



# It's Our Nature

Newsletter of the Fox Valley Sierra Group [www.wisconsin.sierraclub.org/foxvalley](http://www.wisconsin.sierraclub.org/foxvalley) Vol. 06 Issue 2

## AUCTION ANNUAL FUNDRAISER

May 11, 2006 • 7 pm  
Bubolz Nature Preserve

- Smorgasbord of Treats
- Entertaining Auction
- Raffle
- Trivia Pyramid
- Great Friends

**Prepare for Fun!**  
See page 3 for details



### APRIL 13

**Hydroponic Gardening** Arleigh Lueck will educate us in hydroponic gardening - growing plants without soil. In hydroponics, food and water are fed directly to the roots. This enables the plants to spend more energy growing the part above the surface, thus growing two times faster. In general, hydroponic gardens require only about 20% of the overall space required of soil gardens for the same vegetable production.

*Programs are held at 7:00 pm at  
Bubolz Nature Preserve on Lyndale in Appleton*

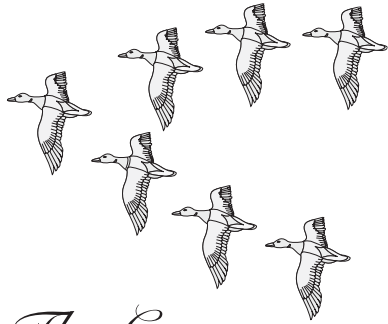
### Green Bay "Green Drinks"

Green Bay's environmentalists now have a "Green Drinks" chapter. Green Drinks is a monthly 'social space' meeting every third Thursday of every month at Kavarna Kafe, in downtown Green Bay. The next Green Drinks is April 20. Start celebrating Earth Day early!

If some people suggest that "green" is your middle name, you'll probably find value in Green Drinks. At this monthly event, people who have a passion for anything environmental meet for friendly conversation. Since we started in April 2005, we've been visited by folks with a wide variety of interests: science, art, politics, music, film, health, psychology, and nutrition to name a few. Many work in an environmental field as professionals, educators, entrepreneurs or neighborhood activists.

We start to gather shortly after 6pm, but don't worry if you can't show up until later. Peak attendance has been 7:30-8:30pm. However, the hours you attend will influence who you may meet. People come and go all evening until Kavarna closes at 10pm. Kavarna is a smoke-free vegetarian coffeehouse/restaurant that sells soups, salads, chai, juices, bottled beers, and wine. Feel free to bring your kids!

See [www.kavarna.com](http://www.kavarna.com) for directions to 112 S. Broadway, located on downtown Green Bay's near west side. Visit [greendrinks.org](http://greendrinks.org) to learn more about this international movement.



## *The Geese*

by Georgiana Mika

*The Canadian geese are flying  
and it gives my heart to sighing,  
Their sounds distinct in flight  
As they call on a cold spring night.  
Only they can show  
the freedom that they know.*

## "Leave Your Car At Home Day"

Last year, as a way to participate in Earth Day, Green Bay East High School students organized a "Leave Your Car At Home Day". This year, their efforts are spreading throughout the Fox Valley and the date of the event has been set for Thursday, April 20. So plan now to NOT start your car at all on that day. Carpool, bike, skate, walk, ride the bus, paddle or even run to work!

### Just the Facts

- Over 40% of the oil we use in this country goes to our cars and trucks.
- American cars, SUVs, and light trucks consume 8 million barrels of oil per day.
- Each gallon of gasoline burned results in 28 pounds of CO2 being released into the atmosphere. These emissions contribute to global warming.
- Cars are the number one single source of American CO2 emissions.
- The US has 5% percent of the world's people but causes 25% of CO2 emissions.
- If everybody in the U.S. who drives an SUV drove a car instead, we could cut out Middle Eastern oil imports entirely.

## From the Chair

Recently I received a letter from a concerned citizen in Grand Chute about the area that includes Bubolz Nature Preserve. She was telling me about a problem facing wetlands in the area, and hoped that I could attend a town meeting. She feels the town board members do not care about the importance of the wetlands. She told me that one of the board members said that "if a developer buys land in town the town should let them build on the land."

