University of Wisconsin-Madison FACILITIES PLANNING & MANAGEMENT

LAKESHORE NATURE PRESERVE

E-Newsletter

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Recognizing our Donors and Volunteers

By Bryn Scriver, Preserve Volunteer and Outreach Coordinator, with Laura Wyatt, Preserve Program Manager

The Lakeshore Nature Preserve is supported by a wide assortment of partners and stakeholders who give generously of their time and resources to support the mission and iconic landscapes of the 300+ acres of campus natural areas on the UW-Madison campus.

In recognition of our appreciation for all our donors and volunteers who supported the Preserve in 2016, we are including their names in this issue of the Lakeshore Nature Preserve E-Newsletter.

In 2016, 862 individual volunteers and 56 volunteer groups contributed a total of 3,539 hours of their time to support the Preserve! Volunteers cut and pulled invasive plants, chipped trails, and planted trees, shrubs, forbs, and grasses to improve the health and function of Preserve lands.

Not included in these numbers is the great effort put forth by the Friends of the Lakeshore Nature Preserve. Among the most valuable contributions by the Friends is their educational outreach to the community including organizing 26 free field trips and walks in 2016 serving over 500 participants.

Private gift funds support approximately 36 percent of our on-going operating budget and are responsible for significant improvements such as the kiosk at the entrance to Picnic Point and the special program to remove invasive species. During 2016, 64 gifts were received totaling \$74,366.

Gifts to the Lakeshore Nature Preserve can be easily given through the UW Foundation at supportuw.org (enter "Lakeshore Nature Preserve" into search box) or by mailing a check to the UW Foundation at US Bank Lockbox, Box 78236, Milwaukee, WI 53278-0236.

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A heart-felt thank you to all our volunteers and donors for the investment they are making in the Lakeshore Nature Preserve.

Note: if you volunteered or made a gift in 2016 and your name was left out of this issue please accept our apologies and let us know by contacting Bryn Scriver at bryn.scriver@wisc.edu.

THANK YOU!

\$74,366 in gifts

862 volunteers 3,539 service hours

2016 Donors

Gifts to Support the Preserve

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David Baumgartner

Dr. William Barker & Professor Susan Paskewitz

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Tribute Gifts

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Gifts to Friends Eagle Heights Woods Project

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Friends of the Lakeshore Nature Preserve

Tribute Gifts

John Grace



2016 Preserve Volunteer Groups

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Alpha Phi

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Army ROTC

American Society of Mechanical Engineers

Alpha Xi Delta **Badger Volunteers**

Blackhawk Church-Love Madison **UW-Madison Ecology 460 Business Badgers and Beyond Bucky Volunteering Association**

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Spartan Youth Service Students for the Preserve Society of Women Engineers

UW Athletics UW Health

UW Population Health Sciences UW Womens Ultimate Frisbee Women in Science and Engineering

Women in Economics

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Winter Land Management Activities in Eagle Heights Woods

By Adam Gundlach, Preserve Field Projects Coordinator

While the coming of winter closes the window on many land management activities, it presents opportunities for work not suited to other seasons. For example, in order to safely remove hazard trees adjacent to or on Indian burial mounds it is best to have frozen ground that will not be disturbed by falling debris or equipment. A light snow cover and a period of sub-zero temperatures in January allowed us to proceed with hazard tree removals around the Eagle Heights Mounds Group.

Originally planned several years ago, the work was necessary to fell trees deemed potential hazards to the integrity of the mounds as well as the safety of our visitors using the surrounding trail loop. Many of the trees removed were oaks and likely victims of oak wilt disease. We were thankful for the opportunity to remove the trees this year since recent winters have not provided a deep enough frost layer.

The most dramatic change occurred on the round mound at the north end of the trail loop where several trees were

removed from the mound feature. The mound will bathe in a pool of sunlight this summer, furthering efforts to bolster herbaceous diversity, while reconnecting the spirits of the sky to the terrestrial, overlooking the water spirits of Lake Mendota below.

