



**PRAIRIE WOODS
ENVIRONMENTAL LEARNING CENTER**

12718 10th St. NE
Spicer MN 56288
1-320-354-5894
www.prairiewoodselc.org
pwelc@co.kandiyohi.mn.us

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PRAIRIE WOODS

Warbler



VOLUME 31

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ISSUE 1

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Kathy Hoganson,
Building & Grounds
Ali Dahmes,
YES! Coordinator

5TH ANNUAL SLEIGH & SKI FESTIVAL

Over 500 people enjoyed the 5th Annual Sleigh & Ski Festival held on Sunday, Feb. 11th 2018. Thanks to Jeff Vetsch for providing music, Vickie Vogt for orchestrating the chili feed, Gary & Kathy Stai and Joy Zwart for coordinating the wagon teams, NLS National Honor Society volunteers for helping with parking and serving, and a great group of exhibitors and volunteers. Due to very little snowfall, our ski trails were not open but over a hundred people were able to get out and ski in track set on Kettle Lake. It was a glorious day down on Kettle Lake out of the wind and in the sun. It was a bit breezy out on the playing field for the wagon rides but it did not seem to diminish the enthusiasm of the drivers or riders. Inside, everyone seemed to enjoy the hobby share exhibits, chili feed, music, the indoor climbing wall and snacks provided by Little Crow 4H. The Hobby Share Exhibits ranged from woodcarving, Purple Martin Project, MN Darkhouse Anglers, Master Gardeners, Kandiyohi County Historical Society to the Humane Society and more. The 4H snack table featured gourmet donuts by Matt Proehl. The dogs and cats from the Humane Society stole the show and the hearts of many. All in all, a good time was had by all. We hope you can join us next year!



The Kettle Lake Ski Track

THE GOVERNOR'S FISHING OPENER WILL BE HELD IN KANDIYOHI COUNTY

this year and PWELC is pleased to participate as a sponsor and program provider. On Friday, May 11th, PWELC will be taking media guests out on the Mill Pond in the Big Canoe, as well as hosting another media group for a program sampler at PWELC followed by lunch in the Westby Observatory. We'll finish off the day with the mobile climbing wall at the community picnic scheduled for Robbins Island.



Scott Glup & Volunteers - Thank YOU!

PRAIRIE RESTORATION CONTINUES

A big thanks to Scott Glup, Joel Halbritter and the many scouts and others who have volunteered to help recover a tract of virgin prairie at PWELC. Treat yourself to a hike on the mound ridge trail north of the Westby Observatory this spring. Enjoy the open prairie view and let your thoughts go back in time to the people who stood on this high place in centuries gone by.

SAVE the Date(s)

EARTH Day 2018 and the Recycled Outdoor Gear SALESaturday, April 21st - 8:00am to 1:00pm
Climate ConveningSaturday, April 21st - 11:00am to 2:00pm
YES! State Champion Award at Target FieldSunday, May 20th 1:00pm
Paddle the CROWSaturday, June 2nd
Evening Under the Prairie Stars 2018Friday, September 7th



PRAIRIE WOODS *Warbler*
www.prairiewoodselc.org 320-354-5894
pwelc@co.kandiyohi.mn.us Spicer, Minnesota

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Join Us!

PRAIRIE WOODS ENVIRONMENTAL LEARNING CENTER

Annual Membership for 2018

WHY BE A MEMBER?

- ◆ Know you are supporting programs you believe in at an organization that is important to your community.
- ◆ Receive information and invitations to special events at Prairie Woods.
- ◆ Benefit from discounts on equipment rentals and programs.
- ◆ Continue to receive the *Warbler* newsletter three times a year.

- ☐ New Member
☐ Renewing Member

SUPPORTER'S MEMBERSHIP

- ☐ Individual Membership \$30.00
☐ Family Membership \$45.00
☐ Donation of _____ amount to the Sustainability Endowment
☐ I / we are interested in volunteering at Prairie Woods.

BENEFACTOR'S MEMBERSHIP

- ☐ \$100 to \$499
☐ \$500 to \$999
☐ \$1000

Name(s) _____
Address _____
City/State/ZIP _____
Email _____

Please enclose payment to Prairie Woods ELC, and send to:

Prairie Woods Environmental Learning Center
12718 10th Street NE
Spicer, Minnesota 56288

Questions or comments? Please call us at 320-354-5894 or e-mail us at pwelc@co.kandiyohi.mn.us

Thank you for
your support.

