



# PRAIRIE WOODS

## Warbler



Central Minnesota  
Community Foundation  
*Engaging People. Building Community.*



VOLUME 15

SPRING 2009

ISSUE 1

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Office Manager  
Teri Wermerskirchen,  
Time Travel  
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## *Welcome to Spring at Prairie Woods!*

### **SCHOLARSHIP & TRAVEL ASSISTANCE FUND**

The travel assistance fund established at the Prairie Stars Event is available to groups who wish to come to Prairie Woods but are unable to do so due to financial hardship. Thank you, Prairie Stars, for helping to establish this much-needed assistance fund. Group leaders, contact Prairie Woods to inquire about assistance from the fund.



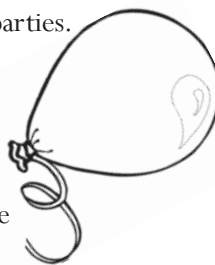
### **LOOKING FOR A FUN BIRTHDAY PARTY IDEA?**

Prairie Woods offers fun, unique parties.



Climbing Wall  
Pioneer Cabin  
Treasure Hunts  
\$10 per child.

Includes space for eating cake  
and opening presents.



## **WANTED**

### **NEW MEMBERS**

**We want you to help us  
to recruit new members!**

Please consider contributing your time and talents to help Prairie Woods continue to grow and thrive as a premier educational and recreational resource for our region. Not a member yourself? Join now by returning the form on the reverse of this newsletter.

**Call 320-354-5894**

**REWARD**

## *Upcoming Events at Prairie Woods*

EARTH DAY CELEBRATION ..... SATURDAY, APRIL 18, 8 AM-1 PM  
JJM VICTORY RUN ..... SATURDAY, JUNE 20, 9 AM START  
RECYCLED OUTDOOR GEAR SALE ..... SATURDAY, JUNE 20, 8 AM TO 1 PM  
AN EVENING UNDER THE PRAIRIE STARS ..... FRIDAY, SEPTEMBER 11  
YOUR FIELD TRIP OR SPECIAL EVENT ..... CALL US TO SCHEDULE!

LOOKING FOR COMMUNITY PROGRAMS? SEE PAGES 8 AND 9.



## Notes from the Executive Director

by Dave Pederson, Executive Director

Greetings from Prairie Woods. This newsletter is all about community connections and collaborative efforts resulting in good work in the communities served by Prairie Woods.

Turn off the TV, put the newspaper in the recycling bin (before you read it), and join us in making our region a healthy, hopeful and sustainable place to live. There is plenty of bad news to go around, but we don't have time to dwell on it here. This is a time for action, and you'll find plenty of it at Prairie Woods.



In this newsletter you will read about the expansion plans for the Youth Energy Summit (YES!) and learn how young people from 11 YES! teams are putting energy into a sustainable future for west central and southwestern Minnesota. You will also enjoy hearing about the first two cross-country ski races

held at Prairie Woods this winter, progress with our 2010 Renewable Energy Initiative, collaborations with sportsmen's groups, program updates, a bird monitoring project and an electric vehicle conversion project. And there's more.

When you are done perusing this issue of the *Warbler*, please go to the calendar and reserve the following dates:

- ♦ Earth Day, Saturday April 18<sup>th</sup> 8 am to 1pm;
- ♦ JJM Victory Run, Saturday, June 20<sup>th</sup> 9 am;
- ♦ Annual Recycled Outdoor Gear Sale, Saturday, June 20<sup>th</sup> from 8 am to 1 pm;
- ♦ the 2<sup>nd</sup> Annual Evening Under the Prairie Stars 2009 Fundraiser on Friday, September 11<sup>th</sup>.

All of these events are simply too good to pass up.

Lots of good things are happening at Prairie Woods because of friends and members like you. If you are not already a member, we would love to have your support and involvement. Thanks for being a partner with Prairie Woods!

*Dave*

### *Please Consider Prairie Woods*

IN YOUR ANNUAL CHARITABLE GIVING, AND IN YOUR ESTATE PLANNING.

