Sherburne National Wildlife Refuge

Geology, Birds, and Plants of the Sherburne National Wildlife Refuge

Where: Sherburne National Wildlife Refuge Oak Savanna Learning Center

16797 289th Avenue Northwest, Zimmerman, Minnesota 55398

When: Sunday May 7th, 2023 (9:00 a.m. to 12:00p.m.)

Leader: Bruce Galer, Professional Geologist, Sherburne NWR Volunteer, Master

Naturalist

Jennifer Kamm, Environmental Consultant, Master Naturalist

Come join Bruce Galer and Jennifer Kamm for a discussion of the geology and natural history of the Sherburne National Wildlife Refuge and hike the Blue Hill Trail. Meet at the Oak Savanna Learning Center. We will then caravan to the Blue Hill Trail just west of the Learning Center to hike the trail and observe geologic features, birds, and botany. We will then head back to the Oak Savanna Learning Center for a one-hour presentation and discussion about how the glaciers shaped the landforms we see in the Refuge today, and how these landforms, along with water, influence vegetation and other organisms.

The 30,700-acre refuge was established in 1965 at the urging of local conservationists and hunters interested in restoring the wildlife values of the St. Francis River Basin. Following that, the refuge became and remains the largest public land holding in Sherburne County. The refuge is now a wild remnant at the meeting of the western prairies and the northern woods, with oak savanna, prairie opening, forest, wetland and riverine habitats.

Agenda: 8:45-9:00 Gather at Oak Savanna Learning Center (OSLC)

9:00-11:00 Tour Blue Hill Trail and head back to OSLC

11:00-12:00 Presentation at OSLC: Geology & Natural History of

the Refuge

12:00-12:15 Wrap-up Q&A and Discussion, Shop at Refuge Store

This field trip is for members of the MN Native Plant Society only and will be limited to 25 registrants.

Items to Bring:

Hat, Sunglasses, Boots, Tick Protection Water/snacks,

Pen or Pencil, Notebook,

Plant/Bird Identification Books, Hand Lens

The Refuge store will be open for shopping if interested!

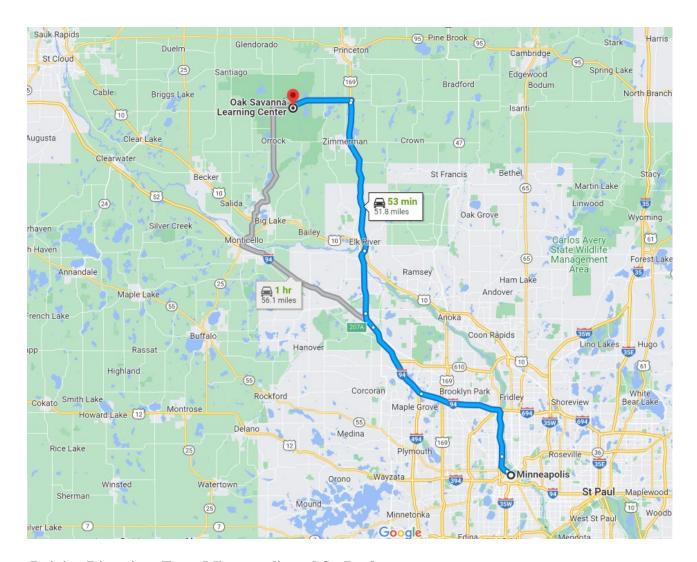
To register for this field trip please contact:

Field Trip Coordinator: Jennifer Kamm. For more information, feel free to contact

Jennifer at jennifer.kamm@stantec.com or 612-875-0543

Please register by April 30th

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Driving Directions From Minneapolis and St. Paul

- Take I-94 west to the Highway 101 (Rogers) exit
- Follow Highway 101 north until it turns into Highway 169
- Follow Highway 169 north through Elk River and Zimmerman to County Road 9 (289th Ave NW), an exit located four miles north of Zimmerman
- Turn left and follow County Road 9 (289th Ave NW) west for four miles
- Once you see the entrance sign and information kiosk, continue west on County Road 9
 (289th Ave NW) to access the Oak Savanna Learning Center and Blue Hill Trail

Oak Savanna Learning Center and Blue Hill Trail

