

North Star News

A MONTHLY PUBLICATION OF THE NEWPORT WILDERNESS SOCIETY



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WELCOME TO THE SECOND EDITION OF THE NORTH STAR NEWS!

As the Newport Wilderness Society continues to evolve and grow, 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?

We hope you enjoyed the first edition of the new newsletter. If you didn't take the time to sign up for electronic copies, you can sign up 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 Larva Monitoring Project 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. Being part of a Citizen Science project is a great way to give back and be involved at our special park. There will be a training opportunity for monarch monitoring on May 21st. It is requested that you attend a training session. Call Beth, the park naturalist, for more information. 920-854-2500.

With spring right around the corner, things are really picking up at the park. Not only are there more programs, including wildflower hikes and night sky viewing, but The Trails of Newport Challenge Hikes are back! After a year hiatus, these weekly hikes will be part of the DNR's OutWiGo initiative, a plan to get people outside and active. Led by Beth Bartoli, the park naturalist, we'll hike a different trail at Newport every Thursday morning. We'll enjoy hiking together, tallying miles as we go. On our last hiking day, we'll share a picnic lunch.

Another great opportunity to be part of the OutWiGo movement is to take part in the Mother Earth - Mother's Day Celebration planned for Saturday, May 11th. There will be a presentation by Charlotte Lukes about spring ephemerals and birds, coffee and baked goods from Kick Ash Coffee, a wildflower hike and an opportunity to plant a milkweed starter to take home.

For these events and more, see Page 4 for complete schedule.

DID YOU KNOW?



Newport's naturalist, along with a host of Citizen Science volunteers, monitor a test area for the Monarch Larva Monitoring Project through the University of Minnesota. Their mission is: "To better understand the distribution and abundance of breeding monarchs and to use that knowledge to inform and inspire monarch conservation."

Our contributions will aid in conserving monarchs and their threatened migratory phenomenon, and advance our understanding of butterfly ecology in general.

The MLMP, developed in 1997 by researchers at the University of Minnesota to collect long term data, involves volunteers from across the United States and Canada.



A Walk in the Woods

Newport is a special place to be in the spring, especially if you are a wildflower enthusiast. Due to its geographic location, north on the peninsula and along the shoreline, spring comes later here. A seasonal lag will have spring ephemerals blooming later here than in other parts of the peninsula. Even within the park, there are many different habitats. The progression of blooms can start as early as the third week of April and last into June. There are more rare, threatened and endangered plants in Door County than in any other region in Wisconsin. If you ever needed an excuse to get out into the woods on a regular basis, this is it. Spring flowers come and go so quickly, so get out there as often as possible!

MAY SCHEDULE

- May 1st Bluebird Trail, 10:00, starts at Nature Center
- May 4th Wildflower Hike, 1:00, Lot 1
- May 11th OutWiGo Mother Earth - Mother's Day Celebration, 9:30, Nature Center
- May 21st Monarch Larva Monitoring Project Citizen Science Training, 1:00, Nature Center
- May 22nd Bluebird Trail, 10:00, starts at Nature Center
- May 23rd OutWiGo Trails of Newport Challenge Hike #1 - Fern Trail, 9:00, Lot 1.
- May 24th Spring Wildflower ID, 10:00, Lot 1.
- May 25th Birding Adventure with Bill and Sarah Krouse, 7:00 am, starts at Nature Center
- May 25th Herb Hike with Dave LaLuzerne, 10:00, starts at Nature Center
- May 26th Trees and Shrubs of Door County with Tom Wolfe, 11:30, Nature Center
- May 26th Birds and Wildflowers with Charlotte Lukes, 1:30, Nature Center
- May 29th Bluebird Trail, 10:00, starts at Nature Center
- May 30th OutWiGo Trails of Newport Challenge Hike #2 - Sugarbush Trail, 9:00, Lot 4.

Find more information about programs at newportwildernesssociety.org, Activities and Events

Or on the NWS Facebook page

CONTACT US

PO Box 187

Ellison Bay, WI 54210

www.newportwildernesssociety.org

info@newportwildernesssociety.org

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.