

## 27th Annual Friends of Wood Lake Fundraising Dinner & Silent Auction

Friday, April 28 6:00-9:30 pm  
Dinner served at 7:00 pm  
\$50/person

Guest Speaker: Dr. Peter Sorensen  
Fishery Expert, University of Minnesota

The Friends of Wood Lake (FOWL) invite you to their biggest event of the year: the annual Friends of Wood Lake Fundraising Dinner, a benefit for Wood Lake Nature Center's programs and facilities, on Friday, April 28. The event brings together Wood Lake's supporters and community members for a great night of entertainment, dinner, and fundraising. This year's guest speaker is **Dr. Peter Sorensen**, who will address the growing number of goldfish, a non-native and invasive species found in several marshes in Richfield, including Wood Lake. The evening's emcee is **Cindy Hilger**, formerly of WCCO TV and Richfield native. The evening will also include a special tribute to the late **Nancy Stiller**, former FOWL treasurer.



Ticket price includes dinner, a chance to win ticket prizes, and an opportunity to bid on silent auction items. The Friends of Wood Lake Fundraising Dinner will be held at the **Minnesota Valley Golf Club in Bloomington**. To purchase tickets, call 612-861-9365 or buy them online at [woodlakenaturecenter.org](http://woodlakenaturecenter.org). Only 200 seats are available, so don't delay!

## Register for Community Gardens

Garden plots, measuring 15' x 20', are available for seasonal rental on a first-come, first-served basis. Garden plots are plowed and fully irrigated. The cost is \$45 per plot. Two plot maximum per household; commercial gardening is not allowed. Registration must be done in-person at the nature center. Weather permitting, the plots will be ready in early May. The Community Garden is located at 5844 28th Avenue.

### REGISTRATION START DATES & TIMES:

Richfield residents Saturday, April 1, 10:00 am  
Non-residents Saturday, April 8, 10:00 am

## Friends of Wood Lake Big Day Bird-A-Thon Saturday, May 6

Mark your calendars for Wood Lake's Bird-A-Thon! Get a team together or bird as an individual and enjoy the opportunity to win fabulous prizes while helping bird conservation and education at Wood Lake Nature Center. Event activities include bird banding demonstrations, live eagle bird show, guided bird hikes, and bird photography class with live owls. Event details including a full schedule can be found at [www.woodlakenaturecenter.org](http://www.woodlakenaturecenter.org). Call Wood Lake at 612-861-9365 to register for the full event or individual activities.

Bird-A-Thon 5:30 am-5:00 pm \$30/person  
Live Eagle Show 3:00 pm-4:00 pm \$ 5/person



MINNESOTA'S GREEN RACE  
BENEFITTING WOOD LAKE NATURE CENTER

## New Weekend July 29

Register at:  
[www.urbanwildland.com](http://www.urbanwildland.com)

# WOOD LAKE NATURE CENTER

### BUILDING HOURS

Monday-Saturday: 8:30 am-5:00 pm Sunday: 12:00-5:00 pm  
Building is closed on legal holidays. Trails remain open.

### PARK HOURS

Daily: 5:00 am-11:00 pm



You are invited to join  
**Friends of Wood Lake (FOWL)**  
and enjoy the following benefits:



Memberships are good for one year and include free admission to Saturday and Sunday Specials (up to \$3) and other programs, including Half-Haunted Halloween, Candlelight & Ice, and Book Club. Also includes free on-site cross-country ski and snowshoe rental and a 10% discount on select programs and merchandise. See membership levels for additional benefits.

Individual	\$ 30	Basic membership benefits (listed above) for one person.
Family	\$ 50	Basic membership benefits for a maximum of 2 named adults residing at the same address and their dependent children or grandchildren under age 18.
Sustaining	\$ 100	Family benefits plus four Wood Lake mugs.
Corporate	\$ 250	Family benefits for one family plus engraved plaque.
Life	\$1000	Family benefits plus framed Wood Lake photo.

### Group Programs & Fees

Interpretive naturalists have developed engaging, hands-on programs for schools, home-schools, childcare centers, scout groups, seniors, and other groups. Cost is \$4 per participant (\$40 minimum). Visit [woodlakenaturecenter.org/programs](http://woodlakenaturecenter.org/programs) for program list and call 612-861-9365 for availability.

