

Get close to some amazing wildlife on field trips across the state.

There's so much to explore in Wisconsin!

CHRISTINE TANZER

GET STARTED WITH THE NATURAL RESOURCES FOUNDATION OF WISCONSIN FIELD TRIPS.

Christine Tanzer

With DNR professionals and expert naturalists as your guides, venture into the field to explore Wisconsin and the myriad of species and habitats it harbors. From frogs and turtles to butterflies and salamanders. From bogs and barrens to prairies and old-growth forests. With 188 field trips in the lineup this year, the Natural Resources Foundation of Wisconsin's adventures span all corners of the state, giving participants the unique opportunity to learn about ecological riches and natural wonders. So, grab your hiking boots, bicycles and canoe paddles, and join us to explore Wisconsin!

The Natural Resources Foundation of Wisconsin is a nonprofit organization founded in 1986. It secures private funding for our state's highest conservation priorities.

The Foundation also manages the Wisconsin Conservation Endowment, through which individuals and groups can create permanent funding for the places, species or conservation issues of most concern to them. The Wisconsin Conservation Endowment comprises 71 funds with a value of \$5.07 million.

The Foundation's newest initiative, in partnership with the Department of Natural Resources, is the Cherish Wisconsin Outdoors Fund, where individuals and businesses can give now so that our state fisheries, parks, wildlife areas and state natural areas can be cared for, forever. Learn more at CherishWisconsin.org.

Offering field trips is central to the Foundation's mission to connect generations to the wonders of Wisconsin's lands, waters and wildlife through conservation, education, engagement and giving. And, of course, the trips are a whole lot of fun!

Become a member or donate to the Foundation at WisConservation.org or call (866) 264-4096 for more information.

See page 10 in this issue to learn more about the Foundation.

Register online: WisConservation.org

Christine Tanzer is the field trips coordinator for the Natural Resources Foundation of Wisconsin.

EASY AS 1, 2, 3

1. PICK YOUR FIELD TRIPS

Trips are color-coded to provide information about physical demands, from easy to extreme. Each trip has a registration fee listed; some are fundraisers to support conservation or have an additional fee for equipment rental. Trips fill quickly, so check the Foundation's website (WisConservation.org) for current availability.

2. BECOME A MEMBER OF THE NATURAL RESOURCES FOUNDATION OF WISCONSIN.

Field trips are only open to members of the Natural Resources Foundation of Wisconsin and their guests. You can become a member at a discounted rate of just \$15 per family as part of your online registration. Or become a member online anytime at WisConservation.org. Your membership fee supports conservation projects across the state.

3. REGISTER FOR YOUR TRIPS AT WISCONSERVATION.ORG.

Click on the "Register for field trips" link. Enter the passcode JoinNRF to receive your discounted membership. You may register for up to four trips and bring up to five guests. The Foundation does not accept phone or email registrations.

