

BBRP EXPO 2018 invites you to join us on Saturday, April 14th, 2018 at Cannon Falls High School to be inspired through education about our friend, the bluebird!

Check out the amazing speakers and program options being offered. Simply sign up to attend at BBRP.org or complete and mail the registration form. Refer any questions to *Luann, Expo 2018 Coordinator, email: expo@bbrpmin.org or 507-645-9470.*

We look forward to seeing you on the 14th.

BBRP EXPO 2018 Committee
Luann Alderks, Coordinator
Glen Shirley, Publicity
Bruce Smisek, Silent Auction
Wally Swanson, BBRP Information Booth
Fern Vesledahl, Chair

What you need to know!

Where: Cannon Falls High School
820 East Minnesota Street (Hwy 19)
Cannon Falls MN 55009

When: Saturday – April 14th, 2018
Registration begins at 8:00 - Atrium
Program starts at 9:00 – Auditorium
End at 3:30

Registrations Due: March 14th, 2018!

Food: Lunch and cookies are provided by the school.
Grilled chicken breast, mashed potatoes, glazed carrots, cole slaw salad, sliced apple, and dinner roll.
Please do not bring cookies. School policy does not allow outside food.

Cost: \$25 per adult - \$10 per child

Parking: Student Lot – West side of School – Look for the Bluebird Trailer!

Hotel: Grand Stay, 32027 Alexander Court, Cannon Falls, MN
Call prior to 3/13/18 for reservations – 855-455-7829. **Ask for BBRP.**
Reserved rooms available for check-in 4/13/18 - check out 4/15/18.
Rate \$119.00/night.

Bluebird Recover Program Expo 2018 Keynote Speakers

“It’s All About Bluebirds” – Mike Jeresek, member BBRP

- Keeping your trail successful
- Being a good example to fellow bluebirders
- Developing new bluebirders in your area to expand the BBRP mission

Growing up on the banks of the Mississippi River, Mike has always been an outdoorsman. Upon his retirement from teaching in 2002, Mike started his bluebirding experience achieving his goal to become a member of the “100 Club” in 2006. He currently serves as county coordinator for BBRP in Fillmore, Houston, and Winona Counties.

“The Science of Climate Change” – by Alan Anderson

- Basic science of climate research & the greenhouse effect
- Impacts of climate change on the world and our friend the bluebird
- Solutions to reverse the trends
- Recommended actions to maintain a hospitable climate for future generations

Alan was raised in Owatonna MN graduating from Oregon State University with a degree in Wildlife Science and Management. After 34 years, Alan retired from the Boy Scouts of America. His passion for climate change was stirred after attending a Nobel Conference at Gustavus Adolphus College in 2012. After taking an on-line course from MIT, on the Science of Climate Change, he began public education focusing his concern about the health of the planet we will leave our children and grandchildren.

"Weekly Bluebird Monitoring Made Simple, Making Year-end Reporting Even Simpler". – David Schmidt, member of BBRP

- How to easily record your observations on the trail
- Submitting your annual results on BBRP.org

David is a volunteer Master Naturalist from Inver Grove Heights and avid friend of bluebirds, monitoring and coordinating volunteers to monitor trails in Dakota County. Additionally, he’s a longtime volunteer at the Minnesota Zoo where he got his start bluebirding, he also provides assistance with nature based programs at Dodge Nature Center, the National Park Service and newly established Darvan Acres Nature Center.

Breakout Sessions Speakers Morning and Afternoon

In an effort to meet various educational and informational interests, BBRP Expo 2018 Committee is pleased to introduce breakout sessions.

As you register, please select one morning and one afternoon session! Please include the title of your choices on the registration form. Your options and when they are offered are listed below:

"Bird Language: Learning the Language of Nature." (Offered both AM & PM)

By Jonathan Poppele

- Introduce the world of bird language
- Share the fundamentals of interpreting bird language
- Give you information about deepening your own journey into learning the language of the birds.

Jonathan is an independent naturalist, author and educator whose work helps people connect more deeply to themselves, others, and nature. He earned a master's degree in conservation biology studying animal tracking as a tool for citizen science research and has taught biology, ecology, and writing at the University of Minnesota. Jonathan is the Minnesota coordinator for Bird Language Leaders--a partnership between the National Audubon Society and the Nature Connection Mentoring foundation.

"Prairies & Pollinators - A Cause for Hope" (Offered both AM & PM)

By Chris Schad, The Bee Shed

- An overview of honey bee biology and beekeeping basics
- Review of the natural history of the North American Prairie and its value in supporting pollinators
- Research supports the business case for native prairie restoration and how that approach is starting to take root in public green spaces.

