



McHenry County Conservation Foundation's Pedal - Paddle through the Prairie

Sunday, June 12
Glacial Park, Ringwood
12K or 25K Bicycle Ride
or 2 hour Paddle
(6 miles down Nippersink Creek)

Whether by bike or by boat, enjoy fresh air, exercise, meet some new friends and support McHenry County Conservation District.

Feeling energetic? Do both activities for the price of one, just make sure you're back before lunch is over — you won't want to miss it! Our famous pasta feast is served 11:30 a.m. to 1:30 p.m. while listening to live entertainment.

Registration:
Fee includes Pasta lunch and entertainment.
Preregister by May 21 and receive a free T-shirt
\$22 individual/\$40 Family

Day of Ride: \$27 individual /\$45 Family
T-shirts: \$12 while supplies last

Check In:
Paddle: 7:30–9 a.m. at Keystone Road Landing
Shuttles available.

Pedal: 9:30–10:30 a.m. at Lost Valley Visitor Center

Canoe rentals are available for \$40 for preregistered participants or bring your own canoe or kayak; shuttle service and support will be provided.

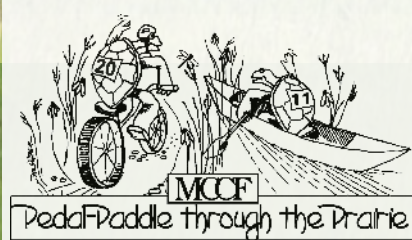
(815) 759-9390
www.mchenryconservation.org

MCCF thanks the 2011 Sponsors for their commitment to conservation:

Tip A Canoe
Featherstone
Northwest Herald
Bjorkman's Ace Hardware
JAD Treecycle, Inc.

Honey Baked Ham
Napoli's of Woodstock
Panera Bread of McHenry
Dunkin Donuts of McHenry
Ed's Rental and Sales, Inc.

Meltzer, Purtil & Stelle LLC
Behm Pavement Maintenance, Inc.
McHenry Analytical Water Laboratory



Living History Events

12:00–4:00 p.m.
Glacial Park, Powers-Walker House
No registration is required. Drop in any time during the open hours.

Ice Cream Social of 1858 Sunday, June 12

Take a break from your hectic modern life and enjoy the simple pleasures of an old-fashioned ice cream social. Sip lemonade, eat ice cream, play frontier games, and chat with your neighbors while visiting the historic Powers-Walker House in the summertime. Various historical characters will stop by to tell you about their lives, including a cavalryman and his horse heading off to defend the frontier.

Powers-Walker Open House

Saturday, July 9 & Sunday, August 21
Come visit this Greek Revival 1854 restored house and learn more about the Powers and Walker families that called this area home. Volunteers in historical attire will be on hand to answer questions.

—LOST VALLEY VENTURES—

Family Exploration Programs!
Saturdays 2–3:30 p.m.

Lost Valley Visitor Center—Glacial Park
No program: July 9.

Are you looking for something the whole family can do for free on a Saturday afternoon? Come to Glacial Park for our Saturday exploration programs. Hosted every Saturday afternoon from 2–3:30 p.m., we will offer a fun family program. Topics change monthly: June—*Terrific Turtles*, July—*Predators and Prey*, August—*Incredible Insects*; and include a nature lesson, game, and a hike. Programs are held primarily outdoors, so dress for the weather and walking. No registration required. All ages are welcome.

This program is intended for families and cannot accommodate organized groups. Youth groups are welcome to call (815) 479-5779 to schedule a program for their group. Check out our *Education and Recreation Opportunities for Youth Groups* brochure for more information.



40th ANNIVERSARY CELEBRATION
Saturday, July 9 • 10 a.m.–2 p.m.

Lost Valley Visitor Center – Glacial Park, Ringwood
• Music • Guided Nature Hikes • Kids Activities • Storytelling •

**It's been forty years in the making —
and we couldn't have done it without you!**

Come out for a day of celebration and appreciation to our residents for helping the Conservation District protect and preserve 24,894 acres of wide open places.

