Welcome

The Eloise Butler Wildflower Garden and Bird Sanctuary is 111 years old this year. In 1907, the Wildflower Garden was founded with a vision to create a dynamic and beautiful naturalistic, native plant focused garden for nature enthusiasts of all ages to enjoy. The founder, Eloise Butler, was a school teacher who wanted to create a special sanctuary that students of nature could visit to learn about the intricacies and wonders of the native plants of our region. Now over a century later, her incredible legacy lives on.

Free public Wildflower Garden tours take place on the weekends and during the week. Find a date that works well for you on the calendar on pages 6-9. The Nature Tots pre-school programs are a great way for younger visitors to take delight in the Garden’s enchantment. Explore the Wildflower Garden at nightfall during one of the family full moon and new moons walks to see the Garden from a whole different perspective.

Wildflower Garden Naturalists will be leading nature focused tours April-October in Regional Parks across the city. See page 11 for more information on these opportunities.

If you are interested in scheduling a special tour for your youth or adult group, contact the Wildflower Garden’s Program Coordinator at 612-499-9244 or send an email to ebwg@minneapolisparks.org for more information.

Stay in touch with the latest happenings at the Wildflower Garden on Facebook and online at www.minneapolisparks.org/ebwg.

We look forward to seeing you at the Wildflower Garden this season. Enjoy!
Naturalist-Led
HIKES & TOURS

A Heroine’s History
Join a Garden Naturalist on a walking history tour of the Wildflower Garden and learn about the rich history of the nation’s oldest public wildflower garden and its founding mother and first curator, Eloise Butler.

Birding Basics
Beginning birders will learn a few techniques and tips for success with binoculars and field guides and will discover what to look for when identifying birds in the field. Bring binoculars or borrow ours.

Birding Stroll
Join a Garden Naturalist for a birding focused stroll through the Garden. Learn a few techniques and tips for success with binoculars to look for and identify birds in the Garden. Bring your own binoculars or borrow ours.

Buds, Bark & Branches
Spring is a great time to learn how to identify trees. A Garden Naturalist will lead you on a tree identification tour using features such as bark, buds, and branches to identify many fascinating tree species.

Early Birders
Do you like to practice finding and identifying birds? In addition to bird identification, we will learn about birding by ear, bird behavior and bird habitats. Bring binoculars and a field guide or borrow ours.

Family Forest Walk
Join a Wildflower Garden Naturalist for a scavenger hunt style walk to look for the plants and animals of the spring woods. Learn more about nature and discover the beauty of spring in the Wildflower Garden!

Naturalist’s Niche Guided Hike
Join a passionate Wildflower Garden Naturalist on a guided hike to some of their favorite garden spaces and learn about one of their most beloved topics of choice.

Quaking Bog Tour
Discover what makes a bog unique and what adaptations plants need to survive in this wetland environment. Meet at the Quaking Bog parking lot.

Spring Highlights in the Garden
Learn about phenology—the study of cyclic and seasonal natural phenomena—by looking for the current blooms, birds, and animals in the garden with a garden naturalist. Record your data to add to our records that have been kept for the past 100 years!

Wildflower Walk
Join a garden naturalist on a wildflower focused walk in the Garden. Learn about and look for wildflowers of spring including trilliums, trout lilies, bluebells and more.

Please register in advance for Garden hikes, tours and special classes. See page 6 for details.
**Nature Tots**

Led by Garden Naturalists  
Cost: $5/per child  
Select Tuesdays — 10:30-11:30am  

Bring your favorite adult along to explore nature with you throughout the Wildflower Garden! Each Nature Tots program will have activities, hikes, crafts and stories for children ages 2 to 5 years old and adults to share in exploration together. *Space is limited — advance registration is encouraged.*

**THE EARTH BENEATH MY FEET**  
Tuesday, April 17  

What better way to celebrate Earth Day than with a closer look at the soil! We will explore the animals who live there and the plants that grow there. Be prepared to get your hands dirty in a fun, dirt-themed craft!

**TERRIFIC TREES**  
Tuesday, April 24  

Trees are all around us. Let’s celebrate Arbor Day and focus on trees! By exploring trees with all our senses, we will gain a greater appreciation of our giant friends.

**FEATHERED FRIENDS**  
Tuesday, May 1  

Bring your keen eyes and ears on a hike to look and listen for birds with our very own hand decorated binoculars! We will learn more about birds with the book *All About Birds* by Catherine Sill.