Chris is a biologist by training, with several peer-reviewed papers published in scientific journals. Recently his attention has turned to prairie restoration and other ways to support local pollinators such as honey bees. He manages bees on his rural Rochester, MN property plus on other regional sites. He is the founder and co-owner of The Bee Shed, SBC, a specific-benefit corporation dedicated to beekeeping education, public education about pollinators, and prairie restoration.

“Defending the Bluebird Territory”

(Offered both AM & PM)

By Keith Radel

- Are the birds visiting our nestboxes friend or foe?
- What about pests?
- Who are bluebird predators?
- How can we help defend their territory?

Keith installed his first bluebird nestboxes in 1986 fledging zero birds. After attending a bluebird conference, he fledged 81 bluebirds in 1988 averaging over 100 bluebirds every year since. Keith currently serves as Assistant State Coordinator of BBRP. His extensive knowledge of bluebirds will help you answer any questions you may have as a new or seasoned bluebirder.

“Nature at Our Doorstep”

(Offered both AM & PM)

by Matt Schuth

- Provides solid information about birds, trees, insects and other aspects of the natural world using personal experience and homespun humor, myth, and folklore.
- Disseminates little-known information regarding living, breathing world lying just beyond our doorstep

Matt is an author, naturalist and volunteer at the Minnesota Landscape Arboretum. He grew up on a farm near Wabasha, Minnesota, on the bluffs overlooking the Mississippi. He has worked in various capacities at the University of Minnesota Landscape Arboretum since 1982, managing maple syrup production, working on wetland projects with graduate students, helping to prepare and maintain research plots, setting up bluebird trails, wood duck houses, and osprey nests, and keeping track of bird, mammal, and butterfly sightings at the Arboretum. Matt writes about the natural world for the “Arboretum Magazine” and conducts nature walks and talks throughout the year.

“Bluebird Trail Set-Up & Analysis”

(Offered AM only)

By Fern Vesledahl

- Starting a Bluebird Trail or want to improve a trail?
- Learn proper and improper nestbox locations?

Fern has been an active BBRP member monitoring bluebird trails for over 14 years in Rice County. She has served the organization as a former chairperson and newsletter editor. Fern currently serves on the board, assists at BBRP Educational Booths, Expo Committee member and is a Rice County Coordinator. She thanks her fellow bluebirding friends for teaching her best practices for helping bluebirds. Now she wants to give back to others interested in pursuing this rewarding hobby.

“County Coordinator Meeting”

(Offered AM only)

By Carrol Johnson, State Coordinator BBRP & Larry Alderks, Chairperson BBRP

- For all County Coordinators and those who are interested in this role
- Roles and responsibilities
- Helpful hints to promote bluebird recovery efforts in your county
- Support ideas and concepts of BBRP

“The Science of Climate Change –

(Offered PM only)

Question & Answer Roundtable” - By Alan Anderson

- For those who want to discuss and hear more from our keynote speaker Alan Anderson about climate change and what we can do to make a difference.

BBRP Is Inviting All Youth!

The future of BBRP and any volunteer program lies with our youth. EXPO 2018 is pleased to offer a youth specific program for the afternoon. We encourage you to reach out to your children, grandchildren, and local Girl Scout, Boy Scout, and 4-H organizations! Have them contact Luann Alderks, email: expo@bbrpmn.org or 507-645-9470 for group specific registration forms.

Youth program registration will begin at 12:30. Youth are invited to attend the entire day with accompanying adult.

Program includes:

“Pollinators! How You Can Help!” – by Chris Schad, The Bee Shed

“Nature at Our Doorstep” – Matt Schuth, UM Arboretum

“Yes – Bluebirds” – Connor & Claire Berndt, youth with bluebird trail experience

“Weekly Bluebird Monitoring Made Simple, Make Year-end Reporting Even Simpler” - David Schmidt, BBRP Member

What Else Can I Expect at BBRP EXPO 2018?

Vendors: Bluebird Houses & Feeders – Joe Adelman
Meal Worms -
Customized Bluebird Shirts – Larson’s Printing
Honey – The Bee Shed
Maple Syrup – Hering’s Maple Syrup
“Language of Birds” – book sales by John Popelle
“Nature at Our Doorstep” – book sales by Matt Schuth
Bird Art – Northfield Arts Guild
More to come!

Information Booth:
Everything you want to know about Bluebirds!
Where every Bluebird question you have has an answer!

Silent Auction:
Donated items by members
Donated items by local Businesses

Membership Renewal:
Is your membership current?
Take advantage of being at the EXPO and renew!

Invitations are being extended to:
Minnesota State Horticultural Society
Minnesota Audubon Society
Red Headed Woodpecker Society
Minnesota Arboretum
Prairie Restoration Society
Purple Martins