

History of GREEN and the FRWC

The Global Rivers Environmental Education Network—GREEN—provides youth the educational opportunities to understand, improve and sustain the water resources in their communities. GREEN empowers young people to learn more about water quality within their watershed and use their findings to create lasting solutions.

This award-winning program teaches middle and high school-aged youth essential academic skills including critical thinking, teamwork, problem solving and decision making. GREEN provides educators with innovative resources including a network of support, an online watershed exploratory tool, water monitoring equipment, technical manuals and action guides. Today, GREEN programs flourish in every state and a number of countries. From the original idea by one group of students, GREEN has grown into a global network of educators and students working to improve their watersheds and in 1999 became an Earth Force program.

Locally, the Flint River GREEN project connects mentors from our sponsors, General Motors and environmental professionals from Lapeer and Genesee counties with middle and high school students throughout the watershed to conduct stream monitoring every year. For more information on Flint River GREEN, visit the website of the Flint River Watershed Coalition at www.flintriver.org.

The Flint River Watershed Coalition (FRWC) was formed in the fall of 1997 and is a collaboration between educational institutions, local government, local business, environmental groups, and concerned citizens who feel strongly that the Flint River and its tributaries are a vital resource we all need to protect. The FRWC was incorporated as a non-profit 501(c)3 organization in August of 1998.

Staff: **Rebecca Fedewa, Executive Director**
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Core Beliefs

We are committed to improving and maintaining environmental quality in the Flint River watershed.

We are committed to environmental education.

We value input and participation from our entire community.

We value a positive approach to people and problem solving.

Flint River Watershed Coalition Board Members

Darren Bagley

Linda Berker

Derek Bradshaw

Steve Hester

Brad Hill

S. Olof Karlstrom

Ryan Londrigan

DeAndra McCain

Beth Manning

Amy McMillan

Jack Minore

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Sandra Robinson

Doug Schultz

Jack Stock

Alex Thibeault



Flint River Watershed Coalition

400 N. Saginaw St., Suite 233, Flint, Michigan 48502

Phone: (810) 767-6490 www.flintriver.org

YES, I want to join the FRWC! Partnering to protect, preserve, and improve the Flint River Watershed.

Enclosed is my membership amount:

\$10 Student/Limited Income

\$25 Individual

\$40 Family/Friend

\$100 River Sponsor

\$250 River Patron

\$500 Watershed Protector

\$1,000+ Watershed Guarantor

*****SPECIAL*** \$5.00 membership for 1 year – for GREEN participants!**

NAME _____

ORGANIZATION _____

ADDRESS _____

CITY/STATE/ZIP _____

PHONE _____

Please circle one WORK HOME CELL

EMAIL _____

Presentation Schedule for 2016 Flint River GREEN

Registration: 8:00 am - 8:45 am

Welcome: 8:45 in McKinnon Auditorium

Session 1: 9:15 am - 10:00 am

Auditorium:	Student Presentations	
Room 4102	Creek Critters - what lives in your river?	Mike Haley, Denny Crispell: FRWC Monitoring Volunteers
Room 4103	Incredible Edible Plants	Peter McCreedy: Ecology Director, Chatfield School
Room 4301	Environmental Dumpster Diving	Shane Kelley, Carl Thompson: Genesee County Metropolitan Planning Commission
Room 4305	Go Green, Help Keep Our Water Clean!	Laura Young: MSU Institute of Water Research
Room 4306	Sewer CSI	Eric Brubaker, Thad Domick, Tom Hutchings: Water Pollution Control Specialists, City of Flint
Room 4309	Wetland Wildlife	Anna Darzi, For-Mar Nature Preserve & Arboretum

Session 2 & 3: DOUBLE SESSION - 10:05 am - 11:40 am

Room 4104 Chevy Commons: A Walking Tour Ryan Londrigan: AKT Peerless Environmental

Session 2: 10:05 am - 10:50 am

Auditorium:	Student Presentations	
Room 4303	Michigan Plant Identification	Dr. Jim Cohen, Assistant Professor of Biology, Kettering University
Room 4303	The Chemistry of Water	Dr. Veronica Moorman, Assistant Professor of Biochemistry, Kettering University
Room 4101	Rats or Lead in Your Drinking Water. Which is Worse?	Darren Bagley: 4-H Youth Development Coordinator, MSU Extension
Room 4102	Creek Critters - what lives in your river?	Mike Haley, Denny Crispell: FRWC Monitoring Volunteers
Room 4103	Incredible Edible Plants	Peter McCreedy: Ecology Director, Chatfield School
Room 4301	Environmental Dumpster Diving	Shane Kelley, Carl Thompson: Genesee County Metropolitan Planning Commission
Room 4305	Go Green, Help Keep Our Water Clean!	Laura Young: MSU Institute of Water Research
Room 4306	Sewer CSI	Eric Brubaker, Thad Domick, Tom Hutchings: Water Pollution Control Specialists, City of Flint
Room 4309	Wetland Wildlife	Anna Darzi, For-Mar Nature Preserve & Arboretum

Session 3: 10:55 am - 11:40 am

Auditorium:	Student Presentations	
Room 4303	Michigan Plant Identification	Dr. Jim Cohen, Assistant Professor of Biology, Kettering University
Room 4303	The Chemistry of Water	Dr. Veronica Moorman, Assistant Professor of Biochemistry, Kettering University
Room 4101	Rats or Lead in Your Drinking Water. Which is Worse?	Darren Bagley: 4-H Youth Development Coordinator, MSU Extension
Room 4102	Creek Critters - what lives in your river?	Mike Haley, Denny Crispell: FRWC Monitoring Volunteers
Room 4103	Incredible Edible Plants	Peter McCreedy: Ecology Director, Chatfield School
Room 4301	Environmental Dumpster Diving	Shane Kelley, Carl Thompson: Genesee County Metropolitan Planning Commission
Room 4306	Sewer CSI	Eric Brubaker, Thad Domick, Tom Hutchings: Water Pollution Control Specialists, City of Flint
Room 4309	Wetland Wildlife	Anna Darzi, For-Mar Nature Preserve & Arboretum

LUNCH: 11:40 am - 12:25 pm- Lunch will be served in the registration room near McKinnon Auditorium (where presentations are held)

Continued on Back

Presentation Schedule page 2

Session 4 & 5: DOUBLE SESSION - 12:25 pm - 2:00 pm

Room 4104 Chevy Commons: A Walking Tour Ryan Londrigan: AKT Peerless Environmental

Session 4: 12:25 pm - 1:10 pm

Auditorium: Student Presentations

Room 4101 Rats or Lead in Your Drinking Water. Which is Worse? Darren Bagley: 4-H Youth Development Coordinator, MSU Extension

Room 4102 Creek Critters - what lives in your river? Mike Haley, Denny Crispell: FRWC Monitoring Volunteers

Room 4301 Environmental Dumpster Diving Shane Kelley, Carl Thompson: Genesee County Metropolitan Planning Commission

Room 4306 Sewer CSI Eric Brubaker, Thad Domick, Tom Hutchings: Water Pollution Control Specialists, City of Flint

Session 5: 1:15 pm - 2:00 pm

Auditorium: Student Presentations

Room 4101 Rats or Lead in Your Drinking Water. Which is Worse? Darren Bagley: 4-H Youth Development Coordinator, MSU Extension

Room 4102 Creek Critters - what lives in your river? Mike Haley, Denny Crispell: FRWC Monitoring Volunteers

Room 4301 Environmental Dumpster Diving Shane Kelley, Carl Thompson: Genesee County Metropolitan Planning Commission

Room 4306 Sewer CSI Eric Brubaker, Thad Domick, Tom Hutchings: Water Pollution Control Specialists, City of Flint

Room 4310 Catching Big Fish on Little Bugs Chip McCallum: Blackboard Outfitters

Student Presentation Schedule

Lunch
↓

Session 1 9:15 - 10:00	Session 2 10:05 - 10:50	Session 3 10:55 - 11:40	Session 4 12:25 - 1:10	Session 5 1:15 - 2:00
St. John Vianney (Matlon)	Carter MS (McCallum)	Grand Blanc East MS (Nelson, Sobeck)	The Chatfield School (Boyle, LaBaza, Young)	No presentations to allow students to attend breakout sessions
Bendle HS (Barden)	Kearsley Armstrong MS (Katzenberger)	Valley School (Wisenska)	St. Thomas More (Roberts)	
	Southwestern (Aversa, Trombley)	Mt. Morris Jr. HS (Freeman, McCormick, Tallmadge)	Swartz Creek MS (Forbes)	

Lunch will be served in the registration room near the McKinnon Auditorium from **11:40-12:25**

#itsnottheriver

What is a Watershed?

A watershed is an area of land which drains into a particular body of water. Just as when you pour water in a bathtub it all ends up in the drain, when it rains or snows on the surface, that water flows to a particular body of water. That water can flow both above the ground through lakes, streams, and wetlands, or below the ground through groundwater and springs.

The Flint River Watershed is...The Flint River spans 142 miles and the Flint River Watershed is made up of 18 smaller watersheds (such as Kearsley Creek or Swartz Creek) and encompasses more than 1,358 square miles—59 townships, 43 school districts, 25 cities and villages, 25 county commission districts, 9 state house districts, 7 state senate districts, 7 counties, and 4 U.S. House districts. For a map of the watershed, see the back page of this program.

The Flint River Watershed is home to more than 600,000 people, more than half of whom drink ground and surface water affected by the Flint River. Thousands live along its banks and even more recreate on the river and its associated lakeside beaches.

The Flint River and its tributaries are an important resource for fish and wildlife and provides spawning habitat for small mouth bass, walleye, Northern pike, and other Saginaw Bay fisheries. The upper stretches of Thread Creek, Kearsley Creek, and the south branch of the Flint River are designated as cold water fisheries by the Michigan Department of Natural Resources. The high quality of these streams also means they face the most threat to degradation from development and other land use practices.

Sauk, Ojibwa, later Chippewa, and Ottawa Indians originally populated the Flint River Watershed. The Native American name for this river was *Pewonigowink*, meaning "river of fire stone." European settlement brought fur traders, trading posts, trapping, farming, and lumbering. As the forests were depleted, manufacturing became the primary economic driver of the area.

What does this mean for you? As part of the Flint River Watershed, anything you do can flow downstream and potentially harm your neighbors. We are all connected by the water that flows past us, over our yards and streets, and into the storm drains and roadside ditches. What you do at your home, in your car, your place of work or at your school, and at the places you play all can have an important effect on the Flint River.

GREEN and Earth Force Watershed STEM Initiative

Earth Force is an environmental education and service-learning program that engages young people in science and provides them with the tools they can use to take action on local environmental issues.

In 2008, Genesee ISD and Flint River **GREEN** joined the **Earth Force** Watershed STEM Initiative (WSI). WSI engages students active in Flint River **GREEN** with environmental stewardship. Through the WSI, teachers combine STEM and civic education into service learning projects. Students investigate watershed problems in their community and engage with leaders to solve those problems. Students in the WSI have a deeper understanding of scientific issues, expand their civic skills, and are more likely to act as community problem solvers. In 2010, **Earth Force** and Flint River Watershed Coalition joined with Lapeer ISD to bring Flint River **GREEN** to three Lapeer ISD schools—bringing 13 new teachers and their students to the Flint River **GREEN** Program and **Earth Force** Watershed STEM Initiative.

For information on **EarthForce** visit www.earthforce.org

Participating GREEN Schools

Atherton High School

Teacher: Matt Hyslop

Bendle High School

Teacher: Todd Barden
Mentor: Katherine Saliga, *GM*

Bishop Kelley Catholic School

Teacher: Carolyn Tuski
Mentor: Jaime Welch, *FRWC*

Carman-Ainsworth Middle School

Teacher: Melissa Warburton

Carter Middle School

Teachers: Ryan Niemi, Chip McCallum
Mentors: Craig Buike, Aaron Bagwell,
Quaker

Chatfield School—Lapeer

Teachers: Tracy Boyle,
Casey Labaza, Annette Young

Davison Middle School

Teacher: Jody Kosiara

Grand Blanc East Middle School

Teachers: Deb Lacki,
Crystal Sobeck, Patricia Nelson
Mentor: LeeAnn Slosar, *GM*

Grand Blanc West Middle School

Teachers: Victoria Skisson, Elizabeth
Lemerond
Mentor: Pat Schultz, *GM*

Grand Blanc High School

Teacher: Suzanne Powers
Mentor: Jaime Welch, *FRWC*

Kearsley Armstrong MS

Teacher: Lisa Katzenberger
Mentor: John Maksimchuk, *GM*

Lakeville Middle School

Teachers: Josh Henley, Andrea Thelen

Lapeer High School

Teacher: Cheryl Butterfield

Mt. Morris Junior High School

Teachers: Zack Freeman, Kate Tallmadge,
Kim McCormick, Rebekah Dhaene
Mentor: Tom Jones, *Genesee County Drain
Commission*

Northwestern High School

Teachers: Nadina Aversa, Jarrett Trombley
Mentor: Thad Domick, *City of Flint*

Powers High School

Teacher: Julie Lawrence
Mentor: Thad Domick, *City of Flint*

St. John Vianney Catholic School

Teacher: Janice Matlon
Mentor: Tom Hutchings, *City of Flint*

St. Thomas More Catholic School

Teacher: Shelly Roberts
Mentors: Nicole Ferguson, *Genesee County
Parks*
Molly Dallaire, *Genesee County Parks*
Sondra Severn, *FRWC*

Swartz Creek Middle School

Teacher: Brandolyn Forbes
Mentors: Marv Asbury, *GM SPO*
Pat Schultz, *GM*

The Valley School

Teacher: Jeanne Wisenbaugh
Mentor: Tom Jones, *Genesee County Drain
Commission*

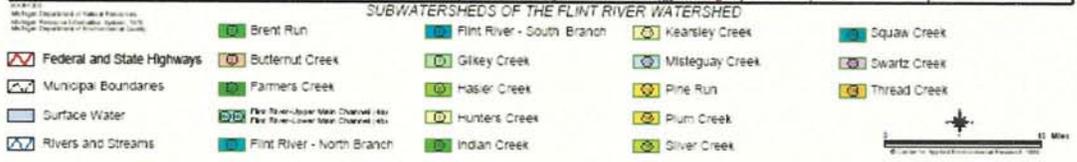
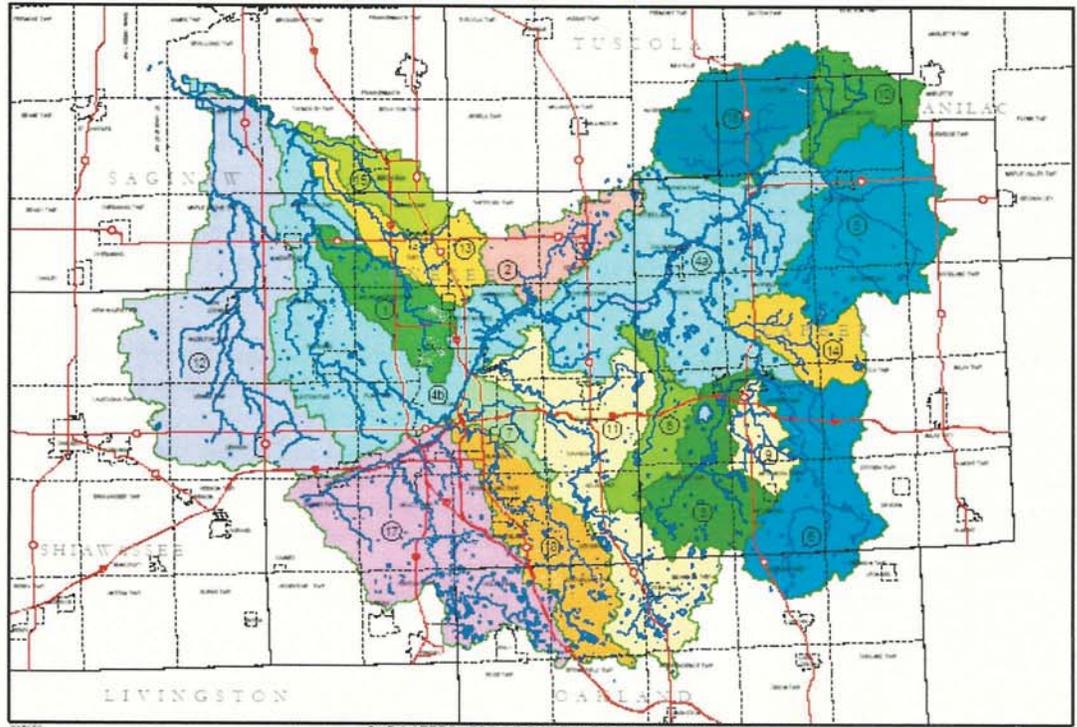
Westwood Heights— Hamady High School

Teacher: Arletha Bryant

Zemmer Middle School

Teachers: Anne Prill, Kelly Gartrell,
Wyatt Stevens, Chris Ewald

FLINT RIVER WATERSHED



Thank You!

- To the Students.** We value your hard work and your dedication to this project.
- To the Teachers.** You bring science to life for your students.
- To the Presenters.** Thank you for taking time to be a part of the GREEN Student Summit.
- To the Mentors.** Thank you for your dedication to educating our young people.

A Special Thanks to the Following for Their Assistance With Planning the Summit:

James Emmerling: Genesee Area Math/Science Center Director, Genesee Intermediate School District
 Lisa Hook: Project Coordinator, Genesee Intermediate School District
 Julie Simmons: Kettering University - Chemistry, Biochemistry, Chemical Engineering & Applied Biology Department

Additional Thanks

Tom Jones for his hard work and dedication in creating a wonderful GREEN website: <http://flintrivergreen.is-great.org/>
 Leyla Sanker with Discovering Place for all her help

Sponsors and Supporters of Flint River GREEN

On behalf of the Flint River Watershed Coalition we would like to recognize and thank our program partners and sponsors. FRWC continues to partner with Earth Force/GREEN and Genesee and Lapeer ISD to bring educational and community problem solving activities to our educators.



Watershed

REPORTER

PARTNERING TO PROTECT, PRESERVE, AND IMPROVE OUR WATERSHED

DECEMBER 2015

INSIDE THIS ISSUE

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MESSAGE FROM THE EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

REBECCA FEDEWA



Rebecca Fedewa

It's been a tough year for the reputation of the Flint River. When the City of Flint made the switch to using the Flint River as its drinking water source, we supported that decision. Based on the information we received from City officials, and our knowledge of the consistently improving health of the river, we felt (and continue to feel) that the Flint River is a perfectly suitable source of drinking water for the Flint community.

But as the news continued to worsen—first it was the bacterial issues, then the elevated levels of TTHN, and finally the evidence of elevated lead levels in Flint children—we knew our beloved river was the focus of a firestorm not of its doing.

To be clear, the board and staff of the Flint River Watershed Coalition are dismayed at the fact that our area's most vulnerable were put at risk. We are working with our partners at the Sierra Club to contribute toward assisting residents impacted by lead in their drinking water.

But we also want to set the record straight regarding the quality of the Flint River and the health of our watershed.

- Our benthic monitoring data shows that most reaches of our watershed score in the "good – excellent" range and are generally improving. Please visit our website at www.flintriver.org for our benthic monitoring results.
- We have begun independent testing of the chloride levels in the river, and our early results indicate that the levels in the Flint River are well below the threshold for concern (elevated chloride levels were indicated as a potential cause for lead leaching into the drinking water of city residents).
- We also have begun to test for lead downstream of the waste water treatment plant. So far, we have not seen a single hit for lead going back into the river as a result of waste water treated from City of Flint homes.

We will continue our independent testing of chloride and lead in order to draw more definitive conclusions, and will report back to our members on the results as we get them.

As we move into the new year, please extend our invitation to one and all to get out and enjoy the precious resource we have in the Flint River. We have many opportunities, and will be announcing some fun new programs for 2016. Stay Tuned!

Thank you for joining us in our mission to Protect, Preserve, and Improve the Flint River and its watershed. **Now, more than ever, the Flint River needs your voice.**

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SPRING GROVE WETLAND RESTORATION SITE

AN ECOLOGICAL GEM IN THE CITY OF FLINT!

This summer, the Flint River Watershed Coalition and the Flint River Corridor Alliance were awarded a \$5,000 grant for ecological restoration services and materials provided by PlantWise of Ann Arbor, MI. The project will build upon what our partners, the Grand Traverse District Neighborhood Association (GTDNA), the Stockton Center, and General Motors (GM) Tool & Die have been working at for many years: ecological restoration and maintenance of the Spring Grove Wetland Restoration Site.

Spring Grove is located on Second St. between Ann Arbor and Hall Streets, across from Swartz Creek in the City of Flint. It is home to two wetland ponds, turtles, frogs, birds, and many desired native species. Unfortunately, Spring Grove is also the breeding ground for non-native (invasive) species that have invaded and crowded out areas of native growth. Invasive species known to be at the site are Phragmites, Chinese Sumac (a.k.a. Tree of Heaven), Garlic Mustard, and Reed Canary Grass.

Through the generosity and hard work of PlantWise, dedicated partners and volunteers, we removed an overwhelming amount of Chinese Sumac and replanted those areas with Michigan native trees and shrubs. The project also included installation of a rain garden to help catch and filter rain water as it flows to the wetland near the Stockton Center.

Spring Grove is a prime example of an urban ecological restoration project and educational opportunity for the community. Its success is due to the hard work of our partners who have dedicated many hours of planning and labor. We are honored to have had the opportunity to help build upon those efforts and look forward to continuing to help with ecological improvements at Spring Grove. For more information on this project contact Sondra Severn, FRWC Project Coordinator at ssevern@flinriver.org or 810-767-6490. For more information on volunteering with the Flint River Watershed Coalition please visit our volunteer page at www.FlintRiver.org.



To learn more about Michigan Invasive Species visit the Michigan DNR website, Invasive Species page at Michigan.gov/dnr.

For resources on how and why to plant Michigan Native Plant Species visit the MSU, Native Plant and Ecosystem Services website at NativePlants.msu.edu.



FRWC PROGRAM RECAP

2015 has been quite the year for us at the Flint River Watershed Coalition. As we look back over everything that has been accomplished, we can't help but be proud of the efforts of our dedicated volunteers, and of our beautiful Flint River. Here are some of the highlights from this past year:

This summer, we organized 21 different kayaking events, ranging from our scheduled Paddles, to private trips, the 2nd Annual Flotilla, and kayak tours at our 'Love Your Lakes' events. Over 450 people got out on the Flint River to enjoy the peace, beauty, and abundant wildlife that flourish there.

FUN FACT: You may have heard about our thriving bald eagle population but were you aware that we have a growing number of ospreys now calling the Flint River home?

