



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

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.

*Thank you for
your support.*

Join Us!
PRAIRIE WOODS ENVIRONMENTAL LEARNING CENTER
Annual Membership for 2015

- ☐ New Member
☐ Renewing Member

SUPPORTER'S MEMBERSHIP

- ☐ Individual Membership \$30.00
☐ Family Membership \$45.00
☐ Organization/Business Membership Please call for rates.
☐ I / we are interested in volunteering at Prairie Woods.

Name(s) _____
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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

BENEFACTOR'S MEMBERSHIP

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



PRAIRIE WOODS
Warbler



VOLUME 25

WINTER 2014/2015

ISSUE 1

BOARD MEMBERS 2015

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YES! Unit Coordinator,
Building & Grounds Steward
Winston Pennington-Flax
YES! Unit Coordinator
Danny Kulset,
Building & Grounds Assistant

Sleigh Rides & Winter Fun on Valentine's Day!
Join us for the 2nd Annual Winter Sleigh & Ski Festival
at Prairie Woods!!

The Winter Sleigh and Ski Festival at Prairie Woods is a community gathering to celebrate the outdoor life and share winter activities both indoors and outdoors. Last year over 600 people enjoyed sleigh rides, skiing, snowshoeing, a chili feed, great music and a variety of exhibits.



The Cedar Creek Band will be back this year by popular demand. Vicki Vogt will be serving up chili, provided by Jennie-O Turkey Store, from 11a-1pm. Fred & Joy Zwart and Gary Stai are organizing sleigh teams to provide free sleigh rides and a sleigh parade. We already have a good group of volunteers slated to help with this great event, but we can always use more help.

If you have a winter hobby or passion to share please give us a call. Exhibitors thus far include MN Darkhouse Anglers, Willmar Curling Club,

Willmar Nordic Ski Club, woodworkers, woodcarvers, birdwatching enthusiasts, and more. If you would like to bring a horse drawn sleigh to the festival please contact Fred Zwart or Gary Stai. Individuals, businesses and organizations who would like to bring exhibits or help with food, parking, music or activities, please contact Dave or Mari at the PWELC office.

The Sleigh & Ski Festival is a free event made possible through free-will donations, volunteers, and generous community minded individuals and businesses. There will be an equipment rental charge of \$5 for those who wish to ski, snowshoe or climb.

Please help to promote the Sleigh and Ski Fest by posting the center insert of this newsletter prominently out in the community. All are welcome!!

Important Announcement: The Recycled Outdoor Gear Sale is moving to EARTH DAY!
Get an early start on spring cleaning.

Donate your good used outdoor gear to PWELC and then come on out on Saturday, April 25th for some pancakes, fun and bargains on Earth Day. Give us a call to arrange pick-up or drop-off of your items. All proceeds help to support youth and family programs at PWELC.

SAVE the DATE(s)!!!

2nd Annual Sleigh & Ski Festival.....Feb. 14th (11a-4p)
EARTH DAY 2015Saturday, April 25th (8a-1p)
Recycled Outdoor Gear SaleSaturday April 25th (8a-1p)
An Evening of Music Under the Prairie StarsFriday, Sept 11, 2015





Notes from the Executive Director

by Dave Pederson, Executive Director

Welcome to 2015! As I write this, the temp is -14F. The wind is howling and the moon hangs full in a clear sky. When the wind lulls, I can hear expansion cracks shoot across the frozen Crow River outside of my window. Yesterday, my daughter Marie and I enjoyed a ski on the river on a sunny warm (+25F) day. The wind tonight will surely erase our ski tracks but pleasant images of our ski adventure will long remain in a fold of the brain that harbors happy memories.

My life has been shaped by time spent outdoors, both alone and with friends. I was blessed to have older brothers who helped feed my appetite for adventure, and supportive parents who somehow understood my need for wilderness travel and just being outdoors in nature. Many kids are not so lucky, and that's where you and I and Prairie Woods have a key role to play. It is hard to care for something if we have no direct experience or connection with that thing. Getting kids connected to the wonders of nature and the enjoyment of healthy outdoor recreation is a critical first step in developing an ethic of environmental stewardship.

