



6.3.10

Midewin National Tallgrass Prairie

Welcome Center Hours 8 am-4:30 pm (Mon-Sat)

30239 South State Route 53

Wilmington, IL 60481

Phone: 815-423-6370

<http://www.fs.fed.us/mntp>

## Midewin Meadowlark Messenger June 2010

### Here's what the bird is bringin'

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## ☆ Calendar of Volunteer Workdays/ Events for June-August

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Date and Day	Time	Meeting Location	Activities
5 June 2010 Saturday	8:30am - 10:30am	Call for specific directions	History on Horseback Tour
5 June 2010 Saturday	1:00pm -3:00pm	Midewin SO (Welcome Center)	Bike Tour
9 June 2010 Wednesday	7:00pm - 9:00pm	Midewin SO (Welcome Center)	Cemetery at Dusk Tour
12 June 2010 Saturday	10:00am - 3:00pm	Lincoln Park Zoo	National Get Outdoors Day: Come visit the Midewin booth and enjoy free exhibits.
12 June 2010 Saturday	9:00am - 2:30pm	Midewin SO (Horticulture Bldg.)	<b>National Get Outdoors Day:</b> Restoration Workday: Installing wet prairie plant species in a habitat restoration project.
17 June 2010 Thursday	9:00am - 2:30pm	Midewin SO (Horticulture Bldg)	<b>Restoration Workday:</b> Installing wet prairie plant species in a habitat restoration project. <i>Free Lunch and T-shirts provided by The Wetlands Initiative. 50 max.</i>
19 June 2010 Saturday	8:00am - 10:00am	Midewin SO (Welcome Center)	Birds East Tour
19 June 2010 Saturday	9:00am - 3:00pm	Midewin SO (Welcome Center)	<b>Heritage Workday: Arsenal building clean-up (physically demanding). RSVP required.</b>
26 June 2010 Saturday	9:00am - 2:30pm	River Road Seed Beds	Restoration Workday: Installing prairie plant plugs at River Road seed beds. <i>Free T-shirts provided by The Wetlands Initiative.</i>
26 June 2010 Saturday	10:00am - 2:00pm	Midewin SO (Welcome Center)	Ghosts of the Ammunition Plant Tour

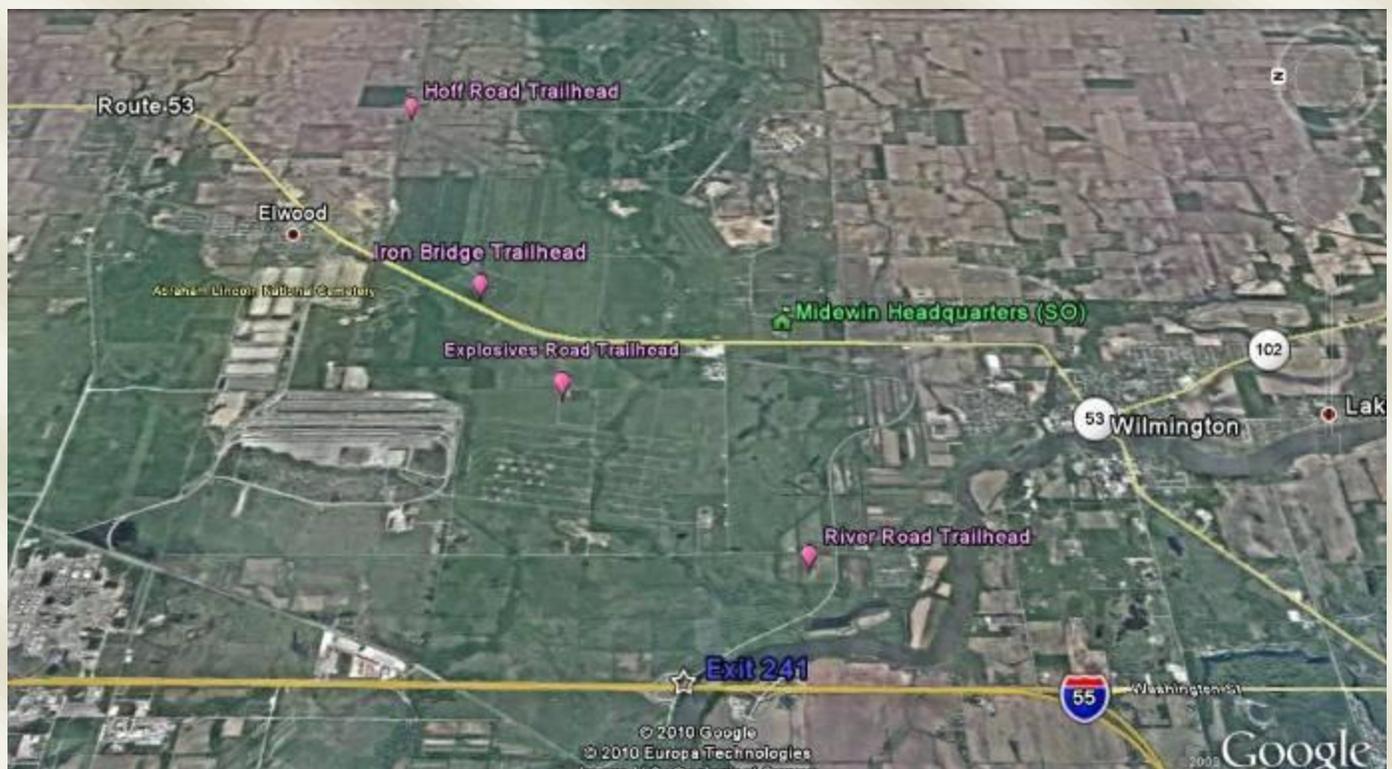
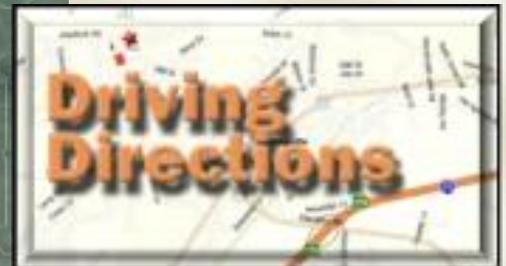