If you are familiar with the FRWC then you have probably heard about two of our most important programs, Flint River GREEN and the Water Monitoring Program. Both play a vital role in helping to assess the health of the river, highlighting how vibrant the Flint River really is, and serving as an early detection system for changes that would threaten the health of the river.

In 2015 GREEN (Global Rivers Environmental Education Network) engaged 23 middle and high schools with over 1,100 students from across Genesee and Lapeer counties. Students performed chemical water testing at local streams, and shared their results with us and each other at the GREEN Student Summit held at Kettering University in May.

GREEN (Global Rivers Environmental Education Network) has been engaging middle and high school students in chemical water testing for over 25 years. Westwood Heights (Hamady) was one of the 23 schools to participate in 2015. Students, teachers, and their mentors from GM and the Genesee County Drain Commission went out and tested at a stream to see how the water in their area scores.



Our Water Monitoring program targets 35 sites across the watershed. For the last 16 years volunteer monitors have gone out every spring and fall to collect the 'bugs' that call the river home. This past fall season over 65 volunteers donated their time to help with monitoring, including 4 school groups. The amount and diversity of the bugs collected during monitoring, along with measurements taken at the river, result in a "score" for each site. This is compared to historical data to ensure that the site is either improving or continuing to do well.



monitors in the field

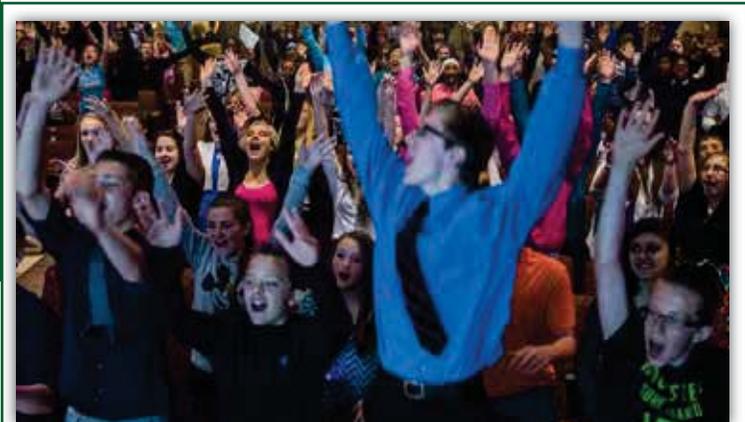
In addition to monitoring the Flint River, we also take a more hands-on approach with our Annual Flint River and Community Cleanup, Periodic Cleanups, and Storm Drain Stenciling. Our Annual Flint River and Community Cleanup kicks things off each spring by gathering several hundred



hard working clean-up crew!

volunteers at multiple sites across the watershed to clean up the banks and areas surrounding the Flint River. After all the hard work is done a celebration luncheon is held to thank all those who volunteered. Then our River Clean-up volunteers get down and dirty all summer long, pulling tires and other debris from the river at various locations as needed. Lastly, Storm Drain Stenciling is an educational program where volunteers stencil storm drains and spread awareness to homeowners about the dangers of dumping pollutants, such as motor oil, into storm drains which lead directly into local rivers and streams.

There are so many ways to help protect, preserve, and improve your Flint River. Contact us today to get involved!



Each spring the GREEN Student Summit is held at Kettering University. The Summit offers students a chance to share their results and compare them to other streams in the Flint River Watershed. Kids also attend breakout sessions conducted by local environmental professionals such as "Incredible Edible Plants" and "Sewer CSI". It's a great day, as you can see from the picture.

LAPEER HAPPENINGS!

7th graders from Chatfield School in Lapeer canoed from Rotary Park to Saginaw Street on the South Branch of the Flint River this September. Over the years these students have removed more than 120 tires from this section alone. This year they only found 2. They spelled out "Chatfield Loves Lapeer" with river trash to promote their stewardship of the Flint River as part of a weeklong service learning initiative.



Planning, permitting, and fundraising are underway for the new canoe landing being developed at the North Saginaw Street Crossing of the South Branch. This land is owned by the county of Lapeer and access is being facilitated by the FRWC Lapeer Chapter. Recently, The Lapeer Land Conservancy, one of our community partners, designated \$4000 for this purpose.

On October 4, 25 people gathered for a canoe rally on the South Branch of the Flint River. Despite predictions of foul weather, a hearty crew showed up for what turned out to be a gorgeous afternoon with barely a drizzle at the beginning. The 2.8 mile stretch of river between Millville Landing and Stanley Rd. was clear of obstructions, and even with below average water levels, still provided for a great float. Most participants had never been on this part of the river before and were impressed with the quality of the paddling and the beautiful scenery. Thank you to Joe Suma, Lapeer County Drain Commissioner, for providing yummy pulled pork, potatoes, and salad at the end. Special thanks also to the Sharkey family for hosting our group and for offering to host again next year! We hope to see you then!



400 N. Saginaw St., Suite 233
Flint, MI 48502

810-767-6490

www.FlintRiver.org

The Coalition is an organization representing individuals, businesses, community organizations, and local units of government sharing a vision of a healthier Flint River Watershed. We envision a day when the future of our drinking water is secure and the integrity of the Flint River is protected. We believe that all people should have access to the river for recreation, swimming, and fishing as well as the economic value it provides to our communities.

FRWC Board of Directors

Board Chair

Amy McMillan

Executive Director

Rebecca Fedewa

Board of Directors

Darren Bagley
Linda Berker
Derek Bradshaw
Steve Hester
Brad Hill
Ryan Londrigan
Beth Manning
Jack Minore
Steve Montle
Terry Reechko
Sandra Robinson
Doug Schultz
Raynetta Speed
Jack Stock
Alex Thibeault
*S. Olof Karlstrom,
Member Emeritus*

FRWC Board Meetings are held the third Friday of the month.

Printed locally at a union shop on recycled paper with at least 40% post-consumer waste.

Please recycle!



Newsletter design and layout by Jon Wood

CALENDAR OF EVENTS

Third Friday of Every Month - 8:30am Board of Directors Meeting
Third Tuesday of Every Month - 7:00pm Lapeer Chapter Meeting

**THURSDAY JANUARY 28TH - 6-9PM -
ANNUAL VOICE OF THE RIVER CELEBRATION
SLOAN MUSEUM IN FLINT'S CULTURAL CENTER**

January 30, 2016	EarthForce Professional Development day
February 24, 2016	GREEN Professional Development day
April 30, 2016	9am - 1pm Flint River And Community Clean Up
May 8, 2016	FFRT Sunday Rides Begin
May 18, 2016	7pm Ride of Silence
May 20, 2016	GREEN Summit

Spring monitoring is First Two weeks of May

**Check our Calendar for the full schedule of activities
and further details at www.FlintRiver.org**

Be sure to find us on social media: Facebook, Twitter, and Flickr for the most up to date information about what is happening in your watershed.

Give The Gift of Membership This Holiday!

MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION DECEMBER 2015

name _____	____ student \$10	____ watershed protector \$500
organization _____	____ individual \$25	____ watershed guarantor \$1000
address _____	____ family \$40	____ other \$ _____
city/state/zip _____	____ river sponsor \$100	____ river patron \$250
phone (h) _____ (c) _____	Some companies will match an employee contribution to an eligible charity or non-profit organization. Please check with your employer to obtain a matching gift form, if applicable.	
email _____		

Your support is sincerely appreciated. The Flint River Watershed Coalition is a not-for-profit organization with 501(c)(3) tax exempt status. Your contribution is deductible.

Please make checks payable to: **Flint River Watershed Coalition or FRWC, 400 N. Saginaw Street, Suite 233 Flint MI 48502**

Watershed

REPORTER

PARTNERING TO PROTECT, PRESERVE, AND IMPROVE OUR WATERSHED

SPRING 2016

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MESSAGE FROM THE EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

REBECCA FEDEWA

#itsnottheriver



Rebecca Fedewa

Too many of our residents have spent the last 6-12 months (and longer for many) not knowing the safety of the water coming out of their taps. For those not impacted by this crisis, just imagine what it must be like to have to bathe your children with bottled water heated on the stove. Or wondering if you have inadvertently exposed your family to toxic levels of lead just by getting them a glass of water or preparing a bottle of formula. Or spending hours of your week simply procuring bottled water for your household.

It's unconscionable that our residents are going through this.

While the switch to the Flint River as a water source was what initiated this terrible crisis, we want to make one thing clear: It's Not The River.

This crisis was created by government, and then ignored for far too long by the very agencies we rely on to keep us safe. This catastrophe was caused by bureaucracy, not our fabulous Flint River.

The Flint River is a vibrant ecosystem that supports a growing population of species such as eagles and ospreys, who live along and hunt in the Flint River.

Recreational opportunities in and along the Flint River are abundant, and we're seeing higher numbers of users each and every year. Local support for the protection, preservation, and improvement of the river has never been stronger.

We have a great deal of data up on our website www.FlintRiver.org that show the long term benthic monitoring of the Flint River, as well as the current testing we've done in response to the drinking water crisis. What we've found is an overall increase in water quality since our testing began in 1999. As well, our weekly testing of the river in three locations (upstream of the City of Flint at Irish Road, right at the drinking water plant, and just downstream of the wastewater treatment plant) demonstrate that the river is well within the parameters of a healthy river system.

What can YOU do? Join us in our spring programs: don some waders and sample the array of critters living in the river in our water quality monitoring program (page 2). Grab some gloves and a garbage bag or two, and join us at the Flint River and Community Clean Up (page 7). Share your professional expertise with students in our Flint River GREEN program at the Student Summit (page 8). Or donate to help us cover the costs associated with our weekly monitoring program – www.FlintRiver.org. You also might consider donating to the Community Foundation of Greater Flint's Flint Child Health & Development Fund at www.FlintKids.org.

But most of all, share your story about the Flint River with friends and family on social media. Be sure to include the hashtag [#itsnottheriver](https://twitter.com/itsnottheriver).

See you on the river!

like us on facebook

follow us on twitter

Follow us on Instagram



400 N. Saginaw St., Suite 233
Flint, MI 48502
810-767-6490
www.FlintRiver.org

The Coalition is an organization representing individuals, businesses, community organizations, and local units of government sharing a vision of a healthier Flint River Watershed. We envision a day when the future of our drinking water is secure and the integrity of the Flint River is protected. We believe that all people should have access to the river for recreation, swimming, and fishing as well as the economic value it provides to our communities.

**FRWC
Board of Directors**

Board Chair
Doug Schultz

Executive Director
Rebecca Fedewa

- Board of Directors**
- Darren Bagley
 - Linda Berker
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 - Jack Minore
 - Terry Reechko
 - Sandra Robinson
 - Jack Stock
 - Alex Thibeault
- S. Olof Karlstrom,
Member Emeritus*

FRWC Board Meetings are held the third Friday of the month.

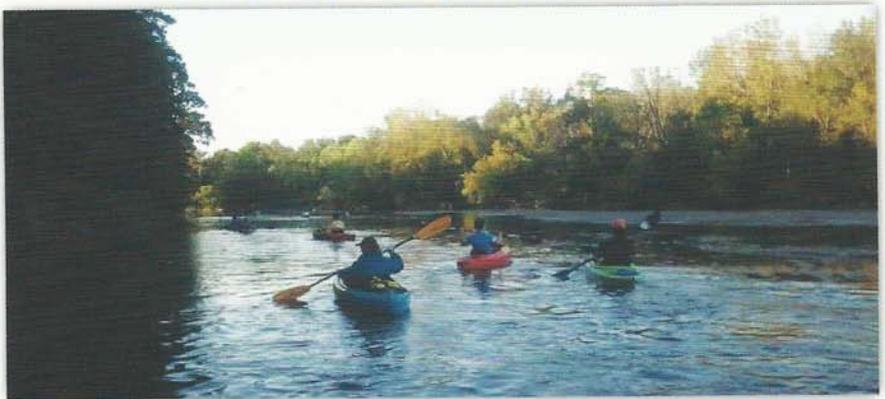
Printed locally at a union shop on recycled paper with at least 40% post-consumer waste.

Please recycle!



Newsletter design and layout by Jon Wood

NATIONAL WATER TRAIL



The FRWC, in conjunction with the Genesee County Parks and Recreation Commission, is seeking a National Water Trail designation from the National Parks Service. We are very excited about this opportunity to show the country our beautiful Flint River! We have already begun the process by convening representatives from the various municipalities along the river, as well as interested individuals and organizations. We're off to a great start, and can't wait to submit our application. Our thanks to the National Park Service for their assistance in preparing our application, and the Genesee County Parks and Recreation for enthusiastically supporting and funding our project. We'll keep you posted on our progress, but if you are interested in participating, connect with us at info@flintriver.org or 810-767-6490.

SPRING MONITORING

April showers bring May benthics? That's the way it is for the volunteers that will be helping this spring as the FRWC conducts its Water Quality Monitoring from May 2nd through May 16th. Labs will be held on May 5th and 14th from 11 am to 5 pm at For-Mar Nature Preserve in Genesee County and on May 5th from 12 to 4 pm at Chatfield Schools. There are over 35 sites across Genesee and Lapeer counties and volunteers are in high demand for this fun and important task. It only takes a few hours of your time but makes a big impact on helping the FRWC monitor the state of the river. Our benthic data has been integral in our efforts to demonstrate that *#itsnottheriver!* Haven't monitored before? We will pair you up with experienced monitoring volunteers that can walk you through the process step by step. Contact us today!



NEW PLACE, NEW FACES

THIS TIME, IT IS THE RIVER WE CELEBRATE!

The Annual 'Voice of the River' Celebration was held at the Sloan Museum on Thursday, January 28, 2016. The new location at Sloan gave our supporters a chance to view the travelling exhibit, 'Water's Extreme Journey', and at the same time participate in the watershed festivities that happen every year. We highlighted the successes of 2015 and laid out plans for the coming year. Of course, the celebration was interspersed with a healthy interchange about the Flint drinking water crisis, a topic that has been forefront on everyone's mind. Attendees at the meeting were also able to get an update on the progress on obtaining a National River Trail designation for the Flint River, and heard an overview of the plans for the downtown Flint River Restoration project.

As always, the focus of the Annual Celebration is to acknowledge those who have contributed to the success of the Flint River Watershed Coalition. We love to give out awards!

The awards and recipients included the Joe Leonardi Leadership Award, presented to Mr. Art Wenzlaff, the Director of School and Community Relations at the International Academy of Flint. Art has played a key role in FRWC efforts to promote and improve the Thread Lake area, one of the beautiful urban lakes that we have targeted in our

'Love Your Lake' efforts. Mr. Tom Jones, a staff engineer at the Genesee County Drain Commissioner's office won the Dr. Gary Pace Volunteer of the Year Award. Tom has been a longtime volunteer in the Flint River GREEN program, and in 2015 took on a huge project on our behalf. Teaching himself very complex website coding, Tom created an on line portal that GREEN teachers and students use to input and analyze their testing data. Finally, the Flint River and Community Cleanup "Golden Gloves" was awarded to the 7th Grade Cleanup Crew from Chatfield School. These enterprising students from Lapeer won the award by being the highest vote recipients through a competitive and fun online poll!

Congratulations to all of the award recipients.

Fundraising is another important element of the success of the Annual Celebration. This year, our sponsors were more generous than ever in demonstrating their ongoing commitment to providing financial support this year. Over \$10,000 was raised from these charitable 'Big Fish' donors:

Pike - \$1,500 and Greater Supporter

Waste Connections, Inc.

Genesee County Parks & Recreation

Director: Amy McMillan

Pike - \$1,000 Supporter

General Motors, Flint Manufacturing
Recreation Engineering & Planning
Genesee County Drain Commissioner

Director: Jeffrey Wright

Walleye - \$500 Supporter

Kettering University
Tetra Tech

Bass - \$300 Supporter

Linda S. Berker, Attorney & Mediator

Bass - \$250 Supporter

AKT Peerless Environmental & Energy
MPS Group

Drs. Bobby and Srinivas Mukkamala
Rowe Professional Services Company

Steve's Plumbing and Heating

Blue Gill - \$100 Supporter

Deborah Cherry,

Genesee County Treasurer

Friends of Dan Kildee

Jack Minore, Friends of the River Trail

Olmsted Associates

PPG Industries

Quaker Chemical Corporation

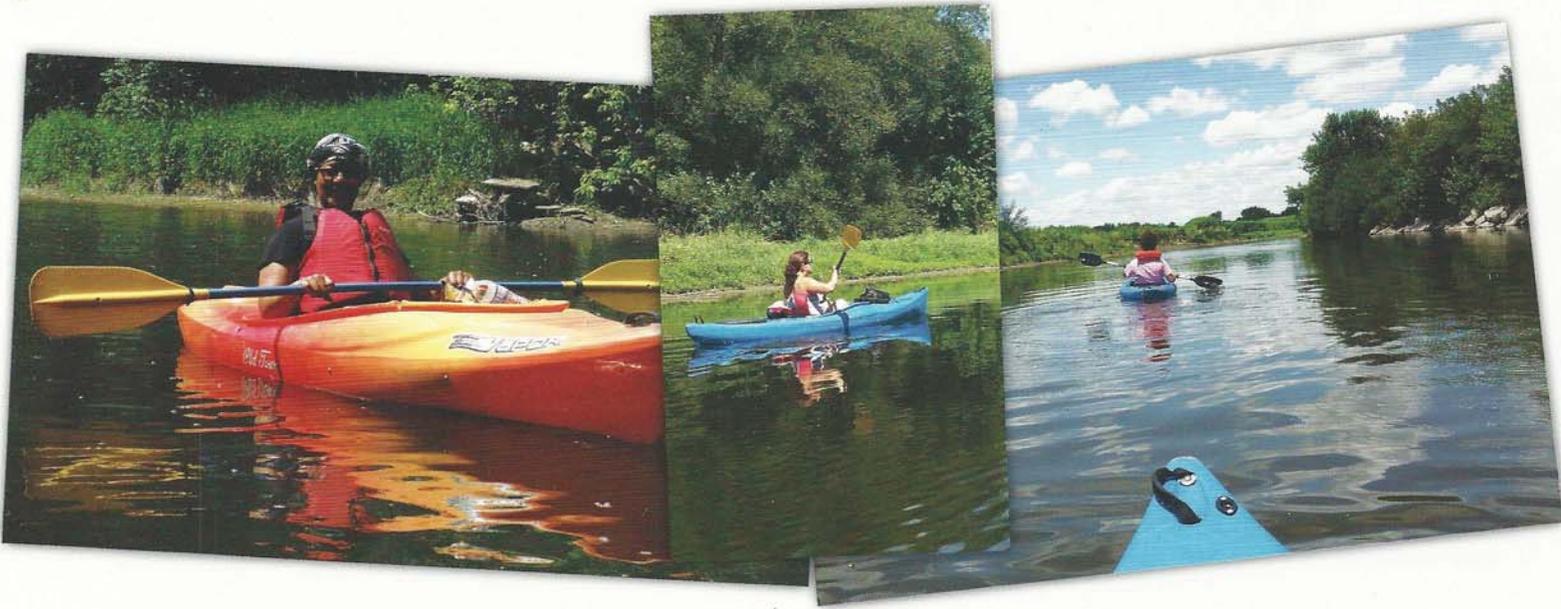
Six Rivers Regional Land Conservancy

Vern's Collision and Glass

White Horse Tavern



The Chatfield school in Lapeer won the "Golden Gloves" award at the 2016 Annual Voice of the River Celebration



JOIN US FOR SOME RIVER FUN ON "OUR WATER" PADDLES THIS SUMMER

The Flint River has taken a big hit in the last few months. It has been portrayed as dirty, polluted, corrosive, etc. For those of us at the FRWC it has been hard to see our Flint River labeled negatively. We see the Flint River as it really is, the good and the bad. We get to see the osprey catching a fish in the river and turning it in his claws mid-flight, and we see the tires or litter that someone dumped as we do river cleanups. But we see far more of the former than the latter. We see a gorgeous, vibrant river that is thriving and people dedicated to ensuring that it remains that way.

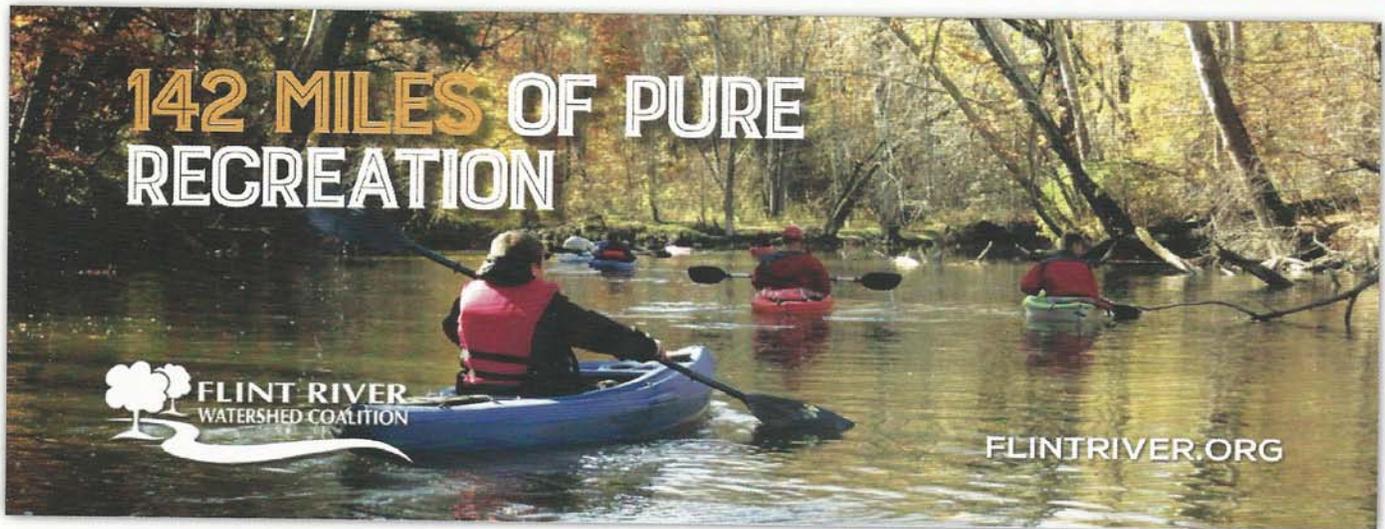
Those who have spent time on the Flint River have seen its beauty and teeming wildlife.

One of the ways that we introduce people to the real Flint River is through our Paddles program. These kayak trips are designed for all skill levels and travel along various parts of the Flint River, May through September. This year we will be hosting more trips than ever before, 18 FRWC Paddles, 3 Kayaking in the Park trips as part of a joint effort with the Genesee County Parks, and we are now taking reservations for private group paddles. Our Paddles get people on the water and show the Flint River in all its glory. Every paddle is led by an experienced guide, and our Kayaking in the Parks trips will also have a naturalist along to help identify the

wildlife encountered during the journey.

