

THE BLAZE

A publication of the Byron Forest Preserve District

2004 Winter/Spring Issue

**Great Gift
Ideas Inside!**

Dance



Museums



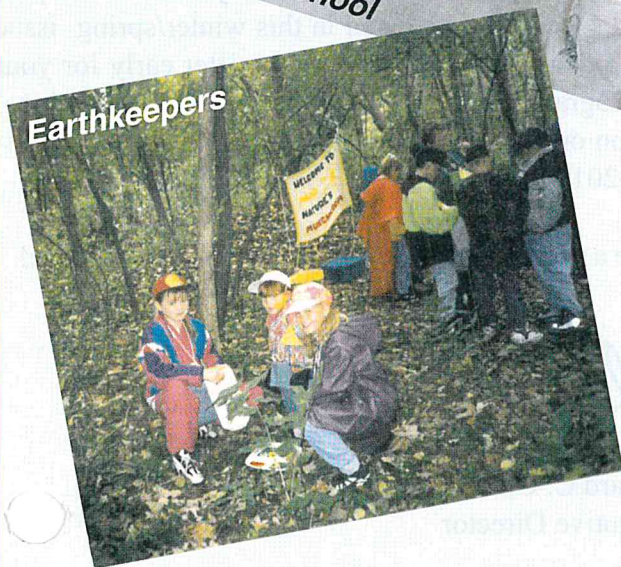
Preschool



Concerts



Earthkeepers



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VISIT US ONLINE:

byronforestpreserve.com • prairieviewgolf.com • stonequarrypark.com

Director's Message

From Executive Director Edward C. Clift...

Dear Citizens,

Winter is quickly approaching and our staff has planned many great activities for this season for you and your family. Don't let the winter doldrums get you down, this issue of the *Blaze* has many cabin fever busters inside such as ice fishing, sledding, dances, education programs, and much more! We would like to thank Byron Bank for their generosity in sponsoring this publication.

Here are just a few things that are going on at your Forest Preserve...

The newly acquired Nardi and White properties will add a large range of wildlife viewing opportunities and will extensively increase our natural areas. It is our mission to return these parcels to their original state or pre-settlement conditions of rolling prairies and Burr Oak savannas. The soils, landscape, and past surveyor notes help us formulate an educated guess on how the land would have looked five hundred years ago. The crew has already made huge progress towards joining the two parcels into one by removing 8,100 pounds of steel fence posts and 2000 pounds of barbed wire. We recycled the metal and are now removing the many scraggly trees that have grown up between one field's end and another field's beginning. With the re-establishment of the prairie, a whole new ecosystem of life for many neglected prairie plants and creatures will re-appear.

The First Annual Matt Johnson Scholarship Fundraiser that was held on Sunday, August 29th at Stone Quarry Park raised over \$3,000 for the scholarship "funship" program. The Matt Johnson "Funship" program helps provide funds for the youth of our community who are in need of financial assistance to participate in various Forest Preserve programs and activities. Please encourage people to contact us if they have a need or know of citizens who may have a need for this program.

PrairieView Golf Course is having a good season, even with the rain and cool weather through August. Discount passes are on sale now through December 23, 2004. PrairieView continues to operate in the black in 2004 and operations are self-supporting and use no "tax dollars" for the day-to-day operations. If you have a need for golf lessons, would like to schedule an event, or would like to purchase your 2005 golf pass, please contact Steve Murray at 234-4653 (GOLF).

Stone Quarry Recreation Park had a great summer with over 40,000 users during the three months. Staff has a full year's worth of great programs to be enjoyed by all and please feel free to reserve the party room for your family's next birthday party or family reunion by calling Shonnah Flannerty at 234-8900. New this winter, will be an ice rink and sled hill once it turns cold and snow arrives. The park also lends itself well to relieving a bad case of "cabin fever", so get out early this spring and enjoy the batting cages, skate park and miniature golf course.

Our staff has worked hard to offer you all of the programs and special events listed in this winter/spring issue of *The Blaze* and we hope you will register early for your favorite program. If you, at any time, need any additional information or to clarify any items, please call me at 234-8535 ext. 201.

Have a great winter and enjoy your Forest Preserve!



Edward C. Clift
Executive Director

Program Registration Begins November 15

Jarrett Prairie Center New Hours:

Mon., Wed., Fri.	8am-4:30pm
Tues. & Thurs.	8am-8pm
Saturday	9am-4pm
Sunday	1-4pm

Jarrett Prairie Center is closed:

Labor Day, Thanksgiving Day, Christmas Day, New Year's Day, Good Friday, Easter Sunday

Administrative Offices are closed:

Thanksgiving Day, Thanksgiving Friday, Christmas Eve, Christmas Day, New Year's Day, New Year's Day, Good Friday

Photography Policy

Photographs and videos are periodically taken of participants during programs, special events, trips, or at the parks. Please be aware that these photographs may be used for Forest Preserve District publications and/or local newspapers.

Errors and Adjustments

While we try to be accurate in presenting information in the *Blaze*, some unavoidable errors or changes to the programs, fees, schedules, and other information may occur. The Forest Preserve District apologizes for any inconvenience that results from the necessary adjustments.

Participant Behavior

Participants are expected to exhibit appropriate behavior at all times, as follows:

1. Show respect to all participants and staff.
2. Refrain from using foul or obscene language.
3. Refrain from causing bodily harm to participants or staff.
4. Show respect for facilities, parks, equipment, and supplies.

General Information

Byron Forest Preserve District
7993 North River Road, P O Box 1075, Byron IL 61010
815-234-8535 • byronforestpreserve.com

Board Meetings

The Byron Forest Preserve District Board of Commissioners meetings are held on the third Monday of each month at 6:30 pm at the Jarrett Prairie Center, 7993 North River Road, Byron.

Board of Commissioners

Jeff Huber	President
Dave Flowers	Vice President
Jeff Ludwig	Secretary
Sandy Brooks	Treasurer
Ken Ledene	Commissioner

Administrative Staff

Executive Director	Edward Clift	234-8535 ext. 201
Deputy Director/Restoration Supt.	Todd Tucker	234-8535 ext. 222
Education/Recreation Supt.	Richie Wolf	234-8535 ext. 217
Stone Quarry Rec. Park Manager	Shonnah Flaharty	234-8900
PrairieView Golf Course Manager	Steve Murray	234-4653 ext. 12
Golf Course Maintenance Supt.	Steve Storz	234-8535 ext. 208
<i>The Blaze</i> Editor	Michelle Lipps	234-8535 ext. 224

Other important phone numbers:

Program Registration/Information	234-8535 ext. 200
Facility Rentals/Banquet/Meeting Rooms	234-8535 ext. 200
PrairieView Golf Course	234-4653 (GOLF) ext. 10
Stone Quarry Recreation Park	234-8900
Jarrett Prairie Center Museum	234-8535 ext. 200
Heritage Farm Museum	234-8535 ext. 200
Weiskopf Observatory	234-8535 ext. 216

Please Register Early

By registering early, each program, trip, and event has the best opportunity to meet the minimum number required for that activity. You may register by mail, by phone, or in person. When registering by phone/fax, you must use a credit card to secure your participation in that program.

