

Kettle Moraine State Forest Northern Unit 2011 Autumn Programs



75th Anniversary 1936 - 2011

Welcome to the Kettle Moraine State Forest - Northern Unit, a unit of the Ice Age National Scientific Reserve. The Kettle Moraine is internationally known for its famous glacial landforms and fascinating diversity of plants and animals. We encourage you to stop in at the Henry S. Reuss Ice Age Visitor Center to learn more about our glacial past and to plan your stay in the Kettle Moraine.

Throughout the year, the forest naturalists present a wide array of fun-filled educational programs. These programs are held at the Ice Age Visitor Center, Mauthe Lake Recreation Area, Long Lake Recreation Area, or at other spots in the forest. There are programs for all interests and age levels. Check out this brochure to find opportunities which pique your fancy. Most programs are free, but some forest locations do require a Wisconsin State Park System vehicle admission sticker. We look forward to seeing you at one of the upcoming events. For more information about the Kettle Moraine State Forest - Northern Unit or the public programs, please contact the forest staff at the following locations:



Department of Natural Resources
Kettle Moraine State Forest - Northern Unit
N1765 Hwy G
Campbellsport, WI 53010
(262) 626-2116

Henry S. Reuss Ice Age Visitor Center
Located off Hwy 67 half mile west of Dundee
(920) 533-8322



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This publication is available in an alternative format (large print, Braille, audiotape, etc.) upon request. Please call (920) 533-8322 for more information.

PUB-PR-558 2011

September - October

Special Events

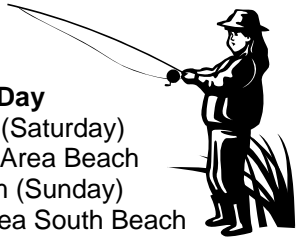
Get Outdoors! Family Play Day

September 3, 1:00 - 4:00 pm (Saturday)

Mauthe Lake Recreation Area Beach

September 4, 12:00 - 3:00 pm (Sunday)

Long Lake Recreation Area South Beach



Bring the whole family for an afternoon of nature and outdoor fun! Try your hand at tracking animals, honing your fishing skills, taking the eco-explorer challenge, matching young critters with their parents, and creating original nature art. Everyone is invited to drop in for a few minutes or more than an hour. Adults are encouraged to participate with their children.

Deep Night Sky Objects Evening Event

September 3, 7:30 - 8:30 pm (Saturday)

Ice Age Visitor Center

Presenter: Kevin Koski

NASA Solar System Ambassador

What objects lie beyond our solar system? What are a nebula, an "M" object, and globular cluster? Join Kevin Koski as he describes these and other extraordinary deep sky objects. This program is best for those more than 8 years old.

Summer Star Gazing Evening Event

September 3, 8:45 - 10:45 pm (Saturday)

Ice Age Visitor Center

Look through a telescope or binoculars to bring into focus the wonders of the night sky. With the help of experienced night sky observers from the Northern Cross Science Foundation, spy distant planets, dumb-bell nebulas, globular clusters and so much more. The program will be held only if the skies are clear. This program is best for anyone more than 8 years old. Drop in any time and stay as long as you like.

Halloween Nature Hikes

October 14 and 15 (Friday and Saturday)

6:30 - 9:30 pm

Long Lake Recreation Area



Come One! Come All! The astonishing forest menagerie is at the Northern Unit! Watch the high-flying antics of the Tree-top Gliders! Marvel at the amazing stealth of Preying Mantis! Meet a 75 year old snapping turtle! This is not a scary hike and is best for those more than 5 years of age. Groups leave every six minutes. The last hour-long hike leaves at 8:30 pm. While waiting for your hike, enjoy playing some fun-filled games, making a craft to take home, or snacking by the glow of a campfire. In the event of severe weather, the event will be canceled for that night.

Nature Storytimes

An hour of nature fun awaits 3 to 6 year olds with accompanying adults. Join us for stories, games, crafts and songs on the first and third Fridays of each month. Programs will be held at the Ice Age Visitor Center starting at 9:30 am.

Ladybugs Everywhere

September 2, 9:30 - 10:30 am (Friday)

Ice Age Visitor Center

Ladybugs are friendly beetles that are a help to gardeners and farmers. Find out what these tiny insects do that is of such importance to all of us.



