



## Madeline Island Wilderness Preserve 2022 Education Programs

For 34 years, MIWP has preserved Island lands, helped manage invasive plants and explored environmental issues important to Island residents. Please join us this summer to hear about our storied wilderness and immerse yourself on this special place that is Madeline Island. All programs are free and open to the public, except the Annual Meeting & Evening Reception. Classes and hikes will be held rain or shine. Programs at the museum theater have a 70-person capacity.

Saturday, May 28th

Program: Annual MIWP Bird Hike

Time: 8:00AM

Location: Madeline Island Town Park

Hike Leaders: Victoria Erhart MIWP Board Member and Peter Hudleston, Professor of Geology University of Minnesota

Summary: A hike for beginners and experts alike. Bring binoculars and wear waterproof footwear.

Saturday, May 28th

MIWP Annual Meeting and Evening Reception

Reception: 6:00PM

Program: Logging Days in the Apostle Islands, 7:30pm

Location: Madeline Island School of Arts

Cost: Hearty appetizers and wine \$35.00/person

RSVP: see MIWP website, [miwp.org](http://miwp.org)

Deadline: May 21st, or 90-person limit

Speaker: Bob Mackreth, retired National Park Service Historian

Summary: Timber barons and lumberjacks left their marks throughout the Chequamegon region, while the Lake Superior environment presented loggers with challenges seldom seen elsewhere. Historian Bob Mackreth will explore the islands unique lumbering history, from the days of oxen and ax to the era of Outer Island's flying lumberjacks with their Cessnas and chainsaws.

Saturday, June 11th

Program: Early Summer Foraging for Mushrooms

Time: 10:00AM to Noon

Location: Capser Trail, Middle Road trailhead

Leader: Samantha Dobson: naturalist, educator and year long Island resident

Summary: Learn about how to ethically and sustainably harvest early -season mushrooms—specifically, oyster mushrooms on Madeline Island. Learn about weather patterns, phenology, habitat and safe harvesting techniques. Also learn how to store and preserve your harvested mushrooms. Finding mushrooms is not guaranteed.

Tuesday, June 21st

Program: Summertime Book Gathering: *The Singing Wilderness* and *Reflections from the North Country* by Sigurd Olson  
(Collaboration with Madeline Island Book Club)

Time: 7:00PM (see website for details, miwp.org)

Location: Madeline Island Library

Leader: Alan Brew Director Sigurd Olson Institute

Summary: Sigurd Olson was an American author, environmentalist and advocate for the protection of wilderness. We hope to dust off a couple of Sigurd's classic and most popular writings. The books are concerned with the simple joys, timelessness and perspective found close to nature.

Wednesday, June 29th

Program: Breeding Birds of the Apostle Islands

Time: 7:00PM

Location: Madeline Island Museum

Speaker: Neil Howk and Peggy Burkman

Summary: The Apostle Islands are designated as an Important Bird Area by the Wisconsin Bird Conservation Partnership. The islands contain important nesting habitat for colonial waterbirds, bald eagles, a variety of breeding songbirds, and the endangered piping plover. The National Park Service regularly inventories and monitors many of the bird species that nest in the islands. National Park Service biologist Peggy Burkman and retired park ranger Neil Howk will describe recent trends and the present status for some of the breeding birds of the Apostle Islands.

Wednesday, July 20th

Program: Great Lakes Water Tension in the 21st Century

Time: 7:00PM

Location: Madeline Island Museum

Speaker: Peter Annin, Director Mary Griggs Burke Center for Freshwater Innovation and author 'Great Lakes Water Wars'

Summary: The Great Lakes holds 20 percent of all the fresh surface water on the planet — 10 percent in Lake Superior alone. Despite that abundance, the region is home to a remarkable amount of water tension, including concerns about water diversions, climate change, fluctuating lake levels and bottled water. This presentation will unpack the drivers behind many of these tensions separating fact from fiction in a nontechnical talk designed for the average Great Lakes resident.

