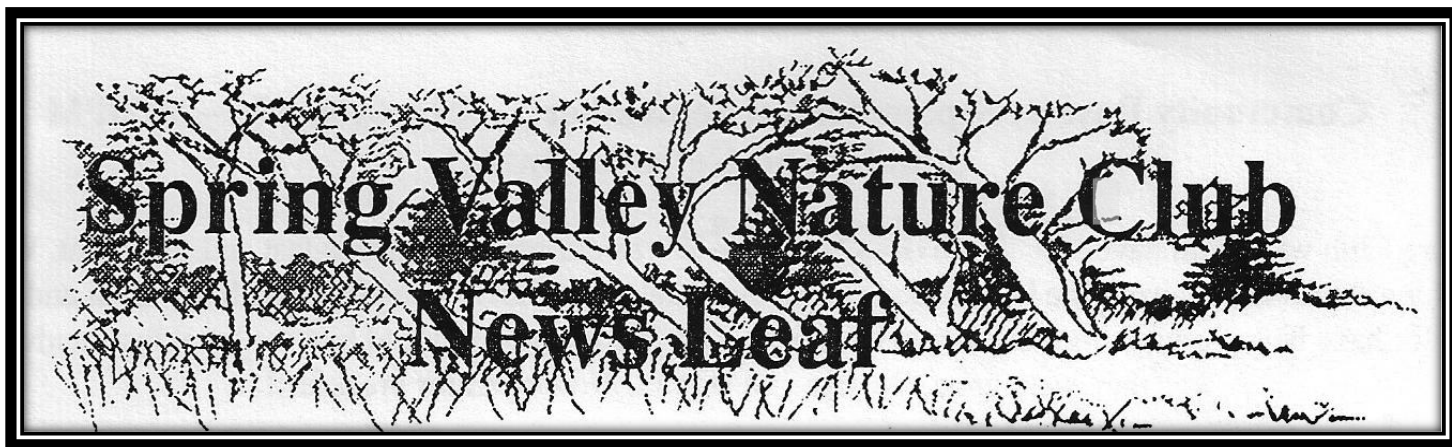




www.springvalleynatureclub.org

springvalleynatureclub@gmail.com

Letter from the President, Donna Johnson

November/December 2025

‘Tis The Holiday Season

**Our popular Handcrafted Wreaths and Decorations are now available.
Follow this link to order yours today. Deadline for ordering November 21st 2025
<https://wreathsaleapp.net/fundraiser/spring-valley-nature-club-wreaths-2025>**

Please note due to Nature Center proposed construction project a change in the wreath pick-up location is necessary.

New pick-up location for 2025 is 727 Kemah Ct Schaumburg IL 60193

Creating Fresh Greens Holiday Décor- Presented by Donna Johnson.

Join Donna and Nature Club members and friends in learning about crafting your own Holiday Décor. Most of the supplies will be provided, but we need you to bring your own container; a special mug or small leakproof planter no larger than 6". Have some interesting small décor items (floral picks, mini birds, pinecones, mini ornaments, etc.) bring them along to make your creation extra special! To make sure we have enough greenery, décor, etc. we need to have a head count to determine how much to bring. We will have a limited supply of extra containers in the event you do not have one. This is a FREE event for Nature Club Members in good standing. Non-members and guests are welcome for a fee of \$15 which can be converted to a one-year Nature Club membership.

Let us know if you and a friend will attend.

Email us at springvalleynatureclub@gmail.com Please RSVP

Spring Valley Holiday Craft Show

Postponed this year because of remodel of the Nature Center

No program meetings in December, have a Happy Holiday season.

January 7, 2026, 6:00PM Spring Valley Nature Club business meeting.

Election of Officers & Directors.

Approval of 2026 budget.

Spring Valley Update for November/December Newsleaf – 2025

Spring Valley's grounds and facilities will transition to our 'winter' hours starting November 1st through the end of March. We continue to offer a full schedule of family, youth, and adult programs.

