



Registration Packet

Everything you need to help prepare you for the conference

November 11-13, 2016

● Wolf Ridge Environmental Learning Center ●
Finland, Minnesota

MNA Annual Conference 2016

The 2016 MNA Annual Conference is almost here! I am very excited to present this year's theme: Home Grown.



In this modern day where we move amongst temperature-controlled spaces, depend on GPS systems to get us from point A to point B, and learn about the natural world from TV specials and YouTube videos, it can be easy to forget the connections we have to this earth. But the one thing that ties us firmly to the natural world around us is the food we eat. Our food is a part of our identity. It is something that sustains us. It is a major part of the landscape that surround us. It is the livelihood of a large portion of our community. It is a way we express our culture, and it's something we are quick to share with someone of another culture because it is a way of sharing who we are.

As naturalists, both professional and non-professional alike, our goal is to cultivate connections to the natural world in the people with whom we interact. What better way than with food?

But this conference is not just about the food we bring to the table; it's also about the things we bring with us. Sitting down together and sharing a meal isn't just about getting the sustenance we need to live another day; it's about making new connections, developing relationships, and sharing ideas. Every year we gather together to do just that, and this year is no different.

Our conference this year is full of new connections to be made, friendships to strengthen and, with the help of all of our presenters, a lot of juicy new ideas to talk about. I can't wait to sit down and have a meal with you!

Ashley Smith

Conference Coordinator



Register Online!

Once again our registration process is completely online!

Check out our new website, renew your membership and register for the conference online at www.mnnaturalists.org.



Minnesota Naturalists' Association

What's Included

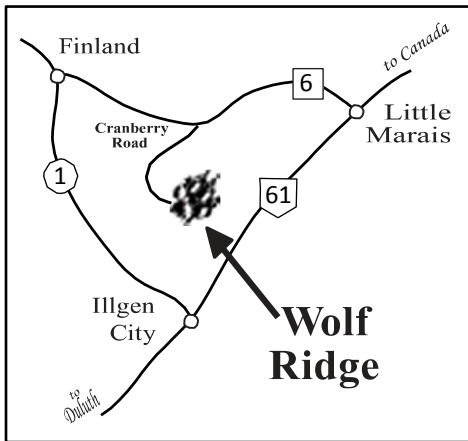
Full conference registration includes:

- An exciting workshop with Sean Sherman
- Concurrent and workshop sessions
- Evening entertainment and refreshments
- Dinner Friday
- Breakfast, lunch and dinner Saturday
- Breakfast and Lunch on Sunday
- Lodging at WRELC on Friday and Saturday night

The preconference fieldtrip is an extra charge, which includes:

- Lodging Thursday night
- Breakfast and Lunch on Friday

Wolf Ridge Environmental Learning Center



Wolf Ridge Environmental Learning Center

6282 Cranberry Road
Finland, MN 55603

218-353-7414

Driving Directions

From Duluth, MN

Follow MN-61 approximately 66 miles north of Duluth to County Road 6 in Little Marais. There is a brown sign marking the turn to Wolf Ridge. Take a left on County Road 6. Travel 3 miles to the Wolf Ridge driveway (Cranberry Road). Follow the driveway 2.5 miles to the ridge top.

From the Twin Cities, MN

Take I-35 North from the Twin Cities to Duluth, MN. I-35 becomes MN Highway 61. Follow the directions from Duluth to Wolf Ridge.

From Grand Forks, ND

Take US-2 East to Duluth, Minnesota. Stay going straight onto MN-194. Take a slight right to Miller Trunk Highway/US-53 South/MN-194 East. Turn Right onto Trinity Road/US-53 South and continue to follow US-53 South. Take the I-535/US-53 ramp toward Wisconsin and merge onto I-35 North via the ramp on the left toward MN-61. Follow the directions from Duluth to Wolf Ridge.

From Eau Claire, WI

Take US-53 North into Superior, Wisconsin. Cross over into Duluth, Minnesota and merge onto I-35 North. I-35 North become MN Highway 61. Follow the directions from Duluth to Wolf Ridge.