Chattering Chipmunks

September 16, 9:30 - 10:30 am (Friday)

Ice Age Visitor Center

With cheeks filled with nuts, chipmunks are a comical sight. Uncover what these "chatter boxes" do with all those gathered nuts and seeds.

Trees of Many Colors

October 7, 9:30 - 10:30 am (Friday)

Ice Age Visitor Center

Red, orange, and yellow leaves twirling in the wind are a sure sign of autumn. Learn why our tall, tall trees lose their leaves before winter.

Pee-yew Skunk!

October 21, 9:30 - 10:30 am (Friday)

Ice Age Visitor Center

What's black and white and smelled all over? A skunk! Join us as we uncover some cool truths about skunks.

Journey into Darkness

Night Hike

September 2, 8:00 - 9:45 pm (Friday)

Mauthe Lake Recreation Area Picnic Shelter

As the sun sets and the light fades from the sky, the day animals retire and a new group of animals awakens. We will explore the darkening world for all those nature night lights. This night hike is best for families/groups with children at least 5 years old.

September - October

Saturday Morning Nature Sleuths



September 3, 10:00 - 11:00 am (Saturday)
Picnic Shelters at Mauthe Lake Recreation Area and
Long Lake Recreation Area

Calling all youth to unravel some mysteries of nature by participating in the *Wisconsin Explorers* program! The program involves completing a required number of engaging nature activities in one of three age appropriate books (ages 3-5; ages 6-8; and ages 9+) to earn a very cool patch. Get expert help from a naturalist who will work with youth on activities from one of the first four topic areas of the books.

Meet the Ranger

September 3, 2:00 - 3:00 pm (Saturday)
Mauthe Lake Recreation Area Beach

Have you ever wondered what a forest ranger's job actually involves? Then come learn more about what they do and the tools they use as part of their duties. One and all are invited to stop in to meet one of the Northern Unit's law enforcement rangers.

Exploring Nature Programs

Everyone is invited to participate in 1½ to 2 hours of hands-on nature fun. Adults are encouraged to work with their children. These programs are best for families/groups with children ages 6 to 12 years old.

Ice Age at the Beach

September 10, 10:00 - 11:30 am (Saturday)
Mauthe Lake Recreation Area Beach

The glaciers have returned to Mauthe Lake! Discover how the glaciers created kames, eskers, kettles, and moraines through fun hands-on activities. Be prepared to get a little wet.

Sensational Seeds

September 17, 10:00 - 11:30 am (Saturday)
Ice Age Visitor Center

From as tiny as a dust fleck to larger than a softball, seeds come in all shapes and sizes. Learn how seeds help plants to grow and thrive.

What's Beneath Your Feet

September 24, 10:00 - 11:30 am (Saturday)
Ice Age Visitor Center

Watch your step! A whole world exists just under our feet. Help us unearth the creatures that live down under the leaves, the grass and the soil.

Winged Mammals: Bats

October 1, 10:00 - 11:30 am (Saturday)
Ice Age Visitor Center

Steeped in myth, bats often get an undeserved bad rap. Learn some truly astounding facts about bats and maybe gain a new appreciation for them.

Finding Your Way

October 8, 10:00 am - 12:00 pm (Saturday)
Long Lake Recreation Area Picnic Shelter

Would you like to venture off the beaten path, but don't feel comfortable leaving the familiar trail behind? Then join us to learn how to use an orienteering compass, determine your pace, and keep yourself from becoming lost. This program is best for families/groups with children more than 8 years old.

Creatures of the Night

October 22, 10:00 - 11:30 am (Saturday)
Ice Age Visitor Center

Who's awake during the hours of darkness? Join us as we delve into the world of nocturnal animals.

An Evening with Nature

On the second Thursday of each month, meet at the Ice Age Visitor Center for informative and entertaining presentations. Forest staff or guest presenters will provide the programs. These programs are best for adults and youth over 10 years old.

Magnificent Birds of Prey

September 8, 7:00 - 8:30 pm (Thursday)
Ice Age Visitor Center

Presenter: Barb Harvey, Raptor Rehabilitator

Barb Harvey and her special guests, several live birds of prey, will share insights into the world of these amazing sky hunters. She will cover some of their unique adaptations, habitat needs and threats to their survival.

