



PRAIRIE WOODS

Warbler



A publication of Prairie Woods Environmental Learning Center in cooperation with Prairie County Resource Conservation & Development (RC&D) Council

VOLUME 13

SPRING 2007

ISSUE 1

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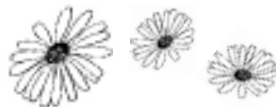
PRAIRIEWOODSEL.C.ORG
320-354-5894

THE EXCITEMENT IS BUILDING AT PRAIRIE WOODS! Jennie-O Turkey Store offers capstone gift for the Next Step Capital Campaign.

We were very excited by the news that Jennie-O Turkey Store has made a three year pledge to help us complete our \$400,000 Next Step Capital Campaign.

Mike Tolbert, President of Jennie-O Turkey Store, offered the following comment regarding their contribution in honor of Jennie-O founder, Earl B. Olson: "We are pleased to support the Prairie Woods Environmental Learning Center. Earl left a tremendous legacy to this area and naming the multi-purpose addition after Earl B. Olson is a great honor for Earl, the Olson family and Jennie-O Turkey Store. The PWELC is a tremendous asset to Kandiyohi County, and as an agriculturally-based company, we also support the PWELC's mission to promote environmental stewardship."

(continued on the next page)



WHAT'S BEST FOR YOUR KIDS. . .

What if you could do something for your kids that would make them healthier, better problem-solvers, more motivated to learn, more self-confident, have a longer attention span, and even get higher test scores?

You can.

Did we mention that it's free. . . and fun?

Do this: Send your kids outside to play for at least an hour every day. Clinically proven to be best for your kids.

Outside to play, every day.

Upcoming Events at Prairie Woods

- EARTH DAY SATURDAY, APRIL 21, 8 AM TO 1 PM
- INTERGENERATIONAL DIALOGUE TUESDAY, APRIL 24, 5:30 TO 8:30 PM
- ARCHAEOLOGY DAY SATURDAY, MAY 5, 12 PM TO 4 PM
- JJM VICTORY RUN SATURDAY, JUNE 16, 9 AM
- RECYCLED OUTDOOR GEAR SALE .. SATURDAY, JUNE 16, 8 AM TO 4 PM

LOOKING FOR SUMMER COMMUNITY PROGRAMS? SEE PAGES 8 AND 9.



NEXTSTEP CAPITAL CAMPAIGN CONTRIBUTORS

Thank you, Mike and Jennie-O Turkey Store, for joining our other contributors (see a complete list below) to help Prairie Woods complete our Next Step toward becoming a premier educational and recreational resource for our region!

Terwisscha Construction is gearing up to start work this Spring, and we expect to dedicate the new Earl B. Olson Addition and the Linder Tree House in September. Plan to tour the new facility at our Fall Open House.

Earl B. Olson
Kandiyohi County
Ruth and Helen Peterson Estate
Willard Linder Family
Steve Linder and Lakeland Broadcasting
Jennie-O Turkey Store
Jeff and LeeAnn Ettinger
Wilt and Betty Croonquist
Paul and Sandra Vollan
Bill and DeeDee Johnson
Dennis and Ruthanne Neeser

Ron and Dee Erpelding
Jeff and Sue Danielson
Denise Smith
Doug and Peg Mossberg
Dr. Jim and Marilyn Tiede
Dr. Jim and Colleen Michels
Dr. Roger and Kay Strand
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Dr. Bob and Patricia Kaiser
Affiliated Community Medical Center
Jerome and Elaine Schliep
Paula Vollan
Clark and Marni Vollan
Lake Region Bank

Notes from the Executive Director

by Dave Pederson, Executive Director

“THE ONLY CONSTANT IS CHANGE”

In the past several months we have been reminded that the only constant is change.

In the last *Warbler* we said good bye to good friend and trustee, Wilt Croonquist. In this edition of the newsletter we observe the passing of Earl B. Olson, a great friend of Wilt's and a great friend and benefactor of Prairie Woods. This week, I learned of the passing of my Aunt Arline, a wonderful woman who exuded grace, strength of character and love for her family until she passed away quickly without warning at age 88. Arline was born on a farm just a mile south of where I am sitting, but light years away in terms of changes that have occurred to our land and our culture.

