

**1**  
NO. 1  
SUMMER

# RESTORATION RUSS

**VS. THE  
INVASIVES!**

BYRON  
FOREST  
PRESERVE

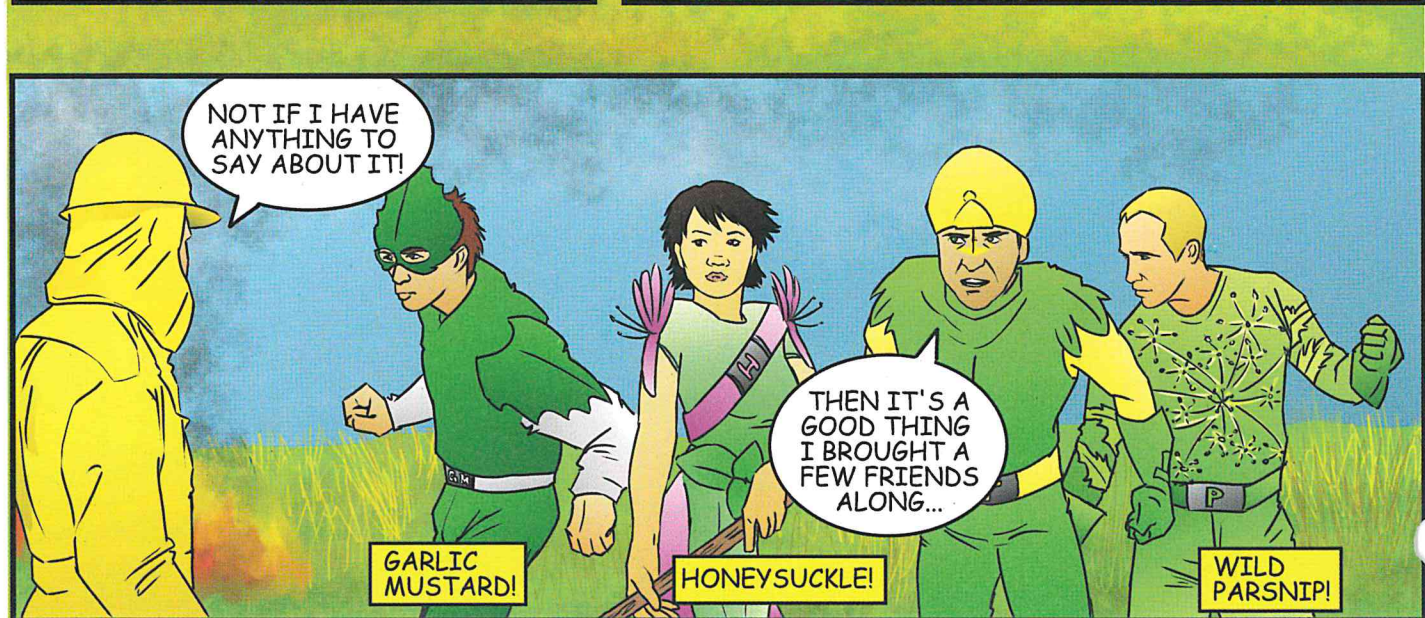
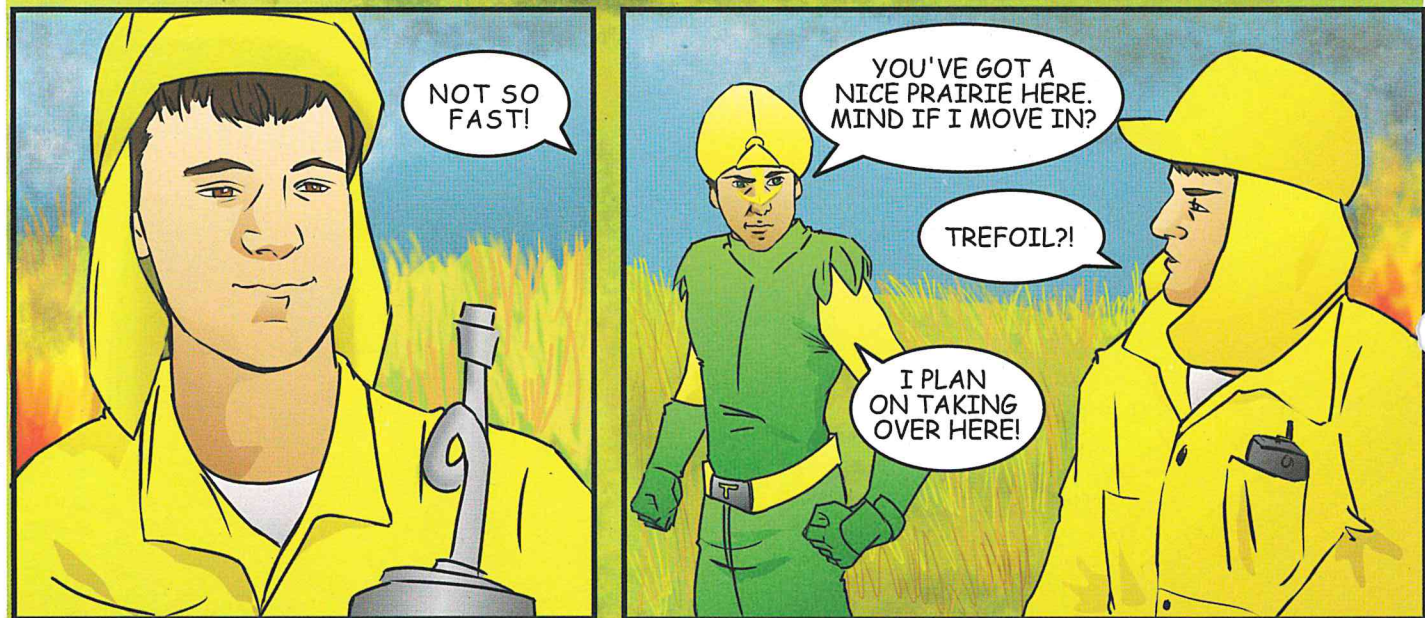


