



# Registration Packet

Everything you need to help prepare you for the conference

November 10-12, 2017

Deep Portage Learning Center

Hackensack, Minnesota

# MNA Annual Conference 2017

Welcome to the 2017 MNA Annual Conference! I am excited to present this year's theme: Walk the Walk.

As naturalists, we recognize that nature is something to be enjoyed and appreciated by everyone, and that it is also important for people to be well-informed citizens of the world who are able to make responsible decisions and be good stewards of the earth. These two things are key to the success of MNA's mission: to advance natural and cultural resource interpretation for the purpose of fostering wise stewardship of all resources.

Those things, however, are easier said than done. In recent years we, on a global scale, have been having more and more conversations concerning human rights, climate change, and the intersection of the two. Amid those conversations it is becoming clearer and clearer that we can be more effective in accomplishing our mission: we can do better at making nature accessible to everyone. We can do better at being inclusive of more races, religions, abilities, ages, languages, sexualities, and genders. We can do better at teaching people about alternative sustainable energy sources and leading a less wasteful life. We can do better at teaching about the environmental consequences of the choices we make as individuals and as a society. We can do better; we can always do better.

Our conference this year is about celebrating and sharing our accomplishments. It is about seizing new solutions and ideas to bring home. It is about brainstorming new ideas on how to tackle an issue. It is about gaining new information so that you are better equipped to make good decisions in the future. **It is about making sure that we not only talk the talk, but that we also walk the walk.**



Ashley Smith  
Conference Coordinator

## Register Online!

Our registration process is completely online!

Please be sure to look at the Workshops in the Conference Guide before you register. You will be asked to pick your 1st, 2nd, and 3rd choices.

Check out our new website, renew your membership and register for the conference online at [www.mnnaturalists.org](http://www.mnnaturalists.org).



## What's Included

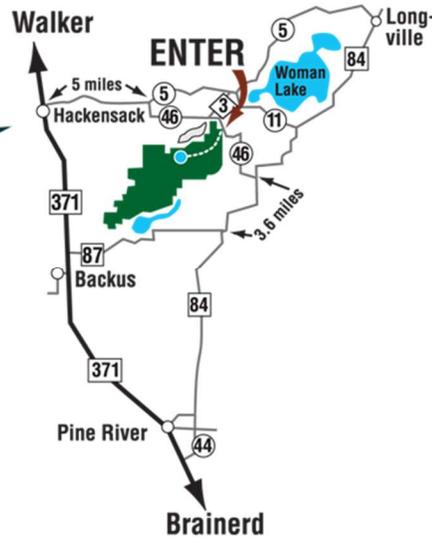
Full conference registration includes:

- Exciting workshops
- Concurrent and discussion sessions
- Evening entertainment and refreshments
- Dinner Friday
- Breakfast, lunch and dinner Saturday
- Breakfast and lunch on Sunday
- Lodging at Deep Portage LC on Friday and Saturday night

The pre-conference fieldtrip is an extra charge, which includes:

- Lodging Thursday night
- Breakfast and lunch on Friday

# Deep Portage Learning Center



## Deep Portage Learning Center

2197 Nature Center Drive NW  
Hackensack, MN 56452

218-682-2325

## Driving Directions

### From Duluth, MN

Follow I-35 S, then take exit 250 for US-2 W toward Proctor/Grand Rapids. Turn left onto MN-200 W, and continue to follow until turning left on MN-84 S. Turn right onto 1st N and then continue onto Woman Lake Rd. Turn left onto Knoll Rd. Turn left onto County 46 NW. Finally turn right onto Nature Center Drive.

### From the Twin Cities, MN

Follow I-94 W. Take exit 193 for MN-25 toward Buffalo/Monticello. Turn right onto MN 25 N. Turn left onto Park Blvd SE. Continue onto 165th Ave SE, then turn left onto US-10 W. Keep right to continue onto State Hwy 137 N. Turn right onto 16th Ave SW and then continue onto MN 84N. Turn to stay on MN 84 N then turn left onto County 46 NW. Turn right onto County 46 NW/ Wild Plum Trail NW. Finally turn left onto Nature Center Drive.

## What to Bring:

- Pillow, bed linens and blankets
- Clothing appropriate for the weather
- Headlamp, notebook, pen/pencil
- Towel & bathing products
- Water bottle and/or coffee mug
- Silent auction donations (proceeds benefit the MNA Scholarship and GrantsFund) and money (the silent auction accepts cash, checks, and cards).
- Photography and maple syrup contest submissions
- BYO beverages
- Anything you want to bring for social time activities (more details later in this packet)

## Conference Check-in

Friday, November 10; 3:30-8 p.m.

