



Northern Landscapes Festival

Event Overview

May 30—June 1, 2014

North House Folk School, Grand Marais, MN

- updated April 24, 2014

Spring is an explosion of life in the North! Discovering the birds, wildflowers, insects and more of this dynamic and rich northern landscape is the focus of this festival. Participation in the festival is open to anyone interested in hands-on learning and curious about the dynamics of the northern landscape. Field-focused courses form the backbone of the event - please visit North House's website to learn more. In addition, multiple evening and afternoon programs explore the biology, beauty and biodiversity of the North. Pre-registration is required for all courses - evening programs are open to the public. For additional information on the festival, please visit www.northhouse.org or call 218-387-9762.

PUBLIC PROGRAMS

Friday, May 30

**Celebrating the 50th Anniversary of the Wilderness Act
with Steve Robertson, Interpreter for the US Forest Service**

7:00pm at North House Folk School

Sponsored by the US Forest Service Gunflint Ranger District

Saturday, May 31

Chik-wauk Museum & Nature Center open for self-guided birding
at the end of the Gunflint Trail, Museum open 10am-5pm

Featured Presentation: North Shore Geology with Richard Ojakangas

7:30 pm at North House Folk School

Sunday, June 1

Warbler Hike on the Chik-Wauk Museum grounds with birder Ann Russ

7 am Meet on the Chik-Wauk front porch.

Free and open to the public.

FESTIVAL COURSES

Starting May 30

- [Boreal Birding Workshop - 2 days](#)
- [Bird & Wildlife Photography: In the Field - 1 day](#)
- [Birding By Ear - 1 day](#)
- [What's This Rock? Unraveling the Geologic Story of Minnesota's North Shore - 2.5 days](#)
- [Fire Ecology in the Field - 1 day](#)

Starting May 31

- [Foraging for Spring Wild Edibles - 1.25 days](#)
- [Spring Phenology in the Field: Wildflowers and Beyond - 1.5 days](#)
- [Geology of Minnesota & the Great Lakes Region - 1/2 day](#)
- [From the Deck: Lake Superior Shoreline Naturalist Tour: Morning Session - 1/4 day](#)
- [From the Deck: Lake Superior Shoreline Naturalist Tour: Afternoon Session - 1/4 day](#)

DETAILED PROGRAM DESCRIPTIONS

Friday, May 31

**Celebrating the 50th Anniversary of the Wilderness Act
with Steve Robertson, Interpreter for the US Forest Service**

7:00pm at North House Folk School

Sponsored by the US Forest Service Gunflint Ranger District

“If we are to have broad-thinking men and women of high mentality, of good physique, and with a true perspective on life, we must allow our populace a communion with nature in areas of more or less wilderness conditions.” - Arthur Carhart, Recreation Plans: Superior National Forest, 1922. Here on the North Shore, we’re rich in wilderness: you don’t have to go far to find a forest big enough to get lost in. Hear the stories of how the Superior National Forest, Boundary Waters Canoe Area Wilderness, and hundreds of wilderness areas across the country became federally protected areas through the Wilderness Act. This significant legislation celebrates its 50th anniversary in 2014. Steve Robertsen, interpreter for the US Forest Service will offer insight into the way the Wilderness Act has shaped the nation.

Saturday, May 31

5:30 pm Wood-fired Pizza Potluck at North House; free for Festival Participants

Bring your favorite pizza toppings to share and beverages for this casual, harbor-side pizza potluck as North House Folk School fires up the wood-fired oven and provides the dough. Enjoy good company and good eats! Open to all festival participants and family members.

Featured Presentation: North Shore Geology with Richard Ojakangas

7:30 pm at North House Folk School

A trip up the North Shore kindles a spirit of geological wonder in all who gaze at Palisade Head, contemplate Gooseberry Falls, and wonder at Carleton Peak. What is this rock? Why are there so many rocks? Why is this trail so steep (often heard on the portages of the BWCAW!)? How come they are called the Sawtooth Mountains? Where does the water go in Devil’s Kettle? Join esteemed Minnesota geologist Dick Ojakangas, author of Roadside Geology of Minnesota as he paints the geological story of our beloved landscape: the splitting of the continent, enormous lava flows, piles of sediment, and mineral deposits are all key parts of the story. Through his images, accessible explanations and deep knowledge of all things rock-related, Dick will help us see 1.1 billion years back into the history of the shore.

Chik-Wauk Museum & Nature Center on the Gunflint Trail

Friday & Saturday, grounds open at 7am; Museum open 10 am- 5 pm daily

Chik-Wauk Museum and Nature Center tells the story of the Gunflint Trail. Interpretive and interactive displays in the museum present the Gunflint Trail’s cultural and natural history from its prehistoric beginnings to the development of today’s unique, rural community. The Chik-Wauk Nature Center covers 50 acres surrounding a bay of Saganaga Lake. The nature center boasts picnic areas, overlooks, and several interpretive hiking trails, including an ADA trail. The trails provide insight into the history and ecology of the Gunflint Trail, including a first-hand glimpse of wildfire regeneration from the Ham Lake Wildfire, which burned through a portion of Chik-Wauk’s property in May 2007. Admission to the grounds is free; museum admission is \$3. The museum also has five birding backpacks, which include a set of binoculars and a bird guide, for the public to use on Chik-Wauk grounds. People can check out the backpacks from the museum during operating hours. Call in advance – 218-388-9915 – if you want to reserve a backpack to use during your visit.