*Notes from the Executive Director*

by Dave Pederson, Executive Director

Greetings from Prairie Woods! As I write this update we are putting away our winter gear and getting ready for a very busy spring and summer. Virtually every day in April and May are booked with school programs and our summer is filling up fast. We will be on the road for many days again this summer with our mobile climbing wall, the Yellow Boats Project and Big Canoe as well as with our climbing, camping and paddling programs in partnership with Wright and Stearns County Parks.

There will be lots of opportunities this summer to get out and enjoy the Great Outdoors with PWELC.

Some of the exciting events coming up include Earth Day and the Recycled Outdoor Gear Sale on Sat. April 21st, The Governor's Fishing Opener in May, Paddle the Crow in June, and dozens of opportunities to climb, kayak or canoe with us throughout the summer. Check our website and Facebook to stay up on our outreach programs or give us a call to schedule your customized experience at Prairie Woods.



Yellow Boats Project - Look for opportunities this summer to paddle the Middle Fork of the Crow River

PWELC is vibrant throughout the year, but never more so than spring. Please plan to join us for one of our programs or special events or perhaps just come out and enjoy a quiet walk on our trails.

Thanks for taking the time to catch up on some of the happenings at PWELC and thanks for understanding that we need you to help make good things happen. I look forward to seeing you at Prairie Woods!

*Dave***PWELC PAVILION IS A HIT!**

The new pavilion which was completed on June 1st, 2017 is booked for nearly every weekend this summer and 2019 is already starting to fill in. Thanks to all who contributed to the pavilion!! It has been fantastic to shelter programs in inclement weather and the facility is a popular choice for weddings and special events. Revenue from facility rentals helps to support youth programs at Prairie Woods. Please call Mari at PWELC if you would like to reserve space for your next special event.



Music Under the Prairie Stars 2017



Pavilion and Johnson Memorial Firepit

TOMMY SWENSON MEMORIAL ICE FISHING TOURNAMENT SUPPORTS PWELC

PWELC was honored to receive a \$2,000 check from the Tommy Swenson Memorial Ice Fishing Tournament to support youth sporting programs at Prairie Woods. A huge thanks to Mary Peterson, Gene Kubesh and the family of Tommy Swenson for putting together this great winter family fun event. Over 200 people participated in this year's tournament and enjoyed a noon meal, silent auction and door prize raffle at the Spicer American Legion. The tournament falls on the first Saturday of February each year. Put it on the calendar for next year!!

EARTH DAY AND RECYCLED OUTDOOR GEAR SALE - SATURDAY, APRIL 21, 2018

The Recycled Outdoor Gear Sale has grown into a great annual tradition which coincides with spring cleaning and Earth Day. Each year, contributors to the sale bring in all sorts of outdoor sporting treasures. We welcome your donations of outdoor gear in gently used condition. Past donations have included canoes, kayaks, sailboats, paddleboats, and lots of gear for camping, hunting, fishing, xc skiing etc. Please contact us if you wish to donate items and then be sure to join us for some bargain hunting for a good cause on Earth Day.

Thank you for remembering PWELC in your end-of-year giving and estate planning.

**YES! YOUTH ENERGY SUMMIT UPDATES**

-Ali Dahmes YES! Unit Coordinator

We've grown! This season we added 6 new YES! teams to the west-central region including New London Spicer High School, ROCORI High School, Melrose Middle School, Sartell Middle School, DREAM Academy and Royalton High School. Team projects this year include installing energy efficient hand dryers, LED light retrofit, building a tiny home, creating and building solar and high mileage vehicles, food production in green houses, and installing a solar panel! Throughout this season, YES! students will have attended workshops on water quality, renewable energy sources, prairie restoration, and climate change.

Youth Convening Minnesota

The New London - Spicer High School YES! team in partnership with Climate Generation are putting on a community climate convening hosted by Prairie Woods ELC during their Earth Day event and sponsored by the McKnight Foundation. NL-S youth are planning an event that will include climate change science, local climate stories, and local climate solutions. All of this will take place from 11:00 am to 2:00 pm at PWELC's Earth Day event April 21st, 2018.

