 and up.

April 6	11 a.m. – 12:30 p.m.	Churchill Woods
June 15	11 a.m. – 12:30 p.m.	Churchill Woods

**Families** 19200

Ages 8 and up; under 18 with an adult.

May 8	11 a.m. – 12:30 p.m.	Blackwell
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**The Challenge: Trivia Quiz Game** 19236

Challenge your friends and neighbors, and show off your knowledge during this friendly online quiz game featuring categories to test your familiarity with music, animals, geography, history and more! Ages 18 and up. \$5 per person. Register online or at 630-876-5900.

April 16	7 – 8:30 p.m.	Online
May 21	7 – 8:30 p.m.	Online
June 18	7 – 8:30 p.m.	Online



**Riding Your Horse in the Indoor Arena**

*St. James Farm*

Exercise and school your horse at the indoor riding arena. Ages 12 and up; under 18 with an adult. \$10 per horse-rider combo per hour. To register, call 630-580-7027.

# spring calendar



## More Ways to Play

### KAYAK, CANOE AND BOAT RENTALS

Rentals end one hour before closing and are \$15 per hour for single kayaks or rowboats; \$18 for two-person kayaks or canoes; and \$20 for paddle boats (Blackwell only). Questions? Call 630-933-7248.

*Blackwell*

**April 3 – May 23**

**Saturdays & Sundays 8 a.m. – 6:30 p.m.**

**Memorial Day – Labor Day**

**Monday – Friday 11 a.m. – 6:30 p.m.**

**Saturdays & Sundays 8 a.m. – 6:30 p.m.**

**Open 8 a.m. Memorial Day, July 4 & Labor Day**

**Sept. 11 – Sept. 26**

**Saturdays & Sundays 8 a.m. – 5:30 p.m.**

*Herrick Lake*

**Memorial Day – Labor Day**

**Saturdays & Sundays 8 a.m. – 6:30 p.m.**

### SCENIC OVERLOOK

*Greene Valley*

Get a bird's-eye view of Greene Valley — and the Chicago skyline — from 190 feet above the landscape. Free. Questions? Call 630-792-2100.

**May 1 – Oct. 31**

**Saturdays & Sundays 11 a.m. – 6 p.m.**

Weather or IEPA work may affect hours without notice.

### FAMILY CAMPGROUND

*Blackwell*

Enjoy nature under the stars at one of 60 sites. For weekend reservations visit [dupageforest.org](http://dupageforest.org) and click "Registration & Permits." For additional nights around Memorial Day, July 4 and Labor Day, call Visitor Services at 630-933-7248.

**May 7 – Sept. 25**

**Friday & Saturday Nights**

**Plus Select Additional Holiday Nights**

## Fishing

### Families 19204

Don't rely on luck to catch fish! Learn basic skills to help make your family outings successful. You must wear a mask that covers your nose and mouth. All ages; under 18 with an adult. \$5 per person ages 5 and up; under 5 free. Register online or at 630-933-7248.

April 10	11 a.m. – 12:30 p.m.	Blackwell
June 19	11 a.m. – 12:30 p.m.	Blackwell
June 26	6 – 7:30 p.m.	Wood Dale Grove

### With Dad 19229

Spend the morning by the lake with the dads in your life, creating memories and learning skills to increase your fishing successes. You must wear a mask that covers your nose and mouth. Ages 8 and up; under 18 with an adult. Free. Register online or at 630-933-7248

June 20	10 – 11 a.m.	Hidden Lake
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### With Mom 19209

Spend the morning by the lake with the moms in your life, creating memories and learning skills to increase your fishing successes. You must wear a mask that covers your nose and mouth. Ages 8 and up; under 18 with an adult. Free. Register online or at 630-933-7248.

May 9	10 a.m. – Noon	Hidden Lake
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## Kayaking: Basics 19230

Learn paddling strokes and safety tips in a one-person kayak. Equipment provided. You must wear a mask that covers your nose and mouth. Ages 12 and up; under 18 with an adult. \$20 per person. Register online or at 630-933-7248.