### Room Rentals

The nature center offers a wonderful setting for meetings, parties, anniversaries, and receptions. Auditorium rental includes seating for 60-80, tables and chairs, use of the fireplace, and a beautiful view of the marsh. No alcohol or helium balloons.

Richfield Residents	\$45/hour for private party rentals
Non-Residents	\$50/hour for private party rentals
Non-Profit groups	\$35/hour for non-profit groups

### Outdoor Pavillion Rental

This lovely new addition to Wood Lake Nature Center features picnic table seating for 60; includes access to water and electricity.  
\$80 for four-hour block of time between 10:00 am-10:00 pm



6710 Lake Shore Drive  
Richfield, Minnesota 55423  
[www.woodlakenaturecenter.org](http://www.woodlakenaturecenter.org)  
612-861-9365

### 2017 Spring & Summer Program and Events

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## BIRTHDAY PARTIES

Wood Lake offers a variety of birthday parties that are fun, educational, and the mess stays with us! We provide a naturalist-led activity and use of the party room with tables, chairs, and tablecloths. Payment is due when the party is booked. No helium balloons. For an additional \$10, make it a "green" party; includes use of reusable dishes, cups, and silverware. Treat bags available for \$2 each. Visit [woodlakenaturecenter.org](http://woodlakenaturecenter.org) for additional information and full party descriptions. Call 612-861-9365 to schedule.

Time: 2 Hours Total (first hour with naturalist, second hour without naturalist)  
Fee: \$109 for up to ten children, \$4 per additional child (max. 15)



- Critter Hunt Birthday (ages 4-5)**  
Become nature detectives and look for hidden animals at Wood Lake.
- Treasure Hunt Birthday (ages 5-9)**  
Find nature clues along the trail to receive puzzle pieces that lead to a hidden treasure!
- Puppet Play (ages 5-9)**  
Make a stick puppet and create a play with party guests using Wood Lake's puppet stage.
- Scaly Tales Birthday (ages 5-12)**  
Meet a live snake and turtle and learn about these amazing creatures.
- Tracks and Trails Birthday (ages 5-12)**  
Make a plaster track to take home, then hike the trails to search for real animals and their tracks.
- Creatures from the Marsh Birthday (ages 5-12)**  
Head out with nets and buckets to discover what creatures lurk in Wood Lake's marsh. May 15-Sept. 15 only.
- Games Birthday (ages 7-12)**  
Hawk vs. crows, squirrel tag, everybody's in! Play fun, nature-oriented games chosen by the birthday child.
- Survival Birthday (ages 8-12)**  
Learn the basics of survival and build an outdoor shelter. Work together to see if your group can survive!



# SUMMER CAMPS FOR CHILDREN

## Preschool & Kindergarten Graduate Day Camps (ages 4-6)

**Nature's Yucky** **Limit 30**  
 Become a "scatologist" and discover all things yucky, but important, to the wildlife of Wood Lake. Read the Nature's Yucky picture book series and play games with the new facts you learn. Make yucky-looking snacks that taste good and crafts, too. Each child will get an autographed copy of the book, Nature's Yucky 3.  
**June 13-15** **9:30-11:30 am**

**Rainbow Things & Butterfly Wings** **Limit 15**  
 From red ladybugs to the yellow of swallowtail butterflies, the world of nature is full of color. Campers will make rainbow and butterfly crafts and create rainbows on bubbles after exploring the nature center for the critters that come in all colors of the rainbow.  
**June 27-29** **9:30-11:30 am**

**Terrific Turtles & Toads** **Limit 30**  
 Through games, demonstrations, crafts and live animals, learn how these reptiles and amphibians live. Enjoy three days of inspired fun as you meet and feed Wood Lake's resident turtles and salamanders, too.  
**July -13** **9:30-11:30 am**

**Marsh & Mud Mania** **Limit 15**  
 Discover the many uses of mud in the animal kingdom. Learn how mud how animals use it to build structures, then muck around for creatures in the muddy marsh. Have fun playing with mud, too, by making mud crafts and eating "mud" snacks.  
**July 18-20** **9:30-11:30 am**

