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

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| ٠ | Receive information and | |
| | invitations to special events | i |

invitations to special events at Prairie Woods.

WHY BE A MEMBER?

• Know you are supporting

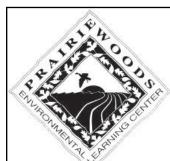
programs you believe in at an

organization that is impor-

- Benefit from discounts on equipment rentals and programs.
- ◆ Continue to receive the Warbler newsletter three times a year.

Thank you for your support.

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|---|--|--------|---|--|--|--|--|
| | Prairie Woods Environmental Learning Center Annual Membership for 2015/2016 | | | | | | |
| | □ New Member □ Renewing Member | | | | | | |
| | SUPPORTER'S MEMBERSHIP Individual Membership | Be | NEFACTOR'S MEMBERSHIF \$100 to \$499 \$500 to \$999 \$1000 | | | | |
| | ☐ I / we are interested in volunteering at Prairie Woods. Name(s) | | | | | | |
| | AddressCity/State/ZIPEmail | | | | | | |
| i | Please enclose payment to Prairie Woods ELC, and send to: | | | | | | |
| | Prairie Woods Environmental Learning Cent 12718 10th Street NE Spicer, Minnesota 56288 | er | | | | | |
| į | Questions or comments? Please call us at 320-354-5894 or e-mail u | s at p | welc@co.kandiyohi.mn.us | | | | |



Prairie Woods

Warbler



VOLUME 26

NONPROFIT ORGANIZATION

U.S. POSTAGE PAID
TWIN CITIES MN

PERMIT NO. 3876

SUMMER/FALL 2015

ISSUE 2

BOARD MEMBERS 2015

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Christina Wordes- Co-Treasurer
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Jim Tetzloff
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Dave Pederson, Executive Director Kory Klebe, EE Coordinator Steven Friedlein, Challenge Course Coordinator Deb Anderson, Program Facilitator Mari Klebe, Office Manager Shelli-Kae Foster YES! Grant Project Leader Jonathan Morales, YES! Unit Coordinator, Building & Grounds Steward Danny Kulset, Building & Grounds Assistant

The next BIG THING at Prairie Woods is here!!!

The Prairie Woods Pinnacle, a 26' 5-climber portable climbing wall, has become the latest big program hit at PWELC. Big Thanks go out to the many partners who made it possible to purchase the portable climbing wall: Jennie-O Turkey Store, Willmar Area Community Foundation, Prairie Stars donors, Roger & Kay Strand, Prairie Pothole Chapter of Minnesota Waterfowl Association, Minnesota Waterfowl Association, Kandiyohi County and the estate of Cindy Westby. Big thanks also to United Way of West Central Minnesota for helping to provide funding support to bring the portable wall to several local events in the coming year.

The portable climbing wall is boosting our on-site capacity as well as providing another great option for groups who would prefer to have programs delivered to the site of their choice. The Prairie Woods Pinnacle paired with the Big Canoe can make for an unforgettable outdoor experience for your community. We expect that outreach programs with the big canoe and climbing wall will enable us to reach thousands more people each year. That's big news.



"Not just for Kids!"

Picture notes:

Kandiyohi County Commissioners test out the Pinnacle (and themselves) while helping to raise funds for Prairie Woods ELC at a recent Climb for a Cause event at the Kandiyohi County Health & Human Services Building. L-R Rollie Nissen, Jim Butterfield, Roger Imdieke, Harlan Madsen & Doug Reese.

Harlan Madsen won bragging rights by being the first of the commissioners to reach the summit, but all five made it to the top!!

Special thanks to Roger Imdieke for originating this event and raising pledges to support Prairie Woods. Big thanks also to County Administrator Larry Kleindl and Caryn Marcus for orchestrating the event.