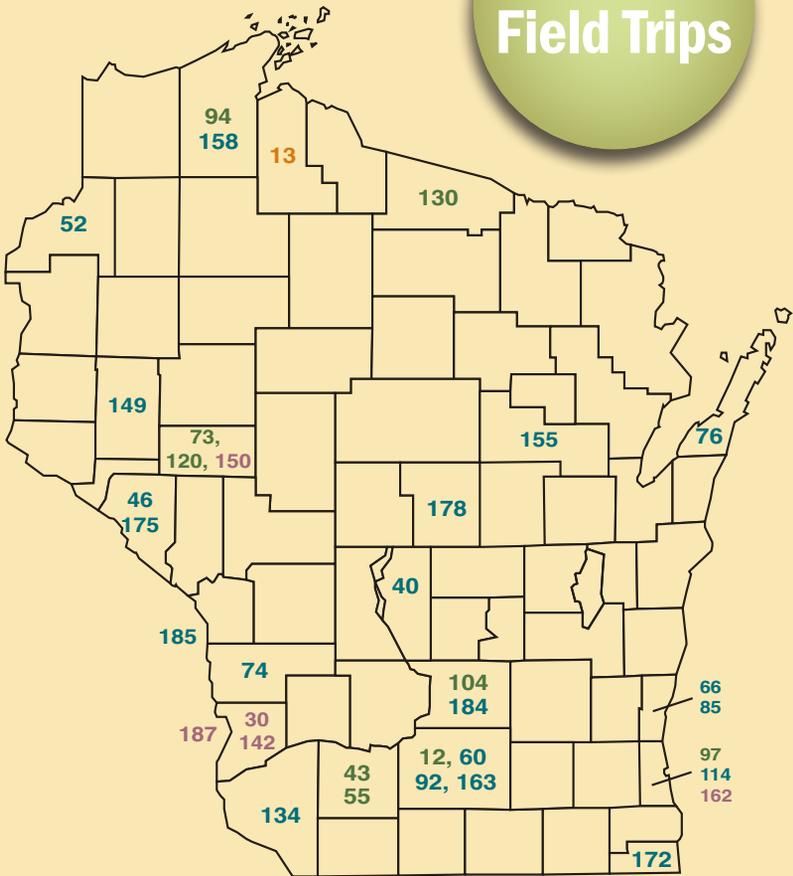
Approximately two weeks before each of your trips, you will receive an email with details and driving directions. Then it's time to get outdoors and get to know Wisconsin. Trips will fill fast, so sign up in April for best availability.

Questions? Visit the Natural Resources Foundation of Wisconsin's website at WisConservation.org, call toll-free (866) 264-4096 or email FieldTrips@WisConservation.org.



**Natural Resources
FOUNDATION**
of Wisconsin

2016 Field Trips



For a complete list of trips, visit WisConservation.org.

The color of the trip title indicates the physical demand level of the trip.

- 1** Accessible to people with walking disabilities
- 2** Easy, short hike on level terrain
- 3** Average hike with some hills
- 4** Steeper terrain, long hike or challenging hike
- 5** More extreme conditions, off trail and very steep or long hike

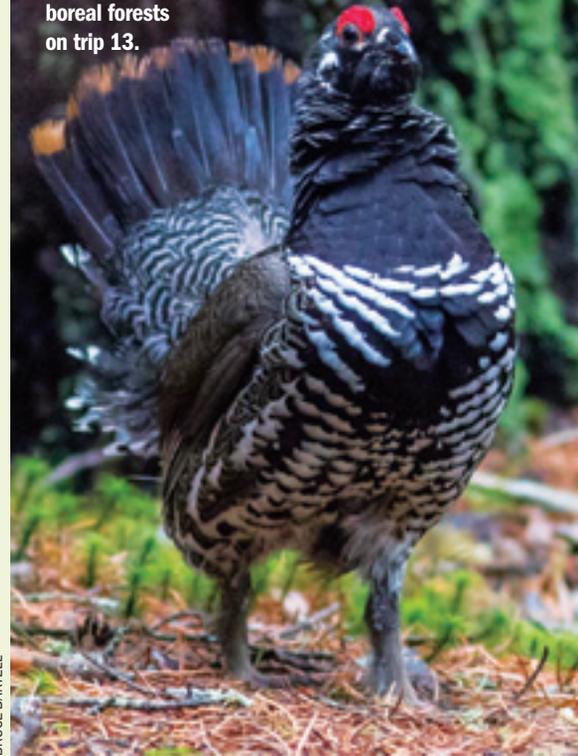
Child-friendly trips are identified with this symbol:
Children must be accompanied by an adult.



Questions? Call toll-free (866) 264-4096; or email:
FieldTrips@WisConservation.org.

Only a selection of trips is listed here. There are over 150 MORE field trips in the lineup that span the entire state. View trips and register online at WisConservation.org

Spy spruce grouse and boreal forests on trip 13.



BRUCE BARTELL



12. WATER TRANSFORMATION AT NINE SPRINGS

Where does our tap water come from and where does it go? Follow water as it flows through the Nine Springs Wastewater Treatment Plant and is transformed from harmful pollutant to helpful resource. Understand the impacts of water use and the role of wastewater treatment in the water cycle.