Want to get away with your friends, family, or coworkers? Private group paddles are perfect for workouts, family gatherings, or just getting together with friends. You choose the date and destination and let us handle the rest! Enjoy a guided kayak trip along the Flint River, which abounds with beautiful scenery and abundant wildlife, including the chance to see bald eagles. Share the amazing beauty of the Flint River with your group as you paddle downstream. Prices vary, contact Jaime Welch at 810-767-7140 or jwelch@flinriver.org for details.





2016 PADDLE CALENDAR

Locations are subject to change based on water levels, flow, and weather conditions. Please consult www.FlintRiver.org or call Jaime at 810-767-7140 for the latest information. Unless otherwise indicated, paddle participants should meet up by 10 am.

Paddles are generously supported by the Our Water program of the Genesee County Drain Commission

May		
21st	Millville Rd. to Norway Lake Rd.	Lapeer Paddle with Six Rivers Conservancy Moderate 3 hrs. Location: Millville Landing, Millville Rd, north of Plum Creek Rd. Contact Jaime Welch or Terry Reechko (734-558-0031) 2 hrs. Location: M-15 north of Coldwater Road.
28th	M-15 to Irish Rd. Memorial Day Paddle	3 hrs. Location: Flushing Riverview Park on Cherry St. 2 hrs. Location: Dodge Rd., east of Seymour Rd.
June		
4th	Riverview Park to Flushing Township Nature Park	2 hrs. Location: Riverview Canoe Landing on Mitson Blvd. Meet by 4:45 for a 5 pm launch time.
18th	Dodge Rd. to Montrose Barber Memorial Park	2 hrs. Location: Rotary Park, Lapeer, Nepessing and Lyle. Meet by 5:45 for a 6 pm launch.
22nd	Riverview Canoe Landing (Mitson) to River Rd.	3 hrs. Location: Irish Rd., north of Coldwater Rd.
23rd	Rotary Park to Saginaw St. Landing	2.5 hrs. Location: Richfield Park.
26th	Irish Rd. to Mott Lake	3 hrs. Location: Carr Road to Holloway Dam.
July		
2nd	Richfield Park to Mott Lake	3 hrs. Location: Irish Rd. (north of Coldwater Rd.)
16th	Holloway Dam to Irish Rd.	1.5 hrs. Location: M-15 just north of Coldwater Rd. Meet by 4:45 pm for a 5 pm launch.
24th	Irish Rd. to Mott Lake	
27th	M-15 to Richfield Park	
August		
6th	Flint River Corridor Alliance 3rd Annual Flotilla	Please see our website for cost, location, and more information.
17th	Birch Run, Morseville Rd. to Seymour Rd.	2 hrs. Location: Morseville Rd (across from Taymouth Township Office). Meet by 4:45 pm for 5 pm launch.
20th	M-15 to Irish Rd.	2 hrs. Location: M-15 just north of Coldwater Rd.
28th	Montrose Barber Memorial Park to Birch Run	2.5 hrs with a stop at a sand bar for a picnic lunch along the way. Lunch not provided, please bring your own. Location: Montrose Barber Memorial Park.
September		
3rd	Bray Rd. to Vietnam Veterans Park	2 1/2 hrs. Arrive by 9:45 am at Vietnam Veterans Park for bike ride, 4th Annual Pedal to Paddle launch at 10:30 at Bray Road. This is open to bike ride, paddle, or both! Location: Bray Road, north of Carpenter Rd.
17th	Flushing Riverview Park to Dodge Rd.	3 hrs. Location: Flushing Riverview Park.
22nd	Birch Run, Morseville Rd. to Seymour Rd.	2 hrs. Location: Morseville Rd. (across from Taymouth Township Office) Meet by 4:45 pm for 5 pm launch.

New for 2016 • The Flint River Watershed Coalition is now offering private Paddles for groups. These guided tours down the Flint River are perfect for work outings, group trips, or family gatherings. Prices vary. Contact Jaime Welch 810-767-7140 for details. Limited dates available, book your trip today!

CALENDAR OF EVENTS

- April 30 Flint River and Community Cleanup 9 am to noon at various locations
- May 1 Friends of the Flint River Trail Sunday rides: First ride of the season! Rides continue weekly through the last Sunday in October
- May 2 -16 Water Quality Monitoring
Genesee County Lab • Thursday May 5th Monitoring lab @ For-Mar 11 am – 5 pm
Lapeer County Lab • Saturday May 14th Monitoring lab @ For-Mar 11 am – 5 pm
- May 14 Monitoring lab @ Chatfield Schools 12 pm – 4 pm
- May 7 FRWC Project GREEN Water Testing at Sloan Museum 1 pm
- May 14 Join the FFRT at the HealthPlus Tour de Crim
- May 20 Flint River GREEN Student Summit at Kettering University
- May 21 First Flint River Paddle of the year
- June 11 First monthly Saturday ride of the FFRT begin
- June 11 Kayaking in the Parks: 101 Paddle with Genesee County Parks (see website for details)
- July 9th Kayaking in the Parks: 101 Paddle with Genesee County Parks (see website for details)
- August 4 "Love Your Lakes" Community Celebration Picnic at Flint Park Lake
- August 6 FRCA Flotilla
- August 11 "Love Your Lakes" Community Celebration Picnic at Thread Lake
- August 13 Kayaking in the Parks: 101 Paddle with Genesee County Parks (see website for details)
- August 28 3rd Annual Picnic on the Flint River Paddle
- September 3 4th Annual Pedal to Paddle
- September 22 Last Flint River Paddle of the year

End of September/beginning of October will be the Water Quality Monitoring window. Dates TBA
Our kayak trips happen spring through fall! See our Paddles schedule (reverse) for details.

MEMBERSHIP FORM SPRING 2016

name _____

organization _____

address _____

city/state/zip _____

phone (h) _____ (c) _____

email _____

_____ student \$10

_____ individual \$25

_____ family \$40

_____ river sponsor \$100

_____ river patron \$250

_____ watershed protector \$500

_____ watershed guarantor \$1000

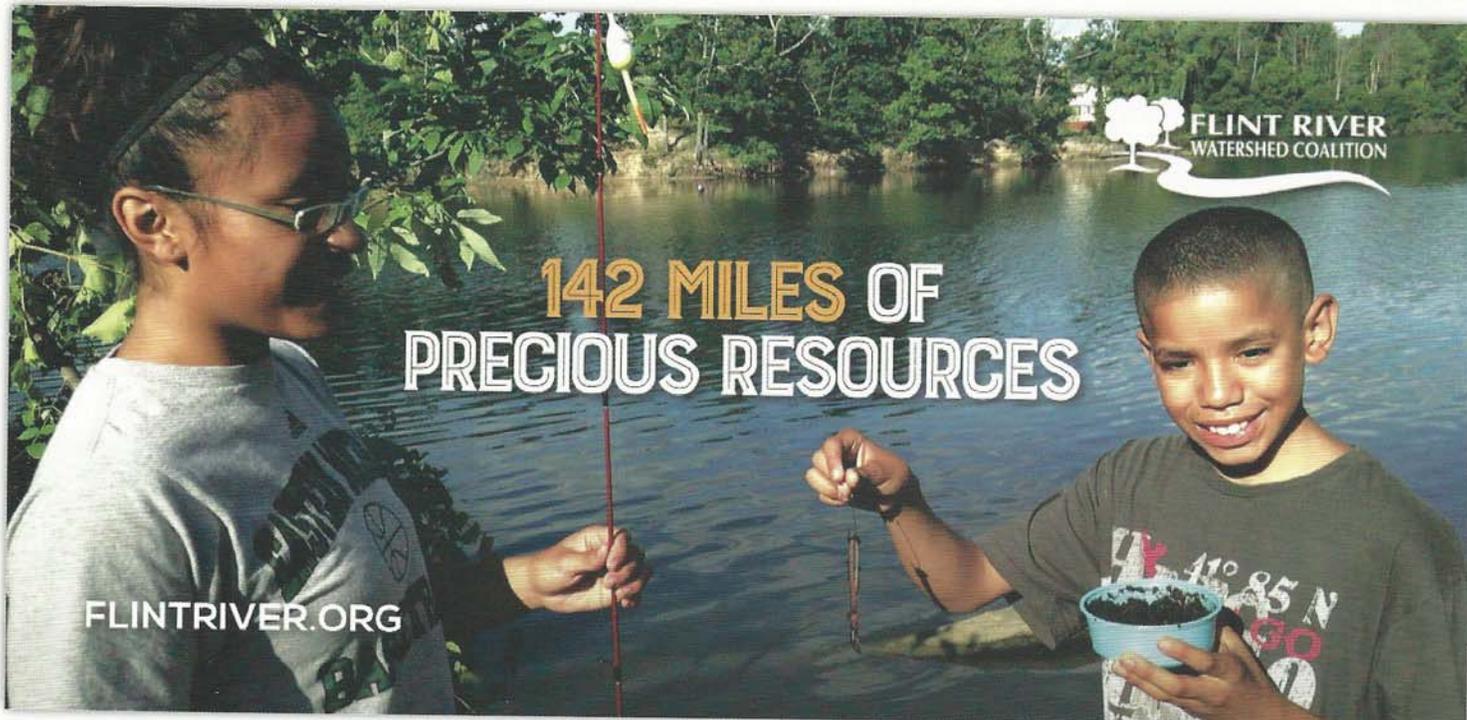
_____ other \$ _____

Some companies will match an employee contribution to an eligible charity or non-profit organization. Please check with your employer to obtain a matching gift form, if applicable.

Your support is sincerely appreciated. The Flint River Watershed Coalition is a not-for-profit organization with 501(c)(3) tax exempt status. Your contribution is deductible.

Please make checks payable to: Flint River Watershed Coalition or FRWC, 400 N. Saginaw Street, Suite 233 Flint MI 48502





SPRING CLEAN UP: SATURDAY APRIL 30TH

Time for some spring cleaning in your watershed! The 2016 Flint River and Community Cleanup will be held on Saturday April 30th from 9:00 am to noon. There are over 15 sites in Genesee and Lapeer counties that need volunteers to assist with picking up litter large and small. Then come celebrate at our volunteer appreciation luncheon from 12-2 pm at Vietnam Veterans Park in Flint and from 12-1 pm at Cramton Park in Lapeer.



While you are out, keep your eyes peeled for any unusual finds you may come across during Cleanup and report them to your site coordinator! We hand out the coveted "Golden Gloves" award

to the person who finds the most unique item during the Cleanup. We have had everything from a sign made out of debris to a beer can from the 1950's.

Interested in getting your hands dirty? During the summer and fall when water levels are lower our Volunteer Cleanup Crews go out and get in the water for River Cleanups in both Genesee and Lapeer counties. Volunteers are always needed and are much appreciated!

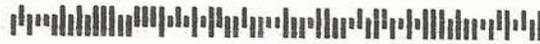


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 Flint, MI 48502
www.FlintRiver.org



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 Genesee County Drain Commissio
 c/o Mr Jeffrey Wright
 4608 BEECHER RD
 FLINT MI 48532-2617

GREEN PROGRAM 2016

Flint River GREEN (Global Rivers Environmental Education Network) has been engaging middle and high school students from across the watershed in chemical water testing for over 25 years. Students, teachers, and their mentors from GM and the Genesee County Drain Commission venture out to nearby streams and perform a variety of tests to gauge the health of the stream. In 2015 the FRWC had 23 schools and over 1,100 students participate. Currently over 25 schools are set to participate in 2016.

After testing, students are invited to attend the GREEN Student Summit, which will be held this year at Kettering University on Friday, May 20th. The Summit offers the students a chance to share their results with other students from across the watershed and to attend breakout sessions conducted by local environmental professionals such as "Incredible Edible Plants" and "Sewer CSI". This is a great opportunity to see the great work of the students in our area.





Genesee Conservation District

1525 N. Elms Rd., Flint, MI 48532, (810) 230-8766 ext. 3 genesecd.org

Celebrating 70 years of Natural Resource Conservation in our Community

Board of Directors

Nancy Szikszay
Darren Bagley
Andrew Everman
Brad Hill
Brian VanPatton

Genesee Conservation District Open House

Join us Thursday, March 31st from 11am-2pm in the Atrium of the Flint Farmers' Market for our District open house and directors' election. Residents of Genesee County 18 and over may vote in the directors' election. Stop by to learn more about the district's initiatives.



Seasonal High Tunnel

Initiative for Urban Areas

Cost share funding with USDA-NRCS is available to construct seasonal high tunnels (hoop houses) to extend the fresh produce growing season. Contact the District for more information.



I grew up in Flint™ Urbanwood began as City of Flint street trees. When the trees no longer benefit us alive and standing, Genesee Conservation District mills them into lumber products to be reutilized and sold. Find Flint-specific "I Grew Up in Flint™" wood at the Genesee County Habitat for Humanity ReStore.

Michigan farmers are voluntarily participating in the Michigan Agricultural Environmental Assurance Program (MAEAP) to address environmental concerns. MAEAP is designed to reduce farmers legal and environmental risks through a 3-phase process:



1. Education
2. Farm-specific risk assessment
3. On-farm verification

maeap.org

Contact Samantha Braman at the District to learn more about the MAEAP verification process.

Fish Sale: Genesee Conservation District and Harrietta Hills will be hosting

Fish Days on May 21st. Buy fish for your pond directly from the truck and take them home in oxygen bags provided. Pre-ordering of fish is required at least 7 days before the Fish Day event, just call Harrietta Hills and tell them what kind of fish you would like.

Pick Up

Order



Date: Saturday May 21st
Time: 11:00 am-1:00pm
Place: Genesee Conservation District
Address: 1525 North Elms Rd.
Flint, MI 48532

From: Harrietta Hills Trout Farm
Info: harriettahills.com/fishdayevents.html
Phone Number: (877) 389-2514
Minimum Order: 25 of any species

Environmental Education

Sessions are available to classrooms and youth groups throughout Genesee County. Classes are specifically tailored to appeal to young people through hands-on activities covering a variety of concepts tied to state standards. For more information or to schedule a meeting please contact Jeffrey Johnson

jeffrey.johnson@macd.org

HUNTING ACCESS PROGRAM

MDNR'S HUNTING ACCESS PROGRAM (HAP) HAS 10 PRIVATE FARMLAND PARCELS AVAILABLE FOR PUBLIC HUNTING THROUGHOUT GENESSEE COUNTY, LOCATIONS FOUND AT MICHIGAN.GOV/HAP



The District and the USDA-NRCS administer conservation management practices locally as provided in the 2014 Farm Bill. Technical and application assistance to landowners and producers is available for cost share programs, which are accepted year-round. Implemented practices positively impact the environmental health of our natural resources.

GCD is going green!

To receive future notices and tree sale brochures please send us your email address to genesecd@yahoo.com

Seven Simple Steps to Clean Water

1. Practice good car care
2. Fertilize sparingly and carefully
3. Clean up after your pet
4. Save water
5. Carefully store & dispose of household cleaners, chemicals & oil
6. Help keep pollution out of storm drains
7. Choose earth friendly landscaping

Let's make one thing Perfectly Clear.
our water.
Genesee County Community Water Quality Consortium

cleargeneseeewater.org

What can you do with reclaimed wood?

URBANWOOD CONTEST

Enter your useful object or imaginative work of art to win cash prizes awarded in several categories. Submit entries using Urbanwood sold at Genesee County Habitat of Humanity ReStore by December 10, 2016

For more information visit

genesecd.org

Be on the lookout for Michigan's Most Unwanted Invasive Species

Midwest Invasive Species Information Network (MISIN) is a regional effort to develop and provide an early detection and rapid response (EDRR) resource for invasive species.

Learn: What types of invasives are threatening Michigan's native species.

Locate: Their whereabouts in your community.

Report: Map the location of targeted invasive species occurrences on MISIN.

misin.msu.edu

District services are made possible through fund development efforts and the generous support of: Ruth Mott Foundation, United Way of Genesee County, Genesee County Community Drain Commission, Genesee County Farm Bureau, Michigan Department of Agriculture and Rural Development, Michigan Department of Natural Resources, USDA Natural Resources Conservation Service, and the City of Flint.

District programs, services, and employment are offered on a nondiscriminatory basis with regard to race, color, national origin, religion, sex, age, marital status, sexual orientation, or handicap.

For-Mar On The Road

**FREE Nature And Horticulture Programs
In YOUR Classroom!**

Our interactive programs are modeled around the Common Core State Standards Initiative which make For-Mar's programs great reinforcement tools for enhancing science concepts taught in your classroom. We use a variety of interpretive techniques to keep students engaged and excited about learning. These techniques include activities, demonstrations, and multimedia presentations.

Thanks to the generosity of the Ruth Mott Foundation, the Community Foundation of Greater Flint, and the Stella & Frederick Loeb Charitable Trust, Genesee County Parks will offer its 10th year of fun and **FREE** For-Mar On The Road in-school programs to 3rd through 8th grade classrooms. New in 2015, **FREE** programs for K—2nd grade classrooms.



Ruth Mott Foundation



community foundation

Greater Flint

For good. For ever.



In-School Environmental Education Programs

- **FREE** to teachers in Flint and Genesee County.
- K-2nd literacy and live animal program: Reading with Reptiles!
- Six unique nature and horticulture programs for 3rd-5th grade students.
- MEECS Water Quality program for 6th-8th grade students.
- Developed by using certified environmental educational curriculums: Projects Wild, Wet, Learning Tree, and Flying Wild.
- Aligned with Common Core and NGSS educational standards.
- Aligned with Michigan Model of Health Expectations.
- Engaging, hands on, and fun!
Programs available January 4 through June 10, 2016.



Reserve your For-Mar On The Road program today!

Questions and reservations,
please contact:

Michelle Maust
(810) 845-6437
mmaust@gcparks.org

For-Mar Nature Preserve and
Arboretum
2142 North Genesee Road
Burton, MI 48509

For-Mar On The Road - 810.845.6437
Nature Preserve - 810.789.8567
Arboretum - 810.789.8568
Reservations - 810.736.7100, ext. 6

Genesee County Parks
Administrative Office
5045 Stanley Road
Flint, MI 48506
810.736.7100
800.648.PARK

GENESEE COUNTY PARKS
Get away. Right away.

For-Mar

Nature Preserve & Arboretum



For-Mar on the Road 2016
FREE In-School Programs

geneseecountyparks.org
810.789.8567
800.648.PARK

3rd - 5th Grade Programs

Planet Protector Series

In this two part series, students will gain a better understanding of natural systems and how their day-to-day decisions can change the world around them.



Part I*

Students will first meet a For-Mar animal teacher and discuss what all living things need to survive. Then, students become bear experts in an activity designed to demonstrate how animals fit into their environments. Finally, students complete a full-body movement activity in which they construct a food chain and discover how humans can impact an ecosystem.

Part II*

This program will build on the student's personal experiences with nature. Find out how predators and hunters are beneficial for prey populations in a game of tag. Students will become environmental stewards in our benthic monitoring activity and then connect with nature with an up close and personal live animal experience.

3rd - 5th Grade Programs

H2knOw Series

As Michigan residents we are directly connected to the largest freshwater ecosystem on the planet! These two programs will connect your students to the Great Lakes.

Part I*

For-Mar Naturalist will take you and your students on a trip through the water cycle! Explore the importance of water through live animal demonstrations and experiments. Students get hands-on experience investigating watersheds and how they have a direct impact on the water in the Great Lakes.



Part II*

Dive into water using modern issues and invasive species. Your students will demonstrate the strain large populations have on the availability of water as a natural resource. Also, in a full-body movement activity, students learn how invasive species can slowly take over an aquatic habitat. This program concludes with a hands-on animal experience.

3rd - 5th Grade Programs

Truck Farm Series

Plants in Action! and Worms on Wheels include a visit from the Truck Farm (seasonally available).



Plants in Action!*

Learn what it takes for a tiny acorn to grow into a mighty oak, and how some plants live their entire lifecycle in less than a few months. Horticulturists will visit your classroom to teach your students the essentials of plant science through observation and hands-on activities. Students will learn nonconventional gardening and see plants in action with our mobile garden.

Worms on Wheels*

How can we waste less food, throw less trash away, and make healthy soil for plants? Learn how with Worms on Wheels! Students will see red worms recycling food scraps, examine worms, and construct a worm bin to keep in their classroom. Students will learn how to maintain an environment in which these decomposers can thrive while keeping food waste out of the dump.



6th - 8th Grade Program

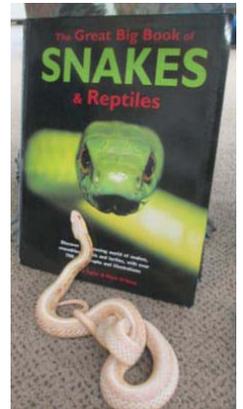
MEECS Lesson 1: Where Is All the Water in the World?

Live animals and hands-on environmental education activities bring the water quality units of Michigan's Environmental Education Curriculum (MEECS) to life in your classroom. It's engaging, interactive and fun! Fall lesson will be focused on where and how water can be found on our planet and why this is important to life on earth.

K-2nd Grade Program

Reading with Reptiles!*

For-Mar on the Road is a natural choice for encouraging your lower elementary students to read. With our scaly friends, your students and a For-Mar naturalist will read stories about reptiles, learn to classify them, complete grade appropriate literacy activities, and create their own story about one of For-Mar's famous animal teachers. Classrooms that participate in a Reading with Reptiles program receive a book for their classroom and one-on-one interaction with For-Mar's reptilian animal teachers!



***Common Core and NGSS connections provided upon request.**

Having trouble viewing this email? [Click here](#)

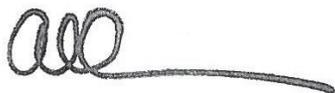
GENESEE COUNTY PARKS

Get away. Right away.

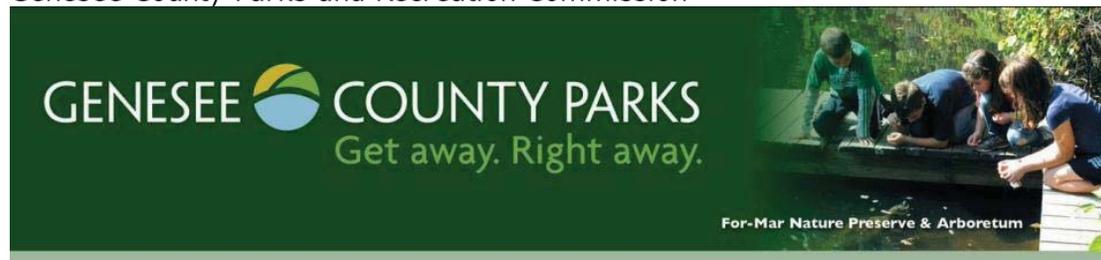
Dear Sue,

Michigan has more than 11,000 inland lakes, 79 of them are in Genesee County, which include Flint Park Lake and Thread Lake that are within the City of Flint. The [Genesee County Parks](#) along with our partner, the [Flint River Watershed Coalition](#) invite you to join us for the 3rd Annual Love Your Lake celebrations. We'll have kayaking, kids fishing, cute crafts, bug discovery with [For-Mar Nature Preserve and Arboretum](#), a picnic dinner, and MORE! Both events are FREE and FUN for EVERYONE! Come and celebrate these gorgeous parks and lakes with your friends and families!