### *"Wish List"*

- ♦ Utility tractor with loader (diesel)
- ♦ Volunteers to cut firewood and assist with trail work
- ♦ Scholarship and Travel Assistance Fund Contributions
- ♦ Volunteers to help build a rustic shed for the Time Travel site
- ♦ Diesel pick-up truck (3/4 or 1 ton) for plowing snow
- ♦ Donations for bird banding equipment (\$2000 total—gifts in any amount are welcome)
- ♦ Ice cream maker of the old-fashioned style, for Time Travel
- ♦ Skystream wind turbine for farm site (\$16,000)

### NICE THINGS DONE FOR PRAIRIE WOODS. . .

#### *by people like you*

- ♦ Roger Strand contributed a table saw.
- ♦ Marjorie Dickman & Family contributed funds for the bird monitoring project.
- ♦ The Family of Leonard Monson directed memorial gifts to Prairie Woods.
- ♦ Willmar Area Community Foundation helped us to purchase 2 auto-belay devices for the indoor climbing wall, and material for Time Travel costumes.
- ♦ Joe Gartner continued coordination of setting up a MAPS bird monitoring site at PWELC



# earth day

Saturday April 18, 2009 8am - 1pm

## Prairie Woods Environmental Learning Center

six miles west of spicer see prairiewoodselc.org for more information

FREE omelet breakfast served 8 am - 10 am

### Earth Day Celebration

Free omelets 8:00 to 10:00

10:30 Presentation: Frank Joseph,  
"Native American History of  
Minnesota"

11:45 Youth Energy Summit  
Award Ceremony

#### What's Happening:

- ◇ Informational Booths
- ◇ Kids' Activities
- ◇ Hands-on Workshops
- ◇ Archaeology Displays
- ◇ Artifact Identification
- ◇ Climbing Wall
- ◇ Youth Energy Summit project displays
- ◇ Bird-banding Demo
- ◇ Renewable Energy Models

**Free trees!**

**Earth Day sponsored and organized by:** Shakopee Creek Headwaters Project, Chippewa River Watershed Project, Crow River Organization of Water, North Fork Crow River Watershed District, Middle Fork Crow River Watershed District, Kandiyohi County Soil and Water Conservation District, MN DNR Division of Waters, Hawk Creek Watershed Project, Prairie Woods Environmental Learning Center.

**Additional assistance and donations:** Sparboe Farms, The Oaks, Kandiyohi County Dairy Association, Jennie O Turkey Store, American Indian History Hunters Club, Southwest Initiative Foundation, US Fish and Wildlife Service, Right on Canvas



*Save the Date!*

## AN EVENING UNDER THE PRAIRIE STARS

September 11, 2009

The Prairie Stars committee has already been hard at work putting together the 2<sup>nd</sup> Annual Evening Under the Prairie Stars Fundraiser. Although a difficult task, the committee has pledged to top last year's event, which provided a great evening of fine food, fellowship and fundraising enjoyed by 270 people. The first event raised over \$24,000 to support programs at Prairie Woods and established a scholarship assistance fund to help schools and other groups attend Prairie Woods programs.

A hearty thank you to the Promotions Committee members who are putting in tons of time to make this event a success: Luke and Allison Geiger, Joel Schmidt, Ron Erpelding, Mary Merlin-Pelkey, Cindy Westby and Jim Tetzloff.

The date for Prairie Stars 2009 is already set for Friday, September 11, 2009. Please reserve the date and plan to join us for a great evening.

If you have ideas for live and silent auction items or would like to assist with the event, please contact our event co-chairs Cindy Westby and Mary Merlin-Pelkey, or the Prairie Woods Office.







## Shooting Range Update

by Ryan Block

This summer will mark the beginning of a new era at Prairie Woods. We will be hosting our first-ever Forkhorn Camp in cooperation with the Minnesota Deer Hunters Association (MDHA).