Upcoming Events- Save the date!

| - 1 | | |
|-----|---|------------------------------|
| | PW Pinnacle at Kandiyohi County Fair | Saturday, August 8, 2015 |
| | Big Canoe and Pinnacle at the New London Music Festival | Saturday, August 15, 2015 |
| | Annual Membership Meeting & Potluck | Monday, August 17, 2015 |
| | Music Under the Prairie Stars | Friday, September 11, 2015 |
| | PW Pinnacle and EETent at Prairie Pothole Day | Saturday, September 12, 2015 |
| | Halloween Haunt | Friday, October 30, 2015 |
| | 3rd Annual Sleigh & Ski Festival | Sunday, February 14, 2016 |
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Notes from the Executive Director

by Dave Pederson, Executive Director

As I arrive to work I notice a wood duck fly out of Kettle Lake and I think of Roger Strand; glimpsing a bluebird taking flight from it's perch on the signboard I think of Ron Erpelding. I walk into the Ruth and Helen Peterson Exhibit Hall each morning, notice the morning glow in the Linder Tree House, and then move into the Earl B Olson Addition to slide open the patio doors to let cool morning air wash through the building. Glancing up the hill toward the Westby Building I see two spotted fawns move into the woods and I think of Gary and Cindy Westby. As I enter the office, I think of former Director, John Hanson, sitting in a nearly empty room in a new building as the only full-time paid employee of PWELC and trying to do it all from admin. to programs to maintenance and more. I am reminded that virtually everything and every program exists as the legacy of those who have laid the groundwork, nurtured ideas, raised funds, made donations, volunteered, invested sweat equity and made things happen.



The place and the programs of PWELC, are imbued with the spirit of people (like you) who have invested time, energy, creativity and money in realizing a dream and continue to nurture and nudge the dream to the next level. Prairie Woods is humming with activity. We have recently stepped up our game once again with the addition of a portable climbing wall, which combined with our eco-voyageur program and Yes! teams, gives our outreach programs a huge boost.

Prairie Woods is on the move and our current staff, board and volunteers are committed to leaving a legacy that will inspire and teach subsequent generations to experience the joy and satisfaction of outdoor recreation and environmental stewardship. Please join in our efforts by attending programs, joining us for our Prairie Stars fundraiser, including Prairie Woods in your planned giving and spreading the word about good things happening through the work of Prairie Woods ELC.

I hope you enjoy this newsletter. Enjoy today. Leave something for the future. Thanks for supporting Prairie Woods!

Sincerely,

Dave

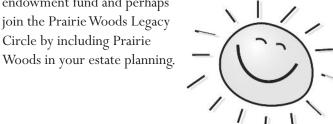
Updates-

- * Ron Erpelding- longtime PWELC Board Chair has passed the gavel to Jeff Danielson. Ron has been an outstanding volunteer and board chair for Prairie Woods for many years and is dearly missed. If Prairie Woods ever has a Mt. Rushmore, Ron Erpelding has earned his place. Thanks Ron!!
- * Thanks Jeff Danielson for taking on the role of Board Chair.
- * Jonathan Morales has resigned from his position as YES! Coordinator and PWELC Building and Grounds Steward to accept a position with Middle Fork Crow River Watershed District. We wish Jon well with his new duties at Middle Fork. Thanks for your service, Jon!



Prairie Woods Sustainability Endowment continues to gain momentum- nearing \$300,000.

Through the Prairie Woods Sustainability Endowment we are creating a reservoir to support environmental education and stewardship for hundreds of years into the future. Think of that! Your gift will help to sustain the good work of Prairie Woods for generations to come. The principal of gifts to the endowment will remain intact in perpetuity and only the interest will be used to support programs, which means that your gift will keep on giving. Please consider a gift to the endowment fund and perhaps join the Prairie Woods Legacy

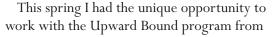




Time Travel with a Twist ... Mari Klebe- Time Travel Program Leader

Most Time Travel/Pioneer Cabin experiences start fairly similar. The students are greeted and we explain that we will be traveling back in time to the year 1888. The time period when many immigrants from Sweden and Norway came to settle in

this region of Minnesota. We discuss why a family might have left their homeland knowing they would probably never see or hear the voices of friends and family again. What did Minnesota have to offer that would entice a family to make such a sacrifice? There are always many different answers and they're probably all correct to some extent. But they all revolve around the basic belief that Minnesota would provide more opportunities and a better life for their children. Those opportunities in 1888 might have meant owning their own land, purchasing cheaper, higher quality land, or religious freedom.