August 4	5:30-7:30pm	Flint Park Lake Pavilion, Winthrop Blvd.
August 11	5:30-7:30pm	McKinley Park/Thread Lake, Vista Center



Amy M. McMillan, Director
Genesee County Parks and Recreation Commission



If you no longer wish to receive our emails, click the link below:

[Unsubscribe](#)

Genesee County Parks and Recreation Commission 5045 Stanley Road Flint, Michigan 48506 United States
(800) 648-7275

From: p dlnuC lqixvirqp dlfrp #r#hkda#r i#Thqhvhh#Fr#xqw|#Sdunv#
?sdunvz hewhdp C j fsdunvirujA
Sent: Z hgqhvgd|#Dxjxw# : #5349# -58#DP
To: Krjdq/#xvdqgh
Subject: Mr l#k v#Lru#kh#pw#Dqqxd#F dwlk#Lru#F dxvh#Wrxuqdp hqw\$

Having trouble viewing this email? [Click here](#)

GENESEE COUNTY PARKS

Get away. Right away.

Dear Sue,

The [6th Annual Catfish For a Cause Fishing Tournament](#) kicks off bright and early at [Walleye Pike Boat Launch](#) on Sunday, August 21, after all, that's when the fish bite! We're calling all fishermen and fisherwomen to beat last year's record of removing 81.9 lbs of channel catfish from the Holloway Reservoir.

Ridding the reservoir of these catfish will improve the walleye fishery and you'll have a blast reeling them in. We will award prize packages, too! So join us for this FREE fishing tournament. That's right, there is no registration fee to enter the tournament, but purchase of a [boat launch vehicle permit](#) is required.



It's for families, all ages and abilities and registration begins at 6 am, fishing begins at 7 am, and weigh in is at noon.

Don't let the big one getaway!



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GENESEE COUNTY PARKS

Get away. Right away.

Dear Sue,

They're back... to school that is! And so is For-Mar On The Road! This fall [For-Mar Nature Preserve and Arboretum](#) is launching a completely new and expanded menu of FREE science and nature based programs for K-8 grades aligned to the new Michigan Science Standards.



We're so excited because this fall Kindergartners will explore weather patterns and what plants and animals need to survive. First graders will investigate the life cycles and animal classification, Second graders will learn about the plant life cycle and delve into the properties water, and Third graders will engage in Michigan natural history and animal adaptations. Fourth graders can create a nature superhero and explore animal senses and Fifth graders will find out where in the world water is stored and

investigate energy in an ecosystem. Middle schoolers will have the opportunity to learn about watersheds and delve deeper into the complicated connections within an ecosystem. Spice up your classroom curriculum with For-Mar On The Road! For more information about our new grade specific programs, [click here](#).

If you are interested in having For-Mar On The Road come to your classroom, please contact Michelle Maust at 810-249-2380 or mmaust@gcparks.org. Fall programs are being offered from September 26- December 23, 2016. Don't delay, sign up today!

Nicole Ferguson
Park Naturalist

Michelle Maust
Environmental Education
Outreach Coordinator

Brian VanPatten
Park Horticulturist



If you no longer wish to receive our emails, click the link below:
[Unsubscribe](#)
 Genesee County Parks and Recreation Commission 5045 Stanley Road Flint, Michigan 48506 United States
 (800) 648-7275

Family Fun Guide

We're Going Green!

But don't forget you can print the pages you want to remember.

Christmas at Crossroads Holiday Magic

FALL WINTER SPRING 2015-2016

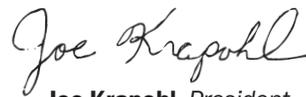
“Genesee County Parks’ Family Fun Guide is your most complete look into year-round fun in the parks!”

As fall slides into the holidays, we have great times in store for you in the Parks, beginning with our annual Ladies Night Out at Crossroads Village on November 16. Then you’re invited back to the Village on November 27 to celebrate the opening of five weeks of festivities during Christmas at Crossroads Holiday Magic!

We will welcome 2016 with plenty of cold-weather activities in the Parks to keep you on the go all season. Feeling brave? Take a sled down Toboggan Hill where the screams of excitement and laughter can be yours! Want something a little milder? Take in the peaceful solitude of cross-country skiing through the Parks on new-fallen snow, or trek silently on snow shoes.

Mother Nature reminds us each spring of the beauty around us. Come to the Parks and discover flowers beginning to bloom, trees budding, and wildlife on the move. Taste the sweet goodness of maple syrup during Sugar Bush at For-Mar. Rest against a tree and read a book in the warming sunshine.

Whatever the season, Genesee County Parks has something for everyone every day of the year. So get up, get out, and get away, right away! Fall in love all over again with your Genesee County Parks. Visit geneseecountyparks.org for a complete schedule of park activities.



Joe Krapohl, President
Genesee County Parks and Recreation Commission



Mott Lake

Genesee County Parks & Recreation Commissioners

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County Commissioner

Bryant Nolden
County Commissioner

Michael J. Keeler
Citizen Representative

Joe Krapohl
President-Citizen Representative

William C. Lucas
Citizen Representative

Joe Madore
Citizen Representative

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Citizen Representative

Cloyce Dickerson
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Gloria Nealy
Planning Commission Designee
(Ex-Officio)

Jeffrey Wright
Drain Commissioner (Ex-Officio)

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John Northrup, District 4

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GENESEE
COUNTY
PARKS



THE MOUNDS
The Mounds Off Road Vehicle Park • Genesee County MI

geneseecountyparks.org

810.736.7100 • 800.648.PARK



Genesee County Parks at a Glance



NOVEMBER

Family Fun for Everyone!

Mott Lake

WEDNESDAY, NOVEMBER 4 Knee-High Naturalist: Winter's Coming!

For-Mar Nature Preserve & Arboretum
Learn how bears, bees, and bobcats
prepare for winter.
For children ages 3-6, all abilities.
Time: 10-11:30am. Cost: \$3 per child.
Pre-registration required by 11/2/15.

WEDNESDAY, NOVEMBER 4 Wild Adventurers: Don't Mess With Us

For-Mar Nature Preserve & Arboretum
Many animals have defenses to help
protect them from predators. Come learn
all about these animals and meet some
critters with astonishing defenses.
For youth ages 7-12, all abilities.
Time: 10-11:30am. Cost: \$3 per student.
Pre-registration required by 11/2/15.

THURSDAY, NOVEMBER 5 Knee-High Naturalist: Winter's Coming!

For-Mar Nature Preserve & Arboretum

Learn how bears, bees and bobcats
prepare for winter.
For children ages 3-6, all abilities.
Time: 10-11:30am. Cost: \$3 per child.
Pre-registration required by 11/3/15.

THURSDAY, NOVEMBER 5 Wild Adventurers: Don't Mess With Us

For-Mar Nature Preserve & Arboretum
Many animals have defenses to help
protect them from predators. Come learn
all about these animals and meet some
critters with astonishing defenses.
For youth ages 7-12, all abilities.
Time: 10-11:30am. Cost: \$3 per student.
Pre-registration required by 11/3/15.

THURSDAY, NOVEMBER 5, 12, 19 & 26

Green Book Club
For-Mar Nature Preserve & Arboretum
Join fellow nature enthusiasts as we
read and discuss Henry David Thoreau's
Walden-Life in the Woods. Participants
will receive their own copy of the book

with paid registration.
For ages 13 and up, all abilities.
**Time: 10-11:30am. Cost: \$15 per person
(includes book).**
Pre-registration required by 10/29/15.

SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 7 Run Like a Deer 5K Cross Country Run/Walk

Join us for the inaugural
Run Like a Deer 5K Run
and Walk! This off-road
race takes you through
the beautifully wooded
Linden County Park on
paved and unpaved
trails perfect for every
runner and walker. The
Run Like a Deer is perfect for a pre-Turkey
Trot tuneup race, so come enjoy the
pleasant fall weather and run like a deer!
Time: 10am.
Pre-registration required by November
5 at <http://crim.org/races-events/run-like-a-deer/>



SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 7 Nature Discovery: Mammals!

For-Mar Nature Preserve & Arboretum
What makes a mammal? We're going to
have fun learning about and dressing up
like many of the mammals we love.
For individuals with cognitive disabilities.
Time: 10:30am-12pm. Cost: \$2 per person.
Pre-registration required by 11/5/15.

SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 7 Growing Gardeners: When the Garden Goes to Sleep

For-Mar Nature Preserve & Arboretum
After a summer full of fun and hard
work, it's time to prepare our garden
for winter. You'll even learn some
techniques to help make starting your
garden in the spring easier.
For children ages 4-12, all abilities.
Time: 10-11:30am. Cost: \$3 per student.
Pre-registration required by 11/5/15.

Eat Smart, Live Strong for Seniors

TUESDAYS, NOVEMBER 10, 17, 24, DECEMBER 1, 8, 15 (6-WEEK PROGRAM)

For-Mar Nature Preserve & Arboretum
Eat Smart, Live Strong includes
fun, social and interactive sessions
designed to improve fruit and vegetable
consumption and physical activity
among 60-74 year olds. Throughout the
sessions, participants will gain the skills
needed to promote healthy behavior
changes to improve overall health and
wellbeing. Topics Include: Reach Your
Goals; Step by Step; Challenges and
Solutions; Colorful and Classic Favorites;
and Eat Smart, Spend Less. Participants

receive a certificate of completion at the
end of the program. Come join the fun!
For seniors, all abilities.

Time: 3-4pm. Cost: FREE!
Pre-registration required by 11/6/15.
Call or email Betsy Schumacher, (810)
244-8517 or Schuma66@anr.msu.edu.
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gender identity, religion, age, height,
weight, disability, political beliefs, sexual
orientation, marital status, family status
or veteran status.

SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 7 How Does Your Garden Grow?

For-Mar, DeWaters Building, off Potter Rd.
Learn what you can be doing in your
garden this month for year-round success.
For ages 13 and up, all abilities.
Time: 1-2pm. Cost: \$3 per person.
Pre-registration required by 11/5/15.

SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 7 Kid's Nature Photography Club

For-Mar Nature Preserve & Arboretum
Come join the club... the Kid's Nature
Photography Club. Join us monthly and
learn basic photography skills and get
outdoors to take amazing pictures of
your favorite For-Mar outdoor areas.
Bring your own digital camera and dress
for the weather.
Suggested for ages 6 and older, all
abilities.
Time: 1:30-2:30pm. Cost: \$3 per student.
Pre-registration not required.

TUESDAY, NOVEMBER 10 Knee-High Nature Discovery: Feet are Neat!

For-Mar Nature Preserve & Arboretum
Meet animals with special feet. Can you
imitate their moves?
For children ages 4-10 with cognitive
disabilities.
Time: 10-11am. Cost: \$2 per child.
Pre-registration required by 11/9/15.

WEDNESDAY, NOVEMBER 11 Knee-High Naturalist: Fins, Feet and Flippers!

For-Mar Nature Preserve & Arboretum
Feet are neat! Learn about animal
movement and make a foot counting book.
For children ages 3-6, all abilities.
Time: 10-11:30am. Cost: \$3 per child.
Pre-registration required by 11/9/15.

WEDNESDAY, NOVEMBER 11 Wild Adventurers: Made from the Earth

For-Mar Nature Preserve & Arboretum
Many of our fabrics and materials come
from the earth. Let's learn all about the
natural fibers that help us create many
of the products we use today.
For youth ages 7-12, all abilities.
Time: 10-11:30am. Cost: \$3 per student.
Pre-registration required by 11/9/15.



For-Mar Nature Preserve & Arboretum

THURSDAY, NOVEMBER 12
Knee-High Naturalist:
Fins, Feet, and Flippers!

For-Mar Nature Preserve & Arboretum Feet are neat! Learn about animal movement and make a foot counting book. For children ages 3-6, all abilities.
Time: 10-11:30am. Cost: \$3 per child.
Pre-registration required by 11/10/15.

THURSDAY, NOVEMBER 12,
Wild Adventurers:
Made from the Earth

For-Mar Nature Preserve & Arboretum Many of our fabrics and materials come from the earth. Let's learn all about the natural fibers that help us create many of the products we use today. For youth ages 7-12, all abilities.
Time: 10-11:30am. Cost: \$3 per student.
Pre-registration required by 11/10/15.

SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 14
Nature Photography Club

For-Mar Nature Preserve & Arboretum Calling all photographers! Join us for our photography club designed for both professional and amateur photographers. A different photography technique will be highlighted each month. Then we'll hit the trails to search for and take photos of all Genesee County Parks' secret gems. For ages 16 and older, all abilities.
Time: 9-10:30am. Cost: \$3 per person.
Pre-registration not required.

SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 14
Scouting Outing: Giving Back

For-Mar Nature Preserve & Arboretum For-Mar makes volunteering fun! Join us as we practice the skill of giving back to our community through several service learning projects. Dress for getting dirty and being outdoors. Suggested for scouts ages 5 and older, all abilities.
Time: 10am-12pm. Cost: FREE!
Pre-registration not required.

SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 14
DIY Holiday Centerpiece

For-Mar Nature Preserve & Arboretum Thanksgiving is almost here and it's time to think about the center of your holiday table. Join us as we create unique centerpieces that will wow your guests! Suggested for ages 14 and older, all abilities.
Time: 1-2:30pm. Cost: \$8 per participant.
Pre-registration is required by 11/12/15.

MONDAY, NOVEMBER 16
9th Annual Ladies Night Out

Crossroads Village & Huckleberry Railroad This ladies-only extravaganza has quickly become an annual favorite! It's a one-night, once-a-year evening of shopping, laughing, food and fun.
Time: 4-9pm. Cost: \$5 per person or FREE with a current village Annual Pass.

WEDNESDAY, NOVEMBER 18
Knee-High Naturalist:
Thanksgiving Celebration

For-Mar Nature Preserve & Arboretum Join the Thanksgiving celebration and learn why animals are thankful. For children ages 3-6, all abilities.
Time: 10-11:30am. Cost: \$3 per child.
Pre-registration required by 11/16/15.

WEDNESDAY, NOVEMBER 18
Wild Adventurers:
Super Savers

For-Mar Nature Preserve & Arboretum There are many vulnerable animals under threat and on the endangered species list. Come learn how we can help protect them and help them thrive. For youth ages 7-12, all abilities.
Time: 10-11:30am. Cost: \$3 per student.
Pre-registration required by 11/16/15.

THURSDAY, NOVEMBER 19
Knee-High Naturalist:
Thanksgiving Celebration

For-Mar Nature Preserve & Arboretum Join the Thanksgiving celebration and learn why animals are thankful. For children ages 3-6, all abilities.
Time: 10-11:30am. Cost: \$3 per child.
Pre-registration required by 11/17/15.

THURSDAY, NOVEMBER 19
Wild Adventurers:
Super Savers

For-Mar Nature Preserve & Arboretum There are many vulnerable animals under threat and on the endangered species list. Come learn how we can help protect them and help them thrive. For youth ages 7-12, all abilities.
Time: 10-11:30am. Cost: \$3 per student.
Pre-registration required by 11/17/15.

FRIDAY, NOVEMBER 20
For-Mar Night Hike

For-Mar Nature Preserve & Arboretum Experience For-Mar at night. Test your night vision skills and learn about nocturnal animals as you travel the trails on this naturalist led hike. For families, all ages and abilities.
Time: 6-7pm. Cost: \$1.50 per person.
Pre-registration not required.

SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 21
Growing Gardeners:
Pilgrims Feast

For-Mar Nature Preserve & Arboretum Learn about the garden goodies the Pilgrims had at the first Thanksgiving and about some traditions that have been created through the years. For children ages 4-12, all abilities.
Time: 10-11:30am. Cost: \$3 per student.
Pre-registration required by 11/19/15.

SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 21
Conifer ID

For-Mar Nature Preserve & Arboretum Learn the tips and tricks to successfully identifying your conifer trees. This hike through the "pines" will enlighten your senses and stimulate your brain. Bring your walking shoes and dress for the weather. For adults, ages 16 and older, all abilities.
Time: 10am-12pm. Cost \$5 per person.
Pre-registration required by 11/19/15.

SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 21
Nature Discovery in the Garden: When the Garden Goes to Sleep

For-Mar Nature Preserve & Arboretum After a summer full of fun and hard work, it's time to prepare our garden for winter. Come help us put the garden to sleep and learn some techniques to help make starting your garden in the spring easier. For individuals with cognitive disabilities.
Time: 1-2:30pm. Cost: \$2 per person.
Pre-registration required by 11/19/15.

SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 21
Volunteer: Hoop House Work and Learn

For-Mar, DeWaters Building, off Potter Rd. Are you curious about hoop house management? Learn while caring for a variety of crops. Staff will be available to answer questions. For ages 12 and older, all abilities.
Time: 1-3pm. Cost: FREE!
Pre-registration required by 11/19/15.

THURSDAY, NOVEMBER 26
Thanksgiving Tradition at The Mounds

The Mounds ORV Park Starting as early as 6am on Thanksgiving morning, hundreds of off-road vehicles line up to be a part of the early morning tradition at The Mounds.
Time: 8am – Sunset. Cost: Normal pass fees apply and state ORV permit is required for entry.

FRIDAY, NOVEMBER 27
Christmas at Crossroads Holiday Magic – Opening Night

Crossroads Village & Huckleberry Railroad Make happy memories when the magical feeling of this festive holiday season fills the streets, shops and homes of Crossroads Village, and thousands of tiny lights sparkle in the trees. This joyful five-week celebration opens with fireworks and free admission (opening night only) into the village for all Genesee County residents (ID is required).
Time: 4-9pm.

SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 28
Christmas at Crossroads Holiday Magic

Crossroads Village & Huckleberry Railroad Make happy memories when the magical feeling of this festive holiday season fills the streets, shops and homes of Crossroads Village, and thousands of tiny lights sparkle in the trees. Gather your friends and family for a toasty night-time ride through the snowy countryside on our beloved Huckleberry Railroad, and Santa will be there in person to greet you.
Time: 4-9pm. Standard Village rates apply.

SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 29
Christmas at Crossroads Holiday Magic

Crossroads Village & Huckleberry Railroad Make happy memories when the magical feeling of this festive holiday season fills the streets, shops and homes of Crossroads Village, and thousands of tiny lights sparkle in the trees. Gather your friends and family for a toasty night-time ride through the snowy countryside on our beloved Huckleberry Railroad, and Santa will be there in person to greet you.
Time: 4-9pm. Standard Village rates apply.

4th Annual Wild Turkey Run

SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 28

For-Mar Nature Preserve & Arboretum Eat too much turkey? We did, too! The feast is over and it's time to come out to For-Mar to run or walk it off.

Kids Turkey Activity Area

Join us for kid's turkey active outdoor activities, live turkeys, and more. A Naturalist will be available to watch children for parents who are running or walking in the race. For families, all ages and abilities.
Time: 10am-1pm. Cost: FREE!
Pre-registration not required.

Kids Turkey Trot

Can you trot like a turkey? Join the Kids' Turkey Trot. Kids get a For-Mar race medallion after the race. For kids up to age 18, all abilities.
Time: 10:30-11am. Cost: \$5 per person, includes race t-shirt.
Pre-Registration is required by 5pm on 11/23/15 to receive a race shirt. Race begins

at 10:30am sharp. Walk-ins for the race must be registered by 10am in order to race.

Wild Turkey Run/Walk

Dress up in your Wild Turkey Best and join us for a friendly relatively flat 5K trail race through For-Mar. Strut your turkey self around the course dressed like a turkey, or in some other equally goofy costume, to win prizes for the best costume. Prizes will be awarded to both kids and adults for the best costume. Awards will be given to the top three runners who cross the finish line. This year's race will be timed by Race Timing Services. For ages 8 and older, all abilities.
Time: 11:00am-12pm. Cost \$17 per person until 5pm 11/23/15. After 11/23/15, the cost is \$20 per person.
Pre-registration is required by 5pm 11/23/15 to receive a race shirt. Race begins at 11am sharp. Walk-ins for the race must be registered by 10:30am to race.



Richfield County Park

DECEMBER

Family Fun for Everyone!

Christmas at Crossroads – Holiday Magic



WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 2
Knee-High Naturalist: Snakes

For-Mar Nature Preserve & Arboretum
Learn about snakes as we go on a scavenger hunt to make a snake craft. For children ages 3-6, all abilities.
Time: 10-11:30am. Cost: \$3 per child.
Pre-registration required by 11/30/15.

WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 2
Wild Adventurers: Teeny, Tiny and Terrifying!

For-Mar Nature Preserve & Arboretum
These little microbes don't seem like much, but they sure do pack a punch. That's right ... we're talking about GERMS. Find out why it is so important to keep clean. For youth ages 7-12, all abilities.
Time: 10-11:30am. Cost: \$3 per student.
Pre-registration required by 11/30/15.

THURSDAY, DECEMBER 3
Knee-High Naturalist: Snakes

For-Mar Nature Preserve & Arboretum
Learn about snakes as we go on a scavenger hunt to make a snake craft. For children ages 3-6, all abilities.
Time: 10-11:30am. Cost: \$3 per child.
Pre-registration required by 12/1/15.

THURSDAY, DECEMBER 3
Wild Adventurers: Teeny, Tiny, and Terrifying!

For-Mar Nature Preserve & Arboretum
These little microbes don't seem like much, but they sure do pack a punch. That's right ... we're talking about GERMS. Find out why it is so important to keep clean. For youth ages 7-12, all abilities.
Time: 10-11:30am. Cost: \$3 per student.
Pre-registration required by 12/1/15.

THURSDAY, DECEMBER 3, 10, 17
Green Book Club

For-Mar Nature Preserve & Arboretum
Join fellow nature enthusiasts as we read and discuss *Sand County Almanac* by Aldo Leopold. Participants will receive their own copy of the book with paid registration. For ages 13 and older, all abilities.
Time: 10-11:30am. Cost: \$15 per person (includes book).
Pre-registration required by 11/26/15.

FRIDAY DECEMBER 4
Christmas at Crossroads Holiday Magic

Crossroads Village & Huckleberry Railroad
Make happy memories when the magical feeling of this festive holiday season fills the streets, shops and homes of Crossroads Village, and thousands of tiny lights sparkle in the trees. Gather your friends and family for a toasty night-time ride through the snowy countryside on our beloved Huckleberry Railroad, and Santa will be there in person to greet you.
Time: 4-9pm.
Cost: Standard Village rates apply.
Train reservations are highly suggested.