- Spring Valley's grounds and walking trails are open for walkers every day from 8am-5pm.
- Additional parking at St. Matthew Catholic Church will be available throughout the winter months. The gate leading onto Heritage Farm's walking paths from St. Matthew will be opened each morning at 8am.
- The Nature Center Museum is open to visitors daily from 10am-4pm (closed Nov. 27, Dec. 25, and Jan. 1).
- Volkening Heritage Farm's buildings are open Wednesday-Sunday from 10am-4pm through the end of November. They will reopen in April.
- Bison's Bluff Nature Playground will remain open daily from 10am-4:00pm at no charge through the end of March. The nature playground will be closed whenever unsafe conditions exist (snow, ice, rain, or temperatures below 32°F).
- Spring Valley has two picnic shelters available for private rental. These are located just east of the Nature Center parking lot and near Merkle Cabin. Requests for rentals need to be submitted at least two weeks in advance. Rates are based on residency.
- Volunteers continue to assist with outdoor conservation projects, garden and trail maintenance, youth summer camps, and with our events and programs. If you are willing and able to assist with projects, please contact Jeff Pal at jepal@parkfun.com

Spring Valley App

Staff maintains a site-use app for use on either Android or Apple smartphones. It features not only information on hours, site features, and facilities, but two guided tours that provide information on various natural history or historical topics as you walk the trails. The app is FREE and available from either the Google Play Store or Apple Store. It is also available as a web-app by going to www.springvalley.stqry.app.

Nature Center Construction Alert

The construction that was anticipated to begin during the month of November has been delayed till late winter/early spring. This work would affect the façade and offices at the Nature Center. Once begun, this will result in periodic closures of the Nature Center, except for program functions. This will last through much of 2026. More info to come.

Winter Events & Programs

NOTE: On-line pre-registration is required for many onsite programs, which have limited capacity; however most special events have walk-in registration. More information and on-line registration are available within the Park District's virtual Program Guide for winter, found at www.parkfun.com/programs-events/program-guide.

Spring Valley Holiday Craft Fair will NOT take place this year due to the expected construction at the Nature Center. Christmas in the Valley –Sunday, Dec. 7, 12:00-4:00pm

Experience a 19th century farm Christmas at Heritage Farm with demonstrations in the farmhouse, stop by a warm fire for cocoa or soup, and walk to the Merkle Cabin for children's crafts and a visit with St. Nick. A wagon shuttle will transport you between the farm and cabin areas. Admission is \$3/person or \$12/family, with children under 3 are free.

Coming Soon!

National Seed Swap Day, Heritage Farm's opportunity for gardeners to gather, exchange seeds and discover new varieties, on Saturday, January 31.

Cabin Fever Festival (formerly Winter Fest) returns. Join us on Sunday, February 15 to frolic in Spring Valley's winter wonderland, with s'mores by the campfire, ice fishing demonstrations, outdoor games, and dogsled demonstrations. Warm up inside the Nature Center with games and activities that teach about winter wildlife. Also, make sure you put March 14 & 15 on your calendar, as the always popular Sugar Bush Fair returns with the best pancake breakfast around!

Additional programs are being offered throughout the winter months– visit the virtual Winter Program Guide to learn more!

SPRING VALLEY NATURE CLUB
HANDCRAFTED WREATHS AND DECORATIONS PAPER ORDER FORM 2025

DESCRIPTION	COST	QTY.	TOTAL
12" NOBLE CANDLE RING WREATH "NO CANDLE"	\$24.00	_____	_____
4' NOBLE MIX MANTELPIECE/CENTERPIECE	\$46.00	_____	_____
12" HOLIDAY YULE LOG	\$25.00	_____	_____
12" BIRCH SNOWMAN	\$35.00	_____	_____
OUTDOOR EVERGREEN PLANTER (32")	\$36.00	_____	_____
SUPERSIZED OUTDOOR EVERGREEN PLANTER (42")	\$58.00	_____	_____
FIRE STARTER BASKET	\$25.00	_____	_____
DOOR SWAG WITH VELVET RIBBON	\$20.00	_____	_____
20" PREMIUM NOBLE FIR MIX (INDOOR/OUTDOOR)	\$28.00	_____	_____
36" PREMIUM NOBLE FIR MIX (INDOOR/OUTDOOR)	\$53.00	_____	_____
48" PREMIUM NOBLE FIR MIX (INDOOR/OUTDOOR)	\$82.00	_____	_____
24" DECORATOR WREATH BOXED W/ VELVET RIBBON	\$45.00	_____	_____
26" FALLEN HERO WREATH	\$26.00	_____	_____
24" SINGLE FACE BALSAM W/RIBBON	\$24.00	_____	_____
30" SINGLE FACE NOBLE W/RIBBON	\$35.00	_____	_____
36" DOUBLE FACE BALSAM	\$56.00	_____	_____
40" SINGLE FACE BALSAM	\$50.00	_____	_____
60" SINGLE FACE BALSAM	\$72.00	_____	_____
72" SINGLE FACE BALSAM	\$95.00	_____	_____
25' BALSAM GARLAND	\$40.00	_____	_____
25' PREMIUM CEDAR GARLAND	\$48.00	_____	_____
25' PREMIUM NOBLE GARLAND (INDOOR/OUTDOOR)	\$67.00	_____	_____
CEMETERY STANDS	\$9.00	_____	_____
INDOOR/OUTDOOR VELVET RIBBON FOR 20" WREATH	\$3.00	_____	_____

