



The Oak Leaf

Pringle Board of Directors

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Eagle Scout Completes Display for Pringle

Many of you know that Pringle Nature Center is a hidden gem in Bristol Woods Park and not a lot of people know about us. Several people who come to the park assume that the pavilion at the first parking lot is the nature center and others do not know that we are nestled further back, especially those who rent out the pavilion for weddings and reunions.

Mark Loney contacted Pringle Nature Center wanting to complete an Eagle Scout Project for us. He graciously took on the project of building a display board for us at the pavilion so that more park patrons will be able to see the events and offerings that Pringle has and perhaps encourage them to walk a little further up the road to check out and visit the center.

We thank Mark and his helpers for completing the sign and allow for more park patrons to know about Pringle Nature Center.



Mark Loney with his completed Eagle Scout Project by Bristol Woods Park's pavilion

Pringle Nature Center Staff

Valerie Mann—Naturalist

Greta Lawrence—Assistant Naturalist

A special thank you to Charlotte Schroeder for her donation of program supplies, Barb and Dennis Meyocks for their donation of books and nature prints, and Snap-on tools for the donation of loppers.

Wisconsin Ephemeral Pond Project

The Wisconsin Ephemeral Pond Project (WEPP) was initiated in 2006 by the Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources (WDNR). WEPP's main objectives are to improve methods for mapping ephemeral ponds and to inventory mapped ephemeral ponds in Wisconsin to increase understanding of their ecological importance and to support their conservation.

Long-term goals of WEPP are the protection and conservation of ephemeral ponds.

Mapping experts at the WDNR and SEWRPC have interpreted aerial photographs, soils and topographic maps to identify potential ephemeral ponds (PEPs). The PEPs are then adopted by citizens to monitor during the spring, summer and fall. The goal of monitoring is to determine whether or not the PEP is ephemeral or even a pond at all. Data are submitted to the WDNR through an online database. The results provide valuable feedback that can help WDNR and

SEWRPC improve their mapping methods. The data can also provide a baseline to which future monitoring results can be compared to learn about trends in these important ecosystems.

If you would like to be a citizen monitor you must go to the training session, the date TBA. If you have any questions or would like to join the Pringle monitoring team, please call 262-857-8008 or e-mail naturalist@pringlenc.org.

Leave No Child Inside - Children's Outdoor Bill of Rights

American children have changed how they spend their playtime and, as a result, their relationship to nature. They've gone from ruling the countryside to ruling the remote control in just 30 years. Today's digital era, compounded by loss of green space to development, has left kids plugged in and tuned out to nature, opting instead for time online or with a cell phone.

With *Leave No Child Inside*,

Pringle is apart of hundreds of other organizations that are members of the Chicago Wilderness consortium, an alliance of more than 200 public and private organizations working together to protect the Chicago region's natural spaces, help conserve the diversity of plants and animals, and enrich local residents' quality of life.

Chicago Wilderness produced a Children's Outdoor Bill of Rights because we believe that

one of the greatest gifts you can give children is your love of nature. Children need regular time outdoors, so visit Pringle Nature Center with your kids to experience something new every time the weather changes. We believe that every child should have the opportunity to:



leave no child inside
a chicago wilderness initiative

- Discover wilderness - prairies, dunes, forests, savannas, and wetlands

- Camp under the stars
- Follow a trail
- Catch and release fish, frogs, and insects
- Climb a tree
- Explore nature in neighborhoods and cities
- Celebrate heritage
- Plant a flower
- Play in the mud or a stream
- Learn to swim

Mighty Acorns®

Mighty Acorns® is a program that Pringle Nature Center has joined to add to our educational curriculum we currently offer to schools. Mighty Acorns® encompasses 4th through 6th grades, with 6th grade as an area Pringle has not had classes for before.

Mighty Acorns® began as an effort to connect urban youth with nature through a unique hands-on, experience. Students use the land as an outdoor laboratory for learning science

and, at the same time, the ecosystems benefit from their restoration work.

