



Volume 35, Number 3
Fall 2016

Carpenter St. Croix Valley Nature Center

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"The mission of Carpenter St. Croix Valley Nature Center is to foster appreciation and inspire stewardship of the natural world. We accomplish our mission by acquiring and preserving land and wildlife habitat, providing quality environmental education, conservation practices and enjoyable outdoor experiences for visitors of all ages and capabilities."

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Campers examine soil properties at the UWRF Mann Valley Farm.

Field Notes

By Jen Vieth

"I have never seen so many trees!"

The Saint Paul middle school student felt the need to clarify his statement. *"Well, what I mean is... that I've seen them on T.V. but not in real life."* This summer Isaac's mom took the **initiative** to sign him up for CNC's new Pathfinders camp. He was hesitant at first. Not certain if he wanted to go. Would it be boring? Would he make friends? Yet each day on the drive home he talked non-stop to the MN Science Museum coordinator about his new experiences. He learned about hydroponics, rode a buggy through a bison herd, picked fresh produce to make pizza in a brick oven, held a corn snake, felt a live Monarch's clingy feet on his hand and ate honey straight from an active honeycomb.

In the St. Croix Valley we are blessed with beautiful vistas of rolling prairie, majestic White Pine filled valleys, and clear cool river waters. Many of us take this natural beauty for granted. Yet, less than 30 minutes away, city youth see brick buildings, cement sidewalks and black asphalt landscapes. It takes initiative, creativity and leadership to get youth out of their comfort zone and into nature.

From Hudson to Hastings, teachers and principals provide leadership to ensure their students get the opportunity to visit CNC to learn state science standards in a fun, inspiring setting. This fall 1,000 students will explore the apple orchard, and learn about eco-friendly methods of growing apples. During the winter, students learn about animal tracks, 'Snow & Ice,' and 'Winter Birds.' By spring, classes focus on flowers, pollinators and the ever-popular 'Survival.' The creative naturalists can tailor a program for any age-group on diverse topics from Geology to Geo-caching. The educational field trips are the lessons students remember for a lifetime.

As the lazy, warm summer days give way to crisp, dry early fall afternoons and eventually frost covered leaves, it is your turn to find creative ways to inspire those you care about to get out into nature. Take a casual nature exploration hike on a Sunday afternoon. Plan a family trip to hand-select a pumpkin from CNC's pumpkin patch.

Take a photo excursion to the shore of the St. Croix River. Or just feed your own soul by spending quiet time experiencing the change of seasons in the St. Croix Valley. You will thank yourself for taking the initiative.

At this time of year we at CNC like to take the opportunity to thank all of you for making these year-round enriching experiences possible. From the families to the educators to the chaperones, from the foundations to the corporations to the individual philanthropists, from the Board of Directors to the volunteers to the interns, we could not inspire thousands of youth every year and protect valuable wildlife habitat without you. Thank you.



Attend the fall Raptor Release to see majestic raptors returned to the skies.

Upcoming Programs

Reservations are required

For more information, to RSVP or to schedule a group program, please call the office:

651-437-4359

Home School Program: Animal Adaptations

November 11, 1:00 – 2:30 p.m.

For ages 5 and up



CNC's Home School Programs are created to offer students in home schools an opportunity to meet other children, take part in environmental education programs, and enjoy the outdoors. Students will learn about animal adaptations through hands-on activities and observing live animals. Please dress appropriately for the weather. Program fee: \$6 per student or \$4 for "Friends of CNC."

Holiday Recycling Crafts

December 10, 10:00 a.m. – Noon

'Tis the season to turn trash into treasure. Enjoy holiday refreshments while making ornaments and discover how to creatively gift wrap using paper from old phonebooks, newspapers, and magazines. Decorate your own home, or give these projects as gifts. Program Fee: \$6 or \$4 for "Friends of CNC."



Amazing Animals

CNC and Angel's Pet World are proud to partner and bring the community a FREE program series that educates people about stewardship of nature and responsible pet ownership. Meet at Angel's Pet World at 105-2nd Street in Hudson, WI.

Dogs: November 6, 1:00 p.m.

Get to know the wild canines of Minnesota and Wisconsin, and learn how to protect their habitats. Explore the domestication history of dogs and understand how to properly care for them. This program includes the opportunity to meet dogs from Coco's Heart Dog Rescue!