SMSU located in Marshall, MN. Upward Bound is a college preparatory program for students that will be the first in their families to attend college. Many of these students are immigrants or first generation Americans. The Time Travel program presented a unique opportunity for them to share the 21st century immigrant experience within the context of those early immigrants. They discovered the reasons for emigrating have changed very little; leaving war, poverty, restricted freedom. The reasons for immigrating are basically the same too; more opportunities, better life for family, safety, better education. As the program continued, some saw familiar items that they had used while living in Somalia, Kenya, or Thailand. For some, wash tubs and wash boards were common items in their former lives. One student was extremely excited when he saw the buzz saw toy. He explained to the group how to make it and demonstrated how to use it. He said this was the toy he had in Africa. It was really interesting to see the connections these new immigrants shared with immigrants from 130 years ago. This experience allowed them to see that Minnesota has always been a home to immigrants. There are very few of us that are true Minnesota Natives. I wish these students the best of luck as they enter their first year of college.

NICE THINGS DONE FOR PRAIRIE WOODS BY PEOPLE LIKE YOU—

- * Jennie-O Turkey Store staged a shoe collection fundraiser for Prairie Woods and filled three boxes.
- * Kandiyohi Power Co-op collected nearly nine boxes of shoes at the Stingers Game on July 8th for annual KPC member appreciation event.
- * Southwest Initiative Foundation is also staging a shoe collection in support of the YES! program.
- * Kandiyohi Power Charitable Trust awarded a \$2000 grant to help support summer staff positions and the YES!
- * United Way of West Central Minnesota awarded grants of \$18,000 to support PWELC youth programs.
- * Mary Peterson and the Family of Tommy Swenson donated \$1000 from the annual **Tommy Swenson** Memorial Ice Fishing Tournament. Mary shared that Tommy loved the outdoor life and introducing kids to fishing and outdoor activities. We were honored and delighted to receive a \$1000 gift in honor of Tommy. Proceeds from the event help to fund youth shooting sports opportunities and our annual Forkhorn Camps.

- * Wayne and Joanne Thompson made a memorial contribution in honor of Dr. Orvin Lowell Plucker.
- * Brian Nelson, Dan Monson and a host of others, contributed a bunch of great gear for the Recycled Outdoor Gear Sale
- * Thanks Dean Mortenson and Danielle Steffen for volunteering their time for the Time Travel program
- * Thanks Myron Van de Ven for donating an apple press for the Time Travel program and making a couple of very cool coat racks from old cross-country skis (check them out on Facebook and bid on them for the Prairie Stars Silent Auction).
- * Thanks Chad Lien for working on shooting range throwers
- * Terry Mylenbeck .22 splatter targets for firearm safety and 24 silcone gun socks
- * Campers from **Green Lake Lutheran Ministries** completed a service project helping w/ buckthorn removal
- * Students from DREAM Technical Academy completed a service project

Prairie Woods- a Natural Choice for Weddings, Receptions, Jamily Reunions, and Corporate Retreats.

Circle by including Prairie

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EE Notes -Kory Klebe- EE Coordinator

2015 has been a great year so far. February – Not a great winter for skiing even though Mother Nature teased us with 10 inches of snow in November. Fortunately, Kettle Lake was able to retain enough snow so schools that came out were still able to cross country ski. The 2nd Annual

Winter Sleigh & Ski Festival was a highlight.

March – Since Hayden (my 3 year old) has graced the PWELC Warbler and Facebook pages, it seems only fair that I



should include the birth of my daughter Josina in this newsletter. I am sure there were plenty of other great things happening at PWELC in March but for some reason this is the one that sticks out.

