



## Winter Hikes

### **Introduction to Orienteering** *Adults and Families, Ages 5+*

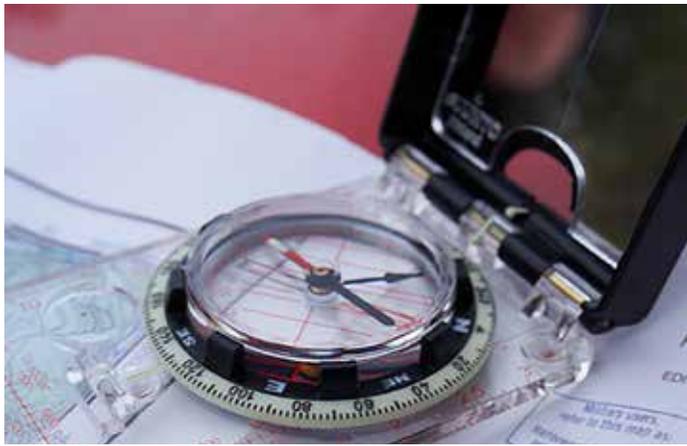
**Monday, January 18, 9:30–10:30 a.m.**  
Prairieview Education Center, Crystal Lake  
Fee: R Free/NR \$2.00 Code: **6847**

Orienteering is a fun outdoor sport where you use a map and compass to navigate from point-to-point. Join us for this introductory class to learn more about the sport of orienteering, how to use a compass, and how to use a map and compass together. Ready to give it a try? Register for a beginner's orienteering course later in the day!

### **Orienteering** *Adults and Families, Ages 5+*

**Monday, January 18, 1–2:30 p.m.**  
Prairieview Education Center, Crystal Lake  
Fee: R \$5.00/NR \$2.00 Code: **6852**

Orienteering is a fun outdoor sport where you use a map and compass to navigate a course from point-to-point. Join us on a beginner's course and navigate the trails around Prairieview Education Center! All equipment will be provided. An introductory class is provided before the orienteering course. Registration is separate.



L–R: White oak, Mulberry, Cottonwood, Cherry

### **Winter Tree ID** *Ages 14+*

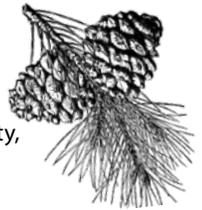
**Saturday, December 12, 12:30–2 p.m.**  
Shelter #2 and Amphitheater at Pleasant Valley, Woodstock  
Fee: R Free/NR \$2.00 Code: **6890**

Join us to find out! How do you tell tree species apart in the winter when there are no leaves? We will take a hike and learn about tips and tricks to identify some of our common tree and shrub species in the cold months. Dress for the weather and hiking over rugged terrain.

### **Evergreens** *Ages 14+*

**Saturday, January 30, 1:30–2:30 p.m.**  
Shelter #1, Marengo Ridge, Marengo  
Fee: R Free/NR \$2.00 Code: **6862**

While evergreens are not native to McHenry County, we do have an excellent sampling of species at Marengo Ridge, thanks to Dr. Kunde. Learn more about the man who planted all the trees as well as the trees themselves on this one mile hike.



### **Winter is Ever Green** *Adults and Families*

**Sunday, February 21, 10–11 a.m.**  
Shelter #1, Pleasant Valley, Woodstock  
Fee: R Free/NR \$2.00 Code: **6861**

Evergreens are pretty special trees in wintertime; they're some of the only trees that keep their leaves during the winter months. We'll get together to see, touch, smell, hear, and explore evergreens in winter. How do the leaves survive? How do they stay green all year long?

## Join **FOX CLUB** Families Outside eXploring

Here is a free opportunity designed to help you and your family spend quality time outdoors while learning about nature. FOX Club, families receive an exploration backpack, Conservation District site and trail maps, fun seasonal activity ideas, and a bimonthly newsletter. The club typically offers six gatherings a year, hundreds of outdoor exploration ideas, and a chance to meet other outdoor-loving families. As we navigate through our new normal we will find creative ways to keep your family engaged and connected!

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

## Century Hikers Club

*Ages 14+*

Looking to get outdoors and enjoy the natural areas of McHenry County Conservation District? The Century Hikers will motivate you to hit different milestones and receive a variety of rewards! Members can participate in exclusive programs. Hike with others by joining "The Trail Pack."

Enroll online at [MCCD.me/Registration](https://MCCD.me/Registration), enter code **5122**.

Questions? Email the club coordinator at [education@MCCDistrict.org](mailto:education@MCCDistrict.org) or call (815) 479-5779.





Space is limited to allow for physical distancing from other non-family members.  
Participants are encouraged to bring their own hand sanitizer.