As a person who loves the outdoors and knows something about the interactions of the environment, I am discouraged when I hear about people who do not value nature. I wonder how they can feel that way.

As a person who wants to protect our nature I disagree with the attitude that ownership of land entitles the owner to do whatever they want to the land.

Unfortunately, the entire conservation community knows this is a battle that we need to fight while we are trying to protect our world. Many land owners believe they are entitled to clear-cut, mine, build upon, drain, poach, poison, or whatever. It can be difficult to convince people that land ownership does not (or should not) bestow these rights. Perhaps "responsibility" needs to be emphasized more than "rights".

If America were to allow property owners the freedom to do whatever they wanted with their land our country would be very different. Protected wilderness areas, including parks and national monuments, would not exist as national treasures. And many protective rules that help protect our air, water, land, plants and animals would not exist. Society does know that our environment needs to be protected, and society knows that the environment does not care about borders.

It is sometimes said that Sierra Club wants to protect places like the Arctic National Wildlife Refuge (ANWR) so that its wealthy members can visit and enjoy the pristine wilderness. It is said that most Americans will never have the chance to visit these areas. It is said that the average American would benefit more from harvesting the resources (oil, timber, minerals) from those areas than they do by protecting those areas.

Our challenge is to help Americans (and everyone in the world) realize that preservation of our natural resources is a worthy goal. Though I may never personally visit many of our parks, preserves, monuments, and refuges, I do feel enriched knowing that they exist and are being preserved for my children and grandchildren to enjoy.

Thanks for reading my comments. As leader of our group I welcome your feedback.

- Alan Lawrence, FVSG Chair  
[alan.lawrence@wisconsin.sierraclub.org](mailto:alan.lawrence@wisconsin.sierraclub.org)

# SUGAR BUSH

by Allan J. Mortenson

There is boring in the morning  
Followed soon by tap, tap, tap.  
As the maples in the highlands  
Are prepared to yield their sap.

They're more active in the daytime,  
While at night there is a gap.  
It's the Night Frost's way of saying,  
"You've a right to take a nap."

All are involved in maple harvest;  
When squirrels sample, hound dogs yap.  
Soon from pails there is a gathering,  
Boiling syrup from what was sap.

Next containers are a 'filling,  
Each will need its special cap.  
Testing tongues now check the syrup,  
"Sugar Bush" is on the map.

Grandkids come to see their grandma,  
Ask to sit upon her lap.  
Then they ask for cakes and syrup,  
Made from Grandpa's maple sap.



## Baird Creek Earth Fest

In celebration of Earth Day, the Baird Creek Preservation Foundation, in conjunction with the Cofrin Center for Biodiversity, the Public and Environmental Affairs Council (PEAC) at UWGB, and the Wisconsin League of Conservation Voters Institute, will host its annual clean-up on Saturday, April 22nd, 2006, from 9 AM to Noon at Triangle Hill off of Baird Creek Rd. in Green Bay, with a complimentary lunch to follow.

Baird Creek Earth Fest is a community-wide celebration that brings together families, friends, and neighbors to "lend a hand" and do a little "spring cleaning" at the Baird Creek Parkway. While we get our hands dirty outside, our kids will have the opportunity to learn and play in the Triangle Chalet. After lunch at noon, the fun continues with more children's programs, educational hikes and discussions, and the EcoFair until 3 PM. For a little Earth Day nightlife, you can check out the FREE EcoJam concert in the Phoenix Rooms at the UWGB Student Union from 6 PM-Midnight.

For more information call Jessica at 920-429-9008, email [jessica@conservationvoters.org](mailto:jessica@conservationvoters.org), or visit [www.bairdcreek.org](http://www.bairdcreek.org)