Soaring Vultures

October 13, 7:00 - 8:30 pm
(Thursday)
Ice Age Visitor Center

Presenters: Lisa Hartman and
Mike Mossman

In the fall large flocks of vultures gather to head south for the winter. Join us as we uncover the fascinating features these birds have to fulfill their roles as a member of nature's clean up crew. You may even get to meet a live vulture.



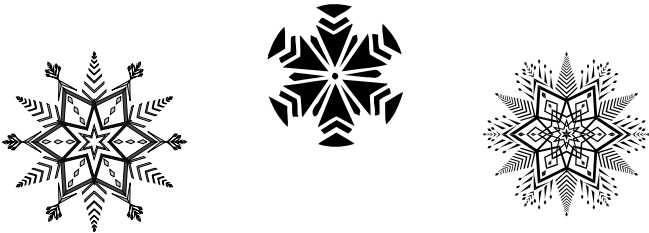
November - December

Special Event

Winter Solstice Night Hike

December 16, 7:00 - 8:30 pm (Friday)
Zillmer Trail Head (located off Hwy SS between Hwy G and Hwy 67 near New Prospect)

Gather around the fire as we share some traditions of the longest night of the year. We will then travel through the dark woods to discover what animals are awake and braving the cold of a winter night. This program is best for families with children more than 6 years old.



Nature Storytimes

An hour of nature fun awaits 3 to 6 year olds with accompanying adults. Join us for stories, games, crafts and songs on the first and third Fridays of each month. Programs will be held at the Ice Age Visitor Center starting at 9:30 am.

Flying V's

November 4, 9:30 - 10:30 am (Friday)
Ice Age Visitor Center

What's that flying V in the sky? Is it a plane? No, it's a flock of geese! Learn about these noisy big birds as they fly south for the winter.

Gobbling Turkeys

November 18, 9:30 - 10:30 am (Friday)
Ice Age Visitor Center

Let's talk turkey! Come in and strut your stuff as we learn about the wild turkey - our big, beautiful woodland bird.

Now That the Days are Colder

December 2, 9:30 - 10:30 am (Friday)
Ice Age Visitor Center

Bundle up; it's cold outside. Join us as we discover what the animals do to survive the cold days of winter.

Clever Crows

December 16, 9:30 - 10:30 am (Friday)
Ice Age Visitor Center

Crows are big black birds that are always making noise. We'll try to figure out what these clever crows may be talking about.



Exploring Nature Programs

Everyone is invited to participate in 1½ to 2 hours of hands-on nature fun. Adults are encouraged to work with their children. These programs are best for families/groups with children ages of 6 to 12 years old.

Getting Ready for Winter

November 12, 10:00 - 11:30 am (Saturday)
Ice Age Visitor Center

The chill of winter is in the air. Discover how the world of nature prepares for the hardships of the season.

Gifts with a Natural Touch

December 10, 10:00 am - 12:00 pm (Saturday)
Ice Age Visitor Center

We'll use inspirations and materials from nature to make several crafts including nature print cards, sun catchers and winter wreaths. To register call the Ice Age Visitor Center at (920) 533-8322 by **December 8** to ensure that we have plenty of supplies.

An Evening with Nature

On the second Thursday of each month, meet at the Ice Age Visitor Center for informative and entertaining presentations. Forest staff or guest presenters will provide the programs. These programs are best for adults and youth over 10 years old.

Create a Winter Wreath

November 10 (Thursday)
Session 1: 1:00 - 3:30 pm **OR**
Session 2: 6:30 - 9:00 pm
Ice Age Visitor Center



Using a variety of natural materials, we will create a beautiful evergreen wreath and swag that will enhance your home's winter decor. To register for session one or session two, call the Ice Age Visitor Center at (920) 533-8322 by **November 8**. Space is limited. This program is best for people more than 12 years old. A \$5.00/person material fee will be charged.

Kettle Moraine as a Mythical/Sacred Landscape

December 8, 7:00 - 8:30 pm (Thursday)
Ice Age Visitor Center

Presenter: Herman Bender
American Septen History Company

Is there a mythical/sacred connection between the Kettle Moraine and the Black Hills of South Dakota? Discover how the Lakota and Cheyenne perceive the Black Hills as a spiritual and real world reflection of the night sky, and how the Kettle Moraine may be an even more ancient embodiment of these same traditions.