In the southern part of Eagle Heights Woods, our contractor removed approximately six acres of invasive brush. The woods edge immediately north of the University Houses Gardens was already in great shape from the dedicated efforts of Preserve volunteer Roma Lenehan, who working over a number of years, removed buckthorn, honeysuckle, and herbaceous weeds, and planted many native species.

We would also like to thank the Friends of the Lakeshore Nature Preserve for raising the funds that made this work possible.

Volunteer Greeters Needed to Share the Preserve!

Enjoy talking to people? Have a passion for the Preserve? Be a volunteer greeter!

We are looking for friendly individuals to greet visitors, direct visitors to Preserve locations, share the Preserve's mission, and answer questions. Greeters will be stationed at the entrance to Picnic Point on weekends from mid-April to mid-May. Volunteers are asked to work at least three 2.5 hour shifts across four weekends. Training is required and will be offered on the morning of Wednesday, April 5.

There will be opportunities for Fall greeters too! For additional information, please contact Bryn Scriver at bryn.scriver@wisc.edu.



2016 Preserve Volunteers

Dylan Abbott Wayne Abbott Marielle Abeyta Bennet Abide Luis Abrev-Socorro Adam Kapfhamer Clare Aeschbacher Shannon Ahern Jake Ahlgrimm Chris Ahn Kyu Ahn Natalie Ahn Olivia Ahn Raieev Ahuia Sanjeev Ahuja Carter Aisbet Tyler Alheid Brenda Allen-Johnson **Emily Anava** Alex Anderson Kelsey Annen Joe Archer Erin Ard Allen Arntsen Matt Aronson

Matt Backus Cristina Bahaveolos Erin Baldwin Jake Ballweg Anna Barger Bill Barker Riley Barnharst Jonathan Barsness **Brad Bastiad** Christina Baum Nicole Bauman Robin Bauman Lauren Bayer Mitchell Beard Carson Beaty Aaron Beck

Leah Beck

Connor Becka

Patricia Becker

Kushagra Beniwal

Colin Beney

Greg Bennett

Madison Berg

Andrew Bergh

Colin Berhardt

Joshua Beyerl

Matilyn Bindl

Alex Bhz

Preston Bernsteen

Alex Bentz

Gerardo Arriaga

Emily Atseff

Alex Babinski

Lauren Bachman

Aisha Ba

Pranaya Bista Jordan Black Maddy Blain Katie Blue Steve Boeder Chris Boehnlein Kali Boldt Rachel Bonin Anthony Bothman Pete Bouchard Beth Boudreau **Dominique Bowers** Paul Bowman Danny Brainerd Jonathan Brand Calvin Branum Keira Branum William Bravo Mike Brav Haley Bremer Noah Breneman Hayley Bresina Noah Broder Scott Brooks Christopher Brown Kelly Brown Allison Brucato John Brueckbauer Maddy Brunes Jeremy Brunner Connor Buchholz Natalie Bueno Melanie Buhr-Lawler Will Bumbaca Shannon Bunsen **Emilie Burditt** Ann Burgess Alanna Burkart Emma Burnett

Roman Burridge

Nicole Busse **Bradley Butcher** Carter Calderon Martin Calderon Marina Caliendo Patrick Callahan Erica Calvache Elizabeth Cameron Polka Cameron Derek Campbell Tanner Campbell Tressa Campbell Melissa Cane Alex Canney Cecilia Cardenas Alexa Carlson **Brvan Carroll** Larry Chambers Lisa Charron Matt Cheesman Claire Chen Shuai Chen Justin Chenevert **Grace Cheng** Caroline Chengary Sarah Childress Nate Chotlos Jake Christensen Annie Ciancio David Clark Deryk Clary John Click William Cocke John Cohen **Daniel Coleman**

Nick Coleman Madison Collignon **Kevin Collins** Sam Considine Florenit Contreras

