

Winter

December, January,
February

2009/2010

Education Center

7:45 a.m. to 4:30 p.m.
Monday - Friday

9:00 am until noon
Saturdays

Closed Sundays

Hiking Trails

6:00 a.m. to 8:00 p.m.
daily

Phone

(414) 527-0232
(414) 527-0761 (fax)
(414) 527-0761 (TTD)

Address

6141 N. Hopkins St.
Milwaukee, WI 53209
1 block west of
Sherman Blvd. on
Douglas Ave.

Website

friendsofhavenwoods.org

Havenwoods

Environmental Awareness Center

Havenwoods Spotlight

30 years ago

In 1980, Mount St. Helens erupted, Pac-Man hit the arcades, CNN launched as a 24-hour news channel, the nation learned who shot J.R., and Havenwoods became a state forest. In 2010, Mount St. Helens will still be active, people will still be obsessed with Pac-Man, CNN will still broadcast news 24/7, few people will care who shot J.R., and Havenwoods will celebrate 30 years of nature in the city.

A lot of things changed here during the last 30 years:

- Prairie grasses and flowers replaced acres of concrete and asphalt.
- The education center opened its doors.
- School children and volunteers planted thousands of trees and shrubs.
- New trails, bridges, and boardwalks improved access to different habitats.
- Ponds and wetlands offered new homes for wildlife and introduced new plants.

And, a lot of things stayed the same:

- Kids of all ages still explore the woods and fields.
- People still find Havenwoods a great place to escape within the city for recreation and relaxation.
- Wild animals still find food, cover, and a safe place to raise their families.
- People of all ages still attend nature programs to discover nature in their own backyard.

Whether you have been a fan for 30 years or just recently discovered Havenwoods State Forest, take some time to explore this place, discover its secrets, and celebrate the wonder of 237 acres of green space in the midst of a major city!



Exploring Nature in the City

30 Ways to Celebrate the 30th Anniversary of Havenwoods State Forest during 2010! Mark your calendar, dust off your camera, lace up your hiking boots, and come celebrate!

- ❑ **Take a hike.** Can you walk 30 miles at Havenwoods in 2010?
- ❑ **Picnic** under the trees in the Urban Arboretum.
- ❑ **Find a geocache.** You can borrow a GPS unit at Havenwoods.
- ❑ **Volunteer** to remove invasive species (see calendar or call for volunteer dates).
- ❑ **Photograph** your favorite place and let us post it on our Web site.
- ❑ **Attend Winter NatureFest** and discover how mammals survive the big chill. (February 20).
- ❑ **Plant a tree** at the Earth Day festival. (April 24).
- ❑ **Clean up Havenwoods** during the Great American Clean-up (April 24).
- ❑ **Bike** a 3-mile round trip on the limestone trails.
- ❑ **Fly a kite.** Bring your own or borrow one.
- ❑ **Enjoy the woodland flowers** in May.
- ❑ **Watch for birds** on Wednesday morning Bird Walks. We have binoculars you can borrow.
- ❑ **Nurture a preschooler** by attending a Tuesday morning Preschool Storytime (all year - see calendar).
- ❑ **Maintain Havenwoods trails** on National Trails Day (June 5).
- ❑ **Count butterflies** (July 24).
- ❑ **Promote Havenwoods.**
- ❑ **Take a Family Hike** (first Saturday morning of each month).
- ❑ **Join the Friends of Havenwoods.**
- ❑ **Stroll through the gardens** (Heritage Gardens and Naturalist's Backyard).
- ❑ **Celebrate a solstice or equinox** by watching a sunrise or moonrise at Havenwoods.
- ❑ **Visit the nature center** to see the Then & Now photo display.
- ❑ **Hike through the prairies** during peak bloom (August -September).
- ❑ **Encourage a kid** to become a Wisconsin Explorer (all year - kids 3 to 13).
- ❑ **Track down a Mystery Photo** (see FOH Horizons or FOH Web site).
- ❑ **Pick up litter** anytime you see it (all year).
- ❑ **Walk the self-guided trail** and discover Havenwoods' history.
- ❑ **Explore nature in the city** at Havenwoods. Pick up species lists in the nature center.
- ❑ **Tell 30 friends** about Havenwoods.
- ❑ **Borrow our snowshoes** and see Havenwoods in the winter.
- ❑ **Share your stories and memories.** Havenwoods staff is compiling stories from visitors past and present. Did you play here as a kid? Were you in the Reserves here? Did you grow up in the neighborhood? Did you plant a tree here when you were in elementary school? We want your stories, photos, and memories!