Payment is due at the time of registration.

General Information



**BYRON
FOREST
PRESERVE
DISTRICT**

Mission Statement

Preservation ~ Education ~ Recreation

The mission of the Byron Forest Preserve District is to provide for Preservation of Open Space/Natural Resources, provide Education concerning our Natural Environment/Heritage, provide Recreational opportunities and Enterprise Operations that are consistent with our Agency goals.

Matt Johnson Funship Awards Program

In 2003, the Byron Forest Preserve District announced the establishment of the Matt Johnson Funship Awards Program by Dr. Robert and Holly Johnson of Byron. The Funship Awards program is a fund of money the Johnsons have made available for the youth of the Byron community who are in need of financial assistance to participate in the activities of the Byron Forest Preserve District, such as skateboarding, golf, and any other scheduled programs.

Matt, the son of Holly and Robert, was an avid skateboarder and was interested in golf, until his life was cut tragically short at the age of 18 in a car accident in 1997.

The Byron Forest Preserve District Board of Commissioners and staff are grateful for the Johnsons' generosity in the creation of the Matt Johnson Funship Awards Program for the children of the Byron community.

To qualify for a Funship Award, the child must be eligible for the school lunch program and reside in the Byron Forest Preserve District. The Johnsons encourage parents who feel their child would benefit from this Funship Awards Program to contact the Byron Forest Preserve Director Ed Clift at 234-8535 ext. 201 for more information.

Holiday Light Show

Beginning December 3, bring your family and drive through the Forest Preserve to view the beautiful holiday lights from dark until 10pm.



Visit us online at:
www.byronforestpreserve.com



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Special Events

New Year's Eve Overnighter!

Bring in the Year 2005 watching the count down on our 61" big screen TV. Games and park activities will fill the night. Fee includes dinner, breakfast, and unlimited park activities.



Where: Stone Quarry Party Room
When: Fri, Dec. 31-Sat, Jan. 1
Time: 7:30 pm - 7:30 am
Cost: \$25/person
Ages: Grades 4-8
Min/Max: 10 / 30
Register by December 29

Daddy-Daughter Date Night

Dads, take this chance to take your daughter out for a memorable evening. Have fun dancing, laughing, and making your own ice cream sundaes. Please dress comfortably. Pictures for a \$1.50 each.



Where: Stone Quarry Party Room
When: Saturday, February 12
Time: 6 - 8 pm
Cost: \$20/couple
\$8 / additional daughter
Ages: 5 & up
Min/Max: 10 / 20 couples
Register by February 8

Jelly Bean Contest

Beginning March 1, there will be a jar of jelly beans located at the Stone Quarry Community Center. Come in and guess how many jelly beans are in it! All guesses must be made by March 25. Winners will be notified by phone. The person closest to the exact number of jelly beans without going over, will win one free month of miniature golf or skate park!

Annual Egg Hunt

Co-sponsored by the Byron Lions Club. Lots of candy and prizes. Be sure to visit the Forest Preserve booth for more free stuff and to meet D.C. and Pebbles.

Where: Jarrett Prairie Center
When: Saturday, March 26
Time: 11 am - SHARP!
Cost: Free
Ages: Preschool-4th grade



Flash Light Egg Hunt

The Easter bunny just became a night owl and you can too! Bring your flashlights and hop on over! This is not a drop-in event, you must pre-register.

Where: Stone Quarry
When: Saturday, March 26
Time: 7:30 pm - SHARP!
Cost: \$5/person
Ages: 4th-8th grade
Register by March 24



Super Bowl XXXIX Party

Bring your family and watch the game and the great commercials on our 61" television. Bring your lawn chairs. Half-time entertainment will also be provided. Be sure to pick some lucky numbers to see if you win!



Where: Stone Quarry Party Room
When: Sun., Feb. 6
Time: 4 pm
Cost: \$5 (pizza, pop, snack ticket)
Min/Max: 10 / none
Register by February 3

NCAA Final Four Party

Bring your family and come watch some great basketball on our 61" television. Bring your lawn chairs.

Where: Stone Quarry Party Room
When: Sat., April 2
Time: 4:30 pm
Cost: \$5 (pizza, pop, snack ticket)
Min/Max: 10 / none
Register by March 30

Good Day to be Green!

All ages - wear your green on St. Patrick's Day and receive **FREE admission** anywhere in the park!

Where: Stone Quarry
When: Sat., Mar. 17
Time: 3-8 pm
Cost: FREE



It's Maple Syrup Time!

Our annual maple syrup festival is back in conjunction with the Byron Kiwanis and Key Clubs. Enjoy a hot pancake breakfast at the Jarrett Prairie Center and then tour the sugar bush. You can make a candle and see how the sap gets turned into syrup!

Where: Jarrett Prairie Center
When: Saturday, March 19
Time: 7am-Noon
Cost: \$4 for breakfast
(tickets will be available at the Jarrett Prairie Center)



Dances & Parties

Middle School Dances

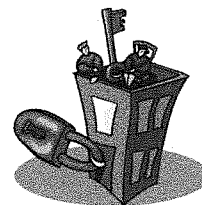
Join your friends for an unforgettable evening of fun at the Stone Quarry Recreation Park Community Center. Some events may include dancing, DJ's, movies or just fun!! The Food Factory and arcade room will be open all night for more entertainment.

Date	Event	Time	Cost
Wed., November 24	Turkey Dance	6:30-10 pm	\$3
Fri., December 17	Christmas Dance	6:30-10 pm	\$3
Sat., January 22	2005 Kickoff Party	7-10 pm	\$3
Sat., February 26	Sweetheart Dance	7-10 pm	\$3
Sat., March 19	Spring Fling Dance	7-10 pm	\$3
Sat., April 9	Dance, Dance, Dance	7-10 pm	\$3



Overnight Lock-in

Join us for unlimited access to park fun for the whole night! Music, games, movies, and park activities should keep you awake. But don't forget your sleeping bag, just in case!



Where: Stone Quarry
When: Saturday, April 2
Time: 7pm-7am
Cost: \$20/person
Ages: Middle School
Min/Max: 10 / 30
Register by March 31

High School Events



Teen Scavenger Hunt

Are you in for a challenge? You could be the first team to finish with all the items from your "secret list". All activities will be on site, there is no traveling for this hunt. Teams may consist of no more than four people.

Where: Stone Quarry
When: Saturday, April 16
Time: 7-10pm
Cost: \$3/person
Ages: High School
Min/Max: 5 teams / 20 teams
Register by April 8

High School Dance

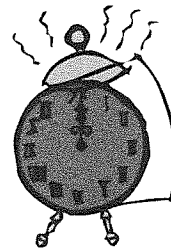
It is sure to be a night full of fun. There will be different activities including movies, bands, DJ, karaoke, arcade games, or just come to hang out with friends.