May 22	9 – 11 a.m.	Herrick Lake
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## Lantern-Lit Night Hike 19144

Take a self-guided walk along a scenic 1- to 2-mile lantern-lit trail. Walks leave every 20 minutes to allow for social distancing between groups. You must wear a mask that covers your nose and mouth. All ages; under 18 with an adult. \$10 per person. Register online or at 630-933-7248.

April 10	7 – 9:40 p.m.	St. James Farm
May 1	7 – 9:40 p.m.	Wood Dale Grove
June 5	7 – 9:40 p.m.	Fullersburg Woods





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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.

### Women's Outdoor Adventure Series

Enjoy great camaraderie (and a lot of fun!) as you learn basic techniques. Equipment provided. You must wear a mask that covers your nose and mouth. Ages 18 and up. Register online or at 630-933-7248.

#### Archery 19202

\$5 per person.

June 12	11 a.m. – 12:30 p.m.	Blackwell
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#### Fishing 19205

\$5 per person.

April 17	1 – 2:30 p.m.	Wood Dale Grove
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#### Kayaking 19231

\$20 per person.

June 26	9 – 11 a.m.	Herrick Lake
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## Health & Well-Being

### Breath of Fresh Air: Centering Meditation Walk 19329

Rediscover your center during a peaceful walk that will head in each of the cardinal directions, making stops for guided meditations and opportunities for reflection, journaling and relaxation. You must wear a mask that covers your nose and mouth. Ages 18 and up. \$15 per person. Register online or at 630-206-9566.

April 2	5 – 6:30 p.m.	York Woods
April 3	1:30 – 3 p.m.	Mayslake
May 27	5 – 6:30 p.m.	Fullersburg Woods
June 24	5 – 6:30 p.m.	Mayslake
June 26	1:30 – 3 p.m.	Maple Grove

### Evening Forest Hike 19176

Get some healthy exercise and enjoy the wonders of a DuPage forest preserve on a guided 3- to 5-mile hike. You must wear a mask that covers your nose and mouth. Ages 18 and up. \$10 per person. Register online or at 630-933-7248.

April 7	6:30 – 8 p.m.	W. DuPage Woods
April 14	6:30 – 8 p.m.	Hidden Lake
April 21	6:30 – 8 p.m.	Oak Meadows
April 28	6:30 – 8 p.m.	McDowell Grove
May 5	6:30 – 8 p.m.	Springbrook
May 12	6:30 – 8 p.m.	Meacham Grove
May 19	6:30 – 8 p.m.	Philip State Park
May 26	6:30 – 8 p.m.	Herrick Lake

### Forest Hike 19114

Get some healthy exercise and enjoy the wonders of a DuPage forest preserve on a guided 3- to 5-mile hike. You must wear a mask that covers your nose and mouth. Ages 18 and up. \$5 per person. Register online or at 630-933-7248.

April 5	8:30 – 10 a.m.	Oldfield Oaks
April 12	8:30 – 10 a.m.	West Branch
April 19	8:30 – 10 a.m.	Greene Valley
April 26	8:30 – 10 a.m.	St. James Farm
May 3	8:30 – 10 a.m.	Meacham Grove
May 10	8:30 – 10 a.m.	Fullersburg Woods
May 17	8:30 – 10 a.m.	Timber Ridge
May 24	8:30 – 10 a.m.	Waterfall Glen

### Fresh Air Friday 19090

Breathe deep on a scenic guided walk. You must wear a mask that covers your nose and mouth. Ages 18 and up. \$5 per person. Register online or at 630-933-7248.

