

The TreeLine

A quarterly publication from the Forest Preserve District of Kane County www.kaneforest.com



Summer 2017





The Forest Preserve District of Kane County was formed June 8, 1925.

Our mission is to acquire, hold and maintain lands within Kane County that contribute to the preservation of natural and historic resources, habitats, flora and fauna; and to restore, restock protect and preserve such lands for the education, recreation and pleasure of all Kane County citizens.

The District is governed by the Forest Preserve Commission. Kane County Board members serve as the Forest Preserve Commission. They are:

- Michael Kenyon, President, District 16
- Mark Davoust, President Pro Tem & Treasurer District 14
- Philip Lewis, Secretary, District 13
- Myrna Molina, District 1
- Theresa Barreiro, District 2
- Don Ishmael, District 3
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- John Martin, District 11
- John J. Hoscheit, District 12
- Barbara Wojnicki, District 15
- Deborah Allan, District 17
- Drew Frasz, District 18
- Kurt Kojzarek, District 19
- Penny Wegman, District 20
- Rebecca Gillam, District 21
- Douglas Schefflow, District 22
- Maggie Auger, District 23
- Jarett Sanchez, District 24

The TreeLine is published quarterly by the Forest Preserve District of Kane County. Issues are mailed or emailed to all subscribers, based on their preference. To subscribe to the print or electronic edition (or both), call 630-232-5980 or email forestpreserve@kaneforest.com and request your free subscription to *The TreeLine*.

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Cover photo of Rattlesnake Master (*Eryngium yuccifolium*) taken at Freeman Kame Forest Preserve by Forest Preserve District of Kane County Senior Ranger Collin Verbick.

Campgrounds are open for the season

You don't have to drive far or spend a fortune to experience camping — it's available right here in Kane County. Whether you're interested in vehicle camping, tent camping or even camping with your horses, Forest Preserve campgrounds have sites available. We also have ADA-accessible camp sites.

In the southwestern part of Kane County, you'll find Big Rock Campground. Located within Big Rock Forest Preserve, this campground contains 110 total camp sites. There are 96 improved campsites with 50-amp electrical service, water access, parking pads and fire rings. Big Rock Campground is located at 46W499 Granart Rd., Big Rock.

In the northeastern part of Kane County is Paul Wolff Campground, located within Burnidge Forest Preserve. This campground contains 104 total camp sites. There are 88 improved sites complete with 50-amp electrical service, water access, parking pads and fire rings. Paul Wolff Campground is located at 38W235 Big Timber Rd., Elgin.

Daily fees for the improved/RV or equestrian camp sites at either campground are \$15 per day for Kane County residents and \$25 for nonresidents. Primitive/non-electric camp sites are \$10 per day for residents, \$15 for nonresidents. Our campground hotline is 630-444-1200. ■

Learn history at summer camps offered by Preservation Partners of the Fox Valley

Fabyan Summer Camp

This camp, for kids entering grades 3-5, will focus on activities related to the life of Nelle and George Fabyan. Planned activities include yoga, crafting secret codes and learning about bugs.

July 31 – Aug. 4;
 9 – 11:30 a.m.
 Fabyan Forest Preserve
 1925 S. Batavia Ave., Geneva
 Fee: \$60/child
 Deadline to register: July 10



Photo provided by Preservation Partners

Durant Summer Camp

This camp, for kids entering grades 3-6, will focus on 19th Century pioneer living. Activities will include cooking, chores on a farm, as well as playing 19th century games.

Aug. 7 – Aug. 10; 9 – 11:30 a.m.
 LeRoy Oakes Forest Preserve
 37W700 Dean St., St. Charles
 Fee: \$50/child
 Deadline to register: July 17



To learn more and to register, call Preservation Partners at 630-377-6424 or visit ppfv.org.

