

SPECIAL EVENTS



Dedication Lake in the Hills Fen Conservation Area

1500 Jefferson St., Lake in the Hills
Saturday, April 16, 10:00–11:30 a.m.



Lake in the Hills Conservation Area is a touch of wild in burgeoning suburbia. After a brief history of the site, visitors can join staff on a 1.3 mile walking tour to hear about the unique natural communities that thrive here and about the ongoing restoration of the site.

Lake in the Hills Conservation Area is a 229-acre upland/wetland complex where dry gravel prairies, sedge meadow, the Crystal Creek and a rare hanging graminoid fen provide diverse habitat. Adjacent the Conservation Area is the 27-acre Lake in the Hills Fen State nature Preserve. While McHenry County Conservation District manages the entire 436-acre complex, the state nature preserve is co-owned by the Village of Lake in the Hills and Illinois Department of Natural Resources. Lake in the Hills Fen Conservation Area boasts and offers scenic beauty and natural diversity.

Dedication & Woodland Hike High Point Conservation Area

10250 Reese Road, Harvard
Saturday, May 7, 10-11:30 a.m.



Join us as we dedicate our newest site. After a brief history of the site, visitors can join staff on a 1 mile walking tour to hear about the natural communities that are protected here and about the ongoing restoration of the site. The looped nature trail provides visitors with scenic views bird and wildlife observation. Future improvements include additional looped trails, as well as the opportunity for education programs.

High Point Conservation Area is a 253-acre site located between Reese Road and Wright Road in Alden Township. Notably, High Point contains the highest glaciated point above sea level in McHenry County. The site is noted for its oak and hickory woodland, the understory at High Point also boasts numerous spring wildflowers.



CELEBRATE THE EARTH!

Saturday, April 30, 11:00 a.m.–4:00 p.m.

Prairieview Education Center, 2112 Behan Road, Crystal Lake

Hosted by McHenry County Conservation District and the Environmental Defenders of McHenry County —

The event is held both indoors and out and will go on rain or shine!

- Live music — OFF Square Music and more TBA
- Enjoy hands-on games, crafts and storytelling.
- Puppet shows at 12:30 p.m. & 2:30 p.m.
- Over 20 Environmental Exhibitors
- Join in a guided nature hike at 11:30 a.m. & 2:30 p.m.
- Food and Beverage Vendors or bring your own "No waste" picnic lunch.
- Get your Earth Day 2011 Patch. Youth group members can do activities and earn the patch at a reduced cost.



Children learn about vermicomposting

HOUSEHOLD RECYCLING DROP OFF: A variety of items will be accepted for recycling including athletic shoes, batteries and computer monitors. Check out www.MCCDistrict.org prior to the event for a complete list of accepted items and any associated drop-off fees.



Ecological Restoration Certificate Program?

McHenry County Conservation District and McHenry County College welcome you to the first-ever educational program of workshops designed around the practice and philosophy of ecological restoration. Whether you are a member of the general public or you are already working or volunteering in ecological restoration, you will find a workshop for you!

Choose one or two that interest you or complete the whole program. Certification requires attending 15, one-day workshops. The ten core workshops are denoted by an asterisk. In addition, a participant must take one plant identification workshop, two wildlife ecology workshops, and two electives (which may include additional plant identification or wildlife ecology workshops).

For more information, contact Tom Simpson, Research Field Station Ecologist, (815) 678-4532, tsimpson@MCCDistrict.org.