Where: Stone Quarry
When: Saturday, December 18
Saturday, February 5
Time: 7-10pm
Cost: \$3/person



Midnight Madness

Stay out late with no school tomorrow! Stone Quarry Park will stay open until Midnight. Games and unlimited access to all park activities. All participants must be at Stone Quarry by 8 pm. Fee includes pizza & pop.



Where: Stone Quarry
When: Sun., Jan. 16
Sunday, February 20
Thursday, March 24
Time: 5pm-Midnight
Cost: \$10
Ages: Middle School
Min/Max: 10/30
Register by three days before event

Kids Night Out

Everyone benefits from this program! Parents, get every other Friday to themselves while the kids are entertained with various activities.

Where: Stone Quarry Party Room
When: Fridays - Dec. 3 & 17, Jan. 7 & 21, Feb. 4 & 18, Mar. 4 & 18, Apr. 8 & 22
Ages: Grades K-5
Time: 6-8pm
Cost: \$3/person
Min/Max: 5/25
Register by Thursday before event

FUN...

Athletic Activities

Skateboarding Lessons

Love to skateboard but need a few lessons? Take advantage of the sessions offered Stone Quarry. Each class will last one hour. The beginners class will begin at 1pm and the intermediate class will begin at 2pm. Helmets and pads are recommended. Register by calling 234-8900.

Time: 1 or 2 pm Fee: \$6/class or \$20/4-week session Min/Max: 5/10

	<u>Class Dates</u>	<u>Register By</u>
Session 1	Dec. 5, 12, 19, 26	Dec. 3
Session 2	Jan. 9, 16, 23, 30	Jan. 7
Session 3	Feb. 6, 13, 20, 27	Feb. 4
Session 4	Mar. 6, 13, 20, 27	Mar. 4
Session 5	Apr. 3, 10, 17, 24	Apr. 1



Skate Challenge

Inline skaters and skateboarders, now is the opportunity to showcase your skills and tricks on the half-pipe and outside advanced ramps. This non-competitive tournament will be judged by audience participation.

Where: Stone Quarry
When: Sunday, April 17
Time: 2pm
Ages: 1st grade - adult
Cost: \$5/person
Min/Max: 5 / 15 per age group
Register by April 15

Turkey Trot

Burn off a few of those calories from your big feast. This race/walk begins & ends at Stone Quarry Park. The course will run through the park and PrairieView Golf Course.

Where: Stone Quarry Park
When: Friday, November 26
Time: 11 am sharp
Cost: FREE
Ages: All
Min/Max: 10 / none

Register by November 23



Earth Day Run/Walk

Appreciate nature's beauty around you! This run/walk will begin and end at Stone Quarry Park. The course will run through the park and PrairieView Golf Course.

Where: Stone Quarry
When: Sunday, April 24
Time: 11 am
Cost: FREE
Ages: All
Min/Max: 10 / none
Register by April 21



Dance Academy

Presented by The Stage Door Performing Arts Studio

Do you love to dance or want to learn how? Have you ever dreamed of being in your favorite stage production? Then this dance program is just for you! Classes will include tap, ballet, jazz, and musical theater dance. There will be an end-of-the-year dance recital in May or June of 2005. These classes are for all levels of dance from beginners to experienced dancers. If you need more information prior to registration, please contact Shonnah at 234-8900.

Where: Stone Quarry Community Center
When: Mondays
Time: 3:30-9:30 (depending on specific class)
Ages: 3-18
Instructor: Heather (Hartzell) Krick
Registration: through December 31



Winter Fun!

Sled Hills - There's a new sled hill in town! Bring your sleds or snowboards to Stone Quarry Recreation Park. And, you can always enjoy an old favorite sled hill at the Jarrett Prairie Center! These are unsupervised sled hills, the user is responsible for determining if the conditions are appropriate for sledding.

Ice Rink - NEW!!!! Be the first to glide the ice on our new Ice Rink! Did you know we transform the sand volleyball pit into an ice rink? Come down and see for yourself!

Cross Country Skiing - Get a great workout while you check out the beautiful winter wonderland at the Forest Preserve. Skis are available for rental at the Jarrett Prairie Center.



School Day Off Programs

~ CAMPS ~

Preschool Winter Break Camp

We will keep the little ones busy with crafts, games, stories, and outdoor adventures!

Where: Jarrett Prairie Center
 When: December 20-23 & December 27-31
 Time: 9-11:30am or 1-3:30pm
 Cost: \$8/day or \$65 for all days
 Ages: 2-5
 Min/Max: 5 / 10



Register by Noon the Day Before You Want to Attend

Preschool Spring Break Camp

Preschoolers can join us for crafts, games, stories, and outdoor adventures!

Where: Jarrett Prairie Center
 When: March 25-April 1
 Time: 9-11:30am or 1-3:30pm
 Cost: \$8/day or \$45 for all days
 Ages: 2-5
 Min/Max: 5 / 10



Register by Noon the Day Before You Want to Attend

Kids' Spring Break Camp

Parents, are you looking for a fun, safe environment where your kids can stay all day while you're at work? Drop them off at Stone Quarry for a day of fun and adventure! Activities may include board games, outdoor park activities, and indoor fun! Camp fees include lunch.

Where: Stone Quarry Recreation Park
 When: March 28-April 1
 Time: 8 am - 5 pm
 Cost: \$25/child/day or \$100/week
 \$15/additional sibling/day
 Ages: 6-12
 Min/Max: 10 / 30

Register by March 25



Meet the Eagles Trip

We are traveling to the Mississippi River to view the overwintering eagles.

Where: Meet at the Jarrett Prairie Center
 When: Monday, January 17
 Time: 9am-4pm
 Cost: \$15/person
 Ages: All
 Min/Max: 5 / 14

Register by Noon on January 14

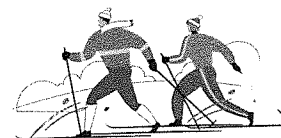


Morrison-Rockwood State Park Trip

We'll cross-country ski & explore this historic region.

Where: Meet at the Jarrett Prairie Center
 When: Monday, February 21
 Time: 8am-4pm
 Cost: \$20/person
 Ages: 6 and up
 Min/Max: 5 / 14

Register by Noon on February 18



Illinois State Museum Trip

We'll visit one of the midwest's best museums.

Where: Meet at the Jarrett Prairie Center
 When: Monday, March 7
 Time: 8am-7pm
 Cost: \$20/person
 Ages: 6 and up
 Min/Max: 5 / 14

Register by Noon on March 4

Kids' Day Off Camp

Kids can stay all day while Mom and Dad are at work. Activities may include board games, outdoor activities, and indoor fun! Don't forget your sled! Camp fees include lunch.

