

Summer 2017

June–July–August

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

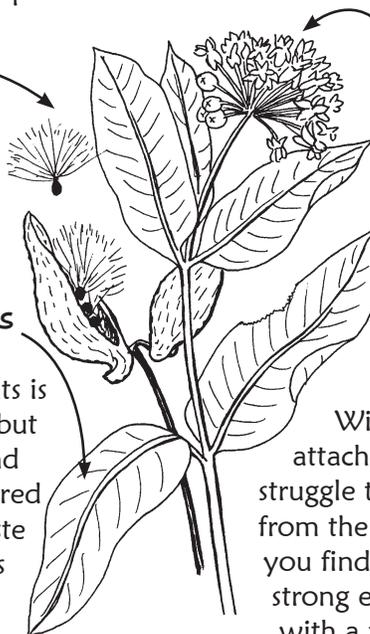
As summer unfolds, the grasslands at Havenwoods come to life. With a quick glance, we see the beautiful flowers. A closer look reveals a wonderful web of diversity surrounding those wildflowers. Next time you are hiking, find and check out a milkweed plant!

fluff & fiber

Goldfinch use milkweed seed fluff to build their nests. Orioles use tough fibers from the stems.

toxic sap & toxic insects

The sticky, milky sap that oozes from damaged plants is toxic to large herbivores, but many insects can digest and store the toxins. These stored toxins make the insects taste bad. Many of these insects are brightly-colored as a warning to predators.

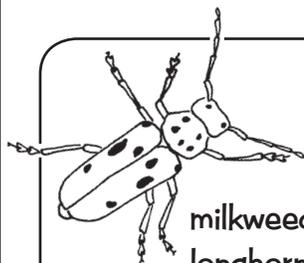


nectar & pollen

Milkweeds lure butterflies, flies, wasps, and bees with sweet nectar, but they play a trick with the pollen. The pollen is stored in tiny, saddle-bag-like structures that get stuck on insects' feet.

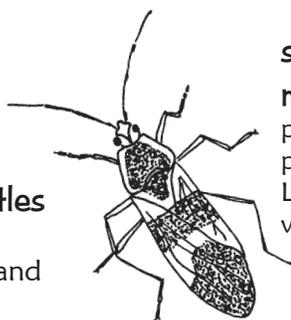
With the pollen bags attached, the insects must struggle to free themselves from the flowers. Sometimes you find an insect that was not strong enough, and it died with a foot stuck in a flower!

milkweed "visitors"



milkweed longhorn beetles

make squeaking sounds. Hold one in your hand and listen very closely!



small and large milkweed bugs

prefer to eat the high-protein seeds of milkweed. Look for more of them when the seedpods form.



assassin bugs

are predators that have adapted to eating the toxic insects that eat milkweed.



milkweed leaf beetles

(like many other milkweed-feeding insects) bite through the plants' veins, allowing the sap to drain out. Then they feast on the drained leaves.

oleander aphids can reproduce without mating. The nymphs are born live, and they are exact clones of their mothers. Parasitic wasps lay their eggs in many aphids. When



infested, the aphids swell, turn brown and die.

aphidiid wasps

visit milkweed to drink nectar, then stick around to lay their eggs inside aphids. When the eggs hatch, the parasitic wasp larvae eat the aphids that were eating the plant!



earwigs

hang out in (and eat) the curled top leaves and flowers.



"The Comedy of Errors"

Shakespeare in the Park

June 23 (Friday), 5:30 pm workshop
7:00 pm performance

The Summit Players are coming back for their third season! With character switches, audience participation, and lots of laughs, their "play out of a trunk" lasts a little over an hour and will leave you wanting more.

Prior to each performance, the company will lead a 45-minute workshop, "Playing with Shakespeare: Get Outside with Will," for children ages 8 and up. The workshop focuses on understanding Shakespearean text, general theater practices, and Shakespeare's use of nature in his plays.

For more information and more venues, visit www.summitplayerstheatre.com/



FREE
Outdoor Theater!

in auditorium if weather doesn't cooperate

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.

Pond Hike

June 3, 10:30 – 11:30 am (Sat.)

