



Friends of Wood Lake Nature Center
6710 Lake Shore Drive Richfield, MN 55423

March 24, 2020

Dear Friend of Wood Lake,

Thank you for supporting Wood Lake Nature Center and the Friends of Wood Lake Fundraising Dinner. With the current Covid-19 pandemic restrictions, we have decided to make our dinner and program virtual! The event will still be held on April 24, 2020.

The Friends of Wood Lake (FOWL) is charged with raising funds to help Wood Lake continue to be a treasured destination for all. The dinner is our largest and most important fundraiser of the year and, even though we cannot all be physically together in one place to celebrate Wood Lake Nature Center, we have come up with a few opportunities to be together virtually and in spirit to support the nature center.

In lieu of the dinner choices already offered, we are offering you the following FOWL Dinner specials from Local Roots (at 817 E 66th St). Dairy free or vegan options can be made upon request.

- Chicken Option: Roasted chicken breast with a gorgonzola cream sauce, garlic mashed potatoes and seasonal vegetables. (This option is GF)
- Vegetarian Option: Pasta alfredo primavera (pasta with garlic cream sauce and seasonal vegetables) with bread stick and salad.
- Kids Option: Turkey frank on a bun with chips, juice box and cookie.

You can pick up your order from 8:00 am- 6:00 pm on April 24. If you would rather, a \$20 gift card can be ordered and will be mailed to your home for later use. Please email Local Roots at Courtney@localrootsmn.com with "FOWL Dinner" in the subject line, or call Local Roots at 612-345-5258 to place your meal or gift card order. **All orders need to be made by April 22, at 5:00 pm.**

At 7:00 pm, on local access television channel 16, the program will begin. A link to the program will also be posted on the Wood Lake Nature Center website at woodlakenaturecenter.org. Emcee Sven Sundgaard from KARE 11 news, will introduce our speaker Paul Smithson, the new Wood Lake Manager, who will convey his passion for birds by sharing stories and introducing species he has worked with.

Our silent auction will be moved online as well. The auction will include gift cards from local businesses (who will be happy to see you when they reopen in the future), art, gift baskets, and a variety of other items. The auction will open on April 24 at 5:00 pm, and be live for one week, closing May 1 at 5:00 pm. The link to the online auction will be posted on the Wood Lake website (woodlakenaturecenter.org) prior to the auction opening.

If you would like to make an additional donation to Friends of Wood Lake, please feel free to mail a check in the enclosed envelope. All proceeds will be utilized to support the important and needed programming that is offered at the nature center. If you would like a refund for your dinner ticket(s), please call Wood Lake Nature Center at 612-861-9365 or email jcevans@richfieldmn.gov.

We encourage you all to continue to come use the park! The building is currently closed to the public, but our trails are still open. More than ever, the outdoors is your best bet to spend the day (while practicing social distancing). We look forward to seeing many of you as the spring and summer progresses.

Thank you again for your continued support of Wood Lake Nature Center and its programming. Please contact me at 612-861-9366 or psmithson@richfieldmn.gov if you have any questions.

Sincerely,

Paul Smithson
Wood Lake Nature Center Manager

Gordon Hanson
FOWL Board President