Ages 5+

Choose one session date to attend:

12-A. Thursday, April 28, 1 to 3 p.m.

12-B. Thursday, Sept. 29, 1 to 3 p.m.

Madison, Dane Co.

Leader: Emily Jones

Limit: 25

Cost: \$15 adult, \$5 child, per person

13. SPRUCE GROUSE IN THE BOREAL FOREST

Both spruce grouse and boreal forests are rarities in Wisconsin, and on this trip you get both! Hike off trail through balsam firs in a mossy boreal forest for intimate views of spruce grouse in resplendent courtship display. An exclusive chance to see one of the state's most unique, secretive and threatened birds. Fundraiser for the Bird Protection Fund.

Friday, April 29, 6 to 10:30 a.m.

Clam Lake, Ashland Co.

Leader: Ryan Brady

Limit: 20

Cost: \$75 per person



Explore the Tiffany Wildlife Area by train on trips 46 and 175.

CAIT WILLIAMSON



30. MISSISSIPPI RIVER EAGLE NEST AND WARBLERS BOAT CRUISE

Experience the mighty Mississippi during peak spring migration! Spy warblers, Neotropical migrants, otters and other wildlife of the backwater byways. Visit four eagle nests to see up close eagle parents fishing and feeding their nestlings. Enjoy it all from the deck of a semi-enclosed pontoon cruiser on this exclusive tour. Ages 8+
Saturday, May 14, 8:30 to 10:30 a.m.
Prairie du Chien, Crawford Co.
Leader: Captain Annie
Limit: 55
Cost: \$36 adult, \$26 child, per person

40. KIRTLAND'S WARBLERS UP CLOSE

Chance to see/hear one of Wisconsin's rarest birds! Explore the carefully protected pine barrens to learn about Kirtland's warbler life history and ongoing management initiatives. Look for barrens wildflowers, reptiles and other birds such as the clay-colored sparrow. With luck and expert guidance, see/hear the elusive and rare Kirtland's warbler! Fundraiser for Kirtland's warbler conservation.
Friday, May 20, 6:45 to 10 a.m.
Rome, Adams Co.
Leaders: Kim Grveles, Jon Robaidek, Davin Lopez and Amy and Rich Staffen
Limit: 36
Cost: \$45 per person



43. BLUEBIRD TRAIL HIKE

Learn about bluebird ecology as we hike an established bluebird nest

box trail. Peer into houses to see young hatchlings in various stages of development. Learn how you too can join the bluebird craze! Ages 6+
Friday, May 20, 9:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m.
Muscoda, Iowa Co.
Leaders: Dale, Doris and Russell Moody, and David Clutter
Limit: 30
Cost: \$25 adult, \$15 child, per person

46. TRAIN RIDE AND BIRDS: TIFFANY WILDLIFE AREA AND LOWER CHIPPEWA RIVER

All aboard! Take a ride on an antique open-air train into the most remote areas of the Tiffany Wildlife Area. Enjoy stops and short hikes into floodplain forests, wetlands, savannas and prairies. A chance to spy at least 75 species of birds during peak migration. Fundraiser for conservation efforts along the Lower Chippewa River.
Saturday, May 21, 7 a.m. to noon
Durand, Buffalo Co.
Leaders: Dave Linderud, Steve Betchkal and Anne Geraghty
Limit: 64
Cost: \$38 per person

52. SPRING BUTTERFLY TREK: CREX TO THE BARRENS

Spring brings wildflowers, migrating songbirds and a burst of early-season butterflies to the pine barrens and bogs of Burnett County. From Crex to the Namekagon Barrens, join a butterfly enthusiast for a guided caravan tour of his favorite haunts. Venture amongst lupine, bearberry, blueberry, juneberry and cherry shrubs bedazzled in bloom

as we search for elfins, blues and dusky-wing skipper butterflies.
Saturday, May 21, 9 a.m. to 4:30 p.m.
Grantsburg, Burnett Co.
Leader: Dean Hansen
Limit: 18
Cost: \$15 per person

