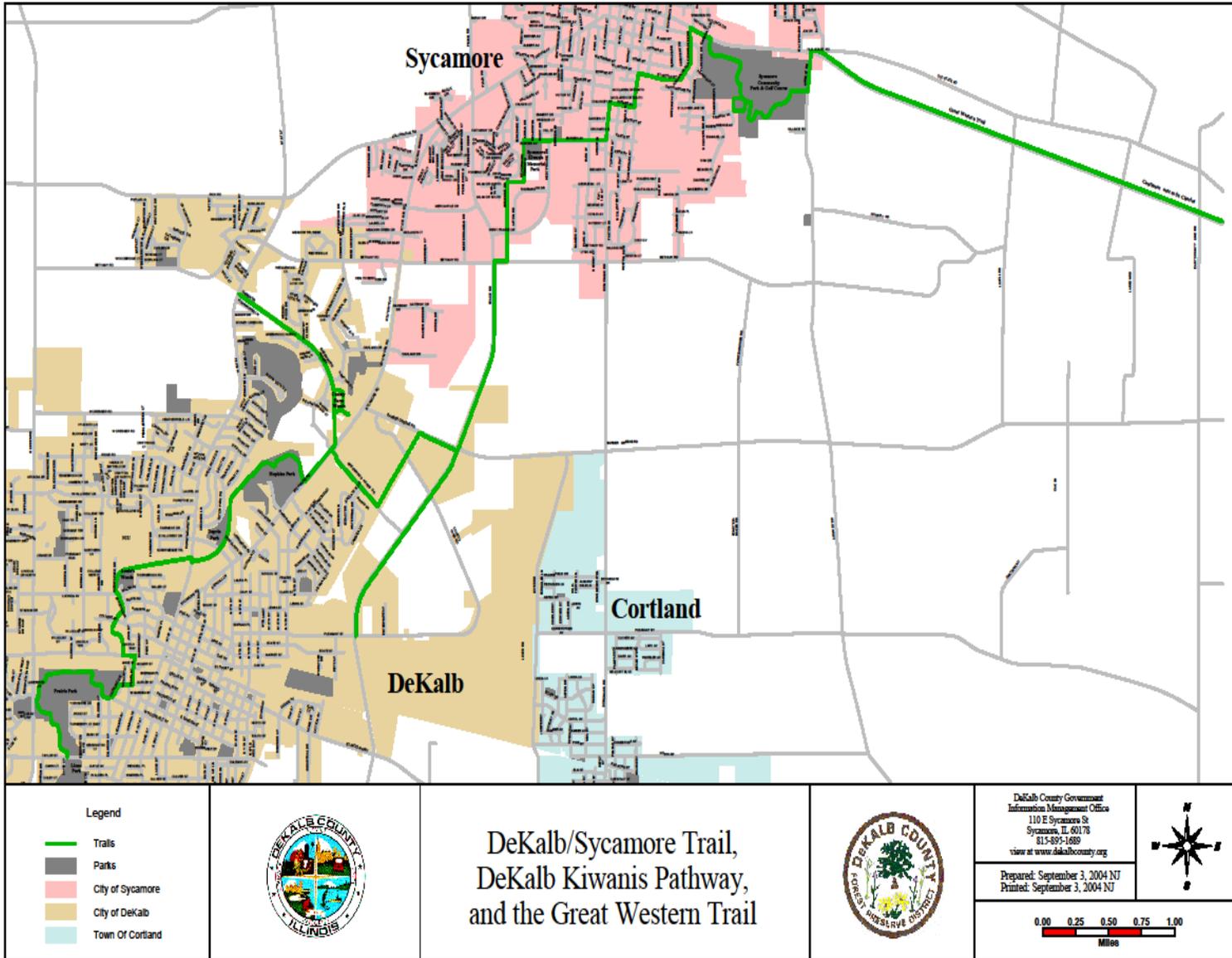


**May 2015 . Maintenance and safety checks of buildings and grounds, seasonal mowing, firewood cutting splitting and stacking, storm clean-up, shelter house and toilet cleaning, litter pick-up and disposal, road grading, trail maintenance, equipment maintenance, scheduling shelter rentals and collecting shelter and camping fees, water sampling . Shelter houses and Lodge are used every weekend by scouts, families and other groups. Natural Resource Center Educational Staff teaching school groups at Russell Woods and making classroom visits. PDRMA Risk Management and Loss Control review and preserve safety in progress for 2014 /2015 compliance.**

Plans for connecting the Great Wetsern Trail ½ mile west to Evergreen Village is in progress. In 2016 it is expected that the former Evergreen Village property will be transferred from DeKalb County to the Dekalb County Forest Preserve District. The plans for the 59 acre site include a large parking area, trailhead, picnic area, fishing pond, hiking and cross-country ski trails, and floodplain prairie habitat restoration. The photo below shows the very small parking area on the west end of the Great Western Trail. The 17 mile Great Western Trail travels east from Sycamore to connect to the Fox River Trail, Illinois Prairie Path and other trail corridors in Kane, Dupage, McHenry and Cook Counties.