**BUDDING BOTANISTS**  
Tuesday, May 8  

Join us for a stroll through the Garden as we take a closer look at the stars of the Garden: the flowers! We will learn the parts of a flower and create a beautiful, flower-inspired craft.

**CAMOUFLAGED CRITTERS**  
Tuesday, May 15  

Some animals are really good at hiding in plain sight! We’ll sharpen our eyes to find animals hidden throughout the Garden. After we make our own camouflaged critter, we will look along the trails for animals hidden along the way. We will also read the story *Animals Should Definitely Not Wear Clothing* by Judi Barnett.

**FROGS & TOADS**  
Tuesday, May 22  

Leaping frogs and hopping toads can be found all over the Garden both inside and out in the late spring! We will look for these fun amphibians, make some of our own frog footprints and hear a story about the frog who dreams big called *A Frog Thing* by Eric Drachman.

**BUSY BEES**  
Tuesday, May 29  

Find out what keeps bees so busy and learn why bees are important to our Garden. We’ll make a bee craft, go on a bee hike, do a bee dance and listen to a story by Eric Carle called *The Honeybee and the Robber.*

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**GARDEN STORYTIME**

**Wednesdays & Saturdays beginning April 18, 10:30-11am**

Families can join a Garden Naturalist each Wednesday or Saturday morning in the spring for a different nature themed story each week in a different spot in the garden. Meet at the shelter.
In the Garden

SPECIAL WALKS & EVENTS

Special Walks & Events

**Wildflower Garden Open House**
Join us in the Visitor Shelter and out on the trails to welcome in our 111th season at the Wildflower Garden. Talk to Garden Naturalists and volunteers about the season ahead. Join a Garden Naturalist on a tour at 1pm or 3pm. Enjoy the cozy fireplace in the shelter.

**Earth Day**
Celebrate Earth Day at the garden with the family during our Family Forest Walk or go on a guided Mother Earth Walk with a naturalist at 3 or 5 pm. We will include activities that involve expressing our gratitude for the natural world.

**Arbor Day**
Come to the Garden on Arbor Day, April 27 for a Spring Tree ID Walk at 5 pm.

**Mother’s Day**
Celebrate Mother’s Day, Sunday May 13, at the Wildflower Garden with special walks all day long. Enjoy the gorgeous blooms and beautiful color of this festive day.

**Memorial Day**
Step into Summer at the garden on Memorial Day! Enjoy a Family Forest Walk at 10:30 am and guided walks in the Garden and Quaking Bog at 2 pm (bog) and 4 pm (garden).

Full & New Moon Tours

**Led by Garden Naturalists**
**Cost: $5/person**
Enjoy a nighttime tour of the Wildflower Garden with Garden Naturalists. Meet at the Garden’s front gate. **Advance registration is required.**

**FULL MOON GARDEN TOUR**
- **Full Pink Moon Tour**
  Monday, April 30, 8:15-9:15pm
- **Full Flower Moon Tour**
  Tuesday, May 28, 8:30-9:30pm
Take a twilight tour of the Garden and discover the magic of being in our Sanctuary after the sun has set. We will look for bats, listen for owls and enjoy the spring song of frogs.

**NEW MOON CREATURES OF THE NIGHT TOUR**
- **Monday, April 16, 7:45-8:45pm**
- **Tuesday, May 15, 8:30-9:30pm**
Experience the Garden at nightfall. Learn how to fine tune and use your senses while you discover the sights, sounds and smells of the Garden after dark. We’ll listen and look for bats, nighthawks, owls, insects, mushrooms that glow in the dark and more!

**Family Forest Walk**

**Sundays, 1-1:45pm**
Enjoy Sunday afternoons at the Garden! Meet up with other families and discover what’s new in the Garden each week on a walk led by a Garden Naturalist.
**Events in the Garden**

