FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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**NEY NATURE CENTER REMAINS OPEN DURING HWY 19 ROAD CONSTRUCTION**

**Henderson, MN, April 28, 2016:** The Ney Nature Center will remain open throughout the Highway 19 Bridge project construction, which closes part of Hwy 19 from May 2 through November 2016. According to the Minnesota Department of Transportation, the current bridge over the railroad is nearing the end of its service life and is more cost effective to replace than continue to maintain it.

“We want to get the word out that park visitors can still access the Nature Center for the summer. It is an inconvenience, but we hope it doesn’t deter people from enjoying all our summer programming and trails,” said Executive Director Becky Pollack.

To get to the Ney Nature Center from Henderson, visitors will need to take Hwy 93 to Hwy 169. Hwy 19 will be open to the Ney Nature Center from Hwy 169. Visitors coming from the north, south, or east will not be impacted during this construction project.

The Ney Nature Center has several programs occurring throughout the construction project and encourages attendance:

* Spring Ephemeral Wildflower Walk on May 7 from 10:00 am to 12:00 pm
* Lichens of Minnesota workshop on June 1 from 1:00 to 3:00 pm
* Summer Day Camps for kindergarteners through 5th graders in June, July, and August
* Summer Solstice Hike on June 19 from 7:00 to 8:30 pm
* Book Club for TwentySomethings beginning August 3 at 6:00 pm
* Monarch Kickoff on August 6 from 10 am to 12:30 pm
* Fall Festival and Trail Run on October 1 from 10:30 am to 5:00 pm

For more information about these programs, please visit the Ney Nature Center’s Facebook page and look for the events tab.

**About the Ney Nature Center**: Conveniently located halfway between the Twin Cities and Mankato, the Ney Nature Center (NNC), which sits on the bluffs of the Minnesota River near Henderson, MN, is home to 446 acres of native prairie and woodlands.  This unique blend of biomes allows staff to educate youth and adults alike about the native plants and wildlife important to Southern Minnesota.  Visit [www.facebook.com/neynaturecenter](http://www.facebook.com/neynaturecenter) for more information and view a schedule of upcoming programs to attend.

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Image captions

100\_4726: Highway 19 to Henderson will be closed May 2 through November 2016. The Ney Nature Center will remain open during construction.