

Public Programs

Bagels and Birds

Saturday, June 6, 9:30-10:30am

FREE

Join us on the first Saturday each month. Enjoy coffee and bagels in a relaxed atmosphere while watching wildlife from the comfort of the Interpretive Center through our Windows on the Wild viewing area.

Spring Ephemerals

Open to all ages. Cost: \$5/person, Free for members

CANCELLED: Thursday, April 16, 2020, 6:00pm- 7:30 pm

Thursday, May 14, 2020, 6:00pm- 7:30 pm

Join us for a spring ephemeral walk! Led by a RBNC Naturalist, we will check out the wildflowers of RBNC. The land has ideal conditions for spring ephemerals, so we are likely to see a variety of species! The route will be a short hike along our trails, and some wandering off-trail to find and identify different wildflowers.

Summer Story Adventures

Open to all ages. Cost: \$7/family, Free for members

Join River Bend Nature Center staff or volunteer for "River Bend Nature Center Summer Story Adventures." Start your adventure with a story read by one of the staff or volunteers. The adventure continues with a fun activity and exploration.

Pond Life, Saturday, June 13, 10-11AM

What If?, Saturday, June 27 10-11AM

Under a Log, Saturday, July 11, 10-11AM

Animal Alphabet, Saturday, July 25, 10-11AM

School's Out Adventure Day: H2 Oh Yeah!

Cost: \$50/non-members, \$40/members, Ages 6-12

Monday, April 13, 9am-3:30pm

Spend the day playing with water! Participants will play water games, take a closer look at River Bend's wetlands, and learn about hydrology during this fun day of adventure and H2O!



River Bend
NATURE CENTER

Visit our website at rbnc.org or give us a call at (507)-332-7151 for more information & to register for upcoming programs and events.

Birthday Parties

Whether you're a parent, child, adult who loves nature, or any combination of these, we invite you to celebrate your birthday at River Bend Nature Center.

A River Bend birthday party includes one hour of naturalist-led activity and one hour of building use for a family-led party.

River Bend birthday parties for children include accommodations for up to 15 children with at least one adult. Adult parties can include up to 15 people. Please contact us for prices if you will have more than 15 party guests.

Stewardship Days

Buckthorn & Bratwursts/Hotdogs

(ages 8 and up, Free)

The primary focus will be working on reducing the amount of buckthorn invading the woods at River Bend. Activities include pulling, cutting, and piling buckthorn. Wear pants, bring gloves, safety glasses, and a water bottle. Brats/Hotdogs and chips will be provided to those who are pre-registered.

Tuesday, June 16, 5:00-7:00pm

Thursday, June 18, 5:00-7:00pm

Persnickety Parsnip (ages 16 and up, Free)

Come learn about wild parsnip and the problems it poses to Minnesota's native habitats and the safety of those who spend time in nature. Help pull and clip the seed heads.

WARNING: wild parsnip sap can cause blisters if sap is present on the skin and exposed to sun light. Therefore, Participants must wear pants, closed toed shoes, long sleeve shirt, and gloves.

Tuesday, June 30, 5:00-7:00pm

Thursday, July 2, 5:00-7:00pm

All Clear! (All ages, Free)

Help clear the trails at River Bend to make them enjoyable for all the visitors. We will spend time walking the trails cleaning up trash, cutting back brush, and clipping low hanging branches. Great activity for the whole family.

Tuesday, July 14, 5:00-7:00pm

Thursday, July 16, 5:00-7:00pm

Create Nature Play For All (All ages, Free)

River Bend is creating a new nature play area. The area is going to be located closer to the building and easily accessible off the paved trail. We will create areas that are educational, fun, and wheelchair accessible. Come on out and help prepare the area for lifelong learning and fun! Bring your work gloves, sturdy shoes, and water bottle. Great activity for the whole family.

Monday, July 27 (5:00pm-7:00pm)

Friday, July 31 (5:00pm-7:00pm)

Adult Programs

Lunch & Learns

Join us for a meal and nature presentation on the third Wednesday of the month from 12-2PM. \$12/person, \$10/member

April 15– **Why We Watch Birds**, By: Al Batt, writer

Al Batt of Hartland, Minnesota is a writer, speaker, storyteller and humorist. Al writes nature columns for many newspapers, does regular radio shows about nature, is author of the book, "A Life Gone to the Birds." He is also a trustee of the American Bald Eagle Foundation in Haines, Alaska. Join us on April 15 to learn more about Al's bird watching experience.

May 20– **FHS Field Biology: Methods and Results** By: Peter Jacobson and Faribault High School Field Biology class

Expect to learn about the collaring, monitoring, and data collection processes that took place to create a successful study.

June 17—**The Evolution of River Bend Nature Center** By: Katy Anderegg, RBNC Naturalist

Walk through the unique history of River Bend Nature Center. This presentation will feature photos from the past to recent history; from the time of the Wapakuta tribe to the Faribault Regional Center to what the nature center is today.

Adult Night Out: Splatter Paint Archery

Cost: \$10/person, \$5/member

Thursday, April 30, 2020, 6:00 pm - 7:30 pm

Have an adult night out with someone special in your life. Learn how to shoot a bow and arrow and get some practice shooting before we add some paint balloons to the target and watch them splatter. Leave with a piece of art created in a one-of-a-kind way. Pre-registration required.

Members Only Book Club

Adult, Cost: FREE, members only.

Not a member? Become one today!
Are you a member? Do you enjoy diving into a good read? Join River Bend's Members ONLY Book Club! Club will meet to discuss the book, enjoy a naturalist led activity, and enjoy snacks and refreshments.

"The Big Marsh: The Story of a Lost Landscape"

Thursday, June 25, 6-8PM

"The Nature Fix: Why Nature Makes Us Happier, Healthier, and More Creative" Thursday, July 30 6-8PM

Homeschool Science Days

Come enjoy hands-on opportunities to learn science at River Bend! Morning and afternoon classes are offered for students ages 4-14, one Friday per month. Students can be dropped off for both programs, including lunch.

Friday, April 24

Spring Phenology (ages 4-14)

10:00-11:30, \$10/child, \$8/member

Enjoy the spring weather as we explore the seasonal changes at River Bend. Learn about how scientists observe and record changes in nature that mark the passing of seasons. Dress to be outside.

Talking with Trees (ages 4-14)

12:00-1:30, \$10/child, \$8/member

As we take a walk through our "Big Woods" at River Bend, learn how to identify trees, how humans use trees, and what animals use trees as homes. Dress to be outside.

Friday, May 15

All About Plants (ages 4-7)

10:00-11:30, \$10/child, \$8/member

Learn about plant needs and life cycles by observing and comparing plants at different stages of their life cycle on a walk through River Bend's forest.

The Water Cycle (ages 8-14)

10:00-11:30, \$10/child, \$8/member

Water, water, everywhere! Learn about this important resource as we explore the aquatic habitats of River Bend and play water-related games.

Geocaching (ages 4-7)

12:00-1:30, \$10/child, \$8/member

Discover how geocaching works and practice using a GPS to locate geocaches at the Nature Center.

Archery (ages 8-14)

12:00-1:30, \$10/child, \$8/member

Learn how archery has evolved over the years. Practice your shot with an atlatl and a compound bow. Must be 8 years or older to participate.