# Great Western Trail , Dekalb / Sycamore Trail, DeKalb Nature Trail and Kiwanis Pathway



Another trail project is being planned by the **Shabbona Pathway Committee**, a local group of Shabbona area volunteers putting together a trail plan, grants, donations and partnerships to build this future trail that will connect the Village of Shabbona to Shabbona schools and parks, local business and neighborhoods, Shabbona Lake State Park, Indian Oaks Golf Course and Chief Shabbona Forest Preserve.



**Shabbona Illinois Proposed Multi Use Path 2.5 mile path to connect:**



Shabbona Indian Creek Schools -- Downtown Businesses  
Shabbona Lake State Park  
Chief Shabbona Forest Preserve -- Indian Oaks Country Club  
Lions Park -- Local Residents

-  Proposed Bike Trail
-  Proposed alternate route
-  Trail along existing road

# Shabbona

## Proposed Multi-use Path

3.1 mile path to connect:

- Shabbona Indian Creek Schools
- Downtown businesses
- Shabbona Lake State Park
- Chief Shabbona Forest Preserve
- Indian Oaks Country Club
- Lions Park
- Local Residents



## Trail Uses

Safe Passage for Students

Recreational Bicycling

10,000 Steps for Fitness

Relaxing Strolls

Community Enrichment

Educational Opportunities



## A Multi-Use Community Trail



**walk • run • ride**

*make fitness your lifestyle*



## Shabbona

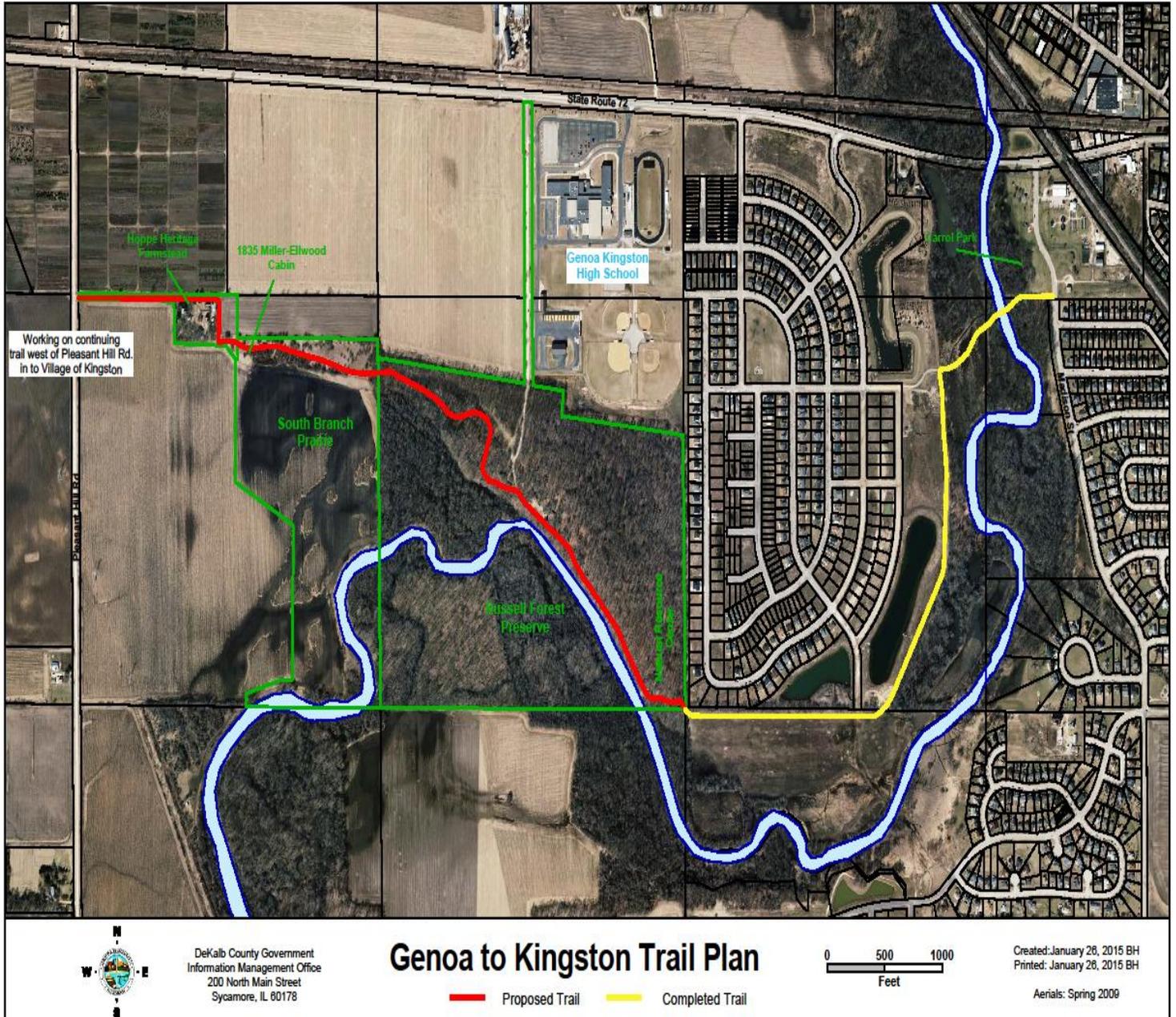
10,000 Steps for a Healthy Lifestyle!