**April 2018**

| **Sunday, April 1** | 1-3 pm | Wildflower Garden Open House |
|                    | 1:1-45 pm | Family Forest Walk |
|                    | 3-4 pm | Spring Highlights in the Garden Tour |
|                    | 5-5:45 pm | Wildflower Walk |

| **Tuesday, April 3** | 6-6:45 pm | Wildflower Walk |

| **Thursday, April 5** | 6-6:45 pm | Birding Stroll |

| **Saturday, April 7** | 8:30-10 am | Early Birders |
| 10:30-11:15 am | Family Forest Walk |
| 1-2 pm | Spring Highlights in the Garden Tour |
| 4-5 pm | Buds, Bark and Branches |
| 6-6:45 pm | Wildflower Walk |

| **Sunday, April 8** | 1-1:45 pm | Family Forest Walk |
| 3-4 pm | Spring Highlights in the Garden Tour |
| 5-5:45 pm | Wildflower Walk |

| **Tuesday, April 10** | 6-6:45 pm | Wildflower Walk |

| **Thursday, April 12** | 6-6:45 pm | Birding Stroll |

| **Saturday, April 14** | 8:30-10 am | Early Birders |
| 10:30-11:15 am | Family Forest Walk |
| 1-2 pm | Spring Highlights in the Garden Tour |
| 4-5 pm | Quaking Bog Tour |
| 6-6:45 pm | Wildflower Walk |

| **Sunday, April 15** | 1-1:45 pm | Family Forest Walk |
| 3-4 pm | Birding Basics |
| 5-5:45 pm | Wildflower Walk |

**HOW TO REGISTER**

Pre-payment of fees for Nature Tots and Full Moon and New Moon tours are required. All other tours are free and we ask that you register for them in advance.

- Online at [www.minneapolisparks.org](http://www.minneapolisparks.org) using ActiveNet (credit card payment)
- In person at the Visitor Shelter in the Wildflower Garden (checks payable to Eloise Butler Wildflower Garden)
Monday, April 16
7:45-8:45 pm New Moon Walk* $5/person

Tuesday, April 17
10:30-11:30 am Nature Tots – Earth Beneath My Feet* $5/child, caregivers free
6-6:45 pm Wildflower Walk

Wednesday, April 18
10:30-11 am Garden Storytime

Thursday, April 19
6-6:45 pm Birding Stroll

Saturday, April 21
8:30-10 am Early Birders
10:30-11 am Garden Storytime
1-2 pm Spring Highlights in the Garden
4-5 pm Buds, Bark and Branches
6-6:45 pm Wildflower Walk

Sunday, April 22
1-1:45 pm Family Forest Walk
3-4 pm Mother Earth Walk (see page 5)
5-5:45 pm Wildflower Walk

Tuesday, April 24
10:30-11:30 am Nature Tots – Terrific Trees* $5/child, caregivers free
6-6:45 pm Wildflower Walk

Wednesday, April 25
10:30-11 am Garden Storytime

Thursday, April 26
6-6:45 pm Birding Stroll

Friday, April 27
5-6 pm Spring Tree ID Arbor Day Walk (See page 5)

Saturday, April 28
8:30-10 am Early Birders
10:30-11 am Garden Storytime
1-2 pm Spring Highlights in the Garden
4-5 pm Naturalist’s Niche Guided Hike
6-6:45 pm Wildflower Walk
8-9 pm Full Pink Moon Walk* $5/person

Sunday, April 29
1:145 pm Family Forest Walk
3-4 pm Birding Basics
5-5:45 pm Wildflower Walk

*Special class at the Garden—see descriptions on pages 4-5
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Saturday, May 19
7:30-9 am Early Birders
10:30-11 am Garden Storytime
1-2 pm Spring Highlights Garden Tour
4-5 pm Naturalist’s Niche Guided Hike
6-6:45 pm Wildflower Walk

Sunday, May 20
1-1:45 pm Family Forest Walk
3-4 pm Birding Basics
5-5:45 pm Wildflower Walk

Tuesday, May 22
10:30-11:30 am Nature Tots- Frogs and Toads* $5/child, caregivers free
6-6:45 pm Wildflower Walk

Wednesday, May 23
10:30-11 am Garden Storytime

Thursday, May 24
6-6:45 pm Birding Stroll

Saturday, May 26
7:30-9 am Early Birders
10:30-11 am Garden Storytime
1-2 pm Spring Highlights in the Garden Tour
4-5 pm Naturalist’s Niche Guided Hike
6-6:45 pm Wildflower Walk

Sunday, May 27
1-1:45 pm Family Forest Walk
3-4 pm A Heroine’s History
5-5:45 pm Wildflower Walk