Experiencing the death of loved ones and prominent community leaders leads us to consider our own mortality. The logical question to ask is, “How much time might we have, and how can we make the best use of that time?” Through the example of these people who lived well we are stirred to rededicate ourselves to work, love and play that has deep and lasting meaning.

Just as we are moved to be better by the reminder that our time is limited, we are also inspired by new life. Little Henry, whose arrival we reported in the last *Warbler*, now makes regular appearances at work, toted in by parents Anne and Jeff. Henry and my own children personify for me that our work to promote environmental literacy and stewardship is not just an interesting and enjoyable exercise, but is, in fact, profoundly important.

As you read about our progress and plans in this edition of the *Warbler*, I hope that you will share in the excitement of our accomplishments and be moved to join us in our work to get kids connected to and caring for our environment. Time will pass today, as it does everyday. At the end of the day we hope that you rest well knowing that you have worked to make the world a better place. Thank you for reading this issue of the *Warbler* and for all that you do to support the work of Prairie Woods Environmental Learning Center.

Dave

Please Consider Prairie Woods. . . IN YOUR ESTATE AND GIVING PLANS.



EARL B. OLSON, FRIEND & PHILANTHROPIST PASSES AWAY AT AGE 91

Prairie Woods lost a great friend with the passing of Earl B. Olson. Mr. Olson's life achievements were more than impressive--but perhaps the most impressive thing about Earl was his great interest in others and his willingness to help.



Most recently, Earl seeded our Next Step Capital Campaign by offering a \$100,000 matching gift challenge which resulted in a successful \$400,000 fundraising effort. As a result of Mr. Olson's efforts we will celebrate the dedication of the Earl B. Olson Addition in September 2007. Our thoughts and prayers go out to the many friends and family members of Earl B. Olson.

WEST CENTRAL AG SALES GROUP CONTRIBUTES FOR SCHOLARSHIPS

Prairie Woods received a \$1000 grant from the West Central Ag Sales Association. The funds will be used to provide student scholarships to attend agriculture education programs at PWELC. In 2006, West Central Ag Sales Association gave a total of \$14,200 in grants and scholarships in the region. The group uses the proceeds of their annual Willmar Ag Show to further agricultural education in West Central Minnesota. Prairie Woods was included in their community grant program.

DO YOU KNOW OF A GROUP OR ORGANIZATION THAT WOULD LIKE TO HEAR A PRESENTATION ON PRAIRIE WOODS? GIVE US A CALL.
354-5894

KPC DONATES SCHOLARSHIP FUNDS

Kandiyohi Power Cooperative has provided a donation of \$1000 toward scholarships to PWELC programs. The scholarships are available for students from within Kandiyohi County. Groups that request scholarships typically receive assistance of one or two dollars per student for the entire group to make their PWELC visit more feasible. Scholarship dollars are always in demand. Thank you, KPC, for helping meet the need!



The Norcross Foundation contributed \$3000 to purchase a FuelMeister biodiesel processor, so we can make our own biodiesel fuel. Stay tuned for an article in the next *Warbler*.

Giving Opportunities

- ◆ We need gifts or loans of American Indian clothing, equipment, artifacts, and artwork for an indoor exhibit. Credit will be given. Call Doug Mossberg: 354-5522.
- ◆ Could you donate a large cottonwood log, 10 to 20 feet long and 20-30 inches in diameter, for demonstrating the process of building a dug-out canoe? Call Doug Mossberg: 354-5522.
- ◆ Sponsorships for groups to attend Prairie Woods programs, from \$1 to \$20 per student.
- ◆ Gifts to the Sustainability Endowment, any amount.
- ◆ Diesel car or truck in good condition, to use as a program vehicle.

BUTTERFLY GARDEN

Thanks to Deb Schmitzerle and members of the Danielson family, visitors to the farmsite can enjoy a walk through a lovely butterfly and bird garden. Deb and family spent over 300 hours on the project, digging in over 926 donated plants. Many of the plants were obtained through the Minnesota Green Program sponsored by the Minnesota State Horticultural Society. Other contributors to the project included New London Concrete, ASI Ponds, and Home Depot.



Plan to visit the garden, complete with a trickling stream, this summer.