Come discover who is living in the pond at Havenwoods. We will learn about the animals big and small using the pond and meet a few up close. Plan to get a little wet and muddy.

Raptor Hike

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

Come to Havenwoods as we learn about the falcons, buteos, accipiters, and vultures that soar here. We'll look at some bird mounts up close and then head out with binoculars and try to find them in the field.



Milkweed Insect Zoo Hike

August 5, 10:30 – 11:30 am (Sat.)

Did you know that milkweed plants provide nectar, pollen, and natural defenses for many critters—not just monarch butterflies! PLUS, don't forget about its usefulness to us! Come find out all about this plant named for the Greek god of healing.

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.

Frogs & Toads

June 10 & 17, 9 am – 2 pm (Sat.)

Can you jump as far as a frog can? 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 go search for frogs at the pond on your own.

Raptors

July 8 & 15, 9 am – 2 pm (Sat.)

Discover the magnificent raptors living in Wisconsin and which ones you might spot in your neighborhood. Then learn to recognize the signs they leave behind. Take a close look at their amazing adaptations before heading out on your own to look for them.

Milkweed Insect Zoo

August 12 & 19, 9 am – 2 pm (Sat.)

From its toxic, sticky sap to its amazing pollination strategies, milkweed attracts and supports a whole zoo of insects! After doing activities inside, you can head out with your field guide to find and explore a milkweed zoo.

Adult Hikes & Workshops

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

Frog Hike

June 15, 8 – 9:30 pm (Thursday)

It's that time of year when the frogs are talking to each other. Join us for an evening hike to the pond to identify who's calling. Be sure to bring shoes that can go through the mud.

Nature's Pantry: Edible Plant Walk

July 22, 10-11:30 (Saturday)

Summer brings an abundance of wild edible plants. Learn how to identify common edibles and some look-alikes, how to prepare them, and how a few of them taste. You may never see "weeds" the same way again!



Nature Time for Preschoolers & Junior Rangers

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. At the same time, children ages 6-8 (Junior Rangers) can explore the same topic with a naturalist. Programs for older children include more time exploring outdoors. These programs are not for day care centers or organizations.

Sprouting Seeds

June 6, 9:30 -10:30 am (Tuesday)

Could a dried-up, brown seed really be alive? What does it mean to be alive? We'll explore these questions and make a special take-home project.

Who Went There?

July 18, 9:30 -10:30 am (Tuesday)

Can you find deer footprints, squirrel nests, or fox holes? Become a nature detective and discover who lives at Havenwoods.

Mister Golden Sun

August 15, 9:30 -10:30 am (Tuesday)

Rain or shine, the sun is up there in the sky each day. We'll celebrate the gifts the sun gives to plants, animals, and the whole Earth.

Life in a Rotten Log

June 20, 9:30 -10:30 am (Tuesday)

Would you want to live in a moldy house that is falling apart? Rotten logs are great places for plants and animals to live and raise their families. Come meet some of them.

Flutter By Butterflies

August 1, 9:30 -10:30 am (Tuesday)

Egg! Caterpillar! Cocoon! Butterfly! Come search our fields for clues to the exciting lives of butterflies.

