

# Woods of Woods

Newsletter  
of the  
Forest Preserve  
District  
of the Kankakee  
River Valley

"All ethics so far evolved rest upon a single premise: that the individual is a member of a community of interdependent parts. The land ethic simply enlarges the boundaries of the community to include soils, waters, plants and animals, or collectively, the land... a land ethic changes the role of Homo Sapien from conqueror of the land community to plain member and citizen of it... it implies respect for his fellow members, and so also respect for the community as such."

— Aldo Leopold, "Sand County Almanac"

## An Ode To Your Kankakee Forest Preserve Sites



FOX PHOTO BY MIKE QUIGLEY

Walk **Shannon Bayou's** flowering tall grass prairie and bring a wee one for our new book trail, don't tarry!

Marvel at the jewel of all our sites. **Aroma Land and Water Reserve** boasts of not only a hidden forest, but wetlands too. Spot owls on a moonlit night!

Hidden at **Gar Creek**, hiking along the mighty Kankakee, you'll be greeted by mysterious tree carvings, maybe an eagle, fish or raccoon... a must see!

Walking **Waldron Arboretum** lets you identify many unique trees, and if you're real lucky a deer may run free.

**Snake Creek** need not scare one, as the waterway and woods will prove. Owls, ducks or a heron will delight those on the move.

**Strasma Grove** hides in a neighborhood, giving respite to those in need. If you can find it, feel free to sit under a lovely shade tree.

**Limestone** is a shared affair, reforested by students long ago. Walk thru and marvel at the now many mature trees and

wispy tall grasses.... hi ho!

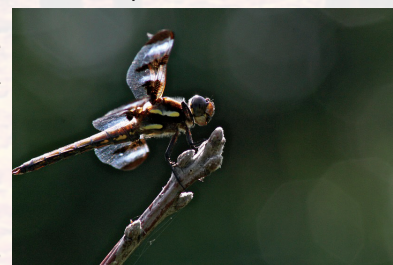


Prickly Pear In The Pines Photo by Mike Quigley

**Zeedyk Meadows**

is small but stately, as a song bird may sing aloud. A wetland that is wildly popular among migrating fowl.

Now **Hieland Lakes** is our newest preserve, with two connecting lakes. A great protected habitat for wildlife, and bring your fishing pole for goodness sake!



Dragon Spider Photo by Mike Quigley

— A J Ciaccio-Jarvis

Nature's peace will flow into you as sunshine flows into trees. The winds will blow their own freshness into you, and the storms their energy, while cares will drop off like autumn leaves.

— John Muir

# Acorns to Mighty Oak Trees

Have you ever wanted to grow a mighty oak tree from a tiny acorn? Oak trees are such beautiful trees, generously providing insects, birds and wildlife with an abundance of food and shelter. If there is space enough, adding one or more oak trees will give decades of value to a home. If there is an area in the yard for a small urban grove, the oaks can be mixed with companion hardwoods, understory shrubs and woodland wildflowers in the ground shaded by the leafy canopy. Bringing home a young sapling is one way to add trees to the landscape, but starting one from an acorn gathered from the landscape is also an option.

The prime time for collecting acorns is from late September through early November, depending on the oak tree species. Lawns and paved areas are good areas to collect acorns, where identifying acorns is easier. Always identify the tree and mark your collection bags so you will know what species you have collected. Make sure the acorns are not allowed to heat up or dry out, because they will lose their ability to germinate very quickly once they've dried out.

## White Oak Acorns

Immediate planting can be done with the acorns of the white oak family – white oak, burr oak, chestnut oak and swamp oak. White oak acorns mature in one season – the season of collection. White oak acorns will start to germinate very soon after maturing and falling to the ground. You can plant these acorns immediately, or refrigerate for later planting.

## Red Oak and Black Oak Acorns

Northern red oak and black oak acorns mature over two seasons, even as they are dropping this year's crop, there are half-grown acorns that will overwinter on the tree and mature the following year. The acorns of red and black oak species take two years to mature, and must be planted in the second season – the following spring, after stratification. The first year acorns of the red oak group needs some seed dormancy and stratification (a cooling period) and generally won't germinate until the following spring. To stratify acorns, dry them and place them in the refrigerator at 32 to 41 degrees Fahrenheit for 30-45 days, to mimic the natural cold winter season before germination can occur.