Volunteer Opportunities

- ◆ Re-enact historical dramas, spending time with kids in 1888, or research local history for Time Travel programs.
- ◆ Build & paint notice boards and signs for special events.
- ◆ Host and help at special events.
- ◆ Assist with newsletters and mailings.
- ◆ Help with prairie restoration and maintenance.



Upcoming Events

EARTH DAY 2007

Conservation Pays: Bank on the Future

Saturday, April 21, 2007, 8 am to 1 pm

Learn about water, energy, and how conservation pays for you and your family. What land management practices are best suited to your land and your bottom line?

- ◆ Free omelet breakfast served 8 am to 10 am
- ◆ Speaker J. Drake Hamilton of Fresh Energy at 10 am.
- ◆ Panel of legislators and representatives at 11 am.

Free trees for first 300 people, informational booths, kids' activities, live music, renewable energy demonstrations, give-aways, and much more!



Sponsorship and assistance from: Shakopee Creek Headwaters Project, Crow River Organization of Water, North Fork Crow River Watershed Project, Hawk Creek Watershed Project, Chippewa River Watershed Project, Department of Natural Resources, Kandiyohi Soil and Water Conservation

District, Prairie Woods Environmental Learning Center, Spicer Sons of the American Legion, PrintMasters, and Buffalo Fish Fine Art.

Prairie Woods Annual

RECYCLED OUTDOOR GEAR SALE

Spring cleaning time again? Bring that lightly used outdoor gear to PWELC for the Recycled Outdoor Gear Sale. All proceeds support programs at Prairie Woods. Please call before dropping off donations.

Looking for a new outdoor activity to try this summer?

See what's on offer at the

RECYCLED OUTDOOR GEAR SALE,

June 16, 2007, 8 am to 4 pm.

DONATE OR SHOP FOR:

Tents, backpacks, canoes, life jackets, skis, outdoorwear for kids and adults, fishing gear, bikes, and more. . . .

ARCHAEOLOGY DAY ON MAY 5

Fighting in the U.S.-Dakota War of 1862 lasted just six weeks. In the aftermath, however, hundreds of Dakota men were arrested and jailed--many were sentenced to death. Meanwhile, 1600 Dakota women, children, and elderly were detained at Fort Snelling. They were held until 1864.



This tragic episode in Minnesota history has been intensively researched by Corinne Monjeau-Marz, who will speak at Prairie Woods' Archaeology Day on May 5. Monjeau-Marz has written a new book titled *The Dakota Indian Internment at Fort Snelling, 1862-1864*.

Join us for a day of fascinating history at Prairie Woods' Archaeology Day on May 5, 2007, from 12 pm to 4 pm. In addition to the speaker, the day will include artifact exhibits, living history activities, and tours of American Indian history sites.

INTERGENERATIONAL DIALOGUE, SPRING 2007

In conjunction with other spring events meeting needs for awareness and action, and recognizing knowledge we can gain from history, here is one more opportunity to make a difference in our community...



Join us for an old-fashioned 'Community Picnic' to connect, play, and discuss how together we can contribute to a greener tomorrow. The event starts with everyone stepping back in time to the 1880s at the

log cabin homestead of Anders Danielson. Try on the life of a pioneer and compare it to that of present day. Then we'll gather in the barn for a picnic dinner and an intergenerational dialogue about how a peek at the past can help us create a brighter and greener future.

Reservations required. 354-5894

Who: All generations

Where: the Barn at PWELC

When: Tuesday, April 24, 5:30 to 7:30 pm



Environmental Education Notebook

THE LATEST AND STRAIGHTEST ON GLOBAL WARMING

Doesn't it seem like climate change has been all the talk lately? To keep your end of the conversation up-to-date, check out these quotes from a recent report (February 2007) by the world's most widely-accepted fact-finding group.

Quotes from

the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change's
**Climate Change 2007: The Physical Science Basis
 Summary for Policymakers**

"Global atmospheric concentrations of carbon dioxide. . . now far exceed pre-industrial values determined from ice cores spanning many thousands of years."



"The primary source of the increased. . . carbon dioxide since the pre-industrial period results from fossil fuel use"

"Warming of the climate system is unequivocal, as is now evident from observations of increases in global average air and ocean temperatures, widespread melting of snow and ice, and rising global average sea level."