Don't miss all summer has to explore in Kane County forest preserves

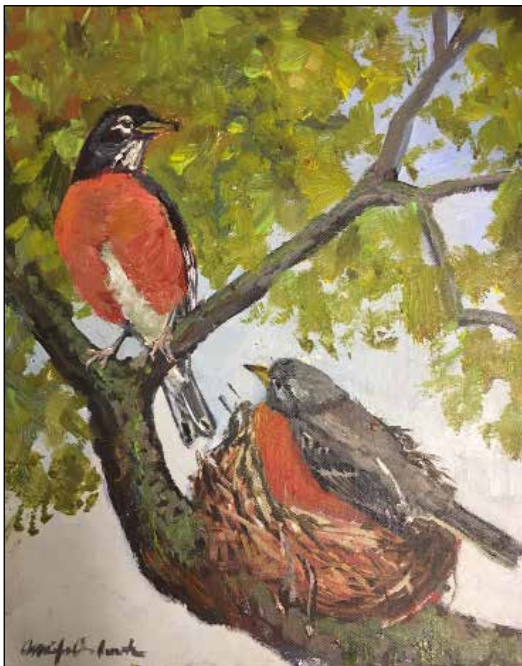
ALL-AGES PROGRAMS

All ages are welcome to attend these programs unless otherwise specified. Children must be accompanied by an adult. Organized groups must schedule a separate tour for their group. To register, call 630-444-3190 or e-mail programs@kaneforest.com.

Natural Storytelling & Illustration

Using original stories based on nature, author and artist Christopher Cudworth leads a process of realization and discovery. We learn lessons from stories about a distracted robin decorating a nest with feathers and from a rabbit who decides he wants to act like a squirrel. These stories lead to discussion as well as opportunities to discuss how nature works. Using props, Chris helps people share in the story while thinking about ways the world changes around us every day. *Advance registration is required.* Call 630-444-3190 or e-mail programs@kaneforest.com to register.

Sunday, June 4; 1 – 2:30 p.m.
Creek Bend Nature Center
LeRoy Oakes Forest Preserve
37W700 Dean St., St. Charles
Fee: \$15/person



Pioneer Hikes

Meet the naturalists at Creek Bend Nature Center for these Thursday afternoon hikes. Each walk will conclude at the Durant House, where weekly activities will take place. Call 630-444-3190 or e-mail programs@kaneforest.com to register.

- **Fur-bearing Wildlife**
Thursday, June 8; 1 – 2 p.m.
Creek Bend Nature Center
LeRoy Oakes Forest Preserve
37W700 Dean St., St. Charles
Fee: \$5/person
- **Pollinators on the Prairie**
Thursday, June 22; 1 – 2 p.m.
Creek Bend Nature Center
LeRoy Oakes Forest Preserve
37W700 Dean St., St. Charles
Fee: \$5/person
- **Timber!**
Thursday, July 13; 1 – 2 p.m.
Creek Bend Nature Center
LeRoy Oakes Forest Preserve
37W700 Dean St., St. Charles
Fee: \$5/person
- **Snakes of the Prairie**
Thursday, July 27; 1 – 2 p.m.
Creek Bend Nature Center
LeRoy Oakes Forest Preserve
37W700 Dean St., St. Charles
Fee: \$5/person

Family Fun Nights

Shake up your nightly routine this summer! Join us for a sunset hike and an easy craft. We'll round out the night relaxing under the stars with an outdoor movie and popcorn. Below are three of our Family Fun Night programs. *Advance registration is required.* Call 630-444-3190 or e-mail programs@kaneforest.com to register.

Summer Solstice Celebration

The sky is full of wonders on the longest day of the year. We'll learn why the day length changes throughout the seasons, how the

earth tilts and other fun astronomical phenomena. *Advance registration is required.* Call 630-444-3190 or e-mail programs@kaneforest.com to register.

Wednesday, June 21; 7:30 – 9 p.m.
Creek Bend Nature Center
LeRoy Oakes Forest Preserve
37W700 Dean St., St. Charles
Fee: \$5/person

What's the Buzz?

Insects of all stripes are busy in the prairies this time of year. We'll find some of these cool creatures and learn about the important job of pollination. *Advance registration is required.* Call 630-444-3190 or e-mail programs@kaneforest.com to register.

Thursday, July 20; 7:30 – 9 p.m.
Creek Bend Nature Center
LeRoy Oakes Forest Preserve
37W700 Dean St., St. Charles
\$5/person

Rot 'n' Roll

Everything gets recycled in nature, from the old sandwich that fell off the picnic table to the tree that falls in the woods. We'll learn about decomposition while we dig and explore outside. *Advance registration is required.* Call 630-444-3190 or e-mail programs@kaneforest.com to register.

