

Lakeshore Seed Collective & MPL Invite the Public to the 4th Annual Lakeshore Area Seed Swap

Mar 5, 2024 | 2:30 PM

[Local News](#)



The following article was written by Deena Larsen and Tammy O'Connor, co-founders of Lakeshore Seed Collective.

Are you a gardener with way too many seeds? Are you a beginning gardener looking to try new varieties? Do you want to learn about saving seeds? Are you just excited about gardening? If the answer to any of those questions is “Yes!” then chances are that you should stop by the 4th Annual

Lakeshore Area Seed Swap at Manitowoc Public Library!

The 4th Annual Lakeshore Area Seed Swap will be held in the Balkansky Community Room of Manitowoc Public Library on Saturday, March 9, from 9 AM to noon. The public is invited to take part in the Seed Swap—no need to bring seeds of your own to “swap!” Just stop in, grab some seeds, and enjoy the great conversations and Gathering of Gardeners. Think of a seed swap as a potluck—but with seeds!

So, you may be asking yourself “Who exactly are these enthusiastic people that know so much about the 4th Annual Seed Swap?” That’s a very fair question! Allow us to re-introduce ourselves.

I’m Deena Larsen, one of the organizers of the event, and when you come right down to it, I like to save seeds so that I don’t have to buy as many for the next year. If there’s one thing I’ve learned regarding seeds it’s that a person should, “Save the Best and Eat the Rest!”

I’m writing this article with Tammy O’Connor, another of the event’s organizers. Tammy’s inspired by, “all of the history, stories, and legacies seeds bring with them.”

Together, we founded the Lakeshore Seed Collective in order to help to build a community of seed savers in this area.

There is no cost for this event. Bring seeds to share, take seeds you are interested in planting. Again, no need to bring seeds if you don’t have any to share. Small envelopes will be provided so that you can easily take your seeds home without inadvertently scattering them prior to planting.

Most vegetable seeds are viable for 2-4 years if stored properly. Heirloom varieties are encouraged.

If you have questions, please check out the Lakeshore Seed Collective’s Facebook page (www.facebook.com/groups/1191178938493517/) or email either Tammy or myself at lakeshoreseedcollective@gmail.com. Additional information about the event can be found on Manitowoc Public Library’s Event Calendar at www.manitowoclibrary.org/event/4th-annual-lakeshore-seed-swap-14072.

We hope to see you at the 4th Annual Lakeshore Seed Swap. And with the way the weather has been trending, it’s not a stretch of the imagination to believe that gardening season is right around the corner!



Deena Larsen and Tammy O'Connor

Explore Extraordinary Space at Manitowoc Public Library!

Mar 12, 2024 | 2:30 PM

[Local News](#)



The following article was written by Manitowoc Public Library Youth Services Librarian Betty Schwede and Youth Services Associate Lynn Christiansen.

Extraordinary Space at the Manitowoc Public Library by Betty Schwede and Lynn Christiansen

Were you aware that there will be a total solar eclipse on April 8th? The last time a total solar eclipse passed across the United States was 2017. To help you prepare, the Manitowoc Public Library has some amazing opportunities this month to learn about space, eclipses and star gazing. Eyes on the Skies is a program for older kids, teens and adults on March 14th at 6:30 p.m. Eclipse Extravaganza is a Family Activity Night on March 26th at 6:30 p.m. geared toward early elementary ages. The Space science kit is available for check out from the toy library in the children's department. Eclipse viewing glasses will be available to make sure you can view the eclipse safely.

If you want to learn more about astronomy but don't know where to start, be sure to come to the library March 14th. Randy Griffin from the Sheboygan Astronomical Society will discuss eclipses and astronomy in general. He will bring a telescope or two as well. This is the time to learn how to set up a telescope of your own or the one in the Space Kit available for check out from the library. Free eclipse viewing glasses will be available to attendees.

March 26th's Eclipse Extravaganza Family Activity Night will provide some out of this world knowledge and fun. Dr. William Dirienzo, Associate Professor of Natural and Applied Sciences at UW-Green Bay, will provide information about the different kinds of eclipses. Participants will be able to partake in crafts such as making a sundial, creating a case to store their eclipse glasses, and making an eclipse-inspired chalk drawing. There will also be some space-related games for families to play. All attendees will be given a pair of eclipse viewing glasses, as well as safe viewing instructions.



Betty Schwede

The Manitowoc Public Library received a grant from the Institute of Electronic and Electrical Engineers to assemble science kits available to the public for check out. Five kits were added to the Toy Library on Bird Watching, the Human Body, Micro-science, Weather, and Space. They include books and equipment to explore the given topics. The Space kit has a telescope and star chart for star gazing as well as in-depth books. It's a way to try out astronomy and see if it is something you would like to pursue further.



Lynn Christiansen

Even if you can't make it to any of the fabulous events, be sure to pick up eclipse viewing glasses before April 8th so you can *safely* view the eclipse. Glasses will be available with additional activities for adults and kids. They will be at the adult service desk starting March 25th and the youth service desk March 26th while supplies last.

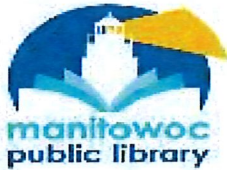
As an added bonus, we will hold a Solar Eclipse Watch Party in the library's Idea Box on Monday April 8th from 12:00 pm to 3:00 pm. Drop in any time to watch NASA's live stream feed of this historic event.

Don't miss the total eclipse this April! The next total eclipse visible throughout the United States isn't until 2044. The Manitowoc Public Library is ready this month with extraordinary eclipse events. Eyes on the Skies is for older kids, teens and adults on March 14th at 6:30 p.m. Eclipse Extravaganza is a Family Activity Night on March 26th at 6:30 geared toward early elementary ages.

