



# ArbLIFE

SUMMER 2021 | OUR LIFE



# Our Team

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Aon Risk Solutions - Retired



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Breen and Person & Quality Title



Rick Meyer  
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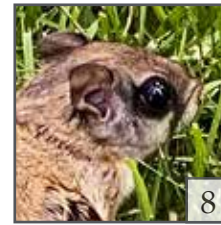
Dan Lee  
Corporate Attorney

## Ex-Officio Members

Darrel Olson - City of Baxter - Mayor  
Tad Erickson - City of Brainerd

## Northland Arboretum Staff

Candice Zimmermann - Executive Director  
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Shelly Stanley - Bookkeeper/Membership Coord.  
Loni Heldt - Volunteer Coordinator/Front Desk  
Rick Hines - Maintenance Supervisor  
Judy Hustak - Front Desk  
Mara Powers - Front Desk  
Katie Holtz - Front Desk



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**Our Mission:** "The Northland Arboretum strives to be a valued community asset providing outdoor recreation and educational activities for all while protecting the natural environment".

**Our Vision:** The Northland Arboretum will be the premier destination in Central Minnesota connecting people to the environment for the promotion of education, recreation and conservation.

### What's your legacy?



The Northland Arboretum Legacy is preserving this premier public environmental facility in the Brainerd Lakes Area for the promotion of education, recreation and conservation. Ways you may wish to help the Northland Arboretum: Gifts of Cash, Gifts of Real Estate, Gifts of Stock, Life Time Gifts, Bequests, Life Income Gifts, Gifts of Life Insurance. Memorial envelopes can be mailed upon request. The Northland Arboretum can provide you with additional information on any gifts you may be considering. Contact us at 218-829-8770 or at [info@northlandarb.org](mailto:info@northlandarb.org).

Thank you for your support throughout the year.



### On the Cover:

A bee on a Zinnia from a past summer G101 gardening program taught by the MN Master Gardeners.

Photo by Jenny Quam





## A word from the Executive Director

Candice Zimmermann

Hello Fellow Arb Lovers,

One of my favorite places to sit and ponder at the Northland Arboretum is across from the visitor center in our beautiful rain garden. This area is filled with sweet smells, vibrant colors, and the soothing sound of water dancing down a waterfall into the pond. My senses are spoiled in this environment and my heart is full. It is where I can recharge my batteries by connecting with nature just a few steps outside my office door. One of the benefits of your membership is having the convenience of the Arboretum being at the center of this bustling town. Take advantage of that when you need contact with nature. Whether you visit the Arb once a week or once a season, I hope you experience a re-energizing sense of peace and calm when you are here.

As you can imagine, summer brings a laundry list of chores and projects upon our Arb staff and volunteers. You will see dedicated volunteers weeding, planting, and laying mulch. You will see our bustling maintenance crew mowing lawns, clearing brush, and cleaning trails. We work our hardest during the summer so your senses can be delighted when you visit. This is your Arboretum and we want to create the best experience for you while doing our best to protect and serve our natural world.

So, as I listen to the cheerful chatter of birds and playful chirps of chipmunks during my early morning stroll, it is this serene feeling I wish every visitor experiences when you pass through our Arboretum gates. If you haven't had the opportunity to sit in the rain garden and take in the sights and sounds, I challenge you to do so. Coffee in hand -- I'll be waiting for you.

## Board Member Highlight - Dan Lee



Dan comes to the Northland Arboretum as a recovering lawyer who practiced for over 35 years and worked for General Electric, Carlson Companies, Moneygram, and Caribou Coffee. He offers his time and talents in multiple ways including sitting on our Board of Directors, serving on the Maintenance/Grounds Committee, and helping to lead our

long-term strategic plan. Although he and his wife, Jennifer, spend time in Arizona during the winter they are very involved in the University of Minnesota Crow Wing Mas-

ter Gardeners program and are often seen in the G101 gardens during the summer. Dan is one of the leaders of the Master Gardener Giving Garden which was established last year and will continue during the 2021 season as a way to educate the community about growing produce, as well as providing produce to those in need. Dan enjoys spending time at the Arb because, "it is a place where we can educate the public about the importance of all aspects of the natural world". The Arb isn't the only place you can see Dan involved in outdoor advocacy. He also sits on the Round Lake Association Board, Northern Waters and Land Trust Board, Crow Wing Energize committees, and finds time to do some outdoor recreation in the form of skiing, hunting, fishing and biking. We are fortunate to have such a talented and dedicated member of our Board!

*Would you like to become a Northland Arboretum Board Member? Contact Candice: [arbdirector@northlandarb.org](mailto:arbdirector@northlandarb.org) for a short application.*

### In Memorium

## Dona Pierce

The Northland Arboretum has been fortunate to have such great dedicated gardeners in the past. Kay Welke, Dorothy Sundburg, Fred Holmquist all volunteered into their 80's and 90's.

We now mourn the passing of a dedicated weekly weeder and Master Gardener. Dona was very proud of her native plants and natural landscape and she would often share her plants. Dona was an inspiration to many and instilled the importance of planting native plant way before it became popular.