Three camps are offered by the MDHA: Forkhorn I, II, and III. This summer at Prairie Woods we will host a Forkhorn I



Camp. This camp is for youngsters between the ages eleven and fifteen and is designed to introduce them to the fundamentals of safe, ethical hunting. During the week they

will get hands-on opportunities to learn about safety, ethics, shooting techniques, archery, and woodsmanship. Upon completion of the camp they will receive their DNR Firearm Safety Certificate.

We are excited for the opportunity to provide this experience for youth, and it also has great potential for the future. As we gain experience we will be able to add the Forkhorn II and III camps, so in 2010 we will get to see some of the same campers back for #II, and then again in 2011 for #III. What an opportunity to get to help develop positive traits, skills, and relationships with young people and their families. Let us know if this is something that you are interested in, because there will be several volunteer possibilities.

The Gary Westby Educational Shooting Sports Range will open in April. Opportunities at the Range include a Rim-fire Rifle Range, 5-Stand Sporting Clays Range, and Archery. Call and schedule a time to come out and enjoy this great facility.

*Immersed in Learning,  
Morning, Noon, and Night. . .*

ASK ABOUT MULTI-DAY, OVERNIGHT  
PROGRAMS FOR GROUPS OF ALL SIZES.

## "Little House on the Prairie" Birthday Party!

by Teri Wermerskirchen

Cheyenne Nelson loves *Little House on the Prairie*. When her mom heard about PWELC's Time Travel Program she planned a unique birthday party for her. On a mid-March evening, 18 girls and Cheyenne's family may have arrived at the log cabin by car, but once they crossed the threshold, they were transported to the time of the pioneers. The girls climbed the stairs to the loft and a trunk full of pioneer dresses. After lots of giggles and clothing changes they came down dressed for the party.

Even though there had been a snow storm just days ago, the one room log cabin was cozy and warm. Over the wood burning stove, Ildi Sundheim helped them make brown sugar candy just as Ma Ingalls had. The girls then got pans of snow and poured the candy in squiggles and designs over it to cool. They also used snow to pack around the cream they churned to make their own ice cream for dessert. The girls even handcrafted their own toys-- a corn husk doll and buzz saw top to bring home.

Then, the fiddler (Dean Mortenson) arrived! The girls sang 'Happy Birthday' and then danced and danced, till it was time to eat. The time went so fast, there were parents arriving to pick up girls when Cheyenne was still opening her presents. Cheyenne was all smiles and hugs. What fun to be a pioneer girl for a day!

On the way home, the girls were asked what their favorite part of the party was.

"Making our own ice cream!" "Dancing!" "Making the Corn Husk Dolls!" "The Fiddler!" "Making Candy!"

But the two Cheyennes knew just the right answer, "All of it!"

Pioneer parties include a party facilitator and many activities to choose from. Call for more information:  
320 354-5894.





## Environmental Education Update

by Anne Dybsetter

**Spring is here**--bringing sandhill cranes, greening prairies, open water . . . and another busy season at Prairie Woods.

Join us this spring and summer! Lots of opportunities await: canoeing, prairie excursions, pond study, insect safaris, EcoVoyageur, birding adventures, predator-prey games. . . . As warmer weather approaches, be sure to take advantage of lots of time enjoying the outdoors.

**Youth Energy Summit update:** YES! Winter Workshop took place in Hutchinson in February. Students visited McLeod Recycling Center, Creekside Composting, and Phoenix Solutions plasma gasification site, and participated in presentations about digestion technologies and solar power.



Take a look at just a few of the Energy Action Projects YES! teams have been working on: ACGC YES! students challenged classes in their schools to come up with the most creative solutions for energy conservation. The Redwood Valley YES! team has constructed a composter and a prototype digester, with the long-term goal of reducing their school's landfill waste while harvesting a renewable source of energy to heat a greenhouse. Springfield YES! students are doing a weekly text-message campaign to remind students to save energy. Judging of projects will take place early in April, and awards will be given at Earth Day, April 18, 11:45 am.