Join us for winter programs!

Registration is required only where indicated in program descriptions. Admission to programs is free unless otherwise noted.

Special Events

NatureMapping: Mammals

January 23, 10:00 - 12:00 (Sat.)

Help us keep track of the critters here at Havenwoods. We'll spend the first part inside finding out about the mammals live at Havenwoods. Then, we'll spend sometime outside looking for signs of mammals. The final part will be inside learning how to use the NatureMapping website to record our findings.

Please dress for the weather. This program is geared for ages 7 to adult.



Eco-Scavenger Hunt - Winter Birds

January 30, 9:00 am - 2:00 pm (Sat.)

Are you up for a challenging Eco-Scavenger Hunt? This one focuses on birds of winter. Stop in the building to pick up your scavenger hunt card and map. Then, find the spots listed on the scavenger hunt map. (They are marked with yellow flags.) Stamp your card with



the rubber stamps; found at the base of each flag. Once your card is stamped, bring your card back to the front desk to claim your prize.

Winter NatureFest - Mammals: Surviving the Big Chill

February 20, 10:00 - 4:00 (Sat)

How do mammals survive the cold of winter? Find out by participating in nature programs, mammal crafts, nature hikes, snowshoeing, horse-drawn wagon rides, and lots of other fun activities. This is an event for people of all ages.



Havenwoods Open House

February 27, 9:00 am - 2:00 pm (Sat.)

Looking for some free activities to do? Come to Havenwoods and we'll have lots of fun nature activities inside and out for you and your family to participate in.

Family Hikes

Spend an hour on a family-friendly hike through Havenwoods. We'll use magnifiers, binoculars, and super-duper outdoor lookers to spend the morning in nature.

Winter Animal Scavenger Hunt

December 5, 10:30 - 11:30 am (Sat.)

Dress for the weather as we go in search of wild things. We'll check out what's moving around once the cold weather comes in.

Winter Walk for Animal Signs

January 2, 10:30 - 11:30 am (Sat.)

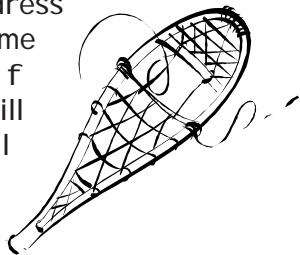
There are lots of things to check out in winter. Dress warmly as we spend the morning looking for signs winter animals have left behind.



Let's Go Snowshoeing

February 6, 10:30 - 11:30 am (Sat.)

Join a naturalist for a morning of outdoor fun! We'll take a hike on snowshoes to enjoy the park in winter. Make sure to dress warmly; most of the time will be spent outside. If there is no snow, we will take a hike instead. All equipment will be provided.



How well do you know . . .

Havenwoods? Do you know where at Havenwoods these photos were taken? Take a hike and look for them. Then visit www.friendsofhavenwoods.org/mystery_photos.htm to find the answers or stop in the center.



Discovery Saturdays

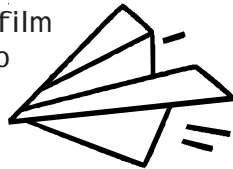
Activities for Everyone!

Just drop in the building anytime between 9:00 am and noon to participate in the fun.

Flight Experiments

December 12, 9:00 - 12:00 noon (Sat.)

Spend time inside doing some flight experiments. You can make paper airplanes and film canister parachutes to see how well different designs fly through the air.



Go Fish

January 9, 9:00 - 12:00 noon (Sat.)

Too cold out outside to go fishing? Come inside and spend the morning fishing for our backyard bass. You can even make a fish print to take home with you.

Indoor Campout

February 13, 9:00 - 12:00 noon (Sat.)

Winter is a great time to go camping - indoors! Come inside to play and explore our indoor campsite.

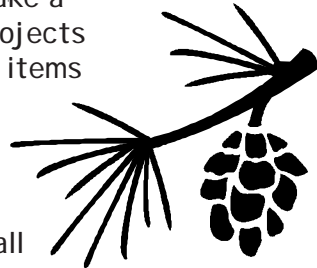


You and your family or youth group can drop in between 9 am and noon to play games, create crafts, and discover cool stuff!

Nature Crafts

December 19, 9:00 - 12:00 noon (Sat.)

Drop in to make a variety of projects using natural items that can be found in your backyard. We'll supply all the materials.