## Storing Acorns for Planting

Place the acorns in a 4-10 mil polyethylene plastic bag, with a damp peat mix or sawdust. The polyethylene bags are a good choice for storing acorns, because the bags allow the passage of carbon dioxide and oxygen, but are impermeable to moisture. Close the bags loosely and store in the refrigerator. Check the acorns throughout the winter and keep them just barely damp. Red oak acorns need about 1000 hours of cold at 40 degrees, or about 42 days; don't allow them to freeze however. These can be planted in late April of the following season for the best success, but can be planted later.

## Germinating and Potting Acorns

After determining the best time to plant, select the best looking acorns (plump and rot-free) and place in loose potting soil in pots that are one gallon or deeper. The



tap root will grow quickly to the bottom of containers and root width is not as important. The pots should have holes in the bottom to allow for drainage. Many gardeners advocate lining the bottom with small rocks or pot shard to enhance drainage and keep the roots from getting water-logged, which will drown the young plant. Place the acorns on their sides at a depth of one half to one times the width of the acorn. Keep the soil moist, and do not allow the pots to freeze.

## Planting Trees

Transplanting Oak Seedlings - transplant the seedlings as soon as the first leaves open and become firm but before extensive root development. Don't allow the oak seedling's tap root to grow out of the

container bottom and into the soil below, as the tap root will break when it is time to transplant the seedling. The planting hole should be twice as wide and deep as the pot and root ball. Carefully remove the root ball and set it gently in the hole with the root crown at the level of the soil surface. Fill the hole with soil, firmly tamp and soak. Tree nurseries often recommend that you do **not** amend the native soil with fertilizer, as that will discourage the young seedling from sending out roots. Organic soil microbes are a useful addition, however, simple compost is the best.

### Advice From A Tree

Stand Tall and Proud  
Go Out On A Limb  
Remember Your Roots  
Drink Plenty of Water  
Be Content With Your Natural Beauty  
Enjoy the View



520 year old oak at Great Oak Park, Peoria, Illinois.

### Resources:

Steve Nix, a professional forester, writes, blogs and maintains a forestry information web site:

<https://www.thoughtco.com/how-to-plant-an-acord-1343543>

<https://dnr.wi.gov/education/documents/StepbyStep.pdf>

<https://www.arboday.org/trees/treeguide/>

[http://www.waymarking.com/waymarks/WMBQ3K\\_Sentinel\\_On\\_the\\_Bluff\\_Peoria\\_Illinois](http://www.waymarking.com/waymarks/WMBQ3K_Sentinel_On_the_Bluff_Peoria_Illinois)

## Cedar Tree

I am the heat of your hearth on the cold winter nights,  
the friendly shade screening you from summer sun,  
and the dancing bows that capture your imagination.

I am the beam that holds your house, the board of your table,  
and the roof that shelters you from rain.

I am the handle of your shovel, the bark of your basket,  
and the hull of your canoe.

I am the medicine that heals you, the incense that carries your prayers,  
and tea that is used to cleanse your home.

I am the wood of your cradle and the shell of your coffin.

I am the breath of kindness and the flower of beauty.

“Ye who pass by me, listen to my prayer: Harm me not.”

*Adapted by Elise Krohn from “Prayer of the Woods,”  
a Portuguese forest preservation prayer  
that has been used for more than 1,000 years.*

*Author unknown*





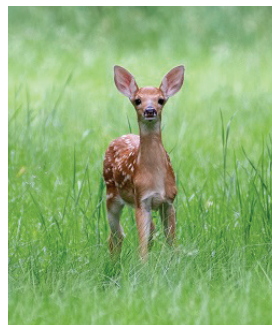
The woods are awakening as I settle into a spot at the base of a tree on the edge of a clearing. The unmistakable smell of freshness fills the late spring air. If I remain silent I can hear the sound the leaves make as the sun rises and first hits the tops of the trees on this very early, still morning. Little bits of buds fall from new growth in the treetops as the woods awaken. It sounds like the lightest sprinkles of rain as they make their way to the ground below.

