



N O U R I S H Y O U R N E E D F O R

NATURE™

FALL/WINTER 2019



THANK
You

FOR THE GIFT OF
GREENSPACE



100+ YEARS OF FOREST AND STILL GROWING

Dodge's Shepard Farm property in Cottage Grove, MN was not accessible to families until you rallied together to open the gates. A parking lot, restrooms, and hand washing stations were needed before trail exploration could begin. Your donations made these projects come to life.

Thanks to a conservation easement put in place in 1994, this special greenspace is protected from housing development. It now features community gardens, rental space to house your own honey bee box, and hiking trails through a forest that is over 100 years old. Be sure to look for more programs and camps popping up at this property now that facilities to bring visitors in are in place.

Greenspace provides an oasis for plants and wildlife, but also benefits community health and wellness. It is an atmosphere for learning and helps reduce stress. Numerous science journals are published regarding how nature spaces are critical for improving mental health, childhood development, and also increasing economic value. Thanks to you, more people will obtain the green benefits at this beautiful location. Don't forget to plan a visit, or two, or more, for your own family and friends.



COULD A GIFT FROM YOUR IRA BE RIGHT FOR YOU?

If you are a longtime volunteer and donor like Pete Fleming, you may have reached the age where you are required to take a distribution from your IRA—70½. Recently he started directing part of his IRA required minimum distribution (RMD) to Dodge Nature Center. We talked with Pete about why this worked well for him.

Why did you decide to start doing an IRA rollover for your charitable donation?

After talking to people in a similar financial situation and to my tax accountant, I realized this would allow us to increase our giving.

Why is this a good way to make your gifts?

It has encouraged me to give more, which is great for Dodge Nature Center and for me to support my own environmental goals. It's also a good way to give the money I'm required to take from my IRA as a minimum distribution (RMD). It can roll directly to Dodge Nature Center tax-free.

What do you want others to know about making an IRA donation?

It's amazingly easy! Talk to your financial advisor or your IRA manager to have the check come directly to Dodge. You can do it any time of year and you can do all of the RMD, or just part of it.

Why is Dodge an organization you choose to support?

I give because I believe it's incredibly important that we humans have an understanding of our environment, and Dodge aims to develop that in the highest quality and most effective way I know. The staff, volunteers, and facilities are exemplary and I can trust that my gift is appreciated and will be used responsibly.

Thank you, Pete, for your generous support of environmental education at Dodge Nature Center. If you would like to join Pete in making a contribution from your IRA, please consult your tax advisor to see if an IRA Rollover is right for you. If making an IRA Rollover donation, you'll want to make sure the check comes directly to Dodge Nature Center to avoid taxation. Questions? Contact Rachel Hughes, Development Director, at 651-789-5218 or rhughes@dodgenaturecenter.org.



A Night for Nature

BENEFIT FOR DODGE NATURE CENTER AND PRESCHOOL

SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 22, 2019

SAINT PAUL RIVERCENTRE
175 WEST KELLOGG BLVD | SAINT PAUL, MN

Chairs Heather and Jason Sanders invite you to join the second annual A Night for Nature. Enjoy a fun evening of interactive stations, live auction, and program to raise money to support Dodge Nature Center's animal ambassadors.

5:00 p.m. - 7:00 p.m. Registration
Networking and Interactive Stations -
meet an animal, play games, win
Dodge Nature Center prizes and more!