## Just for Kids

### Conservation Kids *Ages 8–12*

We're back! Conservation Kids is back for the school year! Join us online once a week as we share a ton of activities to keep you busy (and learning!) A kit with all the needed supplies is included for this program. Can't make the scheduled time? Don't worry - you can watch the recording anytime during the week to catch up! Kits are available for pickup starting the Wednesday before the first meeting at Lost Valley Visitor Center and Prairieview Education Center. Select a pickup location when you register.  
Fee: R \$25.00/NR \$30.00. Discount for 2 or more participants: \$5.00

#### Animal Survival

**Tuesdays, December 1, 8, 15, 22, 4–5 p.m.**  
Code: [6829](#) Register by 11/23.

#### Rocket Science

**Wednesdays, January 6, 13, 20, 27, 4–5 p.m.**  
Code: [6830](#) Register by 12/28.

#### Winter Experiments

**Wednesdays, February 3, 10, 17, 24, 4–5 p.m.**  
Code: [6831](#) Register by 1/25.

### After School Adventures: Just for Kids: *Ages 5–12*

School is done for the day – time to get outside and explore, take a hike, and join in other games and activities. Programs are offered throughout the county for an opportunity to explore many different areas. Dress for the weather. This is a drop-off program just for kids.

	3:45–5:15 p.m.	Fee: R \$5.00/NR \$7.00	Code
<b>November</b> (4–5:30 p.m.)	Wed. <b>4</b>	Coral Woods, Marengo	<a href="#">6823</a>
	Thur. <b>12</b>	Harrison Benwell, Wonder Lake	<a href="#">6824</a>
	Mon. <b>16</b>	Boone Creek, Bull Valley	<a href="#">6825</a>
	Wed. <b>25</b>	Beck's Woods, Chemung	<a href="#">6826</a>
<b>December</b>	Thur. <b>3</b>	Kishwaukee Headwaters, Woodstock	<a href="#">6832</a>
	Mon. <b>7</b>	Glacial Park, Lost Valley Visitor Center, Ringwood	<a href="#">6833</a>
	Wed. <b>16</b>	Prairieview Education Center, Crystal Lake	<a href="#">6836</a>
<b>January</b>	Thur. <b>7</b>	Prairieview Education Center, Crystal Lake	<a href="#">6837</a>
	Mon. <b>11</b>	Glacial Park, Lost Valley Visitor Center, Ringwood	<a href="#">6834</a>
	Tue. <b>19</b>	Marengo Ridge, Marengo	<a href="#">6835</a>
	Thur. <b>28</b>	Brookdale, Woodstock	<a href="#">6838</a>
<b>February</b>	Mon. <b>1</b>	Rush Creek, Harvard	<a href="#">6886</a>
	Tue. <b>9</b>	Coral Woods, Marengo	<a href="#">6866</a>
	Thur. <b>18</b>	The Hollows, Lake Atwood, Cary	<a href="#">6883</a>
	Mon. <b>22</b>	Fel-Pro RRR – West Entrance, Cary	<a href="#">6887</a>

### Discovery Days *Ages 2–6 w/Adult*

Enjoy an hour of fun educational activities focused on our special theme of the day. Games, lessons, and other hands-on experiences help participants explore our local conservation areas.

#### Rabbits — Tuesday, December 22, 10–11 a.m.

Shelter, Rush Creek, Harvard  
Fee: R \$2.00/NR \$5.00 Code: [6856](#)

#### Squirrels — Thursday, January 14, 10–11 a.m.

Shelter #2 Amphitheater, Pleasant Valley, Woodstock  
Fee: R \$2.00/NR \$5.00 Code: [6859](#)

#### Groundhogs — Tuesday, February 2, 10–11 a.m.

Savanna Room, Lost Valley Visitor Center,  
Glacial Park, Ringwood  
Fee: R \$2.00/NR \$5.00 Code: [6882](#)

### Winter's Storytime *Ages 2–6 w/Adult*

#### Wednesday, December 9, 10–11 a.m.

Shelter #2, Hickory Grove, Cary  
Fee: R Free/NR \$2.00 Code: [6874](#)

The official switch to winter happens in December. Together, we'll read a story to learn what animals do during these cold months. Then, we'll head out on a short hike to find signs of winter and spot hidden puppet friends from the story!

### Storytime on the Trail *Ages 2–6 w/Adult*

#### Saturday, January 9, 2:30–4 p.m.

Prairieview Education Center, Crystal Lake  
Fee: R \$2.00/NR \$5.00 Code: [6843](#)

Join us for an interactive story time adventure as we explore with the characters from "The Mitten." A young boy's grandma knits him a pair of mittens but when he plays outside, he loses one in the snow. What a cozy place for woodland animals to get warm! The hike includes a craft and outdoor exploration activities.

### Snowflake Storytime *Ages 2–6 w/Adult*

#### Thursday, January 21, 10–11 a.m.

Shelter, Stickney Run, McHenry  
Fee: R Free/NR \$2.00 Code: [6844](#)

Join us for a story about winter when the world is covered in snow. Then, we'll head out on a short hike to find all the signs of animals we learned about in the story!

### Lost Valley Nature Detectives:

#### Self-Guided Explorations



Winter is here. But that's no excuse to stay inside. Visit McHenry County Conservation District's website, [MCCDistrict.org](http://MCCDistrict.org), to learn about a new topic each month this winter with various crafts and activities!

**December — Winter Trees      January — Owls**  
**February — Whose Scat is That?!**