Where: Stone Quarry Recreation Park
 When: Mondays, Jan. 17, Feb. 21, & Mar. 7
 Time: 8 am - 5 pm
 Cost: \$25/child/day or \$100/week
 \$15/additional sibling/day
 Ages: 6-12
 Min/Max: 10 / 30

Register by the Friday before the program



Mom's Day Out

Preschool parents can enjoy a couple hours to themselves on Fridays this fall. This recreational day involves crafts, stories, and outdoor adventure for 3-5 year olds.

Where: Jarrett Prairie Center

When: Fridays in
January - May

Time: 9-11:30am or
1-3:30pm

Cost: \$15 for two classes
\$30 for the month

Ages: 2-5 years old

Min/Max: 4 / 10

**Register by Noon on the
1st Thursday of the month**

Visit Santa Claus!

Santa knows whether you've been naughty or nice. Make your Christmas list early and tell Santa what you would like for Christmas! Don't forget to get your picture taken with Santa. Polaroid photos available for \$1.50 each. Hot cocoa will also be served to warm you up for this holiday season!

Where: Stone Quarry
Party Room

When: Sat, Dec. 4 & 11

Time: Noon-4 pm

Cost: Free visit &
\$1.50 for a picture

Ages: All Believers!



Breakfast Buddies

Want to spend some one-on-one time with your child? Wake up to breakfast and a book! Come join us the first Saturday of each month to have fun listening to a story, make a craft and enjoy a breakfast based on the book. You might find out what happens If You Give a Pig a Pancake!

Where: Jarrett Prairie Center

When: Saturdays, Dec. 4, Feb. 5, Mar. 5, & Apr. 2

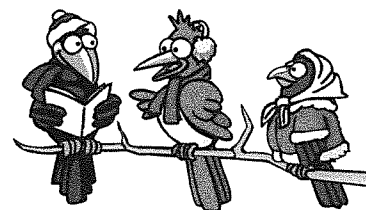
Time: 9-10 am

Cost: \$7.50 / one child and parent
\$10 / two children and parent

Ages: 3-7 years with a parent

Min/Max: 5/10

Register by noon on the Friday before



Energy Express Indoor Playground

Take the time to discover what fun you and your child can have together! Parents, bring your young ones down to burn some energy in our huge party room! In this unstructured class, children play indoors with other children & parents! Open play, games, and activities will keep your child entertained.

Where: Stone Quarry
Party Room

When: Tuesdays &
Thursdays

Nov. 2 - Dec. 16

Time: 9:30-11 am

Ages: 5 & under with parent

Fee: \$2/day or
\$25/entire session

**Register by the Monday before
the day you plan on attending.**

Preschool

Get them ready for kindergarten by enrolling your child in our structured preschool classes. Afternoon classes are still available. All morning classes are full with waiting lists. Our program follows the Byron School District calendar year.



Where: Jarrett Prairie Center

When: Mon/Wed or
Tues/Thurs

Time: 9-11:30am or 1-3:30 pm

Cost: \$56/month-Mon/Wed
\$58/month-Tues/Thurs

Ages: 3-5 years

Min/Max: 6 / 14

Registration is ongoing

Concerts

FREE Kids Concerts at the Jarrett Prairie Center at 3 pm

Hoo Haven Wildlife Doctors

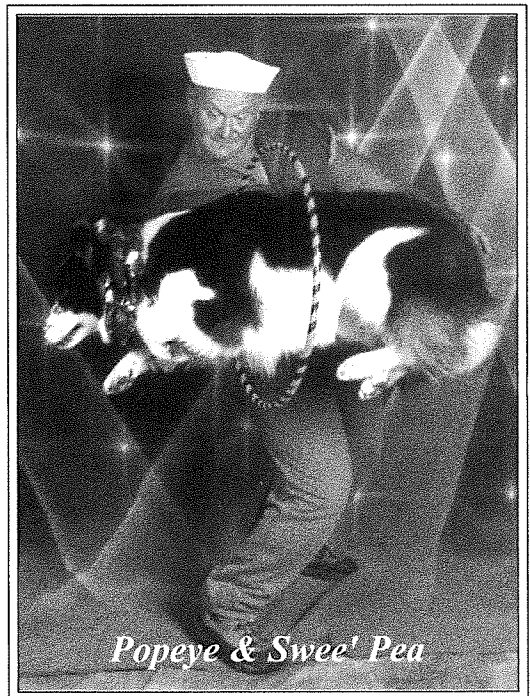
Saturday, December 11

*See hawks, owls, and mammals
that have been rescued from the wild.*

Macaroni Soup

Saturday, January 8

Sing songs with these well-known children's musicians.



Popeye & Swee' Pea

Saturday, February 12

*See this awesome dog act
as it returns for the 4th visit.*

WREX Weatherman

Saturday, March 12

Learn all about the weather.

Free Kids Concerts Sponsored by

Exelon[™]

Nuclear
Byron Generating Station

Outdoor Adventure

Ice Fishing

Learn how to ice fish at the Forest Preserve Golf Course pond. Bring your own poles and equipment. Bait will be provided. The Byron Fire Department will do an ice rescue demonstration on January 29. Call 234-8535 ext. 222 to make sure the ice is sufficient for fishing, 4-6" of ice is required.

Where: Meet at the Golf Course pond
 When: Saturdays, January 22 & 29, & February 5
 Time: 8am-Noon
 Cost: \$3/person (includes hot chocolate & coffee)
 Ages: 3 and up
 Min/Max: 5 / 50

Register by Noon on January 20, 27, and February 3

Great American Backyard Bird Count

We'll count the winter birds then report them to the Cornell Lab of Ornithology.

Where: Meet at the Jarrett Prairie Center
 When: Saturday, February 12
 Time: 7-9 am
 Cost: FREE
 Ages: All
 Min/Max: 5 / none

Register by Noon on February 11



Wild Edibles Hike

Learn which prairie and woodland plants are safe to eat.

Where: Meet at the Jarrett Prairie Center
 When: Sunday, April 17
 Time: 1 pm
 Cost: \$2/person
 Ages: All
 Min/Max: 5 / none

Register by Noon on April 15

Spring Wildflower Walk

Take an easy hike with an experienced guide. Learn the annual flowers that beautify the woodlands

Where: Meet at the Steward Building (Maintenance)
 When: Saturday, April 23
 Time: 10-11 am
 Cost: \$2
 Ages: All
 Min/Max: 3 / none

Register by Noon on April 22



Safety Classes

Boater Safety

This 8-hour class covers safety, laws, and first aid. Students must attend all classes and pass a written test.

