Saturday, March 7

National Aldo Leopold Weekend
Join us for a program this weekend celebrating this great author and ecologist!

10am A Sand County Hike!
Explore the awakening forest and wetlands this morning. We’ll meet at the Nature Center and investigate some of the things Aldo Leopold would have noticed had he been hiking on this fine early March day. BB

2pm The Green Fire Movie!
Help celebrate the life and times of one of America’s greatest ecologists, Aldo Leopold, today! We’ll be showing the new documentary that showcases this legendary conservationist and how his work influenced the environmental movement of today. The showing takes place in the Nature Center Auditorium.

Sunday, March 8

10am Spring Skunk Search!
No, not real skunks, but the first wildflower of the year…. Skunk cabbage! We’ll meet at the Nature Center and stroll into the dune wetlands for a peak at this stinky flower. Bring your olfactory senses and join us for this short, 45-minute walk. CF

2pm The Spring Awakening.
Join us in the Nature Center auditorium for a fun look at how the Dunes State Park animals are surviving the winter. We’ll have some live animals on hand as well! Come on out and join us! CF

Saturday, March 14

9am 15th Annual Running with the Irish 5K
An annual tradition returns with the 15th Annual Running with the Irish! The competitive run and non-competitive walk takes place throughout the park. To register, visit http://www.stpatsparish.org. Note: Park roads will be congested before and during the event.

2pm Dunes Birding: Crash Course!
Join Dunes State Park Interpreter, Brad Bumgardner, for a 3 hour introduction to all things birding. We’ll cover the history of ornithology, common dune birds, bird banding, leading bird walks, and more! The workshop takes place in the Nature Center auditorium. Registration is required ($10 workshop fee) and can be made by calling the park at 219.926.1390.

Sunday, March 15

10am Feed the Birds.
Join the Naturalist outside the Nature Center for the daily feeding of our birds. Get great close up views of chickadees, cardinals, and woodpeckers! Great fun for the kids. BB

10am and 2pm Wire Wrapping Jewelry Workshops!
Register for one of two special workshops that will allow users to learn the art of wire-wrapping and make your own beach glass or stone jewelry during this 1.5 hour session taught by local artist, Jayde Petersen. Space is limited and the workshop takes place in the Nature Center Auditorium. $5/person workshop fee. Register by calling 219-926-1390.
Saturday, March 21
10am Morning Bird Crafts! Join naturalist Cookie for a fun hour in the Nature Center. We’ll explore the different seeds our birds like, then make our own special bird feeders you can take home with you! Come on out! CF

2pm Spring Walk! It’s the first full day of spring, join us at the Nature Center for a casual walk to the wetlands and back as we seek out signs of spring around us! Join us! CF

Sunday, March 22
10am Sunday Morning Stroll! Take part in a refreshing morning jaunt. Bring binoculars, or borrow a pair of ours. We’ll be in search of early migrating birds and other sights and sounds this fine morning. Meet at the Nature Center. CF

2pm The Green Fire Movie! Help celebrate the life and times of one of America’s greatest ecologists, Aldo Leopold, today! We’ll be showing the new documentary that showcases this legendary conservationist and how his work influenced the environmental movement of today. The showing takes place in the Nature Center Auditorium.

Saturday March 28
Welcome Potawatomi Hikers!
10am Phoebe Time! Join the naturalist on a 45 minute discovery hike looking for the first Phoebes of the year. They traditionally arrive now and begin setting up their territories. We meet at the Nature Center for this easy stroll to the Dunes Creek bridge. Bring the family and join us! BB

2pm Fire on the Prairie! Bring out your inner pyro-maniac in this exciting hour at the Nature Center. Learn how prescribed fire is used to help our habitats, and then help the naturalist start a fire if conditions are right! It’s an annual spring break tradition that’s always hot! Kids under 12 must have a parent or responsible adult. Join us! BB

Sunday March 29
10am Bird Banding Demonstrations. Explore the science of bird banding this morning at the Nature Center. We’ll throw up the banding nets and look at everything we learn by investigating these birds up close and in the hand. We’ll be banding for an hour or so. Come join us! BB

2pm Lion or Lamb Walk II. Did March leave us like a lion or lamb!? Strap on your hiking shoes and join us for some of the early morning sounds this fine morning. Bring binoculars or borrow a pair of ours, and meet at the Nature Center. We’ll be out for an hour or so. BB