Across the clearing, Mama raccoon leads her 5 babies to a nearby hiding spot where they will spend the day. Bunnies hop around in the dewy grass. Squirrels scurry down from nests high in the green canopy. They chase each other playfully around and around the trunk, into the grassy space, back up another tree, across the branches, returning to their starting spot. They shake their tails and scold each other noisily.

The Robins were awake before I arrived. After all, the early bird gets the worm. They belt out their morning song from lower limbs. Meanwhile a male Baltimore Oriole sings loudly from high in a tree to make sure all within earshot know that this is HIS turf. Woodpeckers begin to tap tap tap in search of bugs. I hear several other birds that I cannot readily identify by their song but it is a beautiful, peaceful sound. Somewhere nearby a group of Red Winged Blackbirds are protesting. The cardinals soon join in with their tell-tale "Tink Tink Tink" alarm call. I imagine there is a perceived threat. Perhaps a cat, an owl or some type of hawk has encroached in their nesting area.

Several geese squawk loudly as they fly overhead towards the nearby river.

A feral cat walks by and sprays some weeds so everyone



## Early Morning In The Clearing

knows he was here. His black and white fir looks out of place amidst the greenery. At first he doesn't notice me sitting very close by. He nibbles on some long blades of grass. Suddenly he spots me and freezes. He sticks out his tongue as if to say "You don't scare me". He finishes his little snack and slowly walks on.

Off to my left a small buck spots me as I sit oh so still. His little nubs of late spring antlers are covered in velvet. I am not sure he knows exactly what he is looking at but he seems certain something is not as it should be. He gives a huff and stomps his hoof. When I make no response, he barks his alarm and bounds off quickly, white tail straight up in the air. Through an opening, I notice a couple of deer walking slowly along a distant tree line. One stretches up as high as she can reach to grab some leaves and I notice her swollen udders. She must have a baby nearby. I hope I get to see it. A short while later, the doe leads her young, curious, still wobbly legged fawn out into the clearing in search of fresh grasses. I can't help but notice how tiny baby is compared to Mama. He has a lot of growing to do. I don't move a muscle so as not to disturb them. In a few short minutes they head back into the trees and out of sight. I feel honored to have seen them like this.

This is the quiet of the morning in the clearing. My favorite time of day. I am all too aware that I am only a visitor here so I reluctantly rise from my spot, gather my belongings and walk out slowly and quietly. I leave only my footprints. I will no doubt be back.

– *Sharlene Parr*

## PLANTING TREES

In the mating of trees, the pollen grain entering  
invisible the doomed room of the winds,  
survives the ghost of the old forest  
that was here when we came.

The ground invites it, and it will not be gone.  
I become the familiar of that ghost and its ally, carrying in a  
bucket twenty trees smaller than weeds,  
and I plant them along the way  
of the departure of the ancient host.  
I return to the ground its original music.

It will rise out of the horizon  
of the grass, and over the heads  
of the weeds, and it will rise over  
the horizon of men's heads. As I age  
in the world it will rise and spread,  
and be for this place horizon  
and orison, the voice of its winds.

I have made myself a dream to dream  
of its rising, that has gentled my nights.

Let me desire and wish well the life  
these trees may live when I  
no longer rise in the mornings  
to be pleased by the green of them  
shining, and their shadows on the ground,  
and the sound of the wind in them.

– *Wendell Berry*

# Kankakee Valley Audubon Society



WREN PHOTO BY JOHN BAXTER



SONG SPARROW PHOTO BY JOHN BAXTER



COOPERS HAWK PHOTO BY JOHN BAXTER



HERON PHOTO BY MIKE QUIGLEY

## *Fall and Winter Activities*

Jasper-Pulaski Wildlife Area - Jasper-Pulaski is a fall gathering place for migrating Sandhill cranes. At dusk cranes fly into the area by the thousands from every direction. Peak numbers occur from late October to mid-November. Take IL 114 east from Momence and proceed on IN 10. Keep going straight (regardless of the route numbers) until you must turn. Then go south ½ mile and turn east again. It is then about 3 miles to Jasper-Pulaski. It is a one hour drive from Momence. It is best to arrive a bit before the sun begins to set. *We are hoping to organize a group time for this in November.*

2019 Spring Count - Thanks to all who participated in the spring count on May 4. We observed 145 species in Kankakee County. Our record is 161 species in 2009.