April – 2015 had the earliest start to our Spring season with our first school group arriving on April 15th.

May- OH my it's May....Every day of the week and even most weekends we had groups doing programs. Our largest single group day being NLS 2nd graders with 114 students.

The only day to top that was the 19th with three separate programs happening at once. Bold 4th grade on the challenge course (40), Willmar 2nd grade at the Pioneer Cabin (44), and the Big Canoe at Hutchinson (72) for a total of 156. What a day

June- Finished up Spring school groups with the two biggest of the year- NLS 8th grade (120) and Madison 4th grade(133). We also had a youth group come all the way from Woodridge, Illinois to do a program with us as part of a missionary trip. Then it was on to summers programs with the "Paddle on the Crow" where PWELC and the Middle Fork Crow Watershed district teamed up to take 17 people on a 3 mile canoe trip from Dilly bridge, north of New London, to the Mill Pond. We also took our EE show on the road to the Bert Raney Elementary in Granite Falls to do classes on the Water Cycle, Compass, and Insects for the summer school program. **July** – On the road for 10 trips with the Big Canoe. Including Green Lake Lutheran Ministries, Litchfield Mentors, Prairie Lakes Group Home, Sauk Watershed District's Wacky Water Days, a birthday party on Ringo Lake, and (I think the coolest) Placebased Theatre's -New London 150th Anniversary performance.

All of that and we are only a little over halfway through the

If you were a part of any of these groups check out your pictures on PWELC's Facebook page. If you were not a part of any of these groups still check out the pictures on PWELC's Facebook page-then call us to be a part of the experience.

Music Under the Prairie Stars

It's that time again!! Time for Music Under the Prairie Stars, and You are invited!!! Friday, Sept. 11, 2015. Call for tickets or buy on-line at www.prairiestars.com.

Please help spread the word by posting the Prairie Stars insert where people will see it at home, work, church or your favorite coffee shop, grocery store or community gathering spot.

The Prairie Stars event is the premier fundraising event of the year and provides critical funding to support the mission of PWELC. This year's event will feature Steve Kaul and the Brass Kings, a hog roast, some great silent auction items and a live "barn-raising" auction to raise matching funds to help build a pavilion at Prairie Woods.

The live fund-a-need auction has been a highlight of the Prairie Stars event. Last year the live auction portion of the evening raised \$10,000 in about 10 minutes to help replace and upgrade program equipment. We pledged to, at least, double those funds through grants, discounts and other gifts. We are very pleased to announce that the Prairie Stars fund seeded over \$55,000 in improvements including a \$40,000 portable climbing wall, a shotgun, trail camera, 13 sets of cross country skis, a camera, an auto-belay for the indoor wall, 2 rescue throwbags, 2 washboards, canoe cam straps and more. Bless our Prairie Stars!!

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

The Prairie Woods Environmental Learning Center Challenge Course has been a very active place

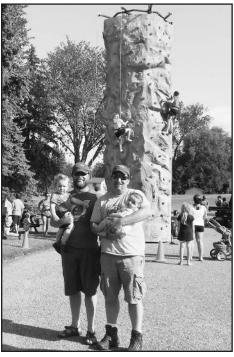


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during the spring and summer of 2015. This year has brought a great mix of groups, many returning for their annual visit and some first time guests. Some of the schools have been taking field trips to Prairie Woods ELC for twenty years! It is a real pleasure and privilege to see familiar teachers with a group of new students who have been waiting

for their opportunity to experience their adventure at Prairie Woods. Along with all of the groups visiting The Learning

Center, we are now able to bring Prairie Woods Environmental Learning Center to them with the new Mobile Climbing Wall - The Pinnacle. The Pinnacle is amazing! It stands 27 feet high with five auto belays and looks and feels like a real granite rock face. With five auto belays, we can allow 5 climbers on the wall at once....wow! The Pinnacle has already made trips to Granite Falls and Sauk Centre for community events. Over 100 participants of all ages got the unique opportunity to climb the Pinnacle during Wacky Water Days in Sauk Centre. The Pinnacle will be traveling all over the area to different festivals and events including Prairie Pothole Day, The New London Music Festival and the Kandiyohi County Fair. The Pinnacle will enable the Prairie Woods ELC Challenge Course to reach more people than ever before. This is an exciting time for our team and our community. If you are interested in visiting Prairie Woods or having us come to you, please contact me to discuss details. As always, we customize every program to meet the goals of each individual group.



