EConservationist

A Quarterly Publication of the Forest Preserve District of DuPage County Summer 2022



from the president



Summer greetings from the Forest Preserve District! I sincerely hope you're able to get out and enjoy all your forest preserves have to offer. We're pleased to present a robust lineup of activities and events this season, so whether you're interested in kids programs, golf, camping, or simply spending time in nature, we have something for everyone.

This summer will also be a busy time for forest preserve improvements. As you travel throughout the county, you'll see many projects underway. In April the board approved the final master plan and contract for the new Willowbrook Wildlife Center. This multiyear project will transform Willowbrook into a state-of-the-science center that will serve as a national leader in animal care, rehabilitation, and education for decades. Other summer efforts include a new parking lot at Waterfall Glen, exterior structural improvements at Mayslake Hall, new flushable family restrooms at Wood Dale Grove and Waterfall Glen, and bridge replacements at Hidden Lake. Throughout the District you'll also see crews performing regular maintenance and working on important infrastructure and natural restoration projects.

As you enjoy our preserves and programs, please stay safe. Our rangers and police officers are available to assist 365 days a year. As you visit some of the preserves this summer, you may see new security cameras at the entrances. These have been installed to deter crime and protect our visitors. Public safety is a top priority, so if you see something, say something.

I wish you a great summer enjoying nature (and encourage you to check out "Top 10 Trail Trip Must-Haves" on Page 19 before you head out). If you have any questions or concerns, I can be reached at dhebreard@dupageforest.org. I'll see you on the trails!

Daniel Hebreard

Van Hely

President, Forest Preserve District of DuPage County



BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS

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BOARD MEETINGS

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



THE CONSERVATIONIST

Summer 2022, Vol. 59, No. 3



FOREST PRESERVE DISTRICT OF DUPAGE COUNTY

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dupageforest.org

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On the cover: American crow © Brian Henderson

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

LIVE and on Demand

Can't make it to a board meeting? Find schedules and agendas and watch it live or on demand at dupageforest.org under "Our Board." You can also link directly to live streaming video from the Forest Preserve District's Facebook page at facebook.com/ dupageforest.

Commission meetings and planning sessions are open to the public and held at Forest Preserve District headquarters at 3S580 Naperville Road in Wheaton. 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.



S BK-Riverfish LLC, Amherst, MA

FISH TO GAIN NEW PASSAGEWAY AT MCDOWELL GROVE

The Fawell Dam located in the West Branch DuPage River at McDowell Grove is an important flood-control structure. Owned and managed by DuPage County Division of Stormwater, the dam's three gates control the flow through three large concrete box culverts, protecting Naperville from flooding by lowering downstream floodstage elevations.

But the dam also creates an upstream barrier to fish, many of which are returning to this stretch of the river as water quality and habitat steadily improve. Surveys between 2007 and 2020 have shown that 12 species of native fish such as flathead catfish, rock bass, blackstripe topminnows, and emerald shiners are only found downstream of the structure.

Finding a way for fish to bypass the dam was technically challenging, but DuPage County, the Forest Preserve District, and the DuPage River Salt Creek Workgroup are working together to install a patented fishway by BK-Riverfish in Amherst, Massachusetts, to do the job. The metal chute is divided by baffles (shown left) into small pools, which will allow fish to swim from pool to pool from the bottom upstream to the top. (They'll be able to swim downstream as well.) The agencies involved expect the fishway to be completed by 2023.

COLLECTIONS Corner

Whether at construction sites, in closets, or in relatives' attics, people unexpectedly discover historic items every day. In that moment, the finder may be unsure of what to do next. When the Forest Preserve District discovers a new find, it can face the same dilemma.

Thankfully, the District is guided by policies that help make the task easier. A "scope of collections" policy creates helpful boundaries, ensuring proper care and use of each item. With it, the District considers issues like provenance (where did it come from), ownership (who actually has a claim to it), purpose (how can it connect residents to the land through its past), and legal expectations (which laws affect it). Just as local historical societies and museums do, the Forest Preserve District ensures that each artifact added to its collection holds a specific place in the history of the people and the public lands of DuPage.





MANY Thanks

The Forest Preserve District thanks the donors who contributed to its efforts Jan. 1 – March 31. 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

Richard Pena and Edith Podrazik

\$1,500 – Willowbrook Wildlife Center Anthony and Joyce Carey

\$1,000 – Willowbrook Wildlife Center Dennis Dean

\$500 - Willowbrook Wildlife Center

Gifts of Note to the Friends of the Forest Preserve District

Jeffrey Jens

\$75,000 – Green Energy Endowment Fund

Ann Boisclair

\$25,000 – Green Energy Endowment Fund

Estate of Jill Fikar

\$25,000 – Willowbrook Wildlife Center capital projects

Dare Family

\$6,000 – Willowbrook Wildlife Center Domtar Paper Company

\$3,500 – Natural Resources, Willowbrook Wildlife Center Adopt an Animal **Edward Jones Financial Advisors**

\$2,500 - Greatest needs

Gerald and Amy Tavolino

\$2,500 – Willowbrook Wildlife Center in memory of Gayle Ann Reed

Susan Johansen

\$1,500 – Willowbrook Wildlife Center Adopt an Animal

Patrick and Mary Mauro

\$1,300 – Mayslake Peabody Estate restoration capital projects

Anonymous

\$1,000 – Willowbrook Wildlife Center

Jay Boryscka

\$1,000 – Willowbrook Wildlife Center in honor of Suzanne Boryscka

COUR Pharmaceuticals

\$1,000 – Greatest needs in memory of Frank Podijil

Bruce Lauer

\$1,000 – St. James Farm in memory of Holden Wight

Frank and Patricia Moscardini Jr.