This newsletter will provide updates on some ways that Prairie Woods is connecting kids with nature and environmental stewardship and also describes some ways that you can help. Please check out the "5 Cents for YES!" waste oil collection partnership between PWELC and East Side Oil Company and the WorldWear shoe donation fundraising project. Please read the article on the sustainability endowment and consider joining the Prairie Woods Legacy Circle. And definitely plan to join us for the Sleigh & Ski Festival in February, and Earth Day and the Recycled Outdoor Gear Sale in April. Please help publicize these events and put them on your calendar.

Thanks for being a partner with Prairie Woods! I wish you a Happy and Healthy New Year.

Sincerely,
Dave



THANKS UNITED WAY OF WEST CENTRAL MINNESOTA!

Prairie Woods received a \$10,000 grant from United Way of West Central Minnesota, to support youth programs in 2014-2015.



These funds are critical for keeping programs available and affordable for the thousands of kids who participate in our challenge course and environmental education programs each year. Funds awarded by United Way to PWELC have a great ripple effect, as many United Way agencies also utilize services at Prairie Woods for team building, healthy outdoor recreation and environmental education. Thanks United Way! and thanks to all who help to support United Way of West Central Minnesota.

NEEDS & GIVING OPPORTUNITIES

- * Volunteer to help organize the Sleigh & Ski Festival
- * Volunteer to help with trail work and small building projects
- * Volunteer to help sew and mend Time Travel costumes
- * Volunteer to help with firearm safety
- * Apple cider press and grinder for Time Travel
- * Cool silent auction items for Prairie Stars 2015
- * Donations of good used outdoor gear for the Recycled Outdoor Gear Sale
- * Donate shoes for WorldWear project



SOME OF THE NICE THINGS DONE RECENTLY FOR PRAIRIE WOODS BY PEOPLE LIKE YOU!

- Jack Woodhall donated 5pairs of skis and 13 sets of boots and poles
- Hans Dahl donated a Celestron telescope
- Joel & Cathy Halbritter and Ron & Dee Erpelding made contributions to the sustainability endowment.
- Rick and Jodi Loeth gave memorial gifts in honor of Jay Kieft and Anine Picard
- Ron & Dee Erpelding made memorial gifts in honor of Richard Swenson & Jay Kieft.
- The Gale families gave a gift in honor of Joani Easterlund.
- Jeff & LeeAnn Ettinger continued their support at a \$1000 Benefactor Level.
- Dan and Cheryl Rauenhurst contributed at a \$2500 Benefactor Level.

Other recent membership renewals at various Benefactor Levels included: Bob & Judy Snook, Jeff & Pat Olson, Jeff & Cheryl Johnson, Michael & Joan Meyer, Karen Schneider, Wanda Malone, Tim & Mary Pich, Tom & Julie DeBoer, Tom & Cheryl Glaeser. Friends who renewed family memberships or made other contributions over the past few months included: Tom and Jeanie Groth, Lynn Edwards, Suzanne Miller, Ken & Karen Damhof, LeRoy Dahlke, Gwen Steffen and Erik Hatlestad.

KWLM and 106.5 The Train featured Prairie Woods on Community Spotlight throughout the month leading up to Prairie Stars. Thanks to West Central Sanitation and Anderson & Larson for sponsoring Community Spotlight.

SITE UPDATES:

*Conservation Pays! A look back at our utility bills produced an interesting factoid. Our heating bill for 2003 was \$11,713 with propane at \$1.05/gal. Our heating bill in 2013 was \$5000, relying almost entirely on biomass pellets for heating. Had we not changed behavior and adapted our technology, our cost for propane in 2014 could have been a whopping \$51,425 (Jan. 2014 propane price was \$4.61/gal) and this figure does not even factor in that our building square footage increased 25% in 2007. Our primary savings came from paying attention, intelligent use of existing HVAC systems, adding insulating shades to all windows, and installing biomass stoves, a biomass boiler system and a solar air heating system. Virtually all of our costs for upgrades were recovered during just one year when propane prices spiked due to shortages.