In Search of Dragonflies

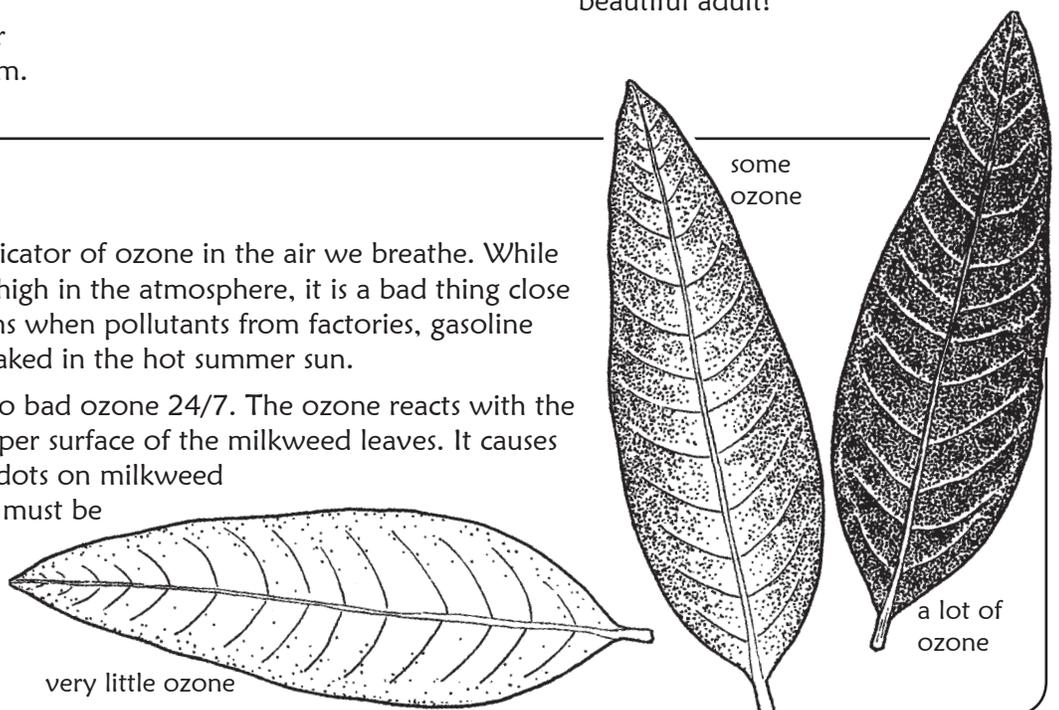
August 29, 9:30 -10:30 am (Tuesday)

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

Air Quality Indicator

Common milkweed is a bioindicator of ozone in the air we breathe. While ozone is a good thing way up high in the atmosphere, it is a bad thing close to the ground. Bad ozone forms when pollutants from factories, gasoline engines, and paint fumes get baked in the hot summer sun.

Milkweed leaves are exposed to bad ozone 24/7. The ozone reacts with the food-producing cells on the upper surface of the milkweed leaves. It causes polka dot-like injuries. Not all dots on milkweed are caused by ozone. The dots must be small (like a period), black or dark purple, only on the top of the leaves, and absent along the veins.



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WI Dept. of Natural Resources
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Nature in Your Backyard

You don't need much space to grow a milkweed plant or two. In fact, all you need is a large container! A quick Internet search will lead you to all kinds of resources for growing milkweeds for monarchs and all the other insects that call milkweeds home.

Try some of these local milkweeds.

butterfly milkweed

1-2 feet tall
orange flowers
hairy stems



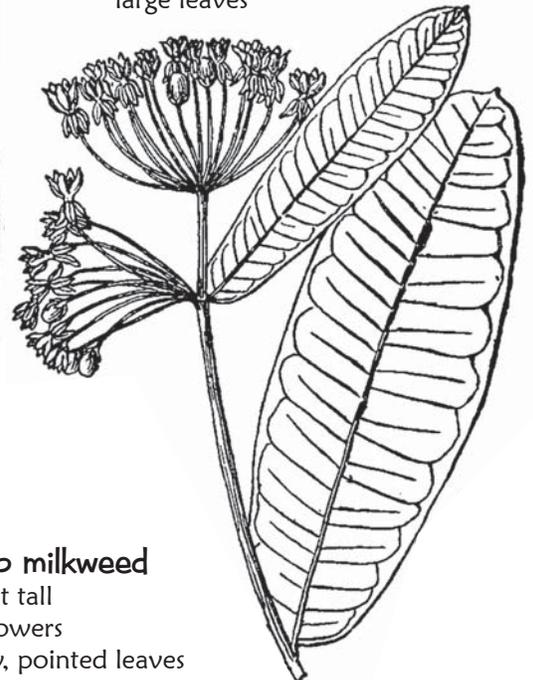
whorled milkweed

1-3 feet tall
white flowers
skinny leaves in whorls



common milkweed

3-5 feet tall
pink, mauve, and white flowers
large leaves



swamp milkweed

2-5 feet tall
pink flowers
narrow, pointed leaves