Pringle would be the first site in Wisconsin to offer this program. The Mighty Acorns® program is designed to provide students with multiple, meaningful, sustained interactions with the ecosystems on which all life depends. The program involves hands-on restoration and exploration experiences in natural areas, supplemented by classroom and on-site activities focused on achieving the

educational outcomes.

During the spring, Pringle will be going out to the schools to talk with the principals about the program to get them involved with the program. If you would like your child's school to participate, please call or e-mail the nature center.



Time to Renew Your Membership

Each year Pringle Nature Center asks you to join us in the work we do and become a member.

As a member you become a partner in bringing environmental education to Kenosha. You also participate in protecting important habitat in the area.

As a concerned citizen you know how important these things are to the future of our planet. We ask you to consider

this when you decide how much to give.

By becoming a member you receive our newsletter three times each year. Members are honored in the summer issue. You will also receive discounts to classes and workshops.

If you joined the PNC at our Fall Fun Fest, we thank you. We encourage the rest of you to follow their example. Members who joined last year, look for your renewal card in the

mail in January.

For those of you who want to be more directly involved in the work that we do, there is also the option of being a volunteer. For more information on volunteer opportunities call us at 262-857-8008 or send an e-mail to naturalist@pringlenc.org.

Thank you for supporting us.

Wish list

Pringle Nature Center is growing and with that, we are looking for help. Big or small, your donation is greatly appreciated. Thank you in advance!

- Soil auger
- Cloth napkins
- Children's rain and winter coats
- Children's winter boots, hats, scarves, mittens
- Compasses & GPS's
- Binoculars
- Bandana's
- 2-3 Hula hoops
- 3-4 Large storage containers
- WindowAlert or Hawk Decals

Parents, it may seem awhile away, but underneath all the white snow, a world of adventure lies waiting to be explored. Have your children come join us next summer for a season of fun and adventure with summer camp. If you would like more information please call us at 262-857-8008 or e-mail us at naturalist@pringlenc.org

Spring Calendar



Saturday Night Campfire Talks

Saturdays, April 10th, 24th, May 8th, 22nd

Come sit by the campfire ring in front of the nature center and learn about nature. Topics are different each week including Leave No Trace and Wild Edibles. Check out our website for a complete list of the topics and times.

Friends: Free/General Public: \$2.00



Webelos Scout Badges

Saturday, January 16th, February 20th, and March 20th, 1:00 p.m. – 3:00 p.m.

January – Forester Badge. Learn the important role that forests play in nature and in our lives.

February – Geologist Badge. Identify minerals, rocks, and the role they play in earth formation.

March – Naturalist Badge. Learn about food webs, explore the nature center and take home a project.

Pre-registration is required! \$3.50 per scout prior to event/\$4.50 registering the day of

Teacher Naturalist Volunteer Training

Tuesday, January 26th, Thursday, January 28th, and Friday, January 29th

Are you interested in nature and would love to share that curiosity with the next generation? Pringle Nature Center is offering training sessions for the classes we offer to school groups. Come for some or all of the sessions.

Tuesday: Kindergarten Programs 10:30 a.m.-11:30 a.m.; First Grade 1:00 p.m.-2:00 p.m.

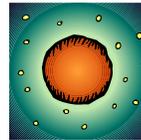
Thursday: Second Grade 10:00 a.m.-11:30 a.m.; Third Grade 1:00 p.m.-2:30 p.m.

Friday: Fourth Grade 10:00 a.m.-11:30 a.m.; Fifth Grade 1:00 p.m.-2:30 p.m.

Look! Up in the Sky!

Friday, January 29th, 9:00 p.m. – 10:30 p.m.

The red planet will be at its closest approach to Earth and its face will be fully illuminated by the Sun. This is the best time to photograph and view the northern hemisphere of Mars. Join us for a short talk on Mars and we will have our spotting scope and telescope set up to view Mars at its closest to Earth. **Pre-registration is required!**



Friends: \$3/General Public: \$5

Great Backyard Bird Count - Build Your Own Bird Feeder and Bird Count

Feeder: Saturday, February 6th, 1:00 p.m. – 2:30 p.m./Count: Saturday, February 13th, 12:00 p.m. – 4:00 p.m.