### Main Lobby

At check-in, conference participants will select roommates. Lodging is dorm-style; all rooms have 3-5 bunk beds with a private bathroom.

**Auction Donations:** Bring silent auction items to check-in.

**Photo Contest Submissions:** Bring photo contest entries to check-in.

**Maple Syrup Submissions:** Bring maple syrup entries to check-in.

**Check-in for the Pre-Conference will be held at Camp Olson. More information on the next page.**

# Field Trip

## Lake Itasca State Park

Established in 1891, Itasca is Minnesota's oldest state park. Today, the park totals more than 32,000 acres and includes more than 100 lakes. Walk across the mighty Mississippi as it starts its winding journey 2,552 miles to the Gulf of Mexico. Stand under towering pines at Preacher's Grove. Visit the Itasca Indian Cemetery or Wegmann's Cabin, landmarks of centuries gone by. Camp under the stars, or stay the night at the historic Douglas Lodge or cabins. Explore Wilderness Drive past the 2,000-acre Wilderness Sanctuary, one of Minnesota's seven National Natural Landmarks.



## Happy Dancing Turtle

Happy Dancing Turtle, is a non-profit organization that practices and promotes sustainability and sustainable living. They do this by doing outreach to the surrounding community, developing meaningful programs and encouraging local entrepreneurship, promoting learning and the sharing of knowledge by offering workshops, conferences, camps, and classes; and by providing leadership and fostering champions in their communities.

## The Plan:

Our day will start off by boarding a bus and heading to Lake Itasca State Park, where you will be free to explore the areas of the park you wish to explore at your own leisure until we have lunch. Then we will get back onto the bus and head to Happy Dancing Turtle's HUG Campus to learn about the work they do with the community to promote sustainable living and sustainable practices. Finally, we will return to Deep Portage Learning Center for the beginning of the conference!

## Camp Olson

We will be staying at Camp Olson on Thursday Night (November 9th). Just as with Deep Portage, you will need your own bed linens/sleeping bag and pillow. The next page is a waiver that needs to be filled out and brought with you to check in.

### Driving Directions from the Twin Cities:

From the junction of Interstate 494 and Interstate 94 on the northwest corner of the Metro area, follow I-94 west to the town of Rogers. Exit and head north on highway 101. Follow highway 101 for approximately 10 miles and merge with US Highway 169. Follow 169 north for approximately 80 miles to Garrison. Head west from the town of Garrison on highway 6 and 18 for six miles. Highway 6 and 18 will split at this point. Follow 6 north through the towns of Deerwood, Crosby, Emily and Outing. Approximately 10 miles north of Outing, follow Highway 7 west for 13 miles. You are now in Longville. Follow Highway 54 south from the junction of 7 and 54 for two miles. You will see the Camp Olson entrance on your left. Turn left and proceed ¼ mile to the next Camp Olson sign. Follow the directions to the Main Camp.

### Driving Directions from Duluth:

Follow Highway 53/Highway 194 North toward Virginia. Exit left onto 194 north of Hermantown. Follow highway 194 for 7 miles to the junction of highway 194 and highway 2. Follow highway 2 for 34 miles through Floodwood until the junction of highway 2 and highway 200. Follow highway 200 west through Jacobson, Hill City, and Remer. 14 miles west of Remer follow state highway 84 south for 5 miles to Longville. Drive through Longville and at the Junction of 84 and highway 7/highway 54 at the Catholic Church, veer left onto 54/7. Follow highway 54 South for two miles. You will see the Camp Olson entrance on your left. Turn left and proceed ¼ mile to the next Camp Olson sign. Follow the directions to the Main Camp.



Camp Olson YMCA  
4160 Little Boy Rd NE  
Longville, MN 56655  
218-363-2207



## Family Waiver

In consideration for me and/or my family's attendance and being allowed the use of equipment and the facility at Camp Olson YMCA, I hereby covenant and agree to release, discharge and waive any rights of action, demands or claims I may have on behalf of myself or my family members for any and every incident or accident which might arise during the use of the equipment and facility at Camp Olson YMCA. I hereby assume all risks inherent in the use of equipment including horseback riding. I furthermore agree to indemnify, defend, and hold harmless Camp Olson YMCA and its officers, directors, partners, agents, members and employees from and against any and all demands, claims, damages to persons or property, losses and liabilities, including reasonable attorney's fees arising out of or caused by my attendance at Camp Olson YMCA or my negligence in connection with the use of the equipment. I approve this participation waiver and certify that I and my family members are capable of participating in the program experiences at Camp Olson YMCA. In case of accident or illness, I authorize Camp Olson YMCA to provide emergency medical treatment. I understand the related expenses for this medical attention are my responsibility. Camp Olson YMCA is not responsible for lost, stolen or damaged personal articles. I also authorize the Camp Olson YMCA to have and use photographs, slides, video and audio of the participants named on this registration as needed for promotional purposes. I agree to waive any claims against Camp Olson YMCA and its employees and volunteers for injuries or damages that may result from the conduct of other participants.

