

Fall 2014

September–October–November

Nature Center

Monday – Friday
7:45 am – 4:30 pm

Saturdays
9 am – 2 pm

Closed Sundays

Hiking Trails

6 am – 8 pm daily

Phone

414.527.0232

Address

6141 N. Hopkins Street
Milwaukee, WI 53209
1 block west of
Sherman Blvd.

Websites

[dnr.wi.gov/topic/parks/
name/havenwoods/](http://dnr.wi.gov/topic/parks/name/havenwoods/)
www.friendsofhavenwoods.org

Friends of Havenwoods

Become a member!



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Havenwoods State Forest

If summer is your favorite season, come visit the prairie . . . where wildflowers keep blooming until the first hard frosts of fall.

Exploring Nature in the City

Walking through the prairie can be a simple walk in the park. However, if you stop to think about the plants that are adapted to grow there, you may never take another casual walk again. Prairie grasses and wildflowers are able to survive drought, fire, and grazing. Here are a few examples of their adaptations. Visit the prairie and you will find more!



Sticky Sap
Rosinweed's sticky sap conserves moisture.

Rotating Leaves

The large leaves of compass-plant turn throughout the day to stay perpendicular to the sun's rays and reduce exposure.



Long, Narrow Leaves

The leaves of some prairie plants, like whorled milkweed, tend to be skinny. This reduces heat absorption and water loss.



Upright, Broad Leaves

Prairie-dock holds its big leaves vertically to reduce the surface area exposed to direct sun.



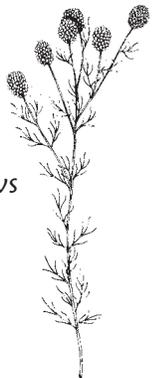
Fuzzy Leaves

Fine hairs on the leaves of stiff goldenrod shade the leaf surface and keep the plant cool. Dew can collect on these hairs and fall to the ground, providing water to the roots.



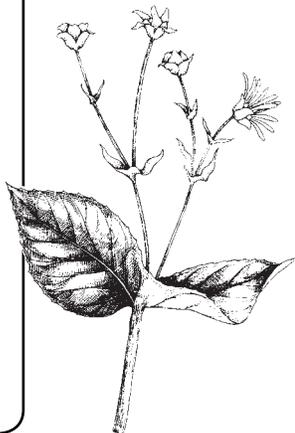
Divided Leaves

Purple prairie-clover's small, finely divided leaves expose very little surface area to the sun. The wind also freely blows through these leaves, keeping the plant cool.



Cups of Water

The opposing leaves of cup-plant join together to form a "cup." Botanists don't know how much water the plant absorbs, but the plant might be carnivorous—capable of absorbing nutrients from insects that drown in the water.



Light-colored Leaves & Stem
Light colors reflect light and heat. The blue-gray colors of rattlesnake-master help this plant stay cool.



Nature and the Neighborhood

Free Festival

Saturday, October 4, 12 – 4 pm

You can celebrate nature in the city, eat a free lunch, visit with McGruff, see live animals, take a hike, play games, get creative, and learn more about your neighborhood!

Doors Open Milwaukee

September 20 & 21, 10 am - 5 pm
(Saturday and Sunday)

Take a hike with a naturalist to look for signs of wildlife at 11 am, 1 pm, and 3 pm (45-minute hikes). Meet some reptiles and amphibians at 10 am, 4 pm, and scattered times throughout the day. Sit back and enjoy photos and stories from Havenwoods' past at 12 pm and 2 pm (30-minute program). Get out on your own and find history on a geocaching adventure all day. Create nature crafts on your own all day.



Family Nature Hikes

Spend an hour with a naturalist on a family-friendly hike. We'll use magnifiers, binoculars, super-duper outdoor lookers, and other exploring tools to discover what's happening in nature.

Snake Search

September 6, 10:30 – 11:30 am (Saturday)

We'll hike the trails and look under rocks and logs in search of gartersnakes, milksnakes, and red-bellied snakes. You will also be able to meet some captive snakes up close and personal.



Kid vs. Wild

November 1, 10:30 – 11:30 am (Saturday)

What would you do if you were in a fight-for-survival situation? Knowing something about shelters, fires, orienteering, and weather could save your life! We'll get you started thinking about what it takes to make it in the wild.

Adult Hikes & Workshops

Adults are invited to join a naturalist to brush up on a topic or learn something new!