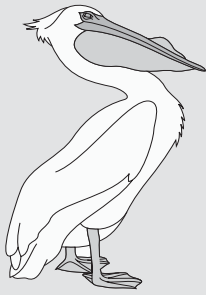
## ANNUAL AUCTION FUNDRAISER

**PLEASE NOTE: Our auction is in May this year!**

- **Smorgasbord of Treats:** \$3 admission lets you indulge on an array of goodies. We will start eating promptly at 7:00 so please arrive earlier. **Bring a dish to pass and your own table settings. BYOB.**
- **Entertaining Auction:** Back by popular demand, the Remarkable Randy will conduct the bidding on unique and priceless items and services.
- **Raffle:** Purchase tickets for your chance to win a handmade Leaf Birdbath.
- **Trivia Pyramid:** Purchase tickets and test your smarts to win valuable prizes.
- **Auction Donations Needed:** In order to make this fundraiser a success we need people to bring an appetizer to pass and an item or service to auction. Previous "hot sellers" include: art photos, computer work, bike ride & picnic, craft projects, professional massage, yard work, food specialties, sporting goods (new), antiques, dinner for two, rock climbing lessons, ect.



Please pre-register items or services for auction by phone (920)468-7252 or by mail: Maureen Birk, 3381 Nicolet Dr., Green Bay, WI 54311. Include your name, phone#, item/service to auction, any limitations, and estimated value. Bring items at the time of the auction, or call Maureen at (920)468-7252. Last-minute items accepted at the door, but please come 15 minutes early.



## The "White Pelican"

The "White Pelican" is a place for Green Bay environmentalists to share thoughts and information about sustainable lifestyles and political activism.

Join the discussion at:  
<http://whitepelican.blogspot.com/>

## 2006 Ice Age Trail Service Work Days in Portage/Waupaca Counties

The Ice Age Trail Service Workdays are scheduled for May 6th, June 3rd, and September 23rd at Hartman Creek State Park. Sign up for the workdays at the monthly FVSG meetings or contact Dale Schaber at 920-739-6041 or Mike Kirk at 715-258-2295.

This year we will be doing either maintenance work or new trail development on segments of the Ice Age Trail in either Portage or Waupaca Counties. If new trail is developed in the town of Belmont, Portage County, we will work with Marty Wacker to develop new Ice Age Trail extensions. In Waupaca County we will be working with Mike Kirk.

The annual fundraiser for the Ice Age Trail will take place on October 7th, 2006 at Hartman Creek State Park. More information about the Hike-A-Thon will appear in the fall issue of *It's Our Nature*.

When working at Hartman Creek State Park we will meet at the Citgo Station that is located on the northeast corner of the intersection of Highway 96 (Wisconsin Ave) and Highway 76 west of Appleton at 8:30 AM to travel to the work area. We will meet Mike Kirk at the Hartman Creek State Park Office at approximately 9:30 AM.

Bring a lunch, water, work gloves, and mosquito and tick repellent with you on the work outings. If you have a lopper or a pruning saw, please bring them along with you.

Ticks (both deer and wood) are a concern for all of us who will be working on the Trail. As a precaution, wear protective clothing with long sleeves and have your pants legs tucked into your socks. Wear light clothing so ticks can be easily seen. Use tick repellent and check for ticks when arriving at home.

While working on the Ice Age Trail you will learn about Wisconsin's glacial topography and about the plants that are growing along side the Trail during the spring, summer and fall. We might even see the tracks and scat of animals that frequent the Trail during the day and night.

Not only do we do a lot of work on the Trail but we also have a lot of fun! We always stop for ice cream on our way back home to the Appleton area. Hope to see you on the Trail!

Contact Dale Schaber at 920-739-6041 or [dschaber@athenet.net](mailto:dschaber@athenet.net) for more information.

### Get a Sierra Club Email Address

Wisconsin Sierra Club members can now have email addresses in our chapter domain name. For instance, mail sent to: [first.lastname@wisconsin.sierraclub.org](mailto:first.lastname@wisconsin.sierraclub.org) will be auto forwarded to a personal account of that person's choice. This means that if you have a Yahoo, AOL, etc. account all mail sent to your Sierra Club address will automatically go into your Yahoo/AOL inbox. In addition, personal addresses of club members are protected from spammer harvesting. We wish to present one Sierra Club face to the world. To get your email address or for more info, contact Kelly Krupka at: [postmaster@wisconsin.sierraclub.org](mailto:postmaster@wisconsin.sierraclub.org)

## Snapshots: March Meeting

Presenters were Don Baumgartner and Pat Fischer from The Feather in New London. *Photos by Kelly Krupka*



*Sandy and Gary Krupka get a closeup view of Becka, a female American Kestrel.*



*Don Baumgartner and his helper get Savanna, a barred owl, out of her cage.*



*In 1992, Becka was shot with a pellet gun in the left shoulder that damaged both her muscle and tendons in that area. She can only fly 15 feet.*

# Trekkin' with Dale



Every spring I think of the poem my mom taught me when I was a young kid: Spring has sprung, the grass is ris, I wonder where the flowers is. Maybe you also learned this same poem when you were young.