West Central Winter Workshops

The first workshop was held at PWELC where students from ACGC, NLS High, and NLS Middle schools spent the day learning from local experts Jonathan Morales and Dylan Erickson (Middle Fork Crow River Watershed District) and Charlene Brooks (Kandiyohi County Aquatic Invasive Species Task force). 30 students learned how to tell their water story, project planning skills, water quality best management practices, and were informed about local aquatic invasive species challenges.

The YME YES! team traveled to Granite Falls to see firsthand how their city produces energy. 7 students and their coach (Steve Petrich) toured Granite Falls Energy, an ethanol plant and the Granite Falls Dam which produces hydro power for a good portion of the city. They ended their day touring a small solar array that also helps power the city.

The final workshop will feature Climate Generation: A Will Steger Legacy speaker Jenna Totz, who will speak on how climate change is affecting our local prairies and what can be done about this vital issue. Students from ACGC, NLS High School, and DREAM Academy will hike the prairies at PWELC and learn about prairie restoration projects at PWELC. The day will end with a renewable energy tour of PWELC so students can see how a local organization is producing all of their own power.



NLS student taking secchi tube readings at a Winter Workshop

Second Annual YES! State Competition

YES! will once again be conducting a state competition and presenting the award at Target Field on home base! Each of the four top regional winners will compete for the 2018 YES! State Championship title. The recipient will receive the award at the **Minnesota Twins game on Sunday, May 20th at 1:00pm against the Brewers.** We invite all PWELC/YES! fans and friends to join us at the game and congratulate the new YES! State Champions. Please contact ali@youthenergysummit.org for more information regarding reduced priced Twins tickets for the event.



YME Team at Granite Falls Ethanol Plant



Please remember Prairie Woods in your estate planning and annual giving.



Time Travel - Mari Klebe

One of the most gratifying things about working with children is seeing their delight in learning and trying new things. Sometimes we get further insight through Thank you notes that they send after their trip to Prairie woods. I thought I'd share a few, since you, as a member, help make these programs happen too.

"Thank you for a nice time on the Minnesota Trail. My favorite thing was Everything we did. I liked when we made ice cream and the part when we were in the caben and when we were wood cutting and when we dressed up and danced. It was fun thank you very very much. ~Your friend Danika."

"Thanks for letting me wash clothes. I liked the bonnet, it was beautiful and comfortable. The ice cream was delicious. The toy is very fun. ~Sincerely, Mindy."

"Thank you for the trip. My favorite thing was cutting the wood. I got to saw the woods apart. It was very genrous of you guys. ~Your friend Avery."



Please meet new pioneers Georg & Britta



Everyone's Favorite - Ice Cream!!

As you can see, sawing wood and ice cream are usually the highlights at the pioneer cabin. If you know of a class that would benefit from a hands-on, living history experience please contact me. We have space available for fall programs. If you have a youngster that would like to be a pioneer for a day, sign them up for Pioneer Day on Aug. 14th from 8am-4pm. They'll even make their own pioneer lunch. More information on the Community Ed. Page.



NICE THINGS DONE FOR PRAIRIE WOODS BY PEOPLE LIKE YOU:

- * **United Way of West Central Minnesota** has helped to support PWELC youth programs for over 15 years.
- * **Scott Glup** has volunteered many hours for prairie restoration
- * **Leo's Legs Fund of the Willmar Area Community Foundation** is helping to sponsor Yellow Boats events this summer.
- * **The New London-Spicer Area Fund of the Willmar Area Community Foundation** is sponsoring two Yellow Boats events in New London this summer.
- * **Legacy Amendment funds administered by the Greater MN Parks and Trails Commission** are funding PWELC programs in the beautiful parks throughout Wright and Stearns County this summer.
- * **Sue & John Bahr** donated an antique corn planter to the Pioneer Cabin program.
- * **Tracy Tebben and the Advanced Metals Class** built a campfire ring that will be placed on Geer Island.
- * **Sibley State Park naturalist Kelsey Olson** came and helped with February programs.