# Kids Corner



## Can spiders have more or less legs than the normal 8 legs? Asked by Wren

How many legs does a spider have? They have 10 legs! This is no joke; spiders have 8 legs that they walk with, however, they also have a pair

that they use sort of like hands. These front pair of legs are referred to as pedipalps or just palps for short.

Yes, all spiders START OUT with 8 legs. But it's not unusual to see a spider with 7 legs, or even fewer. If a spider's leg is trapped, it can self-amputate at a specific joint, dropping the leg to free itself

*Submit your Question for Candice at [arbdirector@northlandarb.org](mailto:arbdirector@northlandarb.org)*



ALL SUMMER!

## Naturally Speaking

with a MN Master Naturalist

Don't miss our summer long program  
"Naturally Speaking" with a  
MN Master Naturalist.

Every Wednesday at 1 pm we will meet at the  
Holden Gazebo. Our nature talks will feature a  
new topic each week!

Check Facebook and Instagram for weekly topics.

Free to Arboretum members. Non-members will need to purchase a day pass to participate.





## The Arboretum has an exciting new program for kids for summer, "Nature's Knapsacks".

The Arb now has backpacks available to "rent" for non-members and for free for Arb members and loaded with never-ending kid fun.

These backpacks include: binoculars, a journal, a bug catching net, a critter cage, compass, measuring tape, a crazy fun scavenger hunt card deck, a magnifying glass and more. When your family picks up their knapsack, kids will be able to choose a book to borrow from our on-site library to make their visit even more special. In addition, the knapsacks will provide an outdoor lesson in a pouch for families to complete together as they walk the Arb trails. There will be MANY activities and topics to choose from so your family will be able to use this program again and again!

Don't forget to check our new kids library and reading area for kids.



## Dandelion Play Dough

Summer is finally here and with the sunshine, kids are bringing me dandelions by the handfuls. There is just something magical to children about dandelions.

- A Big Handful of Dandelions
- 1 cup of boiling water
- 2 cups of flour
- 1/3 cup of salt
- 2 T. baby oil (or vegetable oil)
- 1-2 T. cream of tartar

### Directions

1. Optional: A blender to help you blend the water with the dandelions to create a vibrant yellow. Bring one cup of water to a boil and remove from heat.
2. In a blender, mix the hot water and dandelions.
3. Once the dandelions are well blended in the water, transfer the water to a bowl and add in oil, salt, and cream of tartar. Give it a good stir to dissolve the salt.
4. Add in 2 cups of flour to the mixture and stir well until it is fully mixed.
5. Then dig your hands in and mix some more. If it is sticky at this point you might need to sprinkle in some more flour and knead until it no longer sticks. The amount of flour that you may need to mix in will vary based on how much water the dandelions were holding.



## CHOCOLATE COVERED FROZEN BANANAS

There are lots of different toppings you can choose but some of our favorite are: Shredded coconut, Crushed Oreos, Peanut butter and mini M&M candies, Crushed pistachios, Colored sprinkles, and Mini chocolate chips. They are so easy and quick to make! Once you are done just store them in the freezer until you are ready to eat!

6 popsicle sticks, 16 oz chocolate, 3 bananas, 1 tbsp coconut oil

### Instructions

1. Slice three peeled bananas in half and insert popsicle sticks into each.
2. Place them on a baking sheet with parchment paper and freeze for about 1 hour
3. In a large microwavable bowl, add the chocolate and coconut oil and microwave in 30 seconds intervals until smooth.
4. Take a banana and use a spoon to coat with chocolate one at a time. Sprinkle each banana with a different topping.
5. Serve and enjoy!







# Water and Wildlife

By Judd Brink Owner/Guide MN Backyard Birds



As we are well aware how important water is for our own well-being it's even more critical for the many wildlife species that we enjoy at our lake home or cabin. Water might be our most important natural resource and its health and

protection will only depend on us in the near future. We are just starting to see the changes now with the introduction of invasive species. There are many more threats to our waters and for the future of the wildlife that depend on clean water for their survival. Even our state bird the Common Loon might be gone from the state according to Audubon due to climate change and water quality. Here are some ideas on enhancing and creating wildlife habitat along your lake shore while protecting and restoring the water quality.

Adding a rain garden to help slow and catch runoff from high rainfall events and or any impervious surface such as a driveway or roof top before it reaches the lakeshore. This buffer can help in reducing any sediments or pollution from entering the lake that could affect water quality. Rain gardens are becoming very popular and can be added as part of your landscape design. Using native plantings for your rain gardens also attracts wildlife. You can contact your local soil and water conservation district to get more info on rain gardens with some offering grants or cost/share programs to install.

Do you have a goose problem on your shoreline or dock? The best solution is to do nothing! The natural vegetation when allowed to grow will deter geese as they avoid tall/thick vegetation in fear of predation. A natural buffer that is not maintained, cut, trimmed, chemical treated or manicured can greatly reduce goose access to your shoreline, lawn and or docks. This is one reason that golf courses are so appealing to large goose concentrations. As with rain gar-

dens large scale shoreline restorations are also being used to help create and enhance our properties that experience issues with erosion. Using native plantings is highly recommended for a more natural look and for better results. There are many social, economic and environmental benefits of a shoreline restoration. One of those benefits includes spending less time and saving money from not mowing and or maintaining your shoreline. Restoring and protecting your shoreline greatly affects the aquatic diversity and ecology for many wildlife species.

