



Riffles and Eddies

Roger D. Gustafson Nature Center
(815) 547-7935

603 N. Appleton Rd.
Belvidere, IL 61008

Winter 2012– 2013

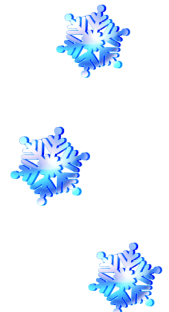
Seasonal Site Closings

Several conservation areas will be closed for the season beginning on November 1st. The seasonal closures will include sites that receive the lowest use. Financial circumstances no longer afford the District the opportunity to keep all of its sites open throughout the year. We apologize for any inconvenience this may cause our patrons.

The most heavily used sites will remain open throughout the late fall and winter season with the exception of closures associated with the district's archery program – (please check the district website for information about those dates). **The following sites will remain OPEN after November 1st:**



Spencer Conservation Area
Gustafson Nature Center
LIB Conservation Area
Ipsen Road Conservation Area
Beaver Bluffs Conservation Area
Hammertime Off Leash Dog Area
Kinnikinnick Creek Conservation Area
Distillery Road Conservation Area



All other BCCD sites will be closed for the season. Again, we apologize for any inconvenience this may cause.

After School Birthday Parties!!

Celebrate your child's birthday at our Nature Center.

You can schedule it any day after school, on a half-day, or on a school holiday. (No weekends)

Parties will run two hours, starting no later than 4pm.

Parties are welcome for any age but are most appropriate for 5 – 10 year olds.

Parties include a nature-themed story and craft, a hands-on visit with our live animals, and a nature hike (weather-permitting).

You provide cake, food, drinks, plates/napkins, etc. and any decorations.

COST: \$5/child with a \$25 minimum.

No more than 20 children and 4 adults, please.

We require a \$25 deposit to book a date.

We do not accept credit or debit cards.

Deposit is non-refundable and balance is due the day of party.

Call (815) 547-7935 for more information or to reserve a date





The Mission of the Boone County Conservation District is to preserve and manage natural areas and open spaces for ecological, educational, and recreational benefits of present and future generations.

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Riffles & Eddies is a free newsletter published quarterly. If you know someone who would like to receive this publication, or has an address correction, please call our office at (815) 547-7935

The Boone County Conservation District does not discriminate on the basis of race, color, sex, national origin, age or handicap in admission or treatment, or employment in programs or activities. In compliance with the Illinois Human Rights Act, section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973 as amended, and the U.S. Constitution. The Equal Employment Opportunity Officer is responsible for compliance and may be reached at (217)423-7708.

User Fees

In an effort to mitigate the costs associated with shelter reservations, the BCCD has updated its fee schedule beginning January 1st. These costs include mowing, restroom maintenance and rental, trash pickup, picnic table repair, graffiti removal, gasoline, and seasonal staff wages. Please refer to the schedule posted below for changes in fees and available special use permits.

SHELTER RESERVATIONS

Reservations are made on a first come, first served, basis beginning January 1st of each year for the time period March thru November.

All shelter reservations require a deposit. This deposit is refunded if the shelter area is left in a clean and usable condition.

Deposits are not refunded for cancellations. Shelter users are not to remove tables from the shelters.

The BCCD does not move additional tables to shelters! No exceptions!

All shelters have access to restrooms.

There is no potable water at any of the shelters (with the exception of Milt Brown).

Location	Shelter Name	Capacity	Deposit	Rental Fee	Total	Grill
Spencer	Pavilion <i>Electricity available</i>	96-128 16 tables	\$50	\$75	\$125	
	Oak View	36-48 6 tables	\$50	\$35	\$85	X
	Lion's	72-96 12 tables	\$50	\$35	\$85	X
	Caster's <i>Electricity available</i>	48-64 8 tables	\$50	\$40	\$90	
Kinnikinnick <i>Shelters have fireplace. Wood not provided.</i>	Park View North	48-64 8 tables	\$50	\$35	\$85	X
	Woods Road	42-56 7 tables	\$50	\$35	\$85	X
Tuttle Clarkson	Tuttle Clarkson <i>Electricity available</i>	30-40 5 tables	\$50	\$40	\$90	X
Beaver Bluffs	Beaver Bluffs	36-48 6 tables	\$50	\$35	\$85	X
Edward's	Edward's	54-72 9 tables	\$50	\$35	\$85	X
Milt Brown	Brown	36-48 6 tables	\$50	\$40	\$90	
Schoolhouse <i>Special rules apply</i>	School <i>Electricity available</i>	Benches and school desks of various sizes	\$100	\$200	\$300	

Other User Fees

Type	Description	Fee
Ground Use Permit	Tent/tarp/booth/porta potty	\$20
Vendor/Concession Permit	Food/beverages/other	\$10/vendor
Rides/Amusements Permit	Ex. Bouncy house (very limited)	\$30 (proof of insurance required)
Ball Diamond Rental	Practice fields (unimproved)	\$50/season (2 days); \$75/season (3 days); \$10/day
Large Group Special Event Permit	Ex. Track meets, scout camps <i>Special restrictions apply</i>	pending



Monthly Meetings

(All Meetings held at the Roger D. Gustafson Nature Center are open to the public)

BCCD Board of Trustees

Wednesdays at 5:00 p.m., December 19th, January 16th and February 20th.

Gardeners of America

Tuesdays at 2:30 p.m., February 19th. No meeting at the District in December and January.

Jazz Up Your Junk

Tuesday, December 4
6:30pm - 8:00pm



Come share ideas on how to up-cycle or re-purpose all that stuff you have lying around gathering dust. We have lots of great examples to show you, along with do-it-yourself instructions. We will also be making trivets out of repurposed denim that you will get to take home. We encourage you to bring your own ideas as well. Christmas is just around the corner and these make great gifts!! Call 815-547-7935 to register. Cost is \$5.00.

Holiday Walk

Saturday,
December 8th
6:00 p.m.—
8:00 p.m.
FREE



Stroll along a luminary lit pathway and visit our authentic log cabins (where they might be serving goodies), eat popcorn popped fresh over an open fire, and see how Christmas was celebrated in the past. Held at the Roger Gustafson Nature Center Festival Ground. Call (815) 547-7935 for information.



The BCCD would like to thank all the volunteers who helped at our Autumn Pioneer Festival. Without volunteers this event would not be possible. A special thanks goes to John Gallano for the donation of desks for the schoolhouse.

Snowshoe Hike

Saturday,
January 12th
9:30 a.m. -
11:30 a.m.



If you have always wanted to venture out into the snows of winter, this is your chance. BCCD is hosting a snowshoe class for beginners. We will hold a short classroom discussion about snowshoes and how to dress for winter activities, then we will venture out into the frozen landscape. Cost of class is \$15/person. This includes snowshoe rental. For individuals ages 12 and up. Children must be accompanied by an adult. This class is weather dependent. Pre-registration and prepayment are required. Call 815-547-7935 to reserve your spot.



Eagle Watch

Saturday,
January 26th
7:30 a.m.—
6:30 p.m.

Join us for a day of eagle watching along the Illinois River at Starved Rock. There are programs featuring live birds of prey, nature seminars and exhibits. You can bring your own lunch or eat at the lodge. Bring binoculars if you have them. The cost to ride in our mini bus is \$20 a person for Boone County residents and \$25 a person for out of county residents. There is also a minimal charge to use the trolley at Starved Rock. We will leave the Nature Center at 7:30 a.m. Space is limited. Preregister and prepayment is required, so call (815) 547-7935.

Heirloom Garden

Seed Sale
Saturday, February
16th
9:00 a.m.—
3:00 p.m.



Heirloom seeds from our 5 ethnic gardens and other suppliers will be on sale at the Roger D. Gustafson Nature Center. 603 N. Appleton Rd., Belvidere, IL. (Cash and check only, please) Call (815) 547-7935 for more information.

District will be Closed On

Nov. 22nd and 23rd
Dec. 24rd and 25th
Jan. 1st
Feb. 18th



Thanksgiving
Christmas
New Years
President's Day

Snowshoeing

January and
February



If you have a group that would like to learn how to snowshoe the Boone County Conservation District will be offering snowshoe classes this year. Please call (815) 547-7935 for more information.

If you are interested in joining our staff on a snowshoe trek, please call to have your name placed on the list. If the weather cooperates you will be notified as to where and when the hike will take place. BCCD has recently purchased a number of snowshoes that will be available to rent for these hikes.

Summer Camp Information

Camp staff applications are available on our website and will be accepted starting February 1st.



Camp registration begins April 1st. Registration information will be available on our website in March.

Winter School Program Sign-Ups



Sign up for a the BCCD winter school program will begin at 7:00 a.m. on Tuesday, December 4, 2012. Call to reserve your date.

The program dates are January 3 thru February 28, 2013.

The District wants everyone to discover the benefits of recreation. For families considering any of our programs who have special considerations, such as diabetes, asthma or physical or cognitive disabilities, your participation is welcome too. The **earlier** you contact us so we can talk with you about how to make your experience safe and fun, the more likely it will be safe and fun!

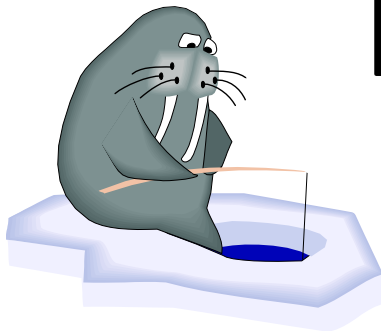
Riffles & Eddies



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Org.
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PAID
Permit No.31
Belvidere, IL



Kid's Ice Fishing Workshop

A FREE workshop for kids 5–15. Lunch provided.

Saturday, February 2, 2013
9:00 a.m.—12:00 noon

Workshop will start at the Roger D. Gustafson Nature Center
603 N. Appleton Road, Belvidere, IL

Bring any ice fishing equipment you have, limited rigs available.

You must preregister for this program. Registration begins January 3, 2013.
Call the BCCD at (815) 547-7935 to register