NEEDS AND GIVING OPPORTUNITIES

- * Scandinavian Kicksleds \$240 each. Goal: 20 kicksleds
- * Sponsor a YES! team or YES! prize awards.(\$500, \$1000, \$1500)
- * Endowment Fund- Gifts of all sizes are welcome! A great option for memorial gifts.
- * Donations of outdoor gear in good condition for the Recycled Outdoor Gear Sale
- * Donations to help complete a new restroom facility at the farm site.

WE HAVE BEEN HONORED TO RECEIVE MEMORIALS FROM THE FRIENDS AND FAMILIES OF:

Sandy Kardell
Gene Johnson
Harold Ekren
Lori Green
Walter Harguth
Harold Danielson
Evone Loch
Roland W. Mohler

Thank
You



High Notes from the Challenge Course - Steve Friedlein, CC Coordinator



Preparations are well under way for spring programing here at Prairie Woods Environmental Learning Center. It's always great to correspond with group leaders about planning a field trip experience for their students. Every group has the opportunity to share their thoughts and intentions on what they would like to create for their experience. It's a great honor for the PWELC staff to deliver on those expectations.

This past winter, the Challenge Course programs consisted primarily of Teambuilding and Indoor Rock Climbing. Schools, Community Education, Birthday Parties and Corporate groups are examples of participants who've visited for a Challenge Course Program over winter. The Hutchinson Middle School 6th graders were one of those groups. They take part in a program at PWELC every February, and bring around 200 students over a two day period. I had the pleasure of leading the Teambuilding portion of their field trip. After 12 sessions of 1 hour and 15 minutes each, I can honestly say that I was speaking "fluent six grader." Some of the goals were problem solving, being respectful, and communication, which of course includes listening. Let me tell you, six graders are very good at the talking part of communication. Throughout the program, we did a series of initiative games that focused on their goals. With 200 students, it can be difficult for students to know everyone in their grade. At the end of each session I would debrief with the students and ask the question: Did anyone work with someone new that they don't normally spend time with? The answer was always "yes", from every student. Teambuilding initiatives create a safe space for participants to work together towards a common goal. It's truly amazing to see that the students all have the chance to speak their mind as well as respectfully listen to one another. They realize that if they work together in a positive manner, the outcome is always better. We're all after the same goal, so let's reach it together!

The **Mobile Climbing Wall** is scheduled for over 20 appearances at community events around the region this summer. Check for updates on Facebook.



Hutchinson 6th Grade Noodle Games! ~Yes, this is team building!



Team building with a hidden environmental message at Science Rocks.

Upcoming Summer Mobile Rock Climbing Wall Events

Governor's Fishing Opener Community Picnic- Friday, May 11

Saturday, May 19th, 2018: Cinco de Mayo (Willmar, MN)

Rockin Robbins

Summer by George (St. Cloud)

Saturday, July 14th 2018: Bonanza Valley Days (Brooton, MN)

Saturday, August 4th 2018: Meeker County Fair

Saturday, August 11th 2018: Kandiyohi County Fair

Saturday, August 25th 2018: Raymond Harvest Fest

Sunday, August 26th 2018: Viking Sportsmen Event (Alexandria, MN)

Saturday, September 8th 2018: Prairie Pothole Day (New London, MN)



Thank you for remembering PWELC in your end-of-year giving and estate planning.



Little snow... No problem, ski the track on Kettle



A game of Oh Deer



Come out & meet a tree!

Environmental Education & Shooting Sports Notes - Kory Klebe

In 1965 The Byrds released Turn, Turn, Turn. They sang "For everything there is a season."

This newsletter finds us transitioning between seasons and the "everything's" that we do.

This winter (even with not the best snow for skiing - at least the 3rd in a row) we still had over 1700 people participate in Environmental Education Programs in the first 3 months of 2018. It did take quite a bit more work this year to keep the ski track up and running on our Kettle Lake but all the groups that signed up for cross country skiing were able to give it a try.

This Spring and Summer look for:

April 3rd – Spring Shooting league at the Westby Shooting Range

April 26th/28th – Firearm Safety Field Day

June 2nd – Paddle the Crow River Trip

July 8th-12th – Firearm Safety Forkhorn I Camp

July 16-20th – Bow Safety Forkhorn II Day Camp

NEW MONDAY TO FRIDAY DAY CAMP FORMAT FOR BOW SAFETY IN 2018

June/July/August – **YELLOW BOATS PROJECT** coming to a lake or river near you.