Last year the City of Genoa / DeKalb County Forest Preserve and a grant from Com Ed / Openlands completed this section of the Genoa to Kingston Trail project. The photo shows the trail through the Genoa Prairie connecting to the east boundary of Russell Woods forest preserve ( in far background). Another grant has been applied for in 2015 to help fund the next section of this trail that would connect Russell Woods and west to the South Branch Prairie and Hoppe Heritage Farmstead /1835 Miller - Ellwood cabin.



# Map showing Genoa / Kingston Trail Plan

( more work needed to contunue trail west of Pleasant Hill Rd. for trail corridor to Kingston)





**Sycamore Lions Club, NIU Cares Day and other volunteers annual clean up along the Great Western Trail**

## **TRAIL SAFETY**

The Illinois Association of Conservation and Forest Preserve Districts is urging all trail users to:

### **PREVENT ACCIDENTS AND HAVE FUN**

Trails are often perceived as safer than roadways, however many accidents and even deaths occur, often due to interactions with other users or lack of safety practices. Help prevent accidents and enjoy the trails by following these guidelines.

### **TRAIL SAFETY TIPS**

**HELMETS** – Are highly recommended and can save lives.

**BE COURTEOUS** – Make sure you are aware of other users and site conditions at all times.

**STAY TO THE RIGHT** – Don't block the entire trail. Don't use more than half of the trail width when in a group.

**MOVE OFF THE TRAIL** – If you have to stop.

**PASS ON THE LEFT** – When there is good visibility and conditions are safe.

**ANNOUNCE YOUR INTENTIONS TO PASS** – Say “on your left” and wait for the person to respond or wave before making your move.

**TRAVEL AT SAFE SPEEDS** – Maintain control and proceed at a slower pace when the trails are in heavy use. Slow down if trail conditions are dangerous due to water, ice, debris, curves, pedestrians or pets. Obey local speed limits where posted.

**TELL SOMEONE** – Where you will be and when you plan to be back.

**CARRY YOUR CELL PHONE** – Call 911 if there is an emergency.

**BIKERS SHOULD YIELD** – To walkers, horses and uphill trail users.

**USE YOUR VOICE** – Around horses rather than bicycle bells which could startle the animals.

**LISTEN** – Keep earphones on low or only use one earpiece.

**STAY ON THE TRAILS** – To avoid tick bites, poisonous plants and other hazards.

**LEASH YOUR PETS** – Shorten the leash when you or someone else is passing. Dogs should be kept to their owner’s right and should remain at the owner’s immediate side.

**WHILE YOU ARE ENJOYING THE TRAILS** – Keep them clean for other users and protect the environment. Pick up after yourself and your pets. Do not disturb wildlife or plants. And avoid natural surface trails when they are wet to prevent damage and erosion.