Minnesota is home to the largest Common Loon population in the United States outside of Alaska with about 12,000 loons. The loon is our symbol of the north woods but is also an indicator of clean water. In certain situations a nesting platform can be used to help attract and provide safety and protection from predators during the critical nesting season. Other nesting birds that can benefit from nesting boxes along our shorelines include (Wood Duck, Purple Martin, Tree Swallow, Osprey and Bats). Rain gardens and shoreline restoration projects can increase the number and variety of wildlife species on our properties and help with water quality that we all need. Happy Birding!



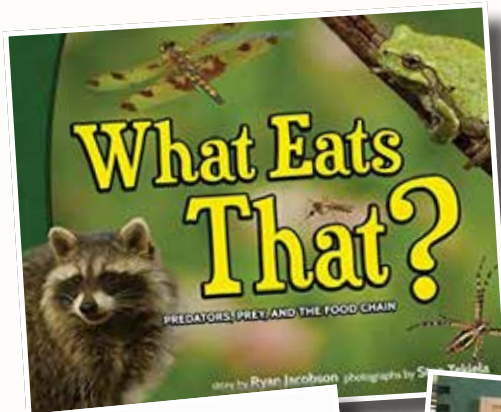
*Judd Brink, is the owner of MN Backyard Birds in the Brainerd Lakes area. MN Backyard Birds provides birdscaping for homeowners and businesses to attract and enjoy more colorful songbirds. The business was recently featured on Kare 11 news with Belinda Jensen and MN Bound with Ron Schara. For more information about birdscaping or a free backyard consultation contact me at (218) 838-4784 or email me at [info@birdminnesota.com](mailto:info@birdminnesota.com).*

Sincerely,

**MN Backyard Birds™**

*Attract and enjoy more birds with birdscaping!*





**Nature's Gifts**  
Northland Arboretum

Stop in and visit the Arboretum's gift shop, Nature's Gifts. The shelves are stocked with unique gifts.

Just in are Minnesota themed puzzles, new books and themed journals such as bird watching, state parks and camping..

We just got in new hoodies for kids and adults for those cool nights around the campfire.

Remember...gift certificates make great gifts!

## ReTreat Yourself!

Schedule your landscape project today!



**SIGN UP** for our newsletter – including upcoming events, tips and coupons!  
Go to: [LandsburgNursery.com](http://LandsburgNursery.com)

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## The Visitors Center and Gardens

Visitors arrive, chatting about the great weather for a walk in the Northland Arboretum. Some open their trunks to get out the strollers for the young ones, some load themselves with camera equipment, some with walking sticks. Squirt bottles of sunscreen and bug repellent appear as the walkers prepare for their excursion. (Both are quite wise to use at the arb – especially with the insects who hum themselves into a frenzy over who knows what lunch they sense passing by.) Once ready, car doors and trunks click shut and lock. The bird feeder brings sounds of chipping chickadees, the twits of sparrows, the scolds of blue jays who seem to chase the others away – and a rather talkative squirrel climbs up to get his share if he has anything to say about it. The pond ripples as the waterfall drops from up near the gazebo – and perhaps a frog or two lets out a sound – a peep from the little ones, a guttural comment from the larger fellows.

## Moving into the Trails and through the FIVE CORNERS

Especially in the spring, birds of every voice make themselves heard from every direction. The smaller warblers and sparrows hop along the trail or perch just a few feet above the ground as they call out to each other. Overhead, darting swallows and bluebirds can be heard – their chirps as well as a whirr from their wings. Higher in the trees and deeper into the woods, blue jays belt out their signals to potential mates – or are they warning others of passing humans? Breezes pass through different trees with different sounds; birch leaves bring out different whispers of the wind than the needles of the pine trees. At ground level, ferns and wildflowers follow the wind patterns, and though they may seem silent, they add a tiny tone to nature's effects.







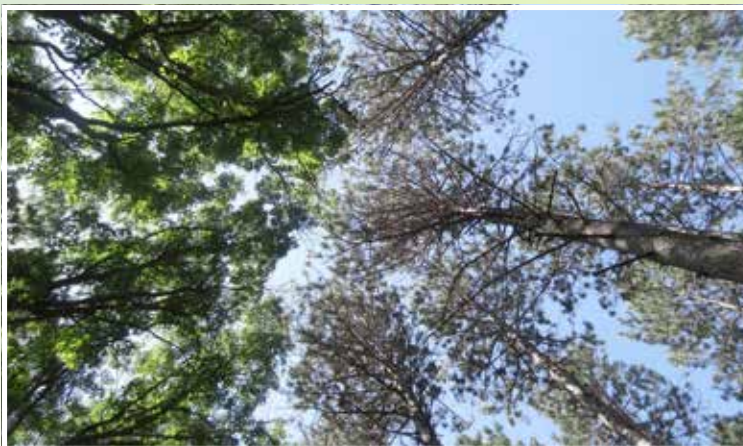
## On the Water

Whether at the Monet Pond in the southeast corner of the Northland Arboretum or navigating around the larger pond in the far northwest zone, or even while passing the brook that runs under the North Star Trail, water sounds fill the air. The wind creates lapping waves – there's no real concern for whitecaps in today's beautiful weather – and the stream can't do anything but babble its way as it heads east to the Mississippi. There are waterfowl of all sorts and voice. A mallard is

readily recognizable, but what about that odd honk? It might be a larger duck or a goose. Sandhill cranes, too, have been seen and heard as they share their distinctive bray with all who care to listen. Sounds on the quiet side, too, join in; a snake slithering along the weeds and grass – a squirrel scampering over dead leaves and branches as it seeks acorns along the shores.