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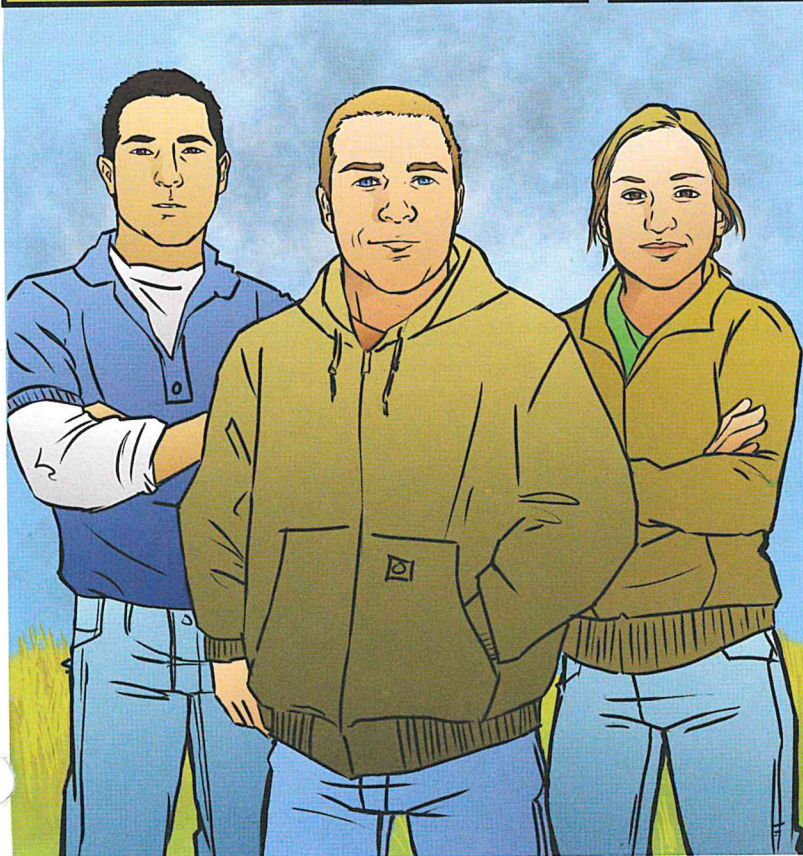
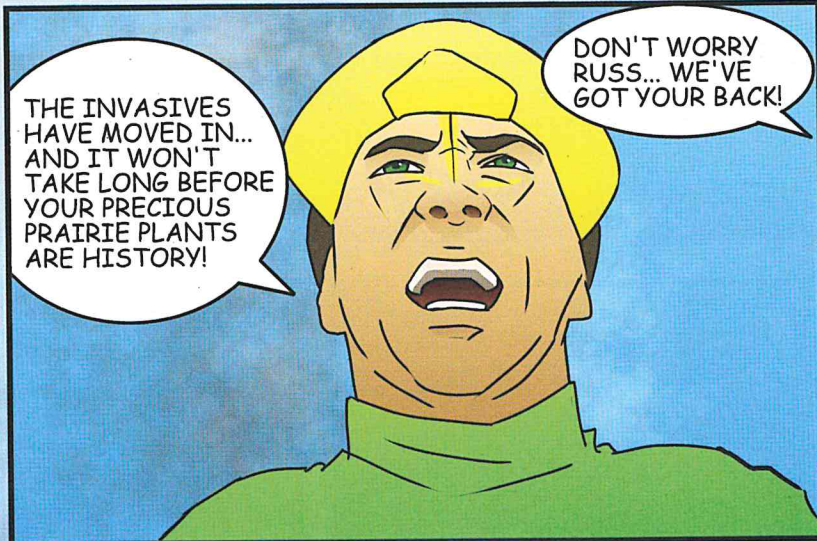


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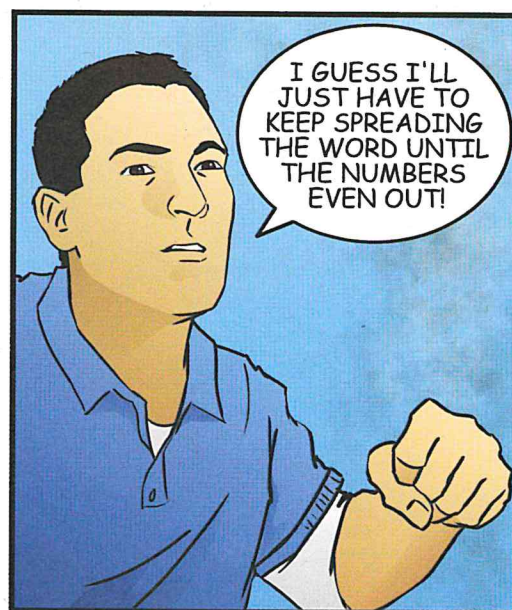
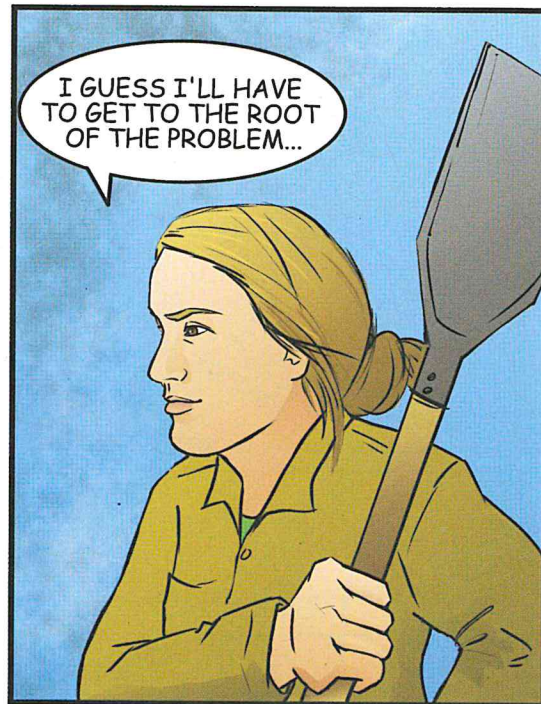


















# Invasives!



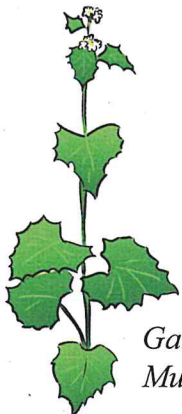
*Bird's Foot  
Trefoil*

**Bird's foot trefoil** is a newer invasive species on our prairie. It was originally introduced in the 1800s as cattle fodder on pastures. This short flower grows in dense mats that shade and choke out native species. It's especially troublesome because it grows well after a prescribed burn. Small infestations can be dug up by hand; repeated manual removal and herbicides can also be effective.



*Honeysuckle*

The first **honeysuckles** were introduced into the United States in the mid-1700s and are now well-established throughout Illinois woodlands. These shrubs can out-compete native plants for sunlight, and because they don't burn well, can stop the helpful, naturally occurring fire cycles within oak savannas. Native birds that build nests within honeysuckles are also more susceptible to predators, since the nests are often closer to the ground when built in honeysuckles than in native shrubs. Removal is done by hand through cutting and application of herbicides to the cut stems.