Where: Meet at the Jarrett Prairie Center
 When: Monday & Wednesday, March 7 & 9
 Time: 5-9 pm
 Cost: FREE
 Ages: All
 Min/Max: 5 / 30

Register by Noon on March 4



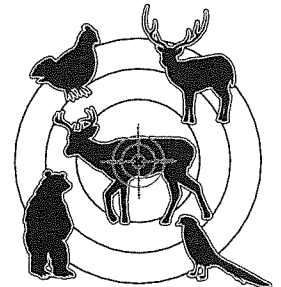
Hunter Safety

A 10-hour class is required for all first-time hunters born after January 1, 1980. Topics covered include first aid, laws, and gun safety. Students must attend ten hours of class and pass a written exam to obtain a certification card.

Great for the beginner or the hunter who travels out of state.

Where: Jarrett Prairie Center
 When: Tues, Wed, Thurs, April 5, 6, 7
 Time: 6-9:30pm
 Cost: FREE. Donations accepted.
 Ages: All (must be able to pass a written test)
 Min/Max: 5 / 80

Register by Noon on April 4

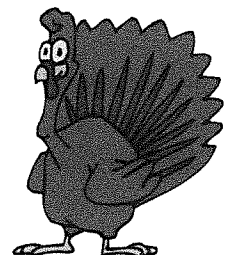


Turkey Hunting Seminar

Beginner or expert, everyone will learn something from this seminar to make them a more successful turkey hunter.

Where: Jarrett Prairie Center
 When: Saturday, March 12
 Time: 9-11 am
 Cost: \$5 / person
 Ages: All
 Min/Max: 5 / none

Register by Noon on March 10



Dog & Bee Classes

Retriever Training Workshop

This workshop is designed to cover basic commands to advanced handling techniques for hunting dogs only.

Where: Meet at the South Picnic Shelter (near JPC)

When: Sunday, March 13

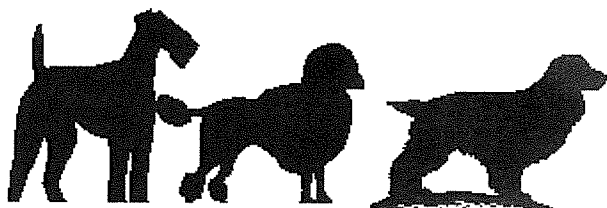
Time: 1-3pm

Cost: \$5/person

Ages: All with retrievers

Min/Max: 5 / none

Register by Noon on March 10



Beekeeping Workshops

Learn techniques and tools of the trade. Different topics will be covered each month.

Where: Jarrett Prairie Center

When: Sundays, dates and topics listed below

Time: 2-4pm

Cost: \$2/person

Ages: All

Min/Max: 5 / 30



December 12 - Christmas party for beekeepers - honey tasting, honey recipe samples, wassail, door prizes, and lots of bee talk!

January 9 - Checking for winter kill and ordering bees for spring shipment.

February 6 - Equipment needs & assembly of new equipment.

March 13 - Feeding bees and preparing for splitting overwintered colonies.

April 10 - Feeding bees and installing packaged bees. Outdoor workshop, weather permitting. Bring your bee suits!

Puppy's Night Out

The Byron Forest Preserve, River View Dog Training, and Cindy Storz have come together to offer three new dog training classes. Classes are open to dogs of all ages and will focus on obedience, good manners, socialization, and address any dog problems that owners may be facing at home. Showmanship classes are offered by Cindy Storz for those who are interested in learning to show dogs in the conformation ring and those in need of "ring" time to prepare for shows. All students enrolled in a 4-H dog study program are encouraged to attend these classes.

Where: Stone Quarry Recreation Park

When: Tuesdays

Beginning January 11

Time: Obedience I - 6 pm

Obedience II - 6:45 pm

Showmanship - 7:30 pm

Cost: \$65 / 8-week session

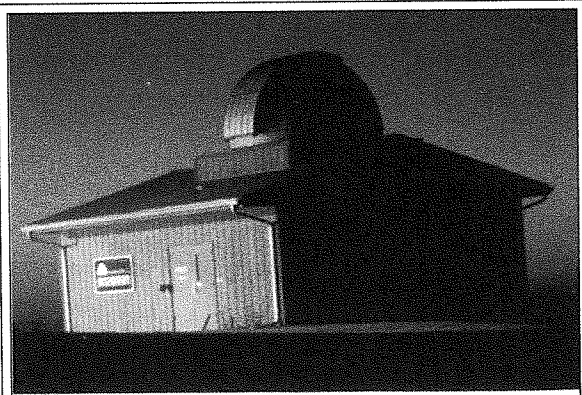
To register for obedience classes, call Mary Beth Overmyer at 234-2360.

To register for showmanship classes or to get information on drop-in classes, call Cindy Storz at 234-5025. Class size is limited so call now to reserve your spot!



Conformation and Showmanship

Observatory, Etc.

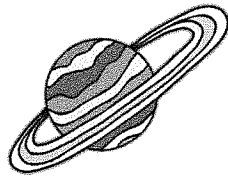


Weiskopf Observatory
Free public viewing every Tuesday and Saturday.
Call 234-8535 ext. 216 for viewing conditions.

Saturn's Secrets

What makes Saturn so fascinating? We'll spend time discussing it and learning about what Cassini found.

Where: Weiskopf Observatory
When: Friday, January 28
Time: 6:30-7:30pm
Cost: \$2/person
Ages: 15 and up
Min/Max: 5 / none

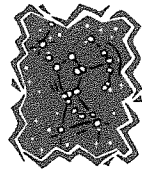


Register by Noon on January 28

Orion's Nebulae

Learn about nebulae in a favorite constellation.

Where: Weiskopf Observatory
When: Friday, February 11
Time: 6:30-7:30pm
Cost: \$2/person
Ages: 5th grade and up
Min/Max: 5 / 20

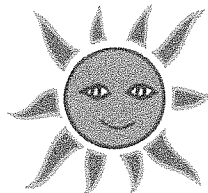


Register by Noon on February 11

Solar Viewing

You can look directly at the sun through a filter.

Where: Weiskopf Observatory
When: Saturday, March 12
Time: 4-5:30pm
Cost: \$2/person
Ages: All
Min/Max: 5 / 15



Register by Noon on March 12

Field Trips

to the Natural History Museum, Weiskopf Observatory, & Heritage Farm Museum

Scouts, schools, and senior groups are welcome to the Forest Preserve for an educational and fun tour of our great museums. Staff welcome and give tours for the low cost of \$1.50 per person with a minimum of \$30 per group. We offer many sessions to choose from including prairie ecology, animal encounter, and group dynamics. Call 234-8535 x217 to schedule your next outing with us.



Birthday Parties

Themes: Native Americans, Sky's the Limit, Goodness Snakes, Insects of Our World, Where Do Butterflies Go When It Rains? Call 234-8535 x217 to schedule your next birthday party at the Jarrett Prairie Center.

Deluxe Party - \$60 (program, cake, ice cream, tableware, & banner)

Standard Party - \$30 (program only for 12)

Each party package is based on 12 children. Each additional child-\$5.

Stone Quarry Recreation Park
also offers birthday parties.
For details and costs, please call 234-8900.