Friday, Aug. 18; 7:30 – 9 p.m.
Creek Bend Nature Center
LeRoy Oakes Forest Preserve
37W700 Dean St., St. Charles
Fee: \$5/person

Firefly Fireworks

Explore the fascinating world of blinking bugs. This popular evening program begins with a walk and talk at dusk. District naturalists will explain how and why fireflies produce their eerie light. When darkness falls, we'll watch the woods and prairie light up with thousands of flashing fireflies. *Advance registration*

is required. Call 630-444-3190 or e-mail programs@kaneforest.com to register.

Saturday, July 8; 8:30 – 9:30 p.m.
Campton Forest Preserve
4N379 Town Hall Rd., St. Charles
FREE

Bat Watch

The fun starts at dusk if you're an insectivorous bat, or if you're someone who likes bats! During this program, we'll find bats using our super-duper "Bat Detector." This device picks up the bats' "clicks" used in echolocation. We'll also play some bat games and learn about bat ecology. *Advance registration is required. Call 630-444-3190 or e-mail programs@kaneforest.com to register.*

Tuesday, July 25; 8 – 9 p.m.
Creek Bend Nature Center
LeRoy Oakes Forest Preserve
37W700 Dean St., St. Charles; FREE

Saturday, July 29; 8 – 9 p.m.
Binnie Forest Preserve
38W040 Binnie Rd., West Dundee; FREE

Miniature Nature Masks

In many cultures, masks represent spirits of animals and elements in nature, like the sun. They can also project feelings of oneness, or even reflect processes like metamorphosis. In this nature inspired class, artist Greta Bell will lead a walk to find materials that you will use to create your own mask. You might discover animal teeth, hair, bones, feathers, acorns, sticks, seeds, etc. Step away from your everyday worries and take notice of the beautiful world around us. *Advance registration is required. Call 630-444-3190 or e-mail programs@kaneforest.com to register.*

Thursday, Aug. 3 1-3 p.m.
Creek Bend Nature Center
LeRoy Oakes Forest Preserve
37W700 Dean St., St. Charles;
Fee: \$15/person



Wild Things Wednesdays

This program series will offer a new adventure each week. These naturalist-led programs will include hikes and activities based on weekly themes. We'll explore the woods, search for wildlife in the prairie, wade in the creek learning about aquatic life and more! The program is designed for kids entering 1st through 6th grades. You may register your child for one, two, or any combination of these programs. *Drop off and pick up will be at Creek Bend Nature Center, within LeRoy Oakes Forest Preserve. Advance registration is required. Call 630-444-3190 or e-mail programs@kaneforest.com to register.*

Extreme Animals

Wednesday, June 14; 9 a.m. – Noon
\$30 per session or \$200 for all 8 sessions

Creek Exploration

Wednesday, June 21; 9 a.m. – Noon
\$30 per session or \$200 for all 8 sessions

Wildlife Tracking

Wednesday, June 28; 9 a.m. – Noon
\$30 per session or \$200 for all 8 sessions

The Gross, the Bad and the Yucky

Wednesday, July 5; 9 a.m. – Noon
\$30 per session or \$200 for all 8 sessions

Extreme Plants

Wednesday, July 12; 9 a.m. – Noon
\$30 per session or \$200 for all 8 sessions

Flying Animals

Wednesday, July 19; 9 a.m. – Noon
\$30 per session or \$200 for all 8 sessions

Swimming Animals

Wednesday, July 26; 9 a.m. – Noon
\$30 per session or \$200 for all 8 sessions

Survival/Primitive Skills

Wednesday, July 26; 9 a.m. – Noon
\$30 per session or \$200 for all 8 sessions

All Wild Things Wednesdays will be held at:

Creek Bend Nature Center
LeRoy Oakes Forest Preserve
37W700 Dean St., St. Charles



CHILDREN'S PROGRAMS

Story Time at Creek Bend Nature Center

Treat your child to story times at Creek Bend Nature Center. This popular program series is for children (infants through 5-year olds) and their caregivers. St. Charles Public Library staff will read books, accompanied by finger plays, songs and more. All are welcome to enjoy the interactive exhibits in the Nature Center, following the program. All story times are free. *Advance registration is required.* Call 630-444-3190 or e-mail programs@kaneforest.com to register.

Friday, June 9; 10:30 – 11 a.m.
Friday, June 23; 10:30 – 11 a.m.
Friday, July 21; 10:30 – 11 a.m.
Friday, Aug. 11; 10:30 – 11 a.m.
Friday, Aug. 25; 10:30 – 11 a.m.