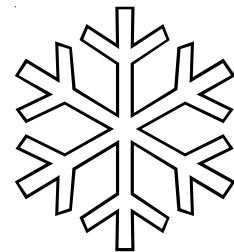


Rocks

January 16, 9:00 - 12:00 noon (Sat.)

With winter in full swing, stay indoors and have some fun with rocks! Drop in and make some fossils, learn which rock is which, do some rock experiments, and much more.

No February program due to Winter NatureFest



Preschool Storytimes

These programs are for preschoolers, ages 3-5, and their parents, grandparents, or other adult. They are not for day care centers or organizations.

Do Touch!

December 1, 9:30 - 10:30 am (Tues.)

It's time to wake up your fingers!
Come touch things from nature that are soft, prickly, rough, and slippery.

Raccoons: Masked Faces & Ringed Tails

December 15, 9:30 - 10:30 am (Tues.)

Raccoons wake up and search for breakfast after you go to bed. Find out about these nighttime neighbors.



A Flurry of Snowflakes

December 29, 9:30 - 10:30 am (Tues.)

Snowflakes . . . falling all around.
Snowflakes . . . falling to the ground.
Winter can turn water into wonderful icy designs! Let's discover them.

Follow My Footsteps

January 12, 9:30 - 10:30 am (Tues.)

Footprints tell stories about what animals have been doing. Come learn about animal tracks and find out "who went there."



We Dig Groundhogs

January 26, 9:30 - 10:30 am (Tues.)

What animal digs big holes, eats all summer, and sleeps all winter? If you guessed a groundhog, you're right! Come find out about these furry sleepers.



Turtle Time

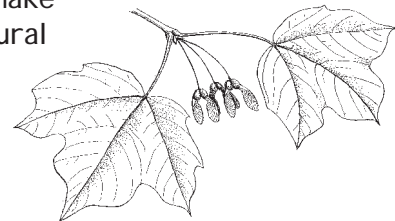
February 9, 9:30 - 10:30 am (Tues.)

Can you imagine carrying your house everywhere you go? Meet some turtles and watch them eat and move.

Nature's Treat, Something Sweet

February 23, 9:30 - 10:30 am (Tues.)

Have you ever eaten maple syrup on your pancakes and wondered where the syrup comes from? Come learn about maple trees and how people make this natural treat.



Backyard Naturalist

You can enjoy nature right out your back door, from your living room window, and even in your kitchen! These ideas are for all of us, both young and young at heart.

Build a Snow Fort

Build your own secret snow fort (or quinzee) this winter

What You Need:

- Snow!
- A shovel
- Several 1-foot sticks

What to Do:

1. Mark a circle in the snow that is 10 to 12 feet in diameter.
2. Use a shovel to pile snow inside the circle, making a nice dome shape. Keep piling until the dome is 6 feet tall.

3. Poke the 1-foot sticks through the top and sides of the mound of snow.



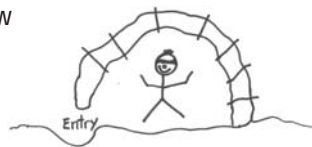
4. Let your huge mound of snow settle for an hour or two.

5. Use your shovel to dig an entrance to the snow fort. You want it to be just big enough to crawl into.



6. Start hollowing out the inside. Once you reach the outer edge, dig carefully. Once you reach the sticks STOP! You want the roof and walls to be a foot thick.

7. Climb inside and have fun in your snow fort!



Nature Hunt

Whether at home or at Havenwoods, you can still find a lot of natural stuff outside.

What You Need:

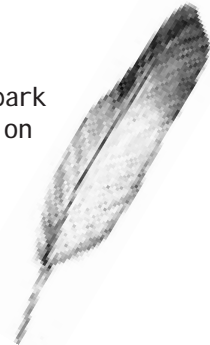
- A copy of the items listed below.
- Warm clothes, since you'll be outside.

What to Do:

Head outside and see how many different things you can find.

Items to Find:

1. A piece of bark
Challenge: A piece of bark with bark beetle trails on it.
2. A dead leaf
3. A six inch stick
4. A pinecone
5. A feather
6. A pine needle
Challenge: needles from a white pine tree
7. A "Y" Shaped twig
Challenge: A twig in the shape of any letter in the alphabet.
8. Something red
9. An acorn chewed by a squirrel
Challenge: an acorn that hasn't been chewed by any animal
10. Deer footprint



Havenwoods Bits & Pieces

- **Help Us Reduce Costs - Get the Newsletter by Email:**



Please help us reduce our postage and mailing costs by signing up to receive the newsletter by email. To sign up, please call Havenwoods (414-527-0232) or email SusanA.Johansen@wi.gov. If you are already on the mailing list and would like to be taken off, please let us know by calling or emailing. Thank you!