The Great Backyard Bird Count is a joint venture between the Cornell Lab of Ornithology and the Audubon Society where citizen scientists count and identify as best as they can the birds that come to their feeders. Join us the weekend before the GBBC to build your own feeder to count birds at. Rick Fare from Hoy Audubon will offer a short ID session as well as how to report data for the count. Supplies are limited, so register early. Then on the weekend of the GBBC, join us as we sit and count the birds, no experience necessary.

Feeder Price: Friends: \$10/General Public: \$12

Valentine's Candlelight Hike

Saturday, February 13th, 6:00 p.m. – 9:00 p.m.

Enjoy the winter wonderland at night with family, friends, and loved ones while on a self-guided hike on the candlelit trail at Bristol Woods County Park. Warm up afterwards by the crackling fire and refreshments will be served inside the nature center.

Friends: \$3/General Public: \$5

Tim Fulton: Beekeeper

Saturday, February 27th, 1:00 p.m.

Tim Fulton, area beekeeper, will talk about beekeeping and honey production. This interactive program is fun for the whole family. Pre-registration is required!

Friends Free/General Public \$3

Beginning Geocaching

Saturday, March 13th, 1:00 p.m. and 2:00 p.m.

Join us for a short informational session on how to use a GPS and the rules for Geocaching before heading out to search for the cache's. Bring your own GPS or check out one of ours to go out on this high tech game of hide and seek.

Friends: \$3/General Public: \$5

Look! Up in the Sky!

Saturday, March 20th, 9:00 p.m. – 10:30 p.m.

Join us as Saturn makes its way towards Earth, this is the best time to view and photograph the planet. We will set up our spotting scope and telescope to view the planet. There will be a short informational talk about Saturn before heading out to view this ringed jewel of the sky. **Pre-registration is required!**

Friends: \$3/General Public: \$5

Leave No Child Inside: Worm Moon Night Hike

Saturday, March 27th
6:30 p.m.

We may not see worms that night, but we will learn why March's full moon is called that as we explore the moon-lit forest with a naturalist led hike.

Friends: \$3.00/General Public: \$5.00

Leave No Child Inside: Come and Explore Tuesday to Friday, April 6th to 9th

10:00 a.m. – 3:00 p.m. each day

Instead of staying cooped up inside all, come out to Pringle Nature Center to see what is blooming and crawling around! Come all day or just for part but come out!

Tuesday - Open Mic

Wednesday - Geocaching

Thursday - Drip, Drop, Pond!

Friday - Forest Frolic

Free

Dow & Live Earth 6K Run/Hike for Water Sunday, April 18th

11:00 a.m.

Join Pringle and many other cities around the world as we raise awareness of water. Women and children in third world countries have to go 6 kilometers in order to get fresh, clean water. A portion of the proceeds will be donated to Live Earth. **Pre-registration is required!**

\$10 before April 10th/\$12 after to race day

Hoy Audubon Beginning Bird Class Date and Time TBD

Do you like looking at the birds, but aren't quite sure where to start? Hoy Audubon Society is offering this beginner's bird course for those who want to know how to start birding or have just begun. **Pre-registration is required!**

Friends Free/General Public \$3

Friends of Pringle Nature Center Membership

The Pringle Nature Center, located in the heart of Bristol Woods County Park, is a treasure to Kenosha County. Our programs bring nature education to area students, youth groups, and families. Our trails are often hailed by hikers and skiers as some of the best in the area. As someone who appreciates nature, you know how important a place like this is to the community.

By becoming a Friend of Pringle you support environmental education and a unique community resource.

To become a Friend, or renew your membership, send your donation and the attached form to Pringle Nature Center.