THE PRAIRIE WOODS LEGACY CIRCLE..... & You

In October of 2002, longtime Prairie Woods supporters, Ron and Dee Erpelding made the first pledge of \$10,000 over three years to a newly established PWELC Sustainability Endowment Fund. The Erpeldings made their pledge contingent upon it being matched dollar for dollar by other donors. PWELC Trustees Karen Schneider, Paul and Sandy Vollan & Lake Region State Bank and Mary Merlin quickly answered the challenge and the PWELC Sustainability Endowment was underway! In 2005, \$80,000 of a bequest from Ruth & Helen Peterson Estate was placed into the Sustainability Endowment fund and a dream of a one million dollar fund was well on its way to a reality.

Since the Sustainability Endowment was established, many additional donors as well as the founding donors have continued to make contributions. The endowment total to date stands at nearly \$250,000 and, with announced pledges, will exceed \$500,000 within six years. Prairie Woods was recently listed by anonymous donors as a beneficiary of a lead unitrust. This one gift alone, subject to market performance, is expected to contribute over \$200,000 to the endowment fund over the next seven years. Dennis and Karen Peterson set a great example by listing PWELC as the beneficiary on a life insurance policy. Others have directed memorial gifts to the sustainability endowment or made annual contributions. Step by step, gift by gift, we are creating a legacy that will position Prairie Woods for growth and service far into the future.

It is a profound act to contribute to a fund and a cause that will benefit literally hundreds of thousands of people for many generations to come. Contributions to the endowment will earn interest in perpetuity. Only interest earnings up to 5% will be spent annually to support the programs and operations of Prairie Woods Environmental Learning Center. Please consider a gift to the sustainability endowment and become a part of the Legacy Circle by notifying us that you have included Prairie Woods in your charitable gifts and estate planning. Gifts in any amount are welcome and important.

If you are considering a donation to Prairie Woods, please contact Dave Pederson, PWELC Executive Director at 320-354-5894. THANKS for considering a gift to further the work of Prairie Woods Environmental Learning Center!

*EE Notes* -Kory Klebe- EE Coordinator

It seems that most of my EE newsletter notes start with something about the weather. Which I guess makes sense since we do try to do most of our “Environmental” education outdoors in the environment. So, I guess it is always on our minds.

With that, how does the saying go? “If you don’t like the weather in Minnesota just wait 5 minutes.” That was an appropriate saying for the end of 2014 when the weather was toying with my emotions (and programs). The 10 inches of snow in November got us really excited for the winter ski season. We groomed trails and had a couple of weekends of O.K. skiing. We even booked some ski and snowshoe classes. Then came a week of 50 degree weather. Most Minnesotans were happy about the warm weather and melting snow. However, it does make it hard to teach kids how to ski and snowshoe. The show must go on... and it did with those classes being changed to the indoor climbing wall and survival. A fun and educational experience was had by all in spite of, or regardless of, the weather.

By the time you get this newsletter I hope the snow is back, the trails are groomed, and we are ready for our winter school groups to arrive. While we have the regulars (like Hutchinson,

St. Francis Xavier, KMS, Litchfield) already on the winter schedule, we still have room for more winter groups (unlike May which is already booked solid for 2015).

Are you an individual or a family looking for something to do this winter? We have programs for you too. Check out our website for public programs including skiing and snowshoe classes. There is even something for the kids to do on President’s Day when they don’t have school. Don’t let winter weather turn you blue, get out and enjoy it.

~New for 2015~

\$5 ski rentals for members and students (pre-K thru college).

Also, remember that you and your family can ski free one day with the purchase of a new family membership at Prairie Woods.