- **Guided Nature Hikes** @ 10:15 a.m. & 11:15 a.m.
- **Storytelling** @ 10:15 a.m. & 1:15 p.m.
- **Entertainment On the Deck:** 11 a.m.–1 p.m.

Ongoing:

- **Scavenger Hunt & Kids Activities**
- **Bird Identification & Viewing**
- **Sustainability 101: Green Solutions for Home & Garden**
- **Picnic on the Patio**—Bring your lunch and enjoy the entertainment or purchase a sandwich from an onsite vendor.
- **Powers-Walker House: Living History Open House**, 12–4 p.m.
- **Photo Displays, Exhibits, Giveaways and More!** *Rain or Shine*



For **Lost Valley Visitor Center Building Tours**, organized groups are welcome to call (815) 678-4532 to schedule a building tour for their group. Minimum 12 people.



Grand Opening
Winding Creek Conservation Area
Saturday, June 4, 10 a.m.–1 p.m.
8415 Johnson Rd., Hebron

Join us we cut the ribbon and welcome the public to tour and play at the District's newest Conservation Site. This 359-acre site is graced by an oak and hickory woodland and a stretch of Nippersink Creek.

- Stroll on a guided Woodland Hike to hear about the restoration efforts and learn about the wildlife and fauna that exist on the site.
- Venture on the family-friendly Hidden Homes and Animal Hideouts hike.
- Or go at your own pace on a self-guided scavenger hunt along the nature trail through the woods and around the pond.
- Test your luck at casting a line in the pond (IL. Fishing licenses required for adults; children under 16 fish for free.)
- Bring your picnic lunch and eat at the shelter situated at the edge of the woodland.

Hooked ON FISHING!



Snapshots from last year's event!



Bring the whole family for demonstrations, prizes and more! Free to the public. No license needed, as the event is held on Illinois Free Fishing Days. Bring your own gear or borrow ours! Children get first preference on poles. First come, first served. Adult supervision of children is required. Pre-registration is preferred, (815) 479-5779 or online at www.MCCDistrict.org.

SATURDAY, JUNE 11

9 a.m.–Noon
Rush Creek
20501 McGuire Rd., Harvard
ONLINE REGISTRATION CODE: 411626-01

SUNDAY, JUNE 12

9 a.m.–Noon
The Hollows – Lake Atwood
3804 U.S. Highway 14, Cary
ONLINE REGISTRATION CODE: 411628-01

Co-sponsored by the Crystal Lake Anglers

CACHE YOUR WAY ACROSS MCHENRY COUNTY

AUGUST 1 - NOVEMBER 6

SPEND FALL GEOCACHING YOUR WAY THROUGH MANY OF THE BEAUTIFUL SITES OF MCHENRY COUNTY CONSERVATION DISTRICT.



Photo taken at a cache in Glacial Park

Caches will be placed in 15 different Conservation District sites. Sign-up to receive a list of coordinates and a questionnaire which will be sent in late July; however, caches will not be in place until August 1. Each cache will contain an answer to a corresponding question. Some caches will be posted on www.geocaching.com. You will need your own GPS unit to complete the program.

E-mail smichael@mccdistrct.org or call the District's Main Office at (815) 338-6223 to participate. Enroll any time throughout the fall!

Questionnaires may be mailed to the Main Office or e-mailed back to geocache@mccdistrct.org. Include your name and mailing address. All completed entries will be entered into a drawing to win a free camping weekend at one of the District's six campgrounds.

Completed entries must be returned by November 30, 2011. Some caches will remain posted on www.geocaching.com.

Geocaching is a great activity for all ages who enjoy hiking and being outdoors. For more information on this popular "treasure hunting" activity, call (815) 338-6223 or read about it online: MCCDistrict.org/re-geocache.htm.



