



Franklin Creek Conservation Association

- Engage -
- Understand -
- Preserve -

Fall 2018

www.franklincreekconservationassociation.org



Nature Walks

This year we have had nature walks that focused on the creek, birds, fungi, spring ephemerals, prairie, and later this month woodlands! If you are interested in learning more about one of these topics or have a suggestion for next year, let us know by calling the mill or emailing us at engage@franklincreekconservation.org.

Thank you to all of our walk leaders that took time out of their busy schedules to spend the morning teaching us about what they love! On our Bird Walks with Karen we discovered dozens of birds, we learned about fungi with Sarah, and explored the creek with Megan , and learned some new trails with Katie. We look forward to seeing you next year!

Stewardship at Franklin Creek

Land conservation can no longer only mean setting aside land for wild-life. Conservation requires us to steward the land to remove invasive species and rebuild ecosystems that have degraded without management. This year alone, our incredible volunteers have donated over 550 active stewardship hours to restoring our lands. With the help of some incredible contractors, we have worked to remove invasive honeysuckle, sweet clover, non-native grasses, and multiflora rose along with collecting trash and removing fencing that hinders animal movement. Fire was reintroduced to areas that hadn't experienced fire's natural effects in many decades. With the invasive species reduced and the habitat structure headed in the right direction, native plants need to be seeded. Thus far we have also collected 65 locally sourced plant species to spread to our restored areas with many more species to come! Thank you to all of our volunteers and partners for their phenomenal efforts!

Upcoming Dates!!

October 6—Stewardship Day

October 13—Nature Walk

**October 14—Chautauqua
10 a.m.**

October 27— Nature Walk

November 3—Stewardship Day

November 17—Stewardship day

December 1—Stewardship Day

December 15—Stewardship Day

Nature walks and Stewardship days start at 9 a.m. and leave from the mill.

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Sunday, October 14

10 a.m.—6 p.m.

The Forest, the Trees, and the Autumn

Music by Chris Vallillo and by Steve Robery, Hawks by Northern Illinois Raptor, Derek Evans as “Teddy Roosevelt”, and much more at the Franklin Creek Grist Mill!

- 10:00-12:00 Autumn Woodland Nature Walk
 - 12:00-12:30 Music and Mill Tours
 - 12:30-1:30 Live Hawk Presentation by Northern Illinois Raptor
 - 2:00-3:00 President Teddy Roosevelt Returns in TR! By Derek Evans
 - 3:00-4:00 Music by Steve Robery, Stories, Tours, Cider Making, Pumpkin Decorating & More
 - 4:00-6:00 Evening at the Mill—Inside—Limited Space, Reservations Required
- Adults \$25, Students \$15, Children \$10
- 4-5 Dinner Pork and Apple Stew or Veggie Chili w/great sides
- 5-6 Songs of Rural Illinois—Performed by Chris Vallillo

Brats and other tasty treats available from noon—4 p.m.

**All proceeds from Singing Bird Chautauqua support
the youth programs at Franklin Creek!**

Singing Bird Chautauqua is Sponsored By:



**BRADFORD
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Books on First



**This program is partially supported by a
grant from the Illinois Arts Council Agency.**

Franklin Creek Conservation Association

1893 Twist Rd.

Franklin Grove, IL 61031

(815)456-2718

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Bio Blitz

“Bio” means life and “Blitz” means to do something quickly and intensively. Together they make for a collaborative team competition to discover and inventory as many species of flora and fauna as possible in a set location. The purpose of a BioBlitz is to set restoration goals and monitor ecological changes over time. Franklin Creek Conservation Association hosted a BioBlitz on Saturday (9/8/2018) which began with some educational presentations on how to identify local plants. Then, out in the field, we were able to monitor a restored prairie, a restored wetland, a woodland currently undergoing restoration, along with some CRP crop field borders. We had 17 people participating ranging from beginners to incredibly knowledgeable people. With the help of volunteers, we were able to use trap cameras, minnow traps, and a seine net to add mammals and aquatic species! Together, we were able to identify 152 plant species, 12 butterflies and moths, 11 birds, 9 mammals, 4 fish, and others!



Donate Today

Help us protect, restore, and maintain the natural areas we all love so much...

Checks made out to **FCCA** can be mailed or dropped off at the Mill during Mill Hours:

1893 Twist Road, Franklin Grove, IL 61031

Or scan:



Chautauqua Raffle 2018

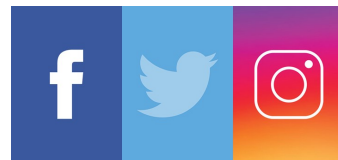
This beautifully framed watercolor painting could be yours! Tickets are on sale at the mill for \$10 each. There are only 250 tickets, so get yours now! Raffle will be held after the Chautauqua (need not be present to win). All proceeds from this years Chautauqua benefit the youth programs at Franklin Creek.

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Return Service Requested



Franklin Creek Conservation Association Exists for the care of the natural areas of Franklin Creek for current and future generations. We strive to preserve, restore, and maintain those areas; involve individuals and organizations in our common purpose and activity; and build knowledge and appreciation of the natural area and our cultural heritage. Donations of time and money to help us achieve our goals are appreciated!



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