Cats: December 3, 12:00 p.m. – 3:00 p.m.

Felines are some of the most ferocious and skilled hunters in the world. Some large cats such as cougars, lions, and tigers will even eat people. So how did these incredible predators become our friends? Join us for a presentation from 12:00-1:00 p.m., followed by an opportunity to cuddle with cats from A-Way Cat Rescue from 1:00-3:00 p.m.

Reptiles & Amphibians: January 8, 1:00 p.m.

Whether they're slippery or scaly, reptiles and amphibians are amazing animals. Get to know some wild species of frogs, toads, turtles and snakes, and learn how to help protect their habitats. Discover what kinds of reptiles and amphibians are appropriate to keep as pets, and understand how to properly care for them.

Bird Hikes

Join expert birders on a morning hike around the nature center. Field guides and binoculars available to use or bring your own. Wisconsin hikes will be led by the St. Croix Valley Bird Club and Minnesota hikes will be led by Kevin Smith, local bird expert. Program fee: \$6 or FREE for "Friends of CNC" and SCVBC & HEP members



Yellow Warbler

Hikes at CNC's Minnesota campus

September 3 & October 1; 8:00 – 10:00 a.m.

November 5 & December 3; 9:00 – 11:00 a.m.

Hikes at CNC's Wisconsin campus

Meet at 300 East Cove Road, Hudson

September 10 & October 15;

8:00 – 10:00 a.m.

November 12 & December 10;

9:00 – 11:00 a.m.

Bird Banding

Fourth Fridays, 8:30 a.m.- Noon

September 23 • October 28 • November 25 • December 23

Banding records help us learn how long birds live, where they travel, when they migrate and many other interesting facts. See songbirds up close and learn about the birds who share our ecosystem. Banding runs continuously for the full 3 ½ hours, but visitors may come and go at any time. Donations of bird seed or suet will be greatly appreciated in lieu of a program fee.

Preschool Story Time

Fridays, 10:00 – 11:00 a.m.

September 16

October 28

November 11

December 16

Orchard Fun

Costumes & Critters

Tails to Toes

Winter Woodlands

Preschool Story Times are designed to introduce children, ages 2 through 5 (with a parent or guardian), to nature in a fun and safe environment. Listen to stories, spend some time outdoors, make a craft project and meet live animals. Please dress appropriately for the weather. RSVP early as this program often fills up. Program fee: \$5 per child or \$3 per preschooler for "Friends of CNC"; no charge for accompanying adult.

Saw-whet Owl Banding

October 5 & 19; 8:00 – 10:00 p.m. Minnesota Campus

October 12 & 26 ; 8:00 – 10:00 p.m. Wisconsin Campus



Learn about the migration patterns of Saw-whet Owls. Join our naturalists as they venture out to band some of our native owls. Space is limited so call early to reserve your spot. This program is weather dependent. Program fee: FREE

Upcoming Events

More details available at www.CarpenterNatureCenter.org or by calling 651-437-4359



Sunday, September 11

4:00 p.m. – 9:00 p.m.

Enjoy the beautiful and serene landscape as the St. Croix Valley is blanketed in autumn colors. Venture out on a walking or cart tour of CNC's Minnesota campus. Guests are invited to bid at the silent auction and visit the open bar. Rush River Brewing will be giving out samples to try. Afterwards, guests will be served dinner catered by Lake Elmo Inn while participating in the live auction and the "wall of wine" raffle. The funds we raise in this event help support our K-12 education programs. For more information on becoming a sponsor, donating an auction item, or to receive an invitation, please call Andrew at 651-437-4359.

WHERE AT CNC?

Steps away from the Visitor Center near the parking lot stands a wooden statue of a beautiful eagle. This statue is a replica of a glass eagle that once sat at the Hilger family dining table. Our very own Andrew Hilger is the great-grandson of Dr. Jerome Hilger, who served on the original Board of Directors when CNC was founded.



Andrew started as an Environmental Education intern here at CNC this summer. In August he was hired to be the Development Coordinator as Clare pursues her dream of owning her own orchard. (You will still be able to find Clare around CNC, killing buckthorn and working in the orchard.)

Andrew is excited to meet all of you. We are so lucky to have multiple generations of Hilgers helping spread the Carpenter mission.