Nature Preserve and Land & Water Reserves:

An enduring Vision

Illinois Nature Preserves Photography Exhibit

July 2–October 30
Lost Valley Visitor Center,
Glacial Park



Glacial Park photo by Weg Thomas

The Illinois Nature Preserves Commission's traveling photo exhibit *Illinois Nature Preserves and Land and Water Reserves* commemorates 500 protected sites. Twenty-two exceptional photographs are on display and were selected from a slate of 225 photos submitted for the Illinois Department of Natural Resources' 2009 Outdoor Illinois Photo Contest. All of the entries represented Illinois' extraordinary geographic range of biodiversity. The Commission appreciates this opportunity to share these images of Illinois' natural treasures. For more information on the traveling exhibit go to tinyurl.com/4koochn.

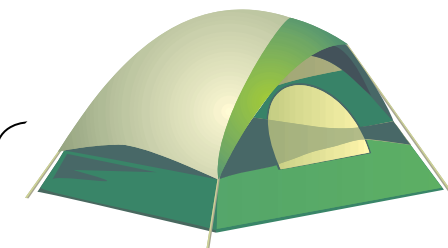
Safe Kids Wear Lids

Bike Safety Clinic
Saturday, June 18
10:00 a.m.–12:00 p.m.

Prairie Trail,
Main Street Parking Lot – North, Crystal Lake

Bring your bikes and helmets to this annual bike safety clinic! Staff will perform bike inspections, discuss safety tips for bike riding and go over the rules of the road. Get your helmet checked for a safe fit. If you don't have a helmet, you will be fitted and given a helmet to take home, free!

For Ages 5–12 accompanied by an adult.
Pre-registration is requested. Code: 411627-01



Family Camping Sampler

Saturday, June 25, 2 p.m.–11 p.m.
Marengo Ridge Conservation Area

Immerse yourselves in nature through good old-fashioned family camping! McHenry County Conservation District and the Illinois Department of Natural Resources invite you to celebrate "Leave No Child Inside" month with us. A variety of fun outdoor camping activities have been planned to help you and your family explore the natural world and take full advantage of a future camping experience. Come early and stay late; drop in for 30 minutes or 3 hours! No registration required!

If you wish to camp out on your own at Marengo Ridge's Thomas Woods Campgrounds, make reservations by calling (815) 338-6223.



Together we can promote a culture in which children enjoy and are encouraged to be outside in nature. And as a result, they are healthier, have a sense of connection to their place, and become stewards of local nature. Conservation District programs that are designed as free exploration will be marked with the Leave No Child Inside log symbol. For more information on Leave No Child Inside, visit www.kidsoutside.info.



2:00-5:00 p.m., Shelter #1:

"What Am I Doing Out Here?" & "Ready, Set, Camp"

Dive into nature exploration activities, camp crafts, snacks, and games. Pick up some useful tips on spending time outdoors with ongoing activities like what type of camping gear to pack, setting up camp, building a campfire, and other tricks for enjoying outdoor living.

5:00-8:00 p.m., Group Campground:

"Let's Get Cooking"

Learn about the foods and cooking techniques that work well for a family camping experience as well as "housekeeping" tips for a safe and enjoyable outdoor kitchen. Bring a picnic dinner and enjoy ongoing demonstrations or join in the campfire cooking and clean-up (\$3 per person, payable on site).

8:00-10:00 p.m., Shelter #1:

"Eventful Evenings"

Join in guided explorations, nocturnal games and activities that discover the sights, sounds and mystique that night time has to offer. Hear stories and sing songs around the campfire.

8:00-11:00 p.m., Shelter #2:

"Star Party"

Search the night skies for stars, galaxies, nebulae and star clusters with help from members of the Northwest Suburban Astronomers and their telescopes. Bring blankets, lawn chairs, binoculars or telescopes if you have them.