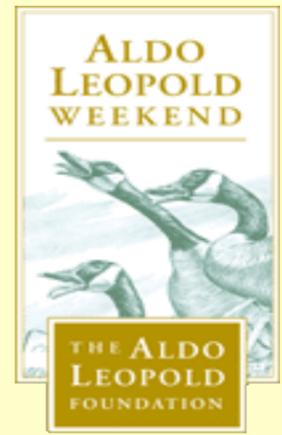


Minnesota Valley National Wildlife Refuge

Invites you to join in on Aldo Leopold Weekend!

Designated the first weekend in March, Aldo Leopold Weekend is designed to bring people in the community together around Leopold's idea of a land ethic. Minnesota Valley National Wildlife Refuge will host weekend programs Feb. 28-Mar. 2 including screenings of *Green Fire* and *The Last River Rat*, book and author discussions, guided hikes, and conservation presentations.

Programs will take place at REI in Bloomington and Minnesota Valley National Wildlife Refuge Bloomington Education and Visitor Center. All programs are FREE and open to the public.



Green Fire and Crisis in the Prairies, held at REI Bloomington

Friday Feb. 28

6:45 pm-8:45 pm

The documentary *Green Fire: Aldo Leopold and a Land Ethic for Our Time* explores the life and legacy of famed conservationist Aldo Leopold, and the many ways his land ethic philosophy lives on in the work of organizations today. The film is followed by *Crisis in the Prairies*; a focus on landscape conservation partnerships, presented by U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service staff.

Programs below held at the Bloomington Education & Visitor Center

Wildlife Observation

Saturday, March 1

7:00 am-9:00 am

Mike Williams is a regular Refuge visitor and he is usually out at the crack of dawn making observations and photographing wildlife in the midst of their daily activities. Join him for an early morning hike into the wetland. Dress for the weather.

Led by Volunteer Refuge Naturalist Mike Williams and Park Ranger Laura Bonneau

Waterfowl ID Workshop

Saturday, March 1

9:00 am-11:00 am

Craig Mandel leads some of the best birding field trips around! Join him for a closer look at waterfowl and learn how to identify them.

Led by Craig Mandel, Volunteer Refuge Naturalist

The Nature of Math Educator Workshop

Saturday, March 1

9:30 am-11:30 am

You are invited to join a dedicated group of educators focused on integrating environmental education into every day instruction. Join us for Saturday morning workshops, February through May. Visit <http://www.surveymonkey.com/s/EECohort2014> and indicate which dates you'll join us. Registration is REQUIRED and CEU's are available.

Crisis in the Prairies

Saturday, March 1

11:00 am-12:00 pm

The *Plains and Prairie Potholes Landscape Conservation Cooperative* serves as a bridge by facilitating the flow of information between organizations and agencies vested in natural resource conservation. The *Partners for Fish & Wildlife* program works with private landowners to improve habitat on their lands. Together, these U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service programs provide leadership in voluntary, community-based stewardship for fish and wildlife conservation. Presented by U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service staff

Brown Bag Book Lunch: Aldo Leopold Readings and Discussion

Saturday, March 1

12:00 pm-1:00 pm

Bring your lunch and join a read-aloud and facilitated discussion featuring favorite Aldo Leopold essays. Laura Bonneau is a Leopold Education Project Facilitator and Visitor Services Manager at the Refuge and will facilitate the Saturday discussion.

Wild Writers! Regional Authors and Nature Lovers

Saturday, March 1

1:00 pm-2:00 pm

Join some of our favorite regional authors and discover a wealth of creativity and knowledge about writing and the outdoors. Presentations by Marion Dane Bauer, Debra Frasier, Karen Shragg, and Deborah Jo Larson will be followed by a book signing. Books will be available in the Blufftop Bookshop.

Thoreau in Minnesota

Saturday, March 1

2:30 pm-3:30 pm

Since retiring, Dale Schwie has studied Thoreau's activities in Minnesota and coordinated several Thoreau events. He will share his knowledge of Thoreau's last visit to Minnesota.

Led by Dale Schwie, Refuge Volunteer

Wildlife Observation

Sunday, March 2

8:00 am-10:00 am

Mike Williams is a regular Refuge visitor and he is usually out at the crack of dawn making observations and photographing wildlife in the midst of their daily activities. Join him for an early morning hike into the wetland. Dress for the weather.

Led by Volunteer Refuge Naturalist Mike Williams and Refuge staff

Green Fire: Aldo Leopold and a Land Ethic for Our Time

Sunday, March 2

10:00 am-11:15 am

This documentary explores the life and legacy of famed conservationist Aldo Leopold, and the many ways his land ethic philosophy lives on in the work of people and organizations all over the country today.

Voices of Green Fire: Advancing the Land Ethic

Sunday, March 2

11:15 am-12:00 pm

This series of short films features advancement of Leopold's Land Ethic. Segments include the Land Ethic across cultures, Connecting City and Country, Bread and Beauty, and Fellow Voyagers.

Brown Bag Book Lunch: Aldo Leopold Readings and Discussion

Sunday, March 2

12:00 pm-1:00 pm

Bring your bag lunch and join a read-aloud and facilitated discussion featuring favorite Aldo Leopold essays. Sarah Warner is a land ethic leader and will facilitate Sunday's discussion.

Mississippi: Tales of the Last River Rat

Sunday, March 2

1:00 pm -2:00 pm

This film displays the beauty of nature in the Upper Mississippi River valley as seen through the eyes of Kenny Salwey. Kenny has carried on the life of a River Rat, independent of society but bound to the constant changes of a mighty river. He explores the backwaters and shares experiences that reflect his gentle philosophy of nature.

Volunteering for Conservation

Sunday, March 2

2:00 pm-3:00 pm

Since 1996, Warren Stortroen has made Earthwatch a second career having participated in 79 research expeditions!! While at home, he volunteers with the Refuge, the Minnesota DNR, and several other related organizations. Warren will share some of his world-wide conservation experiences during his 18 years as a volunteer.

Guided Hike

Sunday, March 2

3:00 pm-4:00 pm

Donnie Phyllaier is a Refuge volunteer and avid nature observer. His use of the senses, knowledge of animal behavior, and tracking skills provide an enhanced view of refuge habitat. Join Donnie for a leisurely walk below the bluff and "see" animal life as never before.

Led by Donnie Phyllaier, Volunteer Refuge Naturalist