



U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service

## Minnesota Valley National Wildlife Refuge

### *Self-Led Groups*



#### *Explore the refuge on your own!*

Visit Minnesota Valley National Wildlife Refuge, a place where bald eagles soar, river otters play, beavers build, and dragonflies dart. Located along the Minnesota River, it is one of a few National Wildlife Refuges located within a large metropolitan setting. Self-led groups such as school groups, summer camps or scouts are welcome to visit and explore the refuge. Each self-led group has the freedom to develop their own programs to suit individual needs or use one developed by refuge staff.

#### *Self-led Group Procedures*

- Please call at least 1-week before you plan to visit the refuge to avoid conflicts with other education programs. Refuge staff is happy to provide guidance and help you choose student activities that meet your fieldtrip goals.
- Self-led groups are not led by refuge staff; all group leaders need to be prepared to manage and lead their own groups.
- All exhibit areas and refuge trails at Minnesota Valley National Wildlife Refuge are available to self-led groups. During the school year, classroom priority is given to Refuge Partner Schools and Partner Teachers.
- The Minnesota Valley National Wildlife Refuge offers several interactive activity options such as exhibit and outdoor scavenger hunts, explorer packs, and self-led hikes. Library Learning Trunks may be checked out from the library at the Bloomington Visitor Center.



#### **To Register or to Find Out More Please Contact:**

*Suzanne Trapp, Visitor Services Specialist  
Rapids Lake Education & Visitor Center,  
15865 Carver Highlands Drive,  
Carver, MN 55315  
Email: [suzanne\\_trapp@fws.gov](mailto:suzanne_trapp@fws.gov)  
Phone: 952-361-4502*



*Judy Geck, Visitor Services Specialist  
Bloomington Visitor Center  
3815 American Blvd. East  
Bloomington, MN 55425  
Email: [judy\\_geck@fws.gov](mailto:judy_geck@fws.gov)  
Phone: 952-858-0731*