

EarthFest 2024

Wild River State Park

Saturday, April 27



2024 Theme: Why do we care about prairies?

7:30-9 a.m. Bird Walk *(Meet at Boat Launch Parking Lot)*

Join Joe on a journey through a variety of habitats in search of our feathered friends. Compare prairie, wetland and forest birds. Bring binoculars or borrow a pair of ours.

9:30-10:30 a.m. Prairie Walk: What's happening in our grasslands?

Take a stroll through some of Wild River's 500 acres of prairie with Park Naturalist Sean Hoppes and Cultural Teacher Hope Flanagan. This walk will be an open discussion on prairie ecology and stewardship.

Most activity locations are weather dependent and will be posted on the day of the event.

10:45-11:30 a.m. Keynote Presentation

Hope Flanagan is the native cultural teacher at Dream of Wild Health. She is from the Tonawanda Band of Seneca and has a strong cultural relationship with plants. She teaches people about the importance of culture, language and identity, and shares her knowledge of Indigenous foods and medicines.

12-1:30 p.m. Lunchtime Concert with AJ Spoff

AJ frequently entertains with a variety of country, rock, pop and original music. Bring your lunch and enjoy!

1:30-3:30 p.m. Connect with Local Conservation Groups *(Visitor Center Lobby)*

Drop by for informal chats with an array of conservation organizations.

2-2:30 p.m. The Bullsnake Program

Dave Crawford loves to talk about snakes. This former park naturalist will present what we've learned at Wild River from studying bullsnakes for the past 20 years.

2:30-3 p.m. Bluebirds on the Prairie

Gloria Peterson has been monitoring bluebird activities at Wild River for years. She will share engaging stories and beautiful pictures of bluebirds.

3-5 p.m. Prairie Stewardship Projects

Discover your own connection to the prairie and give something back through stewardship projects. There are several options for various ages and abilities.

*All programs are FREE and open to the public.
April 27, 2024 is a free park entrance day.*