

# Maplewood Nature Center

## ADULT & FAMILY NATURE PROGRAMS



January 2017 – May 2017

2659 East Seventh Street  
Maplewood, MN 55119

651.249.2170



[www.maplewoodmn.gov](http://www.maplewoodmn.gov)

We are also on Facebook & Twitter.

COME AND EXPLORE!

Grounds and trails: Open daily, dawn to dusk.

Visitor Center:

Open Tuesday-Saturday, 8:30-4:30

The Visitor Center will be closed:

Nov 11, 24, 26, Dec 24 & Jan 1



Our mission is to enhance awareness and understanding of land, water and wildlife resources;  
to empower the community to become stewards of the environment

## HOW TO REGISTER FOR A NATURE CENTER PROGRAM:

Register online for paid or free programs [www.maplewoodnaturecenter.com](http://www.maplewoodnaturecenter.com) then click on the **Register Online-Go!** button. You can also register in person, phone, 651-249-2170, or mail with credit card, cash or check by the date indicated. Program sizes are limited, register early. No need to register for Drop-in programs. Most programs are held at the Maplewood Nature Center unless otherwise noted in program description.



## JANUARY

### FREE! SNOW FLAKE WONDERS

(All ages)

AT MAPLEWOOD NATURE CENTER

**Saturday, January 7, 1:00PM-3:00PM,**

Cut and create beautiful snowflakes for your windows. Learn how snowflakes are formed in the sky, and peer at preserved snowflake crystals up close on the microcam. Drop in for a half-hour for self-guiding activities or stay the whole time! Nature Center exhibits and trails open. Snowshoes available for rent all day if we have snow. Drop-in, no registration necessary. Snowshoes rental \$5/pair.

### WINTER OPEN HOUSE: SNOWSHOES & TRACKS

(All Ages)

AT MAPLEWOOD NATURE CENTER

**Saturday, January 14, 10:00AM-3:00PM**

Snowshoes available to rent for ages 4 to adult.

Learn how to walk, run, and turn around on snowshoes. Learn about Animal Tracks and Signs from self-guiding activities. A naturalist will answer nature questions, and orient you to the nature center trails. Try wood or metal snowshoes (wood snowshoes require 6+ inches of snow). Sleds will be available for pulling young kids. Dress in layers and wear winter boots. Hot chocolate for all attendees!

Free to attend. Drop-in program.

Snowshoe rental: \$5/pair.

### FUR TRADE HERITAGE

(Best for adults and kids ages 6 and up)

AT MAPLEWOOD NATURE CENTER

**Saturday, January 28, 1:30PM-2:30PM**

Assume the persona of a voyageur from this historical era! Examine historical replicas of fur trade items. Make a spark from flint and steel, drill a hole with a pump drill. Try on a capote and moustache and practice your French Accent! Ooh la la, c'est fun! Small scout groups are welcome. Snowshoe rental available afterward.

Fee: \$5 per family, prepay by Jan. 26.

## FEBRUARY

### **SELF GUIDED SNOWSHOE RENTAL** *(For Adults & Children ages 4+ with adult)*

**AT MAPLEWOOD NATURE CENTER**, 2659 E. 7<sup>th</sup> Street, Maplewood, MN 55119

**Saturday, February 4, 9:00AM – 4:00PM**

Explore Maplewood Nature Center by snowshoe! View the pond from a new perspective, find winter tracks and animal signs. Check for ice safety and other tips with the naturalist before snowshoeing on the pond. If snow is thin, hike our trails for free!

**Fee:** \$5/pair

### **SNOWSHOE HIKE**

*(Ages four and up, children accompanied by adult)*

**AT MAPLEWOOD NATURE CENTER**, 2659 E. 7<sup>th</sup> Street, Maplewood, MN 55119

**Saturday, February 11, 10:00AM-Noon**

Learn about snowshoes, strap on a pair, and walk with a naturalist through our Winter Wonderland. Instruction and snowshoes provided. Wear sturdy winter boots and bring your own mug for hot cocoa.

\*Note: if snow is scarce, we will hike to search for animal tracks.

Fee: \$5/person, prepaid by Feb 12. To register, go to [www.maplewoodnaturecenter.com](http://www.maplewoodnaturecenter.com) and click on the

[Register Online Go](#) button. Call 651-249-2170 if you need help registering.