- **School Season has Ended:** Our school field trip season has ended for 2009. Between April and October, Havenwoods taught 4576 children from local schools, day care centers, and youth organizations. Thank you to our naturalists who worked with these groups - Erin Johnston, Phyllis McKenzie, Jessie Pucel, Tianah Moungey, and Christee Reince.

- **Volunteer at the Winter NatureFest:** The winter festival isn't that far away and we need lots of volunteers to help with this annual event. Our biggest need is help with the crafts, but we also need people to check in/out snowshoes, help with food sales, and bake cookies for the Friends group to sell during the festival. If you plan on baking, let us know a week before how many cookies you plan on making. Thanks! If

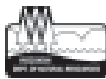
you are interested in volunteering, please contact Sue Johansen at 414-527-0232 or by email at SusanA.Johansen@wi.gov. If you are not sure now whether you can volunteer, and would like a reminder, please send me your name and contact information and I will be happy to send a reminder closer to the date. Hope to see you in February!

- **Borrow Some Snowshoes:**

Let's hope for a snowy winter, because we have snowshoes for visitors to borrow. To check out a pair, come to the front desk. We will have you fill out some information, and then you'll be set to go. The snowshoes can only be used at Havenwoods.

- **Havenwoods Turns 30!:**

Hard to believe that in 2010, Havenwoods turns 30. How the place has changed! Throughout the next year, we plan on having different activities and events throughout the year to help us celebrate. Keep checking the newsletter and Friends of Havenwoods website for events.



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Winter NatureFest

A day of winter fun and nature activities
for families and youth groups

Mammals: Surviving the Big Chill!

Saturday February 20, 2010

10:00 am - 4:00 pm

Free Admission!

This is a snow or shine event

For more information call 414-527-0232 or visit the
website <www.friendsofhavenwoods.org>

December

Havenwoods Opportunities

December 1 - Tuesday

Preschool Storytime (3-5 yr.) - Do Touch!
9:30 - 10:30 am

December 5 - Saturday

Family Hike - Winter Animal Scavenger Hunt
10:30 - 11:30 am

December 12 - Saturday

Discovery Saturday Drop-in - Flight Experiments
9:00 - 12:00 noon

December 15 - Tuesday

Preschool Storytime (3-5 yr.) - Raccoons:
Masked Faces and Ringed Tails
9:30 - 10:30 am

December 19 - Saturday

One Wild Saturday Morning
Drop-in - Nature Crafts
9:00 - 12:00 noon

December 29 - Tuesday

Preschool Storytime - A
Flurry of Snowflakes
9:30 - 10:30 am



January

Havenwoods Opportunities

January 2- Saturday

Family Hike - Winter Walk

January 9 - Saturday

Discovery Saturday - Go Fish!

10:00 am - 3:00 pm

January 12 - Tuesday

Preschool Storytime (3-5 yr.) - Follow My Footsteps

9:30 - 10:30 am

January 16 - Saturday

One Wild Saturday Morning Drop-in - Rocks

9:00 - 12:00 noon

January 23 - Saturday

Special Event - NatureMapping: Mammals

10:00 - 12:00 noon

January 26 - Tuesday

Preschool Storytime (3-5 yr.) -

We Dig Groundhogs

9:30 - 10:30 am

January 30 - Saturday

Special Event - Eco-Scavenger

Hunt - Winter Birds

9:00 - 2:00 noon



February

Havenwoods Opportunities

February 6 - Saturday

Family Hike - Let's Go Snowshoeing
10:30 - 11:30 am

February 9 - Tuesday

Preschool Storytime (3-5 yr.) - Turtle Time
9:30 - 10:30 am

February 13 - Saturday

Discovery Saturday Drop-in - Indoor Campout
9:00 - 12:00 noon

February 20 - Saturday

Special Event - Winter NatureFest - Mammals: Surviving the
Big Chill
10:00 am - 4:00 pm

February 23 - Tuesday

Preschool Storytime (3-5 yr.) - Nature's Treat, Something
Sweet
9:30 - 10:30 am

February 27 - Saturday

Special Event - Havenwoods Open House
9:00 am - 2:00 pm