Time Travel Notes... Mari Klebe- Time Travel Program Leader

“It was autumn, and the days were getting short and cold. A fire burned all day in the cookstove to keep the little house warm. Laura and Mary worked on their patchwork quilts in front of the fire.”

My First Little House Books – [The Deer in the Wood](#)

We are a bit past the days of autumn now but it was perfect timing to read this book for our October Story Hour. The Pioneer Story Hour, offered through Community Education, introduced children to the world of Laura Ingalls Wilder and life on the prairie. The children were transported back in time as they dressed in pioneer clothes, took a seat on the blankets spread on the floor in front of the wood burning stove, and listened to the story read by the light of candles and lanterns. The story lead to lots of interesting questions, “Why do Laura and Mary sleep in the living room?” “Why didn’t they eat meat for supper?” Some are easier to answer than others. “Where did Pa learn to play the fiddle?” After the story, we did a craft taken from a page in the book. In the case of *The Deer in the Wood*, each child tried a little bit of quilting. They were given four squares of material to sew together. I was a bit skeptical about sewing needles and little fingers but I can happily say no blood was drawn. Many of them were so interested they ended up sewing six squares and taking material home to continue working on, girls and boys alike.

If you know someone that would be interested in Pioneer Story Hour please sign them up either through Community Education or call us at Prairie Woods. The next Story Hour is Jan. 27, 4 -5:15 pm. If you have a pioneer craft or activity that you would like to share with younger people please contact me, Mari Klebe. We’re always looking for new ways to enhance the program.



Fun with pioneer buzz saw toys

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

Fall 2014 was great at the Prairie Woods Environmental Learning Center Challenge Course. Virtually every day, the course resounded with shouts of encouragement, grunts of exertion, and all manner of exclamations as kids made it, or almost made it, to the top of the climbing tower and the giant

ladder or squealed with surprise as they soared on the Flying Squirrel.

Now, winter has arrived which means one thing..... It's indoor climbing season! Cold weather and snow won't stop us from climbing. The Prairie Woods ELC indoor climbing facility offers a climate controlled environment that allows for programming and exercise, despite the inevitably harsh Minnesota weather conditions. Rock climbing, rope climbing, and countless team building games are all available options for 2015. The ever evolving indoor climbing gym is designed for climbers of all ages and skill levels. The indoor climbing wall now features two Tru-Blu auto-belays, a cargo net and a climbing rope challenge. Your group is sure to go home tired, challenged and happy.

Whether you are an individual or a group, be sure to check out our offerings in the Community Education calendar or contact Steve to schedule and customize your Challenge Course program.

*Home on the Range* - Kory Klebe

In the last newsletter I wrote about the 67 youth that participated in our MN DNR all day field and range day programs and also our Forkhorn Camps in collaboration with Minnesota Deer Hunters Association and the Minnesota DNR. On the behalf of those participants I thanked the conservation groups that made those programs possible. In this newsletter I would like to add to that list – all of the 2014 Prairie Stars attendees.

With the support of all these groups we were able to add to our educational supplies for these programs and all future participants. Among the list of items that we were able to purchase were:

- .22 lever action rifle – for demonstration of actions and use at .22 live fire portion of classes
- Break action shotgun – for demonstration of actions
- Trail camera- to see if we picked the right place to put up our deer stand
- Nikon camera- to check trail camera photos “in the field”
- Range finder – to tell us how close we were in our yardage estimation

Thank you again for your support. All of these items will greatly enhance youth sporting programs at Prairie Woods.

***Call now about 2015 Forkhorn Camps! Forkhorn 1 June 14-18, Firearm Safety • Forkhorn 2 June 21-25 Bowhunter Safety**

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

**AN EVENING OF MUSIC UNDER THE PRAIRIE STARS 2014**

The 2014 Evening Under the Prairie Stars was another great success. Because of supporters and donors like you, we were able to raise over \$28,000, after expenses, to support youth and family programs at Prairie Woods. Please help us thank these kind and generous folks who participated in the Prairie Stars event this year.

