



U.S. Fish & Wildlife Service

Prairie Wetlands Learning Center

Fergus Falls Wetland Management District

Educator and Public Workshops 2009



Workshops Especially for Educators

Educators who attend **any** workshops listed below may receive clock hours certificates and a complimentary, 1-year membership to the Friends of the PWLC. Educators may also be eligible for graduate credit as indicated.



Workshops for Everyone

These workshops are open to the public. Costs may apply where indicated.



Prairie Chicken Adventure

Friday, April 24, 4:30-6:30 pm; and Saturday, April 25, 5:00-9:00 am

Come learn about prairie chicken habitat and their amazing courtship! On Friday, visit at least three prairie chicken booming areas with observation blinds in the daylight. Then take an early Saturday morning field trip to view dancing prairie chickens on one of the same sites near Rothsay, Minnesota. **Instructors:** Doug Hedtke, Assistant Wildlife Manager for the MN Department of Natural Resources; and Teresa Jaskiewicz, Environmental Education Specialist for the PWLC. **Free!** Dormitory lodging is available for \$15 per night. Car pooling is available.



Teaching in the Outdoor Classroom

June 8 – 12; 8:00 am – 4:00 pm each day

This workshop is not just a learning opportunity for teachers - it is being held in conjunction with the **Summer Explorers Biology Camp** for students entering 6th and 7th grades. Workshop participants may teach any grade level and will have the opportunity to apply their new skills each day with a small group of interested students. Working together as a team, we will explore the many ways to use an outdoor classroom to enhance and strengthen a child's education. **Participants receive** \$100 stipend, 30 hours of clock hour instruction, and other workshop materials. Dormitory lodging is available for \$15 per night. **Instructors:** ISD 544 Prairie Science Class teacher Mona Davis and PSC Coordinator Tia Thysell; and U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service Instructional Systems Specialists Dave Ellis and Molly Stoddard.



Moths at Midnight

Thursday, July 16; 10:30 pm – 12:00 am

Discover the nocturnal life of moths, the mysterious counterparts to our daytime butterflies. Did you know that moths are more numerous and diverse than butterflies? Did you know that butterflies are a type of moth? That there is a moth whose larvae live underwater? Find out more during an indoor presentation, and then explore moths until midnight in the field. **Take home** a reference book and observation techniques you can use. **Free!** Dormitory lodging is available for \$15 per night to those also attending Dragons and Damsels the next day. **Instructor:** Teresa Jaskiewicz, PWLC Environmental Education Specialist.



Dragons and Damsels

Friday, July 17; 10:00 am – 4:00 pm

Damselfly and dragonfly species records for Otter Tail County are lacking. Will you help? This **free** citizen science workshop will not only provide you with Odonata biology and identification tips; you will also work in the field with an expert to collect specimens to add to our county record as part of the Minnesota Odonata Survey Project, <http://www.mndragonfly.org>. We'll start at the PWLC and may caravan to other local public sites to increase the diversity of our results. Children (with adults) especially welcome. Bring a bag lunch. Dormitory lodging is available for \$15 per night to those also attending *Moths at Midnight* July 16. **Instructor:** Molly Stoddard, Instructional Systems Specialist, PWLC.

-- Over for More Workshops --



Earth Partnership for Schools Summer Institute

Monday, August 3 – Friday, August 7

8:30 am – 4:30 pm; ends Friday at 2:00 pm

Earth Partnership builds the capacity of students, teachers, non-formal educators, conservation practitioners, and citizen volunteers to restore schoolyards and natural areas, and to address diversity, pollution prevention and ecological literacy, across age, ecosystem, discipline, place, and culture. The Earth Partnership for Schools – Central Minnesota Partnership invites K-12 school teams to apply for this graduate level habitat restoration institute.

Participants receive:

- 5 days of action-packed learning with site visits to restoration projects
- Interdisciplinary, K-12 curriculum in print and digital versions with 100+ restoration activities
- Binder with supplementary materials -- science, math, social studies, language and the arts
- \$100 to apply towards graduate credits -- 2 credits from University of Wisconsin-Madison (\$98) or 3 credits from Hamline University (\$345)
- Clock hour credits (exact number to be determined, expected in the 30-40 range)
- Free meals and modern dormitory lodging and a travel stipend
- On-going support

Space is limited. **To apply:** visit the PWLC web site, <http://www.fws.gov/midwest/pwlc> or the EPS web site, http://uwarboretum.org/eps/restore_institute for materials. **Application deadline:** June 20. **Preference:** given to teams from Becker, Otter Tail, Wadena, Morrison, Crow Wing, and Todd Counties. **Cost:** FREE. **Instructors:** Earth Partnership for Schools, University of Wisconsin-Arboretum: Rick Hall, Outreach Specialist, and Ed and Sil Pembleton, Field Staff; and PWLC: Molly Stoddard, Instructional Systems Specialist.



Nature Journaling Workshop for Educators

Monday, August 17 – Tuesday, August 18

8:30 am – 4:00 pm both days

For K-12th grade teachers and environmental educators. This workshop is about learning how to see. Making and recording accurate observations are among the most basic skills connected to scientific inquiry and writing. Using nature journals and practicing easy techniques enhances curriculum and field experiences, particularly in science, language arts, art, and math, and enables you to get the most out of interdisciplinary learning in the outdoors. Come receive many new ideas for lessons, and be prepared to spend time outside in the prairie. **Bring your own** notebook or journal, lunch, beverage, and snacks. Dormitory accommodations are available on-site for \$15 per night. **Cost:** FREE! **Instructors:** Dave Ellis and Molly Stoddard, PWLC Instructional Systems Specialists.



Becoming an Outdoors Woman – Guided Pheasant Hunt

Saturday and Sunday, September 26 and 27

9:00 am – 7:00 pm, Sat. and 10:00 am - 2:00 pm, Sun.

Especially for women and girls 13 through 20 (who have completed a fire arms safety course), but are somewhat new to pheasant hunting. Feel free to sign-up with a friend, aunt, sister, daughter, or other female relative.

- On Saturday, learn safety, biology and natural history information at the PWLC, then practice with clay shooting targets at Grant County Shooters Association Shooting Range. Saturday evening, enjoy cooking and tasting different recipes using pheasant.
- On Sunday enjoy a guided pheasant hunt with planted birds at Viking Valley Hunt Club near Ashby.

Provided: lunches, dinner, breakfast, pheasants, and clays. **Bring** your own shotgun (with improved cylinder choke tube), a box each of target and pheasant loads, and blaze orange shirt/hat to wear hunting, plus boots. Be sure to dress appropriately for the field rain or shine! **Cost:** \$95. Lodging provided at PWLC if needed (additional \$15 per person per night). Space is limited to 12 participants. **For more info** about the Becoming an Outdoors Woman program in MN, <http://www.dnr.state.mn.us/education/bow/index.html> **Registration Deadline:** September 14.

Instructor and guide: Ranae Edwards, avid hunter, certified 4-H and National Rifle Association shotgun shooting instructor and trainer, DNR firearms safety instructor, local Pheasants Forever youth activities director, former MN state volunteer coordinator for the Women in the Outdoors program, and organizer of many outdoors skills events for women.



For More Information or to Register for Workshops

Call Molly Stoddard at (218) 998-4489, or e-mail molly_stoddard@fws.gov .