April 2	Noon – 1 p.m.	St. James Farm
May 7	Noon – 1 p.m.	St. James Farm
June 4	Noon – 1 p.m.	St. James Farm

### Nature Poetry Walk 19094

Learn about haiku (a poetic form that originated in Japan) on a leisurely walk; then, create your own haiku inspired by your fresh experiences. You must wear a mask that covers your nose and mouth. Ages 12 and up; under 18 with an adult. \$5 per person. Register online or at 630-933-7248.

June 11	10 – 11:15 a.m.	St. James Farm
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# spring calendar



## Summer Solstice Sunrise Hike 19112

Relax on a hike atop Mount Hoy as you soak in the first rays of summer. Learn about early morning wildlife and the secrets of the summer solstice. You must wear a mask that covers your nose and mouth. Ages 18 and up. \$10 per person. Register online or at 630-933-7248.

June 21	4:30 – 6 a.m.	Blackwell
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## Thanks for the Memories: Gratitude Walk 19336

In time for Memorial Day, contemplate the many freedoms you're grateful for on a leisurely guided walk. Bring pen and paper, and jot down your thoughts at each of four scheduled brief stops along the way, if the mood strikes you. You must wear a mask that covers your nose and mouth. Ages 12 and up; under 18 with an adult. \$15 per person. Register online or at 630-206-9566.

May 29	7:30 – 9 a.m.	Mayslake
May 30	7:30 – 9 a.m.	Wood Dale Grove
May 31	7:30 – 9 a.m.	York Woods

## Living Green

### Earth Day Stroll 19095

Learn about the ways you can help the planet on a leisurely 1-mile stroll through the woods. You must wear a mask that covers your nose and mouth. Ages 12 and up; under 18 with an adult. \$5 per person. Register online or at 630-933-7248.

April 22	10 – 11 a.m.	St. James Farm
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## Heritage

### Hoofprints Through History 19096

Take a 1-mile walking tour of historic equestrian areas. You must wear a mask that covers your nose and mouth. Ages 18 and up. \$5 per person. Register online or at 630-933-7248.

May 21	10 – 11:15 a.m.	St. James Farm
June 25	10 – 11:15 a.m.	St. James Farm



## Native Plant Sale

Shop online for flowers, grasses, shrubs, and trees, and then pick up your plants curbside at Mayslake Peabody Estate May 14 or 15. Orders must be placed in advance (There's no in-person shopping this year.) and will be filled in the order they're received while supplies last.

To browse the catalog or place and pay for an order, visit [dupageforest.org/native-plant-sale](http://dupageforest.org/native-plant-sale). Questions? Call 630-933-7247.

### CURBSIDE PICKUP DATES (NO IN-PERSON SHOPPING)

*Mayslake Peabody Estate*

May 14	10 a.m. – 6 p.m.
May 15	9 a.m. – 3 p.m.



## Native Landscaping: Design

*Online*

Share drawings and photos of your yard, and get one-on-one help from a naturalist who will help you pick out plants and design your own native oasis. Ages 18 and up. \$15 per person. Call 630-933-7247 to schedule your one-hour appointment.

**Tuesdays Through April 27**  
**1, 3 & 6 p.m.**

**April 3**  
**10 a.m. & 1 p.m.**





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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.

**Mayslake by Moonlight** 18796

After the sun sets, enjoy an outdoor walking tour of Mayslake's grounds as you discover urban legends, tales of hauntings, and stories of mischief while learning about the property's history and ownership. You must wear a mask that covers your nose and mouth. All ages; under 18 with an adult. \$15 per person. Register online or at 630-206-9566.

April 26 & 27	7 – 8:30 p.m.	Mayslake
May 26 & 27	7:30 – 9 p.m.	Mayslake
June 23 & 24	7:30 – 9 p.m.	Mayslake

**Sheep Shearing Day** 19340

Learn about sheep and shearing, and watch a farmer blade-shear a sheep from the farm's heritage breed. Then, learn how to clean wool for use. You must wear a mask that covers your nose and mouth. All ages; under 18 with an adult. \$5 per person ages 3 and up; under 3 free. Register online or at 630-876-5900.

