

# Summer 2018

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

## Friends of Havenwoods

Become a member!



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

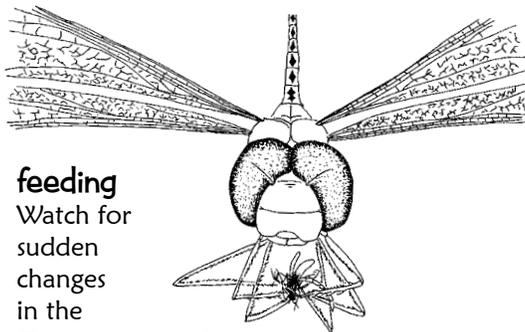
request. Please call 414.527.0232 for more information.



PUB-PR-585 REV 5/2018

# Havenwoods State Forest

Summertime means it is time for some serious odging! What, you ask, is odging? It is similar to bird watching except you train your binoculars on dragonflies and damselflies, insects in the order Odonata. Good news is . . . you don't have to be able to identify them to enjoy them. Watch for these behaviors!



## feeding

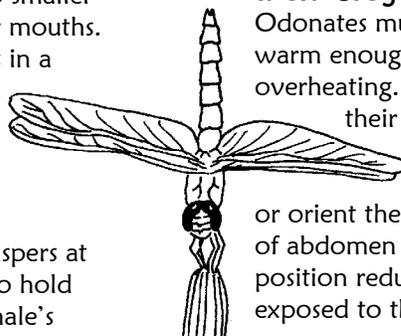
Watch for sudden changes in the flight patterns of dragonflies as they catch live prey "on the wing." They nab smaller insects directly with their mouths. They scoop larger insects in a basket formed by their legs.

## patrolling & perching

Male dragonflies often have "favorite" perches, such as plant stems, from which they begin and end their regular patrols of their territories. Stay still and you might be lucky enough to watch a dragonfly on patrol.

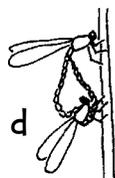
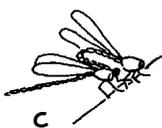
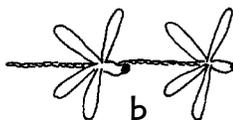
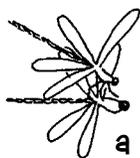
## thermoregulating

Odonates must keep their bodies warm enough to fly without overheating. To warm up, they shiver their wings and bask in the sun. To cool down, they head for shade or orient their bodies so that the tip of abdomen points at the sun. This position reduces the surface area exposed to the sun's rays.

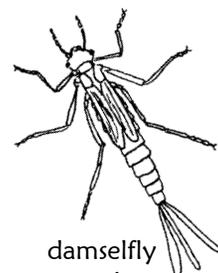


## mating

A male Odonate uses claspers at the tip of his abdomen to hold onto the back of the female's head (b). The female attaches the tip of her abdomen to the base of the male's thorax to pick up the sperm, thus forming a mating wheel (d).



dragonfly nymph



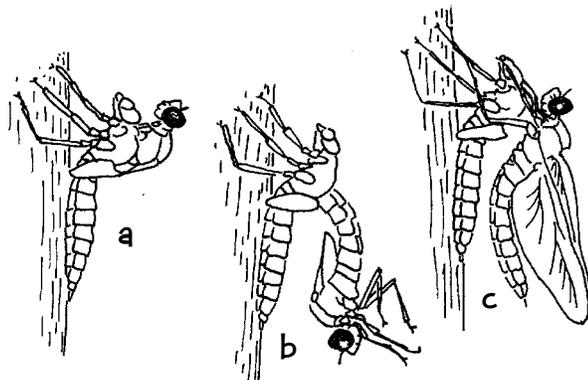
damselfly nymph

## swimming?

Odonates spend their first year or two as aquatic nymphs. They are voracious, eating tadpoles, mosquitoes, fish, other insect larvae, and even each other.

## transforming

When a dragonfly or damselfly nymph is full grown, it leaves the water and climbs up a plant or rock. Its skin splits along the back of the thorax (a), and the adult dragonfly pulls itself free (b), leaving behind its empty nymph skin for you to find! It will then hang as its wings expand and its exoskeleton hardens (c).



## "Twelfth Night"

### Shakespeare in the Park

August 10 (Friday), 5:30 pm workshop  
7:00 pm performance

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

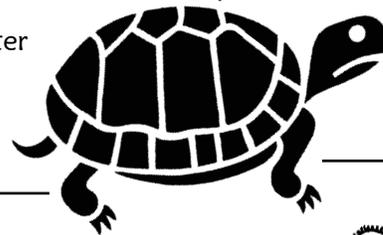
Prior to the performance, the company will lead a 45-minute workshop for "kids" ages 8 and up. The workshop focuses on understanding Shakespearean text, general theater practices, and Shakespeare's use of nature in his plays.

For more information and more venues, visit [www.summitplayerstheatre.com/](http://www.summitplayerstheatre.com/)



### Free Outdoor Theater!

(in auditorium if  
weather doesn't cooperate)



Save the Date!

## Snake & Turtle Fest

October 6 (Saturday),  
10 am – 4 pm

Meet Wisconsin snakes and turtles up close and personal, discover how they live, take a hike, and make snake and turtle crafts to take home. The festival is for all ages - rain or shine!

Free!

## 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 2, 10:30 – 11:30 am (Sat.)

Come discover an underwater world in the pond at Havenwoods. We'll learn about the critters that live here and watch them up close. Dress to get a little wet and muddy.

### Cooking with Fire!

July 7, 10:30 – 11:30 am (Sat.)

