



Lake View's Nature News

Newsletter of the Lake View Nature Center

Summer
2003

Spring Celebration

May 10, 2003

The Oakbrook Terrace Park District will celebrate Spring with an action packed day at Terrace View Park. The day begins with a benefit 5K Walk/Run. The \$20.00 registration fee will benefit S.O.A.R. (Saving our American Raptors), a group dedicated to the rehabilitation of hawks, eagles, vultures and other meat eating birds.

The Walk/Run will be followed by activities in Terrace View Park. Scheduled events and exhibits include: live animals, garden activities, face painting, the Soil Adventure Mobile, paddleboat rides and a self-guided hike.

The day concludes with the first concert of the season. *Innisfree*, a classical folk ensemble, will entertain listeners with their Celtic music. Concessions will be available or you can bring a picnic lunch. Plan to spend the day!



Spring Celebration Schedule

8:00 am to 10:00 am	5K Benefit Walk/Run \$20.00 Registration fee
10:00 am to 3:00 pm	Activities in the Park Free
3:00 pm to 5:00 pm	<i>Innisfree</i> in concert Free

Parking is available at Parkview Plaza
Rt. 83 and 22nd St.

Look inside for...

Featured animal — Pillbugs and Sowbugs

Family spring project

Special pull-out section for kids: games, crafts, and activities.

Concerts in the park

Summer programs and events

LVNC Notes...

The Nature Center will be closed:

May 26

July 4

August 2

We will also be closing early (at 2:00 pm) on June 13 and August 8.

Geese Police?

The OBT Park District has contracted a goose-control company that uses trained border collies to safely encourage our (too) many resident Canada geese to find a new hangout. Stop by to see them at work or to ask Nature Center staff for more information.

Bald eagle road trip

This past January 25, nine people joined Naturalist John Stoddard and some local bird experts for a road trip to the Lock and Dam at Starved Rock State Park.

Participants saw quite a few bald eagles hanging out in nearby trees and even got to see some of them swooping down to pick up fish from the surface of the river. An added bonus was seeing the locks in action as an impressively large barge passed through.

Activities at the Starved Rock Lodge included workshops on our local bats and butterflies, and a great bird-of-prey show by the World Bird Sanctuary from St. Louis.



Well-prepared for the winter weather, Sam and Amanda Quarrie check out the eagle action on the river.

Family spring activity: Bird nesting materials

A fun springtime activity that is also a big help to the birds that live in your yard and neighborhood, this project lets your family participate in the nest-building process.

Many birds like to include man-made items into their nests and we can help by providing items they might like to use.

Try things like yarn or string (cut to 6-8 inches or shorter), dryer lint, small scraps of cloth, dog or cat hair, or even your own hair. Use your imagination!

The items can be presented by simply placing them on the ground or on a tree branch, but here at the Nature Center, we like to use a pine cone as a holder. Loosely thread the items between the points of the cone so that the



birds can easily pull them out. Then use another piece of yarn to hang the cone from a tree branch where the birds can reach it easily.

Other things that can be used as holders include plastic mesh bags, hardware cloth, or just about anything else you can think of. We like to use pine cones because they are natural and biodegradable.

Watch to see if any birds take the things you put out. Do different kinds of birds choose different kinds or colors?

After the nesting season, look around your yard and try to find any nests that used your items. (Be sure not to disturb the nest while it is in use!)

Illustration from: Nature in Your Backyard: Simple Activities for Children by Susan S. Lang

**Wild Wednesdays:
June 18 – August 13**

**Spring Celebration
Saturday, May 10**

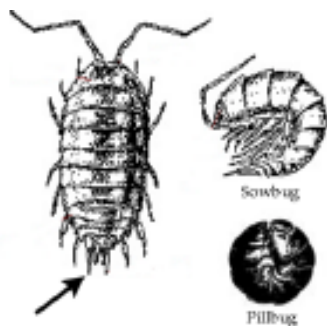
Creature feature

Pillbugs and sowbugs
also known as “roly-polies”

Among the small creatures that we find in our yards, gardens, and fields are the miniature armored beasts known as pillbugs, sowbugs, woodlice, or more commonly, roly-polies. Well-known to children and adults alike, these fascinating animals are usually found underneath logs or piles of leaves where they feed on decaying plant and animal material.

Pillbugs and sowbugs are easily identified by their overlapping armored plates that give them the appearance of miniature tanks as they wander about. They have seven pairs of legs, well-developed eyes, and two pairs of antennae (although one pair is quite small and hard to see).

Sowbugs also have two tail-like structures at the rear end (see arrow in illustration) that are not found in pillbugs. This contributes to the main difference between the two:



pillbugs are able to roll completely into a ball while sowbugs are not.

Often mistaken for insects, roly-polies are crustaceans, related to crabs and lobsters! Although they have adapted to

life on land, they still have gills and must stay moist in order to breathe. That is why they rarely survive for long inside houses.

There are about 100 species of pillbugs and sowbugs in North America.

Illustrations from: University of Arizona, Center for Insect Education Outreach website (Sowbugs); Ohio State University Extension Fact Sheet (Pillbug)

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Summer concerts

Looking for fun family activities this summer? Come join the Oakbrook Terrace Park District for the Music On The Lake series of concerts. All the concerts take place on the floating stage near the Nature Center, and they are FREE!

May 10

3:00 pm

Innisfree

Irish folk

June 13

8:00 pm

Chuck Negron

formerly of Three Dog Night

July 4

8:00 pm

The Buckingham

Presented by the City of OBT

July 13

3:00 pm

American Wind Band

August 8

8:00 pm

Pajama Party

country



At a recent Animal Adventures class, Sam Field tells the class about his pet hermit crab that he brought in for show-and-tell, while Kellyann Gallagher leans in for a closer look.



Lake View Nature Center
17 W 063 Hodges Road
Oakbrook Terrace, IL 60181

Bulk Rate
U.S. Postage
PAID
Permit #350
Villa Park, IL

Hours

Lake View Nature Center
Monday to Friday – 9:00 am to 4:00 pm
Saturday and Sunday – Noon to 4:00 pm

Terrace View Park
Open sunrise to sunset.

For more information

Lake View Nature Center (630) 941-8747
Heritage Center (630) 627-6100
Fitness Center (630) 574-0420

www.obtpd.org

Staff

Becky Lambert	Director
John Stoddard	Naturalist
Liane Knight	Program Coordinator
Karen Ritter	Environmental Educator
Deanna DeChristopher	Environmental Educator
Leslie Patsavas	Nature Center Assistant

Fees

The Nature Center is free to the general public.

School and Community Groups

The Lake View Nature Center is an excellent place to explore the natural sciences. We offer programs for all ages and grade levels. We can customize programs to reflect seasons, special interests, Scout requirements or Illinois State Learning Standards.

Fees for these programs are as follows:

- \$2.00 per participant
- \$20.00 minimum group charge

Call the Nature Center at (630) 941-8747 for more information or to schedule a program.

If you no longer want to receive this newsletter, please call us at (630) 941-8747.