\$1,000 - St. James Farm in memory of Holden Wight

Matthew and Jaime Szafranski

\$1,000 – St. James Farm in memory of Holden Wight

Nancy Hermann

\$550 – Greatest needs

Jeremy Caulk

\$500 – Willowbrook Wildlife Center in memory of Gayle Ann Reed

Jennifer Chidlow

\$500 – Natural Resources Restoration Capital Projects

Anthony Komro

\$500 – St. James Farm in memory of Holden Wight

Manhard Consulting

\$500 - Greatest needs

Mallory Neuberg

\$500 – Willowbrook Wildlife Center in memory of Peeps and Margo

Mark and Diane Schwed

\$500 – Danada Equestrian Center, Kline Creek Farm, Willowbrook Wildlife Center



VISITOR SERVICES Saturday Phone Hours

Now through Aug. 27 (except July 2) Visitor Services will be available on Saturdays 9 a.m. to 2 p.m. to answer your calls, emails, and online chats. The office won't be

open for in-person visits, but you'll still get answers to all those questions you missed during the week. Get in touch at 630-933-7248 or permits@ dupageforest.org, or use our chat box at dupageforest.org.

FOR MORE NEWS & NOTES SEE PAGE 18.



© Mr. Tim MD

The Social Lives of Crows

by **Brian Kraskiewicz**, Natural Resources

obbing, holding a grudge, funerals, murders. They may sound like popular themes for a crime story, but they're also a few of the behaviors of the American crow.

American crows are common sights in DuPage forest preserves and backyards. Most people know these large black birds for their diverse diet (nuts, fruits, seeds, insects, bird eggs, small mammals, garbage, carrion) and their distinctive "caw, caw" vocalizations, but many may not know that researchers study crows for their complex social behaviors and intelligence.

Crows are social animals that often live in extended family groups. Young will stay with their parents for up to two years as "helpers" to aid in building nests and rearing and protecting new chicks. As older birds, crows gather in large groups, hanging out at night in roosts containing one or two dozen to thousands of individuals and dispersing during the day to forage for food.

This communal social system is especially seen in crows' mobbing behavior, a defensive strategy the birds use when a predator is nearby. If a crow discovers a hawk, owl, or other danger in its territory, it will start to harshly caw. This alarm attracts other crows, who join in the calling. (If you ever hear a group of crows cawing like this, be on the lookout for a bird of prey!) Some may even dive bomb the intruder. This effective behavior usually causes the predator to move on.

Crows are also known to carry — and pass on — grudges. In one study, researchers from the University of Washington wore caveman masks and then captured, marked, and released several crows. They then took turns wearing the mask around campus, noting the birds' responses. Crows that were captured cawed at the person wearing the mask but ignored other people and even other masks. But the crows that were never captured seemed to quickly learn that the caveman mask represented danger as they, too, began to scold and target the person wearing it. The



Crows will stay with their parents for up to two years to help build nests and raise younger siblings.



Nonbreeding crows will roost in groups that can consist of thousands of birds.

researchers concluded that the captured crows not only held grudges against the person in the caveman mask but also taught other crows that the mask was a danger to avoid.

One of the more interesting behaviors of crows, which is not common in the animal world, is a funeral or wake for a deceased member of the group. Researchers, again from the University of Washington, placed a taxidermied crow outdoors. When a crow discovered the deceased, it would call out, alerting others. As other crows gathered, the group continued to make noise. The researchers theorized that the crows were sending a call out to look for nearby predators or other threats that may have caused the death. The study also revealed that if a predator or human was in the area when the crows gathered, they would scold that individual — even weeks later.

One of the more interesting facts about crows, one based on folklore, is that a group is called a "murder," although no one knows exactly why. In the 15th century, the English liked to assign collective nouns to groups of animals, often using poetic or colorful names based on perceived characteristics or superstitions. Crows might have received the term "murder" because they were often linked with death, perhaps because of their black plumage or the fact that they ate carrion and



▲ When a predator like a hawk or owl is nearby, crows will call out to attract other crows to mob the invader.



Crows will gather and call around deceased crows, possibly to monitor an area for a responsible predator.

were often seen on battlefields. Another possible origin story suggested that a group of crows would act as judge, jury, and executioner against an individual within the group. Regardless of the reason, a "murder of crows" remains a well-known description, although by no means a scientific one.

As for overall intelligence, crows have demonstrated impressive abilities in the ways they work individually and in groups to gather food. Researchers have observed crows using cups to pour water over dry foods to make the meals easier to consume. They've seen crows pry slender pieces of wood from fence posts to use as tools to reach into holes to grab insects. Crows will work together to distract river otters before stealing food from the unsuspecting aquatic mammals. And crows have been recorded digging holes to get clams, stealing food from humans and pets, and dropping nuts on hard surfaces to crack open the shells to reach the nuts inside.

Their social and intelligent behaviors make crows well-adapted to living throughout DuPage County. Their close-knit family groups offer an added layer of protection from predators and provide effective means of communicating danger. Their intelligence allows them to observe danger and to pass on what they learn to future generations. •

summer calendar

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July

- 1 Fresh Air Friday Tractor-Drawn Wagon Rides
- 2 Picnicking for the Glorious Fourth Volunteer Restoration Workday
- **3** Volunteer Restoration Workday Willowbrook Happy Hour
- 4 Volunteer Restoration Workday
- Volunteer Workday at the Nursery Wildflower Walk
- 8 Archery: Families Peabody's Pages Book Club Morning Discussions Tractor-Drawn Wagon Rides
- Kayaking: Capsizing, Safety, and Rescues Volunteer Restoration Workday Wildflower Walk
- **10** History of St. James Farm Volunteer Restoration Workday
- 11 Volunteer Workday at the Nursery
- 12 Peabody's Pages Book Club Evening Discussions Begin

- **15** Fishing: Families Tractor-Drawn Wagon Rides
- **16** Volunteer Workday at the Nursery
- 17 Kayaking: Paddle With a Ranger Mindful Nature Journaling
- 19 Archery: Active Adults
- 21 Monarchs and Me
- 22 Tractor-Drawn Wagon Rides Volunteer Workday at the Nursery
- 23 Volunteer Restoration Workday Willowbrook Happy Hour
- **24** Archery: Families Volunteer Restoration Workday
- **25** Drumming Circle
- **27** Volunteer Workday at the Nursery
- 29 Kayaking: Basics Moonlight Moth Walk Tractor-Drawn Wagon Rides
- **30** Volunteer Restoration Workday
- **31** Volunteer Restoration Workday





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.

