

**For Immediate Release**

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**Family Event: “Spring Discovery Day” at McDonald Farm**

Bring Binoculars and Curiosity to The Conservation Foundation on May 31

**Naperville, Ill. (May 2, 2008)** – Families can shake off the memory of the long winter and reconnect with nature at The Conservation Foundation’s “Spring Discovery Day” Saturday, May 31. The event will be held from 10 a.m. to noon at the foundation’s headquarters on the McDonald Farm, 10S404 Knoch Knolls Road, Naperville, Ill.

A guided hike will help families seek out blooming and growing plant life and spot a few critters on the foundation’s 60-acre working farm located in the midst of Naperville’s subdivisions. Rain or shine, explore a restored wetland, see buds and blooms in the prairie gardens and hike through fields in the midst of spring. Special guests will include toads and salamanders; deer have been invited as well. Kids can record their discoveries in the nature journal they will make as part of the event. Of course, ‘bug juice’ and a snack will be served.

The Spring Discovery Day event is part of “Leave No Child Inside,” a Chicago Wilderness initiative to reconnect kids and nature sponsored by The Conservation Foundation. It is part of the foundation’s Family Discovery Days Program series, which aims to improve kids’ and families’ health and appreciation for the need to preserve and conserve our natural heritage for the future. The program is best for children four years and older.

Registration is required and space is available to a limited number of families. The cost is \$15 per family; group rates are also available. To receive registration information, email [jfitchett@theconservationfoundation.org](mailto:jfitchett@theconservationfoundation.org) or call 630-428-4500, Ext. 11.

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***The Conservation Foundation**, a nonprofit land and watershed protection organization, is dedicated to preserving open space and natural lands, protecting rivers and watersheds, and promoting stewardship of the environment in northeastern Illinois. Established in 1972 by business and community leaders, it is the only environmental organization to receive the 2008 Annual Award for Business Excellence from The Business Ledger. Working closely with citizens, elected officials, developers, land use planners, park districts and forest preserves, The Conservation Foundation has helped protect more than 30,000 acres of open space. The Conservation Foundation has more than 4,500 donors and members. Its main office is at the 60-acre McDonald Farm in Naperville, Ill., with a program office located at historic Dickson-Murst Farm in Montgomery, Ill. For more information about activities, programs and membership, visit [www.theconservationfoundation.org](http://www.theconservationfoundation.org) or call 630-428-4500.*