Monday, May 28
MEMORIAL DAY
10:30-11:15 pm Family Forest Walk
2-3 pm Quaking Bog Tour
4-4:45 pm Wildflower Walk
8:30-9:30 pm Full Flower Moon Walk* $5/person

Tuesday, May 29
10:30-11:30 am Nature Tots – Busy Bees* $5/child, caregivers free
6-6:45 pm Wildflower Walk

Wednesday, May 30
10:30-11 am Garden Storytime

Thursday, May 31
6-6:45 pm Birding Stroll

*Special class at the Garden—see descriptions on pages 4-5

HOW TO REGISTER

Pre-payment of fees for Nature Tots and Full Moon and New Moon tours are required. All other tours are free and we ask that you register for them in advance.

- Online at www.minneapolisparks.org using ActiveNet (credit card payment)
- In person at the Visitor Shelter in the Wildflower Garden (checks payable to Eloise Butler Wildflower Garden)
Volunteer Opportunities

Volunteer in the Visitor Shelter at the Wildflower Garden
Do you enjoy talking with others about the natural world? Are you interested in helping Wildflower Garden visitors have a fun, engaging experience? If yes, this program is for you! You will be trained and supported as a volunteer, making this a great opportunity to: learn more about the Wildflower Garden and the natural world, share with others, and to support the important work of caring for the Wildflower Garden and the people who visit.

To find out more, send an email to the Shelter Volunteer Coordinator at volunteers@friendsofeloisebutler.org.

Volunteer Garlic Mustard Pulls
Saturday, May 5, 2-4:30pm
Sunday, May 20, 2-4:30pm
Sunday, June 3, 2-4:30pm

Have a fun time in nature while removing invasive plants in areas just outside of the Wildflower Garden at a “pull” led by volunteers from the Friends of the Wild Flower Garden. Come spend as much or as little time as you would like. No experience necessary. The how-to and treats are provided! Volunteers are notified by email of the schedule each season. To have your name added to the list, please send an email to invasives@friendsofeloisebutler.org

Special Group Tours

BRING YOUR GROUP FOR A PERSONALIZED TOUR OF THE GARDEN

Naturalists lead tours and programs on a variety of topics for a wide range of groups including:
- Nursery schools
- K-12 schools
- Colleges and universities
- Scouting groups and youth programs
- Garden clubs
- Nature-focused organizations
- And other youth and adult groups

Call or email the Wildflower Garden Program Coordinator to find out about program rates and to schedule your group tour of the Garden:
Wendy Tremblay, 612.499.9244
wtremblay@minneapolisparks.org
Join the Naturalists of the Eloise Butler Wildflower Garden in Minneapolis Regional Parks to learn about the birds, plants and natural history of our great urban green spaces.

HOW TO REGISTER FOR REGIONAL PARKS TOURS
Regional Tours are free although we ask that you register for them in advance.

► Register online at minneapolisparks.org.
► Call the Eloise Butler Wildflower Garden at 612.370.4903.
► Or, simply show up! If the tour is full, priority will be given to advance registrations.

TOURS AT MINNEHAHA REGIONAL PARK
Meet at the bridge overlooking Minnehaha Falls across from SeaSalt restaurant. Naturalist will have a sign that reads “MPRB Regional Park Tour starts here.”

Marvelous Nature Mondays: a seasonal series of nature walks
5-6pm, every second Monday from April-October
Spring dates: Mondays, April 9 and May 7

Monday, April 9, 5-6 pm
Early Spring Tree Identification – Learn how to identify a variety of trees before they leaf out. We will look at the buds, bark, tree form, and branch arrangement and more to get to know the trees of the park. Learn a little tree folk lore along the way as well.

Monday, May 7, 5-6 pm
Spring Bird Migration – Watch for the spring migrants along the Mississippi River in Minneapolis while walking with a Naturalist.

TOURS AT ROBERTS BIRD SANCTUARY
Roberts Bird Sanctuary is located in Lyndale Park. Tours start at the wooden gazebo adjacent to the parking lot off Roseway Road, ½ block northeast of Lake Harriet Parkway.

Wednesday on the Wing: a seasonal series of birding walks
6-7pm, every third Wednesday from April-October
Spring dates: Wednesdays, April 18 and May 16

Monthly program
Join an interpretive Naturalist on a walk through Roberts Bird Sanctuary to look for and learn about spring migrants and resident birds. Bring binoculars and field guide or borrow ours.