**Puppets & Play** **Limit 15**  
 Wood Lake has a new puppet theater! Create your very own nature-inspired puppets and create your own plays. Then, head outside with the puppet theater and put on a show for your families!  
**August 1-3** **9:30-11:30 am**

**Dino Magic** **Limit 30**  
 Imaginations are welcomed at this dinosaur camp, where campers will experience the world of paleontology. Discover and find bones, then put them together and solve the mystery of who these bones once were! Enjoy daily crafts, games and stories based on these ancient reptiles.  
**August 8-10** **9:30-11:30 am**

**Animal Adventures** **Limit 30**  
 Investigate the amazing world of animals that live at Wood Lake. Hike, play games, and have some hands-on fun with animal crafts. Discover animal homes and feed Wood Lake's resident birds, snakes, and salamanders.  
**August 22-24** **9:30-11:30 am**

**First & Second Grade Graduate Day Camps** **Fee: \$82**  
**Mondays-Fridays**

**Digging Up Bones** **Limit 15**  
 From fossilized dinosaur bones to antlers shed by deer to rodent bones in an owl pellet, discover the things we can learn from old bones. Study the functions of these rigid organs and learn the many other uses of bone as we dissect owl pellets and make crafts from real bone.  
**June 12-16** **9:00-11:30 am**

**How Does Your Garden Grow?** **Limit 15**  
 Wood Lake is getting a new children's garden! Learn how to grow and harvest vegetables, make healthy tasty recipes from the garden's bounty, and discover ways to tend and care for a garden with creative garden stakes and ways to control pests.  
**June 19-23** **9:00-11:30 am**

**Solar-Powered Fun** **Limit 15**  
 Learn about light and energy with solar toy car races. Bake cookies and other treats using the energy directly from the sun in Wood Lake's solar oven and learn how to make one yourself to tap the sun's energy!  
**July 10-14** **9:00-11:30 am**

**Fantastic Forts** **Limit 30**  
 Work in groups to build forts from fallen sticks, logs, and tarps. These imaginative hideouts will be home base for stories, games, nature activities, and great memories. Parents are invited to tour the forts on Friday.  
**July 31-August 4** **9:00-11:30 am**

**Bug Bio Blitz** **Limit 15**  
 Scrounge the woods, marsh and prairie to find insects that live in Wood Lake. Make bug treats and insect crafts and learn about the diversity and life cycles of these important members of the food chain.  
**August 14-18** **9:00-11:30 am**

Pre-registration and pre-payment required.  
 Visit [woodlakenaturecenter.org](http://woodlakenaturecenter.org) to register.

*The Emily Day Scholarship Fund is available for Richfield students on free and reduced lunch to attend summer classes. Please call Karen at 612-861-9366 for more information.*

## Third-Sixth Grade Graduate Day Camps

**Mondays-Fridays** **Fee: \$82**  
 unless indicated differently

**Junior Naturalists** **Limit 15**  
 Discover what it's like to be a Naturalist by caring for Wood Lake's exhibit reptiles, learning how to identify and survey wild plants and animals, and assisting with prairie and forest management.  
**June 19-23** **1:00-3:30 pm**

**Outdoor Survival Skills** **Limit 20**  
 Learn the skills needed to survive outdoors and become more aware of the natural world. Discover how to use a compass and read a map, build a shelter and fire, track animals, and identify edible plants. Put your new skills to the test with an end-of-the-week Survivor Challenge!  
**June 26-30** **9:00-11:30 am**

**Bike Hike** **Limit 12**  
 Join us as we pedal to fun local destinations! Before taking off, review bike safety, participate in a bike rodeo, and learn to perform bike tune-ups. Each day, we bike to a different destination that may include playground games, a local ice-cream shop, and a swimming beach. Price includes all admission fees and a daily snack.  
**July 17-21** **Fee: \$102** **9:00 am -12:30 pm**

**Girls in Nature** **Limit 15**  
 Explore nature through photography, art, science experiments, hikes and games! Each student will have an animal of focus for the week and will explore what makes it a special part of nature. Parents will enjoy an end-of-camp open house to experience special art and treats made from campers. Note: for girls only.  
**August 7-11** **9:00-11:30 am**