May 2, 9, 16, 23 & 30	2 – 2:45 p.m.	Kline Creek Farm
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**The Progressive Farm:  
A Barnyard Tour**

*Kline Creek Farm*

Join a costumed heritage interpreter, and explore the connections between farming at the end of the 19th century and today by looking closely at the farm's buildings, implements and animals. You must wear a mask that covers your nose and mouth. Limit 10 people per tour. All ages; under 18 with an adult. Free. No registration. Questions? Call 630-876-5900.

**April 1 – June 28**  
**Thursday – Monday 1:30, 2:30 & 3:30 p.m.**

**Nature Art & Culture**

**Parent-Child Nature Journaling** 19102

Kids and parents, use your senses to observe the natural world while creating a memory record you can return to for reflection or scientific value. You must wear a mask that covers your nose and mouth. Ages 7 – 10 with an adult. \$5 per person. Register online or at 630-933-7248.

June 18	10 – 11 a.m.	St. James Farm
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**Peabody's Pages Book Club**

*Three-Part Discussion* 18760

Sign up for these enriching meetings where you'll discuss great reads with fellow book fans! (When Restore Illinois recommendations change, we'll again meet in Mayslake Hall's 100-year-old library.) In April we'll discuss *Rambunctious Garden*; in May, *The Brother Gardeners*; and in June, *Gifts of the Crow*. Ages 18 and up. \$5 per person for all three discussions. Register online or at 630-206-9568.

April 9, May 7 & June 4	10 – 11:15 a.m.	Online
April 13, May 11 & June 8	6:45 – 8 p.m.	Online



**Mayslake Hall Exterior Tour** 18955

*Mayslake Peabody Estate*

Learn about the history and design of Mayslake Hall on a docent-guided tour of the building's exterior. You must wear a mask that covers your nose and mouth. Ages 12 and up; under 18 with an adult. \$8 per person. Register online or at 630-206-9566.

**April 3 – June 30**  
**Saturdays & Wednesdays 10 – 11:30 a.m.**

# Native Shrubs

© Gary House

by **DAVE ANDRUSYK**, COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT SERVICES

**S**pring has arrived, which means it's time to start thinking about sprucing up the garden. Here at the Forest Preserve District we're all about "going native," using plants that naturally grow in this area and are well-adapted to local rainfall, temperatures and pests. To get a nice "bang for your buck" while shopping for natives for your own yard, consider shrubs! They support wildlife as flowers and grasses do but also fill spaces large enough for bigger plants but not necessarily trees. (In general, shrubs are under 15 feet tall and grow from multiple stems versus a tree's single central trunk.) Here are some suggestions to get you started.

## Spicebush

The rounded spicebush grows 6 – 12 feet tall and prefers moist but not wet soil in dappled sun to medium shade. Its tiny yellow flowers bloom in spring before any leaves appear, but its flowers, leaves and stems all produce a spicy, pleasant aroma. Unlike other flowering shrubs, spicebush is "dioecious," which means that male and female flowers are on separate plants. Because of this arrangement, without pollinating insects to transfer pollen from one plant to another, spicebush would not be able to produce berries. The leaves are irreplaceable meals for caterpillars of the spicebush

swallowtail butterfly and the promethean moth, and the berries are favored by vireos, catbirds, thrushes, and white-throated sparrows, among others.

## Buttonbush

Buttonbush grows 3 – 8 feet tall in wet soils, even in areas where it floods. In fact, buttonbush tolerates most soils as long as they're not excessively dry. The shrub grows fuller with more flowers in full sun but can do well in light shade. Its sweetly fragrant, nectar-rich flowers look like small white Sputniks and host up to 24 species of butterflies and moths as well as bumblebees, leaf-cutting bees and hummingbirds. As the flowers age, they turn rosy and then eventually brown. Many songbirds as well as wood ducks, blue and green-winged teals, black ducks, and other waterfowl eat the shrub's fruit.