## And At Last

There is a stand of tall pines at the far north trails of the Northland Arboretum, remnants of the Johnson Tree Farm. These pines, trunks lined up like soldiers, so erect and at attention, sway in the wind with an audible rhythm. Not so many come all this way to the north side of the arboretum, so there are less human sounds. Otherwise, it is here where all the sounds mentioned previously can be detected – the birds, the breeze, the water (the northwest pond isn't all that far away from here), and even the unexpected moments of silence make for a sense of sanctuary.



*"And that is a good deal of what makes the Northland Arboretum so unique."*





# The Flying Squirrel

By Peg Serani, Minnesota Master Naturalist and Proud Lifetime Member of Northland Arboretum

Every spring my husband, Marc, and I enjoy checking out all the wildlife in our wonderful backyard. After a long winter of watching the birds and deer from our dining room window, it is so amazing to be lucky enough to be outside watching all the new wildlife coming “home” to nest!

We keep multiple nesting boxes for our returning birds that include the Eastern Blue Bird, Tree Swallow, Flycatcher and Chickadee. We also are lucky enough to have found nesting Cardinals and Blue Jays in our trees plus Orioles, Phoebe and Robins. It is what brings us so much joy.

But last summer in late June I noticed a very different nest in our back box that the Flycatchers normally build in. There was what appeared to be shredded dried grass all the way to the bottom of the entrance hole with no possible way to enter the tangled mess. Or so I thought! I stood there looking at the box trying to figure out what was in there. I lightly tapped on the side of the house and heard rustling inside the box. Then it was quiet. I tapped again. Again, a little rustling and this time some squeaks, then quiet. I carefully opened the box and was met with a tangled nest of shredded tan grass. There were little squeaks and then a nose appeared from beneath the grass. This surely was NOT a bird in our back box! It looked like a squirrel but it was way too small for a gray squirrel. Could it be a red squirrel? No, it was much too calm and relaxed to be a red squirrel. It was too big to be a mouse and definitely was not a chipmunk. As quickly as the little nose appeared, it disappeared back under the grass nest. I quietly closed the box now knowing that we had a nesting mammal, but what could it possibly be? A little more rustling and squeaking happened inside the box and suddenly – boom – out popped the critter. It clung to the side of the box and turned to look at me with its HUGE eyes. I knew those eyes – it was a flying squirrel!

We had a staring contest – this precious little mama and I. She didn’t flinch and I quietly took the opportunity to get a

photo. I still could not believe what I was seeing – a flying squirrel in broad daylight just inches from me.

Tiny squeaks came from the box again and our staring contest was over. Mama climbed to the roof of the box and jumped – quickly gliding to the ground. She gently landed and again looked up at me – daring me to follow her away from the nesting box that I now knew held her precious little family. I looked away from her for just a second and she darted off to the base of a tree several yards away. Would she let me follow her to see what she would do next? Our game of “cat and mouse” continued.

I was able to quietly follow her to the tree and again stare at the beauty of this little creature. Her huge doe eyes never moved. The gently folds along her body that allow her to fly were perfectly still. Her fur looked so soft – so very soft – I just wanted to reach out and touch it. The legs on this little creature were almost non-existent – the folds went from front foot to back foot. That brought my eyes down to her amazing tail. It was so different from our normal squirrel tails – it was flat and had the appearance of being parted right down the middle and brushed to each side.

After allowing me to walk around the tree to capture her beauty from a couple of angles, she darted up the tree turned around and continued our contest in less than a second flat. Unlike her chatty cousins, she never made a sound until now. Our time together was done. I needed to leave this new mama alone so she could get back to her little family and she agreed as she gave me a quiet squeak and disappeared into the tree.

I was so excited – we had a flying squirrel nesting in one of our boxes! I could hardly wait to let Marc know and off I dashed to the house.

There were several things that were so different with my first face to face encounter with a flying squirrel. They are a

  
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**EXTENSION**  
MASTER GARDENER PROGRAM



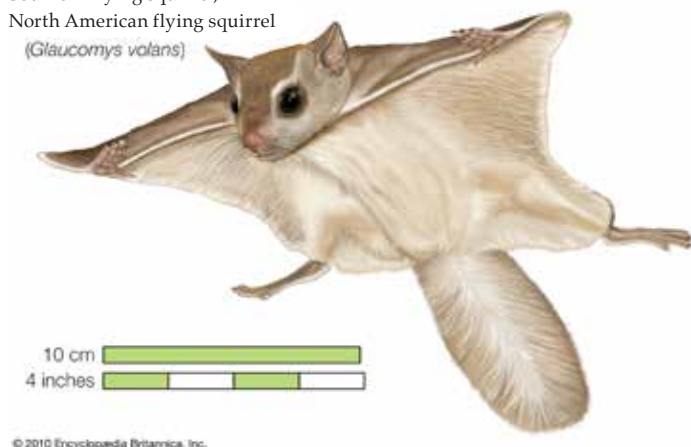


nocturnal mammal coming out at night to move about and feed under the safety of darkness. Plus they breed and have their young months earlier. Time to check this little critter out!