Fall Raptor Release

Saturday, September 24

10:00 a.m. – 3:00 p.m.

Join Carpenter Nature Center and the University of Minnesota's Raptor Center as they releases rehabilitated raptors at CNC. After months of rehabilitation from injuries in the wild, these birds are now ready to be released. The event includes hay wagon tours, kids activities, raptors on display and fun for the entire family. This free event is enjoyed by all ages. Dogs are not allowed at this event.



Apple Fest

October 8 & 9

10:00 a.m. – 5:00 p.m.

Stop out and partake in Apple Fest. The event includes hay rides, live raptor programs, music, pumpkin decorating, apple brats and more. Carpenter Nature Center offers some of the most delicious and healthiest apples around the St. Croix Valley. We use eco-friendly techniques and minimal sprays. You can purchase pies and other baked goods made with CNC apples from our volunteers. This free event is fun for all ages.

















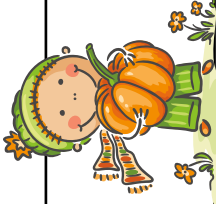








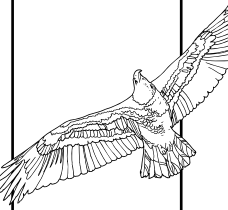
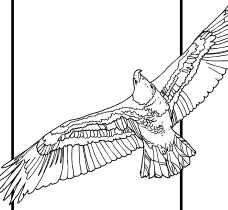

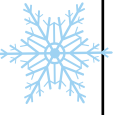




give TO THE MAX 
NOV. 17, 2016

Give to the Max Day is coming up on November 17. This annual day of giving has a huge impact for local non-profit organizations. Any gift made to CNC via GiveMN.org on this date enters us in a drawing to win up to \$10,000! To donate just visit GiveMN.org or keep up to date on CNC's facebook page.

2016 Calendar of Events at Carpenter Nature Center

Phenology from 2015 (with additional entries from CNC's past phenology notes)