This year's major sponsors included:

EVENT UNDERWRITERS \$2500

Jennie-O Turkey Store
Lakeland Broadcasting

PWELC Trustees

ECO-SPONSORS \$1000

Affiliated Community Medical Center

Family Practice Medical Center

Mary Merlin

DeeDee Johnson

PRAIRIE PARTNERS \$500

Anfinson & Thompson & Co.

Jeff & Sue Danielson

Energy Concepts

Harvest Bank

Heritage Bank

Lake Region Bank

John & Mary Lindstrom

Northern States Supply

Dennis & Karen Peterson

Dr. Roger and Kay Strand

Louise Thoma

VOYAGERS \$250

Bremer Bank & Bremer Trust

Chappell Central, Inc.
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Dooley's Petroleum, Inc.

Duininck Companies

ECAD Engineering

Ron & Dee Erpelding

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Lakes Area Dental LTD

Dennis & Ruthanne Neeser

Northern Factory Sales

Dave Pederson & Ruth Fairchild

Pioneer Heritage Insurance

Denise & Tim Smith

South Central Tent Rental, Inc.

State Farm Insurance Agency – Mick Quinn

Terwisscha Construction

Jim & Terry Tetzloff

Three Sisters Furnishings, LLC

West Central Sanitation, Inc.

West Central Tribune

We had a fantastic Prairie Stars silent auction thanks to the following contributors:

Mary Merlin, WillmarYMCA, Summit Brewery, Archery Country, Wild Mountain & Taylors Falls, Sky Zone, Chanhassen Dinner Theatre, Floor to Ceiling, MN Vikings, Fan HQ, Chicago Cubs, Urban Escape, Cindy Ohl, Conway, Dueth & Schmiesing, Johnny O'Neil's, Fair Winds Salon & Day Spa, Fulton Brewing Company, Heritage Bank, Stampin up!, Big Kahuna, Li'l Bo-Tique, Acme Comedy Club, Pat Walsh – Atwater Ford, Wayne & Linda Nelson, Dangerous Man Brewing Company, Happy Sol, MN Timberwolves, Linden Chiropractic, Grandma's Restaurant, Loren & Smitty Luschen, Kay Ruhl, Marry Kay Consultant – Sarah Nelson, Mill Pond Mercantile, MN Orchestra, Nutiva, Kay's Natural, Madison Bottling of Madison, MN, Green Lake Liquors, Myron Van de Ven, Spicer Castle, Pheasants Forever, Prairies Edge Casino, Tiny Prints, Ron Erpelding, Salon J, St. Paul Saints, Casey's, Stacey's Nursery, Third Street Brewhouse, Walt's, Lakeland Broadcasting, Zorbaz on Green Lake, Jim Tetzloff, Prairie Woods, Steve Hage, Wally & Mel's, Ali J's Boutique, Little Crow Golf Course, McKale's, John Lindstrom, Skindeliens', House of Comedy, Aesthetics, Green Mill, Chef Monte, Guthrie Theatre, Surley Brewing Company, Flying Goose, Leroy Dahlke, Earth Easy, Timeworn Wood in Atwater

Special Thank You:

Fladeboe Auction, Luke Geiger Creative, Green Mill, South Central Tent Rental, Universal/Speedy Print, Green 2 Go, Rustic Designs, PWELC Trustees, Members, Staff & Volunteers, and Prairie Stars Committee Members – Laura Nelson, Amanda Toutges, Mary Merlin, Ron Erpelding, Beth Anderson, Jim Tetzloff, Christina Wordes, Dave Pederson, Mari Klebe

