



SUMMER PHENOLOGY IN THE CLASSROOM

Who: Youth Workers, Teachers, 4-H Leaders, and Camp Counselors

Date: Friday, May 17, 2024, 9:00 am to 3:00 pm

Instructors: John Latimer, staff phenologist, naturalist, and KAXE Radio Host
Charlie Mitchell, phenology coordinator with KAXE Radio
Stephan Carlson, U of MN Forestry

Location: Nine Mile Creek Watershed District office: Discovery Point, [12800 Gerard Drive, Eden Prairie, MN 55346](https://www.google.com/maps/place/12800+Gerard+Drive,+Eden+Prairie,+MN+55346) (Address Link)

Phenology is the study of observable, cyclical changes in plants, animals and nature seen throughout the year. It is the blooming of flowers, the return of birds, ice out on local lakes and that first mosquito bite. Phenological patterns are affected by weather, climate, and other factors.

This workshop targets environmental interpreters, camp counselors, summer recreation staff, teachers and any other folks who want to observe nature and record their observations of phenological events. It is designed to give participants a place to begin their observational records, a primer on how to use Nature's Notebook, and introduce the impact of phenology on the radio with KAXE.

This 6-hour workshop will train adults to guide all ages on phenology observations and how to write out and record what they have seen, using the woods and wetlands around Discovery Point. They may then produce a 1-2-minute audio recording to share with expert John Latimer on KAXE Radio's "Phenology Talkbacks" show.

John has been hosting with KAXE Radio on Tuesday mornings for over 40 years. A special part of the program is when children and listeners report on their seasonal observations over the last week. Charlie edits the recordings for radio. On the Phenology Talkbacks show, John weaves the various reports together to create a colorful picture of the broad range of phenological events observed across the state throughout each season. Our current goal is to encourage more summer camps, city rec programs, and environmental centers to get outside, connect with nature, and share their findings with the public. Season Watch website: <https://seasonwatch.umn.edu/>

No charge for the workshop. **Registration link here:** <https://z.umn.edu/phenologyworkshop>



Registration QR Code



9 Mile Creek Discovery Point



9 MILE CREEK DISCOVERY POINT

OFFICE OF THE NINE MILE CREEK WATERSHED DISTRICT

WELCOME!

WHAT IS DISCOVERY POINT?
Discovery Point is the office of the Nine Mile Creek Watershed District (NMCWD), a local unit of government. Here you will find examples of best management practices (BMPs) that feature ways to protect our water. At key locations, additional signs will explain how the BMPs work, and how you could include them on your own property. During business hours, we welcome you inside to explore educational resources that will help you protect the valuable water resources in our watershed.

WHAT IS A WATERSHED?
A watershed is an area of land where all the water drains to one location; in our case, Nine Mile Creek. The Nine Mile Creek watershed is approximately 100 square miles of land in the cities of Bloomington, Eden Prairie, Edina, Hopkins, Minneapolis, and Richfield. The NMCWD has a direct responsibility to protect and manage surface waters and land areas in the watershed through projects, partnerships, education, monitoring, and more.

Scan this QR code to learn more about the NMCWD.
www.nmcwd.org

LET'S EXPLORE!
CAN YOU FIND THESE FEATURES?

- YOU ARE HERE** (Location pin icon)
- PERMEABLE SURFACES** provide a stable parking surface that allows rainwater to soak into the ground.
- RAIN GARDENS** collect and filter rainwater while providing pollinator habitat.
- REINFORCED TURF** allows rainwater to soak into the ground and also provides overflow parking.
- HABITAT RESTORATION** increases plant and wildlife diversity through ongoing care and maintenance.
- CISTERN** collects and stores water from the roof for irrigation.
- OUTDOOR CLASSROOM** provides a space to enjoy the natural habitat and learn about Barbara Kaewer and her legacy.
- FESCUE LAWN** provides a low maintenance alternative to typical turf grass.

AN AMAZING GIFT!
This land and building were graciously donated to the Nine Mile Creek Watershed District by Barbara Kaewer, who resided here for over 50 years. Barbara and her husband had been dedicated to protecting the natural environment. Through Barbara's generous gift to everyone to learn how to be good stewards of the land and water. Additionally, the land is now forever protected through a Minnesota Land Foundation easement.

9 Mile Creek Discovery Point is located in a residential neighborhood, with a small parking lot. Please drive with care, and carpool if possible.