August

- Summer Prairie Walk Volunteer Workday at the Nursery
- **3** Kayaking: Just for Kids Wildflower Walk
- 5 Fresh Air Friday Tractor-Drawn Wagon Rides
- **6** Archery: Open House Volunteer Restoration Workday Volunteer Workday at the Nursery Wildflower Walk
- 7 Kayaking: Adventure Series Begins Marvelous Monarchs Volunteer Restoration Workday
- **12** Archery: Families
 Tractor-Drawn Wagon Rides
 Volunteer Workday at the Nursery

- 13 Volunteer Restoration Workday Willowbrook Happy Hour
- 14 History of St. James Farm Volunteer Restoration Workday Women's Outdoor Adventure Series: Archery
- 16 Kayaking: Paddle With a Ranger
- 17 Volunteer Workday at the Nursery
- **18** Native Landscaping: Shrubs & Trees 101
- 20 Fishing: Families
- 22 Drumming Circle Volunteer Workday at the Nursery
- 23 Archery: Families Pre-K Outdoor Play

- 25 Cocktails and Conservation: Homegrown Happy Hour Summer Prairie Walk
- 26 Archery: Games Cocktails and Conservation: Beers and Bats, Mules, and Moths
- 27 Volunteer Restoration Workday Volunteer Workday at the Nursery
- 28 Volunteer Restoration Workday Willowbrook Happy Hour Women's Outdoor Adventure Series: Kayaking
- **29** Volunteer Restoration Workday
- 31 Kayaking: Basics

September

- 2 Archery: Adults Fresh Air Friday Volunteer Workday at the Nursery
- **3** Volunteer Restoration Workday
- 4 Volunteer Restoration Workday Willowbrook Happy Hour
- 5 Volunteer Restoration Workday
- 7 Evening Forest Hike Volunteer Workday at the Nursery Wildflower Walk
- 8 Cocktails and Conservation: Mason Jar Mixology Summer Prairie Walk
- 10 Volunteer Restoration Workday Wildflower Walk
- 11 Volunteer Restoration Workday Women's Outdoor Adventure Series: Fishing

- **12** Forest Hike Volunteer Workday at the Nursery
- **13** Pre-K Outdoor Play
- **14** Evening Forest Hike Willowbrook Wilderness Walk
- **15** A Night for Nature
- **16** Bird Walk
- 17 Fishing: Rivers
 Get Your Feet Wet
 Volunteer Restoration Workday
 Volunteer Workday at the Nursery
- **18** The Other McCormick of DuPage Willowbrook Happy Hour
- **19** Forest Hike
- **20** Volunteer Restoration Workday

- **21** Evening Forest Hike Willowbrook Wilderness Walk
- 23 Bird Walk Volunteer Workday at the Nursery
- 24 Tractor-Drawn Wagon Rides Volunteer Restoration Workday
- 25 Archery: Families Nature Detectives: Signs of Fall Tractor-Drawn Wagon Rides Volunteer Restoration Workday
- **26** Drumming Circle Forest Hike
- 28 Evening Forest Hike Volunteer Restoration Workday Volunteer Workday at the Nursery
- 29 Edith: The Rogue Rockefeller McCormick
- **30** Bird Walk







Plants & Wildlife

Bird Walk 21841

Enjoy birding camaraderie, and learn ID tips and tricks while looking for migrating birds on a casual 2-mile guided walk. Ages 18 and up. \$5 per person. Register online or at 630-933-7248.

Sept. 16	7:30 – 9:30 a.m.	Springbrook
Sept. 23	7:30 – 9:30 a.m.	Pratt's Wayne
Sept. 30	7:30 – 9:30 a.m.	Oldfield Oaks

Cocktails and Conservation: Beers and Bats, Mules and Moths 21882

Grab a bat- or moth-themed signature cocktail as you learn about DuPage bats and moths. Then, join experts on a nighttime stroll as we identify these nocturnal animals and talk about how we study them. Ages 21 and up. \$20 per person. Register online or at 630-933-7248.

Aug. 26	7:30 – 9 p.m. &	Oak Meadows
	8.30 - 10 n m	

Get Your Feet Wet 21860

Join a walk in the newly restored Spring Brook, and learn the importance of streams and their inhabitants. Find out how the Forest Preserve District is restoring these valuable habitats as you search for crayfish, mussels, fish, and underwater insects. Ages 18 and up. \$5 per person. Register online or at 630-933-7248.

Sept. 17 10 – 11:30 a.m. Blackwell

Marvelous Monarchs 21771

Learn about our beautiful native monarchs and how you can help butterflies and other pollinators. Then join a leisurely 20-minute stroll to find monarchs in their various stages of life. Ages 12 and up; under 18 with an adult. \$5 per person. Register online or at 630-933-7248.

Aug. 7 2 – 3:15 p.m. St. James Farm

Monarchs and Me 21811

Learn about the lives of monarch butterflies through story, role-playing, crafts, and habitat exploration. This program is in partnership with the DuPage Monarch Project and DuPage County. Ages 3 – 8 with an adult. \$5 per child. Register online or at 630-933-7248.

July 21 10 – 11 a.m. St. James Farm

Moonlight Moth Walk 21859

Join us during National Moth Week for an evening walk through the woods to learn about DuPage moths and other nocturnal insects. Ages 12 and up; under 18 with an adult. \$10 per person. Register online or at 630-933-7248.

July 29 9 – 10:30 p.m. Blackwell



Nature Detectives: Signs of Fall 21781

Bring your family on this signs-of-fall scavenger hunt, and sharpen your nature observational skills as you enjoy the seasonal features of St. James Farm. Ages 5 – 11 with an adult. \$5 per person. Register online or at 630-933-7248.

Sept. 25 2 – 3 p.m. St. James Farm

A Night for Nature

Join us as we raise funds for the 501(c)(3) Friends of the Forest Preserve District during a wonderful evening of food and fellowship. This annual benefit event supports the restoration of habitat and the preservation of wildlife in DuPage forest preserves. Tickets include small plates, tours of the recently restored McCormick Woods and Spring Brook, and live entertainment and go on sale Aug. 1 at dupageforest.org/night-for-nature. Ages 21 and up. \$100 per person. Questions? Call 630-871-6400.

Sept. 15 5 – 9 p.m. St. James Farm





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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.

Summer Prairie Walk 21852

Stretch your legs, get some fresh air, and appreciate the colorful late-summer blooms of the prairie on a leisurely 1- to 2-mile guided walk. Learn how to identify common DuPage plants and which ones you can grow at home. Ages 12 and up; under 18 with an adult. \$5 per person. Register online or at 630-933-7248.

