

North Star News

A MONTHLY PUBLICATION OF THE NEWPORT WILDERNESS SOCIETY



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WELCOME TO OUR NEW LOOK!

New and exciting things are happening with the Newport Wilderness Society! We are in process of updating our look, not only in our publications, but on social media as well.

The *North Star News* will be your place to keep you up to date with all that is going on. The Trillium will still be published once a year as part of the annual report, with more detailed committee and financial information. We hope you enjoy our new look!

What's Happening This Month?

As you can see, the NWS newsletter got an update! After this first issue, the *North Star News* will only be sent via email to all who have signed up to be contacted electronically. It will also be available on the website: newportwildernesssociety.org.

April is a great time to be thinking about reduce, recycle, and reuse. Since April 22nd is Earth Day, why not take this opportunity to get your newsletters electronically?

You can sign up electronically or change mailing preferences at this link: <http://eepurl.com/dzGeXi> (Letters are case sensitive.). You can also find a link on our website. Look to the right of the page for Contact Information and update your profile.

There will be 2 opportunities to participate in Citizen Science project this summer. One is monitoring our Monarch Waystation for Monarch Lab and the other is monitoring bluebird nesting boxes. These are weekly events, but you can do as much or as little as you like. Time commitment is about 1-1 ½ hours. There will be 2 training opportunities for monarch monitoring, one in April and one in May. It is requested that you attend one of the sessions. Call Beth, the park naturalist, for more information. 920-854-2500.

Earth Day Work Day - calling all volunteers! Come help get our park ready for the busy season! Assuming the snow is gone, we need your help! We will be cleaning up & clearing out. Bring work gloves, pruning shears and small hand saws. Lunch will be provided. Contact Karen Studebaker: Kks189@tigereye.com

NWS will host a table at the Every Day is Earth Day event. This is a county wide event, showcasing many of the wonderful groups that are dedicated to preserving and protecting our environment. For more information: <https://www.facebook.com/events/donald-and-carol-kress-pavilion/every-day-is-earth-day-festival-2019/276201463280729/>

See Page 4 for complete schedule information.

DID YOU KNOW?



The First Earth Day

Senator Gaylord Nelson of Wisconsin believed we only have one earth, so we need to take care of her. He was disturbed that an issue as important as our environment was not addressed in politics or by the media. So on April 22, 1970 he created the first Earth Day. An estimated 20 million people nationwide attended festivities that day. It was a truly astonishing grassroots explosion, leading eventually to national legislation such as the Clean Air Act and the Clean Water Act.

*"The Earth laughs in
Flowers."*

~ Ralph Waldo Emerson

A Walk in the Woods

Within Newport State Park's boundaries, there is a State Natural Area called Newport Conifer Hardwoods. It features a mix of northern forest types along Lake Michigan near the northern tip of the Door Peninsula. The cool, moist influence of the lake has allowed a forest composed of white birch, sugar maple, beech, and ash to develop. Elsewhere, boreal-like forest of Eastern hemlock, balsam fir, white spruce and white cedar predominates. A 3-to-8-foot-high wall of dolomite blocks traverses the site from the northeast to the southwest. This ledge is the former shoreline sculpted during the Lake Nipissing stage of Lake Michigan. Above the ledge, hardwoods are found growing on a jumbled boulder substrate. In the south and east, the hardwood forests stabilize low sand dunes where large colonies of club-moss can be observed. About ¼ mile of frontage on Lake Michigan is included in the natural area. Newport Conifer Hardwoods is owned by the DNR and was designated a State Natural Area in 1971.

APRIL SCHEDULE

- April 5th NWS Board Meeting, 2:30, Nature Center
- April 23rd Monarch Larval Monitor Training, 10:00, Nature Center
- April 24th Bluebird Trail, 10:00, start at Nature Center (if bluebirds are present, weather permitting)
- April 26th Arbor Day Tree Hike, 1:00, Lot 3
- April 27th Earth Day Work Day, 8:30-12:30, meet at maintenance Shop
- April 27th Every Day is Earth Day event, 10:00 - 4:00, Kress Pavilion, Egg Harbor

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The Newport Wilderness Society, Inc. is the Official Friends Group for Newport State Park and is a 501[c] [3] non-profit, tax exempt, dynamic organization - dues and donations are tax deductible within the limits of the law.