



Mississippi National River and Recreation Area



National Park Week - Where's Freddie? - April 17-23 – On your computer!

Freddie the Flathead Catfish, the mascot for the Mississippi National River and Recreation Area, has taken National Park Week off and we need your help to find him. See the details about earning your Junior Ranger Badge by finding Freddie at www.wheresfreddie.com starting April 17.

Junior Ranger Day - Saturday, April 24, 1-4pm - Mississippi River Visitor Center

Bring a friend and visit the Mississippi River Visitor Center in the Science Museum of Minnesota to become a Junior Ranger or pick up a prize if you are a returning Junior Ranger. The theme this year is Birds along the Mississippi River and there will be three activities for you to try from 1-4 pm and there is no entrance fee for the Science Museum unless you decide to visit the exhibits!

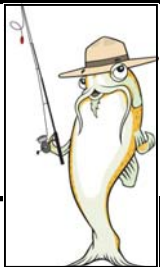


Seed Starters - Sat, May 22 – 1-3 pm – North Mississippi Regional Park

Would you like to learn how to grow native prairie plants in your own yard? Start some native plants from seeds in trays provided by the National Park Service and take them home to watch them grow. At the end of the summer the seedlings will be planted in a local park for restoration purposes! Please register for the program by contacting Ranger Rebecca at 651-290-3030 x229 or rebecca_lofgren@nps.gov.

Take a Kid Fishing Day - June 12 - Rebecca Lake in Hastings

Junior Rangers 15 and under! Bring an adult fishing without a fishing license for Take a Kid Fish Weekend sponsored by the Department of Natural Resources. Fishing poles, bait, and canoes will be provided. Just bring some water and any adult with you.

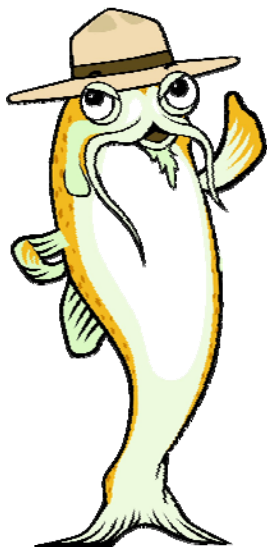


Weekly Summer Programs

Bike with a Ranger - Bike with a Ranger is a great way to get exercise, breathe some fresh air, and learn about the human and natural history of one of the world's great rivers-the Mississippi River. This summer, the Mississippi National River and Recreation Area will offer ranger-led rides every Saturday morning from 10-1, July through September and Thursdays morning rides from 10-1, June through August. Routes are from 8-14 miles in length and form a loop.

Registration Information - Participation is **free** for both Thursday and Saturday rides, but **registration is required** as rides are limited to 20 participants on a first-come, first-served basis.

Habitat Restoration Events - Join us for restoration events and make a difference in your community! Two Saturdays each month a ranger will lead an exploration of a river habitat. Learn about local ecosystems and native flora and fauna while restoring the habitat by removing invasive weeds or planting native grasses and flowers! This three hour event is ideal for anyone ages 4-104 who enjoys light gardening and learning about nature and local river history! Log onto www.nps.gov/miss/planyourvisit/events for dates and details!



Hello Junior Rangers,

Are you ready for another great summer as a Mississippi River Junior Ranger? There are upcoming programs listed for this spring in this newsletter but there are many other programs throughout the year, so keep checking the website for the most up-to-date information. You can also find games, pictures from past events, archived newsletters, information about locations with booklets, and a link to the Web Rangers program on the web site also. Remember, most programs and all booklets are free to participate in and there is always something new and fun to do. I hope to see you all this summer!

Ranger Rebecca

If you would like to be removed from this mailing please contact Ranger Rebecca at 651-290-3030 ext 229 or rebecca_lofgren@nps.gov.



Spring has Sprung!



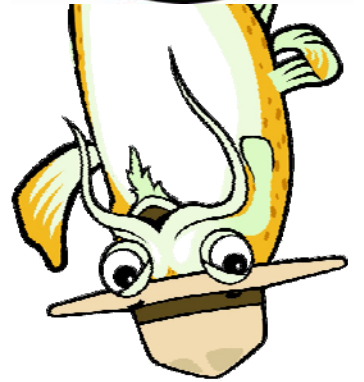
Find all the Spring words below in the word search!

N O R E H E U L B T A E R G A
 K F Q M K J Q B G D D P N U D
 F L I E X L K N T D B P G S L
 L P V S P S I F L O W E R S C
 W H M Q H E B R H T N M E D I
 R E S Y O I X P I K B M D H H
 U E G N U H N N K B G R V I H
 D R A N D C G G I T N A X E B
 P C R B I B U K N R I W N H H
 T T R L T T I Q G Q D Y J R B
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 U O H L U J E U G L L N U B G
 S Z A R C H F E Z I F S P U W
 V A R T S T O K B I M O L A A

- flowers
- flooding
- fishing
- canoeing
- sun
- green
- bees
- great blue heron
- hiking
- biking
- warm
- migrating

What word means Spring to you?

Don't forget the Junior Ranger Web site at www.nps.gov/miss/forkids!



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 Saint Paul, MN 55101
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National Park Service
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Junior Ranger Program



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