Dr. Elizabeth Wheat Takes to the “High Seas Treaty” for the Final Great Decisions 2024 Presentation

Mar 19, 2024 | 2:30 PM

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Great Decisions 2024

at Manitowoc Public Library

Feb. 5 thru Mar. 25 | Mondays 6-8PM



March 25

**High Seas Treaty
Elizabeth Wheat, PhD**

The following article was written by Dr. Elizabeth Wheat, Associate Professor at the University of Wisconsin-Green Bay.

“Shiver my timbers, Shiver my soul, yo ho, heave ho.”

As a child growing up in the 1990s—or the “late 1900s” as my students say out of my earshot—the High Seas for us meant Captain Smollett (Kermit the Frog) and Long John Silver (Tim Curry), singing about their adventures on Muppet Treasure Island. As we became teenagers, Ariel’s friendship with a Caribbean-sounding crab and her crush on a prince of whom her father disapproved would be the stuff of our daydreams.

We believed we could Free Willy and save all the killer whales, as we watched glistening images of the open waters to the tune of Michael Jackson’s “Will You Be There.” “Finding Nemo,” released in 2003, would add “Fish are friends, not food” to our repertoire and we could be identified in public as the aquarium visitors who might yell “NEMO” at any exhibit with a clownfish and coral, drawing looks because we were just old enough where we should not be acting like that in public. For our college years, we joined Captain Jack Sparrow (Johnny Depp) asking where the rum had gone.

The High Seas were a place of adventure and stories of friendly creatures told through songs and movies at every stage of our lives!

Today, I think the High Seas are still where adventures are possible and any cruisegoer can testify that the rum is, in fact, not gone. But, we also know the real dangers of pirates and the serious harms our fish friends face. We might think “I’m the Captain now” thanks to Tom Hanks’ film about Somali pirates, but we know the real dangers captains face from illegal fishing or whale hunts prohibited by international law.

My Great Decisions presentation will talk about how the international community has written a convention that protects these ecosystems and marine resources. Built on the 1982 Convention on the Law of the Sea (UNCLOS), the High Seas Treaty strives to protect the animals my generation has grown up loving and to safeguard our global commons from exploitation by creating marine protected areas outside of any country's domestic jurisdiction.

The High Seas Treaty, also known as the Agreement on Biodiversity Beyond National Jurisdiction, was adopted on June 19, 2023. Its goals are to address the effects of climate change on marine ecosystems, assess and monitor harmful activities on the sea through environmental impact assessments, promote fair and equitable marine technology transfers, and prevent further biodiversity loss. It is the result of years of global negotiations and pressure from civil society organizations such as the International Union for Conservation of Nature. It is our High Seas' best hope for conservation and preservation.



Dr. Elizabeth Wheat

As Nemo's friend Dory would tell us, we need to "just keep swimming" and always be there for our marine friends when they need it most. Avoid getting cabin fever and come to Manitowoc Public Library on Monday March 25, at 6 PM to learn more how about how the High Seas Treaty strives to protect the world's most important marine ecosystems. We will not be providing rum, but we do need all hands on deck and look forward to seeing you!

Pirate costumes encouraged, but not required.

Rev Your Engines! Wii Mario Kart Tournament for Middle Schoolers at Manitowoc Public Library

Mar 26, 2024 | 2:30 PM

[Local News](#)



The following article was written by Kirsten Smith, a Youth Services Associate with the Manitowoc Public Library.

Do you have what it takes to be the best racer in the Mushroom Kingdom? Do you want to challenge your friends and foes on the most thrilling tracks ever? Do you enjoy throwing bananas, shells, and other items at your rivals? If you are a 6th to 8th grade student who loves Mario Kart and old school Wii, then you are in for a treat! Manitowoc Public Library is hosting a Wii Mario Kart Tournament for Middle School students during spring break.

Mario Kart is a racing game that features characters and items from the Mario universe, developed by Nintendo. The game was first released in 1992 for the Super Nintendo Entertainment System and has since spawned 15 titles in the series, including several spin-offs for various platforms. Mario Kart is popular for its fun, chaotic, and competitive gameplay, as well as its iconic tracks, music, and power-ups. The game has a loyal fan base and a large online community, and is one of the best multiplayer games of all time.

The Wii Mario Kart Tournament for Middle Schoolers will take place on Friday, March 29, 2024. Registration will be in the Youth Department from 9:30 AM to 10 AM. The first 32 students who sign up will compete, beginning at 10 AM. Spectators are welcome. The tournament will follow a single-elimination format, with four players racing in each round. The top two players from each round will advance to the next round, until there are only four players left for the Grand Finale. The winner of the Grand Finale will be crowned the Mario Kart Champion and receive the Grand Prize!

The tournament is open to all 6th through 8th grade students, regardless of skill level or experience. You can choose your favorite character and kart from the game's options. You can also enjoy the Library's other resources, such as books, magazines, computers, and games, before or after the tournament. However, please be aware that the Library will be closing at 1 PM that Friday for the spring holiday.



Kirsten Smith

The Library's staff is excited to host this fun and exciting event for middle school students. We anticipate that the tournament will encourage more middle school students to visit the library and discover its many offerings. We also hope that the tournament will foster a sense of community and sportsmanship among the students.

If you are in 6th to 8th grade and interested in joining the Mario Kart Tournament, register at 9:30 AM on Friday, March 29 in the Youth Services Department. Then, get ready to race your way to victory! Remember: it is not just a game—it is a race! So buckle up, start your engines, and may the best player win!

For more information or additional library events for preteens and teens, please visit the library's website at www.manitowoclibrary.org/services/teens or call 920-686-3030.