

Contact: Citizens for Conservation
(847) 382-7283

Fire up for fall at Ignite the Night

BARRINGTON, IL - *September 9, 2017* - Ignite the Night is an autumn highlight for the whole family.

Citizens for Conservation's fall fundraiser will feature a cookout dinner, live music, food, stargazing, flashlight walks for kids, a raffle, and horse-drawn wagon rides, and will be capped off by a spectacular bonfire. It will be held Saturday, September 30, from 5-10 p.m. at the Spring Creek Forest Preserve and the Barrington Hills Park District, 361 Bateman Road in Barrington Hills.

Dave Anderson and the I-Lights, with Henry Heine and Dana Underwood, will provide music; members of the Spring Creek Stewards will narrate horse-drawn wagon rides. Barrington Hills residents and astronomers Tom and Edith Auchter will share their knowledge and telescopes and give attendees a chance to view the night sky, stars and planets.

Wildlife Discovery Center of Lake Forest will give a hands-on educational presentation with animals and birds. The presentation, sponsored by CFC's Youth Education Committee, is lots of fun for children and adults. WDC is nationally recognized and has been featured recently on Chicago news programs.

The event also features a raffle; prizes include a Brookfield Zoo Day for six; a private spring birdwalk with Barrington-area conservationist Wendy Paulson, a four-hour polo lesson for two; artwork, golf packages and more.

Tickets are \$50 in advance for adults (\$65 at the door), \$25 for teens through age 20, and \$10 for children 12 and under. Raffle tickets are \$5 apiece or seven tickets for \$30. Online ordering is available on the Citizens for Conservation website (www.citizensforconservation.org).

All proceeds from Ignite the Night will go to CFC. Sponsors of the event include the Barrington Hills Park District and the Forest Preserve District of Cook County.

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Branch out at CFC's "Acorns to Oaks"

BARRINGTON, IL - *September 9, 2017* - Help create new generations of trees at Citizens for Conservation's "Acorns to Oaks," Saturday, September 16, from 1-3 p.m.

The program, sponsored by CFC's Youth and Young Adult Education Committee, will focus on why oak trees are such important natural resources. Attendees can collect viable acorns and bring them to CFC for use in the group's ongoing germination project with the Barrington High School horticulture program.

Program participants will survey oaks already planted through the program, water and weed them for the winter, and possibly plant a few more that were started last February. Come prepared for a walk on the trails (long pants and hiking shoes are suggested) and for a little digging. The class is open to students, elementary school through high school; parents are also welcome to attend.

The class meets at CFC's headquarters, 459 W. Hwy. 22, Barrington. CFC members are free; nonmember fee is \$5 per child. Parents are welcome to attend for free. Registration forms are on CFC's website (www.citizensforconservation.org); for additional information, call CFC at (847) 382-7283.

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Autumn bird hikes begin

BARRINGTON, IL - *September 9, 2017* - Fall bird hikes, sponsored by Citizens for Conservation and Audubon Great Lakes, begin this month. Barrington-area naturalist Wendy Paulson will lead the hikes, which include:

September 13, 7:30 a.m. - Deer Grove East (entrance is on north side of Dundee Road, west of Hicks Road, east of Smith Street. Go to farthest parking area.)

September 22, 8 a.m. - Beverly Lake (parking lot is on north side of Higgins Road/Rt. 72, west of Sutton Road)

October 13, 8 a.m. - Bakers Lake/ Younghusband Prairie (entrance on the north side of Dundee Road, east of Prairie Middle School)

October 20, 8:30 a.m. - Flint Creek Savanna (CFC Headquarters) 459 W. Hwy. 22.

November 3, 8:30 a.m. - Cuba Marsh (Park in the parking lot off east side of Lake Zurich Road, just east of the CN railroad tracks. Lake Zurich Road runs between Route 14 and Cuba Road.)

The walks on September 8 and 22 and October 13 and 20 are more strenuous hikes.

Walks are free and open to the public although spaces are limited and RSVPs are required. Good walking shoes are strongly recommended - and don't forget your binoculars.

RSVP to Matt Jaccarino at 312-453-0230, Ext. 2010 or mjaccarino@audubon.org; include how best to contact you should that be necessary.

Before you head out, be sure to check CFC's website, www.citizensforconservation.org, for last-minute changes or cancellations.

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Volunteers needed for CFC seed harvesting

BARRINGTON, IL - *September 9, 2017* - Citizens for Conservation has added Sunday workdays to its September and October schedules.

Seed harvesting is a critical activity this time of year, and adding Sunday workdays provides CFC an opportunity to collect a greater variety and volume of seeds.

Experienced and new volunteers of all ages are always welcome at workdays, Thursdays and Saturdays from 9 - 11 a.m. and Sundays from 3:30-5 p.m. The fall seed harvest is a great time to enjoy the rich colors of the prairie and is an excellent activity for all ages.

Meet at CFC's office, 459 W. Highway 22, Lake Barrington, across from Advocate Good Shepherd Hospital. Bring work gloves, wear sturdy shoes, bring water and dress for the weather.

For more information, call CFC at 847-382-SAVE (7283) or visit its website at www.citizensforconservation.org.

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