## Red Osier Dogwood

Red osier dogwood grows 3 – 9 feet tall, sprouting multiple shiny red stems that fade as they age. The shrub prefers full sun to partial shade and moist, well-drained soils; it doesn't tolerate areas that are hot and dry. Creamy white clusters of flowers appear in late spring to early summer and are replaced midsummer by attractive white berries. In fall the shrub can





▲ Red osier dogwood (*Cornus sericea*)



▲ Early wild rose (*Rosa blanda*)



▲ Blackhaw viburnum (*Viburnum prunifolium*)



▲ Spicebush (*Lindera benzoin*)

be quite stunning with yellow and orange to dark red leaves. In winter the bright red stems create a gorgeous contrast with the snowy ground.

The flowers' nectar and pollen attract long and short-tongued bees, wasps, flies, and butterflies. Moth caterpillars that feed on the leaves are in turn food for fledgling birds. Cardinals, tanagers, thrushes and grosbeaks like its high-fat berries, and white-tailed deer and eastern cottontails forage on its stems.

### Blackhaw Viburnum

Although a multistemmed shrub, blackhaw viburnum can grow as tall as a small tree, reaching up to 15 feet. It prefers light shade to part sun and slightly moist to dry soil. Its white clustered flowers appear in April and May and attract cuckoo bees, mason bees and bee flies as well as butterflies, hummingbird moths and ants. The leaves are vital to caterpillars such as the spring azure and hummingbird clearwing.

Late-summer berries attract migrating white-throated sparrows, thrushes, vireos and eastern bluebirds as well as resident chipmunks, squirrels and mice. In fall, many blackhaws produce stunning dark red leaves.

### Early Wild and Illinois Rose

Wild roses are not like the ornamental varieties. They produce single pink flowers followed by red fruits called "hips" that remain on the plants through winter. They don't flower repeatedly throughout the season as ornamentals do but have loads of flowers and leaves that are less prone to disease.

Early wild rose grows about 4 feet tall and 3 feet wide. It likes full sun to partial shade in dry to moist, well-drained soil. Its smooth twigs and stems produce few small thorns, and as its suckers grow, it creates a large mass of shelter and nesting habitat for wildlife. Nectar-feeding insects love its flowers, especially long-tongued bees, such as brown-belted bumblebees, and short-tongued bees, such as green sweat bees.

Illinois rose is a climbing plant that can reach 8 feet long and spread to 10 feet wide. It grows in full sun to part shade in moist, well-drained soils. Many gardeners like this species because it can be trained on a trellis. Its stems, or "canes," grow their first year, flower and fruit the second, and die in the third, so it's best to prune out third-year canes to keep the plant flowering. Illinois rose provides prime nesting habitat for many songbirds and a reliable source of food for bees, flies, beetles and other insect pollinators. •

# directory



## PLEASE NOTE

At press time, forest preserves 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](http://dupageforest.org).

## HEADQUARTERS

35580 Naperville Road  
Wheaton • 630-933-7200  
TTY 800-526-0857  
[dupageforest.org](http://dupageforest.org)  
[forest@dupageforest.org](mailto: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