55. PRAIRIES AND PIE AT SHEA VALLEY

Enjoy native prairie plants and wildlife while learning about preservation projects in the Shea Valley Prairie: a gem in the Military Ridge prairie complex. Enjoy an off-trail hike to see fens, mesic and dry prairies in bloom. Visit a hobby vineyard and savor a family-style lunch and homemade pie after the hike. Choose one session date to attend:
55-A. Saturday, May 21, 10:30 a.m. to 1:30 p.m.
55-B. Saturday, Aug. 27, 10:30 a.m. to 1:30 p.m.
Barneveld, Iowa Co.
Leaders: Shannon Shea Becker and Rich Henderson
Limit: 20
Cost: \$30 per person



60. STREAM ECOLOGY AT BLACK EARTH CREEK

Be a stream ecologist for a day! Get hands-on to learn about stream ecology and explore the waters of a beloved trout stream. Use sampling equipment to measure water quality and collect aquatic insects and fish. Great fun and learning for the whole family! Ages 7+
Saturday, May 28, 9 a.m. to 1 p.m.
Black Earth, Dane Co.
Leader: Mike Miller
Limit: 20
Cost: \$15 adult, \$5 child, per person



66. FISH PASSAGE ALONG THE MILWAUKEE RIVER

Years of hard work has reconnected more than 130 miles of rivers and streams in the Milwaukee River watershed, allowing native fish access to high-quality spawning habitat. See this amazing transformation firsthand. Visit dam removals, habitat restoration projects and a fish passage with an underwater camera. An important project on a historic river! Ages 10+
Friday, June 3, 9 a.m. to 3 p.m.
Thiensville, Ozaukee Co.
Leaders: Matt Aho, Andrew Struck and Kristina Kroening
Limit: 20
Cost: \$15 adult, \$5 child, per person



73. TREE AND SHRUB ID: BEAVER CREEK

Can't tell oak from elm, or birch from beech? Here's a great chance to hone those ID skills! Hike Beaver Creek Reserve with an expert to learn many species of trees by their leaf, twig or bark — plus tricks to remember them. Learn some shrubs and vines too. Experience the forest as you never have before! Ages 12+
Saturday, June 4, 9:30 a.m. to noon
Fall Creek, Eau Claire Co.
Leader: James Schwiebert
Limit: 18
Cost: \$23 adult, \$13 child, per person



74. ECO-LOGIC FLY FISHING WORKSHOP

Understanding the ecology of trout streams makes for a richer angling experience and may even help you catch (and release) more fish. Learn about trout stream ecology, trout prey and the fly patterns that imitate them, and how to “read the water.” This workshop is for beginning through advanced fly fishers. Loaner fly rods available. Ages 12+
Saturday, June 4, 10 a.m. to 2 p.m.
Avalanche, Vernon Co.
Leader: Mike Miller
Limit: 20
Cost: \$25 adult, \$15 child, per person



76. FROGS AND TOADS OF THE RIDGES

Learn to identify all 12 frog and toad species in Wisconsin by sight and calls. Then venture on a dusk hike through The Ridges Sanctuary in Door County to practice your new ID skills. See how easy it is to become a citizen scientist for the Wisconsin Frog and Toad Survey! Ages 8+
Saturday, June 4, 7 to 10 p.m.
Bailey's Harbor, Door Co.
Leaders: Andrew Badje and Brian Forest
Limit: 40
Cost: \$15 adult, \$5 child, per person



85. CREATING WONDER: NATURAL ELEMENTS IN OUTDOOR PLAY SPACES

From whole trees to swimming holes, learn about natural play philosophy and the design elements of natural play spaces. Take a tour of Riveredge Nature Center's natural play areas and learn how you can incorporate natural elements into your park, day-care, school or home play setting. Ages 4+
Saturday, June 11, 1 to 3:30 p.m.
Newburg, Ozaukee Co.
Leader: Phyllis McKenzie
Limit: 24
Cost: \$15 adult, \$5 child, per person



