

Fall 2015

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

Shorter days and cooler nights signal to plants and animals that the abundance of summer will once again be replaced by the scarcity of winter.

Exploring Nature in the City

As you prepare your home, yard, and wardrobe for the changing season, take time off to visit Havenwoods and marvel at the secrets of nature that are revealed in fall.

Timing Isn't

Everything

Decreasing daylight is always the trigger that causes leaves to turn, but it is weather (both temperature and moisture) that determines the intensity and duration of the color show.



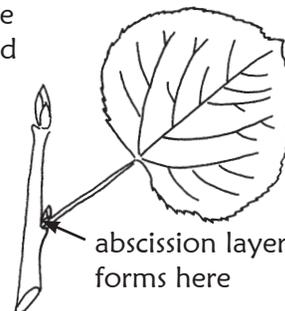
Red Signal?

In some tree species, sugar trapped in the leaves forms anthocyanins (red pigments). There is usually a good reason for everything that happens in nature, but the production of bright red pigments has stumped scientists for years. Could the tree be warning insect pests? Search the web for other interesting theories.



Exception to the Rule

This winter, look for oak trees with leaves. In oaks, the abscission layer is incomplete, and the leaves are left hanging.



The Science

As daylight hours shorten, a tight layer of cells (abscission layer) forms at the base of the leaf stem, gradually shutting off the supply of water and nutrients to the leaf. It is this layer of cells that later breaks, dropping the leaf to the ground.

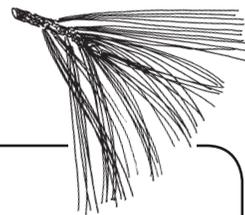
Green Masks

All summer, leaves wear a green mask of chlorophyll (the green pigment that makes photosynthesis possible). In fall, the chlorophyll breaks down and reveals the orange and yellow pigments that have been there all along.



Green Alternative

Pines, spruces, and cedars stay green. Their needle-like leaves are equipped with waxy coverings and cell "antifreeze" to survive the winter. Evergreen needles live for several years before turning brown and falling.



Perfect Weather

If the spring is warm and wet, and the summer is free from excessive heat and drought, the stage is set for good color. If, in addition, fall is filled with warm, sunny days and cool (but not freezing) nights, the colors will be spectacular. Of course, high winds, torrential rains, or freezing temperatures can change everything!



Free Festival

Saturday, September 26, 10 am – 4 pm

Come and enjoy the outdoors with us. You can start the day with a 5K Run/Walk. Call 431-2274 to register/pay for the run. Explore nature on guided hikes, learn archery and cast a fishing line, play in nature, create nature crafts, and more. Also visit our “sister” park at 60th & Green Tree for art, music, food from local vendors, and more. Co-sponsored with Havenwoods Economic Development Corp.

Doors Open Milwaukee

September 19 & 20, 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.



Slime Trails

September 5, 10:30 – 11:30 am
(Saturday)

Slugs, snails, and worms. Slimy, gross, and kind of cool. We’ll seek them out in dark, moist places, let them slime across our hands, and learn about their hidden habits.

Snake Search

October 3, 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 meet several captive snakes up close and personal.

MysTREE Hunt

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

Follow a treasure map of the area around the nature center to find mysterious trees! Along the way, we’ll solve puzzles and collect clues that lead us to a hidden treasure.

Adult Hikes & Workshops

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

Learn to Geocache

October 17, 10 – 11:30 am (Saturday)

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.

Living with Urban Wildlife

November 7, 10 – 11 am (Saturday)

Metro Milwaukee has an abundance of urban wildlife, such as coyotes, deer, and turkey. While most people enjoy and respect these animals, wild animals can destroy yards, damage buildings, and create messes. Come learn about ways that we can live in harmony with our wild neighbors.

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.



Bees

September 12 & 19, 9 am – 2 pm
(Saturdays)

Stop by to play with a giant bee hive, do the bees' "waggle dance," and discover how you can bee-friend bees. You can make some bee-utiful crafts and head outside to play Bee Bingo in the gardens.

Ssnakes!

October 10 & 17, 9 am – 2 pm
(Saturdays)

Meet several Wisconsin snakes up close and personal! You can also explore the lives of snakes through activities and games, make a snake to take home, collect Wildcards, and head outside to search for snakes at Havenwoods.