Print Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Signature: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_

# Evening Entertainment

## SATURDAY NIGHT ONLY

### Maple Syrup Contest — 7:00-8:00 Great Hall

Last year Wolf Ridge won the Maple-Leaf trophy; will you be the winner this year? Bring your/your site's maple syrup samples to compete. Forms for entry can be found in this packet. Bring forms and syrup samples to check in.

### Puppet Show Challenge — 8:00-9:00 Great Hall

Sign-up yourself (or a group) for our Puppet Show Challenge. A puppet stage will be provided, BYOP (Bring Your Own Puppets), and you will get a MAX of 5 minutes to include all pieces of *one* of the following scenarios:

1. Must include a snail puppet, puppets must be on a quest, zombie apocalypse must be mentioned
2. An acorn must be involved, 2 puppets must be highly annoyed with each other, must mention fluvial geomorphology
3. Puppets must interact with a naturalist, a song must be sung, must include a fidget spinner
4. Puppets must talk about the naturalists they work with, a Disney movie must be quoted, the prospect of death must be imminent
5. Must talk about a crazy camper, a magical creature must be involved (does not need to show up as a puppet), "You know you're a puppet when..." must be said



## BOTH NIGHTS Great Hall

### Board Games —

We will have board games available, but feel free to bring your own. Just make sure it is well labeled.

### Photo Contest —

Don't forget your photo contest submissions this year! Photo Contest rules and submission forms can be found on the next couple pages.

### Book Share —

Bring your favorite books and resources to share. Peruse the books and write down the ones that look worth buying to borrowing. Please make sure you label your books well so that you get them back at the end of the conference.

### Bad Taxidermy Gallery —

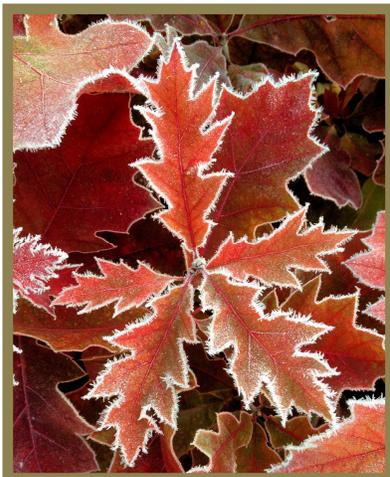
Bring pictures of your (or your site's) worst taxidermy. Please no pictures found in an internet search. Enjoy the worst of the worst and add some captions at the conference for a laugh.

### Silent Auction & Raffle —

Don't forget to bring your donations for the silent auction. All money raised at the silent auction goes towards scholarships for future conferences and our grants program. Bring your items to check-in with you.



# Photo Contest



## MNA Amateur Photography Contest

MNA members are encouraged to start collecting photos to enter in MNA's annual member photo contest this year.

Members may enter one photo per category. Up to six submissions total:

- Minnesota Landscapes
- Minnesota Fauna
- Minnesota Flora and Fungi
- Minnesota Macro
- Minnesota Monochrome
- Adventures in Interpretation

Submitted entries will be displayed and voted on by 2017 conference attendees.

Contest rules and entry forms are included in the following pages.



