



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
City of Duluth Parks and Recreation Division

411 West First Street, Duluth, Minnesota 55802
218-730-4309 | www.duluthmn.gov | Kathleen Bergen, Parks and Recreation Division Mgr.

For more information contact Amy Norris, Public Information Coordinator 218-730-4312

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SUBJECT: Duluth Dedicates New Web Woods Trail Today

BY: Amy Norris, Public Information Coordinator

Duluth Dedicates New Web Woods Trail Today

The public joined Mayor Don Ness, students and trail enthusiasts today to dedicate Duluth's newest trail, Web Woods. The dedication ceremony was held at the trail head/kiosk located at 505 Oak Bend Drive, behind Marshall School.

Web Woods is bordered by Rice Lake Road, Pecan Avenue, Blackman Avenue and Baylis / Oakbend Drive. For many years this area was a popular spot for neighbors to take a walk in the woods and place for kids to build forts or just enjoy the woods. For over 30 years it served as the unofficial outdoor classroom of retired Marshall Teacher, Larry Weber. On a bi-weekly basis, Mr. Weber would take his seventh grade students into all corners of the woods to teach them all that the woods had to offer.

Comprised mainly of a mature sugar maple forest and a white cedar, tamarack, black ash floating bog, Web Woods offers visitors and students a chance to learn more about the natural environment.

To this day students from Marshall School venture up to Web Woods to explore the aquatic life in Marshall Pond, learn the life cycle of a bog, tap maple trees, and find critters as varied as red eyed vireos and flying squirrels. With the completion of a ½ mile walking path by Eagle Scout and Marshall Student, Josh Thompson neighbors now have a safe, dry and pleasant path on which to explore what Web Woods has to offer.

Larry Weber recently retired from a 40-year career as a science teacher. He taught students from seventh grade up to graduate school. His awards include the Minnesota Secondary Science Teacher of the Year in 1993 and the National Biology Teacher Association's Middle School Life Science Teacher of the Year for 1998.

Larry writes a weekly phenology column for a local newspaper, presents phenology updates for two radio stations and is a regular contributor to the *Minnesota Conservation Volunteer*. He lives with his wife on an old farm in Carlton County, Minnesota where he watches, photographs and writes about critters.

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