GRAND TOTAL _____

NAME: _____

ADDRESS: _____

PHONE: _____

E-MAIL: _____

Electronic ordering is the best way to order the Wreaths and Decorations, follow this link.

<https://wreathsaleapp.net/fundraiser/spring-valley-nature-club-wreaths-2025>

Fallen Hero ceremony will be December 12th at a Fort Sheridan Cemetery or Great Lakes Cemetery.

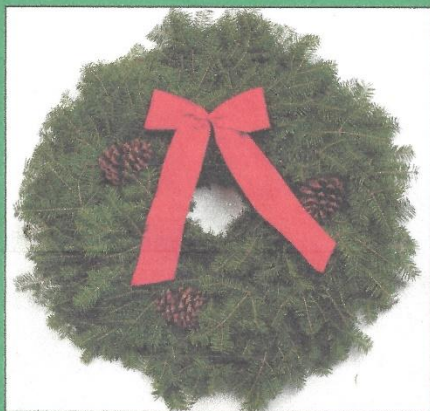
"NEW" Pick Up location. 727 Kemah Ct. Schaumburg IL 60193 Saturday November 29, 2025, from 12:00 PM – 2:00PM

Questions? Call Spring Valley (847) 985-2100 – Proceeds benefit the Spring Valley Nature Club.

Paper order form must be received by 5:00PM Friday November 14, 2025, make checks payable and send them to:

Spring Valley Nature Club 1111 E Schaumburg Rd. Schaumburg, IL 60194

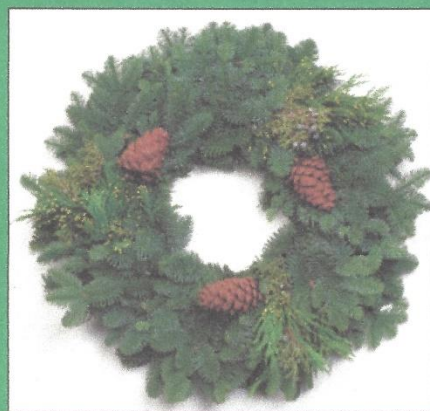
Handcrafted Wreaths and Decorations



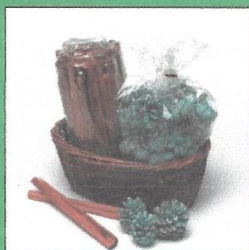
*Single Face Fir Outdoor
Wreath 24", 30", 40", 60", 72"
Double Face 36"*



10"-12" Birch Snowman



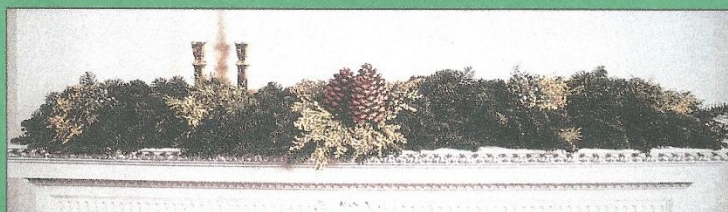
*Noble Fir Mixed Wreath
20", 36" & 48"
Indoor/Outdoor*



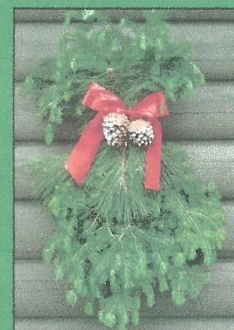
Firestarter Basket



*Evergreen Planter
Regular 32"
Supersized 42"
(Outdoor)*



4' Mantelpiece/Centerpiece



Door Swag



*12" Candle Ring Wreath
No Candle*



*24" Boxed
Decorator Wreath*



Holiday Yule Log 12"



*25' Balsam Fir Garland
Mixed Cedar & Noble also Available*



*Fallen Hero Wreath
Delivered to a
National Cemetery*

1974 And Beyond

Spring Valley began as a dream by one of the founders of the Village of Schaumburg, Ellsworth Meineke. Early on he referred to it as “The Spring Valley Dream.” It was he who convinced the Schaumburg Park District and the Village of Schaumburg to work together to acquire and preserve land for Spring Valley. Ellsworth founded the Spring Valley Nature Club in 1974 as a not-for-profit service organization which provides volunteer and financial support for Spring Valley and promotes conservation, nature, and environmental education. The Club sponsors nature programs and teacher field trips, and members volunteer at festivals and fund raisers. We have been working hard since 1974. Won’t you join us?