Jarrett Prairie Center Gift Shop - 25% Off Sale!

Awesome gift ideas and stocking stuffers! Check out the great sale items in the gift shop. Most items are 25% off. There are hummingbird feeders, birdhouses, telescopes, Christmas cards, and jewelry, to name a few! Of course, there are also books for nature lovers, bird watchers, and star gazers!

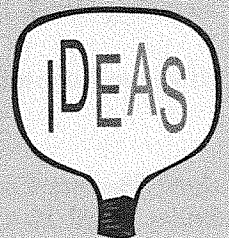
The bees have been busy this summer! We have 100% pure honey for sale. We also have 100% pure maple syrup. Great items for gift baskets.

We are located at 7993 N. River Rd., Byron. For more info, call 234-8535 ext. 200. Stop by and check us out! We look forward to seeing you soon!

Program Idea?

Do you have a good idea for a program that you would like for the Forest Preserve to host?

Call Richie at 234-8535 ext. 217
with your ideas!



Arts, Crafts, & Volunteers

Prairie Landscaping Class

Learn how to establish a beautiful prairie garden at your own home.

Where: Steward Building (Maintenance)
 When: Wednesday, March 16
 Time: 6-7:30 pm
 Cost: \$3/person
 Ages: All
 Min/Max: 3 / none

Register by Noon on March 15

Creative Memories



Creative Memories scrapbooking classes are held on the following dates at the Jarrett Prairie Center by Cindy Adams and Vicki Miller. If you're interested in signing up for one of their classes, please call Cindy at 234-7505.

White Christmas Crop

Friday, December 3 - 4-11pm - \$12 includes dinner

Snowflake Crop

Friday, January 21 - 4-11pm - \$12 includes dinner

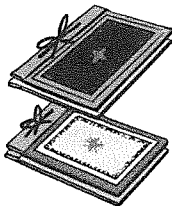
Crop Til Your Heart's Content

Saturday, February 12

9am-4pm - \$12 includes lunch

9am-9pm - \$25 includes lunch & dinner

2-9pm - \$15 includes dinner



Is It Spring Yet? Crop

Friday, February 25 - 4-11pm - \$12 includes dinner

March Madness Crop (Two Days)

Friday, March 11 - 4-11pm - \$12 includes dinner

Saturday, March 12 - 9am - 4pm -

\$15 includes breakfast & lunch

(If you register for both days, the cost is \$22)

April Showers Crop

Friday, April 22 - 4-11pm -

\$12 includes dinner



Join Our Community of Volunteers

*Each person who gives of themselves,
 gives to themselves.*

Tuesday Morning Volunteer Group

Come join us for a time of visiting, refreshments, and fun indoor projects.

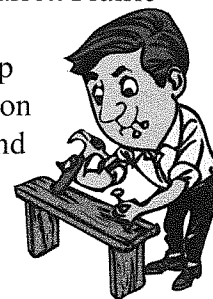
Where: Jarrett Prairie Center
 7993 N. River Rd., Byron
 When: Tuesdays, Year Round
 Time: 8:30-11am
 Cost: Free
 Ages: All



Wednesday Woodshop Volunteer Group

Come join the area men for coffee, and a time to use your skills in carpentry and woodworking. New woodshop volunteers check in at the Jarrett Prairie Center before going to the Woodshop.

Where: Maintenance Woodshop
 7993 N. River Rd., Byron
 When: Wednesdays, Year Round
 Time: 9-11am
 Cost: Free



Individual and Family

The Byron Forest Preserve has several volunteer opportunities for individuals and families interested in sharing their time for special events, programs of both educational and recreational orientation. These events and programs run throughout the year. For more information, call Linda at 234-8535 x200.

Organized Groups

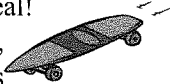
The Byron Forest Preserve has service and volunteer opportunities. We can arrange times and specific service areas for you and your group. These areas can be related to awards, badges, or just for the benefit of learning to serve your community and others. For more information, call Linda at 234-8535 x200.

Stone Quarry Recreation Park

Skate Park Pass Great Gift Idea!

Now is the time to buy your annual pass to The Rock Skate Park. Skate for an entire year for \$80. What a deal!

If you're an avid skateboarder, in-line skater, or biker, this will save lots of money. If you plan on visiting us more than 40 days (a little over a month), you can't pass up this offer. This promotion ends December 31, 2004



Weekly Events

Sundays

Senior Discount Days

Whether you're a senior in high school or a senior citizen, this is your day to save! Every Sunday, get 1/2 price admission to mini-golf, skate park, and batting cages.

Tuesdays

2 For Tuesdays

Receive two admissions for the price of one to the skate park, mini-golf, or batting cages every Tuesday!

Fridays

Show Your School Spirit

Wear your school colors to the park on Fridays and get 1/2 price admission for mini-golf, skate park, and batting cages!



Attention All Bands...

Is your band interested in playing at Stone Quarry? We are looking for bands to play on the following dates: Jan. 15, Feb. 5, Mar. 5 & 26, and Apr. 16. Just drop off a demo tape at Stone Quarry, along with the date or dates your band would like to play, and we'll take care of the rest. If you have any questions or need more information, please call Shonnah at 234-8900.

Don't wait until the last minute!

Be sure to register early for programs. If you wait until the last minute, that great program may already be full or cancelled. So, signing up the day of the event might be too late. Avoid the chance of losing a great event due to low enrollment. Register early!

Good Grades Special!

On Friday and Saturday, January 21 & 22, show us your report card. If you have straight A's, you get FREE admission to the Kid's Night Out program or the 2005 Kickoff Party!



Program Idea?

Do you have a good idea for a program that you would like for Stone Quarry Recreation Park to host? Call Shonnah at 234-8900.



Park Hours & Fees

School-Year Hours

Mon.-Fri. 3 - 8 pm
Sat. & Sun. 10 am - 8 pm

Holiday Break & No School Days

Mon.-Fri. 10 am - 8 pm
Dec. 24th 10 am - 4 pm

The park will be closed on Thanksgiving Day, Christmas Day, New Year's Day, and Easter Sunday.