*Garlic  
Mustard*

**Garlic Mustard** is one of the most widespread woodland invasive species. It was introduced in the 1800s as an edible garden plant. This small flowering plant can spread its range over 20 feet per year, and seeds can remain viable in the soil for up to five years. As with any invasive species, garlic mustard decreases the diversity of the habitat it invades and alters the ecological setting. Although hard to control--each plant may produce thousands of seeds--pulling by hand and controlling with fire and herbicides can reduce the garlic mustard population.



*Wild  
Parsnip*

**Wild Parsnip**, a native to Eurasia, is tolerant of a wide range of conditions, invading dry, wet, and mixed prairies, and can produce large stands within a few years. The sap of these plants is toxic on contact when exposed to sunlight which causes a phytophotodermatitis effect, producing red or purple skin, a rash, and blisters. Wild parsnip can be removed by cutting the taproot below ground with a shovel to prevent resprouting, removing seeds by hand, and applying herbicides to young plants if necessary.



# Red Headed Woodpecker!

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By Katie Schoenfeldt,  
Assistant Superintendent of Restoration



The red headed woodpecker is an omnivorous North American bird whose scientific name is: *Melanerpes erythrocephalus*. The red headed woodpecker is a medium sized bird that has a bright red head, neck and throat. Its bright red head is accompanied by a blue-black back and a pure white under belly. The red headed woodpecker varies from other woodpecker species in several ways. One of the most interesting differences is in the way that the red headed woodpecker obtains its food. Unlike other woodpeckers the red headed

woodpecker predominately hunts for its dinner in mid-air flight; catching its prey in its beak. Less often, this woodpecker can be heard and seen pecking at the bark of trees for insects, tree sap and beetles. During the winter, the red headed woodpecker relies on a cache of food that it has stashed under bark on the ground along with stores of food hidden in the crevices of trees. No other wood-pecker species is known to store food for the winter. The red headed woodpecker's diet also consists of nuts, acorns, berries, fruit, small mammals and other bird species' hatchlings.

The red headed woodpecker's habitat includes open woodlands, forest edges and grassland / savanna settings. It prefers areas with large old trees and an open canopy. The red headed woodpecker will leave an area once the forest becomes overgrown resulting in a closed canopy. The red headed woodpecker will search for a more suitable hunting and breeding habitat.

Red headed woodpeckers were once a very common North American bird, but have since suffered large population declines. The main reasons for this dramatic population decline include loss of habitat, breeding grounds and competition by non-native birds. In the 1890's, the European starling (*Sturnus vulgaris*) was introduced to North America. Upon this introduction the starling proved to have a significantly negative impact on the red headed woodpecker populations. The starlings battle the woodpecker species for nesting holes often resulting in the woodpeckers being driven from their homes. Another threat to the red headed woodpecker species is the removal of dead standing trees from woodlands. The red headed woodpecker requires dead standing trees for roosting and nesting. Overgrowth of woodlands into a forest poses another

hazard for the red headed woodpecker populations. Once a forest canopy closes it makes it nearly impossible for the red headed woodpecker to hunt for his food – remember its number one method of hunting is mid-air flight for insects. With too many tree trunks there is not enough maneuverability room for the woodpecker to successfully hunt. Fortunately, there are management strategies that can help address the above mentioned dangers to the red headed woodpecker populations.

In some states, the red headed woodpecker is on the endangered species list. Fortunately in Illinois, our populations of red headed woodpeckers are not in danger of becoming extirpated, yet. We use several management strategies at the Byron Forest Preserve to help increase the red headed woodpecker's populations. We have performed selective thinning of non-native and aggressive fire intolerant tree species from several of our woodlands. We also leave almost all of the dead standing trees which results in an increase in nesting sites for the red headed woodpecker. Another management technique that we utilize includes the re-introduction of fire to our ecosystems to help keep our woodlands, savannas, and prairies open and free from non-native trees and shrubs that hinder the success rate of the red headed woodpeckers' populations.

I am proud to say that I have noticed an increase in red headed woodpecker populations here at the forest preserve. I believe that the increase in this species and many other plant and animal populations can be directly correlated to the above mentioned management strategies. If you ever are walking the preserve trails and notice dramatic changes in an ecosystem, trust that we, as educated natural resource managers, are doing what we know is necessary to help increase populations of many endangered and threatened plant and animal species.



## ~~ Volunteers Needed ~~

If you would like to volunteer to help out on the prairie or in any other area, please call Richie at 1-815-234-8535 ext. 217.

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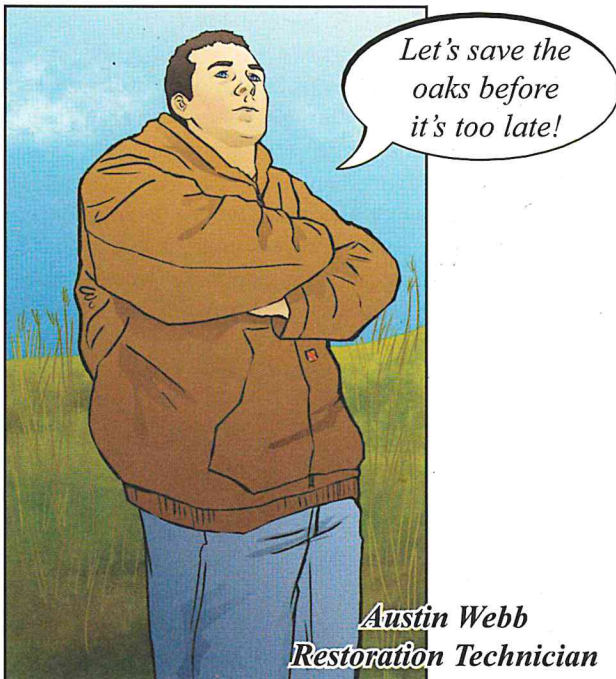


# The Last Oak!

By Austin Webb, Restoration Technician

Sunlight creeps over an open field as it approaches a nearby Illinois forest, the frozen ground twinkling in its midst. However, this forest is unique because of all the trees found here, only one oak tree remains. A bur oak, nearing the end of his 400-year lifespan, he now lives beneath the outstretched branches of cottonwoods, Chinese elms, black cherries, and box elders who are less than half his age. These trees had imprisoned the oak, keeping him in a constant state of solitary confinement away from the light of day. As the rays from the sun now rise up and above the edge of the forest, they struggle to penetrate through its entangled canopy, failing to dismiss the shade covering the old oak. It wasn't always so dark. Things weren't always this way, in fact, things were very different, and the memories the lonely oak had of this place made the other trees afraid.

The forest surrounding the oak was once woodland, an open savanna where the oak could bask in the sun with hickories and other oaks. The mighty oaks and hickories held an important place there, ruling over a sprawling ecosystem full of color and life. Hundreds of species of prairie plants extended their existence into the under-story



Austin Webb  
Restoration Technician

of the savanna, weaving their way through rare and unusual flowers and shrubs that grew only in open oak woodlands. The sight of the savanna at the height of the growing season was more beautiful than anybody could construct with their imagination. All the life forms who called this place home were friends of the oak, and they only required two things in order to exist: each other and the fires.

