



LaRue Pine Hills Appreciation Day

April 12, 2014

On-Site Guided Tours

9:30—10:00 am— Arrive & Register— meet at Winter's Pond (directions on backside).

10:00am— Reptile & Amphibian Talk —Join Scott Ballard, herpetologist with the IDNR, for a walk down LaRue Road (also known as the “Snake Road”) where every spring hundreds of reptiles and amphibians migrate across the road leaving their winter hibernation in the bluffs to their summer swamp habitat. About 66% of the amphibians and 59% of reptile species in Illinois are found in LaRue Pine Hills Research Natural Area (RNA).

10:00am— Native Plants and Natural History of LaRue Pine Hills—Join Karla Gage, director of the River to River Coop. Weed Mgmt. and Andy West, ecologist as they hike Inspiration Point Trail interpreting the rich ecology of LaRue Pine Hills RNA and the non-native species threatening many of our natural areas today.

For more information:

<http://fs.usda.gov/shawnee>

Shawnee National Forest 618-253-7114

This is a free, event for all ages; it will take place rain or shine. Bring a sack lunch, water, and come dressed for the weather.

Parking is limited— Please carpool



Directions to LaRue Pine Hills -Winter's Pond

From Jonesboro: take Highway 146 west 8 miles to Highway 3, then north 8 miles on Hwy 3 to Muddy Levee Road and turn right. Then east 3 miles to LaRue Road where the road T's. Here, turn right for Winters Pond parking area and the 'Snake Road' or turn left and proceed 0.6 miles to Pine Hills Road. At this point you are at the north end of the RNA.

From Murphysboro: Take Highway 149 west 7 miles to Highway 3; then south 14 miles on Hwy 3 to Muddy Levee Road. Then east 3 miles to LaRue Road where the road T's. Here, turn right for Winters Pond parking area and the 'Snake Road' or turn left and proceed 0.6 miles to Pine Hills Road. At this point you are at the north end of the RNA.

