

MEDIA CONTACT

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BELWIN

A NIGHT OF MIDWINTER FAMILY FUN AT BELWIN

*On February 4th, Belwin Conservancy Will Host Midwinter Family Fun:
An Evening of Guided Hikes, Campfires, and Stargazing*

Afton, MN — On Saturday, February 4th, from 5 to 7 pm, Belwin Conservancy will host Midwinter Family Fun. This night of outdoor activities features hikes through the snow guided by Belwin naturalists, stargazing with Minnesota Astronomical Society, and s'mores around several campfires. The event is free and will take place at the Hilltop Classroom at the Education Site (1553 Stagecoach Trail South, Afton, MN, 55001). Warm drinks will be available for visitors indoors.



Belwin's Education Site is home to one of the largest refracting telescopes in the state. The telescope, located in the Joseph J. Casby Observatory, will be available for guests who wish to see the night sky with the help of Minnesota Astronomical Society volunteers. With February marking the unofficial start of the Milky Way season, guests of all ages are sure to enjoy seeing the winter stars from a new perspective.

In addition to stargazing, guided night hikes will be available for families who want to experience Belwin's snowy woodlands and moonlit prairies. The scenery of Minnesota transforms in the winter, and Belwin is no different. Kettelkamp Prairie in particular is stunning during the winter months and a great place to make some snow angels!

Though this event has developed over the years, its central mission has always stayed the same: to enjoy midwinter in good company. "Last year, my family loved finding deer beds in the snow and listening for owl calls on the edge of the woods," says Angie Eckel, Development and Communications Director. "My kids are still talking about it months later!"

We invite guests of all ages to join us for a fun night of family activities on Saturday, February 4th, from 5 to 7 pm at the Hilltop Classroom at the Education Site (1553 Stagecoach Trail South, Afton, MN, 55001). The event is free. No dogs are allowed at

this or any Belwin event. Warm drinks and restrooms will be available indoors in the Hilltop Classroom.

INFORMATION

Please note: No dogs allowed at any Belwin event. Masks suggested but not required inside Belwin buildings.

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ABOUT BELWIN CONSERVANCY

[Belwin Conservancy](http://www.belwin.org) is a nonprofit organization with a mission of inspiring connection and engagement with the natural world. At Belwin, we spark passion for wild places through a variety of innovative experiential programs that include the arts, astronomy, athletic fields, bison, education, and public access to our restored lands. Through land protection and habitat restoration, we revive threatened ecosystems so wildlife can thrive for generations to come. Located in Afton, Minnesota, on the ancestral home of the Wahpekute Dakota people, Belwin's 1,500 acres of permanently protected land includes woodland, prairie, oak savanna, ponds, streams, and wetlands.

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