Creek Bend Nature Center
LeRoy Oakes Forest Preserve
37W700 Dean St., St. Charles; FREE

Butterflies and Friends

During this outdoor story time, we'll learn about butterflies and other pollinating insects. Participants will hear stories and take a short, naturalist-guided hike to find butterflies and make a craft. This program is for children of all ages, with a caregiver. This program is co-sponsored by the Forest Preserve District of Kane County and the Geneva Public Library. *Advance registration is required through the Geneva Public Library.* Call 630-232-0893 or visit www.gpld.org to register.

Tuesday, June 20; 10 – 11 a.m.
Fabyan East Forest Preserve
1500 Crissey Ave., Geneva; FREE

Nature Tykes (for 3-year olds)

In this program, geared for 3-year olds and their parents, grandparents or guardians, we'll explore the natural world through a variety of activities, led

by our naturalist staff. Sessions include a combination of stories, nature hikes, songs, games or crafts. *Advance registration is required.* Call 630-444-3190 or e-mail programs@kaneforest.com to register.

Be a Bird Sleuth

Thursday, June 22; 9:30 – 10:30 a.m.
Creek Bend Nature Center
LeRoy Oakes Forest Preserve
37W700 Dean St., St. Charles
\$5/child

Toad-ally Fun!

Thursday, July 27; 9:30 – 10:30 a.m.
Creek Bend Nature Center
LeRoy Oakes Forest Preserve
37W700 Dean St., St. Charles
\$5/child

A Prairie Wonderland

Thursday, Aug. 24; 9:30 – 10:30 a.m.
Creek Bend Nature Center
LeRoy Oakes Forest Preserve
37W700 Dean St., St. Charles;
\$5/child

Little Naturalists

(for 4-5-year olds)

In this hour-long program for 4-5-year olds, children will discover the wonders of nature through stories, nature hikes, songs, games or crafts. (Note:

This is a "drop-off" program; adults and siblings may enjoy the trails or wait in the nature center during program.) *Advance registration is required.* Call 630-444-3190 or e-mail programs@kaneforest.com to register.

Be a Bird Sleuth

Thursday, June 22; 1 – 2 p.m.
Creek Bend Nature Center
LeRoy Oakes Forest Preserve
37W700 Dean St., St. Charles
Fee: \$5/child

Toad-ally Fun!

Thursday, July 27; 1 – 2 p.m.
Creek Bend Nature Center
LeRoy Oakes Forest Preserve
37W700 Dean St., St. Charles
Fee: \$5/child

A Prairie Wonderland

Thursday, Aug. 24; 1 – 2 p.m.
Creek Bend Nature Center
LeRoy Oakes Forest Preserve
37W700 Dean St., St. Charles
Fee: \$5/child

The Woods at Twilight

As the sun sets and the woods grow dark, the nocturnal world unfolds. Children entering grades 3-6 are welcome to learn about the ecology of the nocturnal world during these evening drop-off

Get Hooked on Fishing, June 4, at Oakhurst

Join us for a free children's fishing event. We'll supply the fishing gear and bait. Light refreshments will also be provided. If you have fishing experience and would like to volunteer to help kids bait, cast, catch and release, call our volunteer coordinator at 630-762-2741.

Sunday, June 4; 8 a.m. – Noon
Oakhurst Forest Preserve
1680 Fifth Ave., Aurora
FREE



programs. The naturalists will lead a night hike with trail-side activities. We'll conclude the evening with a campfire. *Advance registration is required. Call 630-444-3190 or e-mail programs@kaneforest.com to register.*

Tuesday, Aug. 1; 7 – 9 p.m.
Camp Tomo Chi-Chi Knolls
40W095 Freeman Rd., Gilberts; \$15/person

Tuesday, Aug. 8; 7 – 9 p.m.
Creek Bend Nature Center
LeRoy Oakes Forest Preserve
37W700 Dean St., St. Charles; \$15/person

Thursday, Aug. 10; 7 – 9 p.m.
Glenwood Forest Preserve
1644 South River St., Batavia; \$15/person



ADULT PROGRAMS

Senior Stroll

Seniors are invited to join District naturalists each month on a leisurely stroll through a Kane County forest preserve. Learn about the natural and cultural history of each preserve. The strolls last about an hour, with social time and refreshments following the walk. *No registration is required. Wear sturdy shoes and bring insect repellent and sunscreen.*

Thursday, June 1; 10 a.m. – noon
Oakhurst Forest Preserve
1680 Fifth Ave., Aurora
FREE