The oak remembered how the fires used to blacken his trunk and sometimes leave him with scars, but it was a very small price to pay as a member of the savanna community. The fires left the landscape desolate and eerie, and yet somehow things looked so much more natural after a fire than they did in the shaded forest. Since all of the species of the savanna could tolerate fire, it ensured that only those species would be found there. It gave the oak, and all the other plant species in the savanna, a selective advantage over other plants who threatened to change the beauty of the savanna. The oak hoped that the fires would continue to visit him, for the sake of him and his friends.

In the year after a fire, the entire savanna would return even more vibrant than in the years without. The lifeblood that the fires returned to the soil gave the plants the ability to produce more seeds, attracting all kinds of creatures to admire the sustainability of life that the great savanna offered. The oak treasured the memories he had from when he was a seedling, when the bison and elk still roamed freely in the prairie and savanna. It amazed him how wild and dangerous those years were, as mountain lions, bears, and wolves patrolled their territories. Then, one by one, these magnificent animals began to disappear, which made the oak very confused. He tried hard to think of a reason why they would want to leave such a beautiful place, but the oak couldn't figure it out. Eventually, the oak decided that those creatures were planning on coming back some day to visit the savanna and bask in the sun beside him.

The oak had many visitors, but the people were his favorite. The people had brought the fires to the savanna, ensuring its existence. It made the oak happy to see how much the people enjoyed visiting the savanna where he lived. It was a majestic place to the people and the oak was very proud to call this place home. Then, very abruptly, the



# The Last Oak!



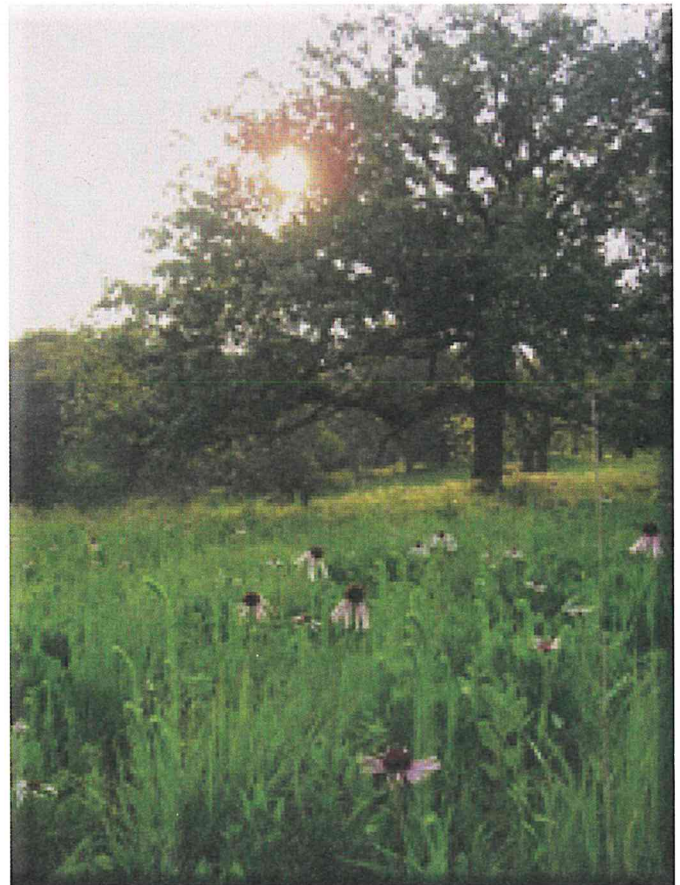
people stopped visiting the savanna, and that's when things began to change. The absence of the people and the fires they brought allowed different plants to grow. Slowly, the friends of the oak left him or disappeared, being replaced by strange plants and creatures that didn't belong there. The mighty oak now felt helpless as he watched the strange plants, who had always threatened the savanna, take over. The oak was only left to wonder why the people stopped visiting.

*He feared that the people had forgotten the beauty of the savanna...*

The complete transformation didn't take long, as cherry trees, box elders, and cottonwoods rapidly grew into and above the canopy of the oaks and hickories, shading out the remaining savanna and prairie plants below. It disturbed the oak to see perennial savanna plants, with root systems older than the tall cottonwoods, forfeit their existence. Next to leave were the oaks and hickories, as alien vines tugged on their branches, snatching the old trees with reaching tentacles, pulling them into the shade below, mimicking a sea monster dragging a ship toward a watery grave. When the metamorphosis had ceased, the savanna had been turned into a gloomy forest, incapable of supporting even the smallest percentage of life that had been found in the savanna. He feared that the people had forgotten the beauty of the savanna, and worried that they favored the new trees over him. The oak decided that the people were content looking at the cruel forest that had taken away his home and consumed it with darkness. The entire place looked dead, from the silent canopy to the bare dirt floor. The old oak had lost all of his friends.

Then, one day, there was a sign of some life. It was two people, and they were coming to visit the old oak! The oak found out from listening to them that he was the last oak tree left in the forest. He found out that the other oaks had all died from old age, the lack of sunlight, the loss of habitat, and especially the deficiency of fire. He found out that if the fires had continued on their cycle, not allowing the other trees to shade out the young oaks, the savanna wouldn't have gone away. The oak had been sad for a long time, but this made him feel terrible. Just then, his two new friends solemnly acknowledged one another, picked

up some tools, and began working on something. The work lasted for days until all the box elders, black cherries, Chinese elms, and cottonwoods surrounding the oak had been cut down and carried away. The following morning, the sun crept toward the forest, rising above the trees, moving in the direction of the last oak. Upon reaching the oak, the rays of sunlight shone bright on all of his branches. The old oak felt liberated as the warmth of the sun wrapped itself around him like a blanket. With his newfound sense of freedom, the oak now hoped that more of his friends would return to bask in the sun beside him.







# Potpourri!

## Photography Camp

For this camp, children will learn the basics of photography and develop skills in composition, learn how to control digital camera settings, and how to crop and print photos using digital software. Some cameras will be available for use, but children may also bring their own. We'll also go on field trips to Rockford, including Anderson Japanese Gardens, and the Rockford Art Museum. Cards and prints by campers will be on display and for sale in the gift shop with profits going to the charity of the campers' choice. Bring a lunch. Snack and drink provided.

