

# Van Buren State Park

## Spring Naturalist Programs

# 2011

### Woodpecker wander

**Saturday, March 5, 9:30am**

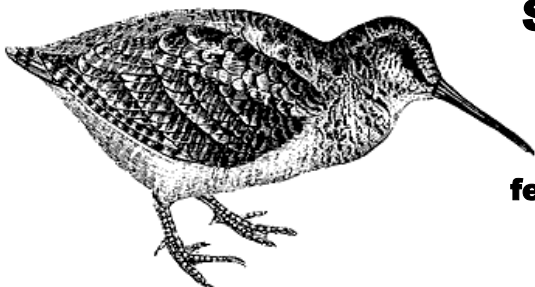
Meet at shelterhouse #3 off of TR 229 to learn about Ohio's species of woodpeckers. Then head out on some woodland trails to look for signs of these avian woodworkers, including the recently sighted pileated woodpecker. Binoculars helpful. Please wear waterproof footgear.



### 5<sup>th</sup> Annual "Stalk the Wild Woodcock walk"

**Saturday, April 2, 7:30pm**

Join the naturalist at the Nature Center as we discuss one of Ohio's first signs of spring, the return of the Woodcock. Then caravan to woodcock habitat to search for this bird wooing females with its fascinating sky flight dance. Marshmallow roast to follow. Wear waterproof footgear.



### Vernal Pool Expedition

**Saturday April 16, 2:00pm**

Temporary wooded wet areas that harbor bizarre and fascinating creatures, vernal pools are an important part of Northwest Ohio's woodland ecosystem. After an introduction, participants will caravan to one of the park's vernal pools to look for frogs, salamanders, and macroinvertebrates. Some off-trail hiking is required. Waterproof, sturdy footgear and long pants required. Wear something that can get muddy. Meet at the Nature Center.



## Mother's Day Weekend wildflower Canoe Paddle

**Saturday May 7, 3:00-4:30pm**



**Bring mom for a peaceful paddle in park waters. Geared for nature enthusiasts, this float trip will circle Van Buren Lake. If water conditions permit, participants will also paddle up the wooded Rocky Ford Creek to view beautiful spring**

**wildflowers. A donation to the Friends of Van Buren State Park of \$10 per**

**canoe is suggested. A responsible adult with prior canoeing experience must be in each boat. Pre-register by Wednesday, May 4th by calling 419-348-7679.**

## Free Family Fishing Fun Day

**Sunday May 8, 2:00-4:00pm**

**Bring the family to the park for an afternoon of fishing on the shores of Van Buren Lake. Bait and poles provided while the last. Excellent opportunity for first time fisherpersons.**

**Children must be accompanied by an adult. No fishing license required as part of Ohio Division of Wildlife's Annual Free Fishing Weekend. Meet in the parking lot by the dam.**



## Birding By Ear

**Saturday May 14, 9:00am**

**Meet at the South Shore Shelterhouse #3 to learn how to identify spring birds by their vocalizations. Program will be hands on with trail hiking involved. Binoculars helpful, but not necessary. Please wear appropriate footwear.**

To ask questions or to  
schedule a special program for your group Contact: *Naturalist*

*Natalie Miller*

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