92. WONDROUS WORMS, AMAZING ARTHROPODS, FASCINATING FLORA

How versed are you in the creepy and crawly of Wisconsin forests? Venture into the University of Wisconsin Arboretum and learn how diversity comes in all shapes and sizes! Search for interesting bugs, wiggly worms and problematic plants while learning how they impact our forests. Fun for kids! Ages 4+
Saturday, June 18, 9:30 a.m. to noon
Madison, Dane Co.
Leaders: Michael Hillstrom and Bernie Williams
Limit: 30
Cost: \$15 adult, \$5 child, per person

94. BIRD ATLASING IN MOQUAH BARRENS STATE NATURAL AREA

Hike Moquah Barrens SNA with rolling hills of open grasses and oaks in search of wildlife unique to pine barrens: vesper and clay-colored sparrows, upland sandpipers, chestnut-sided warblers, sharp-tailed grouse, thirteen-lined ground squirrels and dozens of butterflies. Learn how your bird sightings contribute to the Wisconsin Breeding Bird Atlas project.
Friday, June 24, 7 to 11 a.m.
Iron River, Bayfield Co.
Leader: Ryan Brady
Limit: 20
Cost: \$15 per person

97. WHEELS AND WATER! BIKING MILWAUKEE'S HARBOR DISTRICT

At the confluence of three rivers, the Harbor District is a place where past meets future. Historic neighborhoods and century-old rail bridges meet high-tech manufacturing and world-class freshwater research. Our last remaining wetlands meet our newest fish ladders. Enjoy a bike ride through streets and trails with stops along the way to discover water resource history and future. You must bring your own bike.
Friday, June 24, 1 to 4 p.m.
Milwaukee, Milwaukee Co.
Leaders: Kevin Engstrom and Moranda Medina
Limit: 32
Cost: \$15 per person



104. WISCONSIN WILDLIFE AT THE MACKENZIE CENTER

Discover, identify and learn about Wisconsin's native wildlife. View nearly 20 different species of wildlife up close, hike through their native habitats and explore the tiniest of creatures in the study pond. Ages 3+

GREG ZAHN



Paddle a Voyageur canoe to learn about mussels on trip 155.

Sunday, June 26, 1 to 3:30 p.m.
Poynette, Columbia Co.
Leaders: Ruth Ann Lee and
Chrystal Seeley-Schreck
Limit: 25
Cost: \$15 adult, \$5 child, per person

114. LAKESHORE STATE PARK: URBAN OASIS

Lakeshore is one of the newest and most urban of Wisconsin's state parks. Located on a peninsula in Lake Michigan in downtown Milwaukee, it sports spectacular views of the city and lake. Hike short-grass prairies to learn about ecology and marvel at the surprising diversity of wildlife, plants and birds that inhabit this beloved park. Tuesday, July 12, 10 a.m. to noon Milwaukee, Milwaukee Co.
Leader: Tom Kroeger
Limit: 25
Cost: \$15 per person

120. MODERN LANDFILLS: CREATING RENEWABLE POWER AND COMPOST

Learn how a modern landfill is constructed, operated, and how the gas collected is turned into renewable power. This facility also leads the way in commercial food waste collection, turning it into rich compost. An important topic all citizens should know more about! Ages 10+ Saturday, July 16, 10 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. Eau Claire, Eau Claire Co.
Leader: Mark Vinall
Limit: 15
Cost: \$15 adult, \$5 child, per person

130. CATHERINE WOLTER WILDERNESS HIKE AND SERVICE

Hike remote areas of the beautiful Catherine Wolter Wilderness Area to

discover scenic trails and lovely vistas. Stop along the way to pull invasive plants and help make a significant difference in the ecological health of this beloved native landscape. Ages 12+ Sunday, July 24, 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. Presque Isle, Vilas Co.
Leader: Dan Wallace and
Waltrand Brinkman
Limit: 20
Cost: \$15 adult, \$5 child, per person

