

Fall 2018

September–October–November

Nature Center

Monday – Friday
7:45 am – 4:30 pm

Saturdays
9 am – 2 pm

Closed Sundays

Hiking Trails

6 am – 8 pm daily

Phone

414.527.0232

Address

6141 N. Hopkins Street
Milwaukee, WI 53209
1 block west of
Sherman Blvd.

Websites

[dnr.wi.gov/topic/parks/
name/havenwoods/](http://dnr.wi.gov/topic/parks/name/havenwoods/)
www.friendsofhavenwoods.org

Friends of Havenwoods

Become a member!



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request. Please call 414.527.0232 for more information.



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Havenwoods State Forest

By fall, spiders (and, therefore, their webs) have grown large enough that we begin to see them more often. Head over to Havenwoods on a clear fall day and look for spiders in action.



ballooning

Spiders (especially young ones) can release gossamer threads that allow them to become airborne and disperse to new homes. Fall is a great time to see ballooning spiders!

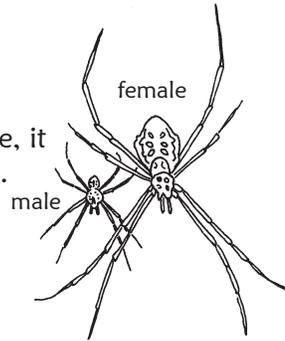
planning ahead

As a spider travels, it leaves a dragline which it attaches to things along the way. When in danger, the spider can quickly reel to safety, making the dragline a lifeline!



mating

When two cannibalistic predators mate, it is complicated. The smaller male approaches with caution, sometimes offers gifts (prey), and acts quickly.

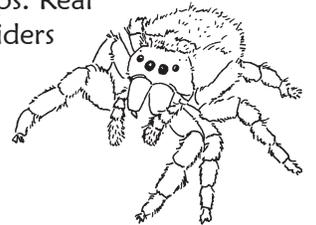


shedding

As a spider grows, it sheds its exoskeleton (hard outer covering). Can you find one?

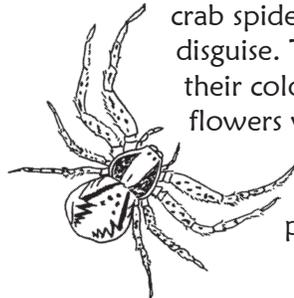
inspiring

Jumping spiders were the inspiration for Spider-Man! Like jumping spiders, Spider-Man can cling to vertical surfaces, jump with precision, and trap predators. Silk, who is also a superhero, can shoot silk out of her fingertips. Real jumping spiders are equally impressive!



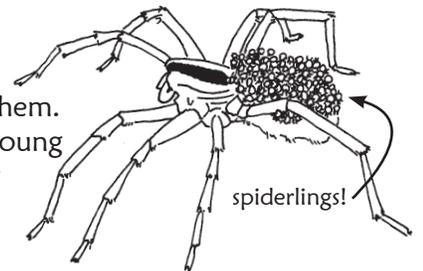
hiding

While most spiders blend in well with their surroundings, crab spiders are masters of disguise. They can change their colors to match the flowers where they wait to ambush unsuspecting prey.



mothering

Some spider mothers carry their egg sacs with them. Wolf spider mothers carry the newly-hatched young on their abdomens until they are ready to hunt on their own. You will have better luck finding devoted mothers in spring and early summer.

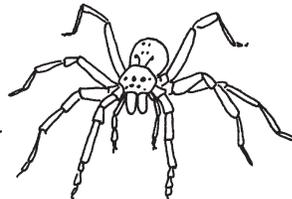


Web-weavers vs. Hunters

All spiders are predators, but they catch their prey in different ways.

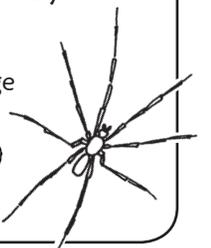
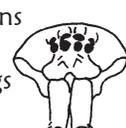
hunting spiders

robust bodies
large eyes
sturdy legs



web-weavers

slender bodies or large abdomens
small eyes
spindly legs



Snake & Turtle Fest

Saturday, October 6, 2018
10 am – 4 pm

Free!

Come to Havenwoods for a slithery, scaly day!

