



# DOUGLAS COUNTY OUTDOORS

## DOUGLAS COUNTY FORESTRY DEPARTMENT

### OUTDOOR REPORT

AUGUST 2015

#### NATURE

- Purple and gold flowers are dominating the floral color scheme right now. Fireweed, Wild Bergamont, Blazing Star, Joe-pye Weed, Milkweed, and the invasive Spotted knapweed are some of the bright purple flowers blooming while the native sunflowers, Black-eyed-Susans, Goldenrod, Bird's-Foot Trefoil, and Tansy are providing gold to the color show.
- Whitetail deer fawns are quite mobile now and are following their mothers. Watch out when the does are crossing roads, the little ones are trailing behind!
- To the disappointment of many the blueberry crop seemed to be sparse and quite small this year. Hopefully the blackberry crop will be better so wildlife and humans can enjoy some of nature's tasty treats.
- The Douglas County foresters have noticed some Jackpine budworm damage in pockets of the forest. The jackpine budworms chew through the needles causing them to dry out and turn brown. This damage can result in the tops of the trees dying or killing the entire tree (older or weaker suppressed trees are more susceptible to long term damage). The jackpine budworm is a native insect that experiences cyclical outbreaks every 10-12 years.
- The Barrens Fest in the Douglas County Wildlife Area (The Bird Sanctuary) turned out to be a well attended event. The weather cooperated, and the participants enjoyed the presentations, hikes, activities, and horseback riding.



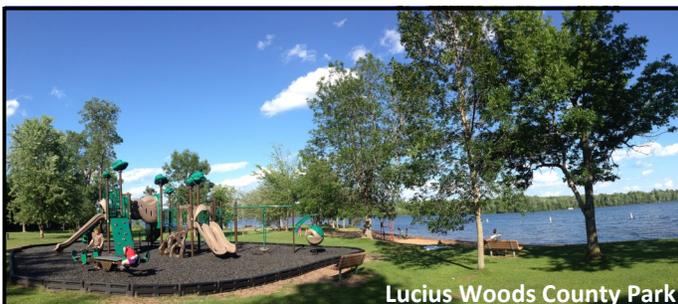
Jackpine Budworm



Barrens Fest

#### Douglas County Parks

- July turned out to be quite warm with high humidity. The lakes and parks were busy with people trying to cool off. The Douglas County Parks do not require an entrance fee so it is a fun and inexpensive way to get out and enjoy the outdoors.



Lucius Woods County Park



Gordon Dam County Park

Douglas County Forestry Department  
Home of Wisconsin's Largest  
County Forest



9182 E. Hughes Ave., PO Box 211  
Solon Springs, WI 54873  
Phone: 715-378-2219  
Park/Trails Recording-715-378-4528  
forestry@douglascountywi.org



## Douglas County Parks continued from page 1

- August is here, summer will soon be winding to an end, the kids will soon be back in school, and as of September 14 the Douglas County parks will close for the season. Make use of what is left of summer...camping, swimming, boating, and fishing await!
- Beginning July 27th the Mooney Dam boat launch and dam area will be closed to the public from 7 a.m. to 7 p.m. Monday - Friday and will be open each evening and all weekend. The estimated length of the dam repair project is 7 weeks. We apologize for any inconvenience this may cause. The Mooney Dam Campground will remain open during the repairs.



## RECREATIONAL TRAILS



- All Summer recreation trails under the management of the Douglas County Forestry Department are open for the season.
- As conditions change throughout the season, be sure to get the latest update on trail conditions by visiting [www.douglascountywi.org/forestry](http://www.douglascountywi.org/forestry), or by calling the Douglas County Trail Hotline 24 hours a day 7 days a week at (715) 378-4528.

## UPCOMING EVENTS

### LUCIUS WOODS PERFORMING ARTS CENTER CONCERTS

Summer is here....that means that the Lucius Woods Performing Arts Center concert series has begun at Lucius Woods County Park. Find more information about the concert schedule at <http://www.lwmusic.org/>



### CHILDREN'S NATURE PLAYGROUP



A Children's Nature Playgroup, sponsored by the Friends of the Bird Sanctuary will be gathering every 3rd Wednesday through September at the Bird Sanctuary Clubhouse in Solon Springs. See the attached flyer for more information and the schedule of events. Find their Facebook page at <https://www.facebook.com/FOTBSNaturePlaygroup?fref=ts>

### HIKING

Join members of the North Country Trail Association's Brule-St. Croix Chapter for hikes on the North Country National Scenic Trail. Meet at 9:00 a.m. at KD's Restaurant in Solon Springs. See the attached flyer for the schedule.