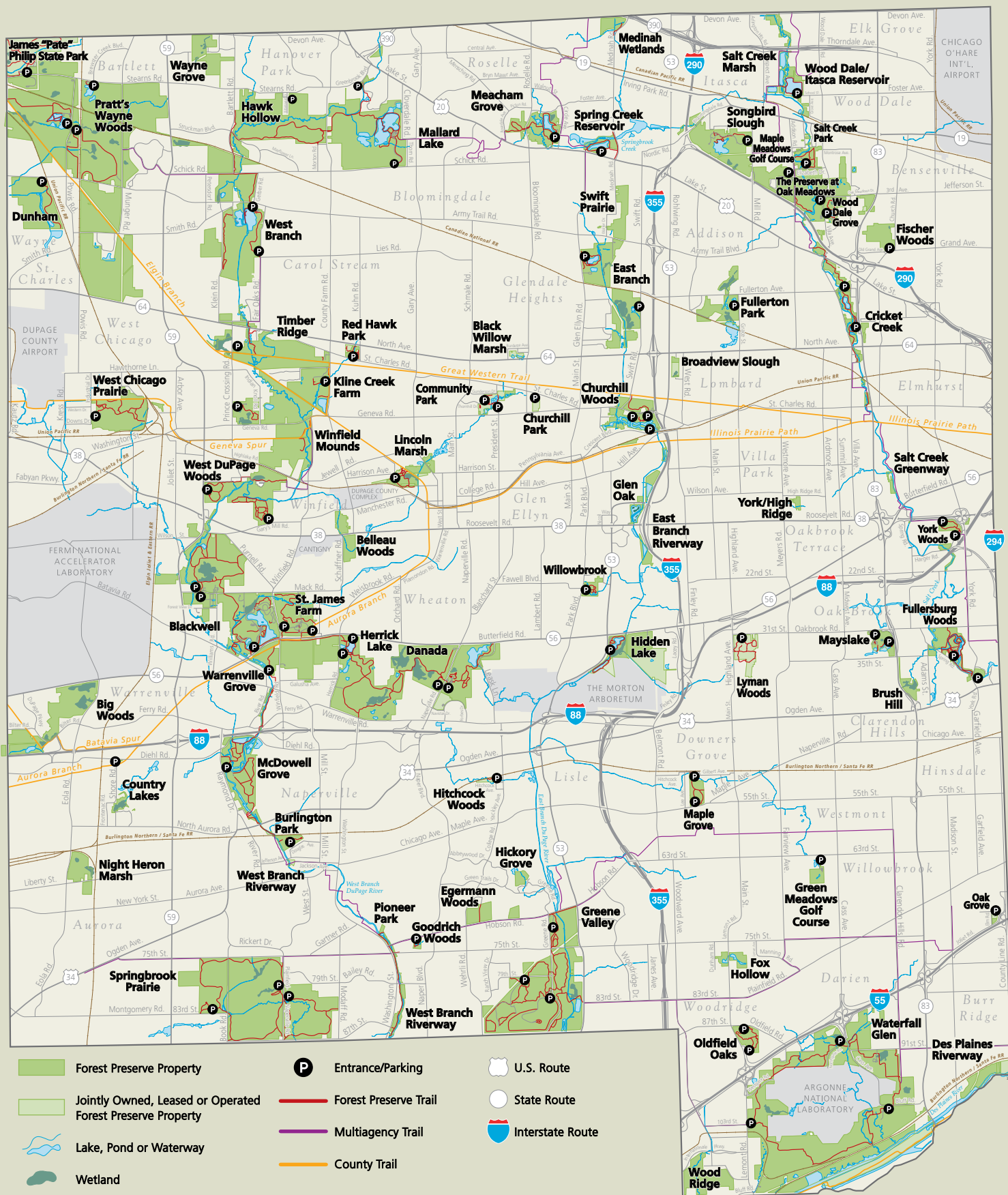
### BARTLETT NATURE CENTER

Bartlett • 847-608-3120

### LYMAN WOODS NATURE CENTER

Downers Grove • 630-963-9388







**Forest Preserve District  
of DuPage County**

35580 Naperville Road  
Wheaton, IL 60189

*please deliver to current resident*

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Carol Stream, IL  
Permit No. 96

# the Conservationist

A Quarterly Publication of the Forest Preserve District of DuPage County

**Spring 2021**

DuPage Forest Preserves

## NATIVE PLANT SALE

**Shop online for flowers, grasses,  
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order, visit [dupageforest.org/native-plant-sale](https://dupageforest.org/native-plant-sale).**



**Think global. Plant local.**