Proud Papas(Steve & Kory) holding two great reasons for caring about clean water, healthy soil and clean air (Wesley & Josina)

The 2nd annual Winter Sleigh and Ski Festival.

Despite no snow, and 0 degree temps, Minnesota hardiness prevailed and a good time was had by all. Thanks Fred & Joy Zwart and Gary Stai for organizing a dozen sleigh team entries. Vicky Vogt did another stellar job organizing the chili feed. Thanks Jennie O Turkey Store for providing the chili, First District Association provided cheese. Over 30 exhibitors showcased winter hobbies and sports including: fly-tying, woodcarving, curling, xc skiing, soapmaking and more. Once



again, volunteers from the NL-S National Honor Society gave the event a big boost. Music by Cedar Creek, horsedrawn wagon rides, the indoor climbing wall and skiing on Kettle Lake rounded out a fantastic day. Please plan to join us this winter for the 3rd Annual Sleigh & Ski Festival at Prairie Woods.

The Recycled Outdoor Gear Sale set a record

this year, raising approximately \$5700 to support youth programs at Prairie Woods. Sale items included two boats, two kayaks, some nice tents, fishing gear and lots of great bargains. Thanks so much to all who contributed and purchased gear. Look for the Recycled Outdoor Gear Sale again next year at our annual Earth Day event.



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

Prairie Woods Warbler www.prairiewoodselc.org owelc@co.kandiyohi.mn.us Spicer, Minnesota

Shooting Range Notes: -Kory Klebe

All Day Field and Range Firearm Safety Classes -40 Youth Certified.

Forkhorn I and II - No scores less than 90%.

-7 out of 12 students with only 1 wrong on 50 question firearm safety test.

- Two perfect scores on Bow Safety test.

Intro to firearms with 10 Girls Scouts from Camp Sanderson.

1st Baptist Church Women's archery night

TO DO:

| ☐ 3D 60 Archery shoot. Put on by Little Crow/Swift Count |
|--|
| Archers. August 8th and 9th. |
| FREE – Pheasant Forever Youth Shoot. |

Saturday, August 15th 10:00-2:00

\$5 Youth Shoot Night sponsored by the Tommy Swenson

Memorial Ice Fishing Tournament. Thursday, September 3rd 5:30-7:30.

After School Archery. September, 15, 22, 29 4:00-5:30 (NLS students can ride bus 5)



Raffle Results

Each year we sell raffle tickets to support the annual wheelchair accessible deer hunt at Prairie Woods. The winning tickets were pulled on June 5th by Hayden Klebe (age 3) under the watchful eyes of Mike Oleson, Kory Klebe, Brian Gieseke, Dave Pederson & Dave Conlin, (all observers are noticeably absent from the winners list $\ddot{\mathbf{c}}$).

Thanks everyone who sold and purchased tickets! This year the raffle raised \$2200 after prizes and expenses.

Raffle Winners:

\$500- Kelly Johnson \$400- Doug Muzik \$300- Bruce Swanson \$200- Kevin Schwinderman \$100- Annette Ivey

Proceeds for the raffle help to purchase equipment and supplies to continue the great tradition of the special hunt at Prairie Woods. Proceeds from the raffle have also helped to purchase archery equipment and a shotgun for use in PWELC youth programs, as well as improvements at the barn to improve accessibility and lighting. A huge thanks to Ryan Newville and Dave Muetzel for coordinating the raffle and the hunt, as well as the dozens of volunteers who make the annual hunt possible.

The Buck starts here!