Meet Wisconsin native snakes and turtles close up.

Take a hike to search for herps!

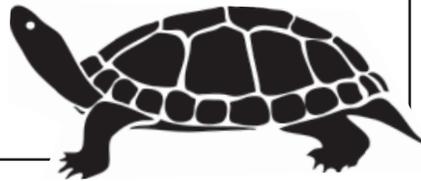
Discover reptile adaptations through activities and games.

Make snake and turtle crafts.

Bid in a silent auction to benefit our education programs.

Purchase lunch or snacks.

The festival is for all ages!
Rain or shine!



Sept. 22 & 23, 10 am – 5 pm

Connect with Milwaukee's history at Havenwoods. Enjoy photos and stories from the past at 12:30 pm and 3 pm (30-minute programs). Go on your own 'Trek Through Time' geocaching adventure any time. Take a wildlife hike with a naturalist at 11 am or 2 pm (30-minute hikes). Meet reptiles and amphibians throughout the day. Kids of all ages can enjoy old-fashioned games and crafts all day. On Saturday at 11 am, you can take a history hike (1 hour) with a park historian.

Family Nature Hikes

Spend an hour with a naturalist on a family-friendly hike. We'll use magnifiers, binoculars, super-duper outdoor lookers, or other exploring tools to discover what's happening in nature.



Spiders

September 1, 10:30 – 11:30 am (Saturday)

Search for spiders and their webs with us. We will discover ways various spiders catch their prey, adaptations they have for survival, and things that make them different from insects. We will end up by playing in our giant web.

Deer Tracking

November 3, 10:30 – 11:30 am (Saturday)

White-tailed deer are on the move, making it easier for us to find the signs they leave behind. We might even see one or more deer on our hike!

GO! Discover

Families, friends, and youth groups are invited to head over to Havenwoods on the second and/or third Saturdays of each month. Drop in any time between 9 am and 2 pm to discover something new about nature.

Spiders

September 8 & 15, 9 am – 2 pm (Saturdays)

Late summer is a great time to look for spiders. Drop in and play in a giant web, learn about Wisconsin spiders, and make your own spider web. Then head outside to check out the webs and web spinners at Havenwoods.

Snakes

October 13 & 20, 9 am – 2 pm (Saturdays)

Drop in to learn about Wisconsin snakes, make your own snake to take home with you, and touch some live snakes. If it is a sunny day, be sure to save time to walk the trails and look for basking snakes!

Whitetail Wonders

November 10 & 17, 9 am – 2 pm (Saturdays)

Discover some of the whitetail deer's secrets to survival in the city. Learn how they communicate through senses, sounds, and signs. Get crafty inside, then head outside to search for whitetails and the signs they leave behind.

Adult Hikes & Workshops

Adults and youth over 12 are invited to join a naturalist on these autumn walks!



Havenwoods History Hike

September 22, 11 am – noon (Saturday)

The land at Havenwoods has a fascinating story to tell of farms, prisons, missiles, and healing. We'll use old maps, photos, and blueprints to search for traces left behind. If weather gets in the way of a hike, we will dig through the history archives indoors.

Fall Foraging: Nature's Harvest

October 20, 10 – 11:30 am

Fall is a time of abundance for the savvy forager. Come search for the fruits (and nuts, roots, leaves, and fungi) of nature's labors. Learn how to identify some fall edibles that may be growing in a park, woodlot, or yard near you. Samples likely!

Nature Time for Preschoolers

We'll use stories, crafts, and activities to explore a different topic each session. These programs are for preschoolers, ages 3-5, and their parents, grandparents, or other adult. These programs are not for day care centers or organizations.

Garden Harvest

September 11, 9:30 – 10:30 am (Tuesday)

We'll discover potatoes, pickles, peppers, and pizza growing in the gardens at Havenwoods! Come share a harvest from the gardens.

Listen to Nature

October 9, 9:30 – 10:30 am (Tuesday)

Nature has much to share with us when we listen. Take a quiet walk with us to hear some of nature's musicians and storytellers.

Bats Eat Bugs

November 6, 9:30 – 10:30 am (Tuesday)

Halloween bats look mighty scary, but real bats are great neighbors. Come find out how these small creatures fly in the dark, hang upside down, and eat mosquitoes!

