

**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE:**

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**Maple Sugaring Days are on tap next weekend at LeRoy Oakes**

GENEVA, IL — Come celebrate a sure sign of spring at “Maple Sugaring Days,” on Saturday and Sunday, March 11-12, from 1-4 p.m. at LeRoy Oakes Forest Preserve in St. Charles.

All are invited to come learn the time-honored tradition of maple tapping. Forest Preserve District of Kane County naturalists will show how to tap a maple tree, and you’ll have the opportunity to try your hand at drilling and setting your own tap. We’ll explore the art, science and folklore of the “sugar bush” or maple grove, from early Native American times to the modern sugaring industry. We’ll also simmer sap over an open fire and watch as it thickens to syrup. Plus, everyone’s invited on a “Sugarin’ Time” hike to learn how to distinguish maples from other species of hardwood trees.



*Photo by Community Affairs Specialist Brittany Kovach*

This program is one of the District’s most-popular nature programs. Don’t miss this fun, free event! Maple Sugaring Days programs are perfect for families, scouts, groups, or anyone looking to enjoy some time outdoors! While visiting LeRoy Oakes Forest Preserve, be sure to stop inside Creek Bend Nature Center to check out the interactive exhibits. There’s plenty to see and do. Admission to Creek Bend Nature Center is always free.

Creek Bend Nature Center is located within LeRoy Oakes Forest Preserve at 37W700 Dean St., St. Charles.

For more information on Maple Sugaring Days, call 630-444-3190 or visit [www.kaneforest.com](http://www.kaneforest.com).