September				5 Labor Day (CNC open)	6 	7 Seven Turkey Vultures circling	13 hours and 13 minutes of daylight Wild Rice New Moon	1 Garter snake inside administrative building	3 Minnesota Campus Bird Hike
4 Woolly bear caterpillar in driveway	12 	13 	6 Labor Day (CNC open)	14 Cooper's Hawk by bird feeders	15 Hundreds of milkweed bugs in watergarden (2014)	8 Cicadas still buzzing (2013)	2 Garter snake inside administrative building	9 Common goldenrod blooming (2011) 	10 Wisconsin Campus Bird Hike Eid al-Adha starts at sunset
11 Autumn in the Valley Gala	19 	20 20+ Hawks migrating over prairie	12 Full Moon – Supermoon (closest full moon of the year)	21 Adopt-A-Highway Cleanup	14 Cooper's Hawk by bird feeders	15 Hundreds of milkweed bugs in watergarden (2014)	16 Preschool Storytime: Orchard Fun Full "Harvest" Moon	17 Oaks changing color (2012)	24 Raptor Release
18 Winter Wren on patio (2010) 	26 Juncos are back (1997)	27 Eastern Towhees migrating	27 Blood/Super Moon with Solar Eclipse	28 Blood/Super Moon with Solar Eclipse	29 Autumnal Equinox - 9:21 a.m. fall begins	22 Autumnal Equinox - 9:21 a.m. fall begins	23 Public Bird Banding Blue Jays flying through (2013)	30 Buckeye leaves dropping Falling Leaves New Moon	1 October MN Campus Bird Hike
2 Rosh Hashanah begins at sunset	3 	4 Eastern Towhees migrating	5 Minnesota Campus Owl Banding	5 Minnesota Campus Owl Banding	6 Buckeye trees have lost all leaves (2011)	6 Buckeye trees have lost all leaves (2011)	7 Buckeye leaves dropping Falling Leaves New Moon	8 Apple Fest 	15 Wisconsin Campus Bird Hike Full "Hunter's" Moon
9 Apple Fest 	10 	11 New record high temp - 85°F Yom Kippur begins at sunset	12 Wisconsin Campus Owl Banding	12 Wisconsin Campus Owl Banding	13 50% color change	13 50% color change	14 	21 Peak Orionid Meteor Shower - midnight	22 Banded Saw-whet Owls
16 Sukkot Begins at sunset	17 	18 30+ Bluebirds at front gate (1998)	19 Minnesota Campus Owl Banding	19 Minnesota Campus Owl Banding	20 	20 	21 Peak Orionid Meteor Shower - midnight	28 Public Bird Banding Preschool Storytime: Costumes and Critters	29 First snow flurries (2015)
23 	24 Garter Snake basking on railroad bed (2007)	25 First snowfall of 2012	26 Wisconsin Campus Owl Banding 	26 Wisconsin Campus Owl Banding	27 Honeybees very active (1996)	3 Honeybees very active (1996)	4 Buck and doe by farmhouse (2011)	5 Minnesota Campus Bird Hike	12 Wisconsin Campus Bird Hike
30 New Moon	31 Halloween 	1 November Robins migrating	2 Toad still out (2011)	2 Toad still out (2011)	3 Honeybees very active (1996)	3 Honeybees very active (1996)	4 Buck and doe by farmhouse (2011)	5 Minnesota Campus Bird Hike	19 Wisconsin Campus Bird Hike
Amazing Animals: Dogs Central Standard Time resumes at 2:00 a.m.	7 Tufted Titmouse at north end of property	8 Swans heard overhead (2000) 	9 Yellow leaves and acorns	9 Yellow leaves and acorns	10 	10 	11 Preschool Storytime: Tails to Toes Home School: Animal Adaptations	12 Wisconsin Campus Bird Hike	19 Wisconsin Campus Bird Hike
13 	14 Full Moon – Supermoon (closest full moon of the year)	15 	16 Full Moon – Supermoon (closest full moon of the year)	16 Full Moon – Supermoon (closest full moon of the year)	17 Leonid Meteor Shower peak - 4:00 a.m. Give to the Max Day	17 Leonid Meteor Shower peak - 4:00 a.m. Give to the Max Day	18 Night crawlers on driveway	26 First measurable snowfall (2015)	3 MN Campus Bird Hike Amazing Animals: Cats
20 Ice on bird baths	21 11 consecutive days below freezing (2014)	22 Dandelions popping up in yard (2006)	23 Blue snowflake	23 Blue snowflake	24 Happy Thanksgiving! (CNC closed)	24 Happy Thanksgiving! (CNC closed)	25 Public Bird Banding Summer Tanager still here (2011)	26 First measurable snowfall (2015)	9 Wisconsin Campus Bird Hike Holiday Recycling Crafts
27 	28 Sundogs visible 13°F at 8:00 a.m.	29 New Moon – Descending Cold	30 December 1st Red-winged Blackbird at feeder (1995)	30 December 1st Red-winged Blackbird at feeder (1995)	8 	8 	9 	2 MN Campus Bird Hike Amazing Animals: Cats	10 Wisconsin Campus Bird Hike Holiday Recycling Crafts
4 Turned off water garden pump – finally got ice!	5 61°F at 8:00 a.m. (2001)	6 Northern Shrike hunting near prairie (2013)	7 Pearl Harbor Remembrance Day	7 Pearl Harbor Remembrance Day	15 Thunder and rain at 9:00 a.m.	15 Thunder and rain at 9:00 a.m.	16 Preschool Storytime: Winter Woodlands	17 	24 Hanukkah begins at sunset
11 	12 	13 Full Moon Geminid Meteor Shower peak – 6:00 p.m.	14 Winter begins	14 Winter begins	22 Morning ice fog and hoarfrost Nine Trumpeter Swans by beach	22 Morning ice fog and hoarfrost Nine Trumpeter Swans by beach	23 Public Bird Banding	30 Morning ice fog and hoarfrost Nine Trumpeter Swans by beach	31 New Year's Eve 8 hours and 5 minutes of daylight
18 Merry Christmas! (CNC closed)	19 Kwanzaa begins	20 St. Croix River frozen all the way across (2012)	21 Franklin's Gull by Prescott bridge (2002)	21 Franklin's Gull by Prescott bridge (2002)	29 Merry Christmas! (CNC closed)	29 Merry Christmas! (CNC closed)	23 Public Bird Banding	30 Morning ice fog and hoarfrost Nine Trumpeter Swans by beach	31 New Year's Eve 8 hours and 5 minutes of daylight

People Profiles

Board Member Bio

Abra Hovgaard

Abra lives in Red Wing, though she grew up in Hastings. Abra earned her Master's in Forestry and currently works as a Financial Advisor at Edward Jones in Hastings. She has known about CNC almost her whole life and became more involved after her wife, Holly, participated in the Apple Blossom Races. Abra loves outdoor activities and encourages people to try activities like cross-country skiing, hiking and camping. She is honored to be part of the Board and plans to bring strategic thinking and focus-orientated skills to the Board.



