



RIVER PRAIRIE GROUP

DuPage Sierran

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Autumn 2024, Vol 44, No. 4



Chatter From the Chair

Hello my fellow River Prairie Group members,

Have you been out on the trails to see the Olmec exhibits? For a quick YouTube explanation of this fascinating Mexican Cultural Arts display of 33 different heads, click [here](#). This exhibit was curated with help from the Mexican Cultural Arts Center in West Chicago.

It is a celebration of the ancient Olmec culture from the southern region of Veracruz, Mexico. Above, you see one of six of the colorfully painted heads displayed around the natural features of St. James Farm in Warrenville. There is another cluster of 10 heads at College of DuPage in Glen Ellyn.

For a complete map of locations and some background information, check out the official website [here](#).

[More...](#)



The Quickest, Most Powerful Thing You Can Do

Minute for minute, the quickest, most powerful thing you can do to save the planet is to click on [this link](#) and vote for Sierra Club endorsed candidates.

Federally, Illinois' endorsed candidates include some of the most important Congressmen and Congresswomen in the Congress for battling climate change.

[More...](#)

We Also Have Our Own Sierra Club Elections

If you are a member of the Sierra Club, watch for voting instructions in the mail about how to vote for officers in your Club and Chapter.



Referendum to Support the Forest Preserve District of DuPage County

We residents of DuPage are very fortunate to have the amazing Forest Preserve District of DuPage. Although as Sierra Club members, many of us are probably out in the preserves on a regular basis, some residents might take them for granted at times. The mission of the Forest Preserve has a clear impact on the superb quality of life we enjoy here in DuPage: "to acquire, preserve, protect and restore natural resources ...while providing opportunities for all people to connect with nature."

[More...](#)



Clean Energy Initiatives Still Needed

With the planet hitting record temperatures, there is much reason to be concerned. As a reader of this newsletter, you have probably thought into what to do next. Years ago, I had conversations with two Environmental Protection Agency colleagues about climate change, and was surprised to hear they either questioned the reality of climate change, or said it was a problem for our grandchildren. That provoked some thought and research on my part.

[More...](#)

AUTUMN PROGRAM MEETINGS

Our meetings are held at the Glen Ellyn History Center, 800 N. Main St, Glen Ellyn, at 7 PM. See program descriptions and dates below. Link to [program list](#).



Sept 25 - DuPage Forest Preserve Referendum

Join us for a presentation on the referendum request for the Forest Preserve District of DuPage County. Learn how our preserves have grown since the last referendum in 2006 and why this is being proposed. Sign up [here](#) for this informative chat about caring for our beloved open spaces here in DuPage.

Visit www.voteYESdupageforest.org to learn more and see how you can help.

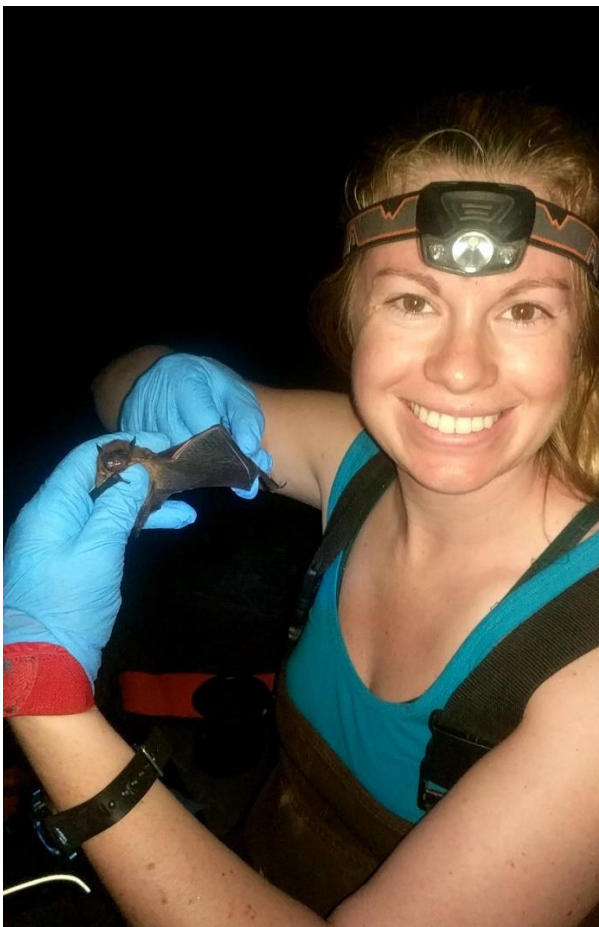
[Register here.](#)



Oct 16 - Healthy Lawns, Driveways, and Homes

How can you protect your family from the health effects of chemicals that are commonly found in lawn-care products, coal-tar sealants, and ordinary household products? Some of these chemicals are linked to cancer, autism, ADHD, lower IQs, endocrine disruption, diabetes, and other maladies. Learn from the latest research about how to have a healthy home. Join us for a fascinating and informative presentation from Jean-Marie Kauth, PhD, MPH, Professor, Benedictine University and Warrenville Environmental Advisory Commissioner.

[Register here.](#)



Nov 20 - Bat Conservation

Join us and learn about the bats in Illinois with the Illinois Bat Conservation Program! We will talk about Illinois' 13 bat species, what work does a bat biologist do to help monitor bat species, and what you can do to help conserve bats right in your own yard!

[Register here.](#)



Solar, Birds, and Hiking - Get Away Weekend October 12-13, 2024

Come and enjoy an educational day of learning about how Solar Panels are being used on our farms and houses in the Oregon, IL, area.

[Register here.](#)

[More...](#)



 **SAVE THE DATE!**

**Pollinator Blitz:
Bringing Conservation Home**
Speakers, demonstrations, vendors, and more!

Saturday, March 15, 2025 10:00 am - 4:00 pm
Mayslake Peabody Estate

Support provided by:

Last Word

By Margaret Nuccio

Sitting by the Pond

Geese, regular occupiers of this small pond,
Lounge corporately on the grassy bank.
They are incensed as a heron comes,
Too close for comfort.

He stakes his claim,
Paying little heed to their honking.
“Is there a problem?” he gestures,
Edging his way into the cool water.

“Why are you here?” the geese bawl
“This is our place.”
Ignoring them he takes a small fish
In his dipping beak.

I see it travel
Down his slender pipe.
I sip my tea and I’m happy for him
And for me.

GET OUTSIDE

Enjoy the outdoors by joining our upcoming
local outings! [Sign up here.](#)



[Facebook](#)

Follow us on Facebook for news, events and
updates on the work we do to keep our
communities green!

[Donate to Sierra Club Illinois Today!](#)