*Note: Some rules vary by district. Check with your local agency for its applicable rules.*

## **FOR MORE INFORMATION**

- League of Illinois Bicyclists – [www.bikelib.org](http://www.bikelib.org)
- Active Transportation Alliance – [www.activetrans.org](http://www.activetrans.org)
- Illinois Secretary of State, Rules of the Road – [www.cyberdriveillinois.com](http://www.cyberdriveillinois.com)

Created in 1993, the **Illinois Association of Conservation and Forest Preserve Districts** is a not-for-profit advocacy organization made up of 11 forest preserve districts and five conservation districts. The districts are organized under different state statutes for conservation, education and recreation purposes, and are all governed by tax supported, county or locally elected or appointed boards.

Association members protect and manage approximately 225,000 acres and more than 1,500 miles of trails in Illinois. These public lands are home to many endangered plants and animals; contain some of the nation’s finest forests, prairies, savannas and wetlands; and are important county sites for public education and recreation that serve more than 9.3 million people.

The Association is dedicated to:

- Protecting, preserving, and restoring forests, prairies, wetlands and scenic beauties as well as natural, historic and archeological resources.
  - Seeking methods for wise land and water use in the broad public interest.
  - Restoring and rehabilitating wildlife and the environment.
  - Developing greater outdoor opportunities for people of all abilities, recognizing it as essential to the physical and emotional welfare of the community.
  - Promoting best practices for the operation, management, stewardship and safety of public lands, trails and facilities.
- 

## Illinois Association of Conservation and Forest Preserve Districts Members

Byron Forest Preserve:

[www.byronforestpreserve.com](http://www.byronforestpreserve.com)

Champaign County Forest Preserve:

[www.ccfpd.org](http://www.ccfpd.org)

Dekalb County Forest Preserve District:

[www.dekalbcounty.org/forestpreserve](http://www.dekalbcounty.org/forestpreserve)

Forest Preserve District of Cook County:

[www.fpdcc.com](http://www.fpdcc.com)

Forest Preserve District of DuPage County:

[www.dupageforest.com](http://www.dupageforest.com)

Forest Preserve District of Kane County:

[www.kaneforest.com](http://www.kaneforest.com)

Forest Preserve District of Kendall County:

[www.co.kendall.il.us/forest-preserve](http://www.co.kendall.il.us/forest-preserve)

Forest Preserve District of Will County:

[www.reconnectwithnature.org](http://www.reconnectwithnature.org)

Kankakee River Valley Forest Preserves:

[www.krvfpd.org](http://www.krvfpd.org)

Lake County Forest Preserves:

[www.lcfpd.org](http://www.lcfpd.org)

Winnebago County Forest Preserve District:

[www.winnebagoforest.org](http://www.winnebagoforest.org)

Rock Island County Forest Preserve District:

[www.ricfpd.org](http://www.ricfpd.org)

Boone County Conservation District:

[www.bccdil.org](http://www.bccdil.org)

Macon County Conservation District:

[www.maconcountyconservation.org](http://www.maconcountyconservation.org)

McHenry County Conservation District:

[www.mccdil.org](http://www.mccdil.org)

Vermillion County Conservation District:

[www.vccd.org](http://www.vccd.org)

# SUMMER DAY CAMP REGISTRATION FORM

LAST NAME                      FIRST NAME                      SEX (M or F)                      AGE

ADDRESS                      CITY                      STATE                      ZIP

PARENT/GUARDIAN NAME                      PHONE (Home)

EMAIL ADDRESS                      PHONE (Work or Cell)

## CAMP WEEKS - CHECK ONE OR MORE

- \_\_\_\_\_ June 15-19                      **Critter Camp**  
\_\_\_\_\_ June 22-26                      **Pioneer Camp**  
\_\_\_\_\_ July 6-10                      **Outdoor Adventures**  
\_\_\_\_\_ July 13-17                      **Rainforest Camp**  
\_\_\_\_\_ July 20-24                      **Rockin' in the River**  
\_\_\_\_\_ August 3-7                      **Naturalist Camp**

Please pay \$100 for each week your child will be attending camp.  
Make checks payable to the **DeKalb County Forest Preserve** with the initials  
**NREC** in the memo space.

Fill out form, detach, and mail with payment to:  
University of Illinois Extension - DeKalb County  
1350 West Prairie Drive, Sycamore, IL 60178

*We are excited for another summer of learning!*

If you need a reasonable accommodation to participate in this program,  
please contact our office at least one week prior to the event.