## Challenge Course Update

by Deb Anderson

Hey, What's new? Winter is slowly giving way to the spring. That means a new season on the challenge course here at Prairie Woods. A new season brings new groups, new challenges, and new opportunities to learn, build and grow. It is a very exciting time. We have been out on the course checking things over, planning for new activities and preparing for the groups and buses to roll in.

With a new season we are so excited to introduce our new autobelay. We have added two autobelays to our indoor climbing wall, which adds more climbs and also gives a new type of climbing experience. We have had lots of positive feedback from them so far. As in the past we have Prairie Woods staff on the ends of the ropes as belayers. The autobelays are machines at the top of a climb that automatically take up the slack and lower the climbers down.



Also with a new season we see some new faces here to help us staff the events that are happening. I am very excited about that. It is always great to begin working with new people, interns and work more closely with other staff from our partner groups. We are anxious to hear from you and schedule an event for your group in this new, busy time of year at the challenge course.

## A BIRD IN THE HAND. . . VOLUNTEER AS A BIRD BANDER:

Starting summer 2009, Prairie Woods will become a MAPS (Monitoring Avian Productivity and Survivorship) site. Coordinated by Joe Gartner, experienced bird bander, the project will need volunteers for photography, data recording, extracting birds from nets, and more. We could also use people to bring refreshments around 10 am. Mist nets will be used to capture songbirds, which will be banded, measured, and released. This information will be added to MAPS data from throughout the Western Hemisphere. Donations opportunities for this project are still available. Call PWELC for details.

**Training sessions**, meet at the Barn:

Tuesday, May 5, 7 pm to 8 pm and Tuesday, May 19, 7 pm to 8 pm

Learn how to assist bird banding: putting up and taking down nets, handling and removing birds from the net, recording data, and releasing.

**Work sessions**, (clearing net lanes)

Tuesday, May 5, 4 pm to 6 pm,

Tuesday, May 19, 4 pm to 6 pm

**2009 Bird Banding sessions:**

Saturday, June 6; Thursday, June 18;

Saturday, June 27; Tuesday, July 7; Saturday, July 18; Tuesday, July 28; Thursday, August 6





## XC SKI RACES HELD AT PRAIRIE WOODS

We were pleased to help the Willmar High School Nordic Ski Team host two cross-country ski races this year on the trails at Prairie Woods. It was great fun to stand on the deck of the barn and watch flights of eager skiers racing across the prairie and through the woods. Willmar Nordic Ski coaches Brad Haugen and Rob Palmer, and a legion of parents, worked with Prairie Woods staff and members of the Willmar Nordic Ski Club to pull off two great races, including the Central Lakes Conference Ski Meet. We learned a lot from the first two races and look forward to hosting more races in the future.



## WINTER FAMILY FUN DAY

Thanks to the Willmar H.S. Nordic Ski Team, YMCA and Willmar Nordic Ski Club, nearly 100 people were introduced to cross country skiing during Winter Family Fun Day on February 8. Skiers could rent skis for just \$2 per pair and get a free ski lesson. Then they came inside to enjoy fresh popcorn courtesy of Kandiyohi Power Co-op and chat with experts about birding, and ice fishing & spearing. Many also had a taste of homemade ice-cream.



We appreciated great help from the National Honor Society of New London-Spicer High School, the Willmar H.S. Nordic Ski Team, the YMCA, Willmar Nordic Ski Club, Minnesota Darkhouse Angling and Spearing Association, Kandiyohi Power Cooperative

and many Prairie Woods staff and Trustees. Thanks, Deb and Dale Anderson for the use of several ice-cream makers.



## WITH MAJOR GRANT FUNDING, YES! TO EXPAND IN 2009-2010

### MNREM Grant Provides Timely Opportunity for More Communities to Field YES! Teams

In 2009-2010, The Youth Energy Summit (YES!) will be one of many regional projects funded in part by the Minnesota Renewable Energy Marketplace – Alliance for Talent Development (MNREM), which awarded \$2.5 million to 16 regional partnerships in the renewable energy industry. YES! is a program of the Southwest Initiative Foundation (SWIF) and Prairie Woods Environmental Learning Center (PWELC) that uses hands-on education and energy action projects to address renewable energy opportunities and issues in our communities and our region.