For more information;

715-292-3484

[www.meetup.com/sscbhikers](http://www.meetup.com/sscbhikers)

email: [bsc@northcountrytrail.org](mailto:bsc@northcountrytrail.org)

Facebook: NCTinWI





# WHAT'S GROWING?



**Black-eyed Susan**



**Joe-Pye-Weed**



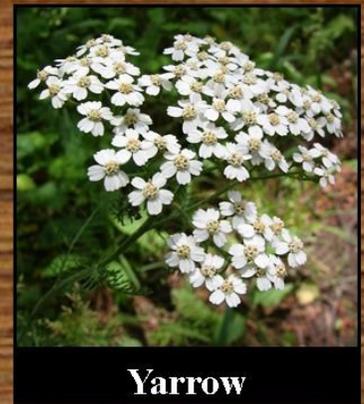
**Native Sunflower**



**Tansy**



**Spotted Knapweed— Invasive**



**Yarrow**



**Fireweed**



**Goldenrod**



**Wild Bergamont**



# 2015 Summer Concert Schedule

July 11 – Big Time Jazz Orchestra

July 18 – The Fractals

July 25 – The Rusty Wright Band

August 1 – The Whitesidewalls

August 8 – Gutney & Grimes

August 15 – Blue Water Big Band

August 22 – The Jimmys

Gates open at 6:00 PM

(except August 1, when gates open  
at 5:30 PM for our Silent Auction)

Concerts begin at 7:00 PM

Visit [www.lwmusic.org](http://www.lwmusic.org) or call  
715-378-4272 for ticket information



## Ticket Information

Flex Tickets \$85.00

Includes 8 tickets to the concerts.  
Can be used individually or  
all together for any of the concerts.

Advance Tickets \$15.00

Gate Tickets \$20.00

Students \$10.00

Children 15 and under are FREE

Concerts are held on summer nights in  
July & August at Lucius Woods Park,  
Solon Springs, Wisconsin.  
Just 35 minutes from the Twin Ports.

For more information about LWPAC,  
concert sponsorships or how to donate,  
please visit [www.lwmusic.org](http://www.lwmusic.org)

Write LWPAC at PO Box 295  
Solon Springs, WI. 54873 or  
call 715-378-4272

## Put Yourself in the Picture!



Lucius Woods Performing  
**Arts Center**  
Solon Springs, WI  
**Nature Never  
Sounded So Good!**





# Take a Walk on the North Country Trail

**Meet 9 AM Saturdays at K D's Restaurant in Solon Springs**

**Join members of the North Country Trail Association's Brule-St. Croix Chapter  
for hikes on the North Country National Scenic Trail**

## **Spring Hikes**

Saturday, May 9th - Brule Bog Boardwalk - spring flower and birding hike

Saturday, May 23rd - Memorial Day Weekend - Leo Creek

Saturday, June 6th - National Trails Day hikes

Saturday, June 20th - Douglas County Wildlife Area, Bird Rd. to Stuckey Rd.

Saturday, July 4th - Brule-St. Croix Portage - regional history hike

## **Fall Hikes**

Saturday, August 22nd - Aden Creek

Saturday, September 5th - Labor Day Weekend - Brule Bog Boardwalk

Saturday, September 19th - Brule Valley Overlooks in the Brule River State Forest

Saturday, October 3rd - St. Croix National Scenic Riverway - fall color hike

Saturday, October 10th - Ahmeek Lake Moraine in the Bayfield County Forest - fall color hike

Saturday, October 17th - MacQuarrie Wetlands - waterfowl viewing hike



Your Adventure Starts Here

## **For more information**

715-292-3484

[www.meetup.com/sscbhikers](http://www.meetup.com/sscbhikers)

email: [bsc@northcountrytrail.org](mailto:bsc@northcountrytrail.org)

Facebook: NCTinWI





## Children's Nature Playgroup

At the Bird Sanctuary Clubhouse

Every 3<sup>rd</sup> Wednesday May thru September 9 – 11 am

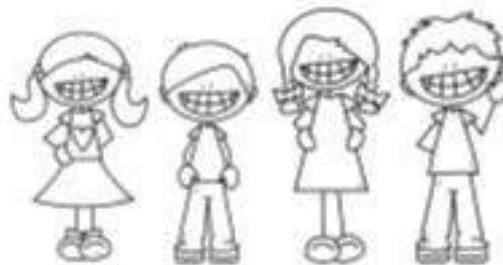
**May 20 – Exploring the Bird Sanctuary.** Hike to the sharptail grouse blind. Making our Summer Journals to note observations made while at home and in playgroup. Children will bring their Journals with questions they have about nature to each group time for an open discussion.

**June 17<sup>th</sup> – Upside Down: Curious George, the creative nature explorer.** Challenging the children to think how the natural world is all around us and we are very much part of it. Using Jack Johnson's song and lyrics "Upside Down" to demonstrate and get kids grooving! Introduce Scientific Method for older children.

**July 15<sup>th</sup> – ICE!** What could be more fun on a hot summer day? We are going to pretend it is winter and explore the properties of ice, how it melts, does it evaporate?

**August 19<sup>th</sup> – Discovery Lab.** Kids will create collections of things in nature and use our science tools and observations to learn.

**September 16<sup>th</sup> – Seasons.** Follow bears through all 4 seasons. Why do we have seasons? What season are we entering? All about black bears and why they are an important piece to our natural landscape.



Directions to the Clubhouse: On US Hwy 53 go south 3 miles from Solon to Cty Hwy M or north 3 miles from Gordon to Cty Hwy M (by Poodle Inn) turn west on Cty M, go ¼ mile to Bird Sanctuary Road, turn north, go ¼ mile to clubhouse (on the right beyond the split rail fence).

Call Becky 715-378-4518 for more information.

Friends of the Bird Sanctuary  
P.O. Box 116, Gordon, Wisconsin 54838  
[www.fotbs.org](http://www.fotbs.org)