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 Fund) and money (the silent auction accepts cash, checks, and cards).
- Photography and maple syrup contest submissions
- Your favorite recipes for the recipe exchange
- BYO beverages
- Business cards

Conference Check-in

Friday, November 11; 3:30-8 p.m.

East Dormitory

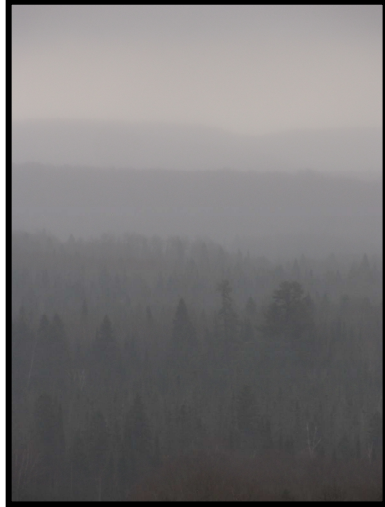
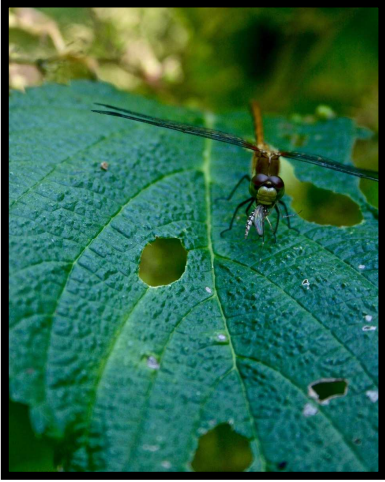
At check-in, conference participants will select roommates. Lodging is dorm-style; all rooms have 4 bunk beds with a private bathroom.

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 the same time and place on Thursday evening.



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 2016 conference attendees.

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

Minnesota Naturalists' Association

Amateur Photography Contest Rules

- Entries will be accepted on Friday, November 11, 2016, 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
- 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 2016 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
- Entrants must be willing to allow the Minnesota Naturalists' Association authorization to use the photos in future publications.
- All entries become the property of MNA; no photos will be returned.
- First place entries in each category will be featured on the MNA Facebook page.
- Winners must be able to provide a high resolution digital copy of winning submissions.
- Judging will take place at the 2016 MNA conference at Wolf Ridge Environmental Learning Center.
- Winners will be announced on Sunday November 13, 2015 at Wolf Ridge Environmental 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 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: _____



Recipe Exchange

This year's conference is all about what we each bring to the table, so let's make that literal with a recipe swap. If you have a go-to or favorite recipe that friends are always asking for, share it here! We'll have a laptop set up to capture the recipes, and they'll be made available as a PDF after the conference.

At the conference we will ask you to input your recipe onto a laptop. Below is the format we will be using to ensure consistency in our MNA Recipe Book. So please come with your recipes prepared in this format:

Title: Yummy Food Name

Description: What's this Yummy Food like?

Ingredients: What's all the stuff you need for your recipe and how much?

Instructions: How do you cook and assemble everything?

Yield: How many servings?

Active Time: How long does it take to prep?

Total Time: How long to cook?

Source: Your full name

URL: if you got it online and want to share a link to it

Categories: Cookies? Appetizer? Chicken? Pasta? Etc.

Notes: Any tips or tricks to help it turn out better?

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 form below filled out 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:

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

Name of Syrup (optional):

Address:

City:

State:

Zip:

Email:

Conference Schedule

● Friday ●

4:00-5:00 Site Tour

5:30-6:30 Dinner

6:45-8:45 Sioux Chef Workshop

9:00-11:00 Social Time

● Saturday ●

7:15-8:15 Breakfast

8:30-12:00 Workshop Session

12:15-1:15 Lunch

1:15-2:15 Member Meeting

2:30-3:30 Networking Session

3:30-4:15 Extended networking/Break

4:30-5:30 Concurrent Session A

5:45-6:45 Dinner

7:00-11:00 Social Time

● Sunday ●

7:00-8:00 Breakfast

8:00-8:30 Packing Time

8:30-9:30 Concurrent Session B

9:45-10:45 Concurrent Session C

11:00-12:00 Concurrent Session D

12:15-1:15 Lunch