



WATERSHED NATURE CENTER

Bringing Nature and Community Together

E-Newsletter

Fall 2011



Watershed Nature Center
 Nature Preserve Foundation
 P.O. Box 843
 Edwardsville, IL 62025

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The Watershed News is an official publication of the Nature Preserve Foundation, Inc., P.O. Box 843, Edwardsville, IL 62025. The Foundation is a not-for-profit corporation chartered by the City of Edwardsville and dedicated to the restoration and management of the Watershed Nature Center. This newsletter is distributed to all members as a benefit of membership. All contents are copyrighted. NPF Board members are Julie Conley -President, Scott Evers -Vice President, Ed McCarthy -Treasurer, Sarah Cundiff - Secretary, Rick Schuh, Mike Starr, Tim Dain, Jen Rehg, Cara Noyes, Jim Bridwell, Linda Beacham, Beth Custer, A.J. Skippers, Chair, Shaffer - WNC Office Manager/Volunteer Coordinator.

FRIENDS OF THE WATERSHED
 Please mail donations to: P.O. Box 843 • Edwardsville, IL 62025

MEMBERSHIP LEVELS

- Scholastic - \$20
- Individual - \$25
- Family - \$50
- Small Business - \$100
- Corporation - \$1,000

Name _____
 Address _____
 City _____ State _____ Zip _____
 Phone _____ Email _____

Please make checks payable to Nature Preservation Foundation

ADDITIONAL CONTRIBUTIONS

\$25 \$50 Other

Please provide your e-mail address in order to receive a copy of our e-newsletter and e-mails of upcoming events.

I would like to become a volunteer.
 I would like to know how to make a tribute, memorial, or endowment.
 I would like to know more about legacy giving.

Watershed News

Fall 2011



4th Annual RUN WILD!

5K Trail Run & 1-Mile Trail Walk
Saturday, October 1, 2011

Join us for the 4th annual Watershed Run Wild! 5K Trail Run & 1-Mile Trail Walk on Saturday, October 1st. This is a wonderful opportunity for runners, families, and anyone who enjoys nature to run or walk the trails at the Watershed Nature Center and the Madison County Transit Watershed Trail. The race course includes both paved and unpaved surfaces. A map of the race route is available on our website.

Medals are awarded to overall male and female champions, as well as the top three male and female winners in the following categories: 19 and under; 20-29; 30-39; 40-49; 50-59; and 60+.

The annual 5K is a fundraiser with proceeds to benefit the Watershed Nature Center. Funds will support projects like habitat restoration and monthly educational events like Get Outdoors!

To register online go to active.com and search "Run Wild!" or visit www.watershednaturecenter.com. For mail-in registrations send in the form on pg. 3 with payment by September 29th.

Race day registration along with race packet pick-up begins at 8am and race starts at 9am.

If you would like to volunteer please email watershed@cityofedwardsville.com or call 618-692-7578.





WATERSHED
NATURE CENTER

Upcoming Events!

Saturdays from 10am-12pm



September 24, Get Outdoors! : Prairie

What makes a prairie a prairie? Celebrate Illinois Prairie Week and learn about the plants and animals that call the prairie home.



October 22, Get Outdoors! : Creepy Crawly & Nocturnal Creatures

Learn about our creepy crawly & nocturnal inhabitants.



November 12, Fall Tree ID Walk *(Registration Required, \$3 /person)*

Join us for a naturalist-led hike as we learn to ID trees and enjoy any remaining fall colors.



November 26, Get Outdoors! : How do leaves change color?

What would fall be like without our wonderful change of color?



Moonlight Hike— monthly

Join Sierra Club at Watershed for a monthly Moonlight Hike around the trail. A Sierra Club Certified Outings Leader will guide visitors around our 1 mile trail. Meet at Welcome Center. Bring bug spray and water.

Visit the events page on our website, www.WatershedNatureCenter.com, or call the office at 618.692.7578 for future Moonlight Hike dates and times.

Email watershed@cityofedwardsville.com to join our mailing list to receive event notifications

Want to stay connected?

“Like” us on Face book to get updates, see our current list of events, view amazing wildlife photos, or post your own thoughts about Watershed.

Just go to www.facebook.com and type Watershed Nature Center

in the search box. Click on the “Like” button to stay up to date on all

Moonlight Hikes, Nature Walks, Volunteer Days, camps, and monthly educational activities at Watershed.



Like us on
Facebook

Thank You!
2011 Race Sponsors:



**Bridwell
Financial
Group**



MARCEL BROWN
TECHNOLOGY
SERVICES



**SPRINGERS CREEK
WINERY**



**Watershed Nature Center
5K Trail Run & 1 Mile Trail Walk**

Name: _____
Date of Birth: _____ Gender: M F
Address: _____
City: _____ State: _____ Zip: _____
Phone: _____
email: _____

Race Entry: ___ 5K Run ___ 1 Mile Walk

Entry Fee: \$25-Adult, \$10-12 years old and under,
under 3 years old FREE.

Shirt Size: S M L XL Youth Long sleeve + (\$4)

Awards: Overall male and female champions, top three
male and female in the following categories: 19 and under,
20-29, 30-39, 40-49, 50-59, 60+

Waiver of liability: I acknowledge that physical activity carries the risk of injury, death, and or personal loss and I am physically fit and have sufficiently trained for the competition of this event. I, the undersigned, hereby for myself, my heirs, executors, and administrators, waive and release any and all claims for damages, demands, actions, and causes of against the Watershed Nature Center, the City of Edwardsville, Madison County Transit, race sponsors, their affiliates, subsidiaries, officials, representatives, employees, volunteers, and assigns for any and all injuries, death, property damage, property theft, or action of any kind which may occur to me as a result of my participation in this event. Further, I hereby grant full permission for the free use of my name and/or photographs, videos, recordings, or any other record of this event for legitimate purpose.