"The understanding of anthropogenic [human-caused] warming and cooling influences on climate has improved, leading to *very high confidence* that the globally averaged net effect of human activities since 1750 has been one of warming."

"In this Summary for Policymakers the following levels of confidence have been used to express expert judgments on the correctness of the underlying science: *very high confidence* at least a 9 out of 10 chance of being correct."

The complete Summary is available at:
<http://www.ipcc.ch/SPM2feb07.pdf>

FAQS ABOUT THE IPCC

Q: What is the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change?

The IPCC has been around almost 20 years, founded by the World Meteorological Organization and the United Nations Environment Program as concerns grew that human activity was altering the Earth's climate. The panel's job is to assess accepted scientific research and to make clear reports to governments and citizens. The IPCC does not make policy.

Q: Are humans making this happen?

The IPCC report of "a very high confidence" is the highest certainty they could give.

Q: What do they use as evidence?

The IPCC's job is to compile "peer-reviewed" science. "Peer-reviewed" means that other scientists have taken a look at the research and accepted it as sound.

Along with recorded weather data from the past few centuries, scientists also gather much older information from ice cores and sediment cores. Deep ice has covered the land for thousands of years in places like Antarctica. The ice shows seasonal layers similar to a tree's rings, which can be counted backward like a timeline. The ice holds pollen, dust, air bubbles, and lots of other information about Earth's history.

Talk of the Town. . .

CLIMATE CHANGE DIALOGUES

Intergenerational dialogues are a great way to bring the community together to learn, converse, and take action. If your church or community organization is interested in learning more about climate change and discussing it as a group, call Prairie Woods to set up a facilitated dialogue.

320-354-5894

JJM VICTORY RUN, JUNE 16



Professionally timed!

**5K or 1 mile
 8 am Registration
 9 am Start**



Beautiful cross-country course!

\$12 = Pre-registration, by June 1
 \$15 = Registration June 1 to June 15
 \$20 = Registration on race day

Join the 3rd annual Victory Run, in memory of Jesse John Mithaugen. Contact Deb Anderson, 320-354-5894 or deb.anderson@co.kandiyohi.mn.us for registration information.



"We Already Miss Winter. . ."

SKI TRAIL NEWS

If you missed skiing at Prairie Woods this year, you missed a real treat. Although our winter was too short, we did enjoy excellent skiing thanks to the work of Michael Meyer and two "new" pieces of grooming equipment. The photo below shows the ASV Track Truck made available to Prairie Woods by the Little Crow Area Snowmobile Trail Association and our new G2 Tidd Tech grooming rig. With seven miles of trail, excellent equipment, and staff who are avid skiers and finicky trail groomers, we are already looking forward to next year. Thanks

to the Little Crow Area Trail Association, and to the Kemp, Reese and Forstrom families for granting permission for the trail to cross their property. Funds for trail grooming and maintenance are made available by a Minnesota DNR trail grant.



WELCOME, RYAN BLOCK!

We are pleased to have Ryan Block join the Prairie Woods staff to coordinate youth sporting programs. Ryan, a recent graduate of U of M Crookston as a non-traditional student, brings a wealth of experience, skill and enthusiasm to this new position. Ryan will also assist with environmental education and challenge course programs. Contact Ryan if you have ideas or questions about sportsmens programs and shooting range activities at Prairie Woods.



Ryan's current projects include the development of a 3D archery course, youth camps and upgrades to the shooting range.

Challenge Course: Team-Building

by Deb Anderson

Could your group, team, class, office, school, church, or organization use a boost?

PWELC's teambuilding programs are fun and unique ways to motivate, educate, engage, entertain, and inspire.

Teambuilding events are used to:

- ◆ Get to know each other better
- ◆ Build consensus and collaborate
- ◆ Instill respect and self esteem
- ◆ Develop and practice communication skills
- ◆ Motivate & Inspire
- ◆ Unite your group
- ◆ Celebrate success
- ◆ Network
- ◆ Have Fun!

The best times to use teambuilding:

- ◆ Beginning of the year kick-off
- ◆ End of the year celebration or wrap-up
- ◆ Opening or closing for meetings or events
- ◆ Incentive for celebrating success
- ◆ Staff development or training
- ◆ Retreats
- ◆ Stand-alone events

These experiences can be custom-created for your group using combinations of Team Initiatives, Challenge Course and High Events. This will definitely be a unique experience with a great impact!