SATURDAY, DECEMBER 5
Growing Gardeners: Gardens Can Get Cold, Too!

For-Mar Hoop House, near the DeWaters building, off Potter Rd.
Cold? Put on your winter coat. Is your garden cold? Put on its winter coat. Explore our hoop house as we learn about cold frames and greenhouses. Build and take home your very own mini-greenhouse. For children ages 4-12, all abilities.
Time: 10-11:30am. Cost: \$3 per student.
Pre-registration required by 12/3/15.

SATURDAY, DECEMBER 5
Nature Discovery: Ice, Ice, Baby

For-Mar Nature Preserve & Arboretum
It's going to be a cold one! Let's learn all about ice and snow. For individuals with cognitive disabilities.
Time: 10:30am-12pm. Cost: \$2 per person.
Pre-registration required by 12/3/15.

SATURDAY, DECEMBER 5
How Does Your Garden Grow?

For-Mar DeWaters Building, off Potter Rd.
Learn what you can do in your garden this month for year-round success. For ages 13 and older, all abilities.
Time: 1-2pm. Cost: \$3 per person.
Pre-registration required by 12/3/15.

SATURDAY, DECEMBER 5
Kid's Nature Photography Club

For-Mar Nature Preserve & Arboretum
Come join the club ... the Kid's Nature Photography Club. Join us monthly to learn basic photography skills and get outdoors to take amazing pictures of

your favorite For-Mar outdoor areas. Bring your digital camera and dress for the weather. Suggested for ages 6 and older, all abilities.
Time: 1:30-2:30pm. Cost: \$3 per student.
Pre-registration not required.

SATURDAY, DECEMBER 5
Christmas at Crossroads Holiday Magic

Crossroads Village & Huckleberry Railroad
Make happy memories when the magical feeling of this festive holiday season fills the streets, shops and homes of Crossroads Village, and thousands of tiny lights sparkle in the trees. Gather your friends and family for a toasty night-time ride through the snowy countryside on our beloved Huckleberry Railroad, and Santa will be there in person to greet you.
Time: 4-9pm.
Cost: Standard Village rates apply.
Train reservations are highly suggested.



Toboggan Hill

SUNDAY, DECEMBER 6
Christmas at Crossroads
Holiday Magic

Crossroads Village & Huckleberry Railroad
Make happy memories when the magical feeling of this festive holiday season fills the streets, shops and homes of Crossroads Village, and thousands of tiny lights sparkle in the trees. Gather your friends and family for a toasty night time ride through the snowy countryside on our beloved Huckleberry Railroad, and Santa will be there in person to greet you.

Time: 4-9pm.
Cost: Standard Village rates apply.
Train reservations are highly suggested.

MONDAY, DECEMBER 7
Drive Through Only
Night - Christmas at
Crossroads Holiday Magic

Crossroads Village & Huckleberry Railroad
Rather view the Village from your warm car? Visit us on special drive through only nights.

Time: 5-9pm. Cost: \$5 per carload.
The Village streets can not accommodate buses.

TUESDAY, DECEMBER 8
Knee-High Nature
Discovery: Wildlife Feeding

For-Mar Nature Preserve & Arboretum
Help feed the wildlife at For-Mar and make a wildlife feeder to take home. For children ages 4-10 with cognitive disabilities.

Time: 10-11am. Cost: \$2 per child.
Pre-registration required by 12/6/15.

WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 9
Knee-High Naturalist:
Winter Feeding

For-Mar Nature Preserve & Arboretum
Guess who's coming to your wildlife feeder? Make a feeder to take home. For children ages 3-6, all abilities.

Time: 10-11:30am. Cost: \$3 per child.
Pre-registration required by 12/7/15.

WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 9
Wild Adventurers: Be a Miner

For-Mar Nature Preserve & Arboretum
Bring the natural side of a popular video game to life. Build, explore, and learn while building and mining natural resources.

For youth ages 7-12, all abilities.
Time: 10-11:30am. Cost: \$3 per student.
Pre-registration required by 12/7/15.



For-Mar Nature Preserve & Arboretum

THURSDAY, DECEMBER 10
Knee-High Naturalist:
Winter Feeding

For-Mar Nature Preserve & Arboretum
Guess who's coming to your wildlife feeder? Make a feeder to take home. For children ages 3-6, all abilities.

Time: 10-11:30am. Cost: \$3 per child.
Pre-registration required by 12/8/15.

THURSDAY, DECEMBER 10
Wild Adventurers: Be a Miner

For-Mar Nature Preserve & Arboretum
Bring the natural side of a popular video game to life. Build, explore, and learn while building and mining natural resources.

For youth ages 7-12, all abilities.
Time: 10-11:30am. Cost: \$3 per student.
Pre-registration required by 12/8/15.

THURSDAY, DECEMBER 10
Holiday Walk

For-Mar Nature Preserve & Arboretum
The holiday season is in full swing, the weather is getting cooler, and our hearts are growing warmer. Enjoy a light-filled winter walk in the woods with your family at For-Mar Nature Preserve and Arboretum. The cost is free, and the building and grounds will be open for an evening filled with activities and entertainment that the whole family will love.

For families, all ages and abilities.
Time: 6-9pm. Cost: FREE!
Pre-registration suggested, but not required, large groups are asked to call ahead.

THURSDAY, DECEMBER 10
Immunization Clinic

For-Mar Nature Preserve & Arboretum
Are you and your children up-to-date on your immunizations? If not, here's an easy way to get it done! The Genesee County Health Department is coming to For-Mar to help make sure that you're healthy. For families, all ages and abilities.

Time: 6-7:30pm. Cost: Many insurance plans are accepted.
For more information and to register, please call 810-237-4588.

FRIDAY, DECEMBER 11
Christmas at Crossroads
Holiday Magic

Crossroads Village & Huckleberry Railroad
Make happy memories when the magical feeling of this festive holiday season fills the streets, shops and homes of Crossroads Village, and thousands of tiny lights sparkle in the trees. Gather your friends and family for a toasty night-time ride through the snowy countryside on our beloved Huckleberry Railroad, and Santa will be there in person to greet you.

Time: 4-9pm.
Cost: Standard Village rates apply.
Train reservations are highly suggested.

FRIDAY, DECEMBER 11
Holiday Walk

For-Mar Nature Preserve & Arboretum
The holiday season is in full swing, the weather is getting cooler, and our hearts are growing warmer. Enjoy a light-filled winter walk in the woods with your family at For-Mar Nature Preserve and Arboretum. The cost is free and the building and grounds will be open for an evening filled with activities and entertainment that the whole family will love.

For families, all ages and abilities.
Time: 6-9pm. Cost: FREE!
Pre-registration suggested, but not required, large groups are asked to call ahead.

FRIDAY, DECEMBER 11
Immunization Clinic

For-Mar Nature Preserve & Arboretum
Are you and your children up-to-date on your immunizations? If not, here's an easy way to get it done! The Genesee County Health Department is coming to For-Mar to help make sure that you're healthy. For families, all ages and abilities.

Time: 6-7:30pm. Cost: Many insurance plans are accepted.
For more information and to register, please call 810-237-4588.

SATURDAY, DECEMBER 12
Nature Photography Club

For-Mar Nature Preserve & Arboretum
Calling all photographers! Join us for our photography club designed for both professional and amateur photographers. A different photography technique will be highlighted each month. Then we'll hit the trails to search for and take photos of all Genesee County Parks' secret gems.

For ages 16 and older, all abilities.
Time: 9-10:30am. Cost: \$3 per person.
Pre-registration not required.

SATURDAY, DECEMBER 12
Scouting Outing: Gifts
from Nature

For-Mar Nature Preserve & Arboretum
Create a holiday gift from nature for your family, friends, neighbors, or troop leader. For scouts, all ages and abilities.

Time: 10:30am-12pm. Cost: \$5 per person.
Pre-registration required by 12/10/15.

SATURDAY, DECEMBER 12
Upcycle: Transformed
Terrariums

For-Mar Nature Preserve & Arboretum
Learn to transform your old light fixtures, blocks, bulbs and more into amazing terrariums. Take home your own terrarium that will make wonderful presents for your friends and family, or even centerpieces for your holiday party. Suggested for ages 10 and older, all abilities.

Time: 1-3pm. Cost: \$10 per person.
Pre-registration required by 12/10/15.

SATURDAY, DECEMBER 12
Christmas at Crossroads
Holiday Magic

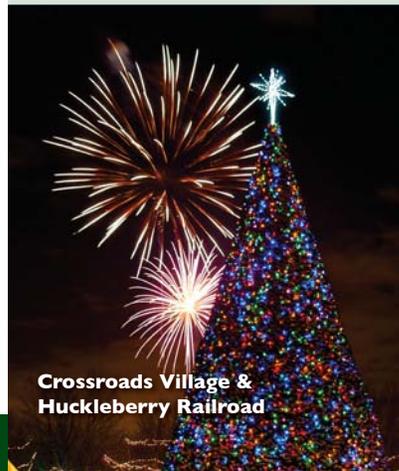
Crossroads Village & Huckleberry Railroad
Make happy memories when the magical feeling of this festive holiday season fills the streets, shops and homes of Crossroads Village, and thousands of tiny lights sparkle in the trees. Gather your friends and family for a toasty night-time ride through the snowy countryside on our beloved Huckleberry Railroad, and Santa will be there in person to greet you.

Time: 4-9pm.
Cost: Standard Village rates apply.
Train reservations are highly suggested.

SUNDAY, DECEMBER 13
Christmas at Crossroads
Holiday Magic

Crossroads Village & Huckleberry Railroad
Make happy memories when the magical feeling of this festive holiday season fills the streets, shops and homes of Crossroads Village, and thousands of tiny lights sparkle in the trees. Gather your friends and family for a toasty night-time ride through the snowy countryside on our beloved Huckleberry Railroad, and Santa will be there in person to greet you.

Time: 4-9pm.
Cost: Standard Village rates apply.
Train reservations are highly suggested.



Crossroads Village & Huckleberry Railroad

DECEMBER

Family Fun for Everyone!

Crossroads Carousel

MONDAY, DECEMBER 14 Drive Through Only Night – Christmas at Crossroads Holiday Magic

Crossroads Village & Huckleberry Railroad
Rather view the Village from your warm car? Visit us on special drive through only nights.

Time: 5-9pm. Cost: \$5 per carload.
The Village streets can not accommodate buses.

WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 16 Knee-High Naturalist: Reindeer

For-Mar Nature Preserve & Arboretum
Hear a story and do activities to learn how reindeer survive in the frozen north. For children ages 3-6, all abilities.

Time: 10-11:30am. Cost: \$3 per child.
Pre-registration required by 12/14/15.

WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 16 Wild Adventurers: Reading with Reptiles

For-Mar Nature Preserve & Arboretum
With our scaly friends, we will read

stories about reptiles and learn to classify them. Meet some amazing reptiles. For youth ages 7-12, all abilities.

Time: 10-11:30am. Cost: \$3 per student.
Pre-registration required by 12/14/15.

THURSDAY, DECEMBER 17 Knee-High Naturalist: Reindeer

For-Mar Nature Preserve & Arboretum
Hear a story and do activities to learn how reindeer survive in the frozen north. For children ages 3-6, all abilities.

Time: 10-11:30am. Cost: \$3 per child.
Pre-registration required by 12/15/15.

THURSDAY, DECEMBER 17 Wild Adventurers: Reading with Reptiles

For-Mar Nature Preserve & Arboretum
With our scaly friends, we will read stories about reptiles, and learn to classify them. Meet some amazing reptiles. For youth ages 7-12, all abilities.

Time: 10-11:30am. Cost: \$3 per student.
Pre-registration required by 12/15/15.

FRIDAY, DECEMBER 18 Christmas at Crossroads Holiday Magic

Crossroads Village & Huckleberry Railroad
Make happy memories when the magical feeling of this festive holiday season fills the streets, shops and homes of Crossroads Village, and thousands of tiny lights sparkle in the trees. Gather your friends and family for a toasty night-time ride through the snowy countryside on our beloved Huckleberry Railroad, and Santa will be there in person to greet you.

Time: 4-9pm.
Cost: Standard Village rates apply.
Train reservations are highly suggested.

SATURDAY, DECEMBER 19 Growing Gardeners: Evergreen Arrangements

For-Mar Nature Preserve & Arboretum
Did you know that historically people would bring in evergreen arrangements to encourage the seasons to change sooner? Bring a little fresh evergreen into your home this holiday season and make your own wreath to take home. For children ages 4-12, all abilities.

Time: 10-11:30am. Cost: \$3 per student.
Pre-registration required by 12/17/15.

SATURDAY, DECEMBER 19 Nature Discovery in the Garden: Evergreen Arrangements

For-Mar Nature Preserve & Arboretum
Did you know that historically people would bring in evergreen arrangements to encourage the seasons to change sooner? Bring a little fresh evergreen into your home this holiday season and make your own wreath to take home. For individuals with cognitive disabilities.

Time: 1-2:30pm. Cost: \$2 per person.
Pre-registration required by 12/17/15.



SATURDAY, DECEMBER 19 Christmas at Crossroads Holiday Magic

Crossroads Village & Huckleberry Railroad
Make happy memories when the magical feeling of this festive holiday season fills the streets, shops and homes of Crossroads Village, and thousands of tiny lights sparkle in the trees. Gather your friends and family for a toasty night-time ride through the snowy countryside on our beloved Huckleberry Railroad, and Santa will be there in person to greet you.

Time: 4-9pm.
Cost: Standard Village rates apply.
Train reservations are highly suggested.

SUNDAY, DECEMBER 20 Christmas at Crossroads Holiday Magic

Crossroads Village & Huckleberry Railroad
Make happy memories when the magical feeling of this festive holiday season fills the streets, shops and homes of Crossroads Village, and thousands of tiny lights sparkle in the trees. Gather your friends and family for a toasty night-time ride through the snowy countryside on our beloved Huckleberry Railroad, and Santa will be there in person to greet you.

Time: 4-9pm.
Cost: Standard Village rates apply.
Train reservations are highly suggested.

MONDAY, DECEMBER 21 Drive Through Only Night – Christmas at Crossroads Holiday Magic

Crossroads Village & Huckleberry Railroad
Rather view the Village from your warm car? Visit us on special drive through only nights.

Time: 5-9pm. Cost: \$5 per carload.
The Village streets can not accommodate buses.

TUESDAY, DECEMBER 22 Christmas at Crossroads Holiday Magic

Crossroads Village & Huckleberry Railroad
Make happy memories when the magical feeling of this festive holiday season fills the streets, shops and homes of Crossroads Village, and thousands of tiny lights sparkle in the trees. Gather your friends and family for a toasty night-time ride through the snowy countryside on our beloved Huckleberry Railroad, and Santa will be there in person to greet you.

Time: 4-9pm.
Cost: Standard Village rates apply.
Train reservations are highly suggested.



E.A. Cummings Event Center

WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 23
Christmas at Crossroads
Holiday Magic

Crossroads Village & Huckleberry Railroad
Make happy memories when the magical feeling of this festive holiday season fills the streets, shops and homes of Crossroads Village, and thousands of tiny lights sparkle in the trees. Gather your friends and family for a toasty night-time ride through the snowy countryside on our beloved Huckleberry Railroad, and Santa will be there in person to greet you.
Time: 4-9pm.
Cost: Standard Village rates apply.
Train reservations are highly suggested.

THURSDAY, DECEMBER 24
Drive Through Only
Night - Christmas at
Crossroads Holiday Magic

Crossroads Village & Huckleberry Railroad
Rather view the Village from your warm car? Visit us on special drive through only nights.
Time: 5-9pm. Cost: \$5 per carload.
The Village streets can not accommodate buses.

SATURDAY, DECEMBER 26
Christmas at Crossroads
Holiday Magic

Crossroads Village & Huckleberry Railroad
Make happy memories when the magical feeling of this festive holiday season fills the streets, shops and homes of Crossroads Village, and thousands of tiny lights sparkle in the trees. Gather your friends and family for a toasty night-time ride through the snowy countryside on our beloved Huckleberry Railroad.
Time: 4-9pm.
Cost: Standard Village rates apply.
Train reservations are highly suggested.

SUNDAY, DECEMBER 27
Christmas at Crossroads
Holiday Magic

Crossroads Village & Huckleberry Railroad
Make happy memories when the magical feeling of this festive holiday season fills the streets, shops and homes of Crossroads Village, and thousands of tiny lights sparkle in the trees. Gather your friends and family for a toasty night-time ride through the snowy countryside on our beloved Huckleberry Railroad.
Time: 4-9pm.
Cost: Standard Village rates apply.
Train reservations are highly suggested.

MONDAY, DECEMBER 28
Drive Through Only
Night - Christmas at
Crossroads Holiday Magic

Crossroads Village & Huckleberry Railroad
Rather view the Village from your warm car? Visit us on special drive through only nights.
Time: 5-9pm. Cost: \$5 per carload.
The Village streets can not accommodate buses.

TUESDAY, DECEMBER 29
Winter Break Camp:
Winter Detective

For-Mar Nature Preserve & Arboretum
Learn how being a wildlife detective in the winter can be easy and fun. Hike the trails and learn all about the animals that stay active during the winter. Dress to be outdoors.
For children ages 3-6, all abilities. Adult must accompany children.
Time: 10am-12pm. Cost: \$5 per child.
Pre-registration required by 12/27/15.
Limited to 20 participants.

TUESDAY, DECEMBER 29
Winter Break Camp:
Winter Detective

For-Mar Nature Preserve & Arboretum
Search the trails for clues so you can solve the winter wildlife mystery! Learn how being a wildlife detective in the winter can be easy and fun. Dress to be outdoors. Please bring a sack lunch, water bottle and a snack.
For children ages 7-12, all abilities. Children can be dropped off if registration form is completed.
Time: 10am-2:30pm. Cost: \$10 per student.
Pre-registration required by 12/27/15.
Limited to 20 participants.

TUESDAY, DECEMBER 29
Christmas at Crossroads
Holiday Magic

Crossroads Village & Huckleberry Railroad
Make happy memories when the magical feeling of this festive holiday season fills the streets, shops and homes of Crossroads Village, and thousands of tiny lights sparkle in the trees. Gather your friends and family for a toasty night-time ride through the snowy countryside on our beloved Huckleberry Railroad.
Time: 4-9pm.
Cost: Standard Village rates apply.
Train reservations are highly suggested.

TUESDAY, DECEMBER 29
Immunization Clinic

For-Mar Nature Preserve & Arboretum
Are your children up-to-date on immunizations? If not, here's an easy way to get it done! The Genesee County Health Department is coming to For-Mar to help make sure that your kids are healthy.
For children, ages 3-12, all abilities.
Time: 12-3:30pm. Cost: Many insurance plans are accepted.
For more information and to register, please call 810-237-4588.

WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 30
Winter Break Camp:
Snow Scientist

For-Mar Nature Preserve & Arboretum
Learn and play as we study the science of snow. Dress to be outdoors.
For children ages 3-6, all abilities. Adult must accompany children.
Time: 10am-12pm. Cost: \$5 per child.
Pre-registration required by 12/28/15.
Limited to 20 participants.

Elba Equestrian Center



WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 30
Winter Break Camp:
Snow Scientist

For-Mar Nature Preserve & Arboretum
From meteorology to biology, learn how to be a snow scientist while performing experiments using snow and ice. Dress to be outdoors. Please bring a sack lunch, water bottle and a snack.
For children ages 7-12, all abilities. Children can be dropped off if registration form is completed.
Time: 10am-2:30pm. Cost: \$10 per student.
Pre-registration required by 12/28/15.
Limited to 20 participants.

WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 30
Christmas at Crossroads
Holiday Magic

Crossroads Village & Huckleberry Railroad
Make happy memories when the magical feeling of this festive holiday season fills the streets, shops and homes of Crossroads Village, and thousands of tiny lights sparkle in the trees. Gather your friends and family for a toasty night-time ride through the snowy countryside on our beloved Huckleberry Railroad.
Time: 4-9pm.
Cost: Standard Village rates apply.
Train reservations are highly suggested.

WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 30
Immunization Clinic

For-Mar Nature Preserve & Arboretum
Are your children up-to-date on immunizations? If not, here's an easy way to get it done! The Genesee County Health Department is coming to For-Mar to help make sure that your kids are healthy.
For children, ages 3-12, all abilities.
Time: 12-3:30pm. Cost: Many insurance plans are accepted.
For more information and to register, please call 810-237-4588.

THURSDAY, DECEMBER 31
Winter Break Camp:
No Play Like Snow Play

For-Mar Nature Preserve & Arboretum
Learn and play in the snow. Dress to be outdoors.
For children ages 3-6, all abilities. Adult must accompany children.
Time: 10am-12pm. Cost: \$5 per child.
Pre-registration required by 12/29/15.
Limited to 20 participants.

THURSDAY, DECEMBER 31
Winter Break Camp:
Winter Survival Skills

For-Mar Nature Preserve & Arboretum
Learn the basic needs of surviving outdoors during the winter. Dress warmly and prepare to get dirty, because we will be traveling the For-Mar trails and trying our hand at different survival techniques, including shelter making and fire starting. Please bring a sack lunch, water bottle and a snack.
For children ages 7-12, all abilities. Children can be dropped off if registration form is completed.
Time: 10am-2:30pm. Cost: \$10 per student.
Pre-registration required by 12/29/15.
Limited to 20 participants.



Crossroads Village

JANUARY

Family Fun for Everyone!



For-Mar Nature Preserve & Arboretum



Flushing County Park

SATURDAY, JANUARY 2 **Nature Discovery: Food Chains!**

For-Mar Nature Preserve & Arboretum Energy passes from one living thing to another. We are all connected through the food chain.

For individuals with cognitive disabilities.
Time: 10:30am-12pm. Cost: \$2 per person.
Pre-registration required by 12/31/15.

SATURDAY, JANUARY 2 **Kid's Nature Photography Club**

For-Mar Nature Preserve & Arboretum Come join the club... the Kid's Nature Photography Club! Join us monthly and learn basic photography skills and get outdoors to take amazing pictures of your favorite For-Mar outdoor areas. Bring your digital camera and dress for the weather.

Suggested for ages 6 and older, all abilities.
Time: 1:30-2:30pm. Cost: \$3 per student.
Pre-registration not required.

SATURDAY, JANUARY 2 **4th Annual Shoe Year's Day Event**

For-Mar Nature Preserve & Arboretum Walk, Ski, or Shoe! No matter your choice, you can start the New Year out actively at For-Mar during our Shoe Year's Day event. This statewide partnership between the Michigan Recreation and Park Association (MParks), the Michigan DNR, and local parks and recreation agencies includes a one-mile hike, snowshoe or ski. We'll even have presentations on how to set and keep your New Year's resolutions. Come dressed for the weather. Please bring your own cross country skis and snowshoes if you have them. Some snowshoes will be available to check out on a first-come, first-served basis. For families, suggested for ages 5 and older, all abilities.

