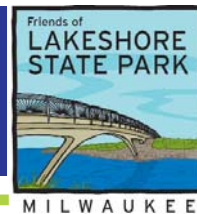


Water's Edge

Friends of Lakeshore State Park Newsletter - Spring 2010



April Fools' Tweetup



Join the Friends of Lakeshore State Park to celebrate spring, April Fools' Day and meet local Twitter and Facebook users. See what's in store for Lakeshore State Park this year.

Rip Tide Seafood Bar & Grill

649 E. Erie St.

Thursday, April 1 - 5:00 to 7:30pm

RSVP: <http://twtvite.com/8ne0b1>



Cash bar. Complimentary hors d'oeuvres. Great door prize opportunities! Free wi-fi available.

Friends Membership

Just about the cost of a bottle of water

If you enjoy the Park and/or are passionate about educating people about the Lake, then please join us by becoming a member of Friends of Lakeshore State Park. A membership purchased now will not expire until June of 2011. That's 18 months of membership for the cost of 12. For an average family membership that's less than \$2/month. Not sure you can afford it? Switch to a re-usable water bottle instead of purchasing bottled water. You will not only be able to fund a membership, but you'll have money left over.



Your membership will help us facilitate educational programs for Park visitors, Park amenities and help fund the 2010 Gathering Waters festival on June 12, 2010. Last year, over 5,000 people visited the Park during the festival and enjoyed music, recreation and education in a family friendly atmosphere. Becoming a member of Friends of Lakeshore State Park shows your support for Milwaukee's greatest gem - Lake Michigan. The Park is the gateway between the city and the water. The Gathering Waters Festival and other programs on the Park are designed to educate all about water conservation and wellness. Please join us in supporting this hometown treasure.

To become a member go to friendslsp.org/membership.php

Thank you for your support.

Dana Johnson, Board Member

Winter in the Park

Winter seems to be a quiet time at the Park, but there is more going on than it appears for both the staff and the wildlife.

Over the last few months the staff contacted numerous area community groups, nature centers and Great Lakes organizations to explore ways of working together to increase awareness of Great Lakes



issues and community involvement at the Park. We are happy to report that all of our education partners are planning to increase their use of the Park facilities and programs in 2010. We are particularly excited about partnerships with the nearby Milwaukee Institute of Art and Design (MIAD) as well as the Wisconsin Lutheran College art department.

A substantial increase in educational programming is planned for this year, including self-guided tours, weekend and evening programs, more classroom instruction and interpretive signs. The volunteer program is also being expanded to include park ambassadors and citizen scientists.

The storms of December generated waves that broke over 15 feet high over the dock walls on the south side of the Park. The pounding water damaged the pavement in the area and washed broken asphalt, rocks and mussel shells hundreds of feet from the breaking waves. Repair plans are currently underway.



Winter and early spring is a great time to observe the lakefront wildlife. Numerous tracks made by resident grey and red fox provide us with a map of their daily patrols that we can't follow in

warmer seasons. The Park is full of beautiful migrant arctic ducks with colorful names like scaups (bluebills), goldeneyes, buffleheads, red-breasted mergansers, black ducks and hundreds of our native mallards. A bald eagle even makes an occasional appearance. A dedicated group of anglers are on the ice almost every day, catching rainbow and brown trout at the south end of the lagoon.

Tom Kroeger

Lakeshore State Park Manager

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Visit the Friends online - www.friendslsp.org



Friends of Lakeshore State Park
c/o Historic Third Ward Association
219 N. Milwaukee Street, 3rd Floor
Milwaukee, WI 53202



**GATHERING
WATERS**
FESTIVAL

Gathering Waters Festival

Saturday, June 12, 2010
11am to 7pm

A National Get Outdoors Day Event

A free urban outdoor experience on Milwaukee's lakefront with over 60 groups to entertain, demonstrate outdoor activities and feed your senses. A great place to watch the Milwaukee Air Show! Last year we had over 5,000 visitors and this year we have even more sponsors and exhibitors. Activities for every one and every age. Visit www.gatheringwatersfest.org for activities, parking and routes via bike, bus or foot.

www.gatheringwatersfest.org

Bench Sponsorship

Just three benches left!

Time's running out for you to sponsor a Lakeshore State Park bench! It's a unique way to memorialize a loved one or pet all while supporting your favorite lakefront park! With your sponsorship, your bench will receive a plaque with your dedication and you'll receive a free year's membership to the Friends group. Pick your favorite location of the benches installed on the Park. Call 414.588.0617 or email info@friendslsp.org for details.



Volunteer Opportunities

Volunteering at Lakeshore State Park is a great way to make new friends and learn more about the Park and Lake Michigan. Opportunities include:

Park Ambassador - Greet and inform visitors about the park, upcoming events and activities. Sign up for a shift on the weekend or evenings

Volunteer Naturalist - Assist Park staff in conducting educational classes and programs. A background in teaching and/or natural sciences is desirable.

Citizen Scientist - Help the Park staff gather information on the science at the park, such as bird surveys, water data or conducting visitor surveys

Lakeshore Caretakers - Assist Park staff with the many projects required to operate and maintain a state park.

Special Events - Assist in the set up, operation and takedown of various events at the Park, such as the Gathering Waters Festival, the Winter Festival and more.

Contact Park Manager Tom Kroeger at 414.274.4281 or thomas.kroeger@wisconsin.gov

Socialize with us!

Facebook - facebook.com/MKELakeshoreStatePark
Twitter - twitter.com/LakeshoreSTPark