The necessary partner to expand YES! in southwestern Minnesota is now aboard: the Prairie Ecology Bus Center of Lakefield. The partnership with PEBC will open YES! to schools, youth organizations, and communities throughout southwestern Minnesota.

The dream of the YES! partners is to have active YES! teams throughout the region, making their communities more energy sustainable and economically innovative in years to come.

Thanks to grant funding, YES! teams in 2009-2010 will be able to apply for up to:

- ♦ \$750 for transportation and substitute teachers
- ♦ \$1,000 for coach stipends
- ♦ \$1,000 for implementing energy action projects

Be a part of bringing YES! to your community in 2009-2010! Call Anne at 320-354-5894 for more information.







## *Update:* EVERYTHING UNDER THE SUN BY 2010

### *Solar Heating and More*

In the last newsletter we promised an update on the solar heating system at the maintenance building. Although installation of the system was not completed until the first of December (absolutely the least optimal time to start heating water with the sun), the solar heating system dramatically reduced our use of propane in the shop. We largely achieved our goal of maintaining a base temperature of 40 degrees F in the shop during the colder months and by mid-March we were regularly able to see shop temperatures at 50-60F without propane assist.

As is the case with most projects at Prairie Woods, the solar heating panels at the maintenance building resulted from a collaborative effort. The solar panels, in a previous life, had heated a swimming pool on the Willmar Regional Treatment Center Campus (now MinnWest Technology Campus). Partners in this project included: Steve Salzer, General Manager of MinnWest Technology Campus, Clean Energy Resource Teams (CERTS), Kandiyohi County and Empire Plumbing & Heating.

We are currently considering wind and solar options for generating the remaining 25% of the electricity required to meet our goal of 100% renewable energy



by 2010. We will keep you posted. If you would like to get involved in helping Prairie Woods reach our 2010 goal--either as a donor or as a hands-on electrician, engineer or tinkerer--please contact Dave at 320-354-5894.

### *Adam and EV (Electric Vehicle)*

Adam Malovrh and fellow students at the University of Minnesota School for Electrical Engineering are teaming up with students from New London-Spicer High School to produce an electric vehicle (EV) for Prairie Woods. The students, with supervision by Professor Paul Imbritson (UM) and Tracy Tebben (NL-S), will convert a 1998 Ford Ranger from gas to electric.

Thanks to help from Kevin Anderson of the Car Connection in Willmar, Prairie Woods was able to obtain a 1998 Ford Ranger pickup at cost. At this writing the vehicle is at NL-S, where Ag Instructor Tracy Tebbin and students will remove all internal combustion components and prepare the vehicle for installation of the electronic components.

The vehicle will then be handed over to students at the U of M School of Electrical Engineering under the direction of Professor Paul Imbritson and student Adam

Malovrh for installation of the electrical components (batteries, motor, inverter and controls). The goal is to have a zero-emissions utility vehicle working at Prairie Woods by this summer and in the process provide a great hands-on learning experience for the students.



## **Recycled Outdoor Gear Sale**



Spring cleaning? Bring your lightly used outdoor gear to PWELC for ROGS. All proceeds support programs at Prairie Woods. Please call before dropping off donations.

Looking for a new outdoor activity to try this summer?  
Don't forget to shop ROGS:

**JUNE 20, 2009, 8 AM TO 1 PM**

### *Self-Guided Opportunities at Prairie Woods*

PRAIRIE INTERPRETIVE TRAIL

WETLAND WALKWAY, WOODLAND TRAIL

AMERICAN INDIAN HISTORY INTERPRETIVE TRAIL

BUTTERFLY GARDEN, WILDLIFE BLINDS



## COMMUNITY PROGRAMS

ADVANCE REGISTRATION REQUIRED: 354-5894

**High Adventure Day Camp** ..... Grades 3-7\*

This is it! The day camp you have been asking about and waiting for. . . High Adventure!

