



# Friends of Wild River State Park Guest Program Series 2009

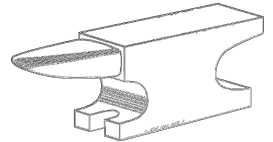
The following line-up of fascinating programs by special guest presenters is sponsored by Friends of Wild River State Park with funds raised by the Seegwan native plant sale:

**Saturday, June 13, 7:30 p.m. Nature and Campfire Stories Told by Dwight Wilcox**

Dwight Wilcox will be telling stories about the St. Croix Valley and sharing campfire tales. Some true, some not so true, but all fun and entertaining. Hear tall tales and true tales of the north woods and the St. Croix Valley, and fun stories and fables with a few surprises. Meet at campground amphitheater.

**Saturday, June 27, 10 a.m. to 3 p.m. Blacksmithing - A Craft From the Past**

Pioneer farmers couldn't just run to the hardware store for tools and nails - they went to the blacksmith, who made them what they needed. Stop by and learn about the art of smithing from expert smith Paul Webster during this working demonstration of an ancient art in modern times. Watch the sparks fly as raw metal is turned into tools before your very eyes! Bring lots of questions - Paul is good at explaining things and hammering hot metal at the same time. Meet at visitor center.



**Saturday, July 4, 2 p.m. Big, Bad, and Beautiful Bugs**

Bruce Giebink from The Bug Zone will provide entertainment and education about some of the world's smallest critters. See (and touch, if you dare) a giant millipede, hissing cockroach, or a "friendly" tarantula; view an incredible assortment of specimens of metallic-blue butterflies, walking sticks a half-foot long, beetles with giant pincers, and much more, while hearing fascinating stories about insects and how they live. Meet at visitor center.



**Saturday, July 11, 1 to 4 p.m. Tools From Stone -- Flint Knapping**

Joel Osmond provides a detailed working demonstration of the methods used to create arrowheads and knives from stone, using techniques which have barely changed in the last 4,000 years. Drop in for a short look, or stay for the whole afternoon. Meet at visitor center.

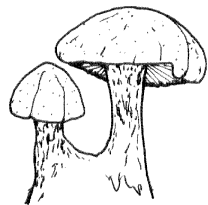


**Saturday, August 1, 2 to 4 p.m. Historical Herbs For Health**

Join herbalist/educator Teresa Wolfe as she shares fascinating facts about historical medicinal, edible, and other uses of wild plants in Minnesota. Learn how to recognize some of the plants you're likely to see. Each participant will make an herbal medicinal salve traditionally used for insect bites and stings. Meet at visitor center. Materials fee required: call (651) 583-2925 for details.

**Saturday, August 8, 2 to 3:30 p.m. Fascinating Fungi**

LeslieJo Meyerhoff, a self-taught educator who passes the test for knowing mushrooms well - she's been eating them for years and is still alive - provides an illustrated talk about the world of fungi in our forests and prairies. Meet at visitor center.



**Friday - Saturday, August 14 & 15, 9 p.m. Prairie Skies and Perseid Meteors**

What better place to view the night sky than the open prairie! Join guest astronomer Steve Tonsfeldt for images of some of the most impressive and beautiful sights from space (August 14) or a slide show of meteorite impact craters, and a chance to handle actual meteorites (August 15). About 10:00 p.m. take a short walk into the prairie for a live view of the night sky's features through telescopes, and watch the Perseid meteor shower. Bring bug spray, flashlights, and binoculars if you have them. Meet at the visitor center for the first part of the program, then drive to the astronomy site near the campground amphitheater for the meteor watch. There are benches at the site, but meteor watching is best from a reclining lawn chair or lying on a blanket.



**Saturday, August 22, 6:30 p.m. Fiddler Pierre Jacques Pleau**

Travel back in time with fiddler and storyteller Pierre Jacques Pleau and his friends to the days of candlelight and campfires. Come join Pierre for an early evening round of storytelling, music, folk dancing, and musical games. Meet at the campground amphitheater.



Wild River State Park is located 3 miles north of Almelund, MN,  
on Highway 95 between North Branch and Taylors Falls.

Facility, camping and lodging information (651) 583-2125. Naturalist program information (651) 583-2925