

Spring 2019

March–April–May

Nature Center

Hours vary by season
Please call

Closed
Wednesdays
(through mid-April)
and Sundays (all year)

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!



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.

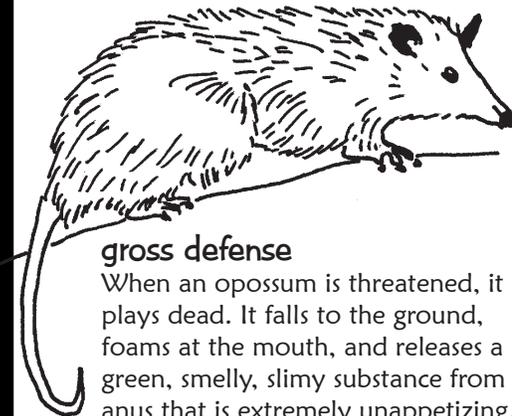
This publication is available in alternative format (large print, Braille, audiotape, etc.) upon request. Please call 414.527.0232 for more information.



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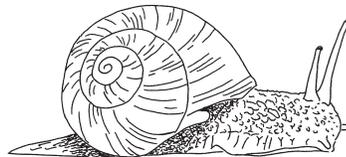
Havenwoods State Forest

Nature isn't always fuzzy bunnies and cute chicks. Green slime, thick mucus, and frothy spit are just as much a part of nature as fuzzy bunnies! And spring is a great time to look for some of these disgusting (yet exceedingly valuable) natural things. Slime falls somewhere between a solid and a liquid—with properties of both. Slime protects, aids, and disguises. It keeps us and other animals healthy and hydrated. Check it out. We think you might be pleasantly surprised.



gross defense

When an opossum is threatened, it plays dead. It falls to the ground, foams at the mouth, and releases a green, smelly, slimy substance from its anus that is extremely unappetizing.



slip n' slide

Slug and snail slime can act as a glue, allowing them to climb vertical surfaces. Then it can magically become a lubricant, allowing slugs and snails to safely glide across a razor blade!

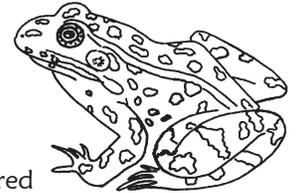


nest glue

Chimney swifts attach sticks to vertical surfaces with a slimy spit that they produce.

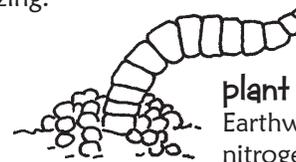
frothy castle

Spittlebugs use a special valve on their abdomens to blow bubbles into a mixture of plant sap and spit. The result is a frothy house that keeps them moist and protects them from predators.



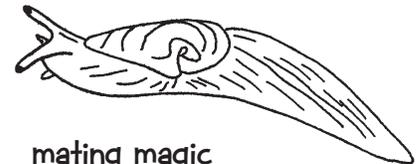
antibiotic glaze

Frogs are covered with mucus! Mucus protects them from bacteria, fungi, and viruses. It also helps them capture moisture next to their skin to prevent desiccation and helps them “breathe” oxygen through their skin.



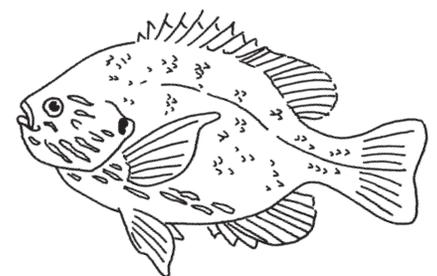
plant fertilizer

Earthworm slime contains nitrogen that is an important nutrient for plants.



mating magic

Slugs secrete pheromones into their slime trails to attract mates. When two slugs meet, they produce a LOT of slime and use it to suspend in mid-air while mating. Earthworms depend on slime to successfully mate, too.



magic shield

Freshwater fish have a thick layer of mucus that helps prevent too much water from entering their bodies. When they are stressed, they produce even more mucus!

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 27, 9 am – noon (Saturday)

Join thousands of volunteers who work to remove several tons of trash from rivers in the Milwaukee River Basin. Sign up to be a part of the 24th annual spring event and clean up Lincoln Creek at Havenwoods. Visit <milwaukeekeeper.org> to register.