These words reflect the dedication that the founders felt for the purpose of the Club and the love of the natural world around us. Since the Schaumburg Park District assumed the responsibility of recruiting volunteers, Nature Club’s purpose has evolved to share its love of Spring Valley by offering timely programs that reinforce a more wholesome lifestyle. We have initiated monthly educational programs that instill a comprehension of our ability to lessen our carbon footprint by reducing waste, recycling and reusing our valuable resources. Our monthly programs enlighten us to appreciate our environment and respect its fragile beauty.

We have lessened our impact on landfill waste by eliminating the mailing of our bimonthly News Leaf. We are encouraging members to attend educational programs which teach us the importance of the wildlife around us, the art of using our natural resources wisely and being more self-reliant by advising how to live a more wholesome lifestyle, grow and live more organically and become more self-sufficient.

With the kind donations and assistance from local merchants and organizations, we can exist more ecologically by shopping locally. Some of the wonderful supporters and contributors to the club have been, Roselle Ace Hardware discount coupon on purchases; Schaumburg Park District 1-day Fitness Pass; Platt Hill Nursery for their support and discount coupon at their garden centers; Holistic Art Studio discount coupon; Skincare by Carmela for their discount on services.

Our wonderful supporters have given us a way to lessen our footsteps by offering valued products and services at discounted prices while saving our energy dollars by reducing the number of miles we travel. Please support our supporters. With their help, we have been successful in raising additional funds to sponsor educational programming for our Club members, Spring Valley Volunteers, and school children and teachers from our community. We have supplied funds for books for Spring Valley’s Library and have sponsored various free to the public programs and events that the Nature Center has offered.

Thanks to you all, and especially our valued Members and Supporters of Spring Valley Nature Club!

Please take time to review all the wonderful benefits we are offering to our members with their Nature Club membership. Won’t you join us?

Spring Valley Nature Club is a 501(c)(3) non-profit organization, and contributions may be tax deductible. Check with your tax advisor.

Spring Valley Nature Club 2025 Membership Rates

To show our appreciation for our members' loyalty, a special benefit packet is offered to club members.

"Discount Coupon Packet" This packet will include certificates and coupons for various merchants, i.e., Platt Hill Nursery (discount on purchase), Chick-Fil-A (Free Sandwich - Schaumburg Stores only), Skincare by Carmela (Discount on Services), Ace Hardware (Nerge Rd. \$5 off) and Schaumburg Park District one day fitness pass & one day pool pass.

Special Benefit; An invitation to the Spring Valley Volunteer/Meineke Award Picnic in August. Members in good standing in mid-July should RSVP Spring Valley at 847-985-2100.

Free Entry to the Nature Club Programs: Allows you to attend any of Spring Valley Nature Club monthly meetings and educational programs from February through November where you can enjoy some refreshments and camaraderie with fellow supporters of the Nature Club and the Spring Valley Volunteers.

Membership Card & Bi-monthly News Leaf: Identifies you as a supporter of the Nature Club's efforts.

Life Membership: In addition to the above items, this membership includes a Nature Club Commemorative Fleece Throw (\$35.00 value); this fleece throw is for **New Life Memberships Only**.

Current Life Members are eligible for the Discount Coupon Packet. Any donation is appreciated and helps the Nature Club fulfill its charter to support Spring Valley Nature Center.

Your Membership Packet needs to be picked up in person at the Spring Valley Nature Center 10:00 – 4:00 daily. Any member may have the membership packet mailed to them for a handling fee of \$2.00

Yearly Memberships Begin February 1st through January 31st

Senior 55 Plus	\$15.00
Individual	\$20.00
Family	\$30.00
Supporting	\$40.00
Life	\$200.00
Sponsor	\$1000.00

Senior - Individual – Family – Supporting - Life – Sponsor

Name-----

Address-----**City**-----**St.**-----**Zip**-----

Email-----**Phone**-----

Checks should be made payable and mailed to:
Spring Valley Nature Club - 1111 East Schaumburg Road, Schaumburg, IL 60194