Time: 1-3pm. Cost: FREE!
Pre-registration not required.

SUNDAY, JANUARY 3 **Birding Hike: Christmas Bird Count**

For-Mar Nature Preserve & Arboretum Each year the National Audubon Society enlists countless birders and outdoor enthusiasts all over the United States to help with the annual Christmas Bird Count, an opportunity to help monitor winter bird populations. Help contribute to a 115-year-old tradition of community conservation projects when you join a For-Mar naturalist in identifying and counting the birds that call For-Mar home. For more information, check the National Audubon Society webpage, www.audubon.org/conservation/science/christmas-bird-count.

For families, all ages and abilities.
Time: 9-10:30am. Cost: FREE!
Pre-registration suggested, but not required.

WEDNESDAY, JANUARY 6 **Knee-High Naturalist: Who's Been Here in the Snow?**

For-Mar Nature Preserve & Arboretum Wear warm clothes, because this program will include a short hike to look for animal tracks in the snow. Bring an old or new t-shirt to make an animal tracks shirt.

For children ages 3-6, all abilities.
Time: 10-11:30am. Cost: \$3 per child.
Pre-registration required by 1/4/16.

WEDNESDAY, JANUARY 6 **Wild Adventurers: Out of this World!**

For-Mar Nature Preserve & Arboretum It's full of planets, moons, asteroids, comets and many other exciting things. Let's explore our solar system while having a blast!

For youth ages 7-12, all abilities.
Time: 10-11:30am. Cost: \$3 per student.
Pre-registration required by 1/4/16.

THURSDAY, JANUARY 7 **Knee-High Naturalist: Who's Been Here in the Snow?**

For-Mar Nature Preserve & Arboretum Wear warm clothes because this program will include a short hike to look for animal tracks in the snow. Bring an old or new t-shirt to make an animal tracks shirt. For children ages 3-6, all abilities.

Time: 10-11:30am. Cost: \$3 per child.
Pre-registration required by 1/5/16.

THURSDAY, JANUARY 7 **Wild Adventurers: Out of this World!**

For-Mar Nature Preserve & Arboretum It's full of planets, moons, asteroids, comets and many other exciting things. Let's explore our solar system while having a blast!

For youth ages 7-12, all abilities.
Time: 10-11:30am. Cost: \$3 per student.
Pre-registration required by 1/5/16.

THURSDAY, JANUARY 7, 14, 21 & 28 **Green Book Club**

For-Mar Nature Preserve & Arboretum Join fellow nature enthusiasts as we read and discuss *Silent Spring* by Rachel Carson. Participants will receive their own copy with paid registration. For ages 13 and older, all abilities.

Time: 10-11:30am. Cost: \$15 per person (includes book).
Pre-registration required by 12/31/15.

SATURDAY, JANUARY 9 **Nature Photography Club**

For-Mar Nature Preserve & Arboretum Calling all photographers! Join us for our photography club designed for both professional and amateur photographers. A different photography technique will be highlighted each month. Then we'll hit the trails to search for and take photos of all Genesee County Parks' secret gems.

For ages 16 and older, all abilities.
Time: 9-10:30am. Cost: \$3 per person.
Pre-registration not required.

SATURDAY, JANUARY 9 **Growing Gardeners: Let it Snow!**

For-Mar Nature Preserve & Arboretum It's winter and even though the garden is asleep, there are still plenty of living plants to be found. Dress for the cold because we're going on a nature hike to learn how plants deal with the cold.

For children ages 4-12, all abilities.
Time: 10-11:30am. Cost: \$3 per student.
Pre-registration required by 1/7/16.

SATURDAY, JANUARY 9 **Scouting Outing: Snowshoeing 101**

For-Mar Nature Preserve & Arboretum Calling all scouts! Join us on this winter adventure. Learn the history of snowshoeing and how to use them. Then hit the trail to try snowshoeing first hand. For-Mar has a limited number of snowshoes available; bring your own pair if you have them.

For scouts, suggested for ages 5 and older, all abilities.
Time: 1-3pm. Cost: \$5 per scout.
Pre-registration required by 1/7/16.

TUESDAY, JANUARY 12 **Knee-High Nature Discovery: Fur, Feathers and Scales**

For-Mar Nature Preserve & Arboretum Touch and feel as we learn about animals with different coverings. For children ages 4-8 with cognitive disabilities.

Time: 10-11am. Cost: \$2 per child.
Pre-registration required by 1/10/16.

WEDNESDAY, JANUARY 13 **Knee-High Naturalist: A Bear is not Bare!**

For-Mar Nature Preserve & Arboretum Make a book as one of the activities to learn about animal coverings.

For children ages 3-6, all abilities.
Time: 10-11:30am. Cost: \$3 per child.
Pre-registration required by 1/11/16.

Eat Smart, Live Strong for Seniors

MONDAYS, JANUARY 11, 18, 25 AND FEBRUARY 1, 8, 15 (6-WEEK PROGRAM)

For-Mar Mature Preserve & Arboretum Eat Smart, Live Strong includes fun, social and interactive sessions designed to improve fruit and vegetable consumption and physical activity among 60-74 year olds. Throughout the sessions, participants will gain the skills needed to promote healthy behavior changes to improve overall health and wellbeing. Topics Include: Reach Your Goals; Step by Step; Challenges and Solutions; Colorful and Classic Favorites; and Eat Smart, Spend Less. Participants receive

a certificate of completion at the end of the program. Come join the fun! For seniors, all abilities.

Time: 11am-12pm. Cost: FREE!
Pre-registration required by 1/8/16. Call or email Betsy Schumacher, (810) 244-8517 or Schuma66@anr.msu.edu. MSU is an affirmative-action, equal-opportunity employer. Michigan State University Extension programs and materials are open to all without regard to race, color, national origin, gender, gender identity, religion, age, height, weight, disability, political beliefs, sexual orientation, marital status, family status or veteran status.

Cooking Matters for Adults

TUESDAYS, JANUARY 12, 19, 26 AND FEBRUARY 2, 9, 16 (6 WEEK PROGRAM)

For-Mar Nature Preserve & Arboretum Cooking and nutrition taught by a chef and nutritionist! We'll cover topics that include Healthy Snacks, Shopping Smart, Food Safety at Home, Cooking Tips from the Chef, Planning Balanced Meals, and Tips for Eating Out, and you'll get FREE groceries and a FREE cookbook so you can make the recipes at home.

Time: 1-3pm. Cost: FREE!

Pre-registration required by 1/8/15. Call or email Betsy Schumacher, (810) 244-8517 or Schuma66@anr.msu.edu. MSU is an affirmative-action, equal-opportunity employer. Michigan State University Extension programs and materials are open to all without regard to race, color, national origin, gender, gender identity, religion, age, height, weight, disability, political beliefs, sexual orientation, marital status, family status or veteran status.

WEDNESDAY, JANUARY 13 Wild Adventurers: Forces and Motion

For-Mar Nature Preserve & Arboretum Motion plays a role in many of the everyday things we do. Let's learn about force and motion and the effects of these physical laws in our world. For youth ages 7-12, all abilities.

Time: 10-11:30am. Cost: \$3 per student.
Pre-registration required by 1/11/16.

THURSDAY, JANUARY 14 Wild Adventurers: Forces and Motion

For-Mar Nature Preserve & Arboretum Motion plays a role in many of the everyday things we do. Let's learn about force and motion and the effects of these physical laws in our world. For youth ages 7-12, all abilities.

Time: 10-11:30am. Cost: \$3 per student.
Pre-registration required by 1/12/16.

THURSDAY, JANUARY 14 Knee-High Naturalist: A Bear is not Bare!

For-Mar Nature Preserve & Arboretum Make a book as one of the activities to learn about animal coverings. For children ages 3-6, all abilities.

Time: 10-11:30am. Cost: \$3 per child.
Pre-registration required by 1/12/16.

FRIDAY, JANUARY 15 Adults Only Owl Prowl

For-Mar Nature Preserve & Arboretum Join For-Mar Naturalists as we learn about local owls and the unique sounds they make. Then travel the trails to practice your owl-calling skills. Bring your own flashlights; we will provide night vision protection.

For adults, ages 16 and older, all abilities.
Time: 6-7:30pm. Cost: \$3 per person.
Pre-registration not required.

SATURDAY, JANUARY 16 Snowshoeing 101

For-Mar Nature Preserve & Arboretum Winter hiking can be hard, but with a pair of snowshoes, it becomes an easier adventure. Come learn the history of snowshoeing and how to use them. Then hit the trail to try snowshoeing first-hand. For-Mar has a limited number of snowshoes available on a first-come, first-served basis; bring your own pair if you have them. For families, suggested for ages 5 and older, all abilities.

Time: 10am-12pm. Cost: \$3 per person.
Pre-registration required by 1/14/16.

SATURDAY, JANUARY 16 Volunteer: Hoop House Work and Learn

For-Mar Hoop House, near the DeWaters Building, off Potter Rd. Are you curious about hoop house management? Learn while caring for a variety of crops. Staff will be available to answer questions.

For ages 12 and older, all abilities.
Time: 1-3pm. Cost: FREE!
Pre-registration required by 1/14/16.

SATURDAY, JANUARY 16 Nature Discovery in the Garden: Let it Snow!

For-Mar Nature Preserve & Arboretum It's winter and even though the garden is asleep, there are still plenty of living plants to be found. Dress for the cold, because we're going on a nature hike to learn how plants deal with the cold. For individuals with cognitive disabilities.

Time: 1-2:30pm. Cost: \$2 per person.
Pre-registration required by 1/14/16.

WEDNESDAY, JANUARY 20 Knee-High Naturalist: Famous Wildlife

For-Mar Nature Preserve & Arboretum Children are asked to bring their favorite "famous wildlife" (i.e., Mickey Mouse, Barney) to learn about the differences between real and pretend animals. For children ages 3-6, all abilities.

Time: 10-11:30am. Cost: \$3 per child.
Pre-registration required by 1/18/16.

WEDNESDAY, JANUARY 20 Wild Adventurers: Soar Like an Eagle

For-Mar Nature Preserve & Arboretum These amazing birds were dangerously close to extinction. Learn all about these large, powerful birds of prey. For youth ages 7-12, all abilities.

Time: 10-11:30am. Cost: \$3 per student.
Pre-registration required by 1/18/16.

THURSDAY, JANUARY 21 Knee-High Naturalist: Famous Wildlife

For-Mar Nature Preserve & Arboretum Children are asked to bring their favorite "famous wildlife" (i.e. Mickey Mouse, Barney) to learn about the differences between real and pretend animals. For children ages 3-6, all abilities.

Time: 10-11:30am. Cost: \$3 per child.
Pre-registration required by 1/19/16.

THURSDAY, JANUARY 21 Wild Adventurers: Soar Like an Eagle

For-Mar Nature Preserve & Arboretum These amazing birds were dangerously close to extinction. Learn all about these large, powerful birds of prey. For youth ages 7-12, all abilities.

Time: 10-11:30am. Cost: \$3 per student.
Pre-registration required by 1/19/16.

SATURDAY, JANUARY 23 Growing Gardeners: Out of this World Gardening!

For-Mar Nature Preserve & Arboretum Space, the final frontier ... Plants don't just grow on earth; they also grow in space! Learn about experiments and research being done in space dealing with plant science. You'll even get to plant an experimental plant so you can make your own observations and discoveries. For children ages 4-12, all abilities.

Time: 10-11:30am. Cost: \$3 per student.
Pre-registration required by 1/21/16.

SATURDAY, JANUARY 23 Beekeeping 101 with Jim Withers

For-Mar Nature Preserve & Arboretum Join For-Mar and Withers Mountain Honey Farm head beekeeper Jim Withers for this beginner beekeeping class. You'll leave prepared with what you need to know about equipment and what to do to start your own hive in the upcoming season.

For ages 14 and older, all abilities.
Time: 1-4pm. Cost: \$5 per person.
Pre-registration required by 1/21/16.

TUESDAY, JANUARY 26 Knee-High Nature Discovery: Reptiles

For-Mar Nature Preserve & Arboretum Learn about the special adaptations that reptiles have when you get close to these amazing creatures. For children ages 4-8 with cognitive disabilities.

Time: 10-11am. Cost: \$2 per child.
Pre-registration required by 1/24/16.

WEDNESDAY, JANUARY 27 Knee-High Naturalist: Leaping Lizards?

For-Mar Nature Preserve & Arboretum Learn about the special adaptations of reptiles and why most lizards can't leap. For children ages 3-6, all abilities.

Time: 10-11:30am. Cost: \$3 per child.
Pre-registration required by 1/25/16.

WEDNESDAY, JANUARY 27 Wild Adventurers: For-Mar Forensics

For-Mar Nature Preserve & Arboretum We all love a good detective story. Can you use science to solve a crime? Let's collect the evidence to see how a forensic scientist investigates.

For youth ages 7-12, all abilities.
Time: 10-11:30am. Cost: \$3 per student.
Pre-registration required by 1/25/16.

THURSDAY, JANUARY 28 Knee-High Naturalist: Leaping Lizards?

For-Mar Nature Preserve & Arboretum Learn about the special adaptations of reptiles and why most lizards can't leap. For children ages 3-6, all abilities.

Time: 10-11:30am. Cost: \$3 per child.
Pre-registration required by 1/26/16.

THURSDAY, JANUARY 28 Wild Adventurers: For-Mar Forensics

For-Mar Nature Preserve & Arboretum We all love a good detective story. Can you use science to solve a crime? Let's collect the evidence to see how a forensic scientist investigates. For youth ages 7-12, all abilities.

Time: 10-11:30am. Cost: \$3 per student.
Pre-registration required by 1/26/16.

FRIDAY, JANUARY 29 Owl Prowl

For-Mar Nature Preserve & Arboretum Join For-Mar Naturalists as we learn about local owls and the unique sounds they make. Then travel the trails to practice your owl-calling skills. Bring your own flashlights; we will provide night vision protection.

For families, suggested for ages 5 and older, all abilities.
Time: 6-7:30pm. Cost: \$3 per person.
Pre-registration not required.

SATURDAY, JANUARY 30 Groundhog Day Fun!

For-Mar Nature Preserve & Arboretum We're celebrating Groundhog Day! Stop in any time from 1-3pm to find out if Punxsutawney For-Mar saw his shadow. We'll have crafts and activities. For families, all ages and abilities.

Time: 1-3pm. Cost: FREE!
Pre-registration not required.

FEBRUARY

Family Fun for Everyone!



Davison Roadside Park



Buell Lake County Park

WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 3 Knee-High Naturalist: Fairytale Science Fair

For-Mar Nature Preserve & Arboretum
Dress as your favorite fairytale character as we estimate, experiment and explore the science of fairytales. For children ages 3-6, all abilities.
Time: 10-11:30am. Cost: \$3 per child.
Pre-registration required by 2/1/16.

WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 3 Wild Adventurers: Blow Your Top!

For-Mar Nature Preserve & Arboretum
Volcanos have helped form the earth's surface for millions of years. What exactly happens during this uproar? Learn about the different types of volcanos and have fun experimenting with models. For youth ages 7-12, all abilities.
Time: 10-11:30am. Cost: \$3 per student.
Pre-registration required by 2/1/16.

THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 4, 11, 18, 25 Green Book Club

For-Mar Nature Preserve & Arboretum
Join fellow nature enthusiasts as we read and discuss *Adventures of Huckleberry Finn* by Mark Twain. Participants will receive free tickets to the Flint Youth Theater's production, *Huck Finn*, and their own copy of the book with paid registration. For ages 13 and older, all abilities.
Time: 10-11:30am. Cost: \$15 per person (includes book and theater ticket).
Pre-registration required by 1/31/16.

THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 4 Knee-High Naturalist: Fairytale Science Fair

For-Mar Nature Preserve & Arboretum
Dress as your favorite fairytale character as we estimate, experiment and explore the science of fairytales. For children ages 3-6, all abilities.
Time: 10-11:30am. Cost: \$3 per child.
Pre-registration required by 2/2/16.

THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 4 Wild Adventurers: Blow Your Top!

For-Mar Nature Preserve & Arboretum
Volcanos have helped form the earth's surface for millions of years. What exactly happens during this uproar? Learn about the different types of volcanos and have fun experimenting with models. For youth ages 7-12, all abilities.
Time: 10-11:30am. Cost: \$3 per student.
Pre-registration required by 2/2/16.

SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 6 Do It Yourself Landscape Design Workshop

For-Mar Nature Preserve & Arboretum
Design your own landscape under the guidance of our local expert who has more than 40 years of experience. Learn the five basic steps to an eye appealing landscape. Bring an architect scale and pictures of your house with dimensions. All other supplies will be provided. For ages 16 and older, all abilities.
Time: 9am-12pm. Cost: \$25 per person.
Pre-registration required by 2/1/16.
Minimum 5 participants – Maximum 15 participants.

SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 6 Walk in the Woods: Winter Wildlife

For-Mar Nature Preserve & Arboretum
Join For-Mar Naturalists on a hike through the nature preserve and investigate the signs of winter wildlife along the way. For ages 10 and older, all abilities.
Time: 10-11am. Cost: \$1.50 per person.
Pre-registration not required.

SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 6 Nature Discovery: Plants We Eat

For-Mar Nature Preserve & Arboretum
What parts of a plant do we eat? Learn all about the variety that nature gives us. For individuals with cognitive disabilities.
Time: 10:30am-12pm. Cost: \$2 per person.
Pre-registration required by 2/4/16.

SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 6 Gardening in February!

For-Mar, DeWaters Building, off Potter Rd.
Learn what you can do in your garden this month for year-round success. For ages 13 and older, all abilities.
Time: 1-2pm. Cost: \$3 per person
Pre-registration required by 2/4/16.

SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 6 Kid's Nature Photography Club

For-Mar Nature Preserve & Arboretum
Come join the club ... the Kid's Nature Photography Club! Join us monthly to learn basic photography skills and get outdoors to take amazing pictures of your favorite For-Mar outdoor areas. Bring your digital camera and dress for the weather. Suggested for ages 6 and older, all abilities.
Time: 1:30-2:30pm. Cost: \$3 per student.
Pre-registration not required.

SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 6 Build-A-Rod for Ice Fishing

For-Mar Nature Preserve & Arboretum
Gear up for Free Fishing Weekend on February 13-14 by making your own ice fishing rod! Rod and simple tackle making techniques will be discussed. Supplies are provided. For families, recommended for children age 7 and older, all abilities.
Time: 2-4pm. Cost: \$5 per pole.
Pre-registration required by 2/4/16.

TUESDAY, FEBRUARY 9 Knee-High Nature Discovery: Raccoon Rascals

For-Mar Nature Preserve & Arboretum
Make a valentine raccoon and use active play to imitate their nocturnal adventures. For children ages 4-8 with cognitive disabilities.
Time: 10-11am. Cost: \$2 per child.
Pre-registration required by 2/7/16.

WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 10 Knee-High Naturalist: Raccoon Race!

For-Mar Nature Preserve & Arboretum
Learn how raccoons cleverly use special adaptations. Run the raccoon obstacle course. For children ages 3-6, all abilities.
Time: 10-11:30am. Cost: \$3 per child.
Pre-registration required by 2/8/16.

WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 10 Wild Adventurers: I Heart For-Mar!

For-Mar Nature Preserve & Arboretum
We all love For-Mar and For-Mar loves your heart. Your heart is a remarkable organ that keeps your blood pumping. Learn all about your heart and how it works. For youth ages 7-12, all abilities.
Time: 10-11:30am. Cost: \$3 per student.
Pre-registration required by 2/8/16.

THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 11 Knee-High Naturalist: Raccoon Race!

For-Mar Nature Preserve & Arboretum
Learn how raccoons cleverly use special adaptations. Run the raccoon obstacle course. For children ages 3-6, all abilities.
Time: 10-11:30am. Cost: \$3 per child.
Pre-registration required by 2/9/16.

THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 11 Wild Adventurers: I Heart For-Mar!

For-Mar Nature Preserve & Arboretum
We all love For-Mar and For-Mar loves your heart. Your heart is a remarkable organ that keeps your blood pumping. Learn all about your heart and how it works. For youth ages 7-12, all abilities.
Time: 10-11:30am. Cost: \$3 per student.
Pre-registration required by 2/9/16.

SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 13
Nature Photography Club

For-Mar Nature Preserve & Arboretum
Calling all photographers! Join us for our photography club designed for both professional and amateur photographers. A different photography technique will be highlighted each month. Then we'll hit the trails to search for and take photos of all Genesee County Parks' secret gems.
For ages 16 and older, all abilities.
Time: 9-10:30am. Cost: \$3 per person.
Pre-registration not required.

SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 13
Growing Gardeners:
Nutrient Knowledge

For-Mar Nature Preserve & Arboretum
Without vital nutrients in the soil, plants wouldn't be able to grow. See how they are part of a cycle that is constantly moving. Learn how you can do your part to help those nutrients along and create healthy plants.
For children ages 4-12, all abilities.
Time: 10-11:30am. Cost: \$3 per student.
Pre-registration required by 2/11/16.

SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 13
Nature Discovery in the
Garden: Nutrient Knowledge

For-Mar Nature Preserve & Arboretum
Without vital nutrients in the soil, plants wouldn't be able to grow. See how they are part of a cycle that is constantly moving. Learn how you can do your part to help those nutrients along and create healthy plants.
For individuals with cognitive disabilities.
Time: 1-2:30pm. Cost: \$2 per person.
Pre-registration required by 2/11/16.



For-Mar Nature Preserve & Arboretum

SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 13
Learning to Ice Fish

Buell Lake County Park, Pavilion 1
It's Free Fishing Weekend in Michigan! Grab your favorite rod and tackle and join us for an afternoon fishing expedition on the ice. Learn about the fish found in Buell Lake while practicing some techniques to catch them. Dress warmly. There is a limited supply of equipment available on a first-come, first-served basis, and bait will be provided. Remember, this program is weather permitting; we must have at least 4" of ice to drill!
For families, all ages and abilities.
Time: 1-3pm. Cost: \$3 per person.
Pre-registration required by 2/11/16.

SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 13
Whooooo's in Love?

For-Mar Nature Preserve & Arboretum
Looking for the perfect outdoor romantic Valentine's Day adventure for you and your sweetie? Well, look no further. For the third year, For-Mar is hosting a FREE romantic night outside just for you and your sweetheart. You'll take a moonlit stroll through For-Mar, sip hot cocoa, call owls, and have your photo taken together. Create memories you'll always remember.
For you and your significant other, ages 16 and older, all abilities.
Time: 7-9pm. Cost: FREE!
Pre-registration not required.

SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 14
Birding Hike: Great
Backyard Bird Count

For-Mar Nature Preserve & Arboretum
Join a flock of birders to learn the birding basics from feeders to water features to attracting birds to your yard. Then participate in the 18th annual Great Backyard Bird Count, a four-day (February 12-15, 2016) event sponsored by the National Audubon Society & Cornell Lab of Ornithology. Bird enthusiasts of all ages count birds to create a real-time snapshot of bird sightings across the continent. This is a great opportunity to learn about birds, help your community, and have some fun.
For families, all ages and abilities.
Time: 1-2:30pm. Cost: FREE!
Pre-registration not required.

WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 17
Knee-High Naturalist:
Defense! Defense!

For-Mar Nature Preserve & Arboretum
Test the fascinating ways animals defend themselves.
For children ages 3-6, all abilities.
Time: 10-11:30am. Cost: \$3 per child.
Pre-registration required by 2/15/16.

WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 17
Wild Adventurers:
SUGAR Science!

For-Mar Nature Preserve & Arboretum
Candy and science ... yes please! We will use candy to explore scientific principles. The most delicious experiments you will ever conduct.
For youth ages 7-12, all abilities.
Time: 10-11:30am. Cost: \$3 per student.
Pre-registration required by 2/15/16.

THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 18
Knee-High Naturalist:
Defense! Defense!

For-Mar Nature Preserve & Arboretum
Test the fascinating ways animals defend themselves.
For children ages 3-6, all abilities.
Time: 10-11:30am. Cost: \$3 per child.
Pre-registration required by 2/16/16.

THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 18
Wild Adventurers:
SUGAR Science!

For-Mar Nature Preserve & Arboretum
Candy and science ... yes please! We will use candy to explore scientific principles. The most delicious experiments you will ever conduct.
For youth ages 7-12, all abilities.
Time: 10-11:30am. Cost: \$3 per student.
Pre-registration required by 2/16/16.

SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 20
Volunteer: Hoop House
Work and Learn

For-Mar Hoop House, near the DeWaters Building, off Potter Rd.
Are you curious about hoop house management? Learn while caring for a variety of crops. Staff will be available to answer questions.
For ages 12 and older, all abilities.
Time: 1-3pm. Cost: FREE!
Pre-registration required by 2/18/16.

SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 20
Beekeeping 102 with
Jim Withers

For-Mar Nature Preserve & Arboretum
Our favorite beekeeper is back for the second installment of our beekeeping series. Join For-Mar and Withers Mountain Honey Farm head beekeeper Jim Withers as he teaches you the honeybee how-to's and helps you prepare for the upcoming honeybee season.
For ages 14 and older, all abilities.
Time: 1-4pm. Cost: \$5 per person.
Pre-registration required by 2/18/16.



For-Mar Nature Preserve & Arboretum

TUESDAY, FEBRUARY 23
Knee-High Nature
Discovery: Give a Hoot

For-Mar Nature Preserve & Arboretum
Use movement and music to explore owl behavior.
For children ages 4-8 with cognitive disabilities.
Time: 10-11am. Cost: \$2 per child.
Pre-registration required by 2/21/16.

WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 24
Knee-High Naturalist:
Who-o-o-o-o's In the Night?

For-Mar Nature Preserve & Arboretum
Discover the unique characteristics of owls and their lives.
For children ages 3-6, all abilities.
Time: 10-11:30am. Cost: \$3 per child.
Pre-registration required by 2/22/16.

WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 24
Wild Adventurers:
Under the Sea

For-Mar Nature Preserve & Arboretum
What lies beneath the water? Explore the layers of the ocean and learn about the creatures that live there.
For youth ages 7-12, all abilities.
Time: 10-11:30am. Cost: \$3 per student.
Pre-registration required by 2/22/16.

THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 25
Knee-High Naturalist:
Who-o-o-o-o's In the Night?

For-Mar Nature Preserve & Arboretum
Discover the unique characteristics of owls and their lives.
For children ages 3-6, all abilities.
Time: 10-11:30am. Cost: \$3 per child.
Pre-registration required by 2/23/16.

THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 25
Wild Adventurers:
Under the Sea

For-Mar Nature Preserve & Arboretum
What lies beneath the water? Explore the layers of the ocean and learn about the creatures that live there.
For youth ages 7-12, all abilities.
Time: 10-11:30am. Cost: \$3 per student.
Pre-registration required by 2/23/16.

FRIDAY, FEBRUARY 26
Owl Prowl

For-Mar Nature Preserve & Arboretum
Join For-Mar Naturalists to learn about local owls and the unique sounds they make. Then travel the trails to practice your owl-calling skills. Bring your own flashlights; we will provide night vision protection.
For families, suggested for ages 5 and older, all abilities.
Time: 6-7:30pm. Cost: \$3 per person.
Pre-registration not required.

SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 27
Winter Bird Walk

For-Mar Nature Preserve & Arboretum
Take a walk around For-Mar looking for birds that stick around through the winter. We'll especially be looking for screech owls nesting in the wood duck boxes.
Suggested for ages 8 and older, all abilities.
Time: 9-11am. Cost: \$1.50 per person.
Pre-registration not required.

SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 27
Growing Gardeners:
Stepping Stones

For-Mar Nature Preserve & Arboretum
Garden mosaic stepping stones are a colorful way to spruce up your garden all summer long. Your garden needs one. Join us and build your very own garden stones.
For children ages 4-12, all abilities.
Time: 10-11:30am. Cost: \$3 per student.
Pre-registration required by 2/25/16.

SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 27
Snow Beast Safari

For-Mar Nature Preserve & Arboretum
Learn winter detective skills and become a Cryptozoologist. Then head out on the trails in search of our For-Mar Yeti. Dress to be outdoors.
Suggested for children ages 5 and older, all abilities.
Time: 1-3pm. Cost: \$5 per student.
Pre-registration required by 2/25/16.

MARCH

Family Fun for Everyone!

For-Mar Nature Preserve & Arboretum



Hogbacks Area

WEDNESDAY, MARCH 2 Knee-High Naturalist: How Animals Sleep

For-Mar Nature Preserve & Arboretum
Explore the many ways animals sleep with a story, games and a craft. For children ages 3-6, all abilities.
Time: 10-11:30am. Cost: \$3 per child.
Pre-registration required by 2/29/16.

WEDNESDAY, MARCH 2 Wild Adventurers: Glow Away!

For-Mar Nature Preserve & Arboretum
Bioluminescence, Photoluminescence, and Chemiluminescence, or more simply said ... GLOW! Turn out the lights and let's learn about these luminous effects. For youth ages 7-12, all abilities.
Time: 10-11:30am. Cost: \$3 per student.
Pre-registration required by 2/29/16.

Eat Smart, Live Strong for Seniors

FRIDAYS, MARCH 4, 11, 18, 25 AND APRIL 1, 8 (6-WEEK PROGRAM)

For-Mar Nature Preserve & Arboretum
Eat Smart, Live Strong includes fun, social and interactive sessions designed to improve fruit and vegetable consumption and physical activity among 60-74 year olds. Throughout the sessions, participants will gain the skills needed to promote healthy behavior changes to improve overall health and wellbeing. Topics Include Reach Your Goals; Step by Step; Challenges and Solutions; Colorful and Classic Favorites; and Eat Smart, Spend Less. Participants receive a

certificate of completion at the end of the program. Come join the fun!!! For seniors, all abilities.
Time: 3:30-4:30pm. Cost: FREE!
Pre-registration required by 2/26/16. Call or email Betsy Schumacher, (810) 244-8517 or Schuma66@anr.msu.edu. MSU is an affirmative-action, equal-opportunity employer. Michigan State University Extension programs and materials are open to all without regard to race, color, national origin, gender, gender identity, religion, age, height, weight, disability, political beliefs, sexual orientation, marital status, family status or veteran status.

WEDNESDAY, MARCH 2 Let's Take a Hike!

For-Mar Nature Preserve & Arboretum
Get outside, get fit and explore. Meet at the Visitor's Center for stretching before hitting the trails. Bring water bottles and wear hiking shoes.
For ages 13 and older, all abilities.
Time: 10:30-11:30am. Cost: \$2 per person.
Pre-registration required by 2/28/16.

THURSDAY, MARCH 3 Knee-High Naturalist: How Animals Sleep

For-Mar Nature Preserve & Arboretum
Explore the many ways animals sleep with a story, games and a craft. For children ages 3-6, all abilities.
Time: 10-11:30am. Cost: \$3 per child.
Pre-registration required by 3/1/16.

THURSDAY, MARCH 3 Wild Adventurers: Glow Away!

For-Mar Nature Preserve & Arboretum
Bioluminescence, Photoluminescence and Chemiluminescence, or more simply said ... GLOW! Turn out the lights and let's learn about these luminous effects. For youth ages 7-12, all abilities.
Time: 10-11:30am. Cost: \$3 per student.
Pre-registration required by 3/1/16.

THURSDAY, MARCH 3, 10, 17, 25 & 31 Green Book Club

For-Mar Nature Preserve & Arboretum
Join fellow nature enthusiasts as we read and discuss Michael Pollan's book, *The Omnivore's Dilemma: A Natural History of Four Meals*. Participants will receive their own copy with paid registration. For ages 13 and older, all abilities.
Time: 10-11:30am. Cost: \$15 per person (includes book).
Pre-registration required by 2/25/15.

SATURDAY, MARCH 5 Nature Discovery: Goopy Science

For-Mar Nature Preserve & Arboretum
It's slick, slimy, sticky science!
For individuals with cognitive disabilities
Time: 10:30am-12pm. Cost: \$2 per person.
Pre-registration required by 3/3/16.

March is Maple Syrup Month

SATURDAY, MARCH 5 Maple Syrup 101

For-Mar, DeWaters Building, off Potter Rd.
From tree ID to tapping basics, you will learn how to make the most of your maples this season in this hands-on, how-to maple syrup program.
Suggested for ages 16 and older, all abilities.
Time: 1-3pm. Cost: \$5 per person.
Pre-registration required by 3/3/16.

SATURDAY, MARCH 12 Growing Gardeners: Sap to Syrup

For-Mar, DeWaters building, off Potter Rd.
The sap has started to flow and it's time to turn it into syrup for our pancakes. Learn some of the history behind For-Mar's Sugar Bush Trail, what it takes to make syrup, and try a few tasty treats in the process.
For children ages 4-12, all abilities.
Time: 10-11:30am. Cost: \$3 per student.
Pre-registration required by 3/10/16.

SATURDAY, MARCH 12 Scouting Outing: Sap to Syrup

For-Mar, DeWaters Building, off Potter Rd.
Calling all Scouts! The sap has started to flow and it's time to turn it into syrup for our pancakes. Learn some of the history behind For-Mar's Sugar Bush Trail, what it takes to make syrup, and try a few tasty treats in the process.
For scouts suggested for ages 4 and up, all abilities.
Time: 1-2:30pm. Cost: \$3 per Scout.
Pre-registration required by 3/10/16.

SATURDAY, MARCH 19 Nature Discovery in the Garden: Sap to Syrup

For-Mar, DeWaters Building, off Potter Rd.
The sap has started to flow and it's time to turn it into syrup for our pancakes. Learn some of the history behind For-Mar's Sugar Bush Trail, what it takes to make syrup, and try a few tasty treats in the process.
For individuals with cognitive disabilities.
Time: 10-11:30am. Cost: FREE!
Pre-registration required by 3/17/16.



For-Mar Nature Preserve & Arboretum

SATURDAY, MARCH 19 Maple Syrup Festival

For-Mar, Dewaters Building, off Potter Rd.
Join us at the Dewaters Building near our Sugar Shack for a firsthand look at how one of Michigan's most historically significant natural resources, maple syrup, is made. From tapping to pancake topping, see it all. Trained For-Mar staff will be on hand to share information about winter tree ID. Come anytime between 12pm and 3pm. Hot cocoa will be served.
For families, all ages and abilities.
Time: 12-3pm. Cost: FREE!
Pre-registration not required.

SATURDAY, MARCH 26 Pancake Taste and Trek

For-Mar Nature Preserve & Arboretum
Join the For-Mar staff for a hike back to the Sugar Bush where you will get the chance to see how syrup is made. Then travel back to the For-Mar Visitor's Center for our annual Pancake Cook-Off. Taste test fresh For-Mar syrup and make your own pancakes to go with it.
For all ages and abilities.
Time: 12-3pm. Cost: \$5 per person.
Pre-registration required by 3/24/16.

Cooking Matters for Adults

**MONDAYS, MARCH 7, 14, 21,
28 AND APRIL 4, 11 (6-WEEK
PROGRAM)**

For-Mar Nature Preserve & Arboretum Cooking and nutrition taught by a chef and nutritionist! We'll cover topics that include Healthy Snacks, Shopping Smart, Food Safety at Home, Cooking Tips from the Chef, Planning Balanced Meals, and Tips for Eating Out, and you'll get FREE groceries and a FREE cookbook so you can make the recipes at home.

Time: 1-3pm. Cost: FREE!
Pre-registration required by 3/4/16.
Call or email Betsy Schumacher,
(810) 244-8517 or Schuma66@anr.msu.edu. MSU is an affirmative-action, equal-opportunity employer. Michigan State University Extension programs and materials are open to all without regard to race, color, national origin, gender, gender identity, religion, age, height, weight, disability, political beliefs, sexual orientation, marital status, family status or veteran status.

**SATURDAY, MARCH 5
Gardening in March!**

For-Mar, DeWaters Building, off Potter Rd. Learn what you can be doing in your garden this month for year-round success. For ages 13 and older, all abilities.
Time: 1-2pm. Cost: \$3 per person.
Pre-registration required by 3/3/16.

**SATURDAY, MARCH 5
Kid's Nature Photography Club**

For-Mar Nature Preserve & Arboretum Come join the club ... the Kid's Nature Photography Club! Join us monthly and learn basic photography skills and get outdoors to take amazing pictures of your favorite For-Mar outdoor areas. Bring your digital camera and dress for the weather. Suggested for ages 6 and older, all abilities.
Time: 1:30-2:30pm. Cost: \$3 per student.
Pre-registration not required.
Pre-registration required by 3/3/16

**TUESDAY, MARCH 8
Knee-High Nature
Discovery: Animal Helpers**

For-Mar Nature Preserve & Arboretum Come and meet some animal helpers. For children ages 4-8 with cognitive disabilities.
Time: 10-11am. Cost: \$2 per child.
Pre-registration required by 3/6/16.

**WEDNESDAY, MARCH 9
Knee-High Naturalist:
Animals Helping People**

For-Mar Nature Preserve & Arboretum Discover the many ways animals help people. For children ages 3-6, all abilities.
Time: 10-11:30am. Cost: \$3 per child.
Pre-registration required by 3/7/16.

**WEDNESDAY, MARCH 9
Wild Adventurers: Turkey Vulture**

For-Mar Nature Preserve & Arboretum Why are they bald? How do they keep cool? What is their method of keeping away predators? Get all of these questions and more answered during this week's Turkey Vulture exploration. For youth ages 7-12, all abilities.
Time: 10-11:30am. Cost: \$3 per student.
Pre-registration required by 3/7/16.

**WEDNESDAY, MARCH 9
Let's Take a Hike!**

For-Mar Nature Preserve & Arboretum Get outside, get fit and explore! Meet at the Visitor's Center for stretching before hitting the trails. Bring water bottles and wear hiking shoes. For ages 13 and older, all abilities.
Time: 10:30-11:30am. Cost: \$2 per person.
Pre-registration required by 3/7/16.

**THURSDAY, MARCH 10
Knee-High Naturalist:
Animals Helping People**

For-Mar Nature Preserve & Arboretum Discover the many ways animals help people. For children ages 3-6, all abilities.
Time: 10-11:30am. Cost: \$3 per child.
Pre-registration required by 3/8/16.

**THURSDAY, MARCH 10
Wild Adventurers: Turkey Vulture**

For-Mar Nature Preserve & Arboretum Why are they bald? How do they keep cool? What is their method of keeping away predators? Get all of these questions and more answered during this week's Turkey Vulture exploration. For youth ages 7-12, all abilities.
Time: 10-11:30am. Cost: \$3 per student.
Pre-registration required by 3/8/16.

**FRIDAY, MARCH 11
For-Mar Night Hike**

For-Mar Nature Preserve & Arboretum It's time to experience For-Mar at night. Test your night vision skills and learn about nocturnal animals as you travel the trails on this naturalist led hike. For families, all ages and abilities.
Time: 6:30-7:30pm. Cost: \$1.50 per person.
Pre-registration not required.

**SATURDAY, MARCH 12
Nature Photography Club**

For-Mar Nature Preserve & Arboretum Calling all photographers! Join us for our photography club designed for both professional and amateur photographers. A different photography technique will be highlighted each month. Then we'll hit the trails to search for and take photos of all Genesee County Parks' secret gems. For ages 16 and older, all abilities.
Time: 9-10:30am. Cost: \$3 per person.
Pre-registration not required.



For-Mar on the Road Truck Farm

**WEDNESDAY, MARCH 16
Knee-High Naturalist:
Native American Folklore**

For-Mar Nature Preserve & Arboretum Learn about early Native American traditions and animal folklore. For children ages 3-6, all abilities.
Time: 10-11:30am. Cost: \$3 per child.
Pre-registration required by 3/14/16.

**WEDNESDAY, MARCH 16
Wild Adventurers:
Sensing Sound**

For-Mar Nature Preserve & Arboretum What is sound? How does it travel to our ears and how do we hear the world around us? Let's experiment with sound vibration and waves. For youth ages 7-12, all abilities.
Time: 10-11:30am. Cost: \$3 per student.
Pre-registration required by 3/14/16.

**WEDNESDAY, MARCH 16
Let's Take a Hike!**

For-Mar Nature Preserve & Arboretum Get outside, get fit and explore! Meet at the Visitor's Center for stretching before hitting the trails. Bring water bottles and wear hiking shoes. For ages 13 and older, all abilities.
Time: 10:30-11:30am. Cost: \$2 per person.
Pre-registration required by 3/14/16.

**THURSDAY, MARCH 17
Knee-High Naturalist:
Native American Folklore**

For-Mar Nature Preserve & Arboretum Learn about early Native American traditions and animal folklore. For children ages 3-6, all abilities.
Time: 10-11:30am. Cost: \$3 per child.
Pre-registration required by 3/15/16.

**THURSDAY, MARCH 17
Wild Adventurers:
Sensing Sound**

For-Mar Nature Preserve & Arboretum What is sound? How does it travel to our ears and how do we hear the world around us? Let's experiment with sound vibration and waves. For youth ages 7-12, all abilities.
Time: 10-11:30am. Cost: \$3 per student.
Pre-registration required by 3/15/16.

**SATURDAY, MARCH 19
Birding Hike: Migrating
Water Fowl**

E.A. Cummings Event Center Walking along the north shore of the Flint River and Mott Lake should yield many species of ducks. We'll meet at the west end of the Event Center. Just look for For-Mar's Turtle Van. For families, suggested for ages 8 and older, all abilities.
Time: 9-11am. Cost: FREE!
Pre-registration not required.

**SATURDAY, MARCH 19
Volunteer: Hoop House
Work and Learn**

For-Mar Hoop House, DeWaters Building, off Potter Rd. Are you curious about hoop house management? Learn while caring for a variety of crops. Staff will be available to answer questions. For ages 12 and older, all abilities.
Time: 1-3pm. Cost: FREE!
Pre-registration required by 3/18/16.



For-Mar Nature Preserve & Arboretum



For-Mar Nature Preserve & Arboretum

MARCH

Family Fun for Everyone!

Flushing County Park

SATURDAY, MARCH 19 **Immunization Clinic**

For-Mar Nature Preserve & Arboretum
Are you and your children up-to-date on your immunizations? If not, here's an easy way to get it done! The Genesee County Health Department is coming to For-Mar to help make sure that you're healthy. For families, all ages and abilities.

Time: 12-3pm. Cost: Many insurance plans are accepted.
For more information and to register, please call 810-237-4588.

TUESDAY, MARCH 22 **Knee-High Nature Discovery: Desert Animals**

For-Mar Nature Preserve & Arboretum
Learn about special adaptations of desert animals through active play. For children ages 4-8 with cognitive disabilities.

Time: 10-11am. Cost: \$2 per child.
Pre-registration required by 3/20/16.

WEDNESDAY, MARCH 23 **Knee-High Naturalist: Some Like It Hot and Dry**

For-Mar Nature Preserve & Arboretum
Design a mini desert habitat and explore animals that live there.

For children ages 3-6, all abilities.
Time: 10-11:30am. Cost: \$3 per child.
Pre-registration required by 3/21/16.

WEDNESDAY, MARCH 23 **Wild Adventurers: The Ants Go Marching**

For-Mar Nature Preserve & Arboretum
Are ants pests or fascinating little creatures? You decide. Come observe and learn all about these social insects. For youth ages 7-12, all abilities.

Time: 10-11:30am. Cost: \$3 per student.
Pre-registration required by 3/21/16.

WEDNESDAY, MARCH 23 **Let's Take a Hike!**

For-Mar Nature Preserve & Arboretum
Get outside, get fit and explore! Meet at the Visitor's Center for stretching before hitting the trails. Bring water bottles and wear hiking shoes.

For ages 13 and older, all abilities.
Time: 10:30-11:30am. Cost: \$2 per person.
Pre-registration required by 3/21/16.

THURSDAY, MARCH 24 **Knee-High Naturalist: Some Like It Hot and Dry**

For-Mar Nature Preserve & Arboretum
Design a mini desert habitat and explore animals that live there.

For children ages 3-6, all abilities.
Time: 10-11:30am. Cost: \$3 per child.
Pre-registration required by 3/22/16.

THURSDAY, MARCH 24 **Wild Adventurers: The Ants Go Marching**

For-Mar Nature Preserve & Arboretum
Are ants pests or fascinating little creatures? You decide! Come observe and learn all about these social insects. For youth ages 7-12, all abilities.

Time: 10-11:30am. Cost: \$3 per student.
Pre-registration required by 3/22/16.

SATURDAY, MARCH 26 **Growing Gardeners: Egg-cellent Gardening**

For-Mar Nature Preserve & Arboretum
Easter is just around the corner and some pesky rabbit has left eggs all around our garden! Come catch that rabbit and find the eggs it left behind. Then start your first plants of the year in an old eggshell, a natural and egg-cellent way to start seeds.

For children ages 4-12, all abilities.
Time: 10-11:30am. Cost: \$3 per student.
Pre-registration required by 3/24/16.

WEDNESDAY, MARCH 30 **Knee-High Naturalist: Tales from Michigan**

For-Mar Nature Preserve & Arboretum
Stories and other activities will teach about Babe the Blue Ox, the Petoskey Stone and other tales.