Signature: _____ Date: _____

Guardian (if under 18): _____ Date: _____

Watershed Nature Center
PO Box 843
Edwardsville, IL 62025

Friends of the Watershed Nature Center

Welcome to our new Friends and thank you to our continuing Friends. The members listed below have joined, renewed their membership, or donated since our last newsletter.

Sondra Zerow
Kathleen Mendez
Steve Parsons
James & Beverly Gorman
Jeanne & Barry Murphey
Jennifer Rehg
Diane & Keith Dudding
Brett, Tamara & Iris Palmier

J.F. Electric
Michael & Jill Allaria
Arno & Ruth Ellis
Jim & Beverly Gorman
Dale Albers
Barb & Paul Pizzini

Thank you to those who donated in honor and memory of John Kendall

P.N. and Vijaya Swamy
Beth & Kent Custer
Larry Brown
Edward McCarthy
Helen Damon
Tanya Carey
Julie Conley
Linda Perry
Mary Lucas-Sweetin
Ellen & Norman Nordhauser
Louise & Frank Scott
Jack & Ginger McCall
Christopher Kendall &
Susan Schilperoort
Stephen & Yoshiko Kendall
William & Nancy
(Kendall) Foster)



Big Bluestem

CELEBRATE THE PRAIRIES

Prairie! What does this word remind you of? Perhaps a television program, an old movie, or the series of books by Laura Ingalls Wilder. The word "prairie" is from the French word for a meadow grazed by cattle. It was applied by the early French explorers to the vast inland area of North America that is mostly devoid of trees and instead covered with waving grasses and a vast variety of colorful wildflowers in various shades of yellow, white, pink, and blue. It is an unforgettable experience to be out on a prairie on a beautiful day when dozens of different kinds of plants are in bloom, insects are busily pollinating the flowers, birds are singing, and a brisk wind is blowing.

"The Prairie State" is a frequently used nickname for Illinois, yet few people know what a prairie is or have ever visited one. At the same time, there is a growing awareness of prairies. Prairies are an important part of this state's heritage, and in the past few years there have been numerous conferences, radio programs, popular articles, books and scientific papers on prairies. Unfortunately, most of this information is not readily available. *-(The Tallgrass Prairie in Illinois)*

The nickname, "Prairie State" dates back at least as far as 1842 when most of the state was still covered with prairie grasses. Illinois has officially designated the third full week of September as **Illinois Prairie Week**. The purpose is to understand and develop an appreciation of prairies. Around the state there are events and celebrations demonstrating the value of preserving and re-establishing native Illinois Prairies.

Our next event "Get Outdoors! Prairie" will be on Saturday, September 24th. Join us to learn more about and pay homage to the prairie. Registration is free.



Prairie Coneflowers

Volunteer Opportunities at Watershed

5K Race / 1 Mile Trail Run Saturday, October 1st 7:30am-11:30am

Volunteer for our 3rd annual Watershed Run Wild 5K Race / 1 Mile Trail Walk. There will be a volunteer orientation on Thursday, Sept. 29th at 6:30pm to train everyone before race day and stuff race bags. Volunteers are needed race day to help with event set up, staff registration, water and snack tables, direct runners, etc.

Leclaire ParkFest Sunday, October 16th 11:30am-5:30pm

Join the Watershed at the 20th annual Leclaire Parkfest. We will have a nature craft as well as Watershed merchandise for sale. Volunteers are asked to commit to a minimum 2 hour shift, 11:30am-1:30pm; 1:30pm-3:30pm; or 3:30pm-5:30pm.

Outdoor Restoration Volunteers Tuesday and Thursday, 2pm-5pm

Be part of ongoing habitat restoration projects at the Watershed. Work with experienced volunteers and staff in different habitats throughout the year as we work to restore native plants, reduce the number of exotic plants, maintain trails, and care for the land. If you enjoy being part of the big picture, love the outdoors, want to learn more, and can commit to a weekly schedule, this opportunity is for you.

Volunteer Work Days Second Saturday, monthly 8am-12pm

Get outdoors, meet new people, and help maintain the diversity in this unique park. These are just a few things you can look forward to when you join us at a volunteer work day. Upcoming dates include Oct. 9th and Nov. 13th. Please register any groups who wish to volunteer their service. All minors must have parental/guardian consent.

Educational Docents Saturdays, 10 am -12 pm

Docents allow the Watershed to open its Welcome Center to visitors outside of normal business hours. They are responsible for welcoming visitors, answering questions, and sharing natural resource brochures/information. All training is provided. We would like to offer more opportunities for the building to remain open, so let us know your interest and availability.

Contact Chairo Shaffer, Volunteer Coordinator, with any questions & to sign up as a Watershed Volunteer. Email watershed@cityofedwardsville.com or phone 618-692-7578.



Save Trees and Stay Informed!

In an effort to use less resources, you can opt out of receiving a paper newsletter, and sign up for the Electronic newsletter. By providing or updating your email address, you will receive our colorful E-Newsletter. Send your email address to wateshed@cityofedwardsville.com. Let us know you would like to forgo your paper addition and be part of the change.

Thank You!