Aug. 1	10 – 11 a.m.	Philip State Park
Aug. 25	10 – 11 a.m.	Springbrook
Sept. 8	10 – 11 a.m.	Dunham

Wildflower Walk 21845

Meet a plant expert for a leisurely walk to enjoy the blooms of summer. You'll learn about native flowers, how to identify them, and which varieties you can grow at home. Ages 18 and up. \$5 per person. Register online or at 630-933-7248.

July 6 & 9	10 – 11 a.m.	Fullersburg Woods
Aug. 3 & 6	10 – 11 a.m.	Fullersburg Woods
Sept. 7 & 10	10 – 11 a.m.	Fullersburg Woods

Willowbrook Happy Hour 21829

Join us for an after-hours tour of the center's ambassador animals. During this quiet, small-group experience we'll deliver their dinners, discuss their stories, and share how we care for these wild residents. Ages 5 and up; under 18 with an adult. \$5 per person. Register online or at 630-942-6200.

July 3 & 23	4 – 5 p.m.	Willowbrook
Aug. 13 & 28	4 – 5 p.m.	Willowbrook
Sept. 4 & 18	4 – 5 p.m.	Willowbrook



Willowbrook Wilderness Walk 21837

Reconnect with your surroundings by developing an acute awareness of the stories told by local wildlife and the natural world through observation and deduction. Discover nature's clues by exploring animal tracks, signs, and evidence. Ages 18 and up. \$5 per person. Register online or at 630-942-6200.

Sept. 14 & 21	8 – 10 a.m.	Willowbrook
JCDL 14 Q Z I	0 – 10 a.iii.	VVIIIOVVDIOOK

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. \$5 per person. Register online or at 630-933-7248.

Active Adults 21789

Ages 50 and up.		
July 19	11 a.m. – 12:30 p.m.	Salt Creek Park

Adults 21791 Ages 18 and up.

Sept. 2	11 a.m. – 12:30 p.m.	Blackwell
SAM /	11 a m = 17:30 n m	RIACKWAII

Families 21783

Ages 8 and up; under 18 with an adult.

July 8	5:30 – 7 p.m.	Churchill Woods
July 24	1 – 2:30 p.m.	Blackwell
Aug. 12	5:30 – 7 p.m.	Churchill Woods
Aug. 23	5:30 – 7 p.m.	Blackwell
Sept. 25	10 – 11:30 a.m.	Churchill Woods

Archery: Games 21790

Compete with other participants in different archery games designed to be enjoyable for all skill levels. Ages 8 and up; under 18 with an adult. \$5 per person. Register online or at 630-933-7248.

Aug. 26	5:30 – 7 p.m.	Churchill Woods









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

Through Sept. 25 Saturdays & Sundays 8 a.m. - 6:30 p.m.

Memorial Day - Labor Day Monday - Friday 11 a.m. - 6 p.m. Open 8 a.m. Memorial Day, July 4 & Labor Day

Herrick Lake

Memorial Day Weekend - Labor Day Weekend Saturdays & Sundays Plus Memorial Day, July 4 & Labor Day 11 a.m. - 6 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.

Through Oct. 30

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 and click "Registration & Permits." For extra nights around Memorial Day, July 4 and Labor Day, call 630-933-7248.

Through Sept. 25 **Friday & Saturday Nights Plus Select Additional Holiday Nights**

Archery: Open House

Learn about equipment, try some of the basics with a certified instructor, and talk to representatives from local archery groups at this fun family event. All ages; under 18 with an adult. Free. No registration. Questions? Call 630-933-7248.

Aug. 6

10 a.m. – 2 p.m.

Blackwell

Fishing

Families 21792

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

July 15

5:30 – 7:30 p.m.

Blackwell

Aug. 20

9 – 11 a.m.

Herrick Lake

Rivers 21796

Discover techniques for fishing in rivers and streams at this intermediate clinic. Ages 12 and up; under 18 with an adult. \$5 per person. Register online or at 630-933-7248.

Sept. 17

9 – 11 a.m.

Fullersburg Woods



Fore!

The Preserve at Oak Meadows Maple Meadows • Green Meadows

A round at a DuPage forest preserve course is a great way to enjoy the outdoors! We have outings and leagues for all abilities. For tee times and specials visit DuPageGolf.com.





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

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- 3. If a program has more than one date, time or location, click "More" to find the one you want.

Kayaking

Adventure Series Four-Part Program 21805

Learn the basics as you explore different waters each week. Equipment provided. Ages 12 and up; under 18 with an adult. \$80 per person. Register online or at 630-933-7248.

Aug. 7, Aug. 21, 9 – 11 a.m. Multiple Sept. 4 & Sept. 18

Basics 21800

Learn paddling strokes and safety tips in a one-person kayak. Equipment provided. Ages 12 and up; under 18 with an adult. \$20 per person. Register online or at 630-933-7248.

July 29	5 – 7 p.m.	Blackwell
Aug. 31	5 – 7 p.m.	Hidden Lake

Capsizing, Safety, and Rescues 21809

Learn about equipment and ways to ensure safe paddling, and then take part in rescue maneuvers with an American Canoe Association-certified instructor. Equipment provided. Ages 12 and up; under 18 with an adult. \$20 per person. Register online or at 630-933-7248.

July 9 9 – 11 a.m. Hidden Lake

Just for Kids 21804

Learn the basics in a kid-friendly setting. Equipment provided. Ages 9 – 12 with an adult. \$10 per person. Register online or at 630-933-7248.

Aug. 3 5:30 – 7 p.m. Herrick Lake



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.

Paddle With a Ranger 21797

Take a guided paddle through a forest preserve. Bring your own canoe or kayak to this free program or rent one for \$20 per person. Ages 12 and up; under 18 with an adult. Register online or at 630-933-7248.

July 17	10 a.m. – Noon	Mallard Lake
Aug. 16	5 – 7 p.m.	West Branch

Pre-K Outdoor Play 21856

Engage your little ones in outdoor adventure as you participate together in stories, songs, movement, and games followed by a guided outdoor exploration activity. Ages 2 – 4 with an adult. \$5 per child. Register online or at 630-933-7248.