## The Northern and the Southern Flying Squirrel

We have two species of flying squirrels in Minnesota, the

Southern flying squirrel,  
North American flying squirrel  
(*Glaucomys volans*)



*Flying Squirrel in flight. (Drawing From Encyclopedia Britannica)*

Northern Flying Squirrel and the Southern Flying Squirrel. These two species are hard to identify separately as they are very much the same in coloration. The biggest difference being the southern has a pure white underside that extends from their chin to the end of their tail while the northern has a creamier to grayish color underside. Identifying by size difference may be easier when they are side by side as the northern is larger at up to 11 inches long and the southern grows to only 9 inches long – these measurements include the tail. Again, it can be hard to decipher these differences when seeing them in their natural settings. The fact that our area can host both species makes it hard to tell just what species was in our nesting box.

*Continued on page 10*

## FUN FACTS ABOUT OUR FLYING SQUIRRELS:

- When gliding, they can change direction by 180 degrees
- They glow in the dark!
- There are more than 40 species of flying squirrels worldwide
- 90% of all Flying Squirrel species exist only in Asia
- Baby squirrels are called kits
- Some Flying Squirrels are larger than a house cat
- They fly, and stay up at night, to avoid predators
- Southern flying squirrels are more aggressive than the Northern species
- The Southern species carry a deadly parasite that is nonlethal to them but fatal to northern flying squirrels
- Many people who think they see birds flying across highways at night, or around campfires, actually are seeing flying squirrels
- Flying squirrels have been around for roughly 160 million years making them some of the most primitive mammals that still exist today
- Flying squirrels communicate with each other using a very high pitched noise - far higher than anything a human ear could discern
- Mothers maintain several backup nests in case their primary nest is put in danger
- Huddling for warmth is so important that if there aren't any other Flying Squirrels around, they won't be picky and have been documented sharing their communal nest with bats and even screech owls
- Flying squirrels do not break open a nutshell to eat its contents but instead form a single hole in the shell to dig out the nut meat
- Flying squirrels can collect up to 15,000 nuts per season
- Base jumping and some forms of skydiving use a suit that resembles the patagia of the Flying Squirrel allowing humans to glide for long distances and slow their descent. The developers of these suits actually studied the Flying Squirrel to determine everything from the tensile strength of the fabric to mimicking their extra finger to keep the fabric tight



The flying squirrel does not truly fly as a bird or bat does by flapping their wings. They are, however, amazing gliders. They have a fold of skin or a furry membrane on each side of their body that extends from their front foot to their back foot called a patagium. They also have an extra finger known as a cartilage spur on each wrist allowing them to extend their patagia out further so they can capture more air when gliding. When they leap from their perch they can glide up to 150 feet using their flat tail as a stabilizer during flight and as a brake when they land.

The flying squirrel is our only nocturnal squirrel meaning it “comes alive at night” where it does all its feeding and moving around. This is why they have such large eyes! These large eyes allow them to collect more light for better vision at night, just like our night-hunting owls.

The first time we ever saw flying squirrels in our yard was during the night at our bird feeders. They would leap from the tree trunk to the feeder and back to the tree effortlessly. We would sit at our window entertained by them for what seemed like hours. These night time marauders also rely on lichen, fungi and other plant parts including nuts, seeds and plant tissue to survive. The southern species will also eat insects, small birds and bird eggs and have been observed dining on carrion - or dead animals.

The range of the Northern Flying Squirrel is shown on the habitat range map in blue while the range of the Southern Flying Squirrel is shown in light brown. Overlapping habitat for the Northern and Southern species is shown with a mixture of blue and light brown. Humboldt's flying squirrel is the recently discovered third species of flying squirrel in North America and is found only on the western side of the continent and shown on the map in dark orange.



*Habitat range of the three Flying Squirrel species found in North America  
(Map from National Geographic)*

The southern species exist in a variety of habitat but the northern species prefer a habitat of red spruce or mixed spruce forest. We have spruce in our yard, surrounding neighborhood and in the woods behind us – so it is possible we are looking at a Northern Flying Squirrel. However, our entire neighborhood and woods behind us is a mixture of dif-



ferent deciduous and coniferous trees, so it also might be a Southern Flying Squirrel. (Why do I suddenly have visions of a scene from the movie Princess Bride going through my mind right now?) Research in Wisconsin has shown that the southern species has been moving its boundaries north by approximately 12.5 miles per year. This is mainly due to habitat being more to the liking of the southern species. In their studies, they have also found that where the southern species has moved in the northern species has move out.