Yes, I want to be a Friend of Pringle

Membership Levels

- Individual \$20
- Family \$35
- Prairie \$50
- Wetland \$100
- Savannah \$250
- Life Time \$500
- Additional Gift \$ _____

Name
Address
City/State/Zip
Email
Phone
Date

Happenings at Pringle

January 9th – PNC Board Meeting
9:00 a.m.

January 16th – Webelos Forester Badge
1:00 p.m. – 3:00 p.m.

January 26th – Teacher Naturalist
Volunteer Training K: 10:30 a.m. –
11:30 a.m./1st: 1:00 – 2:00

January 28th – Teacher Naturalist
Volunteer Training 2nd: 10:00 a.m. –
11:30 a.m./3rd: 1:00 – 2:30 p.m.

January 29th – Teacher Naturalist
Volunteer Training 4th: 10:00 a.m. –
11:30 a.m./5th: 1:00 – 2:30 p.m.

January 29th – Look! Up in the Sky!
Mars Viewing 9:00 p.m. – 10:30 p.m.

February 6th – Nature Story Time
Hike: Owl Moon
10:00 a.m. – 11:00 a.m.

February 6th – GBBC: Build a Feeder
1:00 p.m. – 2:30 p.m.

February 13th – PNC Board Meeting
9:00 a.m.

February 13th – GBBC: Count
12:00 p.m. – 4:00 p.m.

February 13th – Valentine’s Candlelight
Hike 6:00 p.m. – 9:00 p.m.

February 20th – Webelos Geologist
Badge 1:00 p.m. – 3:00 p.m.

February 27th – Tim Fulton: Beekeep-
ing 1:00 p.m.

March 6th – Nature Story Time Hike:
At Grandpa’s Sugar Bush
10:00 a.m. – 11:00 a.m.

March 13th – PNC Board Meeting
9:00 a.m.

March 13th – Beginning Geocaching
1:00 p.m. and 2:00 p.m.

March 20th – Webelos Naturalist Badge
1:00p.m. – 3:00 p.m.

March 20th – Look! Up in the Sky!
Saturn Viewing 9:00 p.m. – 10:30 p.m.

March 27th – Leave No Child Inside:
Worm Moon Night Hike
6:30 p.m.

April 3rd – Nature Story Time Hike:
Earth Dance 10:00 a.m. – 11:00 a.m.

April 6th – Leave No Child Inside:
Come and Explore Open Mic
10:00 a.m. – 3:00 p.m.

April 7th – Leave No Child Inside:
Come and Explore Geocaching
10:00 a.m. – 3:00 p.m.

April 8th – Leave No Child Inside:
Come and Explore Drip, Drop, Pond!
10:00 a.m. – 3:00 p.m.

April 9th – Leave No Child Inside:
Come and Explore Forest Frolic
10:00 a.m. – 3:00 p.m.

April 10th – PNC Board Meeting
9:00 a.m.

April 10th – Saturday Night Campfire
Talk: Leave No Trace
5:30 p.m. – 6:30 p.m.

April 18th – Dow/Live Earth 6K Run/
Hike for Water

April 24th – Invasive Species Workday
9:00 a.m. – 12:00 p.m.

April 24th – Saturday Night Campfire
Talk: Earth Day and Your Ecological
Footprint 5:30 p.m. – 6:30 p.m.

May 1st – Nature Story Time Hike: A
Tree’s Tale 10:00 a.m. – 11:00 a.m.

May 8th – PNC Board Meeting
9:00 a.m.

May 8th – Saturday Night Campfire
Talk: Wild Edibles
5:30 p.m. – 6:30 p.m.

May 9th – Mother’s Day Ephemeral
Brunch and Spring Wildflower Walk

May 22nd – Invasive Species Workday
9:00 a.m. – 12:00 p.m.

May 29th – Leave No Child Inside:
Come Out and Play!
10:00 a.m. – 3:00 p.m.

Date and time TBA – Hoy Audubon
Beginning Bird Class

*Tuesday through Sunday
9:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m.*

*www.pringlec.org
Email: naturalists@pringlec.org*

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Putting People In Touch With Nature

Pringle Nature Center