Jed Hertz is again organizing the Christmas Count. We have tentatively set the date for Saturday, December 28, 2019, but are leaving January 4 open as an alternative. We'll have more information later. Contact Jed at [jhh\\_60910@yahoo.com](mailto:jhh_60910@yahoo.com) or 815-937-9530 if you'd like to participate.

*Send correspondence to:*

Roberta Slaby, 3956A N 3000 W Rd., Bourbonnais, IL 60914.

Please make checks payable to Kankakee Valley Audubon Society.

Kankakee Valley Audubon Society is an affiliate of the Illinois Audubon Society.

### ANNUAL DUES:

Single: \$5

Family:\$8

### KVAS OFFICERS:

David Atkinson, President ..... [daveannaatk@att.net](mailto:daveannaatk@att.net) ..... 932-6457  
Roberta Slaby, Secretary-treasurer ..... [robertaslaby@gmail.com](mailto:robertaslaby@gmail.com) ..... 791-5955  
John Baxter, Field Trip Chairman ..... [xxjb7z@aol.com](mailto:xxjb7z@aol.com) ..... 937-5059

Look at the trees, look at the birds,  
look at the clouds, look at the stars...  
and if you have eyes you will be able to  
see that the whole existence is joyful.

Everything is simply happy.

Trees are happy for no reason;  
they are not going to become  
prime ministers or presidents and  
they are not going to become rich and  
they will never have any bank balance.

Look at the flowers - for no reason.

It is simply unbelievable  
how happy flowers are.

— Osbo



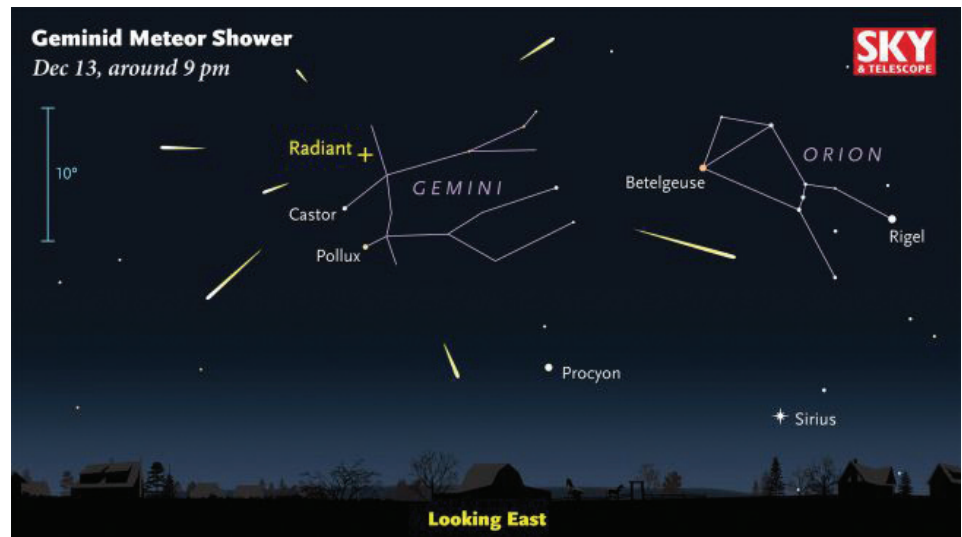
*Nature's peace will flow into you  
as sunshine flows into trees.  
The winds will blow their own  
freshness into you, and the storms  
their energy, while cares will  
drop off like autumn leaves.*

— John Muir

# December Geminids Meteor Shower

One of the best meteor showers of the year shows up in mid-December. The peak activity for this year's Geminids meteor shower will be on December 13th and early morning of the 14th. Even after peak dates, bright meteors can be seen for a few days. This year, light from a nearly full moon will make only the brightest easy to see. Geminids is one major display of "shooting stars" that is very active before midnight, showing strongly from 10 pm on into the wee hours of the following morning. This year, due to moonlight, there will be more like 20-30 visible per hour. The best time to see them may be 2:00 a.m. Meteors will radiate from the constellation Gemini, but can appear anywhere in the sky.