Where: Jarrett Prairie Center  
When: Monday-Friday  
July 20-24  
Time: 9 am-5 pm  
Cost: \$120/person  
(inc. all materials)  
Ages: 8-14  
Min/Max: 5/20

**Register by noon on July 8.**

## Fine Arts Camp

For this camp, children will explore different artistic mediums, including watercolor, acrylic, pen, pencil, and digital software. Mornings are spent learning techniques, and after lunch, we will head out onto the prairie or into Rockford to sketch and paint from real life. We'll also go on field trips to Rockford, including Anderson Japanese Gardens, and the Rockford Art Museum. Cards and prints by campers will be on display and for sale in the gift shop with profits going to the charity of the campers' choice. Bring a lunch. Snack and drink provided.

Where: Jarrett Prairie Center  
When: Monday-Friday  
July 13-17  
Time: 9 am-5 pm  
Cost: \$120/person  
(inc. all materials)  
Ages: 8-14  
Min/Max: 5/20

**Register by noon on July 1.**

## Beginner to Intermediate Mountain Biking

Each Wednesday, we will take our bikes to a different place to ride. Destinations include Blackhawk Springs, Atwood, Rock Cut State Park, and the forest preserve's secondary properties.



Where: Jarrett Prairie Center  
When: Wednesdays  
May 20 & 27  
June 17 & 24  
July 1 & 8  
August 5 & 12  
Time: 2-6 pm  
Cost: \$2/person (free, if providing your own transportation)  
Ages: 12 and up  
Min/Max: 5/7

**Register by the previous Monday.**

## Canoe Rentals

We rent canoes. Just call us with your date and number of canoes needed. We'll haul you upstream on the Rock River and accompany you back to your vehicles at the River Park parking lot on River Road across from Heritage Farm.

Canoes are \$25 each and include paddles and life jackets. Call Richie at 815-234-8535 ext. 217 for this unique and fun outing.

## ~ Teen Volunteer Action Corps ~

This group aims to become a continuous presence in the Byron community. Meetings on Mondays will be to organize volunteer Saturdays; members will choose projects to fulfill required volunteer hours for school such as park cleanup, prairie restoration, and bluebird monitoring. We will also write grants for recycling projects in the community and at the Byron schools. As the club progresses, it is also our goal to become affiliated with larger organizations, and apply for state and/or national funding and scholarships. Meetings will be held at the Jarrett Prairie Center on Mondays, June 15 & 29, July 13 & 27, and August 3 & 10 for ages 15-18. Call 815-234-8535 ext. 232 for more information.



## Artist Reception Celeste Wolf

Come and view some paintings and drawings by this local 5-year-old.

Where: Jarrett Prairie Center

When: Throughout

May and June

Time: Normal business hours.

Cost: Free

Ages: All

Other: Reception to be held on June 30, 6-8 pm.



## Byron Museum of History Exhibit

View this special display designed by the local history museum.

Where: Jarrett Prairie Center

When: Throughout

July and August

Time: Normal business hours.

Cost: Free

Ages: All

## Recycling Station

The Byron Forest Preserve District has a mission to provide for preservation of natural resources, to provide education about natural and cultural heritage, and to provide recreation. The District developed a recycling station and is educating hundreds of students on recycling through the International Earthkeepers program. Materials from the recycling station are collected and sorted twice per month, producing up to three tons of recyclable material like cardboard, glass, newspaper, plastic, and metals. The cost of hauling is covered through a cooperative agreement with the Ogle County Solid Waste Management Department.

The station accepts glass, aluminum, plastic #1-#5, & #7, tin, steel, mixed paper, cardboard, and newspaper. The bin is located in the maintenance parking lot at 7993 North River Road, Byron, Illinois. The station is open during daylight hours seven days per week. Please recycle responsibly by leaving the area cleaner than when you arrived. **You no longer need to separate the items in each bin.**

## Outreach

We offer educational programs to any group including retirement homes and nursing facilities for a small fee. Using our nature staff and nature stuff, we come to you and deliver exciting and educational programs including:

- Birds of a Feather
- Indian Life (w/traditional dress)
- Animal Encounter (w/live animals)

*Call today to book your  
next on-site program!*

## 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 guided 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, astronomy, and museum tour. Call 815-234-8535 ext. 217 to schedule your next outing with us.

## Rare Bird Hotline

The Byron Forest Preserve is hosting a "Rare Bird Alert" hotline. Call 1-815-234-8535 ext. 203 to hear updated reports or to leave a message about where, when, what, and how to spot a rarity that you've found.





# PrairieView Golf Club!



## Adult Golf Lessons

Both group and individual golf lessons at PrairieView begin Mid-April and continue through October. Individual lessons can be scheduled at any time by calling the PrairieView clubhouse at 1-815-234-4653. Group golf lessons will be available for both beginning and intermediate golfers and will begin Mid-May. Class size is limited to encourage a better student to teacher ratio.

There are a variety of classes and lesson packages to choose from to fit the needs of all golfers. If you would like more details on lesson programs or would like to schedule a lesson, stop by the clubhouse or call 1-815-234-4653.

## 18th Annual Gold Medal Classic

For 17 years, the Gold Medal Classic Golf Championship has been held the weekend after Labor Day at PrairieView Golf Club. For the first time ever, the tournament will be conducted in the spring of 2009. In an effort to boost participation, the event will be held May 16th and 17th and is open to men and women age 15 and above. By moving the tournament to the spring and lowering the age restriction, high school and college students can now participate. The rest of the tournament will remain the same. The field will be placed into flights after Saturday's round based on the first round score and will include a ladies' division. Trophies and prizes will be awarded for each flight.

The defending champion of the Gold Medal Classic is Jamie Hogan of Rockford in the men's division and Hui Chong Dofflemeyer of Belvidere in the ladies' division. Other flight winners in 2008 include Jake Nicholson of Stillman Valley (2nd flight) and Bill Stevenson from PrairieView (3rd flight).

The Gold Medal Classic will be the first major golf event of the year in the Rockford area. Help make the new date a success and sign-up today to play. For more information on the event or to sign up, please call 1-815-234-4653.

## PrairieView Couples Golf Nights



*Fridays at 5 pm*

May 8th & May 22nd  
June 5th & June 19th  
July 17th & July 31st  
August 14th & August 28th

Cost: \$20 (\$13 for pass holders)  
Cost is per person per night.  
Includes: Golf, cart, prizes, and  
your first drink after golf.  
Format: 4-Person Scramble

Couples will be paired by the pro-shop (pairing requests will be taken)  
Register at the Pro Shop or call 1-815-234-4653

## Tee Sign Advertising Opportunity

Advertise your business on a tee sign at PrairieView Golf Club. Over 26,000 rounds of golf are played annually at PrairieView by people from across Northern Illinois. A few signs



are still available. Contact PrairieView PGA Professional Steve Murray for more information, 1-815-234-4653.



