

**SPECIAL POINTS OF INTEREST:**

- It's Back to School Time
- National Honey Month: Let's Celebrate!
- What's Happening in September?

# Ready, Set, Go!



SEPTEMBER 2015

**August Highlights:**

The **People's Energy Cooperative: Operation Round Up** has awarded **Project GO** a \$500 grant to help with our **Nature Child Care Provider Training**. Thank you **People's Energy Cooperative!**



Our Metro area site Volunteer **Jyssica Schutz** was an all-star this summer, helping out with the **Salvation Army Eastside GO Site** along with tabling events!



**Thank you Jyssica!**  
**Pollinator Gardens: Planting with Natives**



(<http://www.blvstthumb.org/nativegardens/>)

- There are many benefits of using native plants in your landscaping, including beauty, low maintenance and habitat for animals. (<http://ncsu.edu/goingnative/whygo/benefits.html>)
- Check out the USDA's webpage on "[Gardening with Wildflowers](#)"

## Back to School!

It's that time of year again, summer is winding down and school is beginning again. Even with the business that the school year brings, it is important to continue to get outside. The time kids spend outside will keep them healthy, happy and successful in school. "A daily dose of outdoor play supports the child's overall health, ability to concentrate, and can help him or her to be more open to learning science and other subjects" ([National Wildlife Federation, 2010](#)). With the cooling temperatures and more moderate weather it is easy to enjoy the outdoors. So, as parents, family members and concerned community members, let us all do our part to encourage daily outdoor play in the lives of those children we care about!



## National Honey Month

September is National Honey Month. September is significant for honey producers, as it marks the end of the honey collection season for many U.S. beekeepers. Honey bees have been on the decline over the past several decades (first noticed in Europe in 1960). Why should we care? Honey Bees are pollinators, and they pollinate over 70% of the crops humans use for food or for feeding livestock!



([Smith, Pam](#)) So how can we help the Honey Bees? Consider planting pollinator gardens with native plants. Native plants provide nectar for Honey Bees and other pollinators. This is the perfect time of year to start planning your gardens for next spring, as some plant bulbs need to be put in the ground this fall. Check out the left column for resources on planting a pollinator garden with native plants!

**"PB Honey Bear Toast"**



1. Toast a piece of bread.
2. Spread peanut butter on toast, drizzle with honey, place banana slices and raisins in a bear face pattern.
3. Enjoy!

We would love to see your tasty honey themed back to school treats, share your pictures with us on [facebook!](#)

## What's Happening in September?

**Metro Area:**

- [MN State Fair](#) Through September 7, 6am to Midnight at 1265 Snelling Ave. N., St. Paul, MN
- [Intro to Geocaching](#) September 6, 1-3pm at [Fort Snelling State Park](#)
- [Monarch Festival](#) September 12, 10-4pm at 49th St at Woodlawn Blvd, Minneapolis, MN

**Southern MN:**

- [Summer Bat Count](#) September 4, 6-8pm at [Whitewater State Park](#)
- [Intro to Geocaching](#) September

7, 10am-12pm at [Whitewater State Park](#)

- [Kid's Day at the Downtown Rochester Farmers Market](#) September 12. Farmers Market 7:30-12pm, Kids activities 9:30-11:30am
- [Latino Fest](#) September 26, 1-6pm at Cook Park 750 7th St NW, Rochester, MN 55901

**Northwest MN:**

- [Library Story Time](#) September 12, 10:30am at the [Crookston Public Library](#)
- [Kids at Castle](#): Down on the

Farm September 14, 5:30pm at Castle Park

**Other:**

Go for a walk or take a hike at your nearest park or on any trails near your home. To find your nearest park or trail, visit your County's [Parks and Trails](#) website. [Olmsted County](#) [St. Paul](#) [Minneapolis](#) [Polk County](#)

For more information on Project Get Outdoors please visit us at [mnprojectgo.org/](http://mnprojectgo.org/). You can also check out all our wonderful partners on our [Partners Page](#).