© Mark Oestreich

# Minnesota Naturalists' Association Amateur Photography Contest Rules

- Entries will be accepted on Friday, November 10, 2017, 4-8 p.m. at the MNA Conference Check-in only.
- Amateur photographers only (those that are not paid for taking photographs).
- One submission form must accompany each submitted photograph. Form is also available online at [www.mnnaturalists.org](http://www.mnnaturalists.org)
- Only photos taken within the state of Minnesota will be accepted.
- Limit **one** photograph submission per category (6 submissions total per person).
- Please do not digitally enhance photos in any way that alters what the original photo showed beyond basic techniques such as correcting color balance, exposure and sharpness. Dodging, burning, switching to black and white or sepia and cropping are all acceptable as well. Manipulation of subject matter or creating composite images is not allowed. Photos should accurately represent the reality of the photographed scene.
- Submissions must be brought to the 2017 MNA Conference Check-in for judging. Must be attending the conference to participate.
- Entries must be no larger than 8x10 hard copy prints without frames. Matte or glossy finish accepted.
- Photographer must verify and provide photographic release form if recognizable persons are included in the submission. If there are youth ages 17 and under, their parent/guardian must sign the photographic release form. Form is available online at [www.mnnaturalists.org](http://www.mnnaturalists.org) and in this Registration Packet
- Entrants must be willing to allow the Minnesota Naturalists' Association authorization to use the photos in future publications.
- First place entries in each category will be featured on the MNA Facebook page, and possibly in future Newsletters
- Winners must be able to provide a high resolution digital copy of winning submissions.
- Judging will take place at the 2017 MNA conference at Deep Portage Learning Center
- Winners will be announced on Sunday November 12, 2017 at Deep Portage Learning Center
- Winners will be chosen by MNA Conference attendees. Must be present to win.



# Minnesota Naturalists' Association Amateur Photography Submission Form

Title for the Submission: \_\_\_\_\_

Photographer's Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Daytime phone \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_ City \_\_\_\_\_ State \_\_\_\_\_ Zip \_\_\_\_\_

Email: \_\_\_\_\_ Occupation: \_\_\_\_\_

## Image Categories (circle, select one per submission):

Minnesota Landscapes

Minnesota Fauna

Minnesota Monochrome

Minnesota Flora and Fungi

Minnesota Macro

Adventures in Interpretation

I authorize the use of this photograph in future publications and for other uses related to the Minnesota Naturalists' Association.

\_\_\_\_\_

please sign

\_\_\_\_\_

date

\* There must be 1 submission for each photo.



# Minnesota Naturalists' Association Photographic Release (for photos with recognizable persons)

## CONSENT FOR USE OF PHOTOGRAPH

I, the undersigned, \_\_\_\_\_, the parent/guardian of \_\_\_\_\_, authorize MNA to take and use photographs of: \_\_\_me, \_\_\_ my child(ren), or \_\_\_me and my children for the promotion of MNA and its functions, activities, and programs.

I understand that allowing MNA to photograph me, my child(ren) or both me and my child (ren) and present the photographs in promotional materials of MNA is completely voluntary and that I will not be paid for this use of the photographs. I give up any claim I might assert against any official, employee, agent or unit of MNA arising out of the use my pictures in promotional materials about MNA.

My permission to release this information about me and/or my child(ren) expires five years from the date this Consent is executed. I understand that I may revoke this Consent prior to five years by sending written notification to MNAmembership@gmail.com; however, the revocation will not apply to actions already taken by MNA in reliance on this Consent.

This Consent shall bind my heirs and assignees.

Signature \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

Photograph number/location/description:

No.: \_\_\_\_\_ Location: \_\_\_\_\_

Description/activity: \_\_\_\_\_



# Maple Syrup Competition

This year was a particularly good year for maple syruping. Enter your site's maple syrup (or even some of your own) in our maple syrup competition. Please bring at least 1 pint of your syrup and the completed form below to check-in.

Saturday evening conference attendees will be able to taste-test all the submissions and vote for their favorites!

## Maple Syrup Entry Form

Name/Site Name:

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Staff involved in the making of this syrup (if entering as a site):

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Name of Syrup (optional):

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Address:

City:

State:

Zip:

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Email:

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# Conference Schedule

## Friday

5:30 pm - 6:30 pm - Dinner

6:45 pm - 7:45 pm - Keynote

8:00 pm - 12:00 am - Social Time

## Saturday

7:00 am - 8:00 am - Breakfast

8:15 am - 9:15 am - Concurrent Session A

9:30 am - 11:00 am - Discussion Session

11:15 am - 12:15 pm - Concurrent Session B

12:30 pm - 1:30 pm - Lunch

1:30 pm - 2:30 pm - Member Meeting

2:30 pm - 3:30 pm - Site Tours/Informal Networking/Break

3:45 pm - 4:45 pm - Concurrent Session C

5:00 pm - 6:00 pm - Concurrent Session D

6:00 pm - 7:00 pm - Dinner

7:00 pm - 12:00 am - Social Time

## Sunday

7:00 am - 8:00 am - Breakfast

8:00 am - 8:30 am - Packing Time

8:45 am - 12:15 pm - Workshop Session

12:30 pm - 1:30 pm - Lunch