Fees

Playground	FREE
Water Spray Area	FREE
Sand Volleyball Pit	FREE
Basketball Courts	FREE
Horseshoe Pits	FREE
Shelter Rental	\$25
Miniature Golf	\$4/person
(Second round 1/2 price)	
Skate Park	\$3/person
Arcade Games	\$1/4 tokens
Batting Cages	
\$1/1 token = 15 balls	
\$5/7 tokens = 105 balls	
(Hourly rates available for teams)	

Visit us at www.stonequarrypark.com

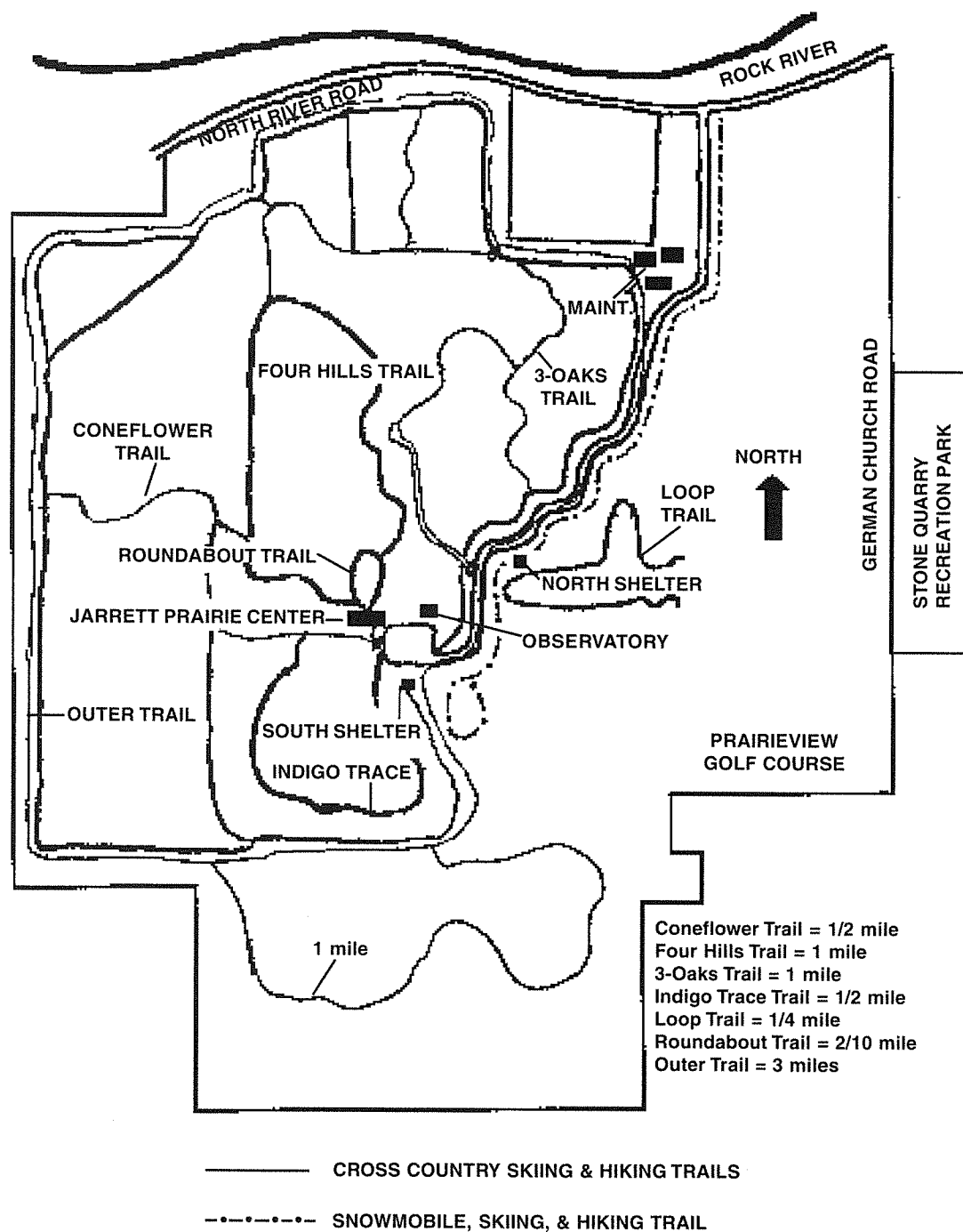
It's Party Time!

Is your family, organization, or corporation looking for an exciting place to hold their next corporate or social gathering? Look no further, Stone Quarry is the place for your next event. Perfect for all ages! Discounts available!!!

For room availability and reservations, please stop by 6845 German Church Road, Byron or call 234-8900.

Winter Sports

*Let it snow!
Let it snow!
Let it snow!*



Cross-Country Skiing
 Six trails to choose from. Rentals available at \$2 per hour. Daily rates are also available.



Sledding
 Sled hills are available at the Jarrett Prairie Center and Stone Quarry Recreation Park.



Snowmobiling
 Snowmobiles are allowed along the designated trails.



Hiking
 Many miles of trails are available for those beautiful winter hikes.

Byron Forest Preserve District
 7993 North River Road • Byron IL 61010-1075 • (815) 234-8535
www.byronforestpreserve.com

Meet Our Staff



*Robin Davis, Finance Coordinator
Byron Forest Preserve Administration*

Robin was born and raised in Rockford. She graduated from Jefferson High School.

She moved to Byron in 1993 with her husband, George, and their three children, Elizabeth, Melissa, and Andrew. She operated a home day care for many years to be home with her children. Her two daughters are graduates of Byron High School and her son will be a freshman this year.

Robin began employment with the Byron Forest Preserve in December 1995. She loves working at the Forest Preserve and has developed many friendships. She says that the Byron Forest Preserve was Byron's best kept secret. She lived in Byron for two years before she knew it existed!

In her spare time, Robin likes to spend time with her family and friends, especially watching her children in all of their activities. She is also an avid reader, enjoys ceramics, and loves a good laugh!



*Cheryl Heesaker, Finance Assistant
Byron Forest Preserve Administration*

Cheryl grew up in the Stillman Valley area. She graduated from Stillman Valley High School in 1983. She also attended Rock Valley College where she took accounting classes.

Cheryl worked in a Rockford doctor's office for about six years. She also worked for Commonwealth Edison-Byron Station for eight years. She then "retired" to become a stay-at-home mom.

She is married to her husband, Gary. They have three children, Josh (16), Evan (10), and Matthew (9).

As her children grew older, she decided that she would like to work part-time. Cheryl has worked at the Byron Forest Preserve for almost two years.

She loves living in the country and spending time with her family, swimming and biking. She's an avid reader who also enjoys shopping, and rubber stamping.

She also spends time working in her flower gardens.



*Linda Abramowicz
Receptionist & Volunteer Coordinator
Byron Forest Preserve Administration*

Linda grew up on the south side of Chicago. After high school, she attended Robert Morris College and earned a secretarial certificate.

She married her high school sweetheart, Ron, in 1980. When Ron's tour of duty with the U.S. Army was completed, they moved to Oregon, Illinois.

Linda was a stay-at-home mom with four very active children, Chris, Danielle, Michelle, and Kristen. She said she loved being home with her children, taking them to soccer and volleyball games, dance and tumbling classes, and being a girl scout leader. But, as they grew up, she decided to "get back into the world".

Linda joined the Byron Forest Preserve staff in September 2002 through a temporary service.

Linda said, "After 12 years of being a Hawk, I never dreamed that I would work in Byron and grow to love the community. I feel privileged to be able to work in such a beautiful place!"