Learn to Geocache

October 18, 10 – 11:30 am (Saturday)

Are you looking for a new way to relax, enjoy the outdoors, visit interesting destinations, and spend time with friends and family? Geocaching uses GPS units, maps, and clues to locate hidden caches all over the world. Adults and youth over 12 are invited to learn how to use a GPS unit to find several caches at Havenwoods. We have units to lend.

Willow Plant Tower Workshop

November 22, 9 am – 1 pm (Saturday)

Weave a small conical tower (~1' x 4') for your holiday lights or next year's climbing plants. You'll use willow cut at Havenwoods and learn how and where it grows. The tower is sturdy, functional, and fun to make! To register, call 414-527-0232 or email judy.klippel@wi.gov by November 7. Cost is \$5. Make checks out to Friends of Havenwoods.

GO! Discover

Families, friends, and youth groups are invited to head over to Havenwoods on the second and/or third Saturdays of each month. Drop in any time between 9 am and 2 pm to discover something new about nature.



Snakes!

September 13 & 20, 9 am – 2 pm
(Saturdays)

Discover the lives of snakes through activities and a game, make a snake to take home, collect some snake wildcards, and touch some live snakes.

Fall Changes

October 11 & 18, 9 am – 2 pm
(Saturdays)

Enjoy the grand finale of the growing season. Explore the colors of leaves, the secrets hidden in seeds, and gifts from the garden.

Survive the Wild

November 8 & 15, 9 am – 2 pm
(Saturdays)

Can you follow a simple compass course, find a geocache, and locate north? What should you wear and take with you on a hike or camping trip in the cold? Activities and projects will help you find your way, be safe, and have fun in nature.

Preschool Storytimes

We'll use stories, crafts, and activities to explore a different topic each storytime. Preschool storytimes are for preschoolers, ages 3-5, and their parents, grandparents, or other adult. These programs are not for day care centers or organizations.

In Search of Dragonflies

September 2, 9:30 – 10:30 am
(Tuesday)

You won't believe what a baby dragonfly looks like! Join us to find out how an ugly baby becomes a beautiful adult!

Bats Eat Bugs

October 28, 9:30 – 10:30 am
(Tuesday)

Halloween bats look mighty scary, but real bats are great neighbors. Come find out how they eat mosquitoes and fly in the dark.

Go Fish!

November 25, 9:30 – 10:30 am
(Tuesday)

Fish are very different from people – and that's what makes them so interesting! Join us to discover why fish are fun.

Listen to Nature

September 16, 9:30 – 10:30 am
(Tuesday)

Nature has much to share with us when we listen. Take a quiet walk with us to hear some of nature's musicians and storytellers.

Hide & Seek

November 11, 9:30 – 10:30 am
(Tuesday)

Some animals blend in while others stand out. Let's explore the wonderful colors of wild animals.

Chipmunks on the Move

September 30, 9:30 – 10:30 am
(Tuesday)

Now you see them, now you don't! Find out why chipmunks are busy this time of year.

Autumn Leaves are Falling!

October 14, 9:30 – 10:30 am
(Tuesday)

Red, gold, and purple leaves are everywhere these days! Let's play with the leaves and enjoy the fall colors.

Prairie Strategies

Grasses and wildflowers evolved in the presence of drought, fires, and grazing animals.

Tough Perennials

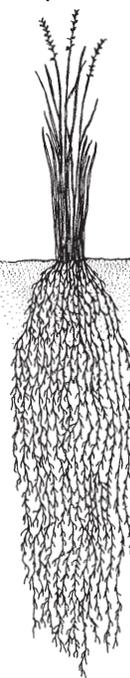
Most prairie plants live from year to year. In winter, the tops die back, but the plants store energy in their roots so they can sprout and grow in spring.

Underground

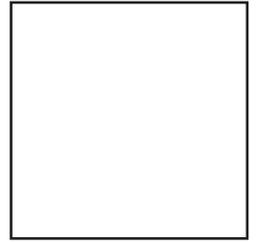
The growing point of many prairie plants is under the ground, making it possible for them to regrow quickly after fires.

Massive Root Systems

If you could see below the ground, you would be amazed. Like most prairie plants, little bluestem has more roots below the ground than leaves and stems above. Deep roots can find moisture during dry spells.



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Nature in Your Backyard

Do you have a sunny corner that needs some plants? The Xerces Society for Invertebrate Conservation is promoting a “Bring Back the Pollinators” campaign. Consider planting a few prairie plants. You will enjoy the flowers, and you will provide habitat for native birds and insects. You can plant seeds that you purchase or collect (always ask permission!). Transplants from friends, nurseries, or garden club plant sales can get your wild garden off to a quick start. Find out more about what you can do at <www.bringbackthepollinators.org>