(June 29th NL Mill Pond, July 21st NL Mill Pond - Waterdays, July 27th-Ringo Lake)

-----Plus keep an eye on Facebook for surprise pop-up events-----

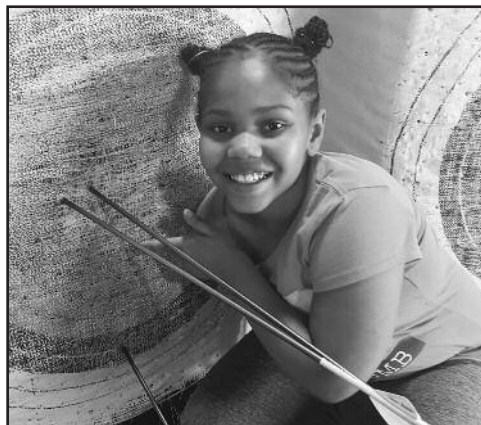
July 24th – Tommy Swenson Memorial Youth Sporting Clays

August 11th – Pheasants Forever Youth Shooting Program

August 24th – Full Moon Canoe @ PWELC



Prairie Woods has something for everyone!



*Bullseye!! ~ Bowhunter Safety
July 20-26, 2018 ~ Sign Up!*



*34ft Voyager Canoe ~ Because we're all
in the same boat!*

Please remember Prairie Woods in your estate planning and annual giving.



ENDOWMENT UPDATE

The Prairie Woods ELC Sustainability Endowment has surpassed \$525,000 thanks to the many who have given gifts large and small. The endowment was established with \$80,000 from a bequest from the estate of Ruth and Helen Peterson and has grown steadily with several large anonymous gifts and many, many smaller but important and meaningful gifts. The endowment has reached a point where the governing board has designated a percentage of annual proceeds to support programs and special projects at Prairie Woods. It is exciting to know that the endowment principal will continue to grow and provide support for PWELC programs in perpetuity.

YELLOW BOATS PROJECT IS LAUNCHED!

Thanks to the **Bernicks Family Foundation, Tebben Enterprises and New London- Spicer Area Fund and Leo's Legs Fund** the Yellow Boats Project will provide paddling opportunities around the area this summer. Be sure to join us on the Mill Pond after the WaterDays Parade in New London and stay tuned to Facebook for upcoming Yellow Boats events and your chance to try kayaking for free. No pre-registration is required for Yellow Boats Events. Just show up ready for fun on the water.

PLANNING IS UNDERWAY FOR THE 2018 EVENING UNDER THE PRAIRIE STARS FUNDRAISER.

The Prairie Stars Event has become the premier fundraising event of the year for PWELC and we are excited to hold the event in the Pavilion for the second time. Please plan to join us on Friday, Sept. 7th and please consider taking a sponsorship role to help support this seriously fun event to advance the work of PWELC.



*Something anyone can do - even a
goofy 6 year old!*

KICKSLEDS!

Several winters of low snow and brown ground have sent us searching for fun alternative winter program activities. At the end of this winter we purchased a Scandinavian kick sled and as a staff, we are getting a huge kick out of kick sledding. Kick sleds can be used on bare ice on our sloughs or also on snow with the addition of snow-runners. By next year, we hope to have a fleet of kick sleds in service for winter programs and available for weekend rentals. The kick sleds, which are imported from Norway and Finland come in several sizes to suit our small to XL sized participants. The kick sleds cost approx. \$240 each and our goal is to acquire at least 15 sleds in order to outfit one group and have the sleds available for rent on weekends. If you would like to donate a kick sled with your name or the name of your business or organization attached please give Dave a call at 320-354-5894.



*Kick sled staff training. It's a tough
job but somebody has to do it!*

Thanks to a **Legacy Amendment** grant through the **Greater MN Parks and Trails Commission** PWELC will be offering a great slate of experiences in the **parks of Wright and Stearns Counties** this summer. Check the websites for **Wright and Stearns County Parks** or give us a call to check out climbing, paddling and camping programs scheduled for the parks this summer.



