

# Association for the Wolf Lake Initiative

A not-for-profit organization and land trust

*Working across state boundaries to enhance the Wolf Lake watershed*

September 9, 2016

AWLI's Faire focuses  
On good health, fitness

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## *Immediate Release*

The 13<sup>th</sup> annual Active Living Faire at Wolf Lake on Saturday, October 1 will focus on good health and fitness. The event, sponsored by the Association for the Wolf Lake Initiative (AWLI), is free to the public.

The Faire will be held at two locations. It begins at 9 a.m. at the Environmental Education Center, 2405 Calumet Avenue, Hammond. In the afternoon it will be held from 1:30 p.m. to 4 p.m. near Shelter 2, William Powers State Fish and Wildlife Area, 126<sup>th</sup> Place and Avenue O, Chicago.

The day begins with a tour of the Environmental Education Center by Racine Kovach of the Lake County Solid Waste Management District. Along the way they will encounter several educational exhibits and a Farmers Market.

Stops will include a special exhibit on invasive species erected by Brigitte Moneyemaker, Invasive Species Interpretive Ranger at the Indiana Dunes National Lakeshore. Other exhibits will focus on fish consumption and reptiles and amphibians at Wolf Lake.

At 9:25 a.m., poster contest participants will be led on a nature walk. Upon their return to the Environmental Education Center, they will be asked to draw a poster of what they observed.

Parents are invited to join the walk.

At 9:45 a.m. at nearby Wolf Lake beach area, Dr. Joan Crist of Calumet College of St. Joseph (CCSJ) and coach of its rowing crew will give a brief demonstration at Wolf Lake's beach area in Hammond. She will invite audience members to wade out and become familiar with the rowing shell.

This will be followed at 10:00 a.m. by the first of two fund-raising events. John Pastirik will lead the Family Tour of the Lakes Bike-a-Thon. Helmets are required.

Dr. Young Choi, ecologist at Purdue University Northwest, will lead a nature hike along Wolf Lake at 10:15 a.m.. Hikers are asked to bring binoculars.

In 2013 Choi released his final report of a two-year study of plants and wildlife found in the restored shoreline along Wolf Lake's north channel.

The study compared findings with those of an earlier study in 2000 before the \$6.9 million restoration. Choi conducted the study in partnership with AWLI and the city of Hammond.

At 10:30, Lara Gonzales of the Field Museum will present an update on efforts to establish a national heritage area in the Calumet Region

Michael Boos of AWLI will then give a preview of the upcoming Research Summit of the Wolf Lake Watershed in November.

Poster winners will be announced at 11:30 p.m.

Afternoon activities start with the Wolf Lake 8K Walk-a-Thon at 2 p.m.. Pre-registration by calling AWLI in advance is required.

Participants will return to the Environmental Education Center at 3 p.m. for a concluding session.

Outdoor activities will occur, weather permitting.

AWLI is a bi-state not-for-profit organization and land trust that seeks to protect and improve Wolf Lake and its

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natural surroundings.

Following is a complete schedule of activities for the day:

*13<sup>th</sup> annual Active Living Faire*  
*October 1, 2016*

**Saturday Morning Session**  
**Environmental Education Center**  
**2405 Calumet Avenue, Hammond**

8:30 a.m. Registration and set up of educational displays and the Farmers Market

9:00 a.m. Opening remarks

9:05 a.m. Tour of the Environmental Education Center by Racine Kovach of the Lake County Solid Waste Management District with stops at educational displays.

9:25 a.m. Poster contest begins with nature walk

9:45 a.m. CCSJ rowing crew demonstration by Dr. Joan Crist (weather permitting)

10:00 a.m. Family Tour of the Lakes Bike-a-Thon (helmets required) by John Pastirik

10:15 a.m. Hike along Wolf Lake led by Dr. Young Choi, PNW (bring binoculars)

10:30 a.m. Update on efforts to establish a national heritage area in the Calumet Region by Lara Gonzales, Field Museum.

10:45a.m. Preview of the upcoming Research Summit on Wolf Lake by Michael Boos, AWLI

11:30 a.m. Announcing poster winners

**Saturday Afternoon Session**  
**Wm Powers State Fish & Wildlife Area, Shelter 2,**  
**126th Place and Avenue O, Chicago**

1:30 p.m. Registration and setup

2:00 p.m. Wolf Lake 8K Walk-a-Thon

3:00 p.m. Return to Environmental Education Center for concluding session

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