Wednesday, July 27th

Program: Uncommon Facts about Madeline Island's Common Birds (CANCELED)

Time: 7:00PM

Location: Madeline Island Museum

Speaker: Laura Erickson, award winning author of 12 books and producer of 'For the Birds'

Summary: Did you know that the average weight of loons is more than twice the average weight of Great Blue Herons? Or that Great Horned Owls keep their eggs toasty 100 degrees or hotter while incubating, even when temperatures are well below freezing in February? Or that White-throated Sparrows come in two different plumages, tan and white striped, with sexes roughly equal in each plumage, but almost all mated pairs include one bird of each plumage. Laura Erickson will share fun, little known stories and cool facts about Madeline Island's common summer birds and will give tips on how we can protect them.

Wednesday, August 10th

Program: Ticks and Diseases, more than Lyme Disease

Time: 7:00PM

Location: Madeline Island Museum

Speaker: Benjamin Clark, PhD Professor Biomedical Sciences University of MN Medical School

Summary: Summer is a great time for exploring the woods and hiking the trails. However, there are denizens that love to hitch a ride as you walk. Ticks are in search of a blood meal; they emerge hungry as the snow disappears. They will also look for a snack in the autumn during the first freeze. Are you prepared to enjoy our beautiful outdoors free from tick bites? Come and join us, and we will talk about ticks, where you will find them, how to identify the types of ticks and what diseases they could share with you. We will also discuss Lyme disease and other infectious diseases spread by the black-legged tick.

Wednesday, August 17th,

Program: Meeting and Mixing the Waters: Estuaries and the Health of Lake Superior

Time: 7:00PM

Location: Madeline Island Museum

Speaker: Deanna Erickson, Lake Superior National Estuarine Research Reserve

Summary: The estuaries along the south shore of Lake Superior are some of the most productive ecosystems on the Lake. Home to diverse wetlands, flocks of birds, manoomin and fisheries, the river mouths that meet the lake are one of the best kept secrets for paddling, fishing and exploring. Where are these places and how do they relate to the largest Lake on earth?

Wednesday, August 24th

Program: Lake Superior Water Levels and Options to address coastal hazards

Time: 7:00PM

Location: Madeline Island Museum

Speaker: Adam Bechle, WI Sea Grant, Coastal Engineering Specialist

Summary: Lake Superior's water level was above average for eight years and set new monthly records in 2019 and 2020. High water levels combined with large coastal storms have affected beaches, bluffs, coastal homes and critical infrastructure across the Great Lakes. The presentation will provide an update on the current water level conditions on the Great Lakes, discuss the process behind water level changes and coastal erosion, and describe some of the options that coastal landowners can take to address these issues.

Saturday, September 3rd

Program: Shore to Shore Hike NE Forest

Time: 9:00AM – Noon

Location: Meet at Ruel Harmon/School House Road parking lot. This is approximate 0.7 miles from the intersection of Big Bay Road and Schoolhouse Road. We will hike across the NE Forest and end at the Burrough's Trail shoreline.

Summary: Explore the North End Forest of Madeline Island. It is pristine forest with stands of old hemlock, oak an abundance of mushrooms. The trails are rustic so good hiking boots, (waterproof) and adventuresome spirit are required.

Saturday, September 10th

Program: Fall Foraging for Mushrooms

Time: 10:00-Noon

Location: Meet at Burrough's trail head, 2.5 miles north of Benjamin Boulevard on North Shore Drive

Leader: Samantha Dobson: naturalist educator and year-long island resident

Summary: Learn how to ethically and sustainably harvest late season mushrooms on Madeline Island. Learn weather patterns, phenology, habitat, and safe harvesting techniques. Also learn about how to store, preserve and prepare your harvested mushrooms. Finding mushrooms is not guaranteed.

Saturday, October 1st

Annual Fall Hike and Potluck after the hike (location for potluck TBD, see website)

Time: 9:00AM

Location: Burrough's trail head, 2.5 miles north of Benjamin Boulevard on North Shore Drive

Summary: Join us as we explore the North End Forest of Madeline Island. The North End is pristine forest with stands of old hemlock, oak and an abundance of mushrooms. We will start the hike at Burrough's Trail Head but may drive to other trails heads to explore the forest. The trails are rustic so good hiking boots and an adventuresome spirit are required.