Thursday, July 6; 10 a.m. – noon
Fabyan East Forest Preserve
1500 Crissey Ave., Geneva
FREE

Thursday, Aug. 3; 10 a.m. – noon
Campton Forest Preserve
4N379 Town Hall Rd., St. Charles
FREE

Thursday, Sept. 7; 10 a.m. – noon
Pingree Grove Forest Preserve
14N187 US Route 20, Hampshire
FREE

Trek with a Naturalist

Get your 10,000 steps in during these brisk hikes! Each month, we'll take an invigorating hike at a different forest preserve. The naturalist will interpret the ecology of the preserve, as we hike. This program is for ages 18 and above. *Advance registration is required. Call 630-444-3190 or email programs@kaneforest.com to register.*

Thursday, June 15; 6-8 p.m.
Pingree Grove Forest Preserve
14N187 U.S. Rte. 20, Hampshire
FREE

Thursday, July 20; 6-8 p.m.
Barnes Forest Preserve
39W001 Prairie St., Aurora
FREE

Thursday, Aug. 17; 6-8 p.m.
Burlington Prairie Forest Preserve
13N240 Engel Rd., Sycamore
FREE

Nature Book Group

Calling all book-lovers and nature enthusiasts: join our Nature Book Group! Every month we'll discuss a book about the environment, nature, or related topics. Read the monthly book selection in advance, and come ready for a lively and informative discussion. *Advance registration is required. Call 630-444-3190 or e-mail programs@kaneforest.com to register.*

Braiding Sweetgrass

by Robin Wall Kimmerer
Monday, June 12; 1 – 2:30 p.m.; or
Wednesday, June 14; 7 – 8:30 p.m.
Creek Bend Nature Center
LeRoy Oakes Forest Preserve
37W700 Dean St., St. Charles; FREE

A Walk in the Woods: Rediscovering America on the Appalachian Trail

by Bill Bryson
Monday, July 17; 1 – 2:30 p.m.; or
Wednesday, July 19; 7 – 8:30 p.m.
Creek Bend Nature Center
LeRoy Oakes Forest Preserve
37W700 Dean St., St. Charles; FREE

Earth in Balance by Al Gore

Monday, Aug. 14; 1 – 2:30 p.m.; or
Wednesday, Aug. 16; 7 – 8:30 p.m.
Creek Bend Nature Center
LeRoy Oakes Forest Preserve
37W700 Dean St., St. Charles; FREE

Nature/Walking

by Emerson and Thoreau
Monday, Sept. 18; 1 – 2:30 p.m.; or
Wednesday, Sept. 20; 7 – 8:30 p.m.
Creek Bend Nature Center
LeRoy Oakes Forest Preserve
37W700 Dean St., St. Charles; FREE

Smart Art: Nature Photography with a Smartphone

Have you ever spotted something really cool in nature and wished you could get a good photo? A smartphone camera may be just the tool for the job. Learn how this electronic device can help you engage with nature, and how you can maximize

Stamp your "Passport to Adventure," this summer!

Take an adventure this summer at area museums with the "Passport to Adventure" program. Participating sites in the Forest Preserve District include Creek Bend Nature Center, the Durant House Museum and Pioneer Sholes School at LeRoy Oakes in St. Charles, and the Fabyan Villa Museum in Geneva. The passport program encourages children and their parents to visit a variety of history, nature, science and art museums to explore the people, events, and environment of the area. The program is sponsored by the Illinois Parks & Recreation Association, the Kane-DuPage Regional Museum Association and a host of other partner agencies. Passports are available in late May at the Geneva and St. Charles Libraries. More information about the program is available at 630-444-3190.

your discoveries through your phone's camera. In this outdoor class, professional photographer Emily Cudworth will help students "see" nature through the lens of a smartphone camera. We'll meet at the shelter, then head into the field to discover new subject matter in the natural world. Emily will guide students in learning the effects of light on natural objects, composition, and technique. Students will have an opportunity for feedback, and for sharing their work. For ages 16 and above.