DETOUR ALERT

Major construction work on HWY 71 may periodically present some challenges for reaching PWELC from mid-April through July. Please check our website and Facebook for updates and alternative routes to PWELC.

Please remember Prairie Woods in your estate planning and annual giving.



APRIL 21ST 2018 8AM -TO- 1PM

Prairie Woods
Environmental Learning Center 12718 10th St NE, Spicer
320.354.5894
prairiewoodselc.org

SCHEDULE:

- 8a - 10a • Pancake Breakfast (free-will)
- 8a - 1p • Recycled Outdoor Gear Sale
Activities & Exhibits
- 10a • **Bruce the Bug Guy** "A LIVE Insect Experience"
- 10a - 1p • Sloppy Joes for sale
- 11a - 2p • Climate Convening

RECYCLED OUTDOOR GEAR SALE

Gear donations welcome until day of sale.

CLIMATE CONVENING

With Climate Generation, NLS YES! Team & other Climate Experts

FREE NITRATE TESTING

Bring a small sample of water in a clean glass jar & Kandiyohi
Soil & Water District or MPCA will test the nitrate levels.

ATTRACTIONS FOR KIDS & ADULTS:

Free Trees • Best Management Practices • Water Quality Information • Watershed Health • Master Gardeners • Pollinator Info
• Archaeology Exhibits • Climbing Wall • DNR Fish Tanks • Little Crow Anglers Minnow Races & Casting Practice • Sibley State Park
Naturalist • MPCA Bee Atlas Info • Nature Art by Demo, Inc. • Hands on Educational Activities & Many More Exhibits

EVENT ORGANIZERS:



EVENT SPONSORS: Cash Wise • Cub Foods • Jennie-O • MN Dairy Association • MN Pork Producers • Redstar Creative



PWELC COMMUNITY EDUCATION OFFERINGS

SUMMER 2018

***PADDLE THE CROW*All ages**

Come with Prairie Woods ELC and the Middle Fork Crow River Watershed District to “Paddle the Crow.” This will be a 3 hour river trip down the Middle Fork of the Crow River. We will paddle 17 foot canoes in addition to PWELC’s 34 foot Voyageur Canoe (perfect for novices and families with young children). The trip will start at the boat access/fishing pier parking lot on the New London Mill Pond. From there we will be shuttled to “Dilly” Bridge north of New London and paddle back to the Mill Pond. Lunch afterward will be provided by the Middle Fork Crow River Watershed District. All equipment will be provided.

Date: Saturday, June 2nd

Time: 9:00-12:00 Cost: \$7/person and \$20/family

***GAME DAY AT THE PIONEER CABIN*Grades: 3rd-6th**

Who’s up for some friendly competition? After dressing as a pioneer, unplug for a morning of blind man’s bluff, a three legged race, a game of graces (hoops & sticks), kubbb, and many more pioneer games. If it’s raining out we’ll see how you do at jacks, pick up sticks, and card games. (Meet at Farmsite)

Date: Tuesday, June 5 Time: 9:30 am – 11:30 am Cost: \$8

***PWELC SAMPLER*Grades: 1st and up**

Come experience what Prairie Woods ELC has to offer. We will visit the Pioneer Cabin to see how people lived “back in the day”, do the Flying Squirrel, Climb the wall, track some animals, and learn some outdoor survival skills. Bring a sack lunch. (meet at main building)

Date: Monday, June 11th Time: 8:00-4:00 Cost: \$25

KAYAK THE CROW RIVER.....

Ages: 12 and up for solo boat, Please call to discuss options for younger children Join the Guides from Prairie Woods Environmental Learning Center for an exciting adventure on the water. Kayaks, gear and instruction will be provided. Registration required. Max of 18 participants.

Date: Friday, June 29th 2018 Time: 1:30pm – 3:30pm

Location: Mill Pond Beach (New London, Minnesota)

Fee: \$15.00 per Kayak

***PIONEER SKILLS.....*Grades: 3rd – 6th**

Do you have what it takes to live as a pioneer? Test your knowledge while participating in our version of “Oregon Trail”. Brush up or develop your compass skills. Try your hand at the cross cut saw and buck saw. If time allows, you might go home with a craft as well. (Meet at Farmsite)

Date: Thursday, July 19 Time: 9 am – 12 pm Cost:\$15

2018 NEW LONDON WATER DAYS EVENT

The Prairie Woods Environmental Learning Center Yellow Boats Project will be participating in the New London Water Days Event in 2018. Kayaks will be available to paddle on the Mill Pond.

