

Events

SKINKFEST



Interpretive Events Spruce Woods Provincial Park July 30th-August 6th, 2007

We've got "Skink Stuff" to give away! Water bottles, t-shirts, caps, pencils, notepads, decals, and more! Be sure to be a part of the festivities all weekend!

Wednesday August 1
10:00 a.m. – 11:00 a.m.

Up, Down, and Around (Guided Hike)

Be a part of this 1.4 km hike and discover a little about the vast ecosystem diversity that Spruce Woods has to offer. Learn about how different plant communities have adapted to the area. Be sure to wear good walking shoes and bring your drinking water.

Meet at Isputinaw Trail Head

Friday August 3
8:00 p.m.

Little Skink on the Prairie (Puppet Show)

Did you know that the Northern Prairie Skink can release its tail? Why and when does it do this? Find out who wants to eat the skink and how the tail helps the skink escape in our story.

Location: Park Centre

Friday August 3
8:00 p.m. – 9:00 p.m.

Spruce Woods Top Reptile (Campfire)

Skink and Hognose have both made it to the final round of a primetime reality T.V. show and need you to choose Spruce Woods top reptile! You'll learn all about these unique creatures, what threats they face, and how you can help keep them around forever.

Bring a mug for a Reptile Refreshment.

Meet at the Campfire Circle West of Park Centre

Saturday August 4
10:00 a.m. – 12 noon

Skink Safari (Guided Hike)

Come skinking with us to see Manitoba's only lizard - the northern prairie skink. If we're lucky we might catch a newborn and see their bright blue tail close up. Maybe we'll find other reptiles living in the same areas - redbelly snakes, smooth green snakes, or even the elusive western hognose snakes. Be sure to wear good walking shoes, a hat, and drinking water.

Hosted by the Brandon Naturalists Society and led by Dr. Pamela Rutherford

Meet at Parsons Hill Parking Lot

Saturday August 4
1:00 p.m. – 3:00 p.m.

Skink Fest Beach Party (Family Program)

Come and celebrate with us. Visit four stations along the beach and participate in cookie colouring, Skink Tag, Skink Detectives, and Reptile Sand Sculpture Contest. Learn all about this unique creature along the way! Skink Tag and Skink Detective will start at 1:00 p.m., 1:30 p.m., and 2:00 p.m. Play one time or play all three times! All other activities will run continuously with judging for the Sand Sculptures at 3:00 p.m. Prizes, prizes, prizes!

Location: Kiche Manitou Beach

Saturday August 4
9:00 p.m.

The Dr. Is In (Guest Speaker)

Dr. Pamela Rutherford has spent a lot of time learning everything about skinks. You too can learn fun facts about the northern prairie skink. What's the difference between a lizard and a skink? Why are their tails blue? Where do they live? How many babies do they have? She'll discuss these and many more fascinating facts about Manitoba's only lizard.

Location: Amphitheatre at Park Centre

Sunday August 5
8:30 a.m. – 10:30 a.m.

Friends of Spruce Woods Pancake Breakfast

Come and enjoy a pancake breakfast with all the fixings. Coffee, juice, pancakes and sausage all for a donation to Friends of Spruce Woods, a non-profit organization who does so much for the park. This is your chance to give back, say thanks and make sure Spruce Woods continues to be a park for everyone.

Location: Park Centre

**Sunday August 5
10:00 a.m.**

Critter Dip (Family Program)

Come on down to Marsh's Lake and discover for yourself all the amazing critters that live in the water! Make sure to bring rubber boots or sandals that you don't mind getting wet, all other equipment will be providedSee you there! **Bug spray is recommended!**



Meet at Marshs Lake Parking Lot

**Sunday August 5
1:00 p.m.**

Trail Trek (Family Program)

Explore the campground through the Orienteering course. Once you finish, you'll receive a certificate from the Manitoba Orienteering Association. Travel by bike or by foot. Be sure to wear a hat, comfortable shoes and bring water. Trail takes from 45 minutes to an hour and a half.

**Meet at the Orienteering Trail
across from the Play Structure at Pine Fort**

**Sunday August 5
8:00 p.m.**

Critter Campfire (campfire)

Interested in reptiles? Join reptile field researchers Nick Cairnes and Jill Larkin for a reptile campfire. Learn about the six reptile species of Spruce Woods Provincial Park. Find out more about the research activities that Nick and Jill do in park. Play "Reptile Memory" and win prizes! There may be some special guests!

Bring a mug for bug juice (it's a favourite of reptiles everywhere!).

Campfire Circle West of Park Centre

Come visit the Park Centre!

*Come and pick up your Park Pal Postcard,
Jr. Naturalist and Park Explorer booklets.*

**For more information contact the Interpretive Office
at 827-8850**