Hosted heavy hors d'oeuvres
and cash bar

7:00 p.m. - 8:30 p.m. Dessert, Live Auction,
and Program

TICKETS: \$100 PER SEAT | \$1,000 PER TABLE

TO REGISTER, VISIT
DODGENATURECENTER.ORG/GET-INVOLVED

If you have questions or would like to host a table, contact
Rachel Hughes, Development Director at 651-789-5218
or by email rhughes@dodgenaturecenter.org

Nature Activities

SEPT. 2019 - FEB. 2020

For activity details and registration, visit
DodgeNatureCenter.org or call 651-455-4531

SEPTEMBER

5	Donor and Volunteer Appreciation Event	Donors/ Volunteers
10	Honey Harvest (O.W.L.S.)	Seniors
12	Nature After Dinner: Deer, Oh Deer	Families
20	Nature Playdate: Bugs and Slugs	Pre-K
22	A Night For Nature	Adults
26	Nature Trivia	Adults 21+

OCTOBER

2	Archery Apple Shoot	Families/ Youths 9+
5	Fall Phenology Family Hike	Families
8	In the Apple Orchard	Seniors
10	Nature After Dinner: Man in the Moon	Families
11	Nature Playdate: Autumn Apples	Pre-K
12	Chickens, Chickens Everywhere	Families
17, 18	Fall Break Camp	K-8th grades
22	Women in the Woods: Halloween Traditions	Women 21+
23	Women in the Woods: Halloween Traditions	Women 21+
26	Halloween Hoopla	Families

NOVEMBER

2	Turtles and Snakes, Oh My!	Families
12	Chickens in the Barnyard	Seniors
22	Nature Playdate: Creepy Creatures	Pre-K
29	Our Wild Neighbors #OptOutside	Families

DECEMBER

7	Stories in the Stars	Families
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JANUARY

11	Winter Phenology Family Hike	Families
21	Women in the Woods: Winter Rendezvous	Women 21+
22	Women in the Woods: Winter Rendezvous	Women 21+

FEBRUARY

13	Love in the Wild Date Night	Adults 21+
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COMING EVENTS

Donor and Volunteer Appreciation Event

5:30 - 7:30 p.m. Thursday, Sept. 5

5:45 p.m. Program and Volunteer
of the Year Award

6:00 p.m. Music

**Location: Main Property,
Farm Entrance 3
1701 Charlton Street
West St. Paul, MN**

Dodge wants thank you for all you do to make nature education possible! Enjoy complimentary beer, wine, soft drinks, and appetizers among friends. Live music performed by Font 16, featuring Tom Dodge and Kelly Clement. Meet us at the white farm house, now called the Olivia Irvine Dodge Library and History Center. RSVP by Friday, August 30, 2019 to Rosie Johnson, Office Coordinator, by email rjohnson@dodgenaturecenter.org or by phone 651-455-4531.

Fall Break Day Camps for Grades K-8

8:30 a.m. - 3:15 p.m.

Thursday, Oct. 17 and Friday, Oct. 18

**Location: Main Property,
Main Office Entrance 1,
365 Marie Avenue West
West St. Paul, MN**

Fall camps are full of energy and seasonal color. Send the kids on over to the nature center during MEA break. Featured camps include: Mystical Beasts, Outdoor Skills, Stone Age Technology, and Farm-Food-Fun. The deadline to register is Friday, Oct. 4, 2019. Camp details and application can be found on DodgeNatureCenter.org



NEW THIS YEAR! HALLOWEEN HOOPLA

2:00 - 5:00 p.m. Saturday Oct. 26

**Location: Main Property,
Farm Entrance 3,
1701 Charlton Street
West St. Paul, MN**

Dodge has a smorgasbord of activities to fulfill your Halloween craving. Hike through the friendly trick or treat forest and ride on the hay wagon to look for ghosts and goblins. Get your face painted, meet some slithery friends, and enjoy dancing and marshmallows at the bonfire. Grab a snack at concessions and enjoy silly science skits that will educate and entertain your family. Don't forget to play some games for a chance to win extra treats and prizes.

See rates and pre-register on DodgeNatureCenter.org before 12 noon on Friday, October 25th for an early bird rate. Ages 2 and under are free.



THANK YOU FOR ALL THAT YOU DO!

WE HOPE TO SEE YOU OUT AT DODGE!

**365 Marie Avenue West | West St Paul, MN 55118
651-455-4531 | DodgeNatureCenter.org**