

**Project Proposal  
for funding or support within the  
UW-Madison Lakeshore Nature Preserve**



Today's Date: October 29, 2014

Title of Project Proposal: Tent Colony Woods Edge

Applicant Name (organization/UW unit/class/individual): Roma Lenehan

Project Lead (person responsible for coordination of the project/work/support):

Name: Roma Lenehan  
Address: 3317 Lake Mendota Drive (53705)  
Phone: 608-238-5406  
E-mail: rlenehan@charter.net

Proposed Implementation Year(s) 2015 to 2016

Has this proposal been submitted in the past? Yes or No? If yes, what year? No

1.	<p><b>Project Location:</b> In what area or program of the Preserve would you like to provide assistance? (i.e. Picnic Point, Eagle Heights Woods, trail maintenance, invasive species removal, etc.)</p> <p>Top of Tent Colony Woods invasive species control</p>
2.	<p><b>Project/Support Description:</b> What type of work are you are interested in doing? Provide a <b>short 1-paragraph summary</b> of your proposal. (see details on separate sheet)</p> <p>The goal of this proposal is to improve the top of Tent Colony Wood by replacing the the August mowing of the steep sides of the hill below Lake Mendota Drive and the area behind the metal railing in the curve (specifically between the entrance to Raymer's Cove parking lot and the driveway at the east end of Tent Colony Woods (near the Frautschi Point Parking lot)) with volunteer weeding and trimming.</p>
3.	<p><b>Project Planning:</b> Does your proposal follow an existing Preserve implementation plan? Yes or No? If no, why not? (i.e. no plan exists for this area, etc.) If yes, which plan?</p> <p>Yes, it continues the restoration of Tent Colony Woods.</p>
4.	<p><b>Donation:</b> Do you want to provide or donate</p> <p>funds? <u>  </u> volunteer assistance? <u>yes</u> both? <u>  </u></p> <p>\$ <u>  </u> (amount) # <u>40</u> hours</p>
5.	<p><b>Volunteers:</b> Do you have volunteers that want to assist with field work? If so, how many people? Yes or No? If yes, what is the number of people who can volunteer? <u>No</u></p>
6.	<p><b>Project Timeline:</b> Is this project/support for a one-year initiative or for multi-years?</p> <p>One year <u>  </u> Multi-years <u>2015</u> to <u>2016</u></p>
7.	<p><b>On-Going Support:</b> If this is a land management project, can your group commit to volunteer field work for on-going maintenance of the area in future years? Yes or No? If no, why not? <u>Yes</u></p>

Send completed form to: **Director, Lakeshore Nature Preserve, 610 Walnut St, Madison, WI 53726**  
or via e-mail to: [gbrown@fpm.wisc.edu](mailto:gbrown@fpm.wisc.edu) Proposals will be accepted until November 1, 2014 for consideration in future work plans.

For Preserve staff use only

Proposal received by: Laura Wyatt Date: 10-29-2014

Proposal reviewed by: Planning & Implementation sub-committee Date: 11-06-2014  
LW, GB, BS, AG 11-10-2014

Action taken: accepted

rev. Oct. 2, 2013

**Project Proposal  
for funding or support within the  
UW-Madison Lakeshore Nature Preserve**

**Tent Colony Woods Edge Proposal**

By Roma Lenehan October 29, 2014

The goal of this proposal is to improve the top of Tent Colony Wood by replacing the August mowing of the steep sides of the hill below Lake Mendota Drive and the area behind the metal railing in the curve (specifically between the entrance to Raymer's Cove parking lot and the driveway at the east end of Tent Colony Woods (near the Frautschi Point Parking lot)) with volunteer weeding and trimming. By mowing only the easily accessible flat areas along the road (and not the steep and/or inaccessible areas), the University of Wisconsin would save staff time. In addition, the current August mowing regime is spreading the seeds of undesirable weeds, such as catnip, reed canary and quack grass, as well as annual weeds. This short mowing and scraping favors noxious weeds and disturbed ground weeds and kills native plants. These short-lived disturbed ground weeds have shallow roots that do not hold the ground well. Furthermore the bare ground (now abundant) is easily erodible and will speed water on its way to the gullies in Tent Colony Woods. Without mowing, desirable plants like native grasses, Zigzag and Elm-leaved goldenrod, already present in small numbers, will produce seed and spread.

Details

The restoration of Tent Colony Woods, using a generous donation from the Class of 1955, has greatly improved this area. Unfortunately after the Tent Colony Woods restoration began, Lake Mendota Drive was reconstructed, causing considerable disturbance and bringing in and spreading undesirable weeds. As this is the area that most people, including the Class of 1955, see, improving this edge will enable donors and the public to appreciate the restoration that has occurred in this area.

In 2012, 2013 and 2014 Roma Lenehan weeded the top edge of Tent Colony Woods, removing undesirable weeds. Due to her efforts, many weeds, including burdock, curly dock, motherwort, and thistle, are considerably decreased. The remaining weeds on this sloping edge, including catnip, reed canary grass, and quack grass, produce seeds by August that are spread by the mower, expanding the extent of these weeds. By hand weeding and/or trimming, these weeds can be contained and controlled over time.

A variety of native plants are present on this edge. In contrast to the non-native weeds which are not controlled by mowing, the native plants are killed by mowing. If the native plants are not mowed, they will hold the soil, add beauty to the area, and compete with the weeds. People on the road would be able to admire the great improvement of Tent Colony Woods due to the restoration.