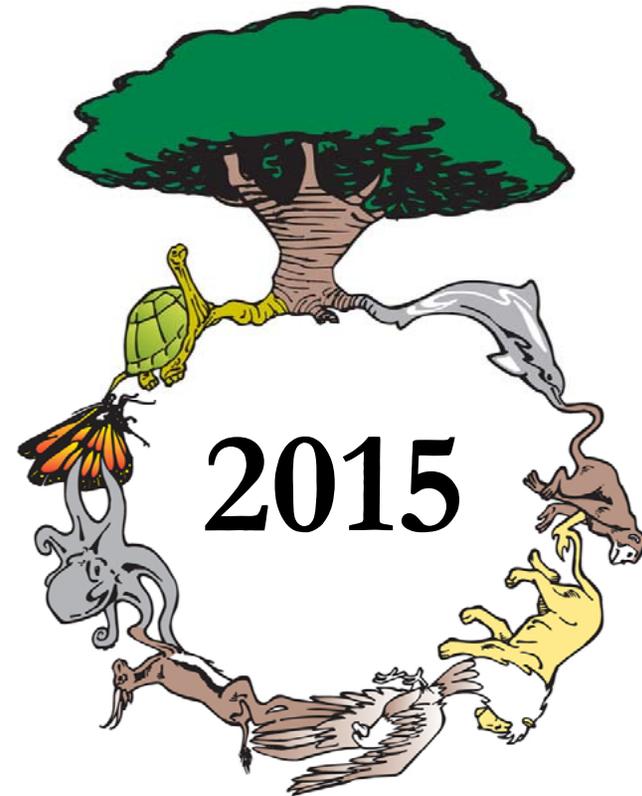


UNIVERSITY OF ILLINOIS  
**EXTENSION**

*Extending Knowledge* Changing Lives

University of Illinois/USDA/Local Extension Councils Cooperating  
University of Illinois Extension provides equal opportunities in programs and employment.

# University of Illinois Extension Camp Russell



**Russell Woods Forest Preserve**  
**(One mile west of Genoa on Rt. 72)**

# Camp Russell 2015

Register your child now for summer day camp! Choose from six weeklong programs, each with a different theme. Camp will run from 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. each day. Children will have fun learning about nature through hands-on activities, games, and nature awareness. Camps fill quickly and space is limited to 25 children per camp so register now!

## **June 15-19 Critter Camp (ages 7-9)**



To discover the secrets of the forest you have to look very closely and be very sneaky! Hike and explore the seldom seen parts of the forest to learn about animals, plants, trees and how they are all connected. We will imitate the forest creatures and become camouflaged enough to almost touch them!

## **June 22-26 Pioneer Camp (ages 7 - 9)**



Come back in time with us. We will experience the life of pioneer kids. We will make candles, cook food over an open fire, play pioneer games and much more! Campers will get to make vital decisions during a simulated wagon train activity. No need to head west, just come to camp with us!

## **July 6-10 Outdoor Adventures (ages 9 – 11 )**



Campers will be engaged in good old fashioned summer fun. We will be outside getting down and dirty with all the wild stuff we can find. We will make what we need to have fun and be adventurers for a week. Tom Sawyer and Huck Finn will have nothing on these campers!

# Registration Information

Camp fee is \$100 per child, per week (**payable to the DeKalb County Forest Preserve**). Registration (see back) and payment are due as soon as possible to reserve your space. Upon receipt of payment, you will be sent a registration packet containing additional camp information.

**Questions?** Call the Natural Resource Education Center (located in Russell Woods Forest Preserve) at (815) 784-2000.

## **July 13-17 Rainforest Camp (ages 7 - 9)**



Campers will have fun discovering all the wonderful reasons we need rainforests for the wildlife around our homes. We will investigate the plants and animals that live and migrate there. We will even design our own rainforest at the nature center.

## **July 20-24 Rockin' in the River (ages 9 - 11)**



Kids, you never get tired of this one. This entire camp is dedicated to the Kishwaukee River and all the creatures that live in and around it. We will study, play, and become river experts by the end of this week. Campers will have a wild and wet week of learning and fun. (Close-toed shoes that can be worn into the river are required. No flip-flops or slides!)

## **Aug. 3-7 Naturalist Camp (ages 9 - 11)**



This camp is open to anyone interested in nature. Campers love this all around nature camp learning about forestry, geology, wildlife, and more. (If you happen to be a Webelo scout, you will fulfill the requirements for forester, geologist and naturalist by the end of camp.)