Spend a thrilling day at PW experiencing new adventures on the ground and in the air. Fly through the air on the Flying Squirrel, challenge yourself on the 40-foot climbing tower, use teamwork to climb the Giant's Ladder and much more. Bring a bag lunch and be prepared to have LOTS of fun.

**Date Options for High Adventure**

- ♦ Thursday, June 11, 9:00 am to 4:00 pm, OR
- ♦ Thursday, July 9, 9:00 am to 4:00 pm, OR
- ♦ Wednesday, July 29, 9:00 am to 4:00 pm, OR
- ♦ Tuesday, August 11, 9:00 am to 4:00 pm, OR
- ♦ Tuesday, August 25, 9:00 am to 4:00 pm

Attend one session.

\*Grades 3-7 (If an older group is interested, a separate class can be scheduled. Call PWELC to arrange: 320-354-5894)

- ♦ \$20 per person

**Nature Days** ..... PreKindergarten and K-2nd grade

Nature Days Day Camps provide a safe, fun atmosphere for young children to learn about nature, themselves, and each other.

Explore flowers and trees, butterflies and dragonflies, bugs and other critters. Learn about water and rain, dirt and sunshine. Even take a trip into history and find yourself a guest in the log cabin! Mid-morning snack is provided.

**PreK Sessions of Nature Days (ages 4-5)**

- ♦ Session 1: W-Th-F, June 24, 25, 26, 8:30 am to 12:00 pm
- ♦ Session 2: W-Th-F, August 12, 13, 14, 8:30 am to 12:00 pm

**K-2 Sessions of Nature Days**

- ♦ Session 1: W-Th-F, June 17, 18, 19, 8:30 am to 12:00 pm
- ♦ Session 2: W-Th-F, July 29, 30, 31, 8:30 am to 12:00 pm

Children can attend one or both sessions in their age group.

- ♦ \$50 for 3-day session

**Base Camp** ..... Grades 5-9

This is where it all begins. At base camp we will experience and train on Prairie Woods' exciting challenge course. As we have a great time challenging ourselves on the challenge course, we will also be training to help others and receive a Jr. Facilitators certificate.

- ♦ Thursdays, July 2, 9, 16, 23, 3:30 to 5:00
- ♦ \$40 per person

**Splash Bash** ..... Grades 3-7

This is a Wet and Wild Day Camp full of games and water activities. Bring a swim suit or an extra change of clothes, because we will play games with water, canoe on the water and take a closer look at water. A fun, educational day of laughter and learning. Bring a bag lunch and a towel.

- ♦ Tuesday, July 14, 9:00 am to 4:00 pm
- ♦ \$20 per person
- ♦ \*Bring a bag lunch and a towel

**Time Travel** ..... 8-14 years

Ever wish you could travel back in time? First we'll visit the pioneers in the 1800s. We'll cut wood for the stove with a two-handed saw, prepare a snack in the log cabin and make a toy to keep. Then we'll travel by canoe as the Voyageurs did back to the American Indian History Site and try our hand at building fires, throwing atlatls and other activities of the past.

- ♦ Wednesday, July 22, 9:00 am to 3:00 pm
- ♦ \$20.00 per person
- ♦ \*Bring a bag lunch

**Summer Archery Club**

Ages 10 and up

Learn the basics of shooting bow and arrow, using compound bows, Olympic target style archery and the basics of 3-D archery. Get tips on form, accuracy, technique and ranging distance. We will also play archery games. Equipment will be provided or you may bring your own.

- ♦ Mondays, July 27, August 3, 10, 17, 9:00 am to 10:30 am
- ♦ \$30 per participant

**Clay Busters** ..... Ages 12 and up

Great opportunity for youth to improve their ability and learn new skills before fall, with NRA and 4-H certified instructors. Each session we will work on form and technique and shoot a round of sporting clays (25 targets). We will emphasize safe and ethical firearm practices. All shells, clay targets, shotguns and instruction will be provided at the Westby Shooting Range. (You may bring your own firearm.) Questions? Call Ryan Block at PWELC. Length of the program will depend on number of participants.