**YES! Updates** - Jonathan Morales and Shelli-Kae Foster

"What happens to used oil?" What began as a simple question posed by Autumn Lanners from the Royalton Youth Energy Summit (YES!) Team, started a whole chain of new opportunities for YES! Autumn discovered that motor oil, when not disposed of properly, can equate to a mini environmental disaster. To put this in perspective, one quart of oil can contaminate 250,000 gallons of water. Only a couple of decades ago it was common practice to dump oil on gravel roads to keep dust down. People now understand the environmental degradation caused by dumping oil and that we need a better place to put it. This is where the story gets really cool! After doing some research, Autumn made contact with East Side Oil Companies (ESOC) out of St. Cloud, MN and found that they have a public drop-off oil recycling program. After some persistent groundwork, the Royalton YES! team put in place their very own (ESOC) Oil Recycling Drop-off site. These sites provide a valuable service to the community and open up a source of revenue from donations at the site for future YES! projects. This worked so well that two other YES! teams, Westbrook-Walnut Grove and Lac qui Parle, jumped on board and put up their own ESOC Oil Recycling Sites.

"5 CENTS FOR YES!"

The YES! Oil Recycling Drop-Off sites have been going so well that ESOC asked what else they could do for the YES! Program. With this question in mind, they came up with the "5 Cents for YES!" program. This program allows any new or existing ESOC oil recycling account to support YES! by simply switching to ESOC or staying with ESOC and pledging to support YES!. After that, ESOC donates 5 cents to YES! for every gallon of waste oil collected from participating accounts. This helps ESOC gain more business and provides YES! with a continued source of funding for future community projects.



Royalton YES! team Waste oil collection site

Please help us thank these businesses in the Willmar area for participating in the "5 Cents for YES!" program:

Beto's Auto Repair, Clark's Auto Clinic, Fatty Daddy Auto Import & More Repair, Fleet Pride, Grand Rental Station, Jennie-O Turkey Store, Larry's Power Equipment, Little Crow Sports Center, Robbie's 9 & 71 Auto Body and Glass, Spicer Power Products, and Walt's Soft Cloth Car Wash.

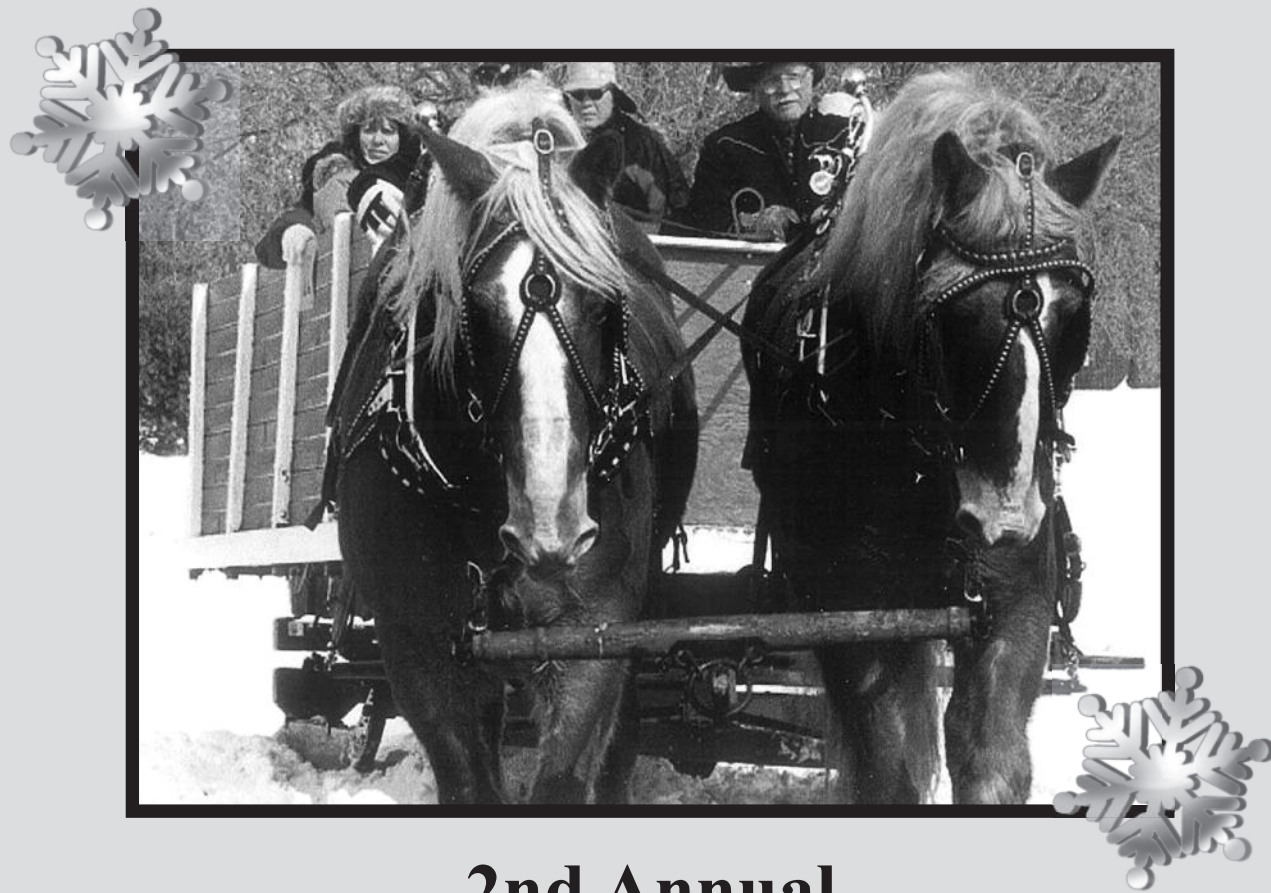
Please help spread the word about "5 Cents for YES!". Contact Jonathan Morales (320-354-5894) if you know a service station, implement dealer or trucking company who may have waste oil they wish to sell. East Side Oil will pay participating businesses for their oil and donate 5 cents a gallon to YES! at no additional cost to the vendor.