### **NATURE FAMILY FUN WITH ECFE 2016-2017**

*(For children birth - 5 years, before kindergarten)*

**AT MAPLEWOOD NATURE CENTER**, 2659 E. 7<sup>th</sup> Street, Maplewood, MN 55119

**TIME: 10:00AM-11:30AM**

Make nature discoveries, get resources to explore & protect your world together, and meet new friends! This class is offered at the Maplewood Nature Center in collaboration with Early Childhood and Family Education staff. Parents stay with their child(ren) during the entire class. **Fee is \$5 per child per session.**

To register contact ECFE: [651-748-7280](tel:651-748-7280) or register online at [www.isd622.org/ecfe](http://www.isd622.org/ecfe).

Location: Maplewood Nature Center, 2659 E. 7<sup>th</sup> St., Maplewood, MN 55119

2/25/17 Animal Tracks

3/25/17 Maple Sap Into Syrup

4/22/17 Honk and Quack Parade

### **NEW VOLUNTEER ORIENTATION** *(For Adults & Children ages 12+ with adult)*

**AT MAPLEWOOD NATURE CENTER**, 2659 7<sup>th</sup> St. E., Maplewood, MN 55119

**SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 25<sup>th</sup>, 2:00PM-3:00PM**

**WEDNESDAY, MARCH 1<sup>st</sup>, 10:00AM-11:00AM**

**FRIDAY, MARCH 31<sup>st</sup>, 1:00PM-2:00PM**

It's FUN to volunteer at the Nature Center and Neighborhood Preserves! Come find out what it takes to be a regular volunteer, and learn about all the cool opportunities available, such as...

- Trail guide, Program Aide, Receptionist
- Youth & family opportunities
- Citizen Science Monitors: open space, frogs, pollinators
- Gardener: at nature center's native gardens and the community vegetable garden

Register online at [www.maplewoodmn.gov/nc](http://www.maplewoodmn.gov/nc) for a specific program date, or call: 651-249-2173 to reserve a spot.

## March

### **SNOWSHOE MOON WALK** *(For Adults & Children ages 6+ with Adult)*

**AT PRAIRIE FARM PRESERVE, 2170 County Road D. East, Maplewood, Park in the lot east of the Farm.**

**FRIDAY, MARCH 3, 6:30PM-8:00PM**

Got cabin fever? Bring the kids and snow shoe through the prairie at the Prairie Farm Preserve.

Enjoy a hot treat around the campfire at the historical [Bruentrup Farm](#) site afterward.

**Fee** \$5 per person, prepay by March 1. To register, go to [www.maplewoodnaturecenter.com](http://www.maplewoodnaturecenter.com) and click on the [Register Online Go](#) button. Call 651-249-2170 if you need help registering

### **SNAKES ALIVE!** *(All ages)*

ALL AGES

**AT MAPLEWOOD NATURE CENTER, 2659 E. 7<sup>th</sup> St., Maplewood, MN 55119**

**SATURDAY, MARCH 4, 1:30PM-2:30PM**

Meet a live western hognose snake, boa constrictor, egg-eating snake, and lots of other visiting snakes from 'Snake Discovery'! You'll get to see them up close, touch, hold, and even feed some of the program snakes! Snakes play an important role in the ecosystem; discover how to help them, so they can help us.

**Fee:** \$5/person, prepay by March 2<sup>nd</sup>. To register, go to [www.maplewoodnaturecenter.com](http://www.maplewoodnaturecenter.com) and click on the [Register Online Go](#) button. Call 651-249-2170 if you need help registering

### **PRUNING SHRUBS IN YOUR RAIN GARDEN OR YARD** *(Adults)*

**AT MAPLEWOOD NATURE CENTER, 2659 East 7<sup>th</sup> Street, Maplewood MN 55119**

**SATURDAY, MARCH 11, 10:00AM-11:30AM**

March is a great time to prune most types of shrubs. Learn pruning techniques that promote plant health and work with the aesthetic of the plant's natural form. We'll cover the basics indoors and then venture out to the Nature Center yard to practice. Dress for the outdoors. **Fee:** \$5/person, prepay by Wednesday, March 8<sup>th</sup>. To register, go to [www.maplewoodnaturecenter.com](http://www.maplewoodnaturecenter.com) and click on the [Register Online Go](#) button. Call 651-249-2170 if you need help registering

### **SAP INTO SYRUP FAMILY EVENT** *(Families with kids age 6+)*

**AT MAPLEWOOD NATURE CENTER, 2659 7<sup>th</sup> St. E., Maplewood, MN 55119**

**SATURDAY, MARCH 18, 2:00PM –3:30PM**

Carry the sap from roots to buds on our 'maple tree'. Get acquainted with the tools and equipment and help tap a real tree. Do a taste test to compare maple sap, imitation, and real maple syrup.