Sean Considine  
Cancer Classic  
June 29, 2009

# Prairie View Golf Club!



## Welcome to the Prairie Grass Pub!

### Appetizers

Pub Fries Basket - \$1.95  
Wedgies - \$2.45  
White Cheddar Cheese Curds - \$4.95  
Wings \$6.25  
Muchos Nachos - \$6.95  
Chicken Tenders - \$5.75  
Spinach & Artichoke Dip - \$5.75

### Salads

House Salad - \$5.95  
Chicken Caesar Salad - \$6.95

### Pizza

9" Cheese - \$5.75  
12" Cheese - \$7.50

Additional Toppings  
Vegetables - .75 each  
Meat - \$1.50 each

## Libations, Drinks, & Beverages

The Prairie Grass Pub has a great selection of icy-cold domestic and imported beers, and fine liquors and premium spirits.

Fountain Drinks - \$2  
(free refills)

Hot Drinks  
Coffee - \$1.25  
Hot Chocolate - \$1.75  
Cappucino - \$1.75

### Hours

Opens at 11 am daily.  
(weather dependent)

### Pubwiches

Triple-Decker Club - \$7.50  
Pulled Pork BBQ - \$6.95  
Reuben - \$7.25  
Grilled or Breaded Chicken - \$6.50  
Pub Burger - \$6.50  
Chicken or Tuna Salad - \$5.95  
Turkey & Bacon Club - \$6.25  
BLT - \$4.75

### Wraps

Caesar Chicken Salad Wrap - \$6.95  
Buffalo Chicken Wrap - \$6.95  
Chicken Bacon Ranch Wrap - \$7.25

### Baskets

Beer-Battered Cod Basket - \$7.50  
Fried Shrimp Basket - \$7.95  
Chicken Tender Basket - \$7.50



## Wall of Fame

We have established a Wall of Fame at the Prairie Grass Pub honoring three of Byron's native sons. We first honor our only Hall of Fame inductee, Albert Goodwill Spalding. Mr. Spalding's accomplishments were as follows:

- Inducted into Baseball Hall of Fame in 1939
- First Major League Baseball Pitcher to win 200 games
- 6-time MLB Pitching Wins Leader
- Founder of Spalding Sporting Goods Company
- Published first MLB rules book
- USA's Commissioner of the 1904 Summer Olympics

We then honor Byron's NFL players, Troy Drake and Sean Considine, who both played at Byron High School, in the Big Ten, then went on to play in the NFL for several years. Here are their statistics:



### Troy Drake

Indiana University - 1991-1995  
Philadelphia Eagles - 1995-1997  
Washington Redskins - 1997



### Sean Considine

University of Iowa - 2000-2005  
Philadelphia Eagles - 2005-2009  
Jacksonville Jaguars - 2009-present

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# PrairieView Golf Club!

**Hey  
Kids!**

## Junior Developmental & Parent/Child Lessons



Junior developmental lessons are designed to teach juniors the basic skills they will need to enjoy the game of golf. Lessons will be in group format. The teacher to student ratio will be small in order to maximize one-on-one instruction. Lessons will begin in June and run throughout the summer. The junior developmental lessons will be a series of six lessons for children ages 5-16. Classes are separated by age.

In addition to junior group lessons, PrairieView will once again offer parent/child lessons. The popular parent/child lessons are designed to give parents and children a chance to take lessons together in a group format. For a complete list of class times and costs for all junior and parent/child lessons, please stop by the clubhouse or call 1-815-234-GOLF.

## Junior Developmental League

The junior developmental league is designed to give juniors a chance to play golf with adult supervision. Both the professional golf staff at PrairieView and adult volunteers will help monitor play. Junior golfers ages 9-16 with some previous golfing experience are encouraged to join. The league is scheduled for Tuesday mornings, will run the entire summer, and begins June 9th. The cost of the league is \$50 for children with season passes and \$75 for children without season passes. We do encourage parents to attend and volunteer. Registration forms are available at the clubhouse. For any questions, please call 1-815-234-4653.

## ~~ Junior Tournaments ~~

**IJGA Junior Open (Go to [www.IJGA.org](http://www.IJGA.org) to register)**

**May 30th and 31st**

**Junior Club Championship/Ogle County Junior**

**July 23rd**

**Parent/Junior**

**August 9th**

Registration forms for the Junior Club Championship and the Parent/Junior are available at PrairieView. The tournaments are open to boys and girls ages 7 and above. For questions about any of the junior events, please call 1-815-234-4653.



## Golf Leagues at PrairieView

PrairieView offers a variety of 9- hole leagues for men, women, and seniors. All of the league play is handicapped and includes all levels of golfers from relative beginners to more advanced players. If you would like more information regarding any of the leagues offered at PrairieView or would like to inquire how to register for a league, please stop by the clubhouse or call 1-815-234-4653.

### *Senior Men's League*

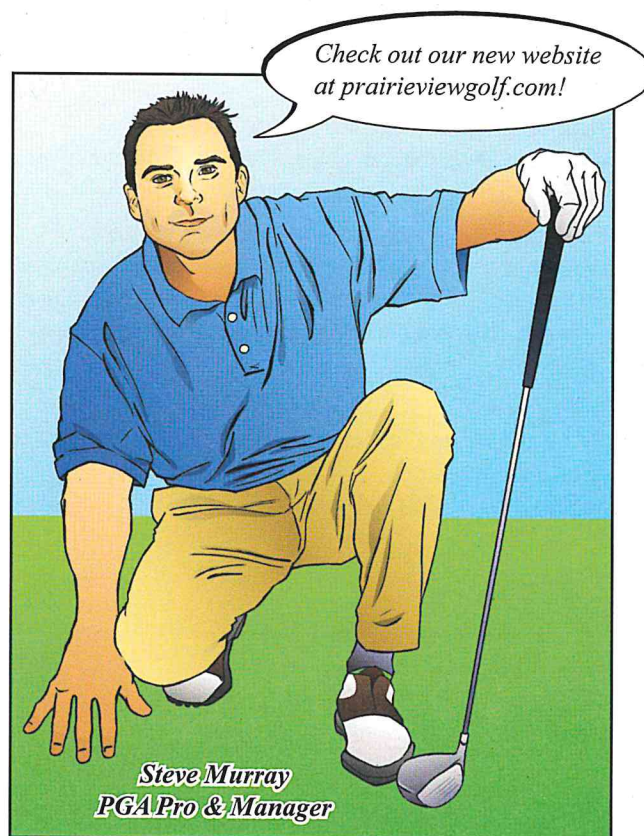
When: Wednesday Mornings  
Time: 8 am (9 am in spring & fall)  
Begins: April 29th  
Cost: \$10 for the required 9-hole handicap  
\$1 per week for weekly game  
Format: Individual play (some weeks will include team play, various games)

### *Wednesday Men's League*

When: Wednesday Evenings  
Time: 5:30 pm  
Begins: May 13th  
Cost: \$60 per person (includes 9-hole handicap, year end prize money, and banquet)  
Format: Two-Person teams

### *Tuesday Ladies League*

When: Tuesday Evenings  
Time: 5:30 pm  
Begins: Late April  
Cost: \$35 includes 9-hole handicap  
\$1 per week for weekly game







# PrairieView Golf Club!



## PrairieView Men's Golf Association

### ***What is the Prairieview Men's Golf Association?***

It is an association for men age 18 and older. The association conducts various golf and social events throughout the year. Golf events include 9- and 18-hole events, interclub matches, and road trips to other courses. Various social events take place after golf. (Please see the next page for 2009 schedule)

### ***What does it cost to join?***

The cost is \$75 and includes your CDGA Handicap. If you have already paid your CDGA dues online or in the golf shop, your cost to join would be \$45. (Cash or checks only) Make checks payable to the PrairieView Men's Association.

