



P.O. Box 6552
Rochester, Minn. 55905

FRIENDS OF OXBOW

www.friendsfoxbow.org

Aug / Sept 2009

Programs and Events at the Parks

Oxbow Park

In case of inclement weather, call 775-2451 for program details. All programs are appropriate for all ages unless otherwise noted

Prairie Hike – Saturday, August 1 at 10:00 a.m.

Join us for a leisurely stroll through one of Oxbow's most beautiful areas and learn about the marvelous benefits of native prairies.

Bear Feeding – Saturday August 8th at 10:00 a.m.

The days are definitely getting shorter and the black bear is noticing. Come see her feast, preparing herself for a "long winter nap."

Otter Feeding - Saturday, August 15 at 1:00 p.m.

This is by far one of the most popular programs offered here. It is always exciting to see these active critters swimming and playing in the water. Add a few fish and the party becomes all the more exciting!

Butterfly Walk – Saturday, August 22 at 1:00 p.m.

Explore the beauty of butterflies and the wonder of their lives. Learn how you can provide for them in your yard and neighborhood.

ZOLLMAN ZOO 40TH BIRTHDAY CELEBRATION – Saturday August 29 1:00 p.m. to 3:00 p.m.

Join Friends of Oxbow in celebrating 40 yrs of Oxbow Park. Carts pulled by Miniature Horses, bison chip throwing contest, more!

Tree I.D. – Saturday, September 5 at 10:00 a.m.

Join a naturalist as he takes you through the Zollman Zoo and tells you about some of Minnesota's native trees. Ages 8 and older.

Animal Enrichment – Saturday, September 12 at 10:00 a.m.

Learn the importance of keeping the animals stimulated and curious while displayed at the zoo. You may even take part in creating a fun enrichment toy for one of the critters here at Zollman Zoo.

Deer / Elk Feeding – Saturday, September 19 at 1:00 p.m.

Come and learn about the wonderful changes that these critters go through during the fall. You may even hear the bull elk bugle!

Bison Feeding – Saturday, September 26 at 1:00 p.m.

Join Oxbow staff as they feed these massive creatures. They are very impressive when they are standing 5 feet in front of you!

Chester Woods Park

A \$5.00 daily or \$25.00 annual vehicle pass is required to enter the Park. Call 287-2624 for program information, registration and in case of inclement weather.

Star Gazing Sat. August 1st at 8:30 p.m. - Join astronomer Don Borland for a fun, fact-filled evening exploring the heavens. Interesting slides, sky legend and lore, and powerful telescopes add up to fun. Meet at picnic shelter #7.

Introduction to Kayaking - Sun. August 2nd at 7:00 p.m. Think kayaking looks like fun, but not sure how to get started? Park Staff will provide all gear, teach you the basics and get you on the water! Limited number of kayaks, so please call the park and register at 287-2624. Meet at the boat ramp.

Nature Walk - Sat. August 8th at 9:00 a.m.

Get some fresh air and enjoy an exciting nature hike at Chester Woods Park. Meet at the boat ramp.

Moonlight Paddle – Sat. August 8th at 8:45 p.m.

Bring your own canoe/kayak, life preservers required. Will cancel for thunderstorms. Launch at 9 PM

Introduction to Kayaking - Tue. August 18th at 7:00 p.m. As above. Limited number of kayaks, so please call the park and register at 287-2624. Meet at the boat ramp.

Moonlight Paddle– Sat. September 5th at 8:45 p.m.

Bring your own canoe/kayak, life preservers required. Will cancel for thunderstorms. Launch at 9 PM

A Day in the Park - Sat. September 19th 9:00 a.m. to 12:30 p.m.

Join Park Staff and Friends of Chester Woods volunteers in helping people with disabilities enjoy the park. A variety of activities are planned.

FRIENDS OF OXBOW
PO Box 6552
ROCHESTER, MN 55903-6552

Friends of Oxbow

Yes, I'd like to be a Friend of this great Park!

<input type="checkbox"/> Friend	\$25 - 49	<input type="checkbox"/> Renewal
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Be sure to ask if your company matches donations!

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Make checks payable to Friends of Oxbow.

Mail to: Friends of Oxbow
PO Box 6552
Rochester, MN 55903

RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED

Park Update by Celeste Lewis, naturalist

There are a couple of new faces that you may notice while visiting the park this summer. We have two wonderful interns, Kelley Vilen and Katherine Pederson who will be working here with us through the bulk of the summer months. They have been enjoying the labors of working with the critters here in the zoo, especially the new wolf pups that will be permanently displayed, beginning August 4th.

We also have domestic ducks this year - a mother duck with six young ones. These ducks came to us from our former intern Will Moor, and will remain on display through the summer and fall.

One of our two turkey vultures was transferred to Superior Zoo in Duluth, MN. We felt this transfer was the best for the bird, due to its lack of compatibility with the older vulture here. We are sure that this raptor will be very happy in its new home.

In other park news, we have been actively on "parsnip patrol" as well as running the mowers non-stop. Olmsted County parks were involved with Rochesterfest for the first time this past June. At Oxbow, special programs were scheduled and we staffed a park booth in downtown Rochester. Participation was wonderful.

Friends 2009 Intern

My name is Katherine Pederson. I grew up in Rochester and came out to Oxbow Park as a child, so it is a lot of fun for me to be back out here with a role in taking care of the animals at Zollman Zoo. I graduated from Century High School in 2006 and am currently attending the University of Wisconsin – River Falls. At River Falls I am majoring in Animal Science with an Equine Emphasis and Chemistry minor, and I am also fulfilling my pre-veterinary requirements. This summer, I am applying to veterinary school and am hoping to be admitted to one of the midwestern veterinary colleges for the fall of 2010. The more exposure I get to different areas of veterinary medicine, the more I enjoy so many different aspects of it.

After working at Oxbow Park, I have found that I really enjoy working with zoo animals. I am enjoying my summer and learning all that I can from the staff and animals at Oxbow Park and Zollman Zoo, and I am looking forward to where the next few years will take me.