The existence of the shower wasn't known until 1983, when NASA's infrared Astronomical Satellite (IRAF) discovered 3200 Phaethon, an asteroid with a highly elliptical path crossing Earth's orbit, the timing lining up with the appearance of the Geminids. Phaethon may have collided with another object, leaving a trail



of dust that Earth passes through, creating the meteor shower. Asteroids typically do not leave the trail that generates meteor showers; most often it is comets that leave a trail of "dust" that we see as meteor showers when Earth's orbit crosses the trail of debris. Phaethon presents a bit of a mystery to astronomers, possibly an asteroid that broke apart, or an extinct comet. 3200 Phaethon may have formed when a large asteroid split into pieces sometime in the last 800 years. Another possibility may be that 3200 Phaethon was a comet that has had all its volatiles burned off.

[www.space.com/34921-geminid-meteor-shower-guide.html](http://www.space.com/34921-geminid-meteor-shower-guide.html)

## WEB RESOURCES

### Astronomy & Meteorology

[www.noaa.gov](http://www.noaa.gov) ..... National Oceanic & Atmospheric Administration  
[www.ngdc.noaa.gov](http://www.ngdc.noaa.gov) ..... National Geophysical data center  
[www.hubblesite.org](http://www.hubblesite.org) ..... Hubble Telescope  
[www.nasa.gov](http://www.nasa.gov) ..... National Aeronautics and Space Administration  
[www.skyandtelescope.com](http://www.skyandtelescope.com) ..... Astronomy site  
[www.skyandtelescope.com/observing/skychart/article\\_1220\\_1.asp](http://www.skyandtelescope.com/observing/skychart/article_1220_1.asp) ..... (daily local sky chart)  
[www.usno.navy.mil](http://www.usno.navy.mil) ..... U.S. Naval Observatory (including moon phases)  
[www.tycho.usno.navy.mil/vphase.html](http://www.tycho.usno.navy.mil/vphase.html) ..... Virtual Reality Moon Phase Pictures  
[www.mlo.noaa.gov/](http://www.mlo.noaa.gov/) ..... Mauna Loa Observatory  
[www.who.edu/institutes/occi/currenttopics/ct\\_abruptclimate.htm](http://www.who.edu/institutes/occi/currenttopics/ct_abruptclimate.htm) ..... Climate Change

### Geology

[www.usgs.gov](http://www.usgs.gov) ..... United States Geological Survey  
[www.scotese.com](http://www.scotese.com) ..... Paleo map Project  
[www.vulcan.wr.usgs.gov/](http://www.vulcan.wr.usgs.gov/) ..... Cascades Volcano Observatory  
[www.drgeorgepc.com](http://www.drgeorgepc.com) ..... The Tsunami Page

### Federal and State Agencies

[www.dnr.state.il.us/](http://www.dnr.state.il.us/) ..... Illinois Department of Natural Resources  
[www.fws.gov/](http://www.fws.gov/) ..... U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service  
[www.fs.fed.us/](http://www.fs.fed.us/) ..... USDA Forest Service  
[www.nps.gov/](http://www.nps.gov/) ..... National Park Service

### Conservation & Preservation

[www.amrivers.org/](http://www.amrivers.org/) ..... American Rivers  
[www.nature.org](http://www.nature.org) ..... The Nature Conservancy

[www.naturalarea.org/](http://www.naturalarea.org/) ..... Natural Areas Association  
[www.lta.org/](http://www.lta.org/) ..... Land Trust Alliance  
[www.oceanconservancy.org](http://www.oceanconservancy.org) ..... Ocean Conservancy  
[www.audubon.org/](http://www.audubon.org/) ..... Audubon

### Sustainable

[www.theresiliencyinstitute.net/](http://www.theresiliencyinstitute.net/) ..... Permaculture & medicinal herbal classes  
[www.buildinggreen.com/](http://www.buildinggreen.com/) ..... Green construction design  
[www.rmi.org/](http://www.rmi.org/) ..... Rocky Mountain Institute:  
sustainable energy & natural capitalism  
[www.attra.org](http://www.attra.org) ..... National Sustainable Agriculture Information Service  
[www.permacultureinternational.org/](http://www.permacultureinternational.org/) ..... Permaculture International Ltd.  
[www.seedballs.com/](http://www.seedballs.com/) ..... Sustainable agriculture, ecology  
[www.strawrevolution.com](http://www.strawrevolution.com) ..... More on sustainable living