Call Deb to reserve your experience today! 320-354-5894

NICE THINGS DONE FOR PRAIRIE WOODS. . . *by people like you*

- ◆ Paul Reller installed a beautiful railing at the log cabin.
- ◆ The Kandiyohi County crew cleared storm damage, selectively cut down trees, and removed old fences on campus.
- ◆ Morgan & Pat Nederheiser donated a canoe with rowing frame.
- ◆ Joel Schmidt worked on eradicating sumac on prairie remnants.
- ◆ Joe's Tree Service took down a tree for a discounted cost.
- ◆ Allison and Luke Geiger of Buffalo Fish Fine Art volunteered professional marketing skills.
- ◆ Edith Jacobson donated a coffee maker.



Time Travel Update

by TeriWermerskirchen

Student pioneers have now experienced all seasons with the Pioneer/Time Travel Program at PWELC. Groups of students were out in November and February this year, making good use of the wood stove (thanks again, Bernice!) and the cozy log cabin. Thanks to the unseasonably warm weather there were no blinding blizzards like those our pioneer forefathers had to deal with. The students instead enjoyed taking a break from present day technology, and stepping back to a simpler time.

Parents, are you looking for a new idea for a birthday party? Bring the kids out to the pioneer cabin to dress up like pioneers, make a pioneer craft and play some period games.

Calling all Senior Citizens, retirees and folks that have an interest in local history, drama or just like having a good time....The Time Travel Program needs you to help us portray for our youth what it was like to live here in days gone by. Here is your opportunity to share what life was like before video games and cell phones. Have fun showing children how to

churn butter,
grind coffee beans,
make toys and do
chores as they did
in times past.
Perhaps you could
tell stories, show
them how to knit
or share some
other skill?



The Pioneer/Time Travel Program is dependant on donations for our props and costumes. Do you have something in your attic that could be used in this educational program? We could use rug beaters, wash tubs, coffee bean grinder, two handled saw, butter churn, clothing for all sizes that could represent pioneer costumes (long skirts, blouses, or bonnets for girls; long sleeved shirts or caps for boys). What a great way for your family history items to live on!

Education Opportunities



YES! Coming Soon:

TO MEET THE ENERGY CHALLENGES OF 21ST CENTURY, AN INITIATIVE SPECIALLY DESIGNED FOR SOUTHWEST AND WEST-CENTRAL MINNESOTA:



YOUTH ENERGY SUMMIT AND "CO-OPETITION"

Talk to your school about fielding a team in this exciting new event, featuring brains, creativity, and "co-opetitive" energy. . .

Kick-off, September 2007.

Fabulous prizes awarded April 2008.

Open to grades 8-12.

Contact Anne or Dave at 320-354-5894.



Scholarships Still Available for EcoVOYAGEUR

Our staff are looking forward to sliding the big canoe into the water once again on a lake or river near you! Due to generous funding support Prairie Woods can bring Project Eco-Voyageur to schools within a seventy-five mile radius for only \$2 per student. Spaces are limited so please call soon to schedule.

Sponsors of Project Eco-Voyageur include:
Northern Environmental Support Trust,
Willmar Area Community Foundation,



Tebben Enterprises, and Charles and Marjorie Dickman.

Contact Anne Dybsetter, EE Coordinator, for details.



COMMUNITY PROGRAMS

ADVANCE REGISTRATION REQUIRED: 354-5894

Family, Adult, and All-Age Programs

Big Canoe Cruise

Have you ever seen a canoe this big? Celebrate spring with an adventure in PWELC's 34-foot voyageur canoe. Up to 14 participants can join us for this guided exploration of Willmar's lakes from Robbins Island. Children must be at least 4, and accompanied by an adult.

- ◆ Saturday, May 5, 10:00 am to 12:00 pm
- ◆ \$8 per person

Evening Canoeing Programs

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, May 10, 6:30 pm to 8:30 pm
- ◆ Solstice Canoeing: Thursday, June 21, 2007, 7:00 pm to 9:00 pm
- ◆ Sunset Canoeing: Thursday, July 19, 7:00 pm to 9:00 pm (In August, join the Screen-Free Fun canoeing activity, below)
- ◆ Each session: \$5/person for members, or \$6/person for nonmembers, up to a \$25 maximum per family

Screen-Free Fun 2nd and 4th Tuesdays of June, July, and August

Ever feel like screens are getting in the way of quality family time? Try a rewarding experiment with your family this summer: Tuesdays without TV! But don't just sit there! Come to Prairie Woods Environmental Learning Center for fun evening activities. All ages. Children must be accompanied by an adult. (Activities subject to change due to weather conditions.)

- ◆ Indoor Climbing Wall: Tuesday, June 12, 6:30 to 8:30 pm
 - ◆ Bird Search: Tuesday, June 26, 6:30 to 8:30 pm
 - ◆ Geo-Caching with GPS: Tuesday, July 10, 6:30 to 8:30 pm
 - ◆ Time Travel: Tuesday, July 24, 6:30 to 8:30 pm
 - ◆ Questing: August 14, 6:30 to 8:30 pm
 - ◆ Full Moon Canoeing: August 28, 6:30 to 8:30 pm
- Register for each session separately.
- ◆ Each session: \$5/person for members, or \$6/person for nonmembers, up to a \$25 maximum per family

Activities for Kids

Survivor-Prairie Woods (Grades 3-6)

The tribe has spoken. We want you here to challenge yourself at Prairie Woods. See if you can survive the challenge course and be a Prairie Woods survivor.

- ◆ Tuesday, May 1, 3:30 pm to 5:30 pm
- ◆ \$10/person for members, or \$12/person for nonmembers

Time Travel (Grades 2-5)

Ever wonder what it would be like to go back in time? Here is your chance to travel back over 100 years to the time of the pioneers. Just like Laura Ingalls Wilder, you can experience life in a log cabin, churning butter, grinding coffee, doing "chores," and making a pioneer craft. Feel what it was like to be a pioneer in a new land. (Attend one session.)

- ◆ Wednesday, June 13, 9:00 am to 12:00 pm, OR
- ◆ Wednesday, August 8, 9:00 am to 12:00 pm
- ◆ \$10 per person for members, or \$12 per person for nonmembers

Time Travel and American Indian Cultures (Grades 2-5)

Experience Time Travel (above), plus enjoy a light lunch and an afternoon learning about American Indians. View First People's homes from different time periods, try throwing atl atls, and start a fire with flint and steel.

- ◆ Tuesday, July 10, 9:00 am to 3:00 pm
- ◆ \$18 per person for members, or \$20 per person for nonmembers

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 24, 9:00 am to 4:00 pm
- ◆ \$18/person for members, or \$20/person for nonmembers

Investigate and Rescue Day Camp (Grades K-4)

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

- ◆ Tuesday, August 14, 9:00 am to 2:00 pm
- ◆ \$18/person for members, or \$20/person for nonmembers

High Adventure Day Camp (Grades 3-6)

This is it! The day camp you have been 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.

- ◆ Wednesday, June 6, 9:00 am to 4:00 pm, OR
- ◆ Thursday, July 19, 9:00 am to 4:00 pm, OR
- ◆ Friday, August 3, 9:00 am to 4:00 pm (Attend one session.)
- ◆ \$18 per person for members, or \$20 per person for nonmembers

Call for information about
**YOUTH SPORTING CLAYS
 LEAGUES!**
 354-5894



COMMUNITY PROGRAMS

ADVANCE REGISTRATION REQUIRED: 354-5894

Clubs and Camps for Kids

Adventure Quests (Grades 3-6)

Mix treasure hunts with scavenger hunts, throw in mysterious maps, clues in rhyme, and lots of woods, hills, and trails to explore. . . that's Questing. Experience the Quests already established at Prairie Woods, then work together to create your own Quest: craft clever clues, make a map, bury a treasure box for others to find. . . if they can! Attend one or both weeks.

- ♦ Adventure Quest the First: June 26-29, 8:30 am to 12:00 pm
- ♦ Adventure Quest the Next: August 7-10, 8:30 am to 12:00 pm
- ♦ \$55 for members, or \$60 for nonmembers, for a 4-day session

Nature Days - Day Camps (Pre K ages 4-6, OR grades K-2)

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, sun and dirt, bugs and other creepy critters. Even take a trip into history to the log cabin! Mid-morning snack is provided.