**Fee:** \$5/child prepay by March 16. To register, go to [www.maplewoodnaturecenter.com](http://www.maplewoodnaturecenter.com) and click on the [Register Online Go](#) button. Call 651-249-2170 if you need help registering

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*(For children birth - 5 years, before kindergarten)*

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3/25/17 Maple Sap Into Syrup

4/22/17 Honk and Quack Parade

## April

### **FROG MONITOR VOLUNTEER TRAINING** *(For Adults & Children ages 12+ with adult)*

AT MAPLEWOOD NATURE CENTER, 2659 7th St. E., Maplewood, MN 55119

**SATURDAY, APRIL 1, 10:00AM-11:15AM.**

Bring a buddy and become Maplewood Frog Monitoring Volunteers! Monitors follow an established, ten-stop-route; listening for frogs ***after sunset***. Learn about Minnesota frog species, their calls, ranges and how monitoring works. Monitors *must commit to three nights*, each in a specific date range, April - July. Monitoring is for night-owls with a keen sense of hearing only! Please sign up for a frog program in May or June if you do not plan to volunteer. Free. Pre-register by March 30<sup>th</sup>.

### **IT'S THE BOMB!** *(Adults & Children ages 8+ with adult)*

AT MAPLEWOOD NATURE CENTER, 2659 7th St. E., Maplewood, MN 55119

**SATURDAY, April 1, 2:00PM-3:45PM**

Make and take a scented bath bomb using simple, environmentally friendly ingredients. Add a few dried flower petals for some extra pizzazz! Bring home two bombs (one for you and one for a gift), a recipe, handouts and plastic mold. Wear old clothes (we will use food coloring), bring an ice cream bucket or large bowl, large stirring spoon and a Ziploc bag to transport your creations home. **Fee:** Prepay \$6/person by Wednesday, March 29<sup>th</sup>. To register, go to [www.maplewoodnaturecenter.com](http://www.maplewoodnaturecenter.com) and click on the **Register Online Go** button. Call 651-249-2170 if you need help registering

### **VEGETABLE GROWING BASICS** *(Adults)*

AT MAPLEWOOD NATURE CENTER 2659 7th St. E., Maplewood, MN 55119

**SATURDAY, APRIL 8<sup>TH</sup>, 9:30AM-4:00PM**

Taught by Master Gardeners, this workshop is an introduction to vegetable gardening covering topics such as soil, prepping your garden space, seed and seedling selection, planting, organic methods, and garden maintenance. Each participant creates a design and a needs list for their garden. You will be truly ready to garden after this thorough workshop with a certificate to prove it. Please bring your own bag lunch, or several restaurants are located nearby.

**Fee:** Early-bird registration \$25/person by Friday, March 24<sup>th</sup>, prepay \$30/person by Friday, March 31<sup>st</sup>. To register, go to [www.maplewoodnaturecenter.com](http://www.maplewoodnaturecenter.com) and click on the **Register Online Go** button. Call 651-249-2170 if you need help registering

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4/22/17 Honk and Quack Parade

### **EDGERTON COMMUNITY GARDEN PLOT REGISTRATION FOR 2017 SEASON** *(Adults)*

AT EDGERTON COMMUNITY GARDEN: Corner of Roselawn & Edgerton, north of Edgerton Elementary

**WEDNESDAY, FEB 22<sup>nd</sup>: Returning Gardener registration begins**

**WEDNESDAY, MARCH 8<sup>th</sup>: New Gardener registration begins**

Grow Your Own Local Organic Food! Rent a 12' x 15' plot for the 2017 garden season. The City will stake the plots, and provide a water tank. Renters agree to plant, maintain, and harvest their plots using organic (chemical-free) methods.