### Outdoors Skills Programs:

University of Illinois Extension, Kankakee County Master Naturalists:  
[www.extension.illinois.edu/gkw/kankakee-county-master-naturalists](http://www.extension.illinois.edu/gkw/kankakee-county-master-naturalists)

Becoming an Outdoors-Woman (Bow) – giving women introductory experiences and instruction in various outdoor activities. Three-day workshop activities include recreational activities, shooting sports, and outdoor crafts and hobbies:  
[www.dnr.illinois.gov/recreation/BOW/Pages/default.aspx](http://www.dnr.illinois.gov/recreation/BOW/Pages/default.aspx)

REI Classes and Events near Chicago, IL:  
[www.rei.com/events/p/us-il-chicago](http://www.rei.com/events/p/us-il-chicago)

Nature, Animal Tracking, Medicinal Plants, Youth Programs, Teen Camps, Wilderness Survival Skills, Leadership - Located in Bloomington, Indiana  
[www.wildnatureproject.com/index.html](http://www.wildnatureproject.com/index.html)

# FOREST PRESERVE SITES

## **Shannon Bayou Environmental Education Center and Administrative Office**

This 46-acre preserve is located at 3301 Waldron Road in Aroma Park, along the Kankakee River. The Center provides space for programs about natural history, ecology and preservation of open space in the Kankakee River Valley. The walking trail features plantings of many native trees and plants, including native tallgrass prairie species and a butterfly garden of native plants. The site includes 3/4 mile asphalt and fine gravel walking trail, a picnic shelter, and picnic tables.

The Storybook Trail at Shannon Bayou combines reading with physical fitness. The trail takes you around the perimeter of the Shannon Bayou savanna; pages from a picture book are framed and posted along the path. To read the whole story, the reader must walk (or run) from one sign to the other. The project was made possible by the George See Memorial, University of Illinois Extension, Kankakee County, and the Kankakee River Valley Forest Preserve.

3301 Waldron Rd • Aroma Park, IL 60910  
41°04'47.61"N  
87°48'44.31"W

## **Aroma Land and Water Reserve**

One of the best sites in the area for woodland wildflowers, this 140 acre site is located on Hieland Road, 1.4 miles south of Highway 17 East. A 1.2 mile walking trail winds through several different types of natural areas, including high quality forest, prairie, and wetland ecosystems. It also has nearly 1/4 mile of Kankakee River frontage and the associated floodplain forest.

The Forest Preserve mows a loop trail that branches off the existing 1 1/4 mile trail that meanders through the main body of the Aroma LWR. In the summer of 2011, 49.5 acres of mixed pine and hardwood forest was added.

Approximately 40 percent of the Aroma Preserve is a wetland and lies within the flood plain of the Kankakee River. In the spring, the wet oak forest gives a spectacular wildflower display while the wetland and sand prairie are the most colorful in the summer. There is ample parking in the parking lot on Hieland Road next to the playground.

1578 S. Hieland Rd. • St. Anne, IL 60964  
41°06'02.90"N  
87°45'24.08"W

## **Gar Creek Trail and Prairie Restoration**

Approximately 85 acres, this site is located about one-half mile east of Route 45 on River Road adjacent to Kankakee Community College. The 16-acre restored tall grass prairie was planted in 1992. A 3/4 mile trail begins at the prairie and winds along Gar Creek through oak woodland and down to the banks of the Kankakee River.

At river's edge, the trail connects with the Kankakee Riverfront Trail Project, which starts at the River Road Ball Diamonds. It then continues through Kankakee Community College, Kankakee River Valley Forest Preserve, and Shapiro Developmental Center. The trail connects through the City of Kankakee and runs through the Perry Farm which is a part of the Bourbonnais Township Park District.

