

For more information on the national and local Leave No Child Inside movement, visit the following websites:

<http://www.cnaturenet.org/movement/info>

<http://health.usnews.com/articles/health/2008/02/13/why-kids-need-a-big-dose-of-nature.html>

<http://www.orionmagazine.org/index.php/articles/article/240/>

<http://www.kidsoutside.info/>

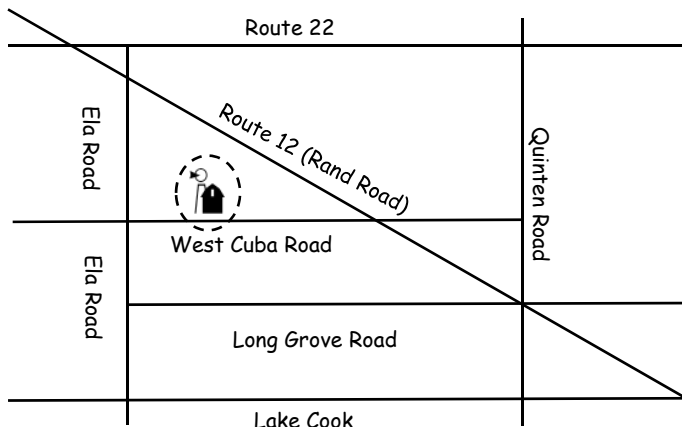
<http://www.chicagobotanic.org/forfamilies/outside.php>



Vehe Farm Foundation

The Vehe Farm Foundation, a 501(c)3 non-profit organization, was created in 2000 by the Village of Deer Park. The Foundation provides stewardship service to Vehe Farm, a 14-acre historic farm owned by the Village. The Foundation also sponsors at Vehe Farm programming that is important to the Deer Park, Barrington, and Lake Zurich area. All costs for this event are funded through corporate and private donations and grants. Donations are gratefully appreciated.

Directions to Vehe Farm Barn
23570 W. Cuba Road, Deer Park



In 1866 John Leonard Vehe and his wife Anna, both German immigrants, purchased 80 acres of land on Cuba Road between Lake Zurich and Barrington. Together, with their five sons, they built the farmhouse and barn, and grew the farm to 140 acres. Having remained in the Vehe family for more than 100 years, in 1972 the farm was designated an Illinois Centennial Farm under a program administered by the Illinois Department of Agriculture. Today it remains one of only two centennial farmsteads in Lake County. Ed Vehe and his wife Mae were the last of the Vehe family to actively farm the property.

Recycled paper. Soy-based ink.



—*Invitation*—

“Leave No Child Inside”



Bringing the National Discussion on
“*Nature-Deficit Disorder*”
to the Deer Park, Barrington, and
Lake Zurich Area

Sunday, June 22, 2008

2 p.m. – 4 p.m.

Vehe Farm Barn, Deer Park

For parents, children and area
civic, business, education, recreation,
developer and faith-based leaders

Sponsored by the Vehe Farm Foundation
in cooperation with Chicago Wilderness



The Leave No Child Inside Movement

“Nature-Deficit Disorder”

In 2005, Richard Louv authored the book *Last Child in the Woods: Saving Our Children from “Nature-Deficit Disorder”*. While not an official diagnosis, “nature-deficit disorder” describes the human costs of alienation from nature, especially in children. A growing body of scientific evidence indicates that our children’s mental and physical health is being significantly negatively impacted by the loss of direct, unstructured interaction with nature. Symptoms of this are childhood obesity, attention deficit/hyperactivity disorder, and depression.¹

National, State and Community Responses

In response to *Last Child in the Woods*, dialogue at the national, state, local, community and family levels has resulted in wide ranging programs focused on reconnecting children to nature. One theme that has spread across the country, and is now part of bills introduced in the U.S. House and Senate, is “Leave No Child Inside”.

Chicago Wilderness

As a consortium of more than 200 public and private organizations, Chicago Wilderness has launched a “Leave No Child Inside” initiative. Its purpose is to educate the broader Chicago area public on the issue of “nature deficit disorder” and to promote community partnerships and programs that support the reconnection of children to nature through unstructured nature-based play.

¹ www.cnaturenet.org

Goals of This Event

- Bring to parents and area leaders the national dialogue on “nature-deficit disorder” and Leave No Child Inside programs.
- Inform attendees of the benefits unstructured nature-based play has on the physical and mental health of children.
- Motivate attendees to incorporate unstructured nature-based play opportunities into their spheres of community influence.
- Kick off an ongoing community effort to increase the quality and number of readily accessible venues for children to reconnect with nature through unstructured nature-based play.

Program Speakers

- ❖ Marty Kenahan, Leave No Child Inside Regional Coordinator, Chicago Wilderness
- ❖ Dr. Everett Weiss, Pediatric Specialists Northwest
- ❖ April Anderson, Naturalist and Writer
- ❖ Andrew Howard, Hitchcock Design Group
- ❖ Rev. Zina Jacque, Th. D., Pastor, Community Church of Barrington

Children’s Activities

During the program, Citizens for Conservation will lead children in nature-based play activities on Vehe Farm grounds and in the barn’s education space. The Little Garden Club of Barrington will also be leading children through the Betty McLaughlin Memorial Butterfly Garden.



This event is made possible with a generous grant from the Barrington Area Community Foundation.

Generous donations were also received from:

Harris Bank

Lake Zurich Chamber of Commerce

McGinty Brothers Inc.

Tallgrass Restoration LLC

Advocate Good Shepherd



Reservations Recommended

This event is open to the public at no charge. As space is limited, reservations are highly recommended and can be made by calling (847) 331-0967 or on-line at rsvp@vehefarmfoundation.org.

Attendees holding reservations will be seated first.