



Thirteen Lines

News and Notes from the LaGrange County Department of Parks and Recreation

July & August 2020

Greetings,

I would like to take a brief moment and thank my fellow colleagues for their hard work and dedication. On June 10, nearly all of our parks received some kind of tree damage due to the horrible storm that swept across the county. Maple Wood Nature Center and Dallas Lake Park were impacted the most. We were incredibly fortunate that buildings and vehicles were spared. Your small but mighty park staff and several amazing volunteers got to work immediately to clear roads, parking lots, and trails. With the exception of Maple Wood, trails are back open to enjoy. This newsletter features a few photographs of the storm cleanup crew. I am honored to work alongside them and humbled by their "can do" attitude. I hope you'll join me in thanking them.

Also included in this newsletter is the list of public programs for the months of July and August. Please carefully read the program descriptions and social distancing guidelines before visiting one of our properties.

Three cheers for Maintenance!

Leslie A. Arnold

Naturalist



Storm raging at Dallas Lake Park maintenance yard

Kyle Burchett (photo credit)





In accordance with the LaGrange County Health Department, you must wear a mask inside all Park offices and buildings. You must also wear a mask if you are outdoors and cannot keep a 6 foot distance from strangers.

Maple Wood Nature Center is now open Wednesdays, 8:00 a.m. - 4:00 p.m., and Saturdays, 9:00 a.m. - 5:00 p.m. Beginning August 1, Maple Wood Nature Center will be open every Wednesday, and every 2nd & 4th weekend. [The trail system at Maple Wood is temporarily closed due to storm damage.](#) Please check our website, or call, for trail conditions.

Dallas Lake Park Office is now open regular business hours. All beaches, playgrounds, shelters, and lodges are open.

Maple syrup may be purchased at both Maple Wood Nature Center and the Dallas Lake Park Office.

[All 2020 swimming lessons and summer camps have been canceled.](#) If you have any questions, please call the Dallas Lake Park Office at (260) 854-2225.

For Patchwork Trails information or to reserve your copy of the book of the month, please contact the LaGrange County Public Library at (260) 463-2841.

[All LaGrange County Offices are CLOSED Friday, July 3, for Independence Day.](#)

Dallas Lake Days

These family programs are designed to combine fun and education. All programs take place at the Dallas Lake Park Office lawn, from 9:00 - 10:30 a.m. Join park staff to learn about nature in the morning, then choose to explore a trail or play at the beach on your own for the afternoon. Space is limited to 25 per program. Children of all ages are welcome (target age is 5-8); they must be accompanied by at least one adult (aged 17 or older). Family units will be spaced 6 ft. apart from others. **FREE!**

Bring a blanket or lawn chairs to spread out in the shade, water bottles, snacks, insect repellent, and sun screen. RSVP to Leslie Arnold at (260) 463-4022 or larnold@lagrangecounty.org

July 9	<p>Hands - On!</p> <p>Children will make butter in a jar, ice cream in a bag, and nettle bracelets.</p>
July 23	<p>Bird Sleuthing and Hummingbird swing craft</p> <p>This program is a great introduction to birding basics for children. Go on a bird habitat scavenger hunt and complete an explorer guidebook together. Make a hummingbird swing craft to take home. Binoculars from home are recommended.</p>
July 30	<p>The <i>Frog and Toad</i> Lost Button Game</p> <p>Children must come with 5 - 10 mixed buttons from home. This activity combines a classic, adored children's story with math and nature. This program is perfect for children needing a refresher on math skills like sorting, observation, and counting.</p>
August 6	<p>Hooray for Hoppers</p> <p>We'll head to the prairies at Dallas Lake Park and collect grasshoppers for observation. Learn about the basic functions of different body parts and how grasshoppers fit into an ecosystem.</p>

July 2020



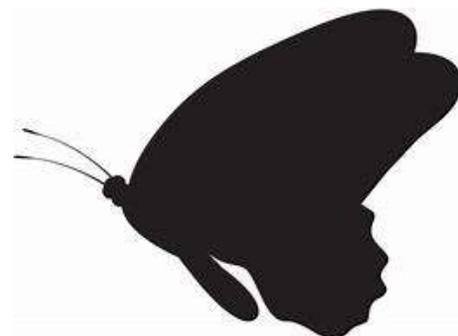
Program location is Maple Wood Nature Center unless otherwise stated.

