

Spring 2017

March–April–May

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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This publication is available in alternative format (large print, Braille, audiotape, etc.) upon

request. Please call
414.527.0232 for
more information.



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Havenwoods State Forest

Triggered mainly by lengthening daylight, birds are getting restless. But they are not alone! This spring, get outdoors and welcome spring by looking for all sorts of migration in action.

strange, but cool

Woodcocks will arrive by late March. Watch where you step!



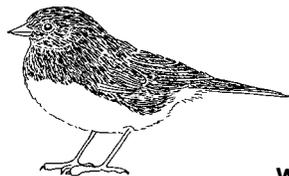
cleanup crew arrival

Turkey vultures soar in towards the end of March. Look for the V-shaped curve of their wings in flight.



hard to miss

You can begin hearing the loud “conk-la-ree” call of red-wing blackbirds in late February.



coming & going

It's easier to notice the first time you see a bird than the last time. Juncos will leave us and migrate north in the last few weeks of April.

Stop by the nature center to see who has arrived and share your observations.

waves of warblers

Watch for warblers to start arriving in April—especially the morning after a warm, south breeze.



Birds are not the only ones!

If we define migration as the movement of large numbers of a species from one place to another, then birds are not alone. Perhaps you have read or watched documentaries detailing the amazing migrations of whales, caribou, monarchs, and salmon. However, migration is not always quite so dramatic.



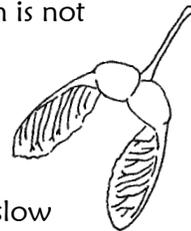
Seasonally, toads migrate to breeding ponds in early spring, returning to land the rest of the year.

Algae migrate daily, rising to the water surface to photosynthesize during the day and sinking at night.



Snails migrate every day. Together, they travel from damp hiding places during daylight hours to foraging areas at night.

Plants are migrating in response to changing climate. This slow migration northward and/or to higher elevations is different from normal dispersal.



Silver-haired, eastern red, and hoary bats migrate south for the winter, returning in April and May.



Take Care of Planet Earth

Spring brings new life, Earth Day celebrations, and opportunities for you to get some exercise and help take care of the planet!



Milwaukee Riverkeeper

April 22, 9 am – noon
(Saturday)

Each year Milwaukee Riverkeeper mobilizes thousands of volunteers who work to remove several tons of trash from rivers in the Milwaukee River Basin. Come be a part of the 22nd annual spring event and clean up Lincoln Creek at Havenwoods.

Great American Cleanup

April 22, 9 am – noon (Saturday)

Make your part of the earth a little cleaner this spring by picking up litter on streets, in parks, and along waterways. Join us to clean up Havenwoods! We'll provide garbage bags and work gloves. Litter picker-uppers will receive gift certificates from local sponsors! Registration is requested for groups.



Work Play Earth Day

May 6, 9 am – 2 pm (Saturday)

Looking for a way to celebrate Earth Day and give back to your favorite Wisconsin state park property? Join Friends of Havenwoods, staff, and other volunteers to plant trees, repair trails, and pull invasives. After work, stick around for a guided nature hike. Call 414.527.0232 to join us and reserve your appreciation gift.



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.



High Tech

Treasure Hunt

March 4, 10:30 – 11:30 am (Sat.)

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!

Snipe Hunt!

April 1, 6:30 – 7:30 pm
(Saturday evening)

We'll head out in search of oddly-shaped birds that dance and peent and sound like whirligigs in the sky. This is not an April Fools' Day joke! If we don't find any woodcocks, we'll just enjoy the early spring evening! If weather is questionable, call before coming.

Spring Bird Hike

May 6, 8 - 9 am (Saturday)

Warblers, kingbirds, herons, and woodcocks are returning to Havenwoods. We'll head out with binoculars and welcome them back. Wear boots or shoes that can get wet or muddy.

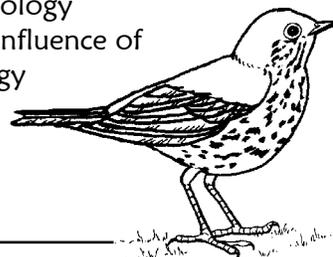
Track Spring

Journey North

Join other citizen scientists in a global study of wildlife migration and seasonal change. Visit <www.learner.org/jnorth/>

USA-NPN

The USA National Phenology Network monitors the influence of climate on the phenology of plants, animals, and landscapes. <www.usanpn.org>



eBird

Explore dynamic maps and download current bird lists for local birding hotspots. <ebird.org>

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.



Nature Journaling

March 11 & 18

9 am – 2 pm (Saturdays)

Make a nature journal, practice some simple sketching/painting techniques, and gather hints for nature writing. Then head outside with your journal to record your observations and impressions of nature in the city.