- ♦ Wednesdays, July 29, August 5, 12, 19, 9:00 am to 10:30 am
- ♦ \$55 per participant





## COMMUNITY PROGRAMS

ADVANCE REGISTRATION REQUIRED: 354-5894

**Pioneer Girls Day .....** 8-14 years

Did you ever wish you could be a pioneer girl like Laura Ingalls was? Come spend the morning at a homesteader's log cabin. Dress up as a pioneer and learn some pioneer crafts. We'll make a corn husk doll and try some fabric arts of the past.

- ◆ Tuesday, August 4, 9:00 am to noon
- ◆ \$8.00 per person

**Investigate and Rescue Day Camp .....** Grades K-4

SSHHHHH... Where did all the animals go?? Investigate where the animals might be and how we can rescue them, while learning about nature and about working together as a team. We might even have to rescue them from hidden places on the climbing wall. Be a hero! Help us find the animals. Bring a sack lunch.

- ◆ Thursday, August 6, 9:00 am to 2:00 pm
- ◆ \$20 per person
- ◆ \*Bring a bag lunch

**Log Cabin Birthday Parties**

Looking for a unique idea for a birthday party? Why not celebrate your birthday like Laura Ingalls Wilder and other pioneer girls and

boys? Dress as a pioneer and play some games that were played in the 1800s! You can even make a toy to bring home. Choose from a variety of activities. Call PWELC at 354-5894 to plan your pioneer birthday party.

**FAMILY EVENTS****Evening Canoeing Programs .....** all ages, 7+ years

Enjoy an evening on the water with your family. This guided canoe exploration will introduce you to the basics of paddling, and lead you through a wildlife-rich wetland on some of the most beautiful evenings of the year. All equipment provided. Children must be at least 7, and accompanied by an adult.

- ◆ **Sunset Canoeing:** Thursday, June 11, 7:00 pm to 9:00 pm
- ◆ **Moon Rise Canoeing:** Monday, July 6, 7:00 pm to 9:00 pm
- ◆ **Full Moon Canoeing:** Wed, August 5, 6:30 pm to 8:30 pm

Register for each session separately.

- ◆ Each session: \$6 per person or \$25 maximum per family

**Family Climb**

All ages

I'm bored! School's out for the summer, and the kids are tired of being home. Come share some quality family time and get some exercise too. Prairie Woods' climbing wall is open and waiting for your family to come and have some fun.

- ◆ Thursday, June 25, 6:00 pm to 9:00 pm
- ◆ \$10 per climber

**ECO VOYAGEUR**

*Can we bring the Big Canoe to your community?*

Take advantage of our exciting outreach learning program, with a 34-foot, 16+ passenger canoe.

**ENGAGING LEARNING SESSIONS:**

- ◆ Water testing
- ◆ Macroinvertebrate sampling
- ◆ History of the Voyageur Era
- ◆ Aquatic Plant Identification
- ◆ Watersheds



*We come to you!*

Dates available late April through mid-October. Call now!

**JJM VICTORY RUN, SATURDAY, JUNE 20**

5K or 1 mile  
8 am Registration  
9 am Start



**Door prizes and snacks!**

Registration materials available online:

[WWW.PRAIRIEWOODSELC.ORG/EVENTS.HTML](http://WWW.PRAIRIEWOODSELC.ORG/EVENTS.HTML)



**PRAIRIE WOODS**  
**ENVIRONMENTAL LEARNING CENTER**

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

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**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 2009*

- ☐ New Member  
☐ Renewing Member

**SUPPORTER'S MEMBERSHIP**

- ☐ Individual Membership ..... \$25.00  
☐ Family Membership ..... \$40.00  
☐ Organization/Business Membership .... Please call for rates.  
☐ 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 \_\_\_\_\_

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