Date: Saturday, July 21st 2018 Time: 12:00pm – 3:00pm Fee: Free

YOUTH SHOTGUN SPORTING CLAYS

SPONSORED BY TOMMY SWENSON MEMORIAL ICE

***FISHING TOURNAMENT.....*Grades: 12-18**

Did you know that Prairie Woods ELC has a Sporting Clay Shotgun Range? The clays come from the left, right, straight at you, from behind you, there is even one that rolls on the ground. You may bring your own (12 or 20ga) shotgun or borrow one of ours. There will be two ranges set up. One for 1st time shooters in addition to our regular sporting clay range.

Program cost greatly reduced due to contribution from the Tommy Swenson Memorial Ice Fishing Tournament. (meet at Westby shooting range)

Date: Tuesday, July 24th

Time: 6:00-6:45, 6:45-7:30, 7:30-8:15 Cost: \$5

***KAYAK RINGO LAKE.....*Grades 5 and up**

Ages: 12 and up for solo boat, Please call to discuss options for younger children. Join the Guides from Prairie Woods Environmental Learning Center for an exciting adventure on the water. Kayaks, gear and instruction will be provided. Registration required. Max of 18 participants.

Date: Friday, July 27th 2018 Time: 1:30pm – 3:30pm

Location: Ringo Lake Access Fee: \$15.00 per Kayak

***PIONEER DAY*GRADES: 3RD – 6TH**

Help Anna Danielson get ready for fall. Find out what pioneer life was really like with this ALL day adventure. We’ll start the day by dressing as a pioneer. Then we’ll get busy with our indoor chores which will include preparing our own pioneer lunch. Followed by some outdoor activities such as doing laundry, cutting wood & beating rugs. After chores we should find time to play a few games, make a craft & maybe even end with a sweet treat of homemade ice cream! (Meet at Farmsite)

Date: Tuesday, Aug. 7

Time: 8 am – 4 pm Cost: \$35 (includes lunch)

YOUTH SPORTING CLAY AND .22 SHOOT SPONSORED BY

***PHEASANTS FOREVER.....*Grades 11-16**

This is a great opportunity to shoot for the 1st time OR to improve your already existing shooting skills. Included in the class will be instruction on safe gun handling and shooting technique. Firearms, shells, and targets will be provided. You may bring your own 12 or 20ga shotgun. All levels of shooters are invited. (Meet at Westby Shooting range)

Date: Saturday, August 11th

Time: 3:00-5:00 with Hotdog dinner to follow program. Cost: \$5

***NATURE DAYS*Grades: K-3**

WHAT’S THAT????? Let’s check it out! For three mornings we will explore the natural world in which we live. We will use hands-on activities and games to better understand the forest, prairie, and the wetlands at Prairie Woods. Bring a sack lunch, snacks, and a water bottle.

(meet at main building)

Date: Tues-Thurs, August 14,15,16 Time: 8:30am-11:30am Cost: \$55

***FULL MOON CANOE*Grades: 5th and up**

Come with your friends or family to enjoy the solitude of a Prairie Woods wetland while watching the sun set and the moon rise all in the same evening. Canoe, paddles, life jackets and instruction provided by Prairie Woods ELC. Children must be accompanied by an adult.

(meet at farmsite)

Date: Friday, August 24th

Time: 6:00p-8:00p Cost: \$7 per person

***INDOOR ROCK CLIMBING GYM*All Ages**

Climbing offers a chance to challenge yourself both physically and mentally at your own pace. Rock Climbing is a true adventure sport. Beginners can learn about the sport, exercise and have fun! Experienced climbers can come train and refine their skills. The Prairie Woods ELC instructors are here to help every climber reach new heights! Equipment will be provided. Meet at the main building. Registration required.

Date(s): Thursday, April 5th ,Thursday, June 7th ,Thursday, August 2nd

Time: 4:00pm – 5:30pm Cost: \$10 per climber / per session

