

University of Wisconsin-Madison
Lakeshore Nature Preserve Committee
Facilities Planning & Management
Preserve Staff Reports –April 15, 2016

DIRECTOR'S REPORT – Gary Brown, Lakeshore Nature Preserve Director

Preserve staff continue to prepare for spring as it quickly arrives and the many ephemerals start their wonderful display. We are also gearing up for a new part-time staff member to assist in weedy species removal. All very exciting! The overall Campus Master Plan revised draft documents are now available for review on the master plan website (www.masterplan.wisc.edu). On Wednesday, **April 13** we will hold our 5th public open house at Signe Skott Cooper Hall, 701 Highland Avenue, in the Auditorium from 7:00-9:00 p.m. . On Thursday, April 14 the Campus Master Plan Steering Committee is (has) making a recommendation to the chancellor on the comprehensive plan to assure we are on track and headed in the correct direction. Please stay involved and provide your input as we work toward city of Madison approval of the plan in the fall of 2016.

PROGRAM MANAGEMENT – Laura Wyatt, Program Manager

Warmer temperatures are coaxing spring bloom to appear throughout the Preserve. In addition to spectacular spring ephemerals, garlic mustard appears to be having a banner year.

- Student engagement grant award letters have been distributed and we are waiting for recipients to return financial information to enable us to transfer funds to department accounts.
- Preserve staff participated in a short (10 minute) presentation at the Friends Annual Meeting. Members appreciated hearing from Preserve team members and also having an opportunity to visually see the changes which have taken place in Eagle Heights Woods as a result of their generous donation.
- Nine individuals submitted applications for our new seasonal position providing an excellent pool to review. Interviews have been completed and we are looking forward to extending an offer very shortly.

Project titles for new permits include:

- Effects of Buckthorn on Understory Growth
- Effect of Buckthorn Removal on Native Plants at the Preserve
- Army ROTC Lab Exercises
- The Effect of Invasive Species in the Herb Canopy in Eagle Heights
- Presence and Habitat Preference of the Asian Jumping Worm in the Preserve
- Vascular Flora of Wisconsin Forest Site Survey
- Public Beach & Shoreline Restoration at Willows Beach – Design exercise

CAPITAL PROJECTS - Rhonda James, Senior Landscape Architect

West Campus Stormwater: contractor continues maintenance, Preserve to assume management in fall 2016.

Haight Road Reconstruction: design continues, 100% review of construction documents is ongoing. Construction will begin later in 2016.

Housing Storage Shed and Recycling lot: design continues, 100% review of construction documents is ongoing. Construction will begin later in 2016.

Near West Recreation Fields: the draft Environmental Impact Assessment public meeting was held and design continues. Construction is expected to begin later in 2016.

LAND MANAGEMENT - Adam Gundlach - Field Projects Coordinator

- 1) Prescribed burn unit preparations have been ongoing in Eagle Heights Woods, Picnic Point, and Willow Creek Savanna. Hopefully will have updates on how burns went on Wednesday.
- 2) Planning shoreline project to address erosion and trail safety along the Temin Lakeshore Path near Chamberlain House on Sunday April 24 with Engineers for a Sustainable World student group.
- 3) Garlic mustard season is in full swing. Will be identifying areas where foliar herbicide application can effectively supplement volunteer pulling efforts with minimal off-target damage to desirable vegetation.
- 4) Will be continuing to address hazard trees in volunteer work sites (Picnic Point, Bill's Woods, Frautschi Point) and along trails as time allows.
- 5) Continue planning intern field season and educational enrichment opportunities.

OUTREACH & VOLUNTEERS – Bryn Scriver, Outreach Specialist

It's spring, so it's garlic mustard pulling time! We had to cancel some scheduled volunteer events earlier this month due to snow, rain, and high winds. We have busy couple weeks ahead of us with Earth Week/Arbor Day and the semester coming to a close. We have a Muir Woods Earth Day volunteer event on **April 20** from 4-6pm, drop-in volunteer events on **April 23** and 24 from 9-Noon, and an Arbor Day Tree Planting event on **April 27** from 4-6pm.

In May we have two Friends of the Preserve events planned for **May 14 to pull garlic mustard** and **May 22 to plant wildflowers at Frautschi Point**. The Friends also have a number of field trips coming up.

We are continuing to update the website and planning for a late summer launch.