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May T. Watts and the Origins of the Illinois Prairie Path

GENEVA, IL — Learn about May Theilgaard Watts, a beloved naturalist at Chicago’s Morton Arboretum, and how her grassroots campaign established the Illinois Prairie Path over three years.

William Barnett, a professor of history at North Central College, will explore how May Watts represented a distinctly Midwestern set of ideas linking earlier conservationists and 1960s environmentalism with a strong focus on nature study and a deep concern about suburban sprawl and the loss of prairies and farms.

This Learn From the Experts program is on Tuesday, Feb. 15, from 6:30-8 p.m. at Creek Bend Nature Center. This program is for ages 18 and above. Advance registration is required. Registration fee is \$10 per person. Call 630-444-3190 or email programs@kaneforest.com to register.

Creek Bend Nature Center is located within LeRoy Oakes Forest Preserve at 37W700 Dean St., St. Charles.

Learn from the Experts programs are taught by experts in their respective fields and offer in-depth learning opportunities about our local ecology. The programs are offered through a partnership by the Forest Preserve District of Kane County, St. Charles Park District and Geneva Park District.

For more information on upcoming Forest Preserve District of Kane County programs, visit www.kaneforest.com or find us on social media by searching @forestpreserve.