30 June 2010 Wednesday	10:00am - Noon	Midewin SO (Welcome Center)	Midewin for Kids: Making Gourd Birdhouses 
30 June 2010 Wednesday	6:00pm – 9:00pm	Midewin SO (Welcome Center)	Interpretive Skills Workshop: Training for volunteers who work with the public
1 July 2010 Thursday	8:00am – 12:30pm	Midewin SO (Horticulture Bldg)	Restoration Workday: Wild Seed marking & collecting. <i>Free T-shirts provided by The Wetlands Initiative.</i>
3 July 2010 Saturday	8:00am - 10:00am	Midewin SO (Welcome Center)	Birds West Tour
3 July 2010 Saturday	8:30am - 10:30am	Call for specific directions	History on Horseback Tour
10 July 2010 Saturday	10:00am - Noon	Midewin SO (Welcome Center)	Bike Tour
15 July 2010 Thursday	8:00am – 12:30pm	Midewin SO (Horticulture Bldg)	Restoration Workday: Invasive Plant Control. <i>Free T-shirts provided by The Wetlands Initiative.</i>
<b>17 July 2010 Saturday</b>	<b>9:00 am – 3:00pm</b>	<b>Midewin SO (Welcome Center)</b>	<b>Heritage Workday: Arsenal History Documenting bunkerglyphs.</b>
17 July 2010 Saturday	10:00am - Noon	River Road Seedbeds	War Plants to Prairie Plants Tour
28 July 2010 Wednesday	10:00am – Noon	Midewin SO (Welcome Center)	Midewin for Kids: Reptiles and Amphibians 
7 August 2010 Saturday	8:30am - 10:30am	Call for specific directions	History on Horseback Tour
7 August 2010 Saturday	9:00am – 12:30pm	Midewin SO (Horticulture Bldg.)	Restoration Workday: Installing prairie/wetland plant plugs in a habitat restoration project. <i>Free T-shirts provided by The Wetlands Initiative.</i>
7 August 2010 Saturday	10:00am - Noon	Midewin SO (Welcome Center)	What's With the Cows? Program
12 August 2010 Thursday	8:00am – 12:30pm	Midewin SO (Horticulture Bldg)	Restoration Workday: Wild Seed marking & collecting <i>Free T-shirts provided by The Wetlands Initiative.</i>
14 August 2010 Saturday	8:00am - 10:00am	Midewin SO (Welcome Center)	Birds East Tour 
18 August 2010 Wednesday	10:00am - Noon	Midewin SO (Welcome Center)	Midewin for Kids: Critter Hike
21 August 2010 Saturday	9:00 am – 2:30pm	River Road Seed Beds	Restoration Workday: Installing prairie plant plugs at River Road. <i>Free T-shirts provided by The Wetlands Initiative.</i>
26 August 2010 Thursday	8:00 am - Noon	Midewin SO (Horticulture Bldg)	Restoration Workday: Invasive Plant Control <i>Free T-shirts provided by The Wetlands Initiative.</i>
28 August 2010 Saturday	10:00am - 2:00pm	Midewin SO (Welcome Center)	Ghosts of the Ammunition Plant Tour

For more information about the workdays and events listed or to RSVP contact Allison Hedden, Volunteer Coordinator at 815-423-2149 or [ahedden@fs.fed.us](mailto:ahedden@fs.fed.us).

Knowing how many volunteers will attend a workday allows Midewin staff to better organize the workday, and we can inform you of any changes. *Workdays may be cancelled if extreme weather occurs (again, please call ahead).*

If you plan on staying for the entire workday, please bring your lunch. As always, Midewin will provide tools, safety gear, and water for volunteers. Children are welcome, but must be accompanied and supervised by a parent, guardian or chaperones (for educational groups). Volunteer groups are welcome to join our workdays; many hands make for light work. Please do not bring dogs or other pets to workdays.



# National Get Outdoors Day



Saturday, June 12, 2010

**When:** 9:00am - 2:30pm

**Where:** Meet at the Horticulture Building.

**What:** Planting prairie/wetland plugs in a habitat project.

**RSVP:** Contact Allison at [ahedden@fs.fed.us](mailto:ahedden@fs.fed.us) or (815) 423-2149.

Only 0.01% prairie habitat remains in the so-called 'Prairie State.' Volunteers who help out on NGOD contribute to restoring our natural heritage and receive a keychain compass, courtesy of GetOutdoorsUSA! Bring your family!

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# ☆ Reminiscing Spring with the Volunteer Staff [Back to Top](#)

Biannual plant moving day: out of the bunkers and into the shade house. Piece of cake with 25 pairs of helping hands!



Students from Reed Custer in Braidwood helped cut and mark the Autumn Olive and Amur Honeysuckle invaders



Arthur Melville Pearson and John Field help sandbag a culvert in the Middle Grant Creek wetland restoration area for temporary erosion control.



'Tis the season for weeding and planting! The Volunteer Staff play a critical role in restoration and seedbed care.





Scout Troops 891 and Troop 1006 helped with some weed management at the River Road Seedbeds.

Troop 891 took a break, grabbed nets and jars and learned proper technique to catch and release this Dragonfly.

Garlic Mustard, garlic mustard, and more garlic mustard..... What can I say besides Thank You So Much to all who helped keep it under control this season.



The Midewin USFS Staff spent a day at the Abraham Lincoln National Cemetery prepping for Memorial Day. We learned how to align the headstones with wood boards and also cleaned them up. Overall we felt proud to honor our fallen soldiers and help our neighboring staff.

## ☆ Midewin Workshop (open to all): Tour Guide Basics

If you have ever been interested in what it takes to lead a tour, we highly recommend this workshop. This workshop should also be used as a refresher for seasoned tour guides. There is no commitment to lead Midewin tours, although that would be fantastic! We will welcome Cheryl McGarry to Midewin from Cook County Forest Preserve to present 'Interpretive Skills.' Please join us at

**Midewin's Welcome Center on Wednesday, June 30 from 6pm-9pm.**

Please RSVP to Allison Hedden at 815-423-2149 or [ahedden@fs.fed.us](mailto:ahedden@fs.fed.us).

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## ☆ Tour Descriptions [Back to Top](#)

The U.S. Forest Service will offer FREE public tours May through October featuring the natural and cultural history of the Midewin National Tallgrass Prairie.

Advanced registration is required. Leave a message at (815) 423-2170 or email [LBazan@fs.fed.us](mailto:LBazan@fs.fed.us). Please leave contact info in case we need to contact you about cancellations or changes to the tour schedule.

Tour Descriptions and Schedule

<http://www.fs.fed.us/mntp/visiting/tours.htm>



Tour Guide Lorin Schab leading the Ghosts of the Ammo Plant tour.

*Midewin has a variety of volunteer opportunities year round, come and find one that fits your style or feel free to offer your own hobby:*

Environmental Education  
Mighty Acorn Instructor  
Welcome Center Host  
Interpreter/Ambassador  
Trail maintenance  
Construction  
Woodworking  
Prairie planting  
Seed cleaning  
Seed harvest

Ecological Monitoring  
Cemetery maintenance  
Invasive control  
Research  
Landscaping  
Office Assistant  
Art/Design  
Photography  
Editing documents  
Oral History Recorder  
And more...

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