Prairie Woods BUCKS!! How do you get them??? No we're not talking about that 10-pointer that appears in your dreams, we're talking about helping your school or organization earn credits to be used for learning adventures with Prairie Woods ELC. Here are a couple of options: WorldWear Project or Climb for a Cause!

World Wear Project: collect gently worn shoes- something virtually every family w/ growing children can contribute regardless of income. Each 60 lb. box of shoes collected will be worth approximately \$25 in Prairie Woods Bucks for your group. Interested? All you need to do is call us and let us know how many boxes you would like. We will handle the logistics of shipping boxes to you, and will arrange to have the filled boxes picked up by UPS. Shoes are shipped to WorldWear where they will be weighed and payment sent directly to Prairie Woods where you will receive a credit on your account. No bookkeeping hassles or having fundraising checks disappear into the wrong account in the school office. De-clutter your closet; keep shoes out of the landfill; help out people around the world who need shoes; and raise funds to get kids into the great outdoors.

Climb for a Cause! Call us to arrange for the portable climbing wall to appear at your local community event, fair or festival as a fundraiser to help your school or organization earn Prairie Woods Bucks. Your group can advertise the wall as a fundraiser and help work at the wall during the event. All funds collected, beyond the basic program costs incurred by Prairie Woods, will result in credits (Prairie Woods Bucks) which can be used for Prairie Woods adventures such as environmental ed., challenge course, canoeing, xc skiing, shooting range, archery programs etc.,....or outreach programs to the location of your choice with the big canoe and portable climbing wall.

We need your SHOES!! You can donate gently worn shoes to Prairie Woods for the World Wear 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 call us if you have shoes to donate. THANKS!





www.prairiewoodselc.org pwelc@co.kandiyohi.mn.us

320-354-5894 Spicer, Minnesota

YES! Updates - Jonathan Morales

This past spring was a time of great celebration for everyone involved with the Youth Energy Summit (YES!). Not only did we have many team energy action projects to be proud of but we also welcomed St. John's Outdoor University as a new partner to the

YES! has a strong network and is growing every day. Our present partners include Laurentian Environmental Center, Ney Nature Center and Saint John's Outdoor University. We have enjoyed multiple winter workshops at Saint John's and look forward to the many opportunities that SJU brings to the table. This coming season we will kick off this new partnership with the Fall Summit being held at Saint John's University.

Throughout last school year, YES! students in grades 7-12 identified and carried out many meaningful projects for their schools and communities. Each year we reward exemplary projects and teams by investing in them through reward dollars that they can use towards

furthering their project or dreaming up new projects.

This year 1st place winners received \$750, 2nd place received \$500, and 3rd place winners received \$250. The winners for the Southern YES! Cohort were 1st place Sleepy Eye, 2nd Springfield, and 3rd was a tie between Mankato West and Westbrook-Walnut Grove. The winners for the Central Cohort were 1st place New London-Spicer, 2nd Atwater-Cosmos-Grove City, and 3rd was a tie between DREAM Technical Academy and Litchfield. In the North Central Cohort 1st place went to Royalton, 2nd was a tie between St. Cloud Apollo and ROCORI, and 3rd place was a tie between New York Mills and Alexandria. Last but not least the

Northeast cohort awarded \$500 to Northern Lights Community and North Woods Schools. A \$300 award went to Mountain Iron Buhl and Duluth East. Our generous award sponsors: The SouthWest Initiative Foundation, Minnesota Power, Xcel Energy, Great River Energy and East Side Oil Company made these awards possible.



Some examples of impactful projects from last season include DREAM Academy's composting project where they designed and

fabricated a composting tumbler for use in their school. ACGC collected 300 pounds of shoes for the World Wear shoe recycling project. Mankato West replaced 731 light bulbs with energy efficient bulbs that will save the school \$19,500 over the lifespan of the bulbs. New London-Spicer made and sold locally-sourced organic granola and beeswax products at the Kandi Mall. Royalton earned funds for their school by partnering with Minnesota Power to

sell LED bulbs and encourage families to audit the energy use in their homes.