Both species of flying squirrels found in Minnesota mate in February and March. They give birth to up to five babies that are hairless, blind and their internal organs are visible through their skin. By 5 weeks old they are almost fully developed and they start working on their gliding skills. Only the female takes care of the babies where she feeds and protects them until they leave the nest at the young and tender age of 2 ½ months old. The northern species has one brood per year and the southern species can have two.

Our flying squirrels do not hibernate during the cold winter months, but they do share dens with up to 25 other flying squirrels during the winter months to help keep warm.

Life expectancy for wild flying squirrels in our area is approximately six years, but can live up to fifteen years in captivity. Young flying squirrels have a high mortality rate due to predation by fox, weasels, tree snakes, raccoons, owls, martens, fishers, coyotes, bobcats and feral cats. Flying squirrels are not protected in Minnesota but are on the endangered species list in Wisconsin and Michigan. However, with no meat or fur value to man, they are not hunted or trapped.

So, if you want to see a flying squirrel in your backyard, consider setting up a fly-through bird feeder close to a tree and within watching distance of your house or sitting area. Maybe you will be lucky enough to encourage a flying squirrel or two to come and browse. Bring a flashlight with you so if you see the bird feeder moving you can shine your light in its direction – you may capture a glimpse of the fun and entertaining night creature. It is well worth the time and effort to do so!









# Patio Garden Project

You may have noticed some activity in the fenced in "G101" garden lately.

Since we were not able to have the normal G101 gardening classes this year due to Covid restrictions, the Crow Wing County Master Gardeners, in conjunction with the Northland Arboretum, decided to do several things to get fresh vegetables out into the community. One of the projects out there is the Patio Garden Project.

First, several MN Master Gardeners started growing a variety of tomatoes and peppers in their homes back in March. They brought those plants to the Arb on June 1st, and the patio garden crew potted them up in 1.5 - 2.5 gallon pots, 1 plant in each.

In addition, some pots were previously planted with salad greens seeds. Each pot will be a Patio Garden, that someone can nurture and harvest throughout the summer.

Other Master Gardener volunteers wrote educational sheets for each pot, outlining how to care for the vegetables and ideas for their use. In all, 145 Patio Gardens were planted. They are being distributed to various food shelves, nursing homes, and to other people that don't have ready access to fresh vegetables throughout Crow Wing County.

A heartfelt thank you to all of the MN Master Gardeners involved in this project. A very satisfying project!



CONTACT US:  
[mgweb@umn.edu](mailto:mgweb@umn.edu) or 612-625-9864  
or visit [z.umn.edu/GrowWithUs](http://z.umn.edu/GrowWithUs)



Did you know the MN Master Gardeners have a hotline to help you?

Call 218-824-1068 and leave a message. A MN Master Gardener will call you back and answer your question or email them at [ask2.extension.org](mailto:ask2.extension.org)



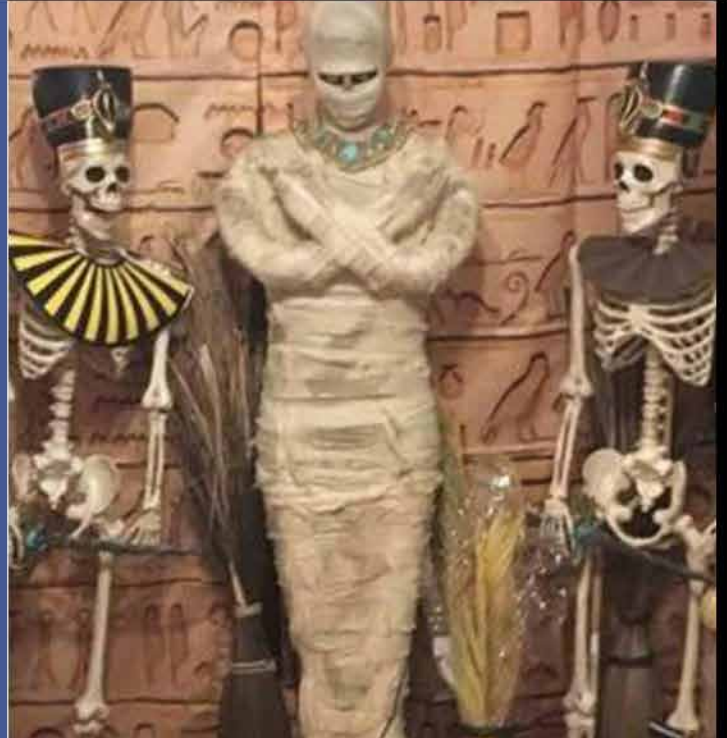
# Northland Arboretum

# 2021 HAUNTED TRAIL

**October 21-23**  
**6:30 pm - 9 pm**

*We are looking for groups & organizations to sponsor a scare section for our 2021 Haunted Trail, at the Northland Arboretum.*

The Haunted Trail is an outdoor walking trail. We have cool props and costumes for you to borrow or you may use your own. We have different theme ideas for you to pick from such as, Medieval, Egyptian tomb, scary clowns, human butcher shop, snake pit and more or you may get creative and come up with your own idea! We are especially looking for theatrical and high tech students to create a virtual reality. There will be a low scare and a high scare section for you to pick from.