501 River Road • Kankakee, IL 60901  
41°05'30.84"N  
87°51'32.78"W

## **Waldron Arboretum**

Located 1.1 miles south of Interstate 57, this site was once a landscape nursery. On this 90 acre site, there is a fine gravel hiking trail suitable for bicycling and cross country skiing. The trail winds through 30 acres of woods, including a small prairie restoration area. In the winter of 2008, the District acquired the other 60 acre parcel which had been primarily in agriculture. Future development plans are pending based on the district's needs and funds available through federal and state grants.

2755 Waldron Rd. • Aroma Park, IL 60910  
41°05'36.28"N  
87°49'26.51"W

## **Hieland Lakes Nature Preserve**

The Forest Preserve has a new site located about three miles east of Kankakee on Route 17. The new site is 64 acres, including two connected lakes. An aquatic survey will be conducted to determine the fish population; meanwhile, limited fishing is allowed. Bluegill may be kept by anglers - all other fish are catch-and-release.

Plans for the site include planting native wildflowers, prairie restoration and creation of a walking path. At this time, there is a mowed walking path, a parking

lot, and a bridge at the point where the two lakes connect.

The site is a former sand gravel quarry, and while at this time before restoration gets underway, there is not much in the way of native ecosystem remaining. The site offers a sparse population of native plant life and the area is abundant with wildlife such as deer, fox, coyote, and waterfowl including wood ducks, great blue heron and egret.

6692 Route 17 East • St. Anne, IL 60964  
41°7'02.23"N  
87°44'24.82"W

## **Strasma Grove**

Nested adjacent to Sunnyside neighborhood in Kankakee, this site is 2 acres of mature native trees with a mowed trail.

Duane Boulevard • Kankakee, IL 60901  
41°06'28.33"N  
87°59'43.56"W

## **Limestone Reforestation Site**

This site is a 30 acre preserve and reforestation site, with mixed trees and grasses. The site is presently being managed by the Limestone Park District as part of an intergovernmental agreement.

County Road 3750 West  
Kankakee, IL 60901  
41°08'38.96"N  
87°56'51.08"W

## **Zeedyk Meadows**

Four acre sanctuary, although wet, contains many young trees and grasses that hold some songbirds and migrant species in the spring and fall. The Forest Preserve is still working on a long range development plan for this property. Located across the street from Station 2 of the Aroma Fire Protection District.

Warren Street • St. Anne, IL 60964  
41°06'24.92"N  
87°44'35.77"W

## **Snake Creek Preserve**

Four acre finger of property running parallel to Snake Creek as it meets the Kankakee River. The creek and small woods are full of birds, owls, ducks and heron. There are also beaver, muskrat, frogs and is a great place to fish or just relax.

5800 Darline Dr. • St Anne, IL 60964  
41.109752"N  
87.756308"W



## ***Kankakee River Valley Forest Preserve District***

3301 Waldron Road • P.O. Box 13  
Aroma Park, Illinois 60910  
815-935-5630

Web address: [www.krvfpd.org](http://www.krvfpd.org)  
E-mail: [forest@krvfpd.org](mailto:forest@krvfpd.org)  
Facebook: [www.facebook.com/KRVFPD/](http://www.facebook.com/KRVFPD/)

PRSRT STD  
U.S. POSTAGE  
**PAID**  
Permit #135  
Kankakee, IL

**Return Service Requested**

### **Board of Commissioners**

Michael Quigley.....President  
Sharlene Parr .....Treasurer  
Amy Ciaccio-Jarvis.....Secretary  
Steve Worth • Tim Wilhelm

### **Staff**

Dale Huizenga..... Administrator  
Mike Morgan .....Maintenance Supervisor  
Doug Short .....Site Development Director  
Jean Hurrle .....Editor

But when I consider that the nobler animals have been exterminated here - the cougar, panther, lynx, wolverine, wolf, bear, moose, deer, the beaver, the turkey, etc., etc. - I cannot but feel as if I live in a tamed, and as it were, emasculated country... I listen to a concert in which so many parts are wanting... for instance, thinking that I have here the entire poem, and then, to my chagrin, I hear that it is but an imperfect copy that I possess and have read, that my ancestors have torn out many of the first leaves and grandest passages.

- Henry David Thoreau, *Journal*,

**If you would like to subscribe to this  
free Newsletter, or to send an article,  
contact the Forest Preserve Office  
at 815-935-5630**