**Fee:** \$25/plot for the entire 2017 garden season: *April 28th-October 25<sup>th</sup>*.

**Online Registration:** [www.maplewoodmn.gov/communitygarden](http://www.maplewoodmn.gov/communitygarden)

**Garden Questions:** 651-249-2173 or **help registering online:** 651-249-2170

### **EDGERTON COMMUNITY GARDEN OPEN HOUSE**

AT EDGERTON COMMUNITY GARDEN: Corner of Roselawn & Edgerton, north of Edgerton Elementary

**FRIDAY, APRIL 28<sup>th</sup>, 4:30PM-6:30PM**

Drop-in and take a tour the Edgerton Community Garden. Poor weather back-up location inside Edgerton School Gym. Meet other garden enthusiasts, and get gardening information from a Master Gardener.

### **SERVICE PROJECT DAY FOR GROUPS, & INDIVIDUALS** *(Adults, & Children ages 8+ with adult)*

AT MAPLEWOOD NATURE CENTER 2659 7th St. E., Maplewood, MN 55119

**SATURDAY, APRIL 29<sup>th</sup>, 10:00AM – 2:00PM**

Schedule for a community service project with your group, family, or on your own at Maplewood Nature Center! Help with litter pickup and other tasks. Call the nature center to schedule a time and task: 651-249-2170.

**FREE!**

## **May**

### **TREES FOR THE BEES - Girl Scout Arbor Day Celebration** *(Girl scouts, ages 11-13, accompanied by adults)*

AT MAPLEWOOD NATURE CENTER, 2659 7th St. E., Maplewood, MN 55119

**SATURDAY, MAY 6<sup>th</sup>, 1:00PM-4:00PM**

Schedule your troop to help fulfill requirements for the Cadette Tree Badge. Discover how to protect the trees and pollinators that depend on each other! Explore trees at the nature center, make fun tree art, and learn about food products that come from trees, including maple syrup and wild fruits. Note: Tree badges will be available at the end of the day! Please dress for the weather; and plan on both inside and outside activities.

**Fee:** \$10/child. Register beginning January 8 at [Events](http://Events.girlscoutsrv.org/events/) (girlscoutsrv.org/events/), or call 800-845-0747.

### **BIRDS AND BLOOMS OF FISH CREEK** *(For Adults & Children ages 10+ with Adult)*

AT FISH CREEK, meet at Oakwood Church parking lot 1388 Point Douglas Rd S, Saint Paul, MN 55119

**FRIDAY, MAY 12, 6:30PM-7:45PM**

Walk the secret and marvelous canyon of fish creek to search for woodland wildflowers. It will be interesting to see what's blooming after buckthorn removal! We'll look and listen for colorful bird migrants on their way to their northern nesting sites. Bring binoculars and hiking sticks, or borrow from the nature center. The trail is narrow and uneven, wear sturdy shoes and long pants.

**Fee:** \$5 per person. Register online by Thursday, May 10. To register, go to [www.maplewoodnaturecenter.com](http://www.maplewoodnaturecenter.com) and click on the [Register Online Go](#) button. Call 651-249-2170 if you need help registering

## NATURE CENTER WILD BIRTHDAY PARTIES!

Live Animal Birthday parties are available for kids ages 4 & up.  
Reserve the party room for treats; then visit with a snake, toad, turtle or salamander!



Outdoor hikes & party favors included!

**Fee:** \$75.00

Call 651.249.2170 for additional or go to:

[www.maplewoodnaturecenter.com](http://www.maplewoodnaturecenter.com) & click on Programs & Events/Birthdays



## FRIENDS OF MAPLEWOOD NATURE



The Friends is a non-profit organization supporting the mission of Maplewood Nature Center & Neighborhood Preserves.

Check out the Friends on the web: <http://www.maplewoodmn.gov/981/Friends-Group> or <https://friendsofmaplewoodnature.wordpress.com/>

**Did You Know--** that you can directly support Maplewood Nature Center and Neighborhood Preserve special programs and projects by donating online? The **Friends of Maplewood Nature** is a 501 C3 non-profit group that promotes awareness of and fundraises for the nature center and preserves. It's simple and easy- simply go to the Friends website <https://friendsofmaplewoodnature.wordpress.com> and click on "donate". This will take you to the GIVEMN.org website where you will have several options for amounts. You can schedule your giving as early as November 1. You may also mail in a donation by sending a check written out to the Friends to the Maplewood Nature Center, 2659 E 7<sup>th</sup> St., Maplewood, MN 55119.

Friends have supported the nature center by co-sponsoring speakers for programs, such as live raptors for the Outstanding Owls event, special events such as the Outdoor Expo, exhibits such as the Solar Display and the Energy Bike; the new entrance sign, items for the play yard, and much more!