After mentally reciting the poem I seem to always ask myself this question: Where can I find spring wildflowers in Wisconsin? I'm thinking of wildflowers that bloom in the woods, wetlands and prairies of Wisconsin.

To find them we need to go outside and take a hike. Before leaving on the hike take along a wildflower guidebook. This guidebook will help you identify the flowers you are looking at. Check for guidebooks at your local public library or at a local bookstore.

When should you go? Look for spring wildflowers in late April through the middle of May. If you are in northern Wisconsin you can look through the middle of June. These are estimated times. A lot will depend on the weather.

Where to go? There are many locations in Northeastern Wisconsin to see spring wildflowers. Check at your local nature center, county parks, State Natural Areas, State Parks or State Recreation Areas. Never pick any spring wildflowers. Leave them for others to enjoy. You can take a virtual Spring Wildflower Walk on the Wisconsin DNR Environmental Education for Kids (EEK!) website:

<http://dnr.wi.gov/org/caer/ce/eeek/veg/plants/wildflowerindex.htm>. Here you will learn about common spring wildflowers seen in wetlands, woods and prairies: Skunk Cabbage, Marsh Marigolds, Bloodroot, Dutchman's Breeches, Hepatica, Wood Anemone, Pasqueflower and Shooting Stars. While at the EEK! website check out the Monthly Events Calendar at <http://www.dnr.state.wi.us/org/caer/ce/eeek/nature/season/events.htm> Here you will learn about indoor and outdoor spring environmental activities and events happening at various State Parks, Forests and Recreation Areas throughout Wisconsin.

On April 28, 2006 we will celebrate Arbor Day in Wisconsin. Arbor Day in Wisconsin is always on the last Friday in April. It's a great time to celebrate and plant trees. Check out the National Arbor Day Foundation website to learn about Arbor Day <http://www.arborday.org/>. Here you will learn how Arbor Day is celebrated in the United States and around the world. Every state in the United States has its own State Arbor Day. You will also learn about J. Sterling Morton and how he founded Arbor Day in 1872. If you want to plant a tree in your yard you can use the links on the website to determine the proper landscape tree for your property.

The Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources Spring Wildlife and Fisheries Rules Hearings and the Annual Conservation Congress County Meeting happen in April. The

Spring Rules Hearings/Conservation Congress Meeting for each Wisconsin county will occur at 7:00 PM, Monday, April 10, 2006. The Conservation Congress allows Wisconsin citizens to have input into Wisconsin conservation issues.

This year attendees will use electronic balloting to vote on proposed questions. If you attend the Hearings/Congress this year you do not need to stay for the entire meeting. You may read the questions beforehand and then vote when you arrive at the meeting location. Check out the Wisconsin Conservation Congress website for a copy of the questions and for information on the location of the 2006 Spring Rules Hearings and the Annual Conservation Congress in your county:

<http://www.dnr.state.wi.us/org/nrboard/congress/springhearings/>.

April 21st is John Muir's birthday. Learn about the contributions of John Muir as a naturalist, writer, conservationist and founder of the Sierra Club at the John Muir Exhibit [http://www.sierraclub.org/john\\_muir\\_exhibit/](http://www.sierraclub.org/john_muir_exhibit/) found on the Sierra Club's website. You may also read some of John Muir's letters he wrote to friends at this Wisconsin Historical Society website:

<http://www.wisconsinhistory.org/turningpoints/search.asp?id=1224>

Earth Day is celebrated this year on April 22, 2005. Access <http://earthday.envirolink.org/> to learn about Earth Day events happening throughout the United States.

On May 28, 1892 the Sierra Club was founded. Learn about important events in Sierra Club history at <http://www.sierraclub.org/history/>.

Saturday, June 4, 2005 is National Trails Day. Join other trail enthusiasts by celebrating trails with the American Hiking Society. Check out their website at <http://www.americanhiking.org/events/ntd/index.html>. You may also join other Fox Valley Sierra Group members on the Ice Age Trail at Hartman Creek State Park. See the Ice Age Trail article in this issue of *It's Our Nature*.

Fox Cities Greenways, Inc. supports greenspace and trails in the Fox Cities. Learn about the Trestle Trail Project and the Fox Cities Paper Trail at the Fox Cities Greenways' website: <http://www.focol.org/greenways/>.

Enjoy the spring events! See you on a trail on National Trails Day!

Dale

## Remember...

to submit your nomination for FVSG's Environmental Award before the deadline of May 1. The success of this award program depends on members like you taking the time to write a nomination paper. Think for a minute about a person you know who deserves to be recognized for their contribution toward improving our environment, then write them up. Details are in the previous issue of *It's Our Nature*.

# NATURE CENTER EVENTS & ACTIVITIES

## Bubolz Appleton

### April 1

#### Beginners Geocache Class. 1-4 PM.

This class will introduce participants to the basics of geocaching and the geocaching website. You will have a hands-on opportunity to use a GPS unit to find temporary and permanent caches hidden at the Preserve. Experts will be on hand to assist you. Several units will be available for use, if you have your own GPS unit, please bring it. Dress for the weather. Cost: \$8/member, \$10/nonmember.

### April 8

#### Herbs of Easter. 1-3 PM.

Celebrate Easter by decorating farm-fresh eggs with natural ingredients. We will learn the history of herbs and natural material used through time to decorate eggs. All material provided. Cost: \$8/member, \$10/nonmember.

### April 12

#### Spring Teacher Naturalist Training. 9 AM - 1 PM.

The Preserve is alive with birds singing, flowers blooming and leaves reappearing after a long winter's nap. Spring is always an exciting time of the year at the Preserve. If you enjoy sharing your experiences with children, this is the place for you. Call for info or to register.

### April 26, May 3 & 17

#### Wednesday Morning Wildflower/Bird Hike.

8:30-10:30 AM. Feathers, songs, and blooms will be the focus of these morning hikes. We will hike the Preserve trails and search for spring ephemerals and migrating birds. The Preserve hosts over 100 nesting bird species each spring and have several that pass through on their way north. Meet at the nature center building, bring binoculars if you have them & good walking shoes. Cost: \$2/nonmember, FREE to members.

### May 13

**Breakfast with the Birds.** 7-10:30 AM. Join us for an early morning stroll through the woods looking for migrating birds. We will work up an appetite looking for those illusive critters. When we return to the nature center we will have a demonstration on how to make our own herbal butters, breads, teas and breakfast delights. Plenty of food for everyone. Cost: \$8/member; \$10/nonmember.

## Ledgeview Chilton

### April 1 & 2

**Re-Enactors Encampment and Maple Syrup Day (Sunday Only).** Get a glimpse of living history as re-enactors demonstrate old-fashioned skills in the clothing and equipment of 200 years ago. Celebrate the maple syrup season by tapping a maple tree, collecting sap, learning the history of how it becomes syrup, and enjoy the taste of pure maple syrup on pancakes. Pancake breakfast is served from 9-1. Sugarbush demonstrations and tours offered 9-4. Live folk music by the Ledge View Players 1-4 PM. Sugarbush tours and

demonstrations are FREE. Pancake Breakfast \$6/adult (age 13+), \$3/kid (age 6-12), age 5 and under Free.

### April 8

**Spring Gardening Workshop.** 1-3 PM. Master gardeners will give presentations on "Essential Steps to a Beautiful Garden," "Be On the Alert For Invasive Insects," and "Getting the Jump on Spring." Cost: \$3/person.

### April 29

#### Spring Astronomy. 2-4:30 PM & 8-10 PM.

From 2-4:30 PM get the basics on sky maps, planispheres, binoculars and telescopes, then, weather permitting, do some stargazing from 8-10 PM as Sheboygan Astronomical Society (SAS) members invite you to take a look through their scopes. Cost: Free.

### May 14

**Mother's Day Wildflower Hike.** 1 PM. Stroll through the woods with a naturalist to admire and learn about the beautiful spring floral display. Cost: \$3/person, mothers free.

### May 10

**Rain Gardens, Native Plants, & Groundwater.** 7 PM. Learn how your gardening can help protect groundwater. Featuring Sara Johnson of Landmark Landscaping. This program is part of the month-long Common Ground Niagara Escarpment celebration, including environmental art, field trips, distinguished speakers, and hands-on workshops. For the calendar of events, contact Main Street Artworks in Hilbert. Cost: \$2 donation.

### May 19, 20, 26 & 27

**Living on the Edge of Our Common Ground Light Show.** 7 PM. Celebrate the Niagara Escarpment with a light show by Chilean artist Pamela Vasquez, on a 60-foot wall of rock. Weather permitting. Some walking involved; bring your own lightweight chairs. Call for more info. This is the finale to the month-long Common Ground Niagara Escarpment celebration.

## Mosquito Hill New London

### April 8

#### Gardening, Collecting & Preserving Herbs.

1-2:30 PM. Learn how to grow herbs for use in the kitchen, for drying, and making ointments. Our instructor is Cheryl Hosmer, master herbalist and owner of Simply Herbs in New London. She will share info about planting and caring for garden variety and wild herbs. Cheryl will also show how to make herbal tinctures, salves and other recipes. Participants will receive a potted herb to take home. Cost: \$5/adults, \$3/students, seniors & FOMH. **Register by April 5.**

### April 18

#### 9th Annual Spring Fever Fundraiser. 5:30 PM.

This annual banquet features dinner, raffles and silent auction to benefit Mosquito Hill. Call for ticket information.

### April 29

**Bird Watching for Beginners.** 1-3:30 PM. With bird watching being the fastest growing hobby in America, we think you'll like this program with naturalist Steve Petznick. Learn how to identify common species, what types of seed are on the market and which birds they attract, and how to use and care for binoculars. Then take a short hike on our birding trail to practice your binocular skills while looking for resident birds. Cost: \$5/adults, \$3/students, seniors & FOMH. **Registration/payment due before April 27.**

### May 6

#### Nature Journaling Workshop. 1-3:30 PM.

Naturalist Jess Miller will explain the fascination with nature journaling and instruct participants how to slow down and document their findings through writing and sketching. Each participant will receive a blank journal and an opportunity to record their findings at various spots throughout the nature center property. This class is suitable for all ages. Cost: \$5/adults, \$3/students, seniors & FOMH. **Registration and payment due before April 28.**

### May 13

**Living Wreath.** 9-11:30 AM. A selection of sun- or shade-tolerant flowers and greens will be used to make a wreath that will bloom all summer long. These wreaths are designed to hang outdoors. Consider making one for your mom, or invite her to come along with you and design her own. Cost: \$25/adults, \$20/students, seniors & FOMH. **Registration/payment due by May 9.**

### May 14

**Mothers' Day Hike.** 1-2:30 PM. Take a leisurely naturalist-led walk along the nature center trails and enjoy the return of spring. Afterwards, we'll return to the interpretive building for some yummy homemade cheesecake and beverages. Cost: \$3/adults, \$2/students, seniors and FOMH, \$7/family, Moms: free. **Register by May 5.**

## Navarino Shiocton

### April 8

**Spring Clean-up.** 8:30 AM - Noon. Help NNC cleanup the wildlife area as the snow melts away and reveals the ugly trash hidden beneath. Bring the family for a day of fun service and help keep YOUR public land clean. There will be a cookout at 12:30 for all the volunteers. 715-758-6999.

**TITANIC and other Lost Liners.** 2 PM. Tim Ewing will discuss Titanic and her sisters, and other lost liners of previous eras. Cost: NNC members FREE, Individuals \$2, and Families \$5.

### April 22

**Earth Day 2006.** 11 AM - 3 PM. Wildlife displays, tree-give away, tractor pulled wagon rides, bird house building (fee), crafts, Earth Day Egg hunt, face painting, food, raffles, and lots of fun for the entire family. Cost: Free.

(Continued on back page)

# SPRING OUTINGS

## April 23 - Sunday

We will hike along the Ice Age Trail's southern segment from the Emmon's Creek parking lot south of Hartman Creek State Park to the end of the completed Trail south of Second Avenue. South of Second Avenue we will be hiking on the segment of the Trail which FVSG built four summers ago. We will learn about the wildflowers blooming near and around Emmon's Creek and also learn about the glacial features we will see. This hike is rated easy to moderate. Bring water and a lunch to eat on the trail. Meet at 11 AM at the Emmon's Creek Ice Age Trail Area Parking Lot on Stratton Lake Road. *Contact Dale Schaber, Appleton, at 920-739-6041 for maps and outing information.*

## April 29 - Saturday

Bike de Butte. Starting at Fratello's parking lot in Oshkosh, we'll ride along the Wiouwash Trail and see the spring flowers in the preserved natural areas. Then we'll ride along lightly used highways chasing the bluebirds that normally fly along Lasley Point Road. We'll stop for refreshments in Omro or Winneconne then ride back to Fratello's. All told, it is 35 miles of rolling terrain. Meet at 9:30 AM at Fratello's. Call, we will have maps. *Jan Moldenhauer 920-231-3407.*

## April 30 - Sunday

Riverbank Cleanup via canoe on the Neenah Slough. Part exploration, part service project. We'll meet at 11 AM in the parking lot for Bridgewood Offices at 996 S. Green Bay Rd in Neenah (across from Burger King). From there we will canoe on the Slough and collect garbage that we spot along the river. Wear work gloves and shoes that can get wet. (We may have to cross some fallen trees.) Bring garbage bags, water, and a snack. *Kelly Krupka 920-540-9139.*

## May 6 - Saturday

Ice Age Trail joint workday between FVSG and local Ice Age Trail Chapters. Meet at Hartman Creek State Park, west of Waupaca, at 9:30 AM. Specific Trail work will be provided on site. Bring a lunch, water, work gloves, and mosquito and tick repellent. If you have a lopper or a pruning saw, please bring it with you. For information on which segments will be worked on for each date, contact *Dale Schaber 920-739-6041.*

## May 7 - Sunday

Walk with the wild things, wildflowers that is. Join us for a walk through Tellock's Hill Woods State Natural Area, northeast of Symco. This hillside, formed by the glacier, has never been cultivated or disturbed. The

result is old growth beech trees and a carpet of spring ephemerals. We make a pilgrimage here every spring to wander among the wildflowers and are happy to show off this special place. There is a small parking lot and no other facilities. We will meet south of New London at 10 AM and carpool to the site. After the hike, we will stop for lunch in New London. Call for details. *Carol Elvery and Bruce Inkmann 715-256-1266.*

## May 13 - Saturday

Bike Rural Shawano County and part of the Mountain Bay Trail. On the trail we will see spring wildflowers and possibly turkeys. We will also stop at Earthworks Garden Nursery so we can look through a selection of gorgeous locally-grown bedding plants. Meet at 1 PM at W7950 Oak Avenue in Shawano. *Nancy Brown Koeller 920-721-5431 (home), 920-830-6625 (work), and 715-524-2293 (weekends).*

## May 20 - Saturday

Garlic Mustard Removal service project. We will pull garlic mustard at High Cliff State Park and possibly at Kaukauna High School from 9:00 until noon. *Lori Hein 920-751-0881 email: lhein@new.rr.com*

## May 21 - Sunday

Look for eagles at the 1000 Island Nature Preserve in Kaukauna and learn about their nesting habits. The best time to spot eagles here is in the spring while they are on their nests and before the trees leaf out. Bring binoculars. We will also hike the preserve trails so wear adequate footwear. *Charlie Paine 920-739-1900.*