Whitetail Wonders

November 14 & 21, 9 am – 2 pm
(Saturdays)

Discover some of the whitetail deer's secrets to survival in the city. Learn how they communicate through senses, sounds, and signs. Get crafty inside, then head outside to search for whitetails and the signs they leave behind.

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.

Sunny Sunflowers

September 1, 9:30 – 10:30 am
(Tuesday)

Take a close up look at some giant flowers. Taste some seeds, share some with the birds, and save some for planting next year.

Spot the Ladybugs!

October 13, 9:30 – 10:30 am
(Tuesday)

How many spots can ladybugs have? Can ladybugs be boys? We'll explore what they eat and who eats them.

Do Touch!

November 24, 9:30 – 10:30 am
(Tuesday)

It's time to wake up your fingers! Come touch things from nature that are soft, prickly, rough, and slippery.

Fluffy, Swirly Clouds

September 15, 9:30 – 10:30 am
(Tuesday)

What do you see in the clouds? You might imagine wonderful pictures or be able to tell if it will rain. Come to Havenwoods and watch the clouds with us.

Goodbye, Geese

October 27, 9:30 – 10:30 am
(Tuesday)

What's that noise in the sky? It must be honkers! Learn about these noisy feathered friends as they fly south for the winter.

Mushroom Caps & Toadstools

September 29, 9:30 – 10:30 am
(Tuesday)

Mushrooms come in all shapes, sizes, and colors! We'll take them apart and find out what secrets they are hiding under the ground.

Now That Days are Colder

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

What happens as the days get shorter and the temperatures begin to drop? We'll explore the changes in nature at this time of year.



Nature in your fridge?

Don't just look at trees. You can find nature's colors in gardens, farmers' markets, and groceries.

Greens

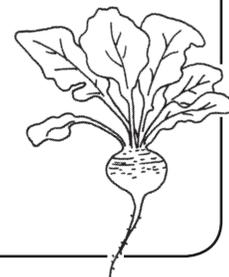
Chlorophyll is the green pigment that makes it possible for plants to turn sunlight into food. It is everywhere.

Oranges and Yellows

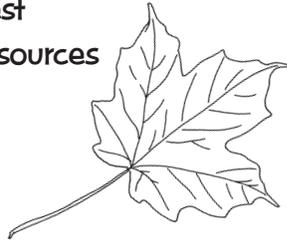
Carotenoids and xanthophylls give color to foods like corn, carrots, and bananas,

Reds

Anthocyanins color cranberries, cherries, radishes, red apples, and strawberries.



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Nature in Your Backyard (and on your street!)

Enjoying fall colors is something that even the most dedicated armchair naturalist can do. Can you identify neighborhood trees by color?



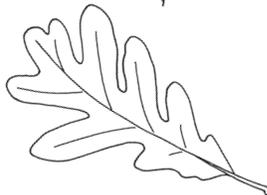
Yellow-Orange-Red
sugar maple

Golden Bronze
hickory



Golden Yellow
aspen & poplar

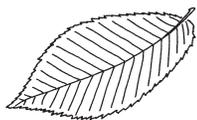
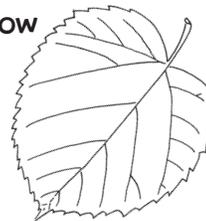
Yellow
green ash
(one of first
trees to turn
in fall)



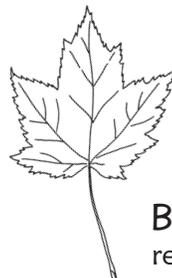
Red-Bronze-Russet
oaks



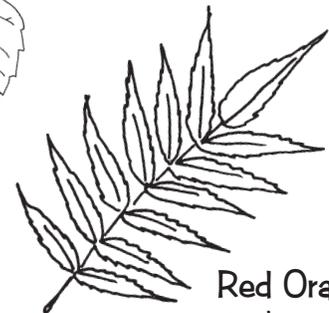
Bright Yellow
basswood



Brown & Shriveled
elm
(not all trees
are showoffs!)



Bright Scarlet
red maple



Red Orange
staghorn sumac