For children ages 3-6, all abilities.
Time: 10-11:30am. Cost: \$3 per child.
Pre-registration required by 3/28/16.

WEDNESDAY, MARCH 30 **Wild Adventurers: Phased by the Moon**

For-Mar Nature Preserve & Arboretum
The lunar eclipse is Monday. Come learn all about the phases of the moon and what exactly an eclipse is before you experience one.

For youth ages 7-12, all abilities.
Time: 10-11:30am. Cost: \$3 per student.
Pre-registration required by 3/28/16.



For-Mar on the Road Truck Farm

WEDNESDAY, MARCH 30 **Let's Take a Hike!**

For-Mar Nature Preserve & Arboretum
Get outside, get fit and explore! Meet at the Visitor's Center for stretching before hitting the trails. Bring water bottles and wear hiking shoes.

For ages 13 and older, all abilities.
Time: 10:30-11:30am. Cost: \$2 per person.
Pre-registration required by 3/28/16.

THURSDAY, MARCH 31 **Knee-High Naturalist: Tales from Michigan**

For-Mar Nature Preserve & Arboretum
Stories and other activities will teach about Babe the Blue Ox, the Petoskey Stone and other tales.

For children ages 3-6, all abilities.
Time: 10-11:30am. Cost: \$3 per child.
Pre-registration required by 3/29/16.

THURSDAY, MARCH 31 **Wild Adventurers: Phased by the Moon**

For-Mar Nature Preserve & Arboretum
The lunar eclipse is Monday. Come learn all about the phases of the moon and what exactly an eclipse is before you experience one.

For youth ages 7-12, all abilities.
Time: 10-11:30am. Cost: \$3 per student.
Pre-registration required by 3/29/16.



For-Mar Nature Preserve & Arboretum

APRIL

Family Fun for Everyone!



Mott Lake

SATURDAYS, APRIL 2 & APRIL 16 **Junior Master Gardener Certification Class**

For-Mar Nature Preserve & Arboretum
It's time to explore the garden and experience how to go from planting to the dinner table. This class, a partnership between the Master Gardener Association of Genesee County and For-Mar Nature Preserve and Arboretum, will cultivate young minds as we explore what gardens need to be healthy and happy.
For children ages 6-12, all abilities.
Time: 10am-2:30pm. Cost: \$25 per student covers lunch, a t-shirt and materials.
Pre-registration required by 3/24/16.

SATURDAY, APRIL 2 **Nature Discovery: Amphibians**

For-Mar Nature Preserve & Arboretum
What makes an amphibian? Come learn all about these slimy creatures we know and love.
For individuals with cognitive disabilities
Time: 10:30am-12pm. Cost: \$2 per person.
Pre-registration required by 3/31/16.

SATURDAY, APRIL 2 **Kid's Nature Photography Club**

For-Mar Nature Preserve & Arboretum
Come join the club ... the Kid's Nature Photography Club! Join us monthly and learn basic photography skills and get outdoors to take amazing pictures of your favorite For-Mar outdoor areas. Bring your digital camera and dress for the weather.
Suggested for ages 6 and older, all abilities.
Time: 1:30-2:30pm. Cost: \$3 per student.
Pre-registration not required.

SATURDAY, APRIL 2 **Gardening in April!**

For-Mar, DeWaters Building, off Potter Rd.
Learn what you can be doing in your garden this month for year-round success. For ages 13 and older, all abilities.
Time: 1-2pm. Cost: \$3 per person.
Pre-registration required by 3/31/16.

TUESDAY, APRIL 5 **Spring Break Camp: Bug Crazy!**

For-Mar Nature Preserve & Arboretum
Big Bugs, Little Bugs ... we love BUGS! Join us at For-Mar as we learn all about our creepy crawly friends and meet For-Mar's bug family. Then create your own bug catcher to take home.
For children ages 3-6, all abilities.
Time: 10am-12pm. Cost: \$5 per student.
Pre-registration required by 4/3/16.

TUESDAY, APRIL 5 **Spring Break Camp: Animal Team Builders**

For-Mar Nature Preserve & Arboretum
Work as a team to learn how animals can make the best team around. Dress to be outside and bring a change of clothes. Please bring a sack lunch, water bottle and a snack.
For youth ages 7-12, all abilities. Students can be dropped off if a waiver form is signed.
Time: 10am-2:30pm. Cost: \$10 per student.
Pre-registration required by 4/3/16.

WEDNESDAY, APRIL 6 **Spring Break Camp: ARRRRR You Ready to Become a Pirate?**

For-Mar Nature Preserve & Arboretum
Follow the treasure map to nature challenges that will lead you to where "X" marks the spot and the hidden treasure lies.
For children ages 3-6, all abilities.
Time: 10am-12pm. Cost: \$5 per student.
Pre-registration required by 4/4/16.

WEDNESDAY, APRIL 6 **Spring Break Camp: Pirates of For-Mar**

For-Mar Nature Preserve & Arboretum
Learn map reading and geocaching skills while traveling the For-Mar trails on an adventure to find the hidden treasure. Dress to be outside and bring a change of clothes. Please bring a sack lunch, water bottle and a snack.
For youth ages 7-12, all abilities. Students can be dropped off if a waiver form is signed.
Time: 10am-2:30pm. Cost: \$10 per student.
Pre-registration required by 4/4/16.

WEDNESDAY, APRIL 6 **Let's Take a Hike!**

For-Mar Nature Preserve & Arboretum
Get outside, get fit and explore! Meet at the Visitors Center for stretching before hitting the trails. Bring water bottles and wear hiking shoes.
For ages 13 and older, all abilities.
Time: 10:30am-11:30am. Cost: \$2 per person.
Pre-registration required by 4/3/16.

THURSDAY, APRIL 7 **Spring Break Camp: Fairy Tale Science Fair**

For-Mar Nature Preserve & Arboretum
Dress as your favorite fairytale character and estimate, experiment and explore the science of fairytales.
For children ages 3-6, all abilities.
Time: 10am-12pm. Cost: \$5 per student.
Pre-registration required by 4/5/16.

THURSDAY, APRIL 7 **Spring Break Camp: Wilderness Survival**

For-Mar Nature Preserve and Arboretum
Investigate with For-Mar Naturalists as you travel the trails, study the live animals, and create your own outdoor survival shelters. Dress in outdoor gear that can get messy, and wear hiking shoes. We'll picnic outdoors so students should bring a sack lunch that does not need to be refrigerated, a water bottle, and a snack.
For youth ages 7-12, all abilities. Students can be dropped off if a waiver form is signed.
Time: 10am-2:30pm. Cost: \$10 per student.
Pre-registration required by 4/5/16.

THURSDAY APRIL 7, 14, 21, & 28 **Green Book Club**

For-Mar Nature Preserve & Arboretum
Join fellow nature enthusiasts as we read and discuss *The Forest Unseen, A Year's Watch in Nature* by David George Haskell. Participants will receive their own copy with paid registration.
For ages 13 and older, all abilities.
Time: 10-11:30am. Cost: \$15 per person (includes book).
Pre-registration required by 3/31/15.

SATURDAY, APRIL 9 **Nature Photography Club**

For-Mar Nature Preserve & Arboretum
Calling all photographers! Join us for our photography club designed for both professional and amateur photographers. A different photography technique will be highlighted each month. Then we'll hit the trails to search for and take photos of all Genesee County Parks' secret gems.
For ages 16 and older, all abilities.
Time: 9-10:30am. Cost: \$3 per person.
Pre-registration not required.

SATURDAY, APRIL 9 **Growing Gardeners: Lettuce Begin**

For-Mar Nature Preserve & Arboretum
Spring has sprung! After a long, cold winter, it's time to start planting in the garden. Come explore the garden and learn about plants that don't mind a little cold weather from time to time.
For children ages 4-12, all abilities.
Time: 10-11:30am. Cost: \$3 per student.
Pre-registration required by 4/7/16.

SATURDAY, APRIL 9 **Junior Scientist Camp**

For-Mar Nature Preserve & Arboretum
Join the For-Mar crew as we perform mini experiments that will get your kids excited about science. From elephant toothpaste to soda pop explosions, this program is sure to be messy and FUN.
For ages 5 and older, all abilities.
Time: 1-4pm. Cost: \$5 per student.
Pre-registration required by 4/7/16.

TUESDAY, APRIL 12 **Knee-High Nature Discovery: Spring Time Babies**

For-Mar Nature Preserve & Arboretum
Come and learn about animals that are born in the spring.
For children ages 4-8 with cognitive disabilities.
Time: 10-11am. Cost: \$2 per child.
Pre-registration required by 4/10/16.

WEDNESDAY, APRIL 13 **Knee-High Naturalist: Animal Babies**

For-Mar Nature Preserve & Arboretum
Discover tricks animal babies use to survive. Learn what to do if you are lost.
For children ages 3-6, all abilities.
Time: 10-11:30am. Cost: \$3 per child.
Pre-registration required by 4/11/16.

WEDNESDAY, APRIL 13 **Wild Adventurers: Cloudy with a Chance of _____?**

For-Mar Nature Preserve & Arboretum
What can clouds tell us about the weather? Let's identify different types of clouds, how they form, and what they mean.
For youth ages 7-12, all abilities.
Time: 10-11:30am. Cost: \$3 per student.
Pre-registration required by 4/11/16.

WEDNESDAY, APRIL 13 **Let's Take a Hike!**

For-Mar Nature Preserve & Arboretum
Get outside, get fit and explore! Meet at the Visitors Center for stretching before hitting the trails. Bring water bottles and wear hiking shoes.
For ages 13 and older, all abilities.
Time: 10:30am-11:30am. Cost: \$2 per person.
Pre-registration required by 4/11/16.

THURSDAY, APRIL 14 **Knee-High Naturalist: Animal Babies**

For-Mar Nature Preserve & Arboretum
Discover tricks animal babies use to survive. Learn what to do if you are lost.
For children ages 3-6, all abilities.
Time: 10-11:30am. Cost: \$3 per child.
Pre-registration required by 4/12/16.

THURSDAY, APRIL 14 **Wild Adventurers: Cloudy with a Chance of _____?**

For-Mar Nature Preserve & Arboretum
What can clouds tell us about the weather? Let's identify different types of clouds, how they form, and what they mean.
For youth ages 7-12, all abilities.
Time: 10-11:30am. Cost: \$3 per student.
Pre-registration required by 4/12/16.

APRIL

Family Fun for Everyone!

For-Mar Nature Preserve & Arboretum

SATURDAY, APRIL 16 **Birding Hike: Eagle Expedition**

Zemmer Park

Take a stroll in Zemmer Park and you're likely to find eagles fishing in the Flint River. Join us as we look for eagles and the many other species of waterfowl that call the Genesee County Parks home. Meet at Zemmer Park, off Marathon Rd. Drive straight into the parking area by the Flint River. For families, suggested for ages 8 and older, all abilities.

Time: 9-11am. Cost: FREE!

Pre-registration not required.

SATURDAY, APRIL 16 **Nature Discovery in the Garden: ABC's of Bees**

For-Mar Nature Preserve & Arboretum A-B-C, it's simple as buzz, buzz bee! The garden isn't the only thing that wakes up in spring, so do our pollinators. Explore our bee hives, taste a sample of our very own honey, and learn why the pollinators are so important.

For individuals with cognitive disabilities.

Time: 1-2:30pm. Cost: \$2 per person.

Pre-registration required by 4/14/16.

SATURDAY, APRIL 16 **Scouting Outing: Love the Earth**

For-Mar Nature Preserve & Arboretum Learn all about ways you can love and protect the earth during this Earth Day inspired program. Scouts will learn about the 3R's, caring for wildlife and how they can become junior naturalists.

For scouts, suggested for ages 5 and older, all abilities.

Time: 10am-12pm. Cost: \$5 per scout.

Pre-registration required by 4/14/16.

SATURDAY, APRIL 16 **Earth Day: Service Day**

For-Mar, DeWaters Building, off Potter Rd. It's time to give back and you can help. Volunteer at For-Mar doing garden prep, trail and litter clean up, planting and more. Dress for getting dirty outdoors. Bring your own gloves and rake if you

have them; some will be available. For ages 6 and older, all abilities. Great for scout groups!

Time: 1-3pm. Cost: FREE!

Pre-registration not required, large groups are asked to call ahead.

SATURDAY, APRIL 16 **Volunteer: Hoop House Work and Learn**

For-Mar Hoop House, DeWaters Building, off Potter Rd.

Are you curious about hoop house management? Learn while caring for a variety of crops. Staff will be available to answer questions.

For ages 12 and older, all abilities.

Time: 1-3pm. Cost: FREE!

Pre-registration required by 4/14/16.

WEDNESDAY, APRIL 20 **Knee-High Naturalist: Skunks and Other Insect Eaters**

For-Mar Nature Preserve & Arboretum Learn about these fascinating animals. Go on an insect hunt!

For children ages 3-6, all abilities.

Time: 10-11:30am. Cost: \$3 per child.

Pre-registration required by 4/18/16.

WEDNESDAY, APRIL 20 **Wild Adventurers: Monarchs**

For-Mar Nature Preserve & Arboretum These migrating butterflies are not only beautiful, but also fascinating. Come learn about their migration and the roles they play in our environment.

For youth ages 7-12, all abilities.

Time: 10-11:30am. Cost: \$3 per student.

Pre-registration required by 4/18/16.

WEDNESDAY, APRIL 20 **Let's Take a Hike!**

For-Mar Nature Preserve & Arboretum Get outside, get fit and explore! Meet at the Visitors Center for stretching before hitting the trails. Bring water bottles and wear hiking shoes.

For ages 13 and older, all abilities.

Time: 10:30-11:30am. Cost: \$2 per person.

Pre-registration required by 4/18/16.

THURSDAY, APRIL 21 **Knee-High Naturalist: Skunks and Other Insect Eaters**

For-Mar Nature Preserve & Arboretum

Learn about these fascinating animals. Go on an insect hunt!

For children ages 3-6, all abilities.

Time: 10-11:30am. Cost: \$3 per child.

Pre-registration required by 4/19/16.

THURSDAY, APRIL 21 **Wild Adventurers: Monarchs**

For-Mar Nature Preserve & Arboretum

These migrating butterflies are not only beautiful, but also fascinating. Come learn about their migration and the roles they play in our environment.

For youth ages 7-12, all abilities.

Time: 10-11:30am. Cost: \$3 per student.

Pre-registration required by 4/19/16.

SATURDAY, APRIL 23 **Growing Gardeners: ABC's of Bees**

For-Mar Nature Preserve & Arboretum

A-B-C, it's simple as buzz, buzz bee! The garden isn't the only thing that wakes up in spring, so do our pollinators.

Explore our bee hives, taste a sample of our very own honey, and learn why the pollinators are so important.

For children ages 4-12, all abilities.

Time: 10-11:30am. Cost: \$3 per student.

Pre-registration required by 4/21/16.

SATURDAY, APRIL 23 **Arbor Day Festival**

For-Mar Nature Preserve & Arboretum

Join For-Mar staff as we celebrate the wonder of trees. Learn how trees serve an important role in our ecosystem when they are alive and dead. Come anytime between 12pm and 3pm to celebrate Arbor Day with For-Mar!

For families, all ages and abilities.

Time: 12-3pm. Cost: FREE!

Pre-registration not required.

SATURDAY, APRIL 23 **Immunization Clinic**

For-Mar Nature Preserve & Arboretum

Are you and your children up-to-date on your immunizations? If not, here's an easy

way to get it done! The Genesee County Health Department is coming to For-Mar to help make sure that you're healthy.

For families, all ages and abilities.

Time: 12-3pm. Cost: Many insurance plans are accepted.

For more information and to register, please call 810-237-4588.

TUESDAY, APRIL 26 **Knee-High Nature Discovery: A Home is A Nest**

For-Mar Nature Preserve & Arboretum

Help the nesting animals build their homes.

For children ages 4-8 with cognitive disabilities.

Time: 10-11am. Cost: \$2 per child.

Pre-registration required by 4/24/16.

WEDNESDAY, APRIL 27 **Knee-High Naturalist: Nests! Not Just for the Birds**

For-Mar Nature Preserve & Arboretum

Learn about the kinds of animals that build nests. Play the nesting game.

For children ages 3-6, all abilities.

Time: 10-11:30am. Cost: \$3 per child.

Pre-registration required by 4/25/16.

WEDNESDAY, APRIL 27 **Wild Adventurers: This Drags!**

For-Mar Nature Preserve & Arboretum

Air resistance that is! What is air resistance and how do we use it to our advantage? Come learn all about air resistance and how it is used in many inventions.

For youth ages 7-12, all abilities.

Time: 10-11:30am. Cost: \$3 per student.

Pre-registration required by 4/25/16.

WEDNESDAY, APRIL 27 **Let's Take a Hike!**

For-Mar Nature Preserve & Arboretum

Get outside, get fit and explore! Meet at the Visitors Center for stretching before hitting the trails. Bring water bottles and wear hiking shoes.

For ages 13 and older, all abilities.

Time: 10:30-11:30am. Cost: \$2 per person.

Pre-registration required by 4/25/16.

THURSDAY, APRIL 28 **Knee-High Naturalist: Nests! Not Just for the Birds**

For-Mar Nature Preserve & Arboretum

Learn about the kinds of animals that build nests. Play the nesting game.

For children ages 3-6, all abilities.

Time: 10-11:30am. Cost: \$3 per child.

Pre-registration required by 4/26/16.

THURSDAY, APRIL 28 **Wild Adventurers: This Drags!**

For-Mar Nature Preserve & Arboretum

Air resistance that is! What is air resistance and how do we use it to our advantage? Come learn all about air resistance and how it is used in many inventions.

For youth ages 7-12, all abilities.

Time: 10-11:30am. Cost: \$3 per student.

Pre-registration required by 4/26/16.

SATURDAY, APRIL 30 **Birding Hike: Song Birds**

Richfield County Park, Pavilion 1

Take a walk through Richfield County Park with your For-Mar Naturalist to find migrating birds and songbirds that make this Genesee County Park home.

For families, suggested for ages 8 and older, all abilities.

Time: 9-11am. Cost: FREE!

Pre-registration not required.

SATURDAY, APRIL 30 **Gardening for Pollinators**

For-Mar Nature Preserve & Arboretum

Learn basic gardening designs and plant choices to create your very own garden for pollinators in your backyard. Then learn how your backyard can be part of the Monarch Waystation movement to support our pollinator friends. Dress to be outdoors.

Suggested for ages 14 and older, all abilities.

Time: 10-11:30am. Cost: \$5 per person.

Pre-registration is required by 4/28/16.

Spring sports previews inside

The Flushing VIEW

"YOUR COMMUNITY CONNECTION"

Thursday, April 7, 2016 • Vol. 1, No. 31

mihomepaper.com

WELLNESS SECTION INSIDE



Flint hip-hop artist gaining traction with single about the water crisis

Page 9

Still time for Water's Extreme Journey at Sloan

FLINT - At Sloan Museum and the Longway Planetarium, 1221 E. Kearsley St., journey through an interactive maze that engages visitors in an exciting quest to stay clean, while flowing through rivers, lakes, backyards, and into homes, through May 8.

Through play, scientific inquiry, and art, Water's Extreme Journey empowers visitors to take action, commit to clean water, and express their support for clean water initiatives. After exploring the maze, delve into Flint's water system history, learn the science of filtration, examine current issues and solutions, and investigate the Flint River today. Get more details about the local component of this exhibit.

While investigating winding pathways, visitors are challenged to navigate through Non-Point Source Pollutants originating from agriculture, development, litter, and our homes. Will the farm they pass by be organic? Did their neighbor pour

leftover paint down the drain?

This fully interactive maze experience engages visitors through play, scientific inquiry, art and action, illuminating human impacts great and small while teaching how to contribute to healthy, safe water in their community and beyond.

On April 9, at 1 p.m. there will be a Water Wise event at the exhibit, at 1 p.m. for ages: 8 and up. The fee: \$7 per person, \$6 members. The guest presenter: Genesee Conservation District.

Water is one of Earth's most precious resources and we use it every day, but it needs to be protected. Explore water pollution and conservation with a variety of fast-paced and fun hands-on activities. Investigate the water cycle in the Water Cycle Relay Race. See where rain water flows while building a watershed model, and see if you can engineer a solution to water pollution. Sponsored by Cathleen Hale. Registration required. - G.G.

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Why All the Household Dust?

For years, Power Vac, Inc. has been improving the community's health one household at a time. "Did you know that half of all illnesses come directly from dirty indoor air? In fact, our indoor air is up to 90 times more polluted than the air outdoors," said Keith Meadows, Power Vac Owner and Operator. "More than 90% of the phone calls I receive are from distraught people complaining about dust in their homes," added Keith. "Let me tell you, you're not a bad housekeeper. All you need to do is have your ducts cleaned. This simple step will drastically reduce the dust in your household."

Keith explained that cold air returns suck in dirty air, which, over time, builds up in

Do you see puffs of dust seeping out of the edges? That, my friends, is the reason you have uncontrollable dust problems, and this debris cannot be removed without the help of a professional," Keith pointed out.

Choosing the right air duct cleaning company to do the job is important. Many companies use portable units, which are essentially like a Shop-Vac. Then there are companies who claim they have a truck-mounted system, when in reality they have a low-powered portable system inside a van. "We have the equipment powerful enough to get the job done right," Keith said.

"The Power Vac truck is the most powerful equipment in the industry."



April and Keith Meadows help keep indoor air clean with their local business, Power Vac.



810-659-2020
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Flushing



www.flushingmichiropractor.com

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GENESEE COUNTY

Recycling events to collect hazardous, electronic waste

By **Roberto Acosta**
racosta1@mlive.com

Two Genesee County sites are playing host to the latest Genesee County household hazardous waste and electronic waste recycle day.

The recycle day event is set for 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. Saturday at the Flint East Water Service Center, 3310 E. Court St., and Grand Blanc High School's west campus, 1 Jewett Trail.

Residents can drop off the following items:

- Pesticides/herbicides.
- Aerosols.
- Reactives/oxidizers.
- Mercury (elemental).
- Fluorescent light bulbs.
- Propane cylinders (up to 30 pounds each acceptable).
- Automotive fluids.
- Oil-based paints

and solvents.

- Prescriptions.
- Electronics — all kinds.
- Tires, up to seven (off rim).
- Smoke detectors.
- Fire extinguishers.
- Appliances.
- Air conditioners.
- Batteries — mixed household and auto.
- Bio-medical sharps (in rigid/sealed containers).
- Corrosives (acids/bases).

Items not allowed to be dropped off during the event include general refuse, paper/documents for shredding, industrial/commercial waste, explosives, ammunition, fireworks, weapons, yard waste, 55-gallon drums of waste, radioactive materials and compressed gas cylinders.

LAPEER COUNTY

Sheriff launches virtual neighborhood watch

Appendix B

Outfall table