Paint & Sip: Capture a Live Owl on Canvas  Ages 21+
Saturday, January 25, 7–8:30 p.m.
Prairieview Education Center, Crystal Lake
Fee: R $40.00/NR $50.00  Code: 6390
Join a local artist from Muse Art of Crystal Lake for a paint and sip experience as you capture the image of a live owl on canvas. District staff will give a brief presentation about the life of the owl prior to painting per the step by step instruction of the artist. All painting supplies, as well as light snacks and soft drinks provided. No experience necessary! BYO favorite wine or beer with valid ID.

Search for Eagles— 8 a.m.–10 a.m.
McHenry Dam, Algonquin Dam, Carpentersville Dam, Fontana Beach
Representatives from the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, Friends of Hackmatack Wildlife Refuge, Illinois Department of Natural Resources, and McHenry County Audubon will be on hand at locations along the Fox River in Illinois and Geneva Lake in Wisconsin to help you search for eagles. There will be scopes and binoculars available for use at each location, along with guided activities for children. Visit the site closest to you or visit them all! Maps to the locations are available on MCCDistrict.org under special events and on Friends of Hackmatack’s Facebook page @FriendsHackmatackNWR.

Eagles of Illinois— Presentation* 11 a.m.–12:30 p.m.
Prairieview Education Center, 2112 Behan Rd., Crystal Lake
*Space is limited. Registration is required. All Ages. Free. Code: 6373
People have been inspired by eagles for centuries. Religions, countries, armies and others have adopted the eagle as their symbol of power. See the power and beauty of these truly magnificent birds of prey when you meet a Bald Eagle and a Golden Eagle. You will also see other birds of prey that are commonly misidentified as eagles. Presented by the Illinois Raptor Center; Sponsored by the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service.

A Special Event
Youth 13 & under must be accompanied by an adult, except Just for Kids programs. Register online at MCCDistrict.org.

Backyard Birds of Winter
All Ages
Saturday, January 19, 2–3:30 p.m.
Lost Valley Visitor Center, Tallgrass Classroom, Glacial Park, Ringwood
Fee: R $3.00/NR $5.00  Code: 6371
It’s the time of year where most birds have migrated south to escape the cold, but some stay here and tough out the winter. Learn about the birds that stick around all year and may even call your backyard “home”. We will make a bird feeder for you can take home to give our feathered friends a winter treat.

An Afternoon with the Short-Eared Owls
Adults and Families, Ages 8+
Saturday, December 21, 3:30–5 p.m.
Lost Valley Visitor Center, Glacial Park, Ringwood
Fee: R Free/NR $2.00  Code: 6369
The short-eared owl is an Illinois endangered species, but we are fortunate to have them visit Glacial Park every winter! Begin the afternoon with a short indoor presentation and then head outdoors to search for these special creatures. Bring binoculars if you have them. Dress for the weather.

Attention Teachers!
Register for Festival of the Sugar Maples Field Studies for Grades K–5, beginning Dec. 10
For more information contact Prairieview Education Center at (815) 479-5779; education@MCCDistrict.org

Bob Williams
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Landscapes | Winter 2019-20
Festival of the Sugar Maples

Two Weekends!

March 7 & 8 and 14 & 15
10 a.m.–3 p.m.

Coral Woods Conservation Area
7400 Somerset, Marengo

• Hear how maple syrup was made hundreds of years ago...
• Discover how maple trees produce sap each spring...
• Learn how sap is collected from maple trees...
• See how maple syrup is made at the evaporator house!

Attention Teachers!

Register for Festival of the Sugar Maples Field Studies for Grades K–5, beginning Dec. 10


For more information contact Prairieview Education Center at (815) 479-5779; education@MCCDistrict.org

Help Us Tap The Sugar Maples!

Tapping Into Nature
Adults & Families, Ages 10+

Sunday, March 1, 9–10:30 a.m.
Coral Woods, Shelter, Marengo
Fee: R $5.00/NR $7.00 Code: 6331

The Festival of the Sugar Maples is an annual event that teaches historical and current methods of sap collection and maple syrup making. Each year maple trees are carefully selected and tapped by Conservation District staff for this event that draws over 1,500 visitors. This program is a unique opportunity for the public to assist in the tree tapping process. Over a light continental breakfast, staff will provide a short lesson on tree selection, how to correctly place a tap in a tree, and the proper equipment used to complete the process. Participants will then tap the trees for the public event. Dress for the weather.