Saturday, July 15, 9:30 – 11:30 a.m.
Dick Young Forest Preserve
39W115 Main St., Batavia
Fee: \$20/person

Twenties and Thirties

This naturalist-guided walk for adults in their twenties and thirties is cosponsored by the Forest Preserve District of Kane County and the Geneva Public Library. We'll walk the grounds of the lovely historic Fabyan Forest Preserve along the Fox River. *Advance registration is required. Call 630-444-3190 or e-mail programs@kaneforest.com to register.*

Saturday, July 15; 10 – 11:30 a.m.
Fabyan West Forest Preserve
1925 Batavia Ave., Rte. 31, Geneva
FREE

Learn from the Experts

These classes, offer in-depth information and learning opportunities about our local ecology. The program series is cosponsored by the Forest Preserve District of Kane County, the St. Charles Park District and the Geneva Park District. Call 630-444-3190 or e-mail programs@kaneforest.com to register.

Mosquitoes, Ecology, and You

They buzz, bite, annoy, and frustrate you until you can't stand to be outside

anymore. Mosquitoes are pests that persist year after year, despite human efforts to eliminate them. We may despise them, but mosquitoes play an important role in ecology. Learn about the life cycles, dangers, and benefits of these insects with Trish Burns, Manager of Peck Farm Park.

Sunday, June 18, 1 – 2:30 p.m.
Peck Farm Park
4038 Kaneville Rd., Geneva
Fee: \$10

Summer Tree Identification

During this class, you'll learn the basics of tree identification with Nature Programs Manager Valerie Blaine. We'll look at the whole tree in its environment, observing not only leaves but bark, branches, leaf scars, buds, form, habit and habitat. *Please bring a hands lens, if you have one. Advance registration is required. Call 630-444-3190 or e-mail programs@kaneforest.com to register.*

Sunday, June 25, 1 – 3 p.m.
Hannaford Woods/Nickels Farm
Forest Preserve
55002 Merrill Rd., Sugar Grove
Fee: \$10

Wednesday, June 28, 6:30 – 8:30 p.m.
Rutland Forest Preserve
41W230 Big Timber Rd., Hampshire
Fee: \$10

Bats: Illinois' Flying Mammals

Bats are the only mammals capable of true flight. There are some 1,000 species, worldwide. Learn more about these fascinating mammals and their niche in local ecology. Trish Burns, Manager of Peck Farm Park in Geneva will present the life histories and ecological management challenges of bats.

Sunday, July 16, 1 – 2:30 p.m.
Peck Farm Park
4038 Kaneville Rd., Geneva
Fee: \$10

Dragonflies and Damselflies: "Triassic Park" Survivors

Learn how to identify our native dragonflies and damselflies and attract them to your local pond or wetland. During this two-hour workshop presented by environmental biologist Cathy White, you'll learn about these amazing creatures and then get the chance to examine them in their native habitat while we explore the nearby aquatic systems. *Please bring an insect net, if you have one. Advance registration is required. Call 630-444-3190 or e-mail programs@kaneforest.com to register.*

Saturday, Aug. 26; 10 a.m. – Noon
Creek Bend Nature Center
LeRoy Oakes Forest Preserve
37W700 Dean St., St. Charles
Fee: \$10/person



Photo by Naturalist Eric Lemon



Forest Preserve District of Kane County
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NATURE PROGRAM REGISTRATION INFORMATION

Registration is required for all programs unless otherwise noted. To register for programs and/or schedule school or scout field trips: **call 630-444-3190 or email programs@kaneforest.com**

Telephone reservations are accepted weekdays, 8 a.m. - 4 p.m.

Payment

Make checks payable to the Forest Preserve District of Kane County. Mail to:

Creek Bend Nature Center
 LeRoy Oakes Forest Preserve
 37W700 Dean St.
 St. Charles, IL 60175

Programs are free unless otherwise indicated. Fee assistance is available upon request.

Cancellations

Please call us if you need to cancel, so that we may contact others on our wait list.

Special accommodations

Please let us know at least two weeks in advance by calling the program manager at 630-444-3191. Anyone who requires an auxiliary aid or service for effective communication, or a modification of policies or procedures to participate in a program,

service or activity of the District, should contact the ADA Coordinator at Voice: 630-444-3950 or 630-232-5980, TTY Relay: 800-526-0844, e-mail at ada@kaneforest.com or mail at 1996 S. Kirk Rd., Ste. 320, Geneva, IL 60134, as soon as possible, but no later than 72 hours before the scheduled event.

Suggested attire

Most of our programs involve outdoor activities such as walking on trails. Please wear closed-toe shoes or boots (no sandals!) and long pants.

Weather

Severe weather cancels some programs. Call 630-444-3190 for program updates and cancellation announcements.

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