Eight-Legged Hunters

September 25, 9:30 – 10:30 am (Tuesday)

Web weavers, wolf spiders, and daddy longlegs are all eight-legged animals, but they find food in very different ways. Come explore the lives of some of these hunters.

Autumn Leaves are Falling Down!

October 23, 9:30 – 10:30 am (Tuesday)

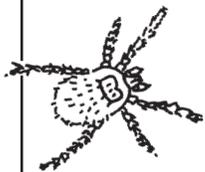
Red, gold, and purple leaves are everywhere these days! Let's play with the leaves and enjoy the fall colors.

Hide & Seek

November 20, 9:30 – 10:30 am (Tuesday)

Some animals blend in while others stand out. Let's explore the wonderful colors and camouflage of wild animals.

Other Eight-legged Critters That Are Not Spiders



chiggers

We get bit by 6-legged larval chiggers. They inject enzyme-laced saliva under our skin and suck out the resulting "soup," allowing them to become 8-legged adults!



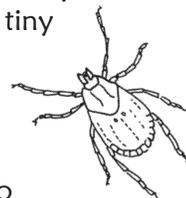
pseudoscorpions

These tiny predators are very dangerous to their tiny prey! If you see one, put a pencil point near it, and it will raise its tiny pincers in fierce defense.



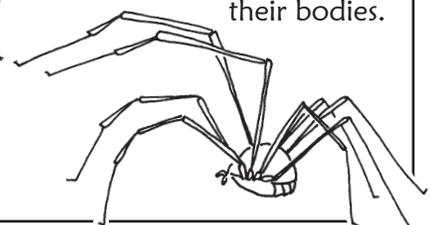
ticks

Wood ticks and deer ticks are vampires! They attach to tall grasses with their back legs and "quest" for victims by waving their front legs. Watch out for these guys!



daddy longlegs

Although they look like spiders, they only have one pair of eyes and one fused body part. If you find one, smell it! Sometimes they smell like mint, especially if they have little red mites on their bodies.



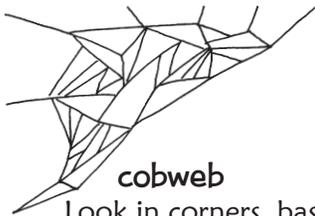
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Nature in Your Backyard

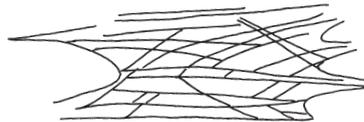
To find spiders in your backyard (and in your house), remember to search for both web-weavers and hunters. Since different kinds of web-weavers spin different kinds of webs, they will be easier to find. Look for hunters (like wolf spiders and jumping spiders) under logs, under debris, and in leaf litter.



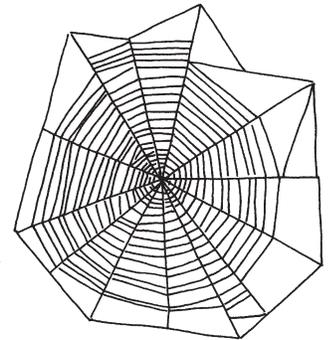
cobweb

Look in corners, basements, and trees for these 3-D webs. Most of our house spiders belong to this group.

sheet web
Look in the grass, especially on dewy mornings.



triangle web
Look in trees.



orb web

Look in tall grass and woodlands. Gently touch the web with the tip of a piece of grass to lure the spider from its hiding place.

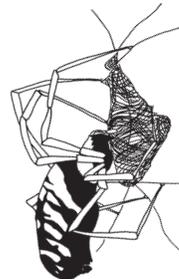


funnel web

Look in piles of rocks and firewood. A funnel spider hides at the bottom of its funnel waiting for unsuspecting prey. Funnel spiders are fast-moving!

witnessing predation!

If you are lucky enough to stumble across an insect struggling in a web, stay for the show. The spider, detecting the insect's presence by touch, will skitter over, bite the insect with its venomous fangs, and wrap it up in silk for later consumption!



searching by night

Using a small bright flashlight, put the end of the flashlight on your forehead (like a head lamp). Now search your home and yard. You are looking for spider eyeshine, which will appear as tiny, white points of reflected light.