Great American Cleanup

April 27, 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 pickers will receive gift certificates from local sponsors! Registration is requested for groups.



Work Play Earth Day

May 4, 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 nature hike. Call 414.527.0232 to join us and reserve your appreciation gift.



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 3 pm to discover something new about nature.

All Things Wet & Slimy

March 9 & 16, 9 am – 3 pm (Saturdays)

Does painting with mud, playing with slime, or searching for slugs appeal to you? If so, drop by the nature center to enjoy the sliminess of spring, then head outside to discover other signs of spring on your own.

Duck, Duck, Goose

April 13 & 20, 9 am – 3 pm (Saturdays)

Learn to identify some common waterbirds, compare wingspans, experiment with feathers, and make goose kazoo. Then borrow binoculars and a field guide to watch for waterfowl with your family on our ponds.

Frog or Toad?

May 11 & 18, 9 am – 3 pm (Saturdays)

Can you jump as far as a frog? Test your abilities. Then discover other cool adaptations of frogs and toads, like dual-purpose eyes, absorbent skin, and hidden ears. Meet a live toad, then borrow a net and go search for frogs on your own.

Family Nature Hikes

Spend time with a naturalist on a family-friendly hike. We'll use magnifiers, binoculars, or other exploring tools to discover what's happening outdoors. If weather is questionable, call before coming. When you come, dress for the weather and bring a flashlight to evening events.

Searching for Spring

March 2, 10:30 – 11:30 am (Saturday)

It's not too early to find signs of spring! Birds fly back! Sap starts flowing! Frogs start calling! Come learn what to watch for and how to find it. Begin a nature journal that you can continue all spring.

Snipe Hunt!

April 13, 7:30 – 8:30 pm (Saturday evening)

We'll search for oddly-shaped birds that dance and *peent* and sound like whirligigs in the sky. If we don't find any woodcocks, we'll listen for other spring noisemakers and enjoy the early spring evening!



Frog Safari!

May 25, 7:30 – 8:30 pm (Saturday evening)

Ever wonder what happens after dusk? We'll listen for toads, treefrogs, and green frogs and explore other night happenings as we hike the trails.

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. If you would like a program for your day care center or youth organization, please call to schedule at a separate time.

Nature's Treat

March 12, 9:30 – 10:30 am (Tuesday)

Have you ever eaten maple syrup on your pancakes and wondered where the syrup comes from? Come learn about maple trees and how we make this natural treat.

Animal Babies

March 26, 9:30 – 10:30 am (Tuesday)

Some baby animals don't look anything like their parents! We'll explore some different ways that animals grow up.

Robins' Nests

April 9, 9:30 – 10:30 am (Tuesday)

Robins are coming back and getting ready to raise their families. Find out how you can help them as they build their nests!

Recycled Art

April 23, 9:30 – 10:30 am (Tuesday)

Join us as we use leftovers and throw-a-ways to create art projects. Look for things around your home that you normally throw away. Are you inspired?

Spring Showers

May 7, 9:30 – 10:30 am (Tuesday)

We'll enjoy the raindrops and find out how spring showers help plants and animals.

Bird Songs

May 21, 9:30 – 10:30 am (Tuesday)

Come listen to the birds and find out what they might be "talking" about!



Adult Hikes & Workshops

Adults and youth over 12 are invited to join a naturalist on these spring walks! All events are free and open to the public. Dress for the weather!

Spring Thaw Hike

March 21, 9:00 – 10:30 am (Thursday)

Spring is in the air, and it's a perfect time to enjoy Wisconsin's beauty! Join DNR Wildlife Staff as we search for evidence of spring.

Spring Migrant Bird Walks

March 16, April 20, May 18
9:30 – 11 am (Saturdays)

Swallows, soras, and sandhill cranes return in spring! As migratory species make their way back to the forest, take a hike with us to see the changing bird population! We have binoculars you can borrow. Come for one walk or all three.

Stewardship Saturdays!

Every third Saturday, 10 am - noon
Join Sierra Club Great Waters Group and Friends of Havenwoods for a monthly work day. Call for details!



