



It's Our Nature

Newsletter of the Fox Valley Sierra Group www.wisconsin.sierraclub.org/foxvalley Vol. 08 Issue 2

AUCTION

May 8, 2008 • 7:00 PM • Bubolz Nature Preserve, Appleton

- **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 to set up and socialize. **Bring a dish to pass and your own table settings. BYOB.**
- **Entertaining Live Auction:** The "Remarkable" Randy Cannour will conduct the bidding on unique and priceless items and services.
- **Raffle Item:** Purchase tickets for your chance to win a small wooden table (perfect for your deck, patio, or even inside!) handcrafted by Neil Koeneman.
- **Bread Banjo Boogie:** In our take on an old-fashion game, walk your way to winning delicious loaves of Great Harvest Bread.
- **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, etc.



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!

ANNUAL FUNDRAISER

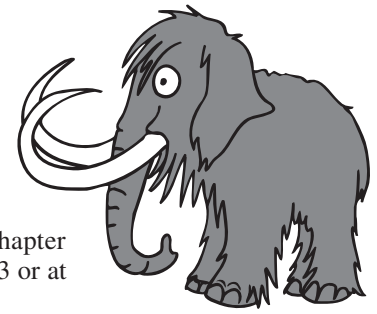
Celebrate the 50th Anniversary of the Ice Age Park and Trail Foundation

Join members of the Waupaca Chapter of the Ice Age Park and Trail Foundation as they hike a segment of the Ice Age Trail north or south of Hartman Creek State Park on National Trails Day, June 7, 2008.

The hike celebrates the 50th Anniversary of the Ice Age Park and Trail Foundation. The Foundation has

been creating, supporting and protecting the Ice Age Trail since 1958.

For hike details, contact Debbie Krogwold, Waupaca Ice Age Trail Chapter Coordinator, in Waupaca at 715-258-6243 or at dkrogw@co.waupaca.wi.us



FROM THE CHAIR

April is spring to most of us, but many of us remember April as the month with Earth Day. Wisconsinites can be proud that one of our citizens, Gaylord Nelson, was the founder of Earth Day. The first Earth Day was held April 22, 1970, and has been celebrated annually on that date. Nelson wrote about the history of the day (see <http://earthday.envirolink.org/history.html>). The idea was originally conceived in 1962. Nelson wrote, "It had been troubling me that the state of our environment was simply a non-issue in the politics of the country". There was an environmental crisis and something was needed to put the issue into the political limelight.

I remember, as a high school student, that my school stopped all classes that day. Students and teachers organized dozens of environmental seminars for the day that we were all supposed to attend instead of regular classes. I cannot remember anything more than that, but I've always been happy knowing that I was part of the very first Earth Day. It was a grassroots environmental "teach-in."

Each year on April 22, Earth Day marks the anniversary of the birth of the modern environmental movement. And many of our citizens recognize the date and try to do something to celebrate it. This year (several weeks after this article was written) our group will participate with other organizations in various Earth Day celebrations. Let's hope the environment becomes a political issue soon.

Recently I saw a History Channel program on oil. Initially it showed how much we depend on oil; nearly everything around us has some petroleum in it. Then it showed some of the problems.

Imagine an immense square building one mile wide and extending upwards more than two and a half miles. That's how big 2.5 cubic miles of oil looks, and that's how much oil the world consumes each year. But each year the building is ten stories taller.

Now imagine where this trend has been taking us. What have we had to do to our world to obtain all this oil? What has it done to people and economies, and political stability in regions? And, ultimately the oil is burned and becomes smoke and carbon dioxide, or it becomes plastics, much of it going into landfills. Oil is millions (or hundreds of millions of years) old. 2.5 cubic

miles of oil each year! How much more do you suppose is available to us? And then what?

I intend to write more about digital waste in an upcoming issue. Personally, I try to responsibly dispose of old computers and printing supplies. Unfortunately, there isn't much that can be done with old computers. Some of the better ones can find some reuse, but most become landfill. The current economics just do not justify any recycling. Cell phones and printer cartridges are often collected with the intention of being recycled. But it seems that the recycling is often exported to third world nations, presumably so that cheaper labor can disassemble components. Unfortunately for those workers, they tend not to be protected from the hazards of our harmful chemicals. And much of our exported product eventually ends up in foreign landfills, often disposed of in irresponsible ways. Some toner cartridges do end up successfully remanufactured and available to consumers, but their quality is frequently questionable. So my quandary: what to do with old printer cartridges? Is it ethical to turn in old cartridges for recycling if I don't intend to purchase recycled cartridges?

I would love to travel the world and see the sights, but I cannot afford to. Fortunately, some of nature's joys can be experienced, almost in our own neighborhoods. This past winter provided enough snow to allow me to ski at the Bubolz Nature Preserve rather often. You don't have to venture far to be all alone. And you don't have to exercise your imagination much to imagine that you've traveled far from the city. You could stand, alone on the trail, listening to nature, and watching nature.

Even closer to my home, I like to bicycle the Apple Creek Trail in northern Appleton. A section of it is very close to Highway 41, on the campus of the Thrivent Insurance business. But it is possible to sort of ignore the drone of the highway noise and focus on the fields and the ponds. I find it easy to imagine being far from home, almost alone, and close to nature. The hiking trails of Plamann Park, just north of Appleton, also provides these refreshing experiences. We must protect our remaining green spaces. As travel becomes expensive we need to be able to find nature close to home.

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

Alan Lawrence
alan_lawrence99@yahoo.com
920-730-9515

Public Service or Public Disgrace?

By Cindy Carter, FVSG Political Chair

As many of you know by now, the legislative session ended March 13, and little to nothing was done. The Climate Change Act, DNR Open Burn Bill, Statewide Smoking Ban, Great Lakes Compact, Mental Health Parity, Keeping Electronics Out of Landfills, the Plastic Bag ban, and the Poisoning of Wildlife, the windfarm issue & Campaign Finance Reform are just some of the legislative issues that were simply dismissed (once again in many cases) by our public servants. I think that this is a public disgrace. We, as citizens have to start making our voices heard regarding the fact that our legislators are being paid to do nothing and remind them they work for us!

What do the words "public servant" conjure up in your mind? Obviously not the same meaning it conjures up in the minds of our elected officials. Many of these individuals are up for election this November, and I am asking you, no begging you to do your homework on how these people voted on issues that are near and dear to your heart.

The Sierra Club and the League of Conservation Voters both publish a "how your legislator voted" record, which you can link to on their websites. Please check out how they voted and make YOUR vote count in November. If you don't like the way he or she voted on YOUR issues, then send the bum packing!

Time is running out for all of us on issues such as global warming and The Great Lakes Compact. When our politicians poo-poo these very serious issues off, it's like taking 10,000 steps backwards. We need forward thinkers, but more importantly, we need forward doers in our legislative bodies, so brush up on your politicians and become VERY INFORMED, and vote like your life depends on it, because, in reality, it does.

Save the Date!

The 2008 Autumn Assembly will be October 10-12, 2008 in Wisconsin Dells. The Four Lakes Group will host.

WANTED

ENVIRONMENTAL AWARD NOMINEES

The Fox Valley Sierra Group is seeking nominations for our Environmental Award. The purpose of the Environmental Award is to recognize and honor those that have achieved significant benefits to the environment from their efforts and contributions. The nominee's contribution to environmental improvement need not be earth-shaking. The award will consist of a plaque and a \$100 cash award to be presented at a FVSG meeting.

Persons making nominations must be current members of FVSG. Any individual or group may be nominated: for example, an informal group of individuals, a club, a company, a unit of government, or a nonprofit organization. Nominations must be submitted in essay form no more than 500 words in length. The nominating essay will describe the action or effort put forth, the environmental benefits accruing thereto, and the contribution of the nominee to the effort or action, plus any other pertinent information. **Nominations must be received by June 30, 2008.**

Send your nominating essay to:

Charles Paine, N8172 Firelane 13, Menasha, WI 54952-9650.

Those selected by the reviewing committee will be published in the August issue of *It's Our Nature* along with a ballot for members to use to vote for the nominee of their choice.

In Case You Missed It

At our April 10th meeting, Larry Ten Pas gave a Powerpoint presentation of a two week trip in the Kopka River Provincial Waterway Park in Ontario. Here are some trip highlights.



Ice Age Trail Service Workdays in Portage/Waupaca Counties

The Ice Age Trail Service Workdays in 2008 are scheduled for May 31st and September 20th at Hartman Creek State Park.

Sign up for the workdays at the monthly Fox Valley Sierra Group meetings or contact Dale Schaber in Appleton at 920-739-6041, Darrel Ruechel in Waupaca at 715-258-5226 or Mike Kirk in Waupaca 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 work-

ing with Mike Kirk and Darryl Ruechel.

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

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 Ice Age 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!

For more information contact:

Dale Schaber in Appleton
920-739-6041
dschaber@athenet.net

Darrel Ruechel in Waupaca
715-258-5226
dairl@waupacaonline.net



Dale and Penny Schaber on an Ice Age Trail work day in Waupaca.

Welcome New Members!

APPLETON

Rachel Scheibe
Noreen Thomas
Norbert West
Cathlynn Brusky
Katie Doe
Robert Dreier
Norma Gehring
Jennifer Kamm
Benjamin Bye
Caitlin Hussey
Ryan Hussey
Carlton Koepke
Elizabeth Laux
Gwen Miller
David Murphy

BAILIEYS HARBOR

Bruce Bohrman

BERLIN

Mark Kasuboski*

BONDUEL

Lovelea Usack
Karen Sjolholm
Andy Krause*

BRIGGSVILLE

Rich Paulson

CASCO

Lacey Cochart

CLINTONVILLE

Marshall Moede

DEPERE

Eric & Anita Anderson

Audrey Alt

Kathy Everson

Sarah Landwehr

EGG HARBOR

Bill Herbst

FISH CREEK

Sally Everhardus

GREEN BAY

Andy Clark

Michael Albertson

Wayne Federspiel

Scott Furlong

Michael Gottfredsen

Mary Hitch

Terry Jordan

Amber Swette

Becky Bain

Lois Renner

Daniel Cibulka*

GREEN LAKE

Debbie Johnson

GREENVILLE

Michael Yerxa

HILBERT

Joyce Halbach

IOLA

Kristine Snowden

KAUKAUNA

Jay Vosters

LUXEMBURG

Christine Bechtel

MARKESAN

Steven Anderson

MENASHA

Mark Shimek

NESHKORO

Stephen Summerville

NEENAH

Dorothy Dunsirn

Jerome Ellenbecker

Katherine Lindberg*

Mark Edstrom*

Todd Shauger*

NEW FRANKEN

Elaine Gilson

Linda Marcusen

OCONTO

Patricia Judkins

ONEIDA

Anthony Basso

William Sauer

OSHKOSH

Dana Calliari

Patricia Lapoint

Russell Rill

Arthur Williams

Bonnie Williams

Dennis Baldry

Mary Davidson

Warren Nelson

Becky Piechowski

Joe Wiedenmeier

Phyllis Gray

Eugene Harrand

PESHTIGO

James Anderson

PICKETT

Kim Bednarowski

PLAINFIELD

Elizabeth Blum

POTTER

Dennis Zweber

RIPON

E and T McAlpine*

Nate Beuttenmueller

Bryan Ernst

David Sakrison

STURGEON BAY

John Fulkerson

Eric Paulsen

WAUPON

Ed & Bernice Bernthal

Cora Hemp

WAUPACA

Orville Haszel

Kay Miller

WEYAUWEGA

Kristine Buchholtz

J Dery

WILD ROSE

Stephanie Rockwood

WINNECONNE

Brenda Coates

* Transfer

Ramblin' with Rich

Go Play Outside *by Rich Krieg*

I recently read Richard Louv's *Last Child in the Woods*. Louv discusses the research that shows that nature is important for the education, creative development, physical health, emotional health, and spiritual health of children. Another point he makes is that the current increase in childhood psychiatric disorders may be linked to the fact that we have "taken nature away" from kids. For the first time in human history, kids do not spend most of their time outdoors.

Louv points out that the "know it all" electronic age, fear of litigation, an education system that marginalizes outdoor experiences, and urban/suburban design without green space all work together to keep kids inside. Another factor that Louv discusses is what I call the "culture of busyness". There is no time for exploring the vacant lots. Louv talks to one sixth-grader who knows that she has exactly

two hours of free time per week. He talks about one soccer mom who suggested that it was a waste of time for him to be in a park playing catch with his son. While Louv's solution to this would be to make nature part of the schedule, mine would be to do away with the schedule.

Kids are also kept inside by our current "culture of fear". It was not very long ago that parents told their kids to "go play outside and don't come back until sundown". Most parents today would be horrified at the thought. Perhaps this is why today's doctors report a decreasing number of broken bones and an increasing number of mental illness cases among children. In terms of crime, the statistics show that today is not any riskier than years ago. The remote possibility of rare crimes against kids should not be "over-inflated", as seems to be standard procedure for today's parents and media.

It is heartening to know that *Last Child in the Woods* has become a bestseller. Some leaders are taking his message to heart as they realize their children are not having the same outdoor experiences they had and cherish. Children need to be able to explore and experience on their own the beautiful parts of the world we live in.

Low Lakes in Wisconsin

By Alan Lawrence, FVSG Chair

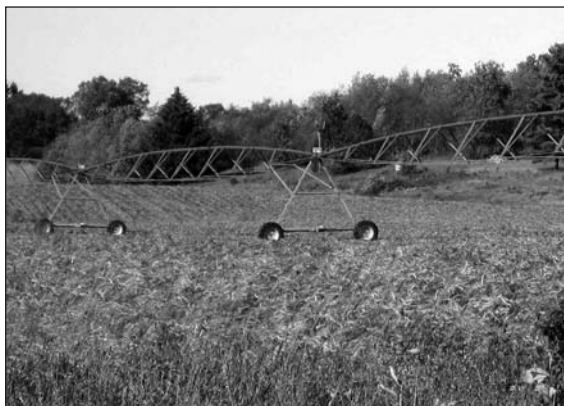
In recent years water levels have been falling in many Wisconsin lakes. This small lake at a Boy Scout camp near Waupaca, has nearly died. Just a few years ago the shoreline was nearly a mile and the lake supported canoeing. Now it is a wet meadow. Pickerel Lake at nearby Camp Helen Brachman is suffering a similar fate, with water levels down perhaps six feet from several years ago.

There is a strong belief, by many, that extensive groundwater pumping for irrigation of nearby farms is partly responsible for the failures of the lakes in the area. Many lakes and streams are spring fed and rely on groundwater.



Questions to ponder:

- What can be done about this problem?
- What does this do to plants and animals that depend on these waters?
- What does this do to the recreational value of the land?
- What does this do to the economy?



Dear Editor,

I have been impressed by the sandhill cranes—so high, circling with their wide wing span, almost out of sight—harbingers of spring.

Spring in Wisconsin

Above the clouds,
High in the sky
The sandhill cranes
Share a lonesome cry.

They tell of spring
And they know why;
Winter's sand hour glass
Is running dry.

Allan Mortenson

HerbFest

May 3, 2008 at the Gardens of the Fox Cities in Appleton. 10-4. A fun event to learn about herbs and their uses. Classes run every 45 minutes beginning at 10:15 AM. A plant sale and other vendors will be onsite. Cost: \$3/person (includes admission to all classes) For more information contact Kristi Sawyer at skyslammer@hotmail.com

NATURE CENTER ACTIVITIES, LOCAL EVENTS & CLASSES

Brillion Brillion

May 31 - Saturday

Ceramics With a Wild Side. 1-3 PM. Create a ceramic model of a native animal. Naturalist Louie Kolberg will present little-known facts about the wildlife represented. Then Ceramics Instructor Deb Atkinson will teach dry-brush techniques for painting the ceramics. **Must pre-register by April 30.** Free.

June 14 - Saturday

Beetle Power. 1-2 PM. Discover how wetlands that were formerly choked with non-native purple loosestrife are being opened back up to native plants using biological control. Learn about the life cycle of the Garucella beetle, visit our mass-breeding beetle tent, and see the large impact these beetles have on purple loosestrife.

July 26 - Saturday

Nature at Night. 8:00-9:30 PM. This program begins around the campfire with songs and stories. After the sun goes down, we'll hike the trails using red-filtered flashlights. Learn about night vision and why nocturnal animals are able to see better at night than we can. Children under 16 must be accompanied by an adult. Cost: Free/members, \$1/non-members, \$3/household

Bubolz Appleton

May 5 - Monday

Planting an Organic Garden. 6:00-8:30 PM. Join Master Gardener, Addie Bauss to learn what "organic" gardening means. There's mounting evidence that growing without herbicides, pesticides or synthetic fertilizers may be more nutritious. Organic farming techniques provide a safer, more sustainable environment. Call to register. Cost: \$2/non-members, Free/members.

May 7, 14, & 21 - Wednesdays

Morning Spring Bird Walks. 8:30-10 AM. Take a leisurely stroll through the prairie, meadow and white cedar swamp to look for migrating bird species and enjoy the spring ephemeral blossoms. Bring binoculars and good walking shoes. Bug repellent may be needed on warm days. Cost: \$2/non-members, Free/members.

June 10 - Tuesday

Reptilians Galore. 10-Noon. Field experts Troy Abuya & James Mahoney will present an exciting hands-on experience with Wisconsin's reptiles and amphibians. See and touch some of these creepy crawlers for yourself. You will be invited to go for a short walk in the woods for catch and release. Cost: \$2/person, \$5/family.

Heckrodt Menasha

May 18 - Sunday

Prairie Meadow and Arboretum Dedication and Nature Expo. 1-3 PM. Join us as we dedicate our

Prairie and Arboretum. Tour the project and learn what happens from here. Meet our partners in prairie and habitat management, see live birds of prey, learn about invasive plants, and play a game or two. Refreshments will be served. Free.

June 7 - Saturday

Free Fishing Weekend @ Jefferson Park. 8-11 AM. With the City of Menasha Parks and Rec Dept. we'll host a variety of partners from the fishing community at booths to educate and answer your questions. There will be a small scale fishing tournament for kids with prizes. Hike to Heckrodt on the Paper Trail to view our live local fish. Free.

July 26 - Saturday

Tales Under the Board Walk. 6:30-8:30 PM. Join us for a fun-filled evening by the glowing light of a campfire. Marge Loch-Wouters, local storyteller and awesome children's librarian, will tell stories appropriate for all audiences. Lemonade and supplies for s'mores will be on hand. Cost: \$2/person; registration appreciated.

Ledgeview Chilton

May 3 - Saturday

How to: Organic Gardening. 10-Noon. Presented by the Calumet County Master Gardeners. Learn how to grow your vegetables without chemicals. Easy ways to compost, integrated pest management, weed control, and watering methods for large or small gardens. Free.

June 21 - Saturday

Controlling Insect Pests. 11-Noon. Presented by the Calumet County Master Gardeners. Bring in your insect pest problems for ID and a solution; learn about beneficial insects, too. Bring insects ALIVE in clean transparent bottle or jar. Limit: two insects per person. Cost: \$1.

June 28 - Saturday

Controlling Invasive Species. 11-Noon. Presented by the Calumet Cty Master Gardeners. Learn how to stop the spread of purple loosestrife, garlic mustard, buckthorn, wild parsnips, alien phragmites, dame's rocket, and several other plants. Plus learn what to look for and how to stop the spread of the emerald ash borer, Japanese beetles, gypsy moths. Free.

Mosquito Hill New London

May 9 - Friday

Newstar Astronomy Program. 8 PM. An indoor program, *The Early Summer Sky*, will be presented by Jon MacKenzie & Tom Riederer. Outdoor stargazing will follow. In the event of cloudy skies, the indoor session will still be presented. Dress for the weather and bring your binoculars or telescope. Advance registration appreciated but walk-ins also welcome. Cost: \$3/adults, \$2/students, seniors & FOMH, \$7/family.

June 14 - Saturday

Monarch Larva Monitoring Project. Noon-3:30. The MLMP is a cooperative study of monarch egg and larva densities in N. America. Choose sites with milkweed and gather data once a week during the summer. This data aid scientists in international efforts to conserve monarch populations and understand migratory behavior. Learn about monarch biology, I.D. in various life stages and how to monitor monarchs on your own property.

June 21 - Saturday

Summer Kick-off Concert: 50% Folk. Time TBD. Pack your picnic blanket and cooler, and celebrate the first day of summer with music under the stars. A quintet of school chums, 50% Folk will have you singing along and tapping your foot to classic folk songs from the likes of Ian & Sylvia, Appalachian tunes, and much more.

Ridges Baileys Harbor

May 22-24

Door County Festival of Nature. The Festival focuses on the unique biodiversity and natural beauty of Door County. Field trips, lectures and workshops on wildflowers, birds, insects, geology, etc. Keynote program on the endangered Hines Emerald Dragonfly. Registration info can be downloaded at www.ridgesanctuary.org/festival.htm, or request a brochure by e-mailing festival@ridgesanctuary.org or call 920-839-2802.

June 14 - Saturday

Ride for Nature. A delightful day of bicycle touring with the beautiful scenery of Door County. 25K, 50K or 100K routes. Registration fee includes maps, sagwagons, rest stops, and lunch. Info can be downloaded from www.ridgesanctuary.org/Ride_for_Nature.htm, or request a brochure by e-mailing karen@ridgesanctuary.org. Call 920-839-2802 for more details.

1000 Islands Kaukauna

May 10 - Saturday

Lil' Angler. 9 AM. Watch local papers for details. Fee and pre-registration required.

June 28 - Saturday

Geocaching Basics. 10-Noon. Learn the fun of high-tech hide and seek. Bring a handheld GPS if you have one. For adults and children over 10.

July 23 - Wednesday

Bird Feeder Building. 9:30-10:30 AM. For all ages. Must register 2 weeks in advance. Bring a hammer. \$1.00 donation.

The aforementioned activities are not sponsored nor administered by the Sierra Club. The Sierra Club has no information about the planning of these activities and makes no representations or warranties about the quality, safety, supervision or management of such activities. They are published only as a reader service because they may be of interest to the readers of this publication.

SUMMER OUTINGS

May 24 & 25, Weekend

Bicycle Door County. Starting in Bailey's Harbor we will ride through Ephraim, Peninsula State Park, Fish Creek, and the Peninsula Player's grounds before returning to Bailey's Harbor, a total of 29 miles on back roads. These roads are mostly easy and level with a few steep grades near the Green Bay shore. This is a great time to visit Door County: the Trillium are in bloom and traffic is light because the tourists have yet to return. Bring your bike, helmet, water, and dress for the weather. We'll stop for ice cream at Wilson's (if they are open) and other snacks as needed. We will camp at a Boy Scout camp just north of Sturgeon Bay on Saturday night. This is rustic camping with pit toilets and no running water. Cost is \$2 per person. We will have several options for biking on Sunday, including taking the ferry to Washington Island. *Charlie Paine 920-739-1900*

May 31, Saturday

Ice Age Trail Work Day at Hartman Creek State Park. Joint workday between the Fox Valley Sierra Group and the Portage and Waupaca Chapters of the Ice Age Park and Trail Foundation. Volunteers should 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 to the work outing. For information on the segment that will be worked on and travel information, contact *Dale Schaber in Appleton at 920-739-6041 or at dschaber@athenet.net or contact Darrel Ruechel in Waupaca at 715-258-5226 or at dairl@waupacaonline.net.*

June 1, Sunday

Bike Ride on the Fox River Trail (Co-sponsored with the Green Bay East High School Environmental Club). We will bike from downtown Green Bay to the East River bridge and back, a round trip of about 18 miles. We will also be discussing the importance of bike trails to solving urban transportation problems. *Rich Krieg 920-497-8004 eddyout@gmail.com*

June 14, Saturday

Canoe the Waupaca River. We will paddle from a boat landing down to a small park on the outskirts of the city of Waupaca. The river is rather small and winding, but this early in the season we should have sufficient water. This is an exploratory trip: I have never done this stretch of water. But the ducklings should be hatching and we'll have an opportunity to learn by observing the nesting birds along the river. You will need a canoe or kayak, paddles, PFD, water, sun block, bug repellent. Dress for the weather. We'll stop for pizza on the way home. *Charlie Paine 920-739-1900*

June 21, Saturday

National Water Trails Day - Paddle the Fox River in Green Bay. We will commemorate the history and importance of our local "water trail". Meet at 10 a.m. at Kayakers Point on the east side of the Fox River, at the end of Lazarre St., 1 block north of Highway 172. We will paddle toward the locks in De Pere, observing the appearance of the area after bridge removal, view the PCB dredge sites, and lunch at a local deli. We can discuss the present state of this and other important water trails. Please dress for the weather, canoe or kayak with necessary safety gear is acceptable. *Jerry Ladewig 920-336-6788 jkayakl@new.rr.com*

July 9, Wednesday

Lecture: Native Bees of Wisconsin. Got those "no Bubolz meeting blues"? Join us at the Neville Museum in Green Bay for a talk by Amy Wolf about the "Native Bees of Wisconsin". It is a part of their Natural History Lecture Series. If you wish, join us before the lecture for a light dinner at Green Bay's only vegetarian coffeehouse and for a post-talk discussion at a local Brewing Company. All three places are within very easy walking distance of each other. *Rich Krieg 920-497-8004 eddyout@gmail.com*

July 12, Saturday

Bike Along the Fox River, from the Thousand Islands Nature Center to Wrightstown, returning via the Fox River rail-trail. *Charlie Paine, 920-739-1900*

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. To read a copy of the waiver prior to the outing, please see Chapter's web site: wisconsin.sierraclub.org/outings.htm

In the interests of facilitating the logistics of some outings, it is customary that participants make carpooling arrangements. The Sierra Club does not have insurance for carpooling arrangements and assumes no liability for them. Carpooling, ride sharing or anything similar is strictly a private arrangement among the participants. Participants assume the risks associated with this travel. CST 2087766-40. Registration as a seller of travel does not constitute approval by the State of California.

Thousand Islands Hike

by Charlie Paine

On April 5th four of us met at Thousand Islands Nature Center to start our hike on the warmest day of 2008 so far. First we stopped at the deck over the Fox to watch the rushing river, swollen with spring run-off. A Canada goose chastised us for disturbing his peace. Continuing along the boardwalk we had to step over a low spot where the water was over the walk. A pair of mallards ignored us as we passed. At the eagles' nest look-out we initially saw no sign of life and were about to conclude that we were too early in the season when we saw the first eagle. We watched enthralled as it soared across the sky to land near his mate in a tree. So the eagles have returned to the Thousand Islands nest once again.

By the time our hike was over I was ready for breakfast but the rest of the group wanted to stop at the St. Vincent De Paul store first. After a few thrift store finds, we had pizza for breakfast at Plum Hill, a new restaurant just down the road from the nature center.



Sandy, Caroline, and Charlie hike along the swollen Fox River at Thousand Islands in Kaukauna. KELLY KRUPKA

Upcoming Programs

May 8 • Annual Auction Fundraiser

Bid on outdoor gear, artwork, food, and services offered by your fellow members during our live auction. See the front page of this newsletter for more details.

June 12 • Wild Edibles

Ron van der Velden, retired biology teacher and renowned natural foods specialist, will be our speaker and bring us a moveable feast. This guy can go out the door and come back with a vegetarian meal in fifteen minutes. It's interesting to know the nutrition value of our weeds!

July 10 • No Program

Enjoy your summer! Be sure to check our website for fun outings scheduled throughout the year: wisconsin.sierraclub.org/foxvalley

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



Chris, Eliza, John, Nancy and Kelly on a snowshoe outing in February at Mosquito Hill Nature Preserve.

Deadline...

for submitting materials for the August-October 2008 newsletter is July 12th!

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



It's Our Nature is printed on 50% recycled fiber, 30% post-consumer recycled, and should be recycled.



Liberty... for all?

Giant Sequoias are the most massive trees on the planet - some stand as tall as the Statue of Liberty and date back 3,500 years, making them among the largest and oldest organisms on Earth. Now this historic conservation area is being threatened with plans to open the Giant Sequoia National Monument to the chainsaws of the logging industry. We need your help now!

Join Sierra Club and help protect our gentle Giants.



Name _____
Address _____
City _____ State _____ Zip _____
Phone (_____) _____
Email _____

YES! I would like to give a Mother's Day gift membership to

Gift Recipient _____
Address _____
City _____ State _____ Zip _____

Check enclosed. Please make payable to Sierra Club.

Please charge my: Visa Mastercard AMEX

Cardholder Name _____

Card Number _____ Exp. Date ____/____

Signature _____

Membership Categories	Individual	Joint
Special Offer	<input type="checkbox"/> \$25	
Standard	<input type="checkbox"/> \$39	<input type="checkbox"/> \$49
Supporting	<input type="checkbox"/> \$75	<input type="checkbox"/> \$100
Contributing	<input type="checkbox"/> \$150	<input type="checkbox"/> \$175
Life	<input type="checkbox"/> \$1000	<input type="checkbox"/> \$1250
Senior	<input type="checkbox"/> \$25	<input type="checkbox"/> \$35
Student/Limited Income	<input type="checkbox"/> \$25	<input type="checkbox"/> \$35

Contributions, gifts and dues to Sierra Club are not tax deductible; they support our effective, citizen-based advocacy and lobbying efforts. Your dues include \$7.50 for a subscription to *SIERRA* magazine and \$1 for your Chapter newsletters.

Enclose a check and mail to Sierra Club, P.O. Box 52968, Boulder, CO 80322-2968 **or visit our website** www.sierraclub.org

Join today and receive a **FREE Sierra Club Weekender Bag!**



F94Q W 1607 1

Chairperson & Webmaster

Alan Lawrence 730-9515
153 Northbreeze Dr. Appleton 54911-1224
alan_lawrence99@yahoo.com

Communications & Media, John Muir Chapter Delegate

Will Stahl 725-9185
216 Stevens St, Neenah 54956
wrsy55@sbcglobal.net

Treasurer

Sally Peck 920-468-5986
1646 Amy St, Green Bay 54302-2456
herbsinthyme@sbcglobal.net

Newsletter Editor & Fundraising

Kelly Krupka 920-540-9139
430 Caroline St, Neenah 54956
kellykrupka@yahoo.com

Secretary

Chris Nehrbass 920-734-1878
1406 W. Packard St, Appleton 54914
chrisnehrbass@sbcglobal.net

Membership

Rachel Anderson 920-609-4496
1128 1/2 Eliza St, Green Bay 54301
sunsetharvest@gmail.com

Programs & Campus Contact

Jan Moldenhauer 920-231-3407
1845 Wisconsin St, Oshkosh 54901-2274
moldenha@hotmail.com

Political

Cindy Carter 733-0483
1325 E. Amelia St, Appleton 54911
cindycat1@sbcglobal.net

Conservation & Write-Place

Dale Schaber 739-6041
815 E. Washington, Appleton 54911-5660
dschaber@athenet.net

Cool Cities, Outings & Email List

Rich Krieg 920-497-8004
118 S. Washington, 318B, Green Bay 54301
eddyout@gmail.com

Global Warming Expert

Diana Lawrence 920-730-9515
153 Northbreeze Dr, Appleton 54911-1224
law_di03@yahoo.com

Hospitality

Patsy Gavin 920-954-7887
609 S. Walnut, Appleton 54911

Ice Age Trail

Darrel Ruechel 715-258-5226
608 S. Washington St, Waupaca 54981-1734
dairl@waupacaonline.net