



Great River Road Visitor and Learning Center

200 Monroe St., Prescott, WI 54021 (715) 262-0104
www.Freedomparkwi.org

April 2011 Program Schedule

Sunday, April 3, 2:00 – 3:00 p.m. *The Magic of Trails*

by Randy Thoreson, National Park Service Outdoor Recreation Planner, Rivers, Trails and Conservation Assistance Program.

Join us as we welcome Randy Thoreson, the National Park Service Trails expert. Randy has worked with communities and groups across the country to develop land and water trails. He is planner/ecological based professional with more than 35 years of experience in both the Mountain West and Midwest on many projects that include land-based and river based trails as well as a variety of other open space/recreational projects. He has been involved in many aspects of the Mississippi and St. Croix Rivers and is specifically connected to the national Mississippi River Trail (MRT) advisory group.

He is working with Friends and the Great Rivers Confluence Project to link trails between Pierce County, WI and trails in Washington and Dakota Counties in MN. Randy will give an overview and update as to what is happening to link land and water trails in the region that will benefit residents and visitors to the confluence region of the St. Croix and Mississippi Rivers.

Thursday, April 7: 8:30- 3:30 p.m. Developing a Sustainable Community Wildlife/Nature Tourism Program. Presenter: Jim Mallman, CEO Watchable Wildlife Inc.

Sponsored by the National Park Service, Watchable Wildlife, Friends of Freedom Park and the City of Hastings, this workshop is for businesses, chambers of commerce, local and regional officials and representatives, parks and trails, artists, marina managers, birders, tourism professionals. Four sessions will be held: The Economics behind Wildlife Tourism; Providing a Positive Viewing Experience; Building community support and conducting site assessments; and Mapping the Confluence. Cost \$25. Where: Hastings City Hall in the Historic Courthouse (101 4th ST. E.), register snelson@freedomparkwi.org. Go to <http://www.freedomparkwi.org/documents/TourismWildlifeconf.pdf> to download registration form on home page. Registration due by April 4.

Tuesday, April 12: 2- 3:00 pm. OR 6:30 – 7:30 p.m. Volunteer Training

Volunteers who meet and greet the public, handle gift shop sales etc. at the front desk are asked to attend one of the annual training sessions. This is a refresher training as well as training for anyone interested in becoming a volunteer. In addition to training on the “basics”, learn more about the Great River Road as presented by Dennis Donath, Pierce County Commission to the Wisconsin Great River Road.

Wednesday, April 13, 10:00 a.m. Senior Gathering Council

Come and join the discussion of the creation of a Community Center for Prescott as well as options for senior housing. The Senior Gathering Council is open to all seniors and all are cordially invited. For questions, please contact Genny Taevs at 715-262-8323.

Friday, April 15, 5-6:30 p.m. Volunteer Appreciation High Tea (note date and time change)

All volunteers are cordially invited to our Volunteer Appreciation High Tea. Volunteers include front desk greeters, gardeners, program presenters, committee members and board members.

Your dedicated commitment and service to Friends of Freedom Park is deeply appreciated. Please call 715-262-0104 by April 9 to let us know if you will be attending.

Sunday April 17, 1:00 – 2:00 p.m. Senior Potluck Luncheon

Come and share in the fellowship of a delicious potluck luncheon. Stay for the public program, “Our Prairie Heritage.”

Sunday, April 17, 2:00 – 3:00 p.m. “Our Prairie Heritage” with Burt Levy

Burt Levy is a member of Prairie Enthusiasts and an excellent landscape photographer. He will share the history and extent of our past prairie heritage, of which less than 1% remains today. He will also talk about the prairie remnants which are in our region and what is being done to preserve them. Come and learn about what the Midwest and regional landscape looked like before European settlement, and how it has changed. Free.



Sunday, April 24, 2:00 – 4:30 p.m. Art Exhibit and Reception. Susan Zinschlag

Susan Zinschlag has been painting for 20 years and has been a member of Artists of Minnesota for 18 years; she is a signature member of the Minnesota Watercolor society and has won art awards at the Dakota County Fair, Artists of Minnesota and Minnesota Watercolor Society shows and at Sister Kenny shows. Her art is for sale at the Kulak Art Gallery in Woodbury and she has art in the permanent collection of the Hastings City Hall. Her favorite subjects are flowers and her preferred medium for depicting them is oil, but she also uses acrylics, watercolors and colored pencils. She also paints still lifes in oil and prefers doing

buildings in watercolor or pen and ink. Her goal is to share her passion for art and the beauty of the world we live in.

Mark Your Calendars!

Sunday, May 1 – Earth Day Celebration

Sunday, May 15- All the Roads To Joy: Memories Along the Mississippi. Poetry and Story Workshop for the Kinship of Rivers River Flag Project. <http://www.kinshipofrivers.org/>

Saturday, May 21, 9 a.m. – noon- Great River Road Learning Center Plant Sale (pavilion)

For more information, go to www.freedomparkwi.org