Janis Cooper Cecilia Cortez Patrick Costello Sarah Crosby The Culver family Charlotte Cummins **Kyle Curry** Emma Czarnecki Brianna Dahm Brendan Dailey

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Devonte Foley Alexandria Fons Meghan Ford Chloe Frankovic **Emily Fres** Nicole Frite Jacob Fuiten Victoria Gagnon Jimmy Gannon David Garcia



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Enrique Guzman

Josue Garduno



Student Engagement Grant Aids Undergraduate Study on Cold Tolerance of Two **Native Prairie Species**

By Bryn Scriver with Emily Nettesheim

As anyone who lives here knows, the seasons in Wisconsin vary widely—from the heat of summer to the deep freeze of winter. However this seasonal variation will likely change with ongoing change in our climate.

Emily Nettesheim, an undergraduate researcher in Dr. Ellen Damschen's lab and a recipient of a 2016 Lakeshore Nature Preserve Student Engagement Grant, is interested in how a changing climate, in particular winters with less snow, will affect the cold tolerance of native prairie plants.

Between 1950 and 2006, the statewide average winter temperature rose 1.5 °C (2.7°F). Warming winters lead to less snowfall. Snow acts like a blanket to buffer overwintering plants from fluctuations in air temperature; without it plants are at increased risk for frost damage to belowground plant tissues. Luckily plants

have developed mechanisms for adjusting the cold

tolerance of vital tissues, such as roots, to prevent damage from cold. However, according to Emily we do not know how the cold tolerance of native prairie plants changes throughout winter or if this change will be enough to keep pace with climate change.

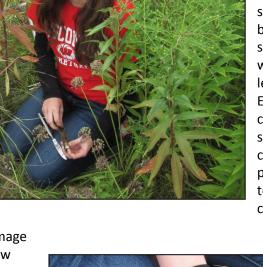
Emily used the resources provided by the Preserve Student Engagement Grant to purchase temperature loggers and lab equipment necessary to track soil temperature and measure the root cold tolerance of plants throughout winter to help address this knowledge gap.

From September 2015 to April 2016, Emily studied the cold tolerance of two common prairie plants, stiff goldenrod (Solidago rigida) and rosinweed (Silphium integrifolium) by measuring how their root tissue adapted to seasonal changes. She also tracked the temperature profile of the soil, both at the soil surface and 10cm below ground, to measure the temperature buffering effects of snowpack. Her project was conducted at the Biocore Prairie, a restored prairie located within the Lakeshore Nature Preserve.

Emily's results show that stiff goldenrod roots became increasingly cold tolerant as fall turned into winter; meanwhile, the cold tolerance of rosinweed was much more variable at this same time. However, in spring both species followed the same trend to lose their cold tolerance as temperatures warmed. The two species not only varied in the rate at which they gained cold tolerance but also the intensity. Rigid goldenrod's cold tolerance is more robust than that of rosinweed's.

According to Emily, the difference in cold tolerance among

species could influence which species persist under a changing climate. Species with cold tolerances similar to stiff goldenrod may be more likely to survive future warmer winters with less snow. Through Emily's research, we can better understand how natural communities, such as prairies, may respond to continued climate change.





Emily collected root tissue from plants in the Biocore Prairie to measure cold tolerance. Photos by E. Nettesheim.

2016 Preserve Volunteers

Dietta Hahn Rilev Hale Nora Hall Courtney Halverson Bonnie Hammer Michael Hammer

Alexis Handley Lexi Handrick

Michael Harris Kathryn Hartfield Amy Hartman Eryn Hartnett Galen Hasler Allison Hass Brandon Hass Lloyd Hass Michelle Hass Henry Hasti Julie Hastreiter Jen Hatton Megan Haug

Madeline Hazle Kelton Heinemann Maddy Henkel Sarah Henson

Marin Haugen

Carmyn Hayes

Nathan Hayes

Steve Hesse Linda Hext Conor Hillert Sydney Hillert

Evan Hernandez

Mariya Hinojos Alex Hintz August Hirschboeck

Rebