

**LITTLE RED SCHOOLHOUSE
NATURE CENTER**

708-839-6897

White Oak Trail Work Day: Grab your gloves - we're taking our trail back from invasive species. We'll bring tools and light refreshments. Saturday, April 2, 10:00 a.m. - 1:00 p.m.

White Lies About Wildlife: Spring will soon be here and so will baby wild animals! We'll separate fact from fiction about wild animals and their young. Sunday, April 3, 1:30 p.m.

Egg-Stravaganza! Eggs are fascinating chambers for developing young birds. We'll investigate the many different shapes, sizes and colors of bird eggs. You'll even make an egg of your own! Saturday, April 9, 1:30 p.m.

Evening Astronomy: The Chicago Astronomical Society will set up telescopes for viewing the night sky, *weather permitting. Call between 3:00 & 4:30 p.m. to confirm.* You may bring your own telescope. Saturday, April 9, 7:30 p.m.

Hawk Walk: Our red-tailed hawk is going for a walk. Join her to learn more about hawks and their relatives during this casual trail walk. Sunday, April 10, 1:30 p.m.

Early Morning Bird Walk: Rise and shine for a refreshing walk to look for spring migrants. Saturdays, April 16, 23 & 30 7:00 a.m.

Saturday Matinee: Come join us for a nature themed movie this spring day. Refreshments will be available. Saturday, April 16, 1:30 p.m.

☺ **Mother Nature and Me - Bunnies:** Crafts and activities about rabbits, for youngsters. Sunday, April 17, 1:30 - 3:30 p.m.

Get Your Garden Started: Gardens are a great way to add beauty to your yard while providing space for wildlife. We'll show you how to get started! Saturday, April 23, 10:00 a.m.

Chicago Portage Walk & Work Day: What is the significance of this National Historic Site? A walk will reveal the historic secrets of this site. Then you can help restore biodiversity to the area. Groups welcome! This is a great way to fulfill community service requirements. *At 49th & Harlem, Lyons.* Saturday, April 30, 9:00 a.m.

**SAGAWAU ENVIRONMENTAL LEARNING
CENTER**

630-257-2045

Early Bird Walks: See what new birds join our residents through the busy month. Every Saturday and Sunday, and Wed-Th-Fr, April 13-15, 19-22, and 27-29. 7:30 a.m.

Canyon Tours: Wade the creek to see flowers, ferns, and rock formations in Cook County's only canyon. Be prepared for wet feet. Every Sunday in April, 1:00 p.m.

Ephemeral Pools: During their short spring existence temporary pools and wetlands are full of life - come to explore. *Registration requested.* Saturday, April 9, 1:00 p.m.

Spring Migration - Snakes: Yes, snakes are moving in this season. Help us see what's out. *Registration requested.* Saturday, April 16, 1:00 p.m.

Marsh Marigold Madness: Enjoy the fabulous show of these spring delights. *Registration requested.* Saturday, April 23, 1:00 p.m.

Wildflower Key: Learn to use simple keys to help you enjoy and identify our spring flowers. *Registration requested.* Saturday, April 30, 1:00 p.m.



CRABTREE NATURE CENTER

847-381-6592

☺ **Budding Naturalist - Springo Bingo:** Grab a kit for fun activities as you explore for the first signs of spring! Every Saturday and Sunday in April, 10:00 a.m. - 3:30 p.m.

Woodcock Walk: Bring your favorite optics and join a naturalist to witness this unforgettable sunset display. *Registration Required.* Friday, April 1, 7:00 p.m.

Spring Ramble: Join a naturalist *in the parking lot* for a leisurely hike on our scenic trails. Sundays, April 3 and 10, 1:00 p.m.

Where Am I? Bring a compass, or borrow one of ours, for some "old-fashioned" orienteering fun. You can try a short geo-cache course on our trails. Who needs GPS? Sunday, April 24, 1:00 - 3:00 p.m.



Explore Earth Day: Connect with the Earth and explore special activities. Learn about fishing and practice casting with Cabela's, get an L.L. Bean bike tune up, see wildlife up close, and be eco-friendly on our Green Walkway, play Springo Bingo and more. Sunday, April 17, noon – 4:00 p.m.

Arbor Day: April is a month to focus on trees. Stop by to make a leaf rubbing, use a two-man saw to cut a buckthorn souvenir, and have more fun with trees. Sunday, April 30, 10:00 a.m. - 3:00 p.m.



RIVER TRAIL NATURE CENTER

847-824-8360

What's on the Menu? Join us at feeding time to learn about our resident display animals and their fascinating habits. Every Saturday and Sunday, 3:00 p.m.

Babes in the Woods: Learn about the wildlife young born at this time of year, how they survive, and what you should do if you find a baby animal. Sunday, April 3, 1:30 p.m.

☺ **Small Serendipity:** Join us for a story and craft or other activity *for children preK - K with an adult.* \$1.00 per child. Wednesdays, April 6 & 20, 10:00 a.m.

Cold-blooded Crawl: What is it like for turtles, snakes and frogs to wake from months of hibernation? Some of our local herps will help us find out. Sunday, April 10, 1:30 p.m.

Nightlife: Fireside Tales: Celebrate the earth with stories and snacks by a campfire. *For families; registration required; \$2.00 per person.* Friday, April 15, 6:45 p.m.

Birds, Bees, Flowers and Trees: Enjoy the wonders of spring on a casual walk. Sunday, April 17, 1:30 p.m.

Family Scavenger Hunt: Have fun with the family on a search for nature's wonders along our trails. Sunday, April 24, 1:30 p.m.

☺ Persons believing that they have been discriminated against by the Forest Preserve District on the basis of color, race, national origin, handicap or sex, may file a complaint alleging discrimination with either the Forest Preserve District of Cook County or the Office of Equal Opportunity, U.S. Department of Interior, Washington D.C.

SAND RIDGE NATURE CENTER

708-868-0606

Sand Ridge Audubon Society Meeting: All are invited for a program and socialization. Friday, April 1, 7:00 p.m.

Live Healthy - Discover Nature Hike: Join our hiking club on the first Saturday of each month, for a vigorous two mile scenic hike with a naturalist. Saturday, April 2, 1:30 p.m.

Tuesday Mornings are for the Birds! Bring your binoculars and join a naturalist to enjoy the show of colorful warblers and other spring migrants. We have a few binoculars to loan. April 5, 12, 19, and 26, 8:00 a.m.

☺ **Wee Wonders - Bobcats and Their Kin:** Bring your pre-school aged kids for a story and activity about wild cats. Thursday, April 7, 1:30 p.m.

Our Nearest Star: View our Sun through a filtered telescope, discover amazing facts, and learn some of the science of our nearest star. We'll have an indoor program if weather does not cooperate. *Registration by April 7 required.* Saturday, April 9, 10:00 a.m.

Beavers, Lumberjacks of the Great Lakes: See first hand the habitat and handiwork of our resident beaver family, and learn how these giant rodents live. Saturday, April 16, 1:30 p.m.

Earth Day: A day to remind us that we should be planet stewards every day. Enjoy displays, walks, puppet shows, Earth Day Jeopardy, and a kid's craft. Saturday, April 23, 10:00 a.m. - 3:00 p.m.

The Art of Nature Photography: Bring your camera and join photographer Joe Nowak for tips on improving outdoor photo technique. *Registration by April 28 required.* Saturday, April 30, 10:00 a.m.

Gateway to the Preserves - Every Blooming Thing: Wildflowers and gardens will be explored with a variety of family activities in the first of a series of "Gateway" events, which will continue through June at District nature centers. Saturday, April 30, 10:00 a.m. - 3:00 p.m.

☺ For information or special assistance for people with disabilities, please call the host site or the Department of Resource Management, 708-771-1335, at least 48 hours in advance.

TRAILSIDE MUSEUM

708-366-6530

Morning Bird Walks: Casual walks to look for resident and migratory birds. All levels of interest welcome! We have some binoculars to loan.

Fridays, April 1 & 15, & Saturdays, April 9 & 23, 10:00 a.m.

Volunteer Workday: Help us restore and beautify Trailside's grounds and surrounding preserve. Saturday, April 2, *please call for details.*

© **Nature Story Times:** Nature-inspired stories, crafts and activities for *ages 3 – 5 with an adult.* \$1.00 per child. Thursdays, April 7 & 21, 10:30 a.m.

Fabulous Frogs and Toads: Visit our pond to search for tadpoles, and learn about the life cycle and ecology of our frogs and toads. *For adults and families with children 8 or older. Registration required.* Sunday, April 10, 1:00 p.m.

Morning Fitness Hike: Enjoy a brisk one hour hike on our scenic trails. *For adults; please dress for the weather.* Saturday, April 16, 9:00 a.m.

Extending Your Garden Season: Learn easy ways to get an earlier start on your garden in spring, and to extend your harvest in autumn. *For adults; registration required.* Sunday, April 17, 1:00 p.m.

Spring Woodland Walk: Enjoy the beauty of Thatcher Woods in springtime. *For families; trails are not suitable for strollers. Registration required.* Sunday, April 24, 1:00 p.m.

Friday Morning Wildflower Walk: Enjoy the lore of spring wildflowers, and learn how to know their names. *For adults. Please dress for the weather and for rough trails.* Friday, April 29, 10:00 a.m.



Thatcher Woods Habitat and History Hike: Enjoy a long, leisurely hike to visit historic sites and learn about fragile ecosystems. *Meet at GAR Woods, Thatcher & Washington, River Forest. 708-848-7175 for information.* Saturday, April 2, 9:00 a.m.

GATEWAY to the PRESERVES

This spring and summer the Forest Preserve District invites families to a series of active education events at your nature centers. Each will feature healthy hikes, including tips for trails, and activities that you can do on your own. Each event will have a different focus, all with an emphasis on "Leave No Child Inside" and "Live Healthy, Discover Nature."

Join us for any or all of these events:

Saturday, April 30, Sand Ridge Nature Center

Every Blooming Thing

Saturday, May 7, Trailside Museum

Birds and Blooms

Sunday, June 5, River Trail NC

Tails and Trails Day

Saturday, June 11, Little Red Schoolhouse NC

Leave No Child Inside - Nature is Accessible

Saturday, June 18, Sagawau ELC

Explore Summer Biodiversity

Sunday, June 26, Crabtree NC

Explore Wetlands



CELEBRATE EARTH DAY EVERY DAY!

Crabtree Nature Center

847-381-6592

Sunday, April 17, 10:00 a.m. - 3:00 p.m.

Bring your bike for a tune up with LL Bean, practice casting with Cabela's, go green as you explore our activity stations, create crafts and plant seeds.

Sand Ridge Nature Center

708-868-0606

Saturday, April 23, 10:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m.

Activities include, walks, puppet shows, Earth Day Jeopardy, and a kid's craft.

River Trail Nature Center

847-824-8360

Friday, April 15, 6:45 p.m.

Earth Day campfire stories. *Registration required.*

Crabtree Nature Center

Palatine Rd. one mile west of Barrington Rd.
Barrington, IL 847-381-6592

Little Red Schoolhouse Nature Center

9800 S. Willow Springs Rd.
Willow Springs, IL 708-839-6897

River Trail Nature Center

3120 N. Milwaukee Ave.
Northbrook, IL 847-824-8360

Sagawau Environmental Learning Center

12545 W. 111th St.
Lemont, IL 630-257-2045

Sand Ridge Nature Center

15891 Paxton Ave.
South Holland, IL 708-868-0606

The Harold "Hal" Tyrrell Trailside Museum

Chicago and Thatcher Avenues
River Forest, IL 708-366-6530

The Mathew Bieszczyk Volunteer Resource Center

6100A North Central
Chicago, IL 773-631-1790

Brookfield Zoo

31st St., west of First Ave.
Brookfield, IL 708-485-0263

The Chicago Botanic Garden

Lake Cook Rd. east of Edens Expressway
Glencoe, IL 847-835-5440



Volunteer for Earth Day! The FPDCC welcomes volunteers for many tasks throughout the year. Call for details or visit www.fpdccvolunteers.org.

Volunteer Center: 773-631-1790



Most programs on this calendar are presented by FPDCC Naturalists at the facilities listed. Many programs require registration in advance, and some require fees. Please consult listings under individual sites, and call the host site for details.

© **families please note children's programs**

The Forest Preserve District of Cook County

LIVE HEALTHY, DISCOVER NATURE

April, 2011



Bird Walk, Little Red Schoolhouse Nature Center



**Forest Preserve
District of
Cook County**

**Board of
Commissioners**

www.fpdcc.com

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River Forest, IL 60305

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