134. BREAKFAST WITH BATS: STONEFIELD HISTORIC SITE

Meet just before sunrise to marvel as nearly 4,000 bats swarm around their roost after a night out foraging. Enjoy a simple breakfast (provided) and interactive program to meet live fruit bats. Fundraiser for bat conservation in Wisconsin. Sunday, July 31, 4:45 to 7:30 a.m. Cassville, Grant Co.
Leaders: Jennifer Redell, Paul White
and Heather Kaarukka
Limit: 35
Cost: \$35 per person

142. SUNSET CRUISE ON THE MISSISSIPPI

Savor sunset as we cruise our way through the picturesque backwaters of the Mississippi near Prairie du Chien. Experience intimate encounters with birds and wildlife as they bask in the waning hours. Enjoy dessert and drinks aboard a semi-enclosed pontoon cruiser. Limited space available for this exclusive event, which is a fundraiser for the Foundation's field trip program. Saturday, Aug. 6, 6:30 to 8:30 p.m. Prairie du Chien, Crawford Co.
Leader: Captain Annie
Limit: 40
Cost: \$75 per person

149. TREASURES OF THE CHIPPEWA RIVER: NATIVE MUSSELS

Wade in the cool waters of the Chippewa River to search for one of our state's most diverse yet hidden treasures: freshwater mussels (clams). Learn about our 52 native species, their fascinating life cycle and amazing contributions to the history of Wisconsin. Great fun for kids and adults! Ages 5+ Saturday, Aug. 13, 9 a.m. to noon Meridian, Dunn Co.
Leader: Lisie Kitchel
Limit: 25
Cost: \$15 adult, \$5 child, per person

150. NATIVE BUTTERFLIES UP CLOSE

Get up close and hands-on with native Wisconsin butterflies! See more than a dozen species of native butterflies in the Beaver Creek caterpillar rearing lab and butterfly house. Learn about butterfly life cycles, migration, ecology and the garden plants that attract them. Ages 12+ Saturday, Aug. 13, 9:30 a.m. to noon Fall Creek, Eau Claire Co.
Leader: James Schwiebert
Limit: 20
Cost: \$23 adult, \$13 child, per person

155. CANOE WITH MUSSELS ON THE WOLF RIVER

Adventure awaits! Paddle your way down the scenic Wolf River in a 10-passenger replica Voyageur fur-trade canoe. Wade into cool waters to explore freshwater mussels (clams) and other hidden life teeming on the riverbed below. Ages 10+ Saturday, Aug. 20, 8:30 a.m. to 2 p.m. Shawano, Shawano Co.
Leaders: Scott Koehnke, James Robaidek and Kay Brockman-Medaras
Limit: 18
Cost: \$15 adult, \$5 child, per person

158. BANDING BIRDS OF THE NORTHWOODS

Nothing like a bird in the hand! Using mist nets, we'll catch and band a variety of Northwoods songbirds. A great opportunity for bird lovers of all ages to see birds up close and hone their ID skills. Fundraiser for the Bird Protection Fund. Ages 10+ Saturday, Aug. 27, 7 to 10:30 a.m. Washburn, Bayfield Co.
Leader: Ryan Brady
Limit: 15
Cost: \$40 adult, \$30 child, per person



Capture and tag monarch butterflies on trip 172.

STEVE GLASS



Learn about freshwater mussels on trip 149 and others online at WisConservation.org.

VANESSA STEVENSON



162. MILWAUKEE'S WILDLIFE REHAB CENTER: BEHIND THE SCENES

Tour behind the scenes at the Wisconsin Humane Society's Wildlife Rehabilitation Center in Milwaukee, which admits more than 5,000 injured, sick and orphaned wild animals each year. View some of the patients and visit with a peregrine falcon, eastern screech owl, big brown bats and more. Ages 12+ Thursday, Sept. 8, 2 to 4 p.m. Milwaukee, Milwaukee Co. Leader: Scott Diehl Limit: 40 Cost: \$20 adult, \$10 child, per person