Scott Northard

Scott, his wife Jackie and children Chris and Emily have lived in Hastings for nearly 40 years. Scott works for Xcel Energy as the Site Vice President at the Prairie Island Nuclear Generating Plant. Scott first learned about CNC through his wife who wrote articles about the Nature Center for the Hastings newspaper in the 1970's. Since then, the family has attended many events and programs throughout the years. As a member of the Hastings Rotary Club, Scott volunteered in rebuilding CNC's three tiered Ravine Overlook Deck which is used to access the ravine floor and observe wildlife at tree top level. Scott will be hosting an Xcel Day of Service at CNC this fall.



Jim Weglewski

Jim is Vice President of Lean Sigma and Quality Systems at Andersen Corporation. Jim started at Andersen in 2003 and has held a number of different positions. Prior to his days at Andersen, he spent 13 years at 3M. He earned his B.S. in Mechanical Engineering from the University of Minnesota, Institute of Technology. Jim, his wife Lisa, and his children Andy, Nate and Mia live in Woodbury and enjoy hiking and camping. Jim is an avid lover of nature, and nature photography is his hobby. You can see his photos on his Instagram and Twitter accounts @Quark_track and @Quarktrack respectively.



Meet our 2016 Summer Interns



Featured: Mallorie, Megan, Emily, Marissa and Andrew Missing: Jackie

Mallorie Briggs was an Environmental Education intern attending Minnesota State University – Mankato and majoring in Ecology. Mallorie loves to journal, read, watch Netflix and color. She values the confidence she gained while teaching, and was always willing to learn more about natural history.

Megan Orthmann graduated from the University of Wisconsin – River Falls with degrees in International Studies and Modern Language – French. She completed the Natural Resources Internship, where she managed mammal and plant surveys on both MN and WI campuses. She met many experts from local agencies regarding numerous conservation projects and practices.

Emily Herman is a Horticulture Intern. She attended University of Minnesota – Twin Cities where she earned her degree in Conservation Biology. She worked hard planting pumpkins, hand-thinning apple trees and identifying common apple tree pests over the summer. You can find Emily working in the CNC orchard this fall.

Marissa Escobedo completed a Communications internship at CNC over the summer, writing the e-newsletters, print newsletters and managing social media. She attends Minnesota State University – Mankato and will be earning her degree in Zoology with a minor in music. She loves to watch movies, read and cook in her spare time.

Andrew Hilger completed an Environmental Education internship. See page 3.

Jackie Vierck completed a Horticulture internship this summer. She attended the University of Minnesota – Twin Cities and earned a degree in Kinesiology. In her free time, she enjoys biking, hiking and playing the ukulele. Over the summer, in addition to maintaining the gardens and orchard, she took many plant hikes and expanded her knowledge of grasses and forbs in our prairies. After completing her internship Jackie started a job at Borner Farm in Prescott, WI.



Memorials & Honorariums

We wish to express our appreciation for the following gifts:

In Memory of

*Kenneth Warren Braun from Philip and Marlene Kachelmyer
Joseph Hanke Jr. & Austin Weidman from Jim and Judy Freund
Terri and Jane Kern from Don Kern
Wally and Lydia from Kathy Iverson and Mike Menzel
Buzz Marzolf from Ronald and Joyce Carlson
Lenny & Mary Schwartz from Jane Lightbourn
Skip Soleim from Lavonne Soleim
In memory of her parents and brother from Susan Dorner*