This is just a short glimpse into YES! so please take time to go to youthenergysummit.org.

YES! is supported by the Minnesota Environment and Natural Resource Trust Fund as recommended by the Legislative Citizens Commission on Minnesota Resources. Other major supporters include Southwest Initiative Foundation, Initiative Foundation, Central, SW/WC and

North East Development Partnerships.





NOTICE: The PWELC Annual Membership Meeting & Potluck is scheduled for Monday, August 17, 2015 at 5:30 p.m..

YOUTH ENERGY SUMMIT

Hear updates on programs and plans, vote on election of Trustees, enjoy meeting other members, staff and volunteers. Please RSVP by calling the PWELC Office 320-354-5894. Sloppy-jo's and beverages provided. Please bring a dish to share.





PWELC COMMUNITY EDUCATION OFFERINGS SUMMER/FALL 2015

AFTER SCHOOL ARCHERY CLUBGrades: 4 and up

It is a lot of fun learning and practicing the skill of archery. We will be using compound bows to improve our skills. We shoot Olympic style archery, 3-d targets, and use the Native American atl-atl's. All while aiming to have a great time. (meet at farmsite)

Date:Tuesdays, September 15, 22, 29 Time: 4:00-5:30pm Cost: \$30/person

AFTER SCHOOL CANOEGrades: 4 and up

You'll have fun experiencing this historic form of transportation. After a lesson in canoeing skills and safety, we will set off over the water to witness the wildlife of wetlands at Prairie Woods. (farmsite)

Date:Thursday, September 17th Time: 4:00-5:30 Cost: \$7 per person

FULL MOON CANOE......Grades: 3 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, September 25th Time: 6:00p-7:30p Cost: \$7 per person

HALLOWEEN HAUNTGrades: K-5

Talk with the creatures on the enchanted trail to find out what they are dong to get ready for winter, carve a jack-o-lantern, and climb on the wall in costume.

Children must be accompanied by an adult. (meet main building)

Date: Friday, October 30th Time: 6:00-9:00pm Cost: \$8

YOUTH SPORTING CLAYS OPEN SHOOT SPONSORED BY TOMMY SWENSON MEMORIAL ICE FISHING TOURNAMENT.Ages: 11-18

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. (meet at Westby shooting range)

All levels of shooters are invited -never held a firearm to advanced shooters.

Program cost greatly reduced due to contribution from the Tommy Swenson Memorial Ice Fishing Tournament.

Date:Thursday, September 3rd Time: Range will be open from 5:30-7:30 Cost: \$5 STORY HOUR AT THE

PIONEER CABINAges: K-3rd Graders

6

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. It will be a new book and activity each time, so sign up for as many as you want. Kids, ask your parents if they want to come too! (meet at farmsite)

Date:Tuesday, Sept. 22
Thursday, Oct. 15
Thursday, Nov. 19
Tuesday, Dec. 15
Time: 4:00- 5:15 pm
Cost: \$5 per child (adults free)

GAME DAY AT THE PIONEER CABINAges: 1st-4th Grade

Who's up for some friendly competition? After dressing as a pioneer, unplug for an afternoon of blind man's bluff, a three legged race, a game of graces, 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: Thursday, Oct. 1st Time: 4:00 – 5:30 pm Cost \$6

ORNAMENTS FOR KIDS......Ages: 3rd – 6th Grade

Get in the holiday spirit by visiting the Pioneer Cabin. During your visit you can dress as a pioneer, get creative while making holiday decorations, and warm up with some hot cider. (meet at farmsite)

Date: Tuesday, Dec. 8 Time: 4:00- 5:30 pm Cost: \$8

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. Sign up for one or more. (meet at main building)

4:00pm – 5:30pm \$10 per session Dates:

Thursday, September 3rd 2015 Thursday, October 1st 2015 Thursday, October 15th 2015 Thursday, November 19th 2015

6:00pm-7:30pm (below dates) Thursday, October 8th 2015 Thursday, October 22nd 2015