**Who's Messin' Up the Marsh?** **Limit 15**  
 Discover the threats to water quality and wildlife as we explore and examine the marsh and its inhabitants. Help improve our wetland ecosystem as we learn the techniques used by aquatic biologists.  
**August 7-11** **1:00-3:30 pm**



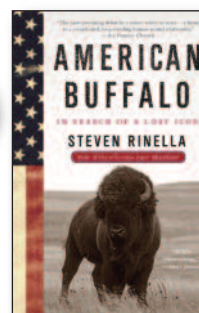
*Come for a visit. . .*

The City of Richfield's **Wood Lake Nature Center** is a 150-acre natural area dedicated to environmental education, wildlife observation, and outdoor recreation. Three miles of trails and boardwalks wind through the park. The trails are either blacktop or crushed limestone, and most are wheelchair accessible during summer months. To preserve the natural habitat, pets, bikes, rollerblades and smoking are not allowed.

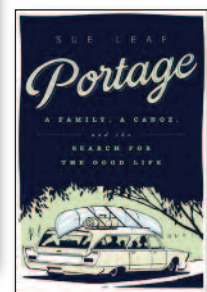
The **Interpretive Center** offers visitors a chance to learn more about plants, animals, and the environment through live animal displays, interactive exhibits, and Naturalists available to answer questions during building hours. For more information about nature center classes, programs, or facilities, please visit [woodlakenaturecenter.org](http://woodlakenaturecenter.org) or call 612-861-9365.

# ADULT PROGRAMS

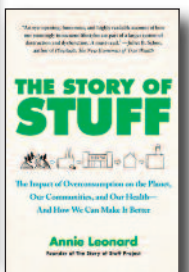
**Wood Lake Book Club**  
 Join other adults to discuss some wonderful environmental and outdoor recreation based books. Refreshments will be provided. Reserve a spot online at [woodlakenaturecenter.org](http://woodlakenaturecenter.org)  
**Tuesdays** **6:30-8:00 pm**  
**\$5/person, free for members**  
 Payment will be taken on night of program



**March 7**  
**American Buffalo**  
 by Steven Rinella



**April 4**  
**Portage**  
 by Sue Leaf



**May 2**  
**The Story of Stuff**  
 by Annie Leonard

**Spring Bird Hikes**  
 Enjoy a spring hike through Wood Lake and/or Veterans Park as we look for both migrating and resident birds. Discover how to identify species by sight and sound. Binoculars and field guides will be available for loan. Reserve a spot online at [woodlakenaturecenter.org](http://woodlakenaturecenter.org) (payment will be taken on night of program).  
**Thursdays** **6:00-7:30 pm**  
**May 4 & May 11** **\$5/hike, free for members**  
**May 18** **Offsite hike at Veterans Park, Richfield**  
 Meet in front of Ice Arena. Pay \$5 by exact cash or check

# SATURDAY AND SUNDAY SPECIALS

No pre-registration (unless noted). Programs are offered on a first-come, first-served basis for both members and non-members. Check in at the front desk.

**Magical Maples** **Limit 30**  
 Hike into Wood Lake's sugar bush and help tap, collect, and boil maple sap into syrup. Listen to the cultural and natural history of this amazing tree as we make delicious maple treats!  
**Saturday, March 4** **3:00-4:30 pm**  
**Sunday, March 5** **1:00-2:30 or 3:00-4:30 pm**  
**Sunday, March 12** **1:00-2:30 or 3:00-4:30 pm**  
**Saturday, March 18** **10:00-11:30 am**

\$3/person, free for members

**Storybook Hike** **Limit 20**  
 Create a bird mask and stroll through the trails of Wood Lake and stop to discover the wonderful children's book, **Counting is for the Birds!** Enjoy a short bird hike to discover resident species and try your hand at bird bingo.  
**Sunday, March 26** **1:00-2:30 or 3:00-4:30 pm**  
**\$3/person, free for members**

**Birdhouse Building** **Limit 30**  
 Provide the perfect nesting spot for wrens by constructing your very own birdhouse. Discover the unique life of wrens and other spring migrants and how to place the homes to invite feathered residents.  
**Sunday, April 2** **3:00-4:30 pm**  
**\$3/person, free for members, plus \$10/house**