## Volunteer Incentives

- Dinner served each night of Haunted Trail for our volunteers
- NEW this year - "Best Section Contest" with prizes and traveling trophy!
- Free admission for you and a friend to the 2021 Haunted Trail
- Total hours may qualify for volunteer hours for your service organization
- Award dinner & wrap up party for volunteers in November - "Best Section Contest" announced and trophy awarded



Our first informational meeting will be in July 15 at 5:30 when you will have an opportunity to pick a section. Pizza will be served.

Please R.S.V.P. Call the Northland Arboretum now to sign up and to guarantee your scare section at 829-8770.



14250 Conservation Drive • Brainerd, MN 56401 | 218-829-8770 | [northlandarb.org](http://northlandarb.org)





# THANK YOU



**OUR ARBOR DAY CELEBRATION** on May 1st was spectacular! We had a ton of people out on a beautiful spring day celebrating nature. We want to thank ALL of our wonderful sponsors and donors for making this community event possible:

#### MAIN SPONSORS:

Mike's Tree Service  
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#### MUSIC:

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#### ACTIVITY BOOTHS:

Crow Wing Energized  
Pine Grove Zoo  
Brainerd Lakes YMCA  
Happy Dancing Turtle  
Brainerd Lakes Area Audubon Society  
Smiles for Jake  
Babinski Foundation  
Crow Wing Soil and Water  
Sandpipers 4-H  
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Jana Froemming  
Fleet Farm  
CRMC  
Boys-N-Berries  
Happy Dancing Turtle/Hunt Utilities Group  
Visit Brainerd  
Leann Plinske

**...AND all of our awesome volunteers and instructors! Thank you!!!**



**CLEAN UP DAY** - We had a great crew helping us at the Arb. Lake Country Connections team, Master Naturalists, and Master Gardeners all took part in our Lumberjack Day! We had a lot of fun and got a lot of work accomplished. We are so grateful for our volunteers!



**PINTS FOR A PURPOSE** was not able to happen this past season due to COVID but that didn't stop Jack Pine Brewery from being an amazing partner and sending us a donation. Thank you!

*Fawn photo by  
Merci Martinsen.*



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# THANK YOU

Northland Arboretum appreciates all of our donors. We could not be here without your generous support!

**Donations of \$1,000 to \$4,999** | Cuyuna Regional Medical Center, Essentia Health, Mike's Tree Company, LLC, Sertoma Winter Wonderland

**Donations of \$100 to \$999** | Thomas & Bobbie Bedard, Dan & Wendy Davidson, Digital Horizons, Jack Pine Brewery, Martin's Sports Shop, Party Time Rental, Kevin & Michelle Pelkey, Donald & Christine Rasmussen, Brian & Marlys Ray, Steffens Tree Service, Dale Swenson, West Shore Marketing

**Donations \$99 and Under** | Lou & Barb Anderson, Margaret Anderson, Coralee Fox, Ruthie Gmeinder, Kathi Hefti, Jean's The Right Plant Place, Vivian Johnson, Blake Knauf, Mercile Martinsen, Rodney & Valerie Rangen, David & Beth Ritter, Mark & Becky Stadem, John & Sally Ward

**In-Kind Donations** | Zach Asbach – Arbor Day design services, logo, poster, billboard, print ads, The Backyard Greenhouse – Fruit tree gift certificate, Bercher Construction – Tree, Boys-N-Berries Farm – Hanging Flower Basket, DeAnn Caddy – Two butterfly houses, tomato plants, outdoor grass, Lisa Cassman – Books for children's library, Central Lakes College – Hanging flower baskets, flats of annual flowers, CRMC – Trampoline, two life jackets, bike helmet, Cub Foods Baxter – Arbor Day refreshments, Mervin Eisel – Horticulture and aquarium books, Erickson's Greenhouse – Gift Certificate for apple tree, Fleet Farm – Bird Feeder Package, Jana Froemming – Children's Bike, Gardening Basket Bundle, GoGo SqueeZ – Arbor Day yogurt refreshments, John & Jane Guild – Four books, Gull Lake Glass – Sheet of plexiglass, Happy Dancing Turtle – Garden Circle/Seedlings, Sandy Holm – Gardening Books, Yvonne Kalahar – Gardening tools and supplies, Don & Judy Kociemba – Items for gift shop, Gayle Kub – Books for children's library, Lakeland Public TV – Advertising for Arbor Day, Landsburg Landscape Nursery – \$30 gift certificate, Legacy Course at Cragun's – Golf for four, 3 hours golf simulator time, Doug Livingston – Books for children's library, MCSI Copiers – Airpods with charging station, Nelson Sanitation – Arbor Day port-a-potty, Oars N Mine Docks and Lifts – Plueger Monarch fishing rod, Old Dutch Foods – Arbor Day refreshments, LeAnn Plinske – Quilt, Ruttger's Bay Lake Lodge – Golf Package for four, Herb & Barb Schoon – Wipes, bottled water, hose, Super One Foods Baxter – Arbor Day refreshments, Visit Brainerd – Hat/shirt, Arbor Day Swag bag items, sunglasses, Boys-N-Berries – Annual plants