Aug. 23	1 – 2 p.m.	Fullersburg Woods
Sept. 13	1 – 2 p.m.	St. James Farm



Have It at Herrick!

BOATING, PICNIC, FISHING AND ARCHERY PARTIES

Weekdays (Tuesday After Memorial Day – Friday Before Labor Day)

Two-, four- and eight-hour packages starting at \$250 for DuPage residents and \$300 for nonresidents

Exclusive use of the east picnic shelter and the entire fleet (12 kayaks, 12 canoes, six row boats)

Use of fishing poles and tackle

Help from our friendly staff

Ranger-led archery program with eight-hour package and an add-on with four hours

Plan your party with Visitor Services at 630-933-7248.



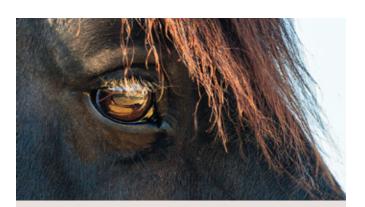






Time With Your Horse

Danada Equestrian Center and St. James Farm Interested in getting the latest on obstacle course play dates, weigh days, indoor riding arena openings, and other opportunities? Then text HORSES to 866-743-7332 to sign up for text alerts. As we add them to the calendar, we'll get the word out!



Riding Lessons 21640

Danada Equestrian Center

Learn horsemanship and riding skills in a friendly group setting, or receive one-on-one instruction and progress at your own pace with individual lessons. We have lessons for new to advanced riders ages 12 and up in July, August, and September. \$40 – \$250 per DuPage County resident; \$50 – \$310 per nonresident. Register online or at 630-668-6012.

Women's Outdoor Adventure Series

Enjoy great camaraderie (and a lot of fun!) at these programs created for and led by women. Equipment provided. Ages 18 and up. Register online or at 630-933-7248.

Archery 21806

Learn basic techniques and safety essentials of this classic sport. \$5 per person.

Aug. 14 10 – 11:30 a.m. Blackwell

Fishing 21808

Hear about fish ecology, identification, and creel limits, and try some sure-fire techniques. \$5 per person.

Sept. 11 10 a.m. – Noon Herrick Lake

Kayaking 21807

Learn paddling strokes and safety tips in a one-person kayak. \$20 per person.

Aug. 28 10 a.m. – Noon **Fullersburg Woods**

Health & Well-Being

Evening Forest Hike 21861

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

Sept. 7	6:30 – 8 p.m.	McDowell Grove
Sept. 14	6:30 – 8 p.m.	Fullersburg Woods
Sept. 21	6:30 – 8 p.m.	Meacham Grove
Sept. 28	6:30 – 8 p.m.	Philip State Park

Forest Hike 21866

Get some healthy exercise, and enjoy the wonders of a DuPage forest preserve on a quick-paced 3- to 5-mile guided hike. Ages 18 and up. \$5 per person. Register online or at 630-933-7248.

Sept. 12	8:30 – 10 a.m.	Blackwell
Sept. 19	8:30 – 10 a.m.	Churchill Woods
Sept. 26	8:30 – 10 a.m.	Springbrook





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 21597

Enjoy a relaxing lunch hour of mindful walking and immersive nature-based ways to tune in to the present. Ages 18 and up. \$5 per person. Register online or at 630-933-7248.

July 1	Noon – 1 p.m.	St. James Farm
Aug. 5	Noon – 1 p.m.	St. James Farm
Sept. 2	Noon – 1 p.m.	St. James Farm

Living Green

Cocktails and Conservation

Homegrown Happy Hour 22033

Learn how to craft easy and delicious cocktails and mocktails using native plants so you can enjoy your own homegrown happy hour. Enjoy two drink tastings while learning about edible native plants, and then create a garden-to-bar favorite concoction to take home. Ages 21 and up. \$20 per person. Register online or at 630-933-7248.

Aug. 25 6:30 – 8 p.m. Oak Meadows

Mason Jar Mixology 22034

Learn how to make tangy and refreshing cocktails or mocktails using infusions made with ingredients from native shrubs and trees. Grab a mason jar, and make your own infusion to take home while enjoying two drink tastings and getting great info on native plants. Ages 21 and up. \$20 per person. To register by phone instead, call 630-933-7248.

Sept. 8 6:30 – 8 p.m. Oak Meadows

Native Landscaping: Shrubs & Trees 101

Join our panel of plant experts for an evening of discussion and problem-solving. You'll get the chance to have your questions answered as we address common challenges and share tips on successfully growing native trees and shrubs at home. Ages 18 and up. \$10 per person. Register online or at 630-933-7248.

Aug. 18 6:30 – 8 p.m. Online

Heritage

Edith: The Rogue Rockefeller McCormick

21969

Join a lively presentation by Andrea Ross, author of the hit book on Edith Rockefeller McCormick, a woman whose roles included founder of Brookfield Zoo, supporter of Chicago Grand Opera, patron for Carl Jung and James Joyce, and founder of her own real estate firm. Her roller-coaster life included tremendous wealth, great tragedy, numerous scandals, and a few opera divas. Ages 12 and up; under 18 with an adult. \$10 per person. Register online or at 630-206-9566.

Sept. 29 6:30 – 8:30 p.m. St. James Farm



Fall Native Tree and Shrub Sale

Shop online for native trees and shrubs adapted to DuPage conditions, and then pick up your plants at St. James Farm! Questions? Call 630-933-7247.

July 1 Plant list and sale details go online at dupageforest.org/fall-tree-shrub-sale.

Aug. 1 Online ordering begins and continues while supplies last.

Sept. 23 & 24 Pick up plants at St. James Farm.
Plants must be ordered in advance;
there will not be any in-person
sales at the farm.









1890s Living

Kline Creek Farm

Suggested admission donation of \$5 per person ages 3 and up to enter the farm. These all-ages programs (under 18 with an adult) are free and do not require registration. Questions? Call 630-876-5900.

FARMHOUSE TOUR: FARM POWER

Tour the 1890s farmhouse, and learn how the technology and innovation of the period simplified household chores such as baking and sewing.