*Michelle Lipps
Administrative Services Coordinator
Byron Forest Preserve Administration*

In 1987, Michelle was hired as a part-time office assistant. She had just graduated from Byron High School and had begun attending Rock Valley College.

At that time, the Jarrett Prairie Center and Prairie View Golf Course were just part of a "master plan" for the District. When Michelle joined the full-time staff, there were only three full-time employees and a few part-time employees.

Michelle has been with the District for over 15 years. She has seen the Forest Preserve grow and grow and grow! She has held many titles as she has matured with the District. She enjoys working for the citizens of the Byron area.

She loves spending as much time as possible with her 14-year-old daughter, Jaimee. They enjoy bike riding, gardening, being involved at church, and going to the movies!

BYRON FOREST PRESERVE DISTRICT REGISTRATION FORM

Register by mail, by phone or fax (credit card required), or in person. Phone-234-8535 / Fax-234-8635

Family Last Name _____

Address _____

City, State, Zip _____

Home Phone _____ Emer. Phone _____

(One line per person per activity also note activity site.)

1. Payment: ___ Cash ___ Check ___ Credit card

2. Cardholder Number

--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--

3. Expiration Date _____

4. Authorized Signature _____

Acitivity Name & Site	Fee	Participant's First Name (and last if different)	Sex	Birthdate Mo/Day/Yr	Grade
Total Payment		M V C K S			

We have carefully read the insurance liability waiver on this form and understand our signatures are required below in order for the above names to participate in Byron Forest Preserve District programs.

Signature of parent, guardian, or adult participant

Date

Signature of participant (non-adult)

Date

WAIVER AND RELEASE OF ALL CLAIMS

Please read this form carefully and be aware that when registering yourself or your minor child/ward for participation in the program(s) identified on this form, you will be waiving and releasing all claims for injuries you or your minor child/ward may sustain arising from the program.

In consideration of permission granted to me and/or my child/ward by the Byron Forest Preserve to participate in this program(s), the sufficiency of which, I or my child/ward hereby acknowledge and agree as follows:

I recognize and acknowledge that there are certain risks of physical and emotional (or psychological) injury to participants in a program and I agree to assume the full risk of any injuries, damages, or losses which I or my minor child/ward may sustain as a result of participating in any and all activities connected with or associated with such program(s).

I agree to waive and relinquish all claims I or my minor child/ward may have as a result of participating in the program against the District and its officers, agents, servants and employees.

I do hereby fully release and discharge the District and its officers, agents, servants, and employees from any and all claims from injuries, damages, or losses which I or my minor child/ward may have or which may accrue to me or my minor child/ward and arising out of, connected with, or in any way associated with the activities of the program(s).

I further agree to indemnify and hold harmless and defend the Byron Forest Preserve and its officers, agents, servants, and employees from any and all claims resulting from injuries, damages and losses sustained by me or my minor child/ward and arising out of, connected with, or in any way associated with the activities of the program(s).

I acknowledge that the participant whom I am enrolling in this program (whether myself or my minor child/ward) does not have a physical or mental condition that would pose a direct threat to the health or safety of either the participant or others involved in the program. While the existence of a physical or mental condition will not preclude the participant from participating in the program, I agree that I will advise the District when that condition may pose a direct threat to the health and well being of the participant or others so that the District may have the opportunity where possible to modify its programs, practices, or services to eliminate or reduce that risk to an acceptable level.

In the event of any emergency, I authorize the District's officials to secure from any licensed hospital, physician, and/or medical personnel any treatment deemed necessary for me or my minor child/ward immediate care and agree that I will be responsible for payment of any and all medical services rendered.

Signature of parent, guardian, or adult participant

Date

Signature of participant (non-adult)

Date

rev: 8/5/04

2005 Golf Fees

Weekday Green Fees

18 holes

Resident	\$19
Non-Resident	\$27
Senior/Junior Resident	\$14
Senior/Junior Non-Res	\$17

9 holes

Resident	\$12
Non-Resident	\$17
Senior/Junior Resident	\$10
Senior/Junior Non-Res	\$13

Twilight

Resident	\$12
Non-Resident	\$17

Weekend Green Fees

18 Holes

Resident	\$23
Non-Resident	\$33
Senior/Junior Resident	\$16
Senior/Junior Non-Res.	\$21

9 Holes

Resident	\$14
Non-Resident	\$20
Senior/Junior Resident	\$12
Senior/Junior Non-Res.	\$16

Twilight

Resident	\$16
Non-Resident	\$21

Cart Fees

18 holes	\$26
9 holes	\$16
Senior 18 holes	\$20
Senior 9 holes	\$12
Twilight	\$16

Season Golf Passes on Sale

Season Golf Passes are now on sale at PrairieView Golf Course. A discounted rate is offered if you choose to purchase your 2005 season golf pass before Christmas. Please refer to the fees below that indicate the large savings by purchasing your season pass early.

	By 12/23/04	After 12/23/04
Resident – Single Pass		
Adult	\$450	\$550
Senior	\$300	\$400
College Student	\$185	\$285
Junior	\$140	\$240

Resident – Couple/Family

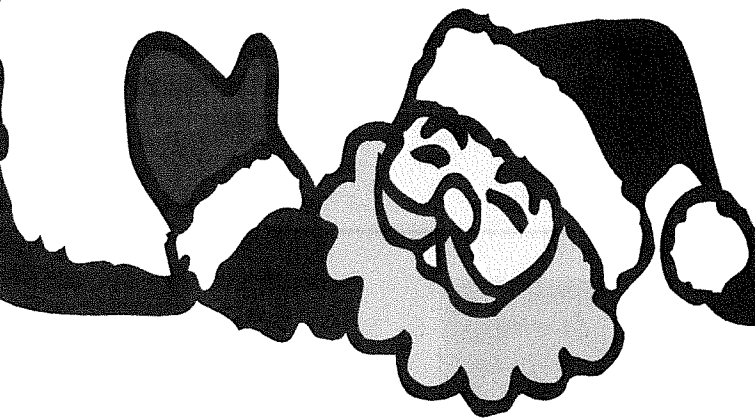
Adult	\$800	\$900
Senior	\$530	\$600

Out of District – Single

Adult	\$560	\$650
Senior	\$360	\$460
College Student	\$220	\$320
Junior	\$160	\$220

Out of District – Couple/Family

Adult	\$900	\$1000
Senior	\$630	\$700



PrairieView Golf Course • German Church Road, Byron
815-234-4653 (GOLF)

Check out our newly re-designed website:
www.prairieviewgolf.com



*Whatever is beautiful,
Whatever is meaningful,
Whatever brings you happiness...
May it be yours this holiday season and
throughout the coming year*

*To our customers and friends, we extend our best wishes
for a joyous season and a successful New Year!*



Byron Bank

815-234-2561



Each depositor insured to \$100,000

FDIC



Byron Forest Preserve District
7993 North River Road
PO Box 1075
Byron, IL 61010

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