**In-Kind Donations for Visitor Center** | Jenny Wallin – Office supplies

**Volunteer Hours** | Volunteers from April - June that donated a reported 725 hours: Lori, Alyssa, DeAnn, Jason, Judy, Lord of Life Church, Trinity Lutheran Church, Ruthie, Renae, Nancy, Paul, Gary, Linda, Sharon, Jill, Ginger, Jacob, Bryan, Sharon, April, Dorothy, Rick, Marlys, Cooper, Traci, Mark, Bekki, Brianne, Robert, Todd, Don, Judy, Richard, Jade, Sheila, Tracy, Jane, Sean, Pauline, Pat, Deb, Rhonda, Anna, Chris, Trevor, Lori, Jayme, Thomas, Brad, Angie, Sally, Jenn, Dan, Susan, Diane, Paula, Brittny, Bob, Phil, Laura, Rosanne, Carol, Mary, Marsha, Port Girls, Shawn, Jackie, Renee, Meg

## MAY, JUNE & JULY FEATURED VOLUNTEERS



*May Volunteer of the Month:*  
**Alyssa Sushoreba**  
**Positive Realty**

I grew up on a farm in Southern MN where my appreciation for wildlife and our beautiful planet blossomed.

I moved to the north woods after graduating college and enjoy spending my time outdoors hiking, camping and when I'm able to sneak away, paddling in the Boundary Waters... and having a patio beer or two. I also love to travel as much as possible but am always ready to come home to our amazing state! I'm a Realtor here in the lakes area and like to squeeze in some time to give back to organizations like the Arb where I work at the front desk once a week and hope to have a spot in the garden this summer!



*June Volunteer of the Month:*  
**Marlys Ray**

Marlys has been volunteering in the gardens and events since 2000 as a Master Gardener, Brainerd Garden Club member and

Weekly Weeder. A lover of all plants, she donates many surplus perennials to the gardens and the plant stand. Her current focus is the shade garden on the south side and the rose/peony garden on the south/ west side of the gazebo garden, but she was worked in all the gardens through the years. Her pride and joy is to teach her four grandkids how to garden.



*July Volunteer of the Month:*  
**Kelly Herbst**

Kelly is a proud Auntie who loves being outside, enjoys summer time, swimming, reading, gardening and planting, being

barefoot, and getting her hands dirty. Kelly's canoe is her baby. Kelly is an animal lover.

At the Arb, she has been focusing on the garden to the north of the main building, from the pond and to the east. Kelly looks forward to seeing how the garden takes shape with new growth.

# Thank You!



# It's **HAPPENING** at the Arb!

Full details and flyers for  
events are available online  
at [northlandarb.org](http://northlandarb.org)

We are committed to connecting people to the environment by promoting education and preservation, health and wellness, recreation and enjoyment. Our events and classes are open to members and non-members both. For more information on what's happening - visit our website ([northlandarb.org](http://northlandarb.org)) and click on the events tab or the education tab.

## UPCOMING EVENTS

July 15, Thursday  
Haunted Trail Planning Meeting

July 22, Thursday  
Forest Walk | 6:00 pm

August 3-7, Tuesday-Saturday  
Come see us at the  
Crow Wing County Fair

August 14, Saturday  
Acrylic Painting Class  
9:00 am - 12:00 pm

August 26, Thursday  
Smile Fest at the Arb

September 23, Thursday  
Seed Exchange  
(member exclusive)



**Acrylic Painting Class**

**Saturday, August 14**  
**9:00 am - 12:00 pm**  
**Instructor - Tanya Platz**


A painting class for people who have never painted using acrylics before but want to create a beautiful painting with step by step instructions. No drawing skills are required. You will create your very own painting on a 14" x 12" canvas. All supplies will be provided.

**Class Fee \$45**

Pre-registration is required - Space is limited so you get the personal instruction you need, so register early. Class fee is non-refundable. Registration and payment for this workshop can be made by contacting Northland Arboretum at 218-829-8770

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**Northland Arboretum**  
Conservation and Education Center



**A Forest Walk**  
New Conservation Group! Women's Woodland Network

**Thursday, July 22 at 6pm**  
Northland Arboretum Visitor's Center Main Level

Do you know what is in your forest? Yes, trees obviously. But what kind of trees? How many? How many of each kind? How old are they? Are the trees healthy? What is their size? What is your purpose for owning your forest? Does the forest condition match your purpose?

The Minnesota Women's Woodland Network (MNWWN) is holding a forest walk for women forest owners. Learn about your forest or woodland and how to care for it so it continues to meet your purpose. The size of your woodlot doesn't matter; whether you own a couple of trees on a small 1/4 acre lot, or a couple hundred acres out in the country this event is for you. Take advantage to network with other women woodlot owners and share your experiences and questions. We will have handouts of resources to help you network with professional foresters, ecologists, and wildlife specialists. The opportunity of forming a chapter of the MNWWN will be discussed. This event is for all women woodlot owners whether they own their forest outright, as a spouse, or in a family unit.

Free for members \$5.00 for non-members  
Advance registration requested - Limited to first 20 students  
**Payment due at registration time**  
Call the Arboretum at 218-829-8770 to sign up  
Class fee is non-refundable

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**Northland Arboretum**  
Conservation and Education Center



Prince Charming by Merci Martensen



Dragon Fly by Merci Martensen



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