



## ***NEWS RELEASE***

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**Contact:** Jamie B. Johannsen, Director of Marketing and Public Relations  
Winnebago County Forest Preserve District  
**Phone:** 815/877-6100

### **For Immediate Release**

#### ***River Event Celebrates Region's Greatest Natural Assets in June 2011***

A River Gathering: There's No Place Like Home, June 16 -19, 2011 will celebrate our region's greatest natural assets. The Four Rivers Environmental Coalition and Rock Valley College are hosting a four-day festival to highlight the ecological, recreational, cultural and aesthetic value of the rivers in our region and to offer ways in which people can work to preserve them as resources and places of inspiration.

***A River Gathering Overview:*** Four days in north western Illinois and Southern Wisconsin to learn about, explore and celebrate the wetlands, rivers, trails and woods and all that make their homes there. Participants will have opportunities to visit some of the Midwest's highest quality and culturally significant rivers and surrounding habitat. Residents and visitors are invited to bring back packs and enjoy three and a half days of guided tours, hands-on workshops, distinctive art and music, and beautiful rivers. Rock Valley College's Stenstrom Center will be *River Gathering* headquarters for opening night reception, art exhibit, key note speakers, presentations and exhibitor/vendor booths, and workshops. Field trips, clinics, demonstrations and performances will be held at various sites on the Rock, Kishwaukee, Sugar and Pecatonica Rivers. This event is family-friendly and children's entertainment and activities will be geared for children age 4+.

'No Frills' fee for the opening reception and Saturday workshops is \$25, with additional fees for clinics, field trips and dinner cruise. Complete registration information and form will be available at [www.fourriver.org](http://www.fourriver.org) beginning March 1, 2011.

*A River Gathering* is made possible by support from generous sponsors: Boone County Conservation District, Rockford Park District and Winnebago County Forest Preserve District.