Byron Robinson from Margaret Anderson, Pat and Sharon Beard, Shannon Beskar, Jim Beskar, Elaine Besker, Rita Brandt, Eric Nelsen and Jin Chang, Sr. Rosemary Desmond, Joanne and Mary Dingle, Matthew and Jennifer Ettl, Dolores Giampaolo, Lloyd and Janice Grobe, Bud and Bev Gross, Linda Johnson, Steve & Mayme Johnson, Karl and Judy Knester, Fred Schmidt and Kaye Kraft, Jean Kulvich, Lynne Prodger and Dorothy Leaf, Fred and Mitzi Leimbek, Walt and Marianne Lyszak, Corinne Marz, Phillip and Stephanie Martineau, Mark McVee, Dale and Mary Mitsch, Donald and Marie Nemerov, Lowell and Lorrie Pommerening, Ruth Pommerening, Richard and Naomi Purves-Adams, Herb and Nancy Reckinger, Joy Robinson, Mary Sansom, Jon and Candy Severson, Marianne Shumaker, Josh Straka and Katie Sieben, Neil Simonson, Terry and Pam Syverson, Carmen Tipler, Dr. Kevin and Catherine Try, Diana Tunheim, Florence Weins, Dr. John and Andrea Wheeler, Emily White, Gordy and Dorothy Witzel, Barbara Woodward



Volunteer Corner

Adopt-a-Highway cleanup will be on Wednesday, September 21 starting at 6:30 p.m. Bring gloves and your favorite litter stabbing tool. We are open to having help anytime during that week if you can't make it on Wednesday evening. Let's make the ditches beautiful for the fall events.

The Raptor Release will take place on Saturday, September 24. We will need lots of volunteers to do various tasks like directing cars to parking areas, giving out information, directing cars to parking areas, helping in the Apple Shack, and – in case I didn't mention it, directing cars to parking areas. Call if you are interested in helping with this event – it is loads of fun.

Apple Fest is another event where we need lots of volunteers to ensure it is a success. This year Apple Fest falls on October 8 and 9. You can help by volunteering for one or both days, baking something for the Volunteer Bake Sale, or you can do both (we really like that kind of help). If you like apples, pumpkins, and interesting people, this is the event for you.

Volunteer Spotlight



In this issue we are happy to shine the spotlight on our Volunteer of the Year. This year it is a group of people rather than an individual. **Jessica**

Cavis, Laura Coble, and Linda Whyte are well known at CNC as the "Mew Crew" because of their hard work in cleaning the raptor mews. But that is not all they do; at one point in time, all of them were coming out twice a week and putting in two – three hours each time. Jessica Cavis stays after the mews are cleaned and feeds the raptors. She has also come in on weekends to feed them. Laura Coble doubles-up during the week by cleaning mews on Wednesday and then doing animal care on Fridays. Linda Whyte has helped with special events and is a part of the bird banding crew in addition to her mew cleaning leadership.

We are extremely grateful for all the hard work that these wonderful ladies put in for CNC. It is hard to find the words to describe how much we appreciate their dedication and devotion. They are terrific, fantastic, incredibly amazing people and we are lucky they have chosen to give so much to CNC. Thank you ladies, from the bottom of our hearts, thank you.

FRIENDS OF CARPENTER NATURE CENTER

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State _____ Zip _____
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Gift membership given by: _____
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☐ FAMILY \$50 to \$99
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☐ THE ST. CROIX SOCIETY \$1,000 to \$2,999
☐ THE EAGLE SOCIETY \$3,000 to \$4,999
☐ THE DIRECTOR'S COUNCIL \$5,000 & Beyond
☐ SUSTAINING FRIEND OF CNC

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Jessie Eckroad	Outreach Program Coordinator
Clare Neenan.....	Natural Resources Specialist

PLEASE INFORM US IF YOUR ADDRESS CHANGES

CNC Wish List

Center is in need of the following items in good condition:

Flash drives, black-oil sunflower seed, 2 ft. fluorescent tubes

Remember that donated items are generally tax deductible.
Check out the wish list on our website for additional items.



CNC News & Events

Follow us online:

www.CarpenterNatureCenter.org, Facebook, Twitter, or www.givemn.org.



giveMN.org
Click. Contribute. Change Your World.

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Trails and interpretive exhibits are open daily from 8:00 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. A trail map is available at the registration desk where we ask all visitors to check in. Admission is free but we encourage donations, which go to help the environmental education programs at

the Nature Center. To join our email list contact: Andrew@CarpenterNatureCenter.org.

*Don't forget...the Apple Shack is open daily
from 9:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m.*