Spring Schedule

Prescribed Fire in Ecological Restoration*

Saturday, March 12, 9:00 a.m.–4:00 p.m.
Lost Valley Visitor Center, Glacial Park

Forensic Ecology*

Saturday, March 26, 9:00 a.m.–4:00 p.m.
Lost Valley Visitor Center, Glacial Park

Wetland and Stream Restoration: Managing Water

Saturday, April 30, 9:00 a.m.–4:00 p.m.
Lost Valley Visitor Center, Glacial Park

Plants of Forests and Woodlands

Saturday, May 7, 9:00 a.m.–4:00 p.m.
Coral Wood Conservation Area

Wildlife Ecology: Birds

Saturday, May 14, 7:00 a.m.–2:00 p.m.
Lost Valley Visitor Center, Glacial Park

Landscaping with Nature: Bringing Conservation Home

Saturday, May 21, 9:00 a.m.–4:00 p.m.
Prairieview Education Center, Crystal Lake

**Spring programs begin in March. Courses cost: \$50.
See full descriptions or register online through
McHenry County College, at [www.Mchenry.Edu/
coneducation](http://www.Mchenry.Edu/coneducation) or call (815)455-8588.**

Preview of the Summer & Fall Workshop Schedule

SUMMER

Communicating Ecological Restoration to the Public *	June 11
The History of Ecological Restoration: * 20 Years of Restoration in Glacial Park	June 18
Plants of Wetlands	July 9
Wildlife Ecology: Living with Wildlife	July 16
Woody Plants & Ecological Restoration I *	July 23
Plants of Prairies and Savannas	Aug. 13
Geology & Soil *	Aug. 20

* Required to complete ERCP

FALL

Native Landscapes Prior to European Contact *	Sept. 10
Restoring Vegetation *	Sept. 17
Weeds and What We Do About Them *	Oct. 1
Changes in Native Landscapes *	Oct. 8
Getting to Know Your Land: Soil and Hydrology	Nov. 12
Woody Plants II: Winter Identification and Ecology	Dec. 10

Program Information

- Open field plots within Coral Woods will be the designed site of reforestation.

- Monetary donations will be accepted year round.

Monetary donations received after a deadline will be put towards the next planting date:

Spring deadline: September 30

Fall deadline: April 30

- MCCD encourages donors to come out and participate in planting your donation.

- Planting dates will occur on:
The last Friday of April
The last Friday of September
planting time: **10am - noon**

- Tree species will be chosen according to the site's natural community and nursery availability at the time of ordering.

- MCCD & Mother Nature will be responsible for the care & management of the trees.

- In appreciation for donations and participation, all donors will receive a 'Thank You' card, along with being recognized in MCCD's Landscapes newsletter.

PLANTING FOR TOMORROW



McHenry County
CONSERVATION DISTRICT

HELP PARTICIPATE IN CORAL WOODS
REFORESTATION EFFORT

PLANTING FOR TOMORROW

-by making the commitment today

The Coral Woods Conservation Area is one of the largest remaining wooded areas in McHenry County. The public land survey notes of 1837 describe woodlands composed of centuries old red, white and bur oaks interspersed with areas of sugar maples, an unusual species for the fire dependant natural communities of McHenry County. The vast 3,000 acre woodland that was once Coral Woods has been fragmented by open fields and areas cleared in the past for lumber, fence posts and fire wood.

As people began to settle this portion of the county, the resources that the woods offered became important to the needs of everyday life. Openings were created within the woods, compromising the closed structure in favor of more edges. Cultivation followed quickly behind logging as the openings created ideal spots for growing crops. Areas of the woods that weren't cleared for cultivation were converted to livestock pastures. As a result of over a century and a half of intense land use, Coral Woods has been unable to continue its natural process of regeneration, leaving the future of the woods in jeopardy.

The McHenry County Conservation District is dedicated to preserving, restoring and managing this unique natural area. Through your donations and involvement, you too are contributing to the greater role of conservation and ensuring that the 775 acres that is left of Coral Woods will remain woods for generations to come.



Planting For Tomorrow

Contact: _____

Name: _____

Please print as you wish it to appear in acknowledgement

Date: _____

Address: _____

City/State: _____

Zip: _____

Telephone: _____

Donation Package:

- 1 Tree : \$30.00
- 3 Trees : \$75.00
- 5 Trees : \$100.00

- Yes, I will be attending
the planting date
- No, I won't be attending
the planting date

Make checks payable to:

McHenry County
Conservation District
18410 U.S. Highway 14
Woodstock, Il 60098