

# Fall 2017

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](http://www.friendsofhavenwoods.org)

## Friends of Havenwoods

Become a member!



The Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources provides equal opportunity in its employment, programs, services, and functions under an Affirmative Action Plan. If you have any questions, please write to the Equal Opportunity Office, Washington, DC 20240.

This publication is available in alternative format (large print, Braille, audiotape, etc.) upon request. Please call 414.527.0232 for more information.



PUB-PR-585 REV 8/2017

# Havenwoods State Forest

Whether it be in the woods, the fields, or the gardens, fall brings abundance for wildlife. Scout out the “fruitful” locations now and visit them often to spot birds and mammals feasting on nature’s bounty. Here are some of the native fruits you can find at Havenwoods.

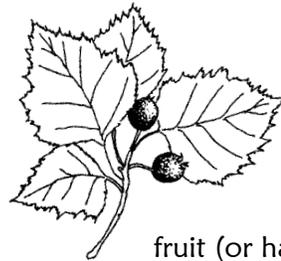
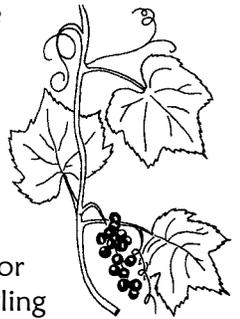
## Virginia creeper

vines show off deep blue berries on red stems. Birds and small mammals seek them out.



## wild grapes

do provide food for wildlife, but they are very aggressive. Look for grape vines strangling trees and shrubs at Havenwoods.



## hawthorns

provide both food and cover for wild critters. The fruit (or haw) is actually a pome like an apple. If you find one, open it and look for similarities.



## dogwoods

sport clumps of berries. At Havenwoods, look for red osier (white berries and red bark), gray dogwood (white berries with gray bark), and silky dogwood (blue-gray berries with gray-brown bark).

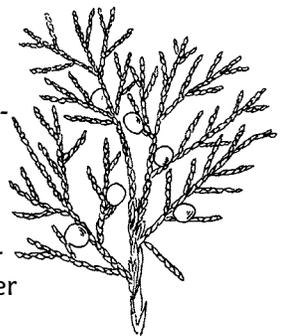
## wild plums

are stone fruits like peaches. Deer, foxes, coyotes, squirrels, raccoons, and opossums feast on the sweet, juicy fruits.



## red cedar

is a conifer so it should have cones like pines and spruces. The bluish-black “berries” actually are cones. Instead of woody scales, juniper cones have fleshy, fruit-like scales fused together to form “berries.”



## staghorn sumac

“berries” are not the preferred food of songbirds. However, because they persist until late winter and early spring, they provide birds with food when most other fruits are gone.



## poison ivy

is a native invasive. The dirty-white berries are an important food source for birds.



## To eat or not?

Never taste a berry unless you are **completely sure** people can eat it.

Avoid tasting berries growing near polluted rivers, roadways, or industrial areas. Avoid berries that could have been sprayed with pesticides.

Before foraging for berries in any area, be sure it’s legal. Since Havenwoods is a forest preserve, you must have a written permit to pick, collect, or remove any plant or part thereof from the property.



## Doors Open Milwaukee

September 23 & 24, 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 (30-minute hikes). Meet some reptiles and amphibians throughout the day. Sit back and enjoy photos and stories from Havenwoods' past at 12:30 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, or other exploring tools to discover what's happening in nature.



### Slither & Slime Hike

September 2, 10:30 – 11:30 am (Saturday)

Ever wonder how the legless creatures move around? Come explore the mobility adaptations of slithering snakes, slimy slugs and snails, and wriggling worms. Find out which are truly legless and which actually do have a foot!

### Bat Hike

September 13, 7 – 8:00 pm (Wednesday)

Join us for an evening hike around the ponds in search of bats. We will use a bat detector to help us locate them. If conditions are poor for bats (cloudy or windy), we can still enjoy a twilight hike. Rain date for the bat hike will be September 20.

## GO! Discover

On the second and third Saturdays of each month, you and your family, friends, or youth group will find special activities set up in the building. Drop in any time between 9 am and 2 pm to discover something new about nature.

### Slither & Slime

September 9 & 16, 9 am – 2 pm  
(Saturday)

Have a face-to-tentacle meeting with a slimy slug that lives under logs AND touch a slithering inhabitant of dry grasslands. Make your own spiraling snail craft and snake bracelet, plus pick your favorite in the live slug races!

### Changing Seasons

October 14 & 21, 9 am – 2 pm  
(Saturday)

Big changes are coming to Havenwoods! How do we prepare? How do critters and plants at Havenwoods prepare for winter? Drop in to explore the signs and discover these changes. Not just what we feel (brrrrr), but what we hear and see too!

### Nocturnal Animals

November 11 & 18, 9 am – 2 pm  
(Saturday)

What are those strange noises coming from the bushes late at night? Who is busy looking for food while we are fast asleep? Come discover which animals are awake in the night and what special adaptations they have in order to move in the dark.

### Fall Changes Hike

October 7, 10:30 – 11:30 am (Saturday)

Autumn is in the air . . . and on the ground and up in trees! Join us as we search for signs—both big and small—that animals and plants are preparing for winter. Listen, feel, and watch for the changes of awesome autumn.

### High Tech Treasure Hunt

November 4, 10:30 – 11:30 am (Saturday)

Explore, solve riddles, find treasures! Learn the basics of how to use a GPS unit to find hidden caches at Havenwoods. We will have GPS units to borrow. Dress for an outdoor adventure!

# Adult Hikes & Workshops

Adults and youth over 12 are invited to join a naturalist on these fall walks!



## Fall Foraging: Nature's Harvest

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

Fall is a time of abundance for the savvy forager. Come search for the fruits (and nuts, roots, leaves, and fungi) of nature's labors. Learn how to identify some fall edibles that may be growing in a park, woodlot, or yard near you. Samples likely!

## Havenwoods History Hike

September 23, 11 am – noon (Saturday)

The land at Havenwoods has a fascinating story to tell of farms, prisons, missiles, and healing. We'll use old maps, photos, and blueprints to search for traces left behind. If weather gets in the way of a hike, we will dig through the history archives indoors.

# Nature Time for Preschoolers

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

## Garden Harvest

September 12, 9:30 – 10:30 am (Tuesday)

We'll discover onion rings, tacos, and pizza growing in the children's gardens at Havenwoods! Come share an early harvest from the gardens.

## Eight-Legged Hunters

September 26, 9:30 – 10:30 am (Tuesday)

Web weavers, wolf spiders, and daddy longlegs are all eight-legged animals, but they find food in very different ways. Come explore the lives of some of these hunters.

## Listen to Nature

October 10, 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.

## Autumn Leaves are Falling Down!

October 24, 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.

## Bats Eat Bugs

November 7, 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.

## Hide & Seek

November 21, 9:30 – 10:30 am (Tuesday)

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

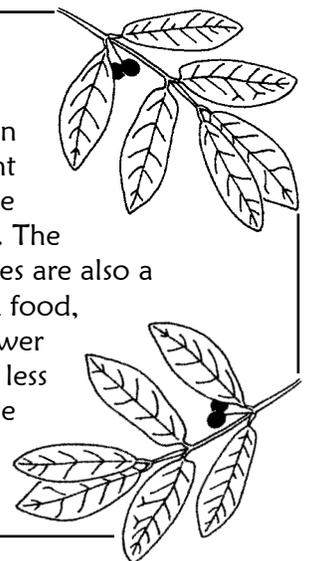


## You are what you eat!

Northern flickers typically have feathers with yellow shafts. However, if they eat invasive honeysuckle berries during their summer molt, their feather shafts develop a coppery pink color. Scientists are still trying to determine the consequences of the color changes. During breeding season, males flash their yellow wing and tail feathers. Female birds often rely on coloration when choosing mates. Is it possible that males with pinkish feathers could be passed over as mate choices? Or, maybe, the females will prefer pink males!

## honeysuckle

berries contain a rare pigment that causes the discoloration. The invasive berries are also a little like junk food, containing fewer nutrients and less fat than native berries.



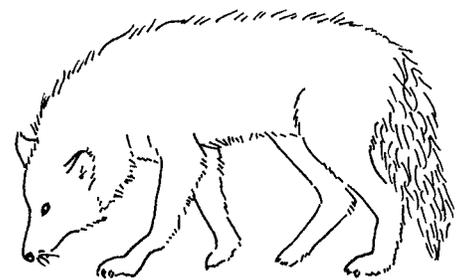
Havenwoods State Forest  
 WI Dept. of Natural Resources  
 6141 N. Hopkins Street  
 Milwaukee, WI 53209



PRESORT  
 STANDARD  
 US POSTAGE  
 PAID  
 MILWAUKEE WI  
 PERMIT 4426

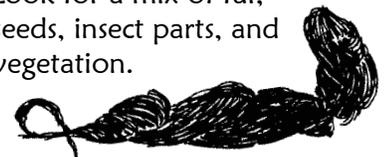
# Nature in Your Backyard

It's always a good idea to know your neighbors—both human and wild! Fall and winter are good times to watch for tracks, scat (droppings), and other signs left behind by wild animals. The contents of scats can help you identify the animals that left them behind. Here are some wild neighbors that leave behind scats containing berry seeds:

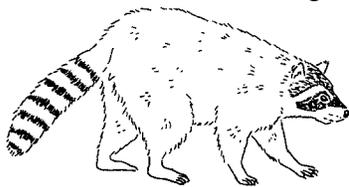


## coyotes & foxes

are omnivores like us even though we probably think of them as meat eaters. Look for a mix of fur, seeds, insect parts, and vegetation.



scat greater than 3/4" in diameter is probably coyote



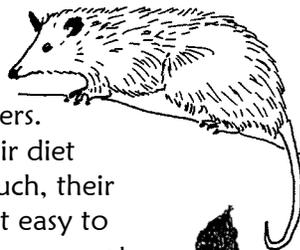
## raccoons

often leave piles of blunt-ended scats at the bases of trees, on logs, or on rock piles.



## opossums

are scavengers. Because their diet varies so much, their scats are not easy to identify. They are not easy to find either.



## skunks

eat insects, berries, eggs, small mammals, and carrion. Their scats vary with their diet.



## wild turkeys

leave behind long, narrow scats. Like all birds, their scats contain whitish uric acid.



## Caution

While looking at and identifying scat is an interesting way to check out wild neighbors, keep a safe distance. Scat can contain parasites and other things that can make you and your pets sick.

Scat is shown about 1/2 actual size