- ♦ PreK Nature Days Session 1: July 11, 12, 13, 8:30 am to 12 pm
- ♦ PreK Nature Days Session 2: Aug 15, 16, 17, 8:30 am to 12 pm
- ♦ K-2 Nature Days Session 1: June 18, 19, 20, 8:30 am to 12 pm
- ♦ K-2 Nature Days Session 2: July 25, 26, 27, 8:30 am to 12 pm
- ♦ Children can attend one or both sessions in their age group.
- ♦ \$45 for members, or \$50 for nonmembers, for a 3-day session

Youth Sporting Clays Shoot (Age 12-18)

Time to practice up for hunting season! Improve your shooting skills and have fun playing safe shooting games. Instruction includes safe gun handling, shooting technique, and responsible enjoyment of shooting sports. Firearms, shells, and targets provided. (You may bring your own shotgun.) Held at the Westby Educational Shooting Range with certified NRA and 4-H instructors. All levels welcome, beginner to advanced.

Range will be open at the following times. Pick the date that works for you.

- ♦ June 5, 7, 8, 9: Tues, Thurs, & Fri 5-7 pm; Sat 9-11 am
- ♦ July 17, 19, 20, 21, Tues, Thurs, & Fri 5-7 pm; Sat 9-11 am
- ♦ August 7, 9, 10, 11, Tues, Thurs, & Fri 5-7 pm; Sat 9-11 am

Each round (25 shots) is \$15.

Pre-registration is required, for each date separately.

Shooting Sports Programs

Beginner Archery Class (grades 4 and up)

Learn the basics of using a compound bow and arrow, while working on form, safety, technique, how to properly use equipment, etc. This is a hands-on class of learning and fun while practicing and playing archery games that all ages will enjoy. All equipment provided.

- ♦ Monday, June 11, 5:00 pm to 7:00 pm, OR
- ♦ Monday, August 6, 5:00 pm to 7:00 pm
- ♦ \$8/person for members or \$10/person for nonmembers

Advanced Archery Class (grades 4 and up)

If you already attended the beginner class or are looking to hone your skills a little more, join us for the advanced archery class. We take a closer look at form, technique and caring for equipment. We cover ranging distances and down field shooting. All equipment is provided, or bring your own.

- ♦ Monday, April 23, 5:30-7:30 pm, OR
- ♦ Monday June 18, 5:00 pm to 7:00 pm, OR
- ♦ Monday, August 13, 5:00 pm to 7:00 pm
- ♦ \$8/person for members or \$10/person for nonmembers

Summer Archery Club (grades 4 and up)

Have lots of fun learning and practicing archery skills for four weeks. You will be using compound bows to improve your skills. We will play games, do Olympic style target scoring, all while aiming to have a great time.

- ♦ Tuesdays, July 3, 10, 17, 24, 9:00 to 10:30 am
- ♦ \$26/person for members or \$30/person for nonmembers

Sporting Clays at the Range

Women's Sporting Clays Shoot (15 years and up)

More and more women are enjoying shooting sports. Whether you have shot before or not, this class is a noncompetitive way to try something new or work on skills. We provide instruction for all levels, firearms, shells, and targets. (You may bring your own shotgun.) Instruction includes safe gun handling, shooting technique, and responsible enjoyment of shooting sports. We will also laugh a lot and have a great time with games.

Range will be open at the following times. Pick the date that works for you.

- ♦ June 12, 14, 15, 16: Tues, Thurs, & Fri 5-7 pm; Sat 9-11 am
- ♦ July 24, 26, 27, 28, Tues, Thurs, & Fri 5-7 pm; Sat 9-11 am
- ♦ August 14, 16, 17, 18, Tues, Thurs, & Fri 5-7 pm; Sat 9-11 am

Each round (25 shots) is \$18 for members and \$20 for non-members.

Pre-registration is required, for each date separately.

Just Right for Your Group. RETREATS, MEETINGS, REUNIONS

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- ♦ Dine in the Westby Observatory,
- ♦ Rent the Big Canoe,
- ♦ Spend a Night in the Yurt,
- ♦ Gather at the Barn. . .



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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 PrairieWoods.
- ◆ 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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- \$100 to \$499
- \$500 to \$999
- \$1000

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