163. CAVE OF THE MOUNDS: CAVE TOUR AND ABOVE GROUND TRAILS

Tour the Cave of the Mounds and marvel at this amazing underground gem. Resplendent and breathtaking natural wonders are around each bend! Then enjoy a hike through restored prairie and woodlands to learn about land management practices and the property's history. Ages 10+ Saturday, Sept. 10, 9 to 11:30 a.m. Blue Mounds, Dane Co. Leader: Kim Anderson Limit: 50 Cost: \$27 adult, \$14 child, per person



172. MIGRATING MONARCHS AT RICHARD BONG STATE RECREATION AREA

Discover how tagging unlocked the secrets to monarch butterfly migration, then go into the field to catch and tag monarch migrants that will fly all the way to Mexico for the winter! Ages 7+ Saturday, Sept. 17, 12:30 to 3 p.m. Kansasville, Kenosha Co.

Leaders: Beth Goeppinger and Jennifer Lois
Limit: 30
Cost: \$15 adult, \$5 child, per person

175. TRAIN RIDE AND BLUFF PRAIRIE HIKE: TIFFANY WILDLIFE AREA

Enjoy a morning with a walk in the 5-Mile Bluff State Natural Area for amazing views of the Chippewa and Mississippi rivers, and learn about glacial geology, goat prairie management and timber rattlesnakes. Then off to the tracks for an open-air train ride into remote areas of the Tiffany Wildlife Area with stops for short hikes into prairies, savannas and floodplain forests. Learn why this is one of the most ecologically and historically unique areas of the state! Fundraiser for conservation along the Lower Chippewa River. Saturday, Sept. 24, 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. Durand, Buffalo Co. Leaders: Mark Rasmussen and Dean Edlin Limit: 64 Cost: \$48 per person



178. SAW-WHET AND LONG-EARED OWL BANDING

Have your own close encounter with Wisconsin's smallest owl! Experience how the experts mist net and band these adorable birds at Linwood Springs Research Station, which bands up to 700 migrating owls annually. Chance to see long-eared owls, too! Ages 7+ Time: all sessions 7:30 to 10 p.m. Choose one session date to attend: 178-A. Friday, Oct. 7 178-B. Saturday, Oct. 8

178-C. Friday, Oct. 14
178-D. Thursday, Oct. 20
178-E. Friday, Oct. 21
178-F. Saturday, Oct. 22
Stevens Point, Portage Co.
Leaders: Gene and Lorraine Jacobs
Limit: 40
Cost: \$30 adult, \$20 child, per person

184. CRANES, CROPS AND CONGREGATIONS

Back from near extinction in the 1930s, sandhill cranes are a conservation success story. Learn about crane ecology, long-term studies and potential conflicts with agriculture. Then observe thousands of cranes fly into roost for the evening. Fundraiser for the Bird Protection Fund. Friday, Oct. 28, 3 to 6 p.m. Portage, Columbia Co. Leaders: Steve Swenson and Anne Lacy Limit: 25 Cost: \$25 per person

185. MIGRATION ON THE MIGHTY MISSISSIPPI

A sight to behold! Expect to see more than 250 bald eagles and 100,000 waterfowl as we caravan to birding hotspots along the Mississippi River. See swans, pelicans, eagles, hawks and more at the peak of migration at this Globally Important Bird Area. Fundraiser for the Bird Protection Fund. Friday, Nov. 11, 8:30 a.m. to 2 p.m. Brownsville, Minnesota Leaders: Andrew Paulios, Steve Houdek and Jeb Barzen Limit: 50 Cost: \$45 per person



187. BOAT CRUISE THE MISSISSIPPI IN AUTUMN

Revel in the miracle of migration as we view many hundreds of migrating tundra swans, geese, ducks, pelicans and more than 100 bald eagles. Enjoy your perch on the deck of a heated pontoon cruiser on this exclusive tour of the famous Pool 9 in the Mississippi River Wildlife Refuge. Chance to see otters, minks and other wildlife too! Ages 10+ Choose one session time to attend: 187-A. Saturday, Nov. 12, 9 a.m. to noon 187-B. Saturday, Nov. 12, 1 to 4 p.m. Lansing, Iowa Leader: Captain Annie Limit: 55 Cost: \$56 adult, \$46 child, per person