Learn more about YES! at www.youthenergysummit.org

Major funding for YES! is provided by the MN Environment and Natural Resources Trust Fund as recommended by the Legislative Citizen Commissions on MN Resources (LCCMR)

We need your SHOES!! You can donate gently worn shoes to Prairie Woods for the WorldWear Project. The shoes are sent to developing countries or recycled and kept out of the landfill. You reduce clutter and Prairie Woods earns approximately \$1 for each pair of donated shoes. Please bring your shoes to the Sleigh & Ski Fest or EARTH DAY and help us fill our shoeboxes. THANKS!





2nd Annual Prairie Woods Sleigh & Ski Festival

Saturday February 14, 2015 11:00 am to 4:00pm

Prairie Woods Environmental Learning Center

12718 10th St NE Spicer, MN

Join us for a day of winter fun!

Chili Feed (11a -1p), Sleigh Parade, Music, Exhibits
and More.

Sleigh Rides from 1 to 3 pm.

Try XC Skiing, Snowshoeing & Rockclimbing



General Info Contact:

Prairie Woods @ 320-354-5894

Sleigh Contact Info:

Fred Zwart @ 320-220-0843

Gary Stai @ 320-905-0519

Web—www.prairiewoodsele.org





PWELC COMMUNITY EDUCATION OFFERINGS
WINTER/SPRING 2015

PRAIRIE WOODS SAMPLER AT YOUR SCHOOLAll Ages
Prairie Woods Environmental Learning Center is coming to your school. Get a sample of some of the things that we do at Prairie Woods ELC. We will start with some science; talking about wild things and how they live. Then we will play some games that work on team building skills. Come and join the fun.

**Date: Monday, Jan 20 (Willmar Middle School)
Tuesday, Jan 22 (Roosevelt Elem.)
Thursday, Jan 23 (Kennedy Elem.)
Time: 3:45-5:00
Cost: \$5**

INDOOR ROCK CLIMBING GYMAll 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 main building.

