

**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE:**

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**Learn local lichens at Forest Preserve nature program**

GENEVA, IL — Learn your “Lichens Inside and Out” at a two-part Learn from the Experts program offered by the Forest Preserve District of Kane County.

Lichen expert Rich Hyerczyk returns with a class designed to explore the morphology and ecology of lichenized fungi commonly found in our area. Part 1 is a Lecture/Lab on Thursday, March 24, from 7-9 at Hickory Knolls Discovery Center in St. Charles. Part 2 is a field class on Saturday, March 26, from 10 a.m. to 1 p.m. at Norris Woods Nature Preserve. Registration is \$20.

“During the Thursday night indoor session, we’ll use scopes and hand lenses to become better acquainted with lichen characteristics. We’ll also practice keying out specimens. During the Saturday session, we’ll put these new skills to the test in the field, identifying lichens in Norris Woods Nature Preserve,” said Valerie Blaine, nature programs manager for the Forest Preserve District.

Learn from the Experts programs are taught by experts in the field and offer in-depth information and learning opportunities. Programs are jointly sponsored by the Forest Preserve District and Fox Valley, Geneva and St. Charles Park Districts. These programs are for ages 16 and up. Advance registration is required.

Hickory Knolls Discovery Center in St. Charles is located within West Side Community Park, near the intersection of Campton Hills Road and Peck Road in St. Charles. Norris Woods Nature Preserve is located on 3rd Avenue, north of Main Street in St. Charles.

For more information or to register, call 847-741-8350 or e-mail [programs@kaneforest.com](mailto:programs@kaneforest.com).