### ***Are there any other costs?***

The day of each event there will be various games you can enter. (ie. low gross, low net, partners) Each event will have a cost; however you can choose which games you want to enter. All the money collected will be paid back in cash or shop credit.

### ***Do I have to be a pass holder to join?***

No. Any man 18 or older is eligible to join. You would simply need to pay green fees the day of the event.

### ***Who runs the events and how do they work?***

The PrairieView golf staff will run all the events. Sign-up sheets will be posted in the men's locker room. You simply sign-up and we will do the rest. All events are handicapped so it does not matter if you are a scratch golfer or a 36 handicap. There is something in it for everyone. If you have any questions, do not hesitate to call the golf shop at 1-815-234-4653.

### ***How do I join?***

Simply fill out the application and send it in with payment to: PrairieView Golf Club  
(Make checks payable to 7993 N. River Road, PO Box 1075  
PrairieView Men's Golf Association) Byron IL 61010



Name \_\_\_\_\_

Home Phone \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

Work Phone \_\_\_\_\_

E-Mail \_\_\_\_\_

Payment Method    Cash \_\_\_\_\_    Check \_\_\_\_\_ (check # \_\_\_\_\_)

\*Payment must accompany application

\*Make checks payable to Prairieview Men's Golf Association



LOOK!!

# PrairieView Golf Club!

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## 2009 Men's Association Event Schedule

Date	Day	Event
April 18th	Saturday	Spring Road Trip(Site TBA) We will car pool, Fall trip will be the bus trip.
19th	Sunday	TBA
26th	Sunday	Spring Ultimate (2-person teams) 9-Best Ball, 9-Scramble, 9-Alternate Shot
May 2nd	Saturday	Kentucky Derby Event
3rd	Sunday	TBA
16th, 17th	Saturday, Sunday	Gold Medal Classic
24th	Sunday	Beat the Pro #1
25th	Monday	Memorial Day Tournament
June 7th	Sunday	Lincoln Highway Qualifying(27-holes)/also 18-hole event for non LHQ's
14th	Sunday	Stewart Cup Matches (Kids vs Adults)
21st	Sunday	Fathers Day/US Open Tournament
28th	Sunday	TBA
July 4th	Saturday	5 Black Tees, 5 Blue Tees, 4 White Tees, 4 Yellow Tees
5th	Sunday	TBA
12th	Sunday	Survivors of Byron Fest
19th	Sunday	British Open Tournament
25th, 26th	Saturday, Sunday	Club Championship (18 holes each day-Gross and Net Winners)
August 8th	Saturday	Timber Pointe Interclub Match (At Timber Pointe)
9th	Sunday	TBA
16th	Sunday	PGA Sunday Tournament
22nd	Saturday	Aldeen Interclub Match (At Aldeen)
23rd	Sunday	TBA
30th	Sunday	TBA
Sept. 6th	Sunday	Beat the Pro #2
7th	Monday	Labor Day Tournament
12th	Saturday	Fall Bus Trip (Site TBA) Combined bus trip with Aldeen G.C.
13th	Sunday	TBA
20th	Sunday	TBA
27th	Sunday	Fall Ultimate (2-person teams) 9-Best Ball, 9-Scramble, 9-Alternate Shot
Oct. 4th	Sunday	TBA
11th	Sunday	TBA
18th	Sunday	Tough Course Day



In addition to the above schedule, we will conduct the PrairieView Match Play Championship. The Match Play Championship will be played at full handicap and seated by handicap at the time of the sign-up deadline.

Sign-up deadline	June 14th
Brackets will be posted	June 17th
First Round Matches completed by	July 5th
Second Round Matches completed by	July 19th
Third Round Matches completed by	August 2nd
Semifinals completed by	August 16th
Finals completed by	August 30th





## New Championship Tees to be Completed in 2009

*By Matt Henkel, Assistant Golf Course Superintendent*

Holes #7 and #8 at PrairieView will each feature a new championship tee that will be completed this coming year. Construction began first on the par 3, 8th hole last summer. A few hundred yards of "fill" were hauled in to provide the base for the new tee, which was then capped with 60 yards of topsoil to elevate the tee approximately five feet. The enlarged tee and added elevation will provide a more adequate teeing surface for low handicapped golfers while bringing the pond, two greenside bunkers, and the green into view. Work necessary to bring the tee into play this year will include installing irrigation, finishing grading, and then sodding of the bentgrass surface.

Once the championship tee is open for play on #8, the second phase of construction on the tee will include rebuilding the gold, white, and blue tees. This will be ac-

complished by hauling in soil to fill in the swale between the white tee and the alternate white tee. The addition to the tee will add valuable teeing surface, which will effectively spread out the day to day wear and tear from golfers.

Finally, the championship tee slated for construction on hole #7 will bring some added length to those playing from the black tees on this par 4. The new tee will be built in the same location as a previous tee, which, due to its insufficient size, has been unusable the past few years. The new tee will be elevated and much larger. Once construction begins on the tee, and with cooperation from Mother Nature, things will move along quickly as not nearly as much soil will be required for the project and because the irrigation is already in place.

## Henkel to Volunteer at the U.S. Open

Matt Henkel, Assistant Golf Course Superintendent at PrairieView Golf Club, will be working on the grounds crew at this year's U.S. Open golf tournament in June. The U.S. Open is one of golf's four major championships every year and this year's tournament will be held at world renowned Bethpage Black, located on Long Island in New York. Bethpage is ranked as the top municipal course in the U.S. by Golf Digest. In 2002, Bethpage became the first municipally owned course to host the U.S. Open. The tournament was won that year by Tiger Woods, the only player to finish under par.

Henkel will head out to New York prior to the first practice round being played on June 15th and will assist the Bethpage grounds crew and the USGA with course setup through the final round on Father's Day, June 21st. Henkel says that next to hosting a PGA Tour event at your home course, the chance to volunteer at one of golf's most prestigious events, at one of the nation's top courses, is a once in a lifetime opportunity.

New York...  
Here I come!





Repair  
divots!

# PrairieView Golf Club!

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## Turf Notes

By Matt Henkel, Asst. Golf Course Superintendent

If you are one of PrairieView's die-hard golfers, then chances are you have already played a few rounds of golf this year and likely noticed a new look to a couple holes. In case you haven't been out yet, those changes were the removal of a large problematic tree near the eleventh green and a few small clusters of invasive / weedy box elder trees. The large Siberian elm that grew next to the eleventh green was removed in January. This tree has caused detrimental effects to the overall health and condition of one of PrairieView's most challenging greens, both from a superintendent's standpoint and that of golfers. From the superintendent's perspective, the eleventh green has all the makings of being a difficult to manage green. In addition to being PrairieView's smallest green, at a little under 6000 sq. ft., the green is tucked in close to several large trees.

Trees located too close to the putting surface block much needed sunlight, restrict airflow, steal moisture and nutrients from the putting surface, and can dump a significant amount of debris. These conditions are undesirable for managing bentgrass greens and left unchecked, lead to less than desirable turf health and many headaches for superintendents and golfers alike. As for the golfers, if you have ever been fortunate enough to hit PrairieView's smallest green in regulation, yet still faced a downhill putt to a cup set in the front to middle right half of the green, then you know what I am talking about. Add to that some fallen litter from the elm tree and the limbs that extended nearly all the way across the green and you

can understand why most higher handicapped golfers would look at a three putt for a bogey in that situation as a success.

The other area of the course that golfers will notice some changes is where the fifth, sixth, fourteenth, and fifteenth holes all come together. This project coincides with the district's prairie restoration project alongside PrairieView's western boundary. The small groups of mainly box elder trees that existed on the course in this area were all removed. Box elder trees are widely recognized as aggressive and invasive trees in native prairie environments. These trees are highly undesirable in a golf course setting due to their irregular growth pattern, weak brittle wood, and their tendency to drop a significant amount of messy debris throughout the year.

As a municipal golf course, and an integral part of the Byron Forest Preserve District, PrairieView has always strived to maintain a balance between the courses wooded areas and other areas of open, natural grasses. Over the years, hundreds of oaks, maples, and ash trees, native to our region, have been transplanted throughout the course. Other areas have seen trees removed, in efforts to provide superior playing conditions and in many cases, safety to the golfers. Removing these undesirable trees in this location will not only assist the restoration department in fulfilling the districts' mission of restoring our regions native prairies, but opening this area up will also help to put a little bit of the "view" back into PrairieView.





# Volunteers!



## Join Our Community of Volunteers

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



### Tuesday Morning Group

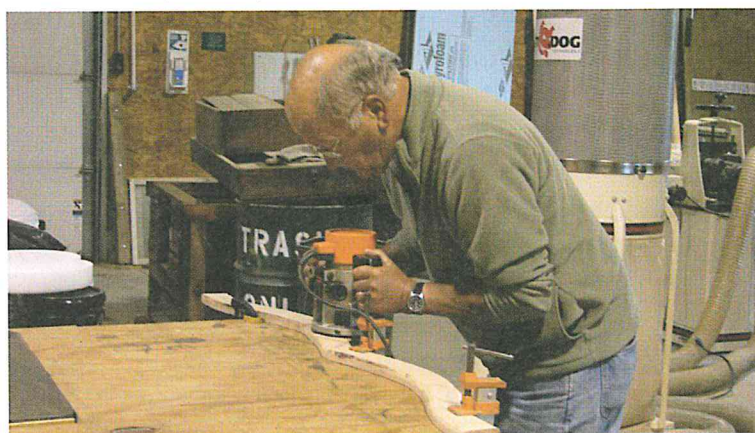
Come join us for a time of visiting, refreshments, and fun indoor projects.

Where: Jarrett Prairie Center  
7993 N. River Rd, Byron  
When: First Tuesdays  
(September thru April)  
Time: 8:30-11am  
Cost: Free

### Wednesday Woodshop Group

Come join the area men for coffee, and the opportunity 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: 9-11 am  
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 1-815-234-8535 ext. 217.

### 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 serve your community and others. For information, call 1-815-234-8535 ext. 217.



Book your next  
event with us!

# Facilities!

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## PrairieView Golf Club

*German Church Road, Byron*

*815-234-4653 ~ [www.prairieviewgolf.com](http://www.prairieviewgolf.com)*



PrairieView Golf Club is a public, 18-hole bent grass championship golf course. Rated 4 stars by Golf Digest. This challenging course features bent grass tees, greens, and fairways. PrairieView also offers a full service practice facility, equipment rental,

fully stocked pro shop, lessons, and handicap services. The clubhouse features The Prairie Grass Pub for relaxing with your friends after a round of golf. The Prairie Grass Pub offers an extensive menu of delicious entrees and beverages.

## Jarrett Prairie Center

*7993 North River Road, Byron*

*815-234-8535 ext. 200*

*[www.byronforestpreserve.com](http://www.byronforestpreserve.com)*

Habitat exhibits, dioramas, audio interpretation, and a spectacular view of the prairie are just a few of the features at the Jarrett Prairie Center which is open daily, year round. You will also see wetland, woodland, and prairie environments on display along with displays depicting pre-European settlement conditions. A gift shop is also available to purchase an awesome souvenir!



## Weiskopf Observatory

*7993 North River Road, Byron*

*815-234-8535 ext. 216*

*[www.byronforestpreserve.com](http://www.byronforestpreserve.com)*



View the stars and planets through our 11" Celestron telescope. Experienced staff will guide you through the skies. Free public viewing on Saturdays, year round and Tuesdays in June, July, and August. Open from dark until three hours after dark. Call for viewing conditions.

## Stone Quarry Recreation Park

*6845 German Church Road, Byron*

*815-234-8900*

*[www.stonequarrypark.com](http://www.stonequarrypark.com)*



Stone Quarry Recreation Park has something for everyone! Many programs and activities are offered all year round. Amenities include: arcade, pool table, mini-putt, batting cages, skate park, air hockey, playground, volleyball pit, basketball courts, horseshoe pits, and a water splash playground. Picnic shelters and a party room are also available for rental for reunions, company outings, and meetings.

## Heritage Farm Museum

*8059 North River Road, Byron*

*815-234-8535 ext. 217*

*[www.byronforestpreserve.com](http://www.byronforestpreserve.com)*



Enjoy a guided tour of this 1800s farm and museum with audio interpretation. Includes a grout house, corn crib, wind mill, "residents", and more! Open daily April 1-October 31. Self-guided tours are free. A small fee may be charged for guided tours.

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# Byron Bank



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