**Birds and Bagels** **Limit 20**  
 Celebrate the return of the ducks after a long winter with a hike at Wood Lake and nearby Richfield Lake. Try to spot the newly-returned ducks, then head inside the building at Wood Lake for bagel treats (gluten-free available). Binoculars will be available for use; bring your own if you have them.  
**Sunday, April 9** **1:00-2:30 pm**  
**\$5/person, \$2 for members**

**Earth Day/Arbor Day Celebration** **Limit 100**  
 Celebrate the earth by helping to rid Wood Lake of litter and invasive plants. Plant a tree at Wood Lake to celebrate Richfield's status as a Tree City and learn about planting trees in your own yard.  
**Sunday, April 23** **1:00-4:00 pm**  
**Free**

**Spring Chocolate Hike** **Limit 20**  
 What's a chocolate hike? Carry a bowl of chocolate sauce along on a hike, find edible wild plants that are just coming up, dip them in chocolate and eat! Discover all of the health benefits of eating wild plants.  
**Sunday, April 30** **1:00-2:30 pm**  
**\$3/person, free for members**

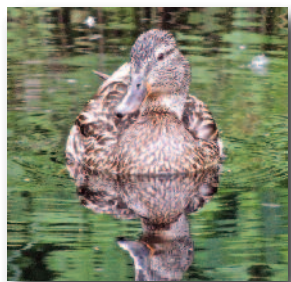
**Warbler Walk** **Limit 20**  
 Explore the amazing world of warblers and their unique field markings, annual migration and calls. Field guides and binoculars are available for loan.  
**Sunday, May 7** **1:00-2:30 pm**  
**\$3/person, free for members**

**Wildflowers, Honey and Ice Cream** **Limit 30**  
 Explore Wood Lake's wildflowers and learn how honeybees help them and use them to make honey. Then, sample some of their work with old-fashioned, home-made honey ice cream.  
**Sunday, May 14** **1:00-3:00 pm**  
**\$3/person, free for members**

**Honey Cattail Cookies and Crafts** **Limit 20**  
 Cattails are amazingly useful in so many different ways! Almost all parts are edible and crafts can be made from their leaves. Make a cattail treat, then take part in cattail boat races from the floating bridge.  
**Sunday, May 21** **1:00-2:30 pm**  
**\$5/person, \$2 for members**

# ADULT/CHILD PRESCHOOL PROGRAMS

**Nature Adventurers** **Limit 15**  
 Young explorers (ages 3-5; sorry, no younger siblings) accompanied by an adult will have an exciting time exploring a different natural topic each visit. Enjoy stories, crafts, hands-on activities, snack, and outdoor discovery time. Online registration and prepayment required at [woodlakenaturecenter.org](http://woodlakenaturecenter.org).



Tuesdays	Wednesdays	Topic
10-11:30 am	10-11:30 am	\$8/child
March 7	March 8	Magical Maples
March 21	March 22	Spring Storybook Hike
April 11	April 12	Signs of Spring
April 25	April 26	Earth Day Celebration
May 9	May 10	Dabbling Ducks
May 23	May 24	Beauty and the Bug + picnic after class

**Nature Adventurers, Summer Edition** **Limit 15**  
 Young explorers (ages 3-5) accompanied by an adult will have an exciting time exploring different natural topics each visit. Enjoy stories, crafts, hands-on activities, snack, and outdoor discovery time. Online registration and prepayment required at [woodlakenaturecenter.org](http://woodlakenaturecenter.org).  
**Wild Things**  
 Discover the special critters that call Wood Lake home. Come growl, roar, create, and play in a wild rumpus, and learn about what a wild thing needs to survive.  
**Tuesdays-Thursdays** **9:30-11:30 am**  
**June 20-22** **\$50/child**

**Little Wonders Family Nature Camp**  
**All ages welcome!** Discover nature on a family adventure, exploring the forest, marsh, and prairie. Meet live animals, play games, and discover the natural wild world.  
**Tuesdays-Thursdays** **9:30-11:30 am**  
**August 15-17** **\$50/child**