July 1 - Aug. 29 (except July 4) Thursday – Monday 10 a.m. – 4 p.m. on the hour

STORY TIME

Bring the family, and rest under the shade of a tree while a costumed interpreter shares lessons from the world of stories with different historic tales each week.

July 11 - Aug. 29 Mondays 10 a.m. - Noon

TIME TO GO CHORIN'

Pull up your sleeves the 1890s way, and help with different chores around the farm. On Mondays pitch in at the farmhouse laundering clothes, hanging them out to dry, and beating rugs. On Thursdays, help in the barnyard caring for the animals and working with hand tools.

July 7 - Aug. 29 Mondays & Thursdays 1:30 - 3:30 p.m.

History of St. James Farm 21768

Get an in-depth look into the site's fascinating history through stories and historic photographs, and learn about the people who were part of its legacy. Ages 18 and up. \$5 per person. Register online or at 630-933-7248.

July 10 2 - 3 p.m.St. James Farm St. James Farm Aug. 14 2 - 3 p.m.

The Other McCormick of DuPage 21772

Chauncey McCormick of St. James Farm was a farmer, gentleman, and philanthropist whose influence is far-reaching but little-known. Get to know the life of this man who played a significant role the county's history. Ages 18 and up. \$5 per person. Register online or at 630-933-7248.

Sept. 18 2 - 3 p.m.St. James Farm

Picnicking for the Glorious Fourth

Bring a picnic, and enjoy it within the beautiful surroundings of the farmstead as you celebrate our oldest national holiday! Explore a historical picnicking display, and help make a special dairy treat using ice from the icehouse. Learn about period music, play historical games, and watch model hot-air balloon launches, too. All ages; under 18 with an adult. Free. No registration. Questions? Call 630-876-5900.

July 2 1:30 - 3:30 p.m. Kline Creek Farm



A Story From the Land 21262

Mayslake Peabody Estate

From prehistoric times to the present, the land has provided food, shelter, joy, inspiration, and purpose. Hear highlights from this amazing story — and find your place in it. Ages 18 and up. \$5 per person. Register online or at 630-206-9566.

Aug. 2 - Sept. 30 Tuesday - Friday 12:30 - 1:30 p.m. Saturdays 1:30 - 2:30 p.m.





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- 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.

Tractor-Drawn Wagon Rides

Enjoy a 30-minute ride while learning about the forest preserve's heritage and natural areas. Rides begin at 1, 1:45, and 2:30 p.m. All ages; under 13 with an adult. \$5 per person ages 5 and up; under 5 free. No registration. Questions? Call 630-580-7025 for St. James Farm and 630-668-6012 for Danada (including calls for private group rides).

July 1, 8, 15, 22 & 29	1 – 3 p.m.	St. James Farm
Aug. 5 & 12	1 – 3 p.m.	St. James Farm
Sept. 24 & 25	1 – 3 p.m.	Danada

Nature Art & Culture

Drumming Circle 21635

Encourage the seasons in a new way: by drumming in the warmer weather at the nature education center. Bring your own drum, or borrow one of our homemade percussion instruments. No experience necessary. Ages 12 and up; under 18 with an adult. \$5 per person. Register online or at 630-206-9566.

July 25	6:30 – 7:30 p.m.	Fullersburg Woods
Aug. 22	6:30 – 7:30 p.m.	Fullersburg Woods
Sept. 26	6:30 – 7:30 p.m.	Fullersburg Woods

Mindful Nature Journaling 21803

Take a peaceful walk, and creatively connect to the environment in an immersive and mindful nature journaling experience. No art skills necessary. Ages 18 and up. \$5 per person. Register online or at 630-933-7248.

July 17	10 – 11:30 a.m.	St. James Farm

Peabody's Pages Book Club

Three-Part Program 22028

Sign up for these enriching meetings where you'll discuss great reads with fellow book fans! In July we'll discuss Sapiens: A Brief History of Humankind; in August, The Narrow Land; and in September, The Mystery of Sag Bridge. Titles are subject to change. Register for either the three morning or three evening discussions. Ages 18 and up. \$5 per person for all three discussions. Register online or at 630-206-9566.

July 8, Aug. 5	10 – 11:15 a.m.	St. James Farm
& Sept. 9		
July 12, Aug. 9	6:45 – 8 p.m.	Online
& Sept. 13	·	

Volunteer

Volunteer Restoration Workday 21902

Help improve a forest preserve prairie or woodland by collecting seeds or removing nonnative plants. Ages 8 and up; under 18 with an adult. Free. Register online or at 630-206-9630 at least five days in advance (10 days by phone for groups of five or more).

July 2, 3, 4, 9, 10, 23, 24, 30 & 31	8:30 – 11 a.m.	Churchill Woods
July 2 & 30	9 a.m. – Noon	Churchill/Glacial
Aug. 6, 7, 13, 14, 27, 28 & 29	8:30 – 11 a.m.	Churchill Woods
Aug. 13	9 a.m. – Noon	Churchill /Glacial
Sept. 3, 4, 5, 10, 11, 24 & 25	8:30 – 11 a.m.	Churchill Woods
Sept. 3 & 24	9 a.m. – Noon	Churchill/Glacial
Sept. 17 & 20	9 a.m. – Noon	Springbrook
Sept. 28	9 a.m. – Noon	Oldfield Oaks



Volunteer Workday at the Nursery 21822

Lend a hand weeding, watering, or collecting and cleaning seeds from native grasses and flowers. Ages 12 and up; under 18 with an adult. Free. Register online or at 630-206-9630 at least five days in advance (10 days ahead for groups of five or more).

July 6, 11, 16, 22 & 27	8 – 11 a.m.	Blackwell
Aug. 1, 6, 12, 17, 22 & 27	8 – 11 a.m.	Blackwell
Sept. 2, 7, 12 & 17 Sept. 23 & 28	8 – 11 a.m. 9 a.m. – Noon	Blackwell Blackwell

news & notes

BIRDING News

The Bird Conservation Network, a coalition of 21 conservation organizations in the six-county Chicago region, recently analyzed 22 years of bird survey data collected within local natural areas, including 45 DuPage forest preserves. The survey results, which are posted at bcnbirds.org/ trends21, indicate that preservation and restoration efforts within forests, prairies, wetlands, and shrublands are benefiting many species.

