

Plan Your Spring Break Staycation!

Lost Valley Nature Detectives

Self-Guided Explorations at Glacial Park

It's a beautiful day for hiking, bird watching, and wildlife tracking! Start your adventures at Lost Valley Visitor Center where each month a new topic is featured. Indoor displays and activities will get you ready for an outdoor exploration.

Check out the free exploration backpack to borrow binoculars and field guides and grab a scavenger hunt to help you search the wild spaces of Glacial Park. Come any time the visitor center is open!



Monthly Exploration Topics:

March—Wetlands

Learn about what a wetland is and who you can find living there. Then make a wetland bird craft to take home with you. Finally, grab a wetland scavenger hunt sheet and check out an exploration backpack and go on a hike to the wetlands to see what you can find.

April—Recycling

The McHenry County Conservation District is always looking for ways to help reduce waste in our environment. Learn about what items can and cannot be recycled and ways you can reduce your waste. Use your best guess to see how long different items break down in the landfill too! Finally, take a scavenger hunt sheet and an exploration backpack on a hike!

May—Frogs

Learn about the amazing life cycle of the incredible amphibian the frog. Take time to see if you can identify all of the different frogs and toads in the McHenry County area. After you master identifying the frogs, you can listen to what each one sounds like with a special electronic device. Finally, take a scavenger hunt sheet and an exploration backpack out and see what different amphibians you can find.

The FOX Club — Families Outside

eXploring is a free opportunity designed to help families spend quality time outdoors while learning about nature. As a member of the FOX Club, families receive an exploration backpack, Conservation District site and trail maps, fun seasonal activity ideas, a log book to journal activities, and a bimonthly newsletter. The club offers six gatherings a year, hundreds of outdoor exploration ideas, and a chance to meet other outdoor-loving families

Join online with Code 5123. For more information, contact the FOX Club coordinator at (815) 479-5779 x14.



Constellations from the Kames

All Ages, 8+

Tuesday, March 24, 7–9 p.m.

Glacial Park, Keystone Road Landing, Richmond

Fee: R Free/NR \$2.00 Code: 6441

Take advantage of this rare opportunity to be on the Glacial Park kames after sunset! We will meet at the Keystone Landing and hike up to the top of the kames for a night of stargazing. Listen to some historical star folklore and learn how to identify some of the major constellations in our night sky. Dress for the weather and wear appropriate footwear.

Spring Break Escape

Ages 8–11

Wednesday, March 25, 9 a.m.–3 p.m.

Prairieview Education Center, Crystal Lake

Fee: R \$20.00/NR \$25.00 Code: 6443

Don't spend your spring break cooped up inside! Join us for a full day of outdoor explorations in the prairie and woodlands, with games, crafts and more! Bring a lunch and dress for the weather.



Ken Wild

Spring Break Special: Wildlife Babies

Ages 5–9

Friday, March 27, 2–3:30 p.m.

Lost Valley Visitor Center, Tallgrass Classroom, Glacial Park, Ringwood

Fee: R Free/NR \$5.00 Code: 6442

Are you looking for something fun to do during spring break? Come out to Glacial Park to learn about the different wildlife babies that call McHenry County home! We will spend time playing games outdoors and exploring the different habitats, food, and survival abilities that these adorable babies use.

Cabin Fever Campfire

All Ages

Saturday, March 28, 7–8:30 p.m.

Prairieview Education Center, Crystal Lake

Fee: R Free/NR \$5.00 Code: 6444

Spring has officially arrived, which means warmer weather, a bounty of birds, and beautiful blossoms are on the way! Winter may have kept you cooped up indoors. This is your chance to get out and enjoy the beginning of the spring season. On this evening of fireside fun, we will take a short night hike through the woods, look at the night sky through a telescope (weather permitting), warm up around the fire with delicious snacks and play a few fun games.