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For Immediate Release:

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“Moth Night” at Wehr Nature Center

Franklin, WI (July 10, 2013) – Wehr Nature Center invites the public to participate in Moth Night, a citizen-science event, Fri., July 19, 7:30-9:30 p.m., at 9701 W. College Ave. Highlighting National Moth Week, the program encourages citizens to learn about and document the moths in the area. Currently, only 12 species of moths are documented in Milwaukee County.

Parks Naturalist Howard Aprill will present the indoor informational segment of the program before being joined for the sampling by guest Allysa Hallett, a lepidopterist, or person who studies moths and butterflies.

Participants will learn the differences between moths and butterflies, what moths do to foil their predators, and how to attract these natural pollinators. The latest news on gypsy moths, moth adaptation, and moth communications will also be presented.

To attract moths for sampling, the outdoor program will use a bait station using “moth mush,” a blacklight, and sheeting. Digital photography will be used as a non-lethal means to capture images to document the moths found. Participants will learn how to gather and record relevant information for citizen-science monitoring.

Data and images from the program will be sent for positive identification by the scientists of the Butterfly and Moth Information Network. After verification, the information is shared on the Butterflies and Moths of North America (BAMONA) website at www.butterfliesandmoths.org

The program is recommended for adults and children age 6 and up.

Admission for Milwaukee County Residents, age 13 and up, is \$7 per person; Non-Milwaukee County Residents, age 13 and up, is \$10; Members of Friends of Wehr and children age 12 and under is \$5 per person. Parking is \$3 per car.

Registration for the program is required by Wed., July 17. For more information go to countyparks.com or call Wehr Nature Center at (414) 425-8550

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