Of the 104 species analyzed, 56% are stable or increasing within our region, compared to only 37% for the rest of Illinois. The study also concluded that grasslands within the six-county study are globally important for Henslow's sparrows (shown below) and that management efforts have benefited this species tremendously. However, many breeding birds such as bobolinks and ovenbirds are declining, demonstrating a clear need to continue focusing on conservation practices that benefit birds.

Also of note, our region may be the single-most important migration corridor in North America, providing muchneeded food and shelter for migratory species.

A special thank you is extended to the 66 District volunteers who contributed to this data set over the past two decades!





THE PRESERVE WELCOMES FIRST FULL SEASON WITH NEW **CLUBHOUSE**

Golfers and any groups looking for a place to meet are enjoying great views at The Preserve at Oak Meadows new clubhouse.

The one-story, 18,000-square-foot building has environmentally friendly features, such as a green roof, native landscaping with pollinator-friendly plants, sustainably sourced wood, and energy-efficient building systems. It also features a restaurant with indoor and outdoor seating areas, a multipurpose event room, a pro shop, locker rooms, and office space.

The chef's menu at the Greenway Tap restaurant includes sandwiches, salads, healthy inspirations, and featured plates. For details, including current hours and directions, visit DuPageGolf.com.

SUCCESSFUL REHAB STORY Has Happier Ending

In January a concerned birder contacted the Chicago Bird Collision Monitors group to collect a bald eagle she spotted in a puddle at the side of the road. The volunteers brought the eagle to Willowbrook Wildlife Center, which concluded the animal suffered from rodenticide poisoning, most likely from eating a poisoned mouse or rat.

After almost 40 days of treatment, the bird was healthy enough to return to the wild, and center staff released it (pictured right) near the spot where it had originally been found. Shortly thereafter, observers spotted the eagle reuniting with its mate.

In May, the same birder spotted the pair's nest — now occupied by two eaglets as well!





t's not news that since 2020, more people are finding time to spend outdoors. In DuPage, a lot of that time includes hiking or biking along the county's 166 miles of trails. But whether you're headed to a local forest preserve or a weekend in the wilds of Wisconsin, there are 10 items (featured here in no particular order) that can help you avoid discomfort or the need to turn back before your adventure is over.

1. Water

Water is vital no matter what time of year you go on a hike or bike ride. Most experts recommended you bring at least 32 ounces in a rugged bottle. A wide-mouth bottle is usually better because it's easier to clean and fill. For longer or hotter trips, you may want to bring



more, although most forest preserves have pumps or fountains. You can find out where each is located on any DuPage forest preserve map.

2. Charged Phone

The plan might be for a quick trip to the preserves, but as the Scouts like to say, "Be prepared!" A fully charged smartphone gives you peace of mind in an emergency and the latest weather report. It also guarantees you'll have your camera at

the ready to take all of those great shots of DuPage plants and wildlife. (Tag us at #dupageforest if you post them on social media!) Plus, you'll be able to pull up information on the preserves — including trail maps — at dupageforest.org.



3. First Aid Kit

No matter the extent of your adventure, you'll want to bring at least a basic first aid kit. If you're hiking in the back woods,

you'll want one that can treat minor injuries and provide initial care for more serious emergencies. In DuPage forest preserves, just the basics will save your trip if you get a blister, minor cut, or sting. (In more serious emergencies in the preserves, dial 911.)



4. Extra Layers

No matter how good we are with checking the weather, it can change when we least expect it. Regardless of where you're headed, have the clothing you need to deal with the extremes of heat, cold, and storms. If you are out in colder temperatures, dress in layers so you can remain comfortable as



you remove or add different garments. Outdoor clothing can be a little expensive, but many styles are compact, which makes them easier to carry. Bring a spare pair of socks, too. When hiking, your feet are your most important asset, and having extra socks can make a world of difference if you end up with wet feet.

5. Rain Gear

This is separate from "extra layers" because it's that important. Even on warmer days, you can get chilled by an unexpected storm. If possible, invest in a good rain suit that includes a jacket and pants. Rain ponchos and garbage bags with holes for your head and



arms are not recommended because they restrict movement and don't trap the warmth near your body.

6. Snacks

Even if it's a short hike, it's a good idea to bring a small supply of high-energy, high-nutrition foods (such as one of the trail mixes on the next page). These foods will give you that extra boost if your hike lasts longer than expected. Hiking and biking use a lot of energy, and even a short trek can make bellies grumble. Having these snacks on hand will help you focus less on hunger and enjoy more of the journey ahead.

7. Map and Compass

Smart phones do a lot for us. You can use them to pull up a trail map in a matter of seconds. But this technology is only good if it works. If you drain your battery or lose your network signal, you could be out of luck. That's why you should carry a map and compass and know how to read and use each. You can print trail maps in advance from dupageforest.org for most forest preserves. If you need some pointers, the Forest Preserve District has a compass course activity at Blackwell that'll help you learn how to use this navigational tool by following a series of directions. To make a free reservation, call Visitor Services at 630-933-7248.

8. Multitool

Over the years the good old pocket knife has evolved into the mighty multitool. There are dozens of options to choose from, but don't feel you have to run out and purchase the biggest one there is. Think about where you're going and

what you might need. They all come with one or two blades, but one with tweezers can help with splinters, and one with a flathead or Phillips screwdriver can help with bike repairs. Make sure, though, to keep it oiled and sharpened. Well-cared-for equipment can last through many adventures.





and peanuts." Others insist it stands for "granola, oats, raisins, and peanuts." Adding to the debate is the 1913 Oxford English Dictionary, which defines the word as a verb meaning "to eat greedily."

No matter what you call this sweet and salty snack, here are few recipes you can try (adjusting to address any food allergies) using equal parts of each ingredient to create your own favorites!

Traditional Gorp

chocolate chips **Peanuts**

Tropical Fruit Mix

Banana chips Dried mango Dried pineapple Cashews Macadamia nuts

Seed-Lovers Mix

Pumpkin seeds Sunflower seeds Dried cranberries Walnuts Chocolate chips

Savory Mix

Roasted cashews Sunflower seeds Sesame sticks **Pistachios** Wasabi peas



Hong Vo/Shutterstock.com

9. Sun Protection

The sun makes time on the trails pleasant, but if you're unprepared, it can lead to sunburn, heat exhaustion, or heat stoke. Make sure to stay hydrated, use sunscreen, and wear a wide-brimmed hat. Look, too, for clothes with an ultraviolet protection factor,

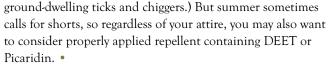


which shows how much ultraviolet radiation a fabric allows to reach your skin. For example, UPF 50 allows just 1/50th of rays (just 2%) to penetrate. And don't forget a well-fitting pair of sunglasses; your eyes need protection from the sun, too.

10. Bug Spray

If it's warm out, it's good to be mindful of biting ticks, mosquitoes, and chiggers. The best line of defense is to wear closed-toe shoes, socks, long pants, and a long-sleeved shirt. (If you tuck your pants into your socks, you'll create an extra barrier that'll keep out







It's in the Bag

Looking for a great way to hold a few hiking essentials? Then grab an official DuPage forest preserves string backpack! They're available for \$15 through Visitor Services at 3S580 Naperville Road in Wheaton weekdays 8 a.m. – 4 p.m.

directory



HEADQUARTERS

3S580 Naperville Road Wheaton • 630-933-7200 TTY 800-526-0857 dupageforest.org forest@dupageforest.org

Visitor Services

630-933-7248

Monday – Friday 8 a.m. – 4 p.m. plus by phone, email, and online chat only Saturdays June - August (except July 2) 9 a.m. – 2 p.m.

Office

Monday - Friday 8 a.m. - 4:30 p.m.

Volunteer Services

630-933-7233

Conservationist Subscriptions 630-933-7085

Partnership & Philanthropy Friends of the Forest Preserve District

630-871-6400

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 contact our ADA programs and activities coordinator at 630-871-7537 or TTY 800-526-0857 at least 48 hours before your visit or at least two weeks prior to attending a registration-based program.

EDUCATION Centers

DANADA EQUESTRIAN CENTER

3S507 Naperville Road Wheaton • 630-668-6012

Monday – Friday 8 a.m. – 4:30 p.m. Closed Saturdays & Sundays

Monday – Friday 8 a.m. – 8 p.m. Saturdays & Sundays 8 a.m. - 6 p.m.

FULLERSBURG WOODS NATURE EDUCATION CENTER

3609 Spring Road Oak Brook • 630-850-8110

Monday – Saturday 10 a.m. – 5 p.m. Closed Sundays

KLINE CREEK FARM

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

Suggested admission donation \$5 per person ages 3 and up

Thursday – Monday 9 a.m. – 5 p.m. Closed Tuesdays & Wednesdays

ST. JAMES FARM

2S541 Winfield Road • Warrenville 630-580-7025

Office & Visitor Center

Please call for hours.

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

MAYSLAKE PEABODY ESTATE

1717 W. 31st St.

Oak Brook • 630-206-9566

Due to work on the exterior, the interior of Mayslake Hall is closed for the year. For updates, visit dupageforest.org.

WILLOWBROOK WILDLIFE CENTER

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

Animal Admittance

Daily 9 a.m. - 5 p.m.

Outdoor Exhibit Trail

Daily 10 a.m. - 3 p.m.

Visitor Center

Although Willowbrook continues to accept animals, the visitor center will be closed until a new building opens in 2024. For updates, visit dupageforest.org.

PARTNER Sites

DANADA HOUSE

Wheaton • 630-668-5392

FISCHER FARM

Bensenville • 630-766-7015

GRAUE MILL AND MUSEUM

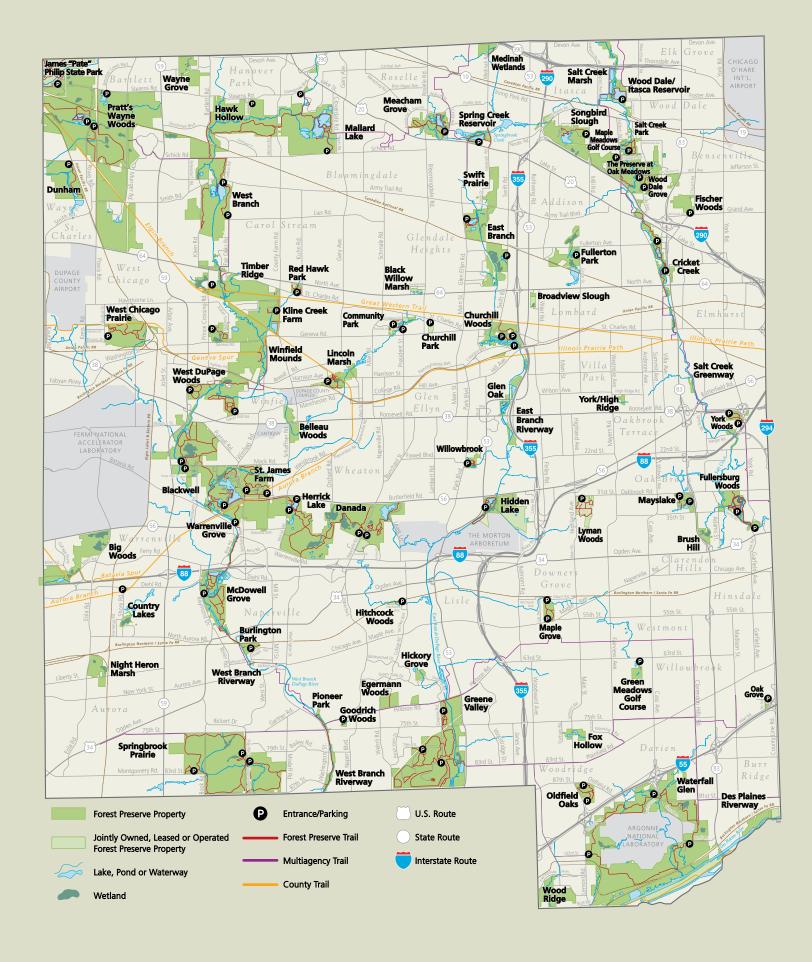
Oak Brook • 630-655-2090

BARTLETT NATURE CENTER

Bartlett • 847-608-3120

LYMAN WOODS NATURE CENTER

Downers Grove • 630-963-9388



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Conservationist

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Summer 2022

