



Family Bat Fest Presentation Schedule

Saturday, July 21, 2018

10:00-10:45 Bats LIVE!

Jennifer Redell, WDNR Bat Biologist and Cave Mine Specialist
and Heather Kaarakka, WDNR Conservation Biologist/Roost Monitoring Coordinator

10:45-11:15 Adventures in Batting

Ben Johnston, WDNR Bat Program Participant since 2011

11:30-12:00 Bat Diets in Wisconsin and Around the World

Amy Wray, PhD Conservation Biologist at UW Madison

12:15-12:45 Bats LIVE!

Jennifer Redell, WDNR Bat Biologist and Cave Mine Specialist
and Heather Kaarakka, WDNR Conservation Biologist/Roost Monitoring Coordinator

12:45-1:00 Wildlife Disease Detectives: The Case of the White-nose Killer

Kyle George, U.S. Geological Survey

1:00-1:30 Geology of the Lower Wisconsin River

Eric Carson, Geologist and Associate Professor, UW-Madison

1:45-2:15 Cave Formations and What They Tell Us

Cameron Bachelor, UW-Madison graduate student of geoscience

2:30-3:15 Bats LIVE!

Jennifer Redell, WDNR Bat Biologist and Cave Mine Specialist
and Heather Kaarakka, WDNR Conservation Biologist/Roost Monitoring Coordinator



About Family Bat Fest

Saturday, July 21, 2018, from 10 a.m.-3:00 p.m.
Wauzeka Village Hall, 213 E Front St, Wauzeka, WI 53826

Due to declining bat populations in North America in recent years, scientists have conducted research and helped to create public awareness of bats, their beneficial role in ecosystems around the world, and what can be done to protect them. Of particular concern is white-nose syndrome (WNS), a debilitating fungal infection that disrupts the hibernation of bats. Attendees at Family Bat Fest will have an opportunity to learn more about bats and what can be done to protect them.

The event features presentations by bat ecology experts, educational activities, and live bats will be shared to help the public better understand and appreciate the world's only flying mammals. Family Bat Fest is a Mississippi Valley Conservancy's Linked-to-the Land event, sponsored by Mayo Clinic-Franciscan Healthcare of La Crosse.

In support of its conservation mission, Mississippi Valley Conservancy has offered nature education and outreach programs for more than twenty years. As the new owner and conservator of the Kickapoo Caverns nature preserve in Crawford County, the Conservancy now has the opportunity to guide visitors through the property's huge limestone cave. Home to three bat species, the stunning limestone cave includes underground pools, a 40-foot-high cathedral-like chamber, and beautifully-colored stalactites. As winter home to several threatened bat species, the cave is available for tours only by special arrangement with the Conservancy during an 8-week period each summer. The limited number of tours offered at Family Bat Fest are the first to be offered to the public since the Conservancy's acquisition of the property in 2017.

About Mississippi Valley Conservancy

Founded in 1997, Mississippi Valley Conservancy is a nationally accredited nonprofit land trust that has permanently protected more than 20,000 acres of scenic lands in southwestern Wisconsin by working with private landowners, businesses and local communities on voluntary conservation projects. The focus of the Conservancy is to conserve the forests, prairies, wetlands, streams and farms that support native wildlife and enrich communities, for the health and well-being of current and future generations. Learn more about programs, services, events, volunteer opportunities, and membership at www.MississippiValleyConservancy.org.

Thank You!

We thank Mayo Clinic Health System, Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources, Village of Wauzeka, Lions Club of Wauzeka, the presenters, volunteers, staff, and supporters who made this event possible.

www.MississippiValleyConservancy.org