Tracking Hike

April 16, 9 – 10:30 am (Tuesday)

Would you like to learn more about tracking Wisconsin wildlife? Join DNR Wildlife staff to hike in search of mammal tracks and other wildlife sign.

Birding Hike

May 14, 8:30 – 11:30 am (Tuesday)

With spring arriving, our migrant songbirds are beginning to arrive to serenade us and each other! Join DNR Wildlife Staff at Havenwoods State Forest. Whether you are an avid birder or don't own a pair of binoculars, please join us! Binoculars will be provided.

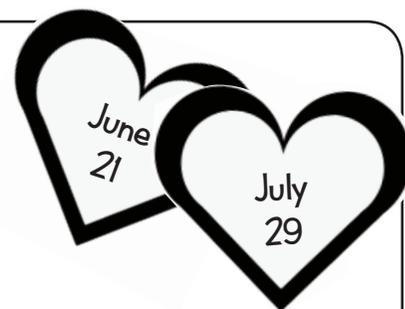
Save the Dates!

Shakespeare in the Park

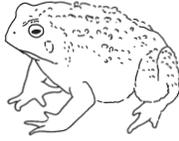
June 21 (Friday) & July 29 (Monday)
5:30 pm workshop (~45 min)
7 pm performance

They're back! Join the Summit Players as they perform a mini-version of Shakespeare's *Romeo & Juliet*. Their "play out of a trunk" will run a little over an hour. Join them as they make Shakespeare fun, accessible, and open to everyone in the great outdoors. And it's free!

Romeo and Juliet come from rival families, but quickly find that their love runs deeper than the divisions between them.



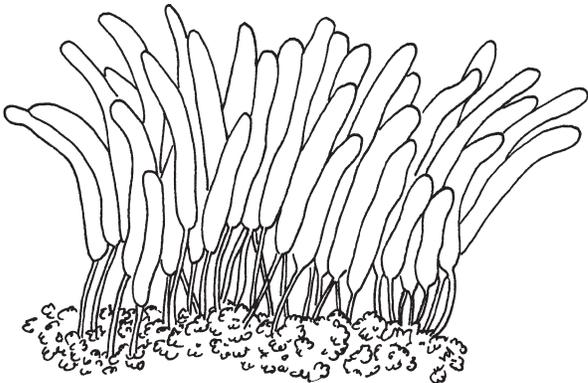
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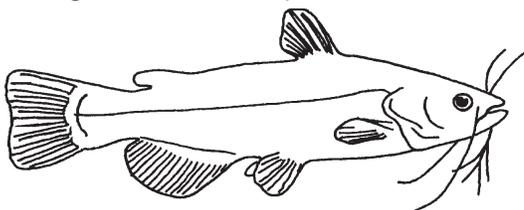
Nature in Your Backyard

If you look for slime in your backyard or neighborhood park (or even closer), you will surely find it! If you can't find it, make it!



finding slime

Check around your home in wooded areas, rotten leaves, and woodchips for slime molds. Slime molds have great names, such as *dog vomit slime mold*! Slime molds are single-celled organisms that can come together to form multi-celled organisms and solve problems!



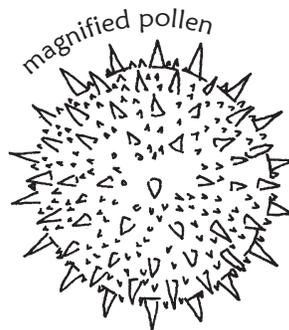
fearing slime

People who are afraid of slime suffer from blennophobia.



using slime heart glue

As disgusting as slime is, it may hold a key to making a glue that can be used in surgery. Slug slime is as sticky as super glue, but, unlike super glue, it is non-toxic and remains flexible!



appreciating slime

Most of the parts of our bodies that are not covered by skin are protected by mucus. In our respiratory system, mucus (a fancy name for snot) does a great job of capturing dust, pollen, viruses, and other nasty things that get into our noses and lungs. Fortunately, mucus is constantly working to move these trapped particles out of our lungs.



making slime

Look on the Internet for slime recipes. Kids of all ages will enjoy playing with this strange substance that can change from a liquid to a solid and back again.