Brush up on your outdoor cooking skills or learn a new technique while we toast pudgy pies and whip up some other tasty treats. You'll be surprised at how easy cooking in the great outdoors can be. We'll also cover fire building and safety.



### Bug Hunt

August 4, 10:30 – 11:30 am (Sat.)

Grab a net. We're going hunting for bugs, beetles, butterflies, and other insects. We'll look everywhere. You'll be amazed at how many we catch and what incredible adaptations for survival they have.

## 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.

### Pond Critters

June 9 & 16, 9 am – 2 pm  
(Saturdays)

Meet some frogs, toads, insects, and other critters close up. Find out how they live, who eats whom, and what makes pond life so fascinating! Then borrow some nets and other pond equipment to catch some amazing pond critters on your own.

### Milkweed Insect Zoo

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

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.

### Dragons & Damsels

August 11 & 18, 9 am – 2 pm  
(Saturdays)

They begin life as voracious aquatic larvae. Then they transform into formidable aerial predators. Discover their dashing, daredevil lives through activities and crafts. Then borrow a net to catch dragons and damsels on your own.

# Adult Hikes & Workshops

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



## Butterfly Walk

July 28, 10:30 am – noon (Saturday)

We'll spend a short time inside learning how to identify butterflies, and then we'll head outside for the count. This count helps us track both the number and kinds of butterflies at Havenwoods from year to year.

## Bat Hike

August 11, 8 – 9:30 pm (Saturday)

Join Havenwoods staff for a twilight bat hike. We'll spend a brief time inside learning about Wisconsin's bats. Then we'll head outside with a bat detector to listen for bats and collect data for the Wisconsin DNR. Call if weather is questionable. Rain date set for August 18.

# 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.

## Grow Your Own Lunch

June 5, 9:30 – 10:30 am (Tuesday)

Could you grow vegetable soup or a tasty summer salad? Come start some seeds and discover fun things you can do with garden veggies—like eat them!

## Evening Chirpers

July 17, 9:30 – 10:30 am (Tuesday)

“Chrrp-chrrp.” “Treet-treet-treet.” Join us to listen to the crickets and discover how insects make those interesting sounds.

## Go Wild With Flowers

August 14, 9:30 – 10:30 am (Tuesday)

Our grasslands are filled with wildflowers! Come see, smell, and touch them.

## Far-out Frogs & Totally Toads

June 19, 9:30 – 10:30 am (Tuesday)

From eggs to tadpoles to grown-ups, frogs and toads are very interesting animals! Come meet a frog and a toad and find out how they are the same and how they are different.

## Fluffy, Swirly Clouds

July 31, 9:30 – 10:30 am (Tuesday)

What do you see in the clouds? Some people imagine wonderful pictures; others can tell if it will rain. Come to Havenwoods and watch the clouds with us.

## Fabulous Forests

August 28, 9:30 – 10:30 am (Tuesday)

Forests are much more than just trees! Come find out about all the plants and animals that live in the forest.

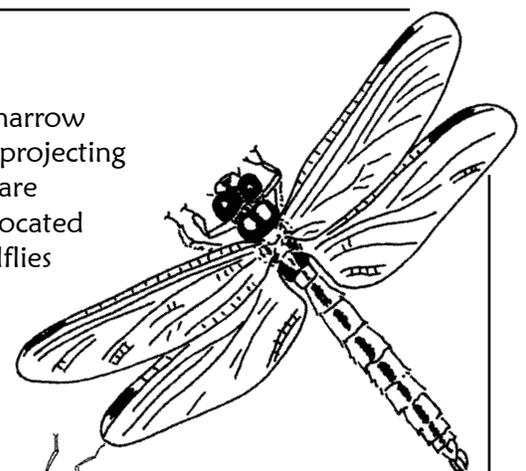
## Diggin' Dirt

July 3, 9:30 – 10:30 am (Tuesday)

Turn over a shovelful of dirt and you will find all kinds of things! Come to Havenwoods to discover worms, sand, dead leaves, tiny insects, and everything else that makes up the soil.

## Damsel or Dragon?

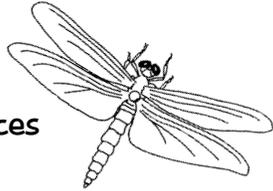
Larval damselflies have long and narrow abdomens with three fin-like gills projecting from the end. Dragonfly nymphs are shorter and bulkier with the gills located inside the abdomen. Adult damselflies have a hinge that allows them to fold their wings over their backs when they land. When dragonflies land, their wings remain in flight position.



Damselfly nymph and adult

Dragonfly nymph and adult

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



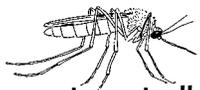
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## Nature in Your Backyard

Dragonflies are well equipped for their lives as aerial predators . . . just ask a mosquito!

### flying machines

Dragonflies are among the most exceptional flyers on the planet. With two sets of wings that move independently, they can fly in any direction, including sideways and backwards. They can even hover.



### pest controllers

In about 30 minutes, an adult dragonfly can eat its own weight in insects. Good-bye, mosquitoes!

### wrap-around eyes

Dragonflies have nearly 360° vision. Each huge eye is made up of 30,000 ommatidia (tiny eyes). Since their vision is designed to concentrate on movement, more than 80% of their brain is devoted to analyzing visual information.



### toothed ones

Dragonflies and damselflies belong to the order Odonata, which means "toothed ones." They don't really have teeth, but they do have powerful saw-like mandibles.

### ancient dragons

Since dragonflies have been on earth for about 300 million years, they have had a long time to perfect being predators. Fossil records show that early dragonflies had wingspans of up to 2 feet!