## June 3 - Saturday

Ice Age Trail joint workday between FVSG and local Ice Age Trail Chapters. Meet at Hartman Creek State Park, west of Waupaca, at 9:30 AM. Specific Trail work will be provided on site. Bring a lunch, water, work gloves, and mosquito and tick repellent. If you have a lopper or a pruning saw, please bring it with you. For information on which

segments will be worked on for each date, contact *Dale Schaber 920-739-6041.*

## June 10 & 11 - Sat. & Sun.

Hike in Governor Thompson State Park northwest of Crivitz via day hike. Learn about plans to develop the park, and about the formation of the adjacent Peshtigo River State Forest. Sunday, canoe or kayak on the flowage within the state forest, exploring the rocky shores and parks. Optional nearby camping on the north side of Bear Paw Lake, probably free, but bring your own water, toilet paper & shovel. Meet Saturday morning 9 AM at entrance to the park at Paust Lane & Ranch Rd. Email *jkayakl@new.rr.com* or call after 6 PM for directions to park & camping. *Jerry Ladewig 920-336-6788.*

## June 18 - Sunday

Trestle Trail Bike Ride. This new route across Little Lake Butte des Morts takes advantage of an abandoned railroad bridge and helps connect a network of trails being built around the Fox Cities. From the Trestle Trail we'll continue westward on the Friendship Trail. Depending on participant interest, we may ride the new trail to its intersection with the Wiouwash Trail. Bring lunch and water. Meeting place is yet to be decided. *Alan Lawrence 920-730-9515.*

## July 15 - Saturday

Bike the Fox River Trail from Greenleaf to DePere, returning via Lost Daulphin Road and through Wrightstown. About 25 miles total. The Fox River Trail is about 10 miles of rail-trail covered with crushed stone. The remainder of the route is on paved county and town roads. Along the way we will learn a bit of the history of both the Wisconsin Railroad system and of the Fox River locks and dams. Bring your bike, helmet, and water. *Charlie Paine 920-739-1900.*

*More detailed outings information may be found on our website. Times and meeting locations of outings can change. Always check with a trip leader at least 24 hours before the outing. Upon arrival all participants must sign a Release of Liability form.*

## Outings Planning Meeting...

FVSG will have an Outings Planning Meeting on April 20 at 7:00 pm at Charlie Paine's house at N8172 Firelane 13 in the town of Harrison (call for directions). Everyone is invited. Bring your ideas for a few good summer outings. Pizza will be served so come hungry. If you are unable to get to the meeting just telephone, email or snail-mail your outing to Charlie.

Charlie Paine • [charlie.paine@wisconsin.sierraclub.org](mailto:charlie.paine@wisconsin.sierraclub.org) • 920-739-1900

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(Nature Center Events Continued)

## April 29

**Family Pond Study.** 10-11:30 AM. Bring your rubber boots, or use some of NNC's as the entire family explores Glenn's Pond. Catch various types of aquatic insects and tadpoles. Cost: Free to NNC members, \$5 for families.

## May 20

**NWA/NNC Prairie Bird Survey.** This is a great way to get to know your bird calls. Contact NNC to get involved 715-758-6999.

## Ridges Sanctuary Baileys Harbor

### May 6

**Spring Bird Hike.** 6AM. Meet at the Nature Center and plan to carpool to avian hotspots around Baileys Harbor. Spring migration should be underway! Cost: Free for members, donations accepted for non-members.

**Logan Creek Wildflower Walks.** 10 AM & 1 PM. Early woodland wildflowers will be the focus of guided hikes through the Logan Creek Property. Meet at Mr. G's Supper Club, south of Jacksonport on Hwy 57. Preregistration requested by calling 920-839-2802. Cost: \$5/person, children under 18 free.

### May 25-27

**Door County Festival of Nature.** A 3-day program of guided hikes in some of Door County's most unique and diverse natural areas, including state and county parks, preserves, and private lands not usually open to the public. Over 40 sessions focus on spring wildflowers, birds, geology and other natural history topics. Preregistration is required for this event. Call 920-839-2802 for a registration brochure, or visit our website for a schedule and field trip information. [www.ridgesanctuary.org/festival.htm](http://www.ridgesanctuary.org/festival.htm)



by Nancy Brown-Koeller

John Koeller tests out the insulation in his new pants on the snowshoe trail at ABR.

## Deadline...

for submitting materials for the next newsletter is May 6!

Anyone can submit articles, photos, poems, trip reports, etc.

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