



Shawnee National Forest

2015

Fall Calendar of Events

September

Project Learning Tree® (PLT) for Families & Homeschool

Tuesday, September 22

9:00 am – 2:00 pm

Cache River Wetlands Center

Parents, grandparents, outdoor educators & youth group educators, can expand their knowledge and skills to help expose children to the natural world using Project Learning Tree® (PLT) activities. PLT is a collection of award winning, multi-disciplinary environmental education activity guides for educators and students in Pre K-grade 12.

Cost = \$20 (Includes *Nature Activities for Families* guide, resources and snacks)

Contact Molie Oliver, 618-657-2064, for information and registration.

National Public Lands Day

Join the USFS and the Friends of the Shawnee for a day of service on your public lands! There will be 2 different events to participate in:

Saturday, September 26

10:00 am -2:00 pm

Panther Den Wilderness Trailhead

Registration is required by the Thursday before service day contact Kelly Pearson, 618-833-8576 X106 or kdpearson@fs.fed.us.

Volunteers will be working on the trails in Panther Den Wilderness. Wear long pants & sturdy shoes, bring a water bottle, lunch and small back pack if have one.

Additional Shawnee Volunteer Corps Service Days:

Oct 24th - Panther Den Wilderness (10:00am-2:00pm)

Nov 7th - Panther Den Wilderness (10:00am-2:00pm)

Saturday, September 26

10:00 am-1:00 pm

Garden of the Gods

For more information, visit

www.shawneefriends.org.

Volunteers will be participating in a clean-up at Garden of the Gods with the Friends of the Shawnee. There will be food and prizes so come out and join the fun!

Trigg's Ozark Trails and Tours

Saturday, September 26th

Departs Harrisburg, IL

Cost = \$75 (includes presenters, transportation, t-shirt, lunch and dinner)

For more information or to register visit

www.illinoisozarks.com or email info@illinoisozarks.com or call 618-264-5854

Join the 2015 Ozark Tour and their experienced guides as they lead you to unique historical sites and natural features such as **Miller Grove, Bell Smith Springs, and Buffalo Rock**. Registration is required and includes transportation, souvenir T-shirt, box lunch, and catered dinner at the Saline Creek Pioneer Village and Museum with a special presentation on the Underground Railroad in southern Illinois. Moderate hiking will be required, so grab your boots and we'll save you a seat on the bus.

Event made possible with the help of the Illinois Ozarks & Saline County Tourism. www.illinoisozarks.com



Forest Service

Shawnee National Forest
50 Hwy 145 South
Harrisburg, IL 62946
www.fs.usda.gov/shawnee

USDA is an equal opportunity provider, employer and lender.

October

Guided Hike at LaRue Pine Hills-Snake Road

**Saturday, October 3
1200 pm**

Winter's Pond (north end Snake Rd.)

For more information, contact Mississippi Bluffs Ranger District 618-833-8576

Join IDNR Natural Heritage Biologist Scott Ballard for a guided hike on Snake Road. Learn about the variety of reptiles and amphibians that are found in this ecologically rich area. Long pants, hiking shoes and water are recommended.

Critter Night

Friday, October 16

4:30 pm-6:30 pm

**Lincoln Memorial Picnic Grounds,
Jonesboro, IL**

Large groups (Scouts, 4-H Club, etc.) call ahead to preregister, Mississippi Bluffs Ranger District 618-833-8576

Come join the Forest Service, Friends of the Shawnee National Forest, and UNIMIN Minerals, Inc. in an educational evening of activities and crafts centered on nocturnal animals. Free Again, Inc. will be presenting "Birds of Prey" so please bring a lawn chair or a blanket.

Wildflower Walks

Saturday, Oct 24

Atwood Ridge, Jonesboro

Meet at the Mississippi Bluffs RD office in Jonesboro

Sunday, Oct 25

**Lusk Creek Canyon Wilderness
Eddyville, IL**

Meet at the gas station in Eddyville

Led by Naturalist Chris Benda, participants will learn how to identify common plants and flowers and be provided with handouts about plant id terminology, field guides and web resources, along with information on invasive species.

Please come dressed for the weather and bring water. Both hikes will last up to 4 hours and will meet at 1100am. Reservations are encouraged as hikes will be limited to first 20 participants. Contact Chris Benda at botanizer@gmail.com

Oaktober (Oak Awareness Month)

Wednesday, October 7

2:00 pm-5:00 pm

Rim Rock Trail

Gallatin County, IL

There are over 30 species of oak found in southern Illinois and where best to enjoy Oaktober than a walk through the forest. Join our botanists on a guided hike along the Rim Rock Trail where you will learn about the life of this majestic tree species.

Sustainable Living Expo

Saturday, October 24

9:00 am - 4:00 pm

Dixon Springs Agricultural Center

For more information, visit www.slexpo.org

Come out and learn about living a sustainable life! The day will include presentations, demonstrations, exhibits, kids' activities, local artisans and vendors all focused on local foods, conservation, energy and much more. This event will be held rain or shine – bring the whole family!

November

Project WET Workshop

Registration is required for this workshop. Fee is \$40 and includes *Project WET Curriculum and Activity Guide 2.0*, resources and snacks. For more information call 618-833-8576 ext.104

Saturday, Nov 7

9:00 am-3:30 pm

**Touch of Nature Environmental
Center, Makanda, IL**

Project WET (Water Education for Teachers) is a national curriculum designed to promote awareness, appreciation, knowledge and stewardship of water resources. This workshop is for formal & non-formal teachers and anyone working with grades K -12. PDH's will be available.