**Date: Tuesday, Jan 27, Thursday, Jan 29
Thursday, Feb 5 Or
Thursday, March 12th , Thursday, March 19th
Thursday, March 26th
Time: 4:00-5:30pm
Cost: \$10/individual class • \$24/all 3 sessions**

STORY HOUR AT THE PIONEER CABIN.....Grades: K-3
Come to the Pioneer Cabin at Prairie Woods! Dress as a pioneer and listen to a story about the Ingalls family and what pioneer life was like. We will take a page out of the book and do an activity that Laura did. This will be a different story from our other Story Hours. Kids, ask your parents if they want to come too! (Meet at Farmsite)
**Date: Tuesday, Jan 27
Time: 4:00- 5:15 pm
Cost: \$5 per child (adults free)**

CROSS COUNTRY SKIING CLUB.....Grades: 4 and older
In this class we will be hitting the trails to have an adventure on the skinny skis. Prairie Woods has numerous miles of groomed trails. Instruction and equipment provided. Meet at main building.
**Date: Thursday, February 19, Thursday, February 26
Thursday, March 5
Time: 4:00-5:30PM
Cost: \$10/person for individual classes
\$24/person for all 3 sessions**

SNOWSHOEINGGrades: 4 and older
Arctic Adventure or at least Prairie Wood’s version. On snowshoes, you can explore “off the beaten path” and beyond the trails. Enjoy this magical adventure through quiet woods and hills, while watching for tracks and signs of our animal neighbors. Instruction and all equipment provided. Meet at main building
**Date: Tuesday, February 24
Time: 4:00-5:30PM
Cost: \$8/person**

SKI/CLIMB/SURVIVE:Ages: 4 and older
NO SCHOOL TODAY-WHAT ARE YOU GOING TO DO?
Get outside and explore this winter! Hit the trails and have an adventure on the skinny skis. Learn some winter survival skills. Then we will come inside to finish the day at the indoor climbing wall. Meet at main building.
**Date: Monday, February 16
Time: 1:00-5:00PM
Cost: \$20/person**

SLEIGH-FEST AND WINTER FAMILY FUN DAY.....Everyone
Let it snow, Let it snow, Let it snow. Celebrate winter at PWELC with fun outdoor activities for everyone in the family; snowshoeing, and cross country skiing. Indoors, warm up by the fire and try your hand at the climbing wall.
**This year’s fun day is in conjunction with a sleigh festival, which is a free event with sleighs, wagons, horses, riders, chili feed, and music.
**Date: Saturday, February 14
Time: 11:00-4:00 PM
Cost: \$5 per person, \$15 max per family (for use of skies, snowshoes, and climbing wall)
Reminder: Bring shoes for WorldWear project**

BEGINNER ARCHERY CLASS.....Grades: 5 and up
This class gives you the opportunity to learn the basics of using a compound bow and arrow. We will be working on form, safety, technique, how to properly use the equipment, etc. A hands-on class of learning and fun while practicing and playing archery games that all ages will enjoy. All equipment will be provided. Meet at farmsite.
**Date: Tuesday, March 3
Time: 4:00-5:30pm
Cost: \$10/person**

AFTER SCHOOL ARCHERY CLUB.....Grades: 5 and up
It is lots of fun learning and practicing the skill of archery. We will be using compound bows to improve our skills. We will play games, shoot 3-d targets, Olympic style archery, and use the atl-atl’s, all while aiming to have a great time. Equipment will be provided. (meet at farmsite)
**Date: Tuesday, March 10, 17, and 24th
Time: 4:00-5:30pm
Cost: \$30/person**

EARTH DAY CELEBRATIONEveryone
Open to all
A fun and educational experience for the whole family. Booths, exhibits, and activities offer information about water quality, energy efficiency, land management, and much more. Pancake and sausage breakfast from 8-10am (free will donation).
Enjoy food, entertainment, kid activities and information about “greening” your life. No pre-registration necessary.
**Date: Saturday, April 25th
Time: 8:00-1:00pm
Cost: Free
Reminder: Bring shoes for WorldWear project**