July 8 Maple Wood Fiber Guild	10:00 a.m. - 3:00 p.m. Open to anyone and any kind of fiber art! Bring a project to work on. Bring your own sack lunch and snacks. Donations for the Parks is appreciated. RSVP to Leslie Arnold at (260) 363-4022
July 11 Ice Cream in a Bag	10:00 a.m. and 2:00 p.m. Make your own cool, delicious treat using basic ingredients. Does contain milk. RSVP to Leslie Arnold at (260) 463-4022, Limit 25 each program, FREE
July 22 Sewing Group	9:30 a.m. - 3:30 p.m. - PENDING! Bring your sewing machine. Get help on current, or unfinished projects. Bring a sack lunch and your own snacks. \$5 donation for Parks RSVP to Linda Grobis at (260) 351-3609
July 25 Butterfly Count	North American Butterfly Association First East LaGrange County Butterfly Count! Contact compiler Leslie Arnold to volunteer! It is recommended that you can confidently identify 5-10 common butterflies, but no experience is necessary. Upon registration, volunteers will be given an area to count that is east of SR 9; you can count anytime that day. larnold@lagrangecounty.org or (260) 463-4022
July 26 Folk Jam	1:30 - 5:00 p.m. Folk, country and bluegrass music with other styles mixed in. No potluck. RSVP to Erv Troyer at (260) 463-2247 or reo47@aol.com



"Put that sucker on Spin!"

August Quilt Class Pattern



August 2020



Program location is Maple Wood Nature Center unless otherwise stated.

August 8 Critter Lunch	10:00 a.m. Come and watch the nature center animals eat their lunch! RSVP to Leslie Arnold at (260) 463-4022 - Limit 25, FREE
August 12 Maple Wood Fiber Guild	10:00 a.m. - 3:00 p.m. Open to anyone and any kind of fiber art! Bring a project to work on. Bring your own sack lunch and snacks. Donations for the Parks is appreciated. RSVP to Leslie Arnold at (260) 363-4022
August 18 Patchwork Trails Walk	6:00 p.m. - PENDING! WATCH LIBRARY WEBSITE Mike Metz Fen, Pine Knob Park Meet at Program Center 2835 E SR120, Howe, IN  Patchwork Trails
August 19 Breakfast with Homeschool	9:00 - 10:30 a.m. Butterfly and Grasshopper Safari We'll head to the wetland edge to catch insects and observe them. Make a butterfly life cycle chart. This free program is designed for curious children. All ages welcome. RSVP to Leslie Arnold at (260) 463-4022 or larnold@lagrangeparks.org - Limit 25
August 22 Quilt Class	9:00 a.m. - 3:00 p.m. "Put that sucker on spin" This pattern looks a lot more complicated than it is. Registration is required. Instructions are provided upon registration. To register, call 260-854-2225, or email lagrangeparks@yahoo.com . Fee is \$25 (\$5 is given to Parks). Call Instructors Julia Wolheter 260-367-1449 or Ira Johnson 260-367-1438 for information.
August 23 Folk Jam	1:30 - 5:00 p.m. Folk, country and bluegrass music with other styles mixed in. No potluck. RSVP to Erv Troyer at (260) 463-2247 or reo47@aol.com
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Top Left: Dallas Lake Guard Shack

Mary Franke (photo credit)

Bottom Left: Clearing trail at Delt Church Park

Kyle Burchett (photo credit)

Bottom Right: Cherry tree removal behind Maple Wood Nature Center

Kyle Burchett (photo credit)



LaGrange County Parks

0505 W 700 S

Wolcottville, IN 46795

(260) 854-2225

lagrangecountyparks@yahoo.com

<http://lagrangecountyparks.org>

Park Hours: 8:00am—Sunset

Park Office Hours: Monday-Friday

8:00am-Noon, 12:30-3:30pm

[Like us on Facebook!](#)

Maple Wood Nature Center

4550 E 100 S, LaGrange, IN, 46761

(260) 463-4022

Hours:

Wednesday 8:00a—4:00p

Saturday 9:00a—5:00p

Beginning August 1, 2020, Maple Wood Nature Center will be open every Wednesday, and every 2nd & 4th weekend.

To Receive *Thirteen Lines* Newsletter electronically, send us an email with “Thirteen Lines” or “e-news” in the subject. It is also available for download at <http://lagrangecountyparks.org>.

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of Parks and Recreation

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Wolcottville, IN 46795

