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A NIGHT FOR NATURE
EVENTS YOU WON'T WANT TO MISS



DODGE
NATURE CENTER

the Nature of things

FALL/WINTER | 2018

CALL OR VISIT US: 651.455.4531
DODGENATURECENTER.ORG

NATURE'S CLASSROOM

by Rachel Hughes, Development Director

As we head back to school, we head back into field trip time here for Dodge Nature Center. From the very beginning in 1967, field trips have been a core part of the work we do and central to our mission of providing exceptional experiences in nature through environmental education. The support you provide Dodge means that thousands of students are able to visit Dodge each year, to get out of the classroom and into nature.

Regardless of the season, Dodge's professional naturalist team guides students through outdoor experiences to enhance classroom learning and encourage students to gain comfort with being outside. From spring farm tours to winter wilderness skills, field trips cover a range of activities to make learning outside fun. We offer 30 different field trip curriculum options, for kindergartners through 8th grade. Your investment in Dodge Nature Center ensures that field trips are available to as many school groups as possible, creating lasting memories for the students who visit.



A Moreland Elementary alum remembers her orienteering field trip in sixth grade, "That was such a cool way to show us how to navigate in the world without a grown-up." Now a grown-up with children, she enjoys bringing her kids to Dodge to visit the farm animals and the raptors and walk the trails.

Many of you may have your own memories of field trips to Dodge or know the stories your kids have told you about their field trips—you know first-hand how great experiencing nature in this way can be. Thank you for making nature education accessible to as many students as possible.

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MAKING DODGE A SPECIAL PLACE

by Jason Sanders, Executive Director

As I sit and reflect about what makes Dodge Nature Center so awesome, the answer is really quite simple. It's the people. In 2018, we battled a long and cold winter. Our preschool teachers and naturalists bundled up every day to inspire new stewards. When the spring mud season arrived, Dodge educators pulled on their boots to tap the trees that would introduce children to maple syrup season. Our community events must always adapt to Minnesota's unpredictable weather and be ready for what can range from 300 to 2,000 attendees.

The farm team worked hard monitoring the barn as animal babies are born. The farm is one of our most popular features, and a lot of hard work goes into sustaining it. In April, 18 inches of snow fell and the parking lots were washed away. Furnaces stopped working and our building and grounds crew worked all hours of the day to ensure our site would be ready for visitors and students.

Our administration team makes sure we don't miss a beat as registration comes in for camps, preschool, and invoices are received. Even a nature center has a great need for technology, and our administration does their best to troubleshoot issues as they arise. Facility rentals are on demand and also in need of constant attention. Thanks to the coordination of this effort, organizations can hold meetings out here and families can make their own special memories.

While all these activities are happening, our development team is raising money to make sure we stay on track. As we create video posts for social media and recruit volunteers, our marketing guru continues to grow the Dodge brand by showing what makes this such a special place.

In the past months, I have had the privilege to represent Dodge Nature Center by accepting new awards, hanging championship banners, and receiving emails from Dodge friends complimenting our team. I wish I could bring my whole team to all of these events so that they can receive the recognition they so deserve. I wanted to take this forum to say thank you to the Dodge staff. You have inspired so many people, including me, you truly are the BEST!



NATURE ACTIVITIES SEPTEMBER 2018 - FEBRUARY 2019

For activity details and registration, visit DodgeNatureCenter.org or call 651.455.4531

SEPTEMBER

11	Nature Sense-Abilities (O.W.L.S.)	Seniors
13	Nature After Dinner: Honeybees	Families
21	Nature Playdate: Bugs, Butterflies and Bees	Pre-K
22	Scout Program: Autumn on the Farm	All Scouts (Grades K-5)

OCTOBER

2	The Blue Zone Path to Longevity (O.W.L.S.)	Seniors
6	Paint the Seasons: Autumn	Adults
11	Nature After Dinner: Whoooo Are You?	Families
12	Nature Playdate: Autumn Apples	Pre-K
13	Chickens, Chickens Everywhere	Families
14	A Night for Nature - Dodge Nature Center and Preschool Benefit	Donors
16	Women in the Woods with Wine : Creatures of the Night	Women 21+
17	Women in the Woods with Wine : Creatures of the Night	Women 21+
18,19	Fall Break Camp	K-8th

NOVEMBER

3	Turtles and Snakes, Oh My!	Families
6	Squirrely Squirrels (O.W.L.S.)	Seniors
16	Nature Playdate: Oh Deer!	Pre-K
23	Our Wild Neighbors #OptOutside	Families
29, 30	Winter Bazaar	