Our Home Planet

April 8 & 15

9 am – 2 pm (Saturdays)

Come enjoy our planet! Drop in to plant some trees, create with recycled materials, go on an Earth Day photo/art scavenger hunt, and learn how to help the Earth!

Turtles

May 13 & 20

9 am – 2 pm
(Saturdays)

Drop in to meet some live turtles, make racing turtles, and turn a dollar into a turtle! Younger kids will enjoy the chance to pretend to be a turtle. On a sunny day, take a hike out to the ponds to look for turtles basking in the sun.

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.

Salamander Spring

March 14, 9:30 – 10:30 am (Tues.)

Imagine you are small and slippery like a salamander. How will you find food and hide from animals that might eat you?

What's Hatching Now?

April 11, 9:30 – 10:30 am (Tues.)

Eggs come in a wonderful variety of colors, sizes, and shapes. Find out about the tiny lives growing inside them.

Wild in the City

May 9, 9:30 – 10:30 am (Tues.)

You might be surprised to discover all the animals living in the city. Find out how we can be good neighbors to our wild friends.

Windy Days

March 28, 9:30 – 10:30 am (Tues.)

What flies on spring's blustery winds? Geese, moths, and kites do! We'll go on a wind walk to learn about the wind and those who use it.

Celebrate Earth Day!

April 25, 9:30 – 10:30 am (Tues.)

Come to the party! Enjoy stories, games, and cake. We'll even give the Earth some presents!

Could You Be a Fawn?

May 23, 9:30 – 10:30 am (Tues.)

Fawns play, sleep, and eat. But they also have to learn how to survive! Join us and pretend to be fawns searching for food and staying out of danger.

Adult Hikes & Workshops

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

Wildflower Walk & Garlic Mustard Patrol

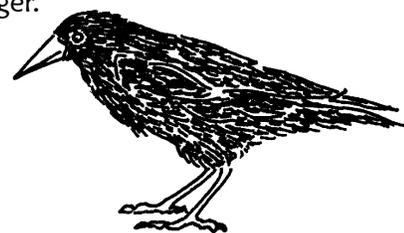
April 29, 10 – 11:30 am (Saturday)

We will patrol some of the best spots at Havenwoods in search of early spring wildflowers. While we will spend most of the time enjoying the flowers, we will carry garbage bags to remove garlic mustard threatening their livelihoods.

Spring Migrant Bird Walk

May 13, 8 – 10 am (Saturday)

We'll hike through the fields, forests, and wetlands in search of the spring migratory birds. No experience is necessary. We have binoculars and field guides you can borrow for the hike.



Geocaching for Beginners

March 25, 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.



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 6141 N. Hopkins Street
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Nature in Your Backyard

The American Bird Conservancy (ABC) believes that birds need our help now more than ever, and that migration is the most critical time in their lives. Here are their top 10 things you can do to help! More details at www.nwf.org/News-and-Magazines/National-Wildlife/Birds/Archives/2010/Help-Migratory-Birds.aspx

Keep your cats indoors

Even well-fed cats kill birds, and bells on cats don't effectively warn birds.

Prevent birds from hitting windows

Check out ABC's tips at www.abcbirds.org/abcprograms/policy/collisions/glass.html

Eliminate pesticides

Even pesticides that are not directly toxic to birds can pollute waterways and reduce the insects that birds rely on for food.



Create backyard habitat

Plant native grasses, flowers, and shrubs.

Donate birdwatching equipment

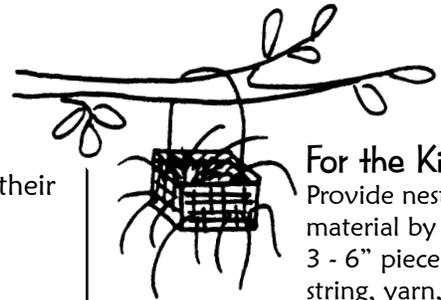
Local birdwatching groups share your donated binoculars and spotting scopes with biologists in other countries or schools.

Reduce your carbon footprint

Use a hand-pushed or electric lawnmower, carpool, or switch to low energy bulbs and appliances. Contact your energy supplier and ask them about purchasing your energy from renewable sources.

Go organic & sustainable

Produce grown without the use of pesticides is good for people and animals. Shade-grown coffee plantations maintain large trees that provide essential habitat for wintering songbirds.



For the Kids!

Provide nesting material by placing 3 - 6" pieces of string, yarn, hair, rope fibers, raffia, straw, wool, or other fibers in a berry basket, suet feeder, or mesh produce bag.

Keep feeders & bird baths clean

You will keep birds healthier and prevent mosquitoes from breeding.

Support bird friendly legislation

Join a bird conservation group