DECEMBER

4	Ken'ya Believe Kenya (O.W.L.S.)	Seniors
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JANUARY

8	Quilting Naturally (O.W.L.S.)	Seniors
15	Women in the Woods with Wine: Winter Hideaway	Women 21+
16	Women in the Woods with Wine: Winter Hideaway	Women 21+
19	Paint the Seasons: Winter	Adults

FEBRUARY

2	Frosty Fun Festival	Families
5	Container Gardening (O.W.L.S.)	Seniors
14	Love in the Wild Date Night	Adults

 Nature After Dinner

 O.W.L.S. - Outwardly, Wiser, Livelier, Seniors

 Nature Playdate

A Night for Nature

BENEFIT FOR DODGE NATURE CENTER & PRESCHOOL

SUNDAY, OCTOBER 14, 2018

**INTERCONTINENTAL SAINT PAUL RIVERFRONT
11 EAST KELLOGG BOULEVARD | SAINT PAUL, MN**

Co-chairs, Amy Bloomquist and Ron Goldser, invite you to join us for our first annual: A Night for Nature - Benefit for Dodge Nature Center and Preschool. This year's event will be more casual and feature interactive stations for you to engage in Dodge's mission. Consider hosting a table and inviting others to join you as we raise awareness and funds for Dodge Nature Center and Preschool.

5:00 PM Registration
Interactive Stations,
Hosted Hors D'oeuvres and Cash Bar

7:00 - 8:30 PM Dessert and Program

Tickets: \$100 per person | Tables of Ten: \$1,000
Register on DodgeNatureCenter.org

For questions regarding becoming a table host or purchasing tickets, please contact Rachel Hughes at RHughes@DodgeNatureCenter.org or call 651.789.5218.

COMING EVENTS

FALL BREAK DAY CAMPS
FOR GRADES K-8TH
8:30 AM - 3:15 PM
THURSDAY, OCT. 18
AND FRIDAY, OCT. 19

Location: Dodge Nature Center, Main Office
Entrance 1, 365 Marie Ave. W in West St. Paul

Featuring: Campfire Cooking, Creepy
Creatures, and Outdoor Skills.
Camp details and application can be
found on DodgeNatureCenter.org

WINTER BAZAAR
10 AM-4 PM THURSDAY, NOV. 29
8:30 AM-1:30 PM FRIDAY, NOV. 30

Location: Dodge Nature Center, Preschool
Entrance 2, 1715 Charlton St. in West St. Paul

The Winter Bazaar includes vendors with
a variety of crafts that are perfect for
holiday gift giving. Enjoy a treat from
the bake sale and enter the holiday raffle.
All proceeds support the Dodge Nature
Preschool scholarship fund. Visit our
website to learn more about individual
crafters who will be joining us. If you are
interested in being a vendor at this event,
contact the Preschool at 651.455.4555 for
more information.

LOVE IN THE WILD DATE NIGHT
6-8 PM THURSDAY, FEB. 14

Location: Dodge Nature Center, Farm Education
Entrance 3, 1701 Charlton St. in West St. Paul.

Animals celebrate Valentine's Day all
year round. Some of these mating rituals
are wonderfully bizarre! Join us as we
reveal the "love" secrets of a variety of
animals. Your date night will include
social time indoors with a glass of wine
and cheese and a presentation that will
show you the funny and unusual ways
creatures attract a mate. After that,
snuggle up with your loved one in a
picturesque horse drawn sleigh that will
venture through the winter forest. This
experience has limited reservations so
sign up soon. \$60 per couple.



DODGE
NATURE CENTER

Thomas Irvine Dodge Nature Center
365 Marie Avenue West
West St. Paul, MN 55118

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MADE POSSIBLE BY DONATIONS FROM THE PUBLIC AND CONTRIBUTIONS
FROM COMPANIES. YOU CAN DONATE ONLINE AT DODGENATURECENTER.ORG
TO SUPPORT ENVIRONMENTAL EDUCATION.

FROSTY FUN FESTIVAL

10 AM-2 PM SATURDAY, FEB. 2
LOCATION: DODGE NATURE CENTER,
FARM EDUCATION ENTRANCE 3,
1701 CHARLTON ST. IN WEST ST. PAUL



While winter in Minnesota
seems to go on forever, the
Frosty Fun Festival at Dodge
Nature Center will only be here
for a day, so don't miss your
chance to make friends with
Old Man Winter. The festival
features your favorite winter
activities, like sledding and
snowshoeing, as well as wacky
games like ice bowling and ice
mini-golf. Enjoy hot drinks
and food around the bonfire.

Admission: \$5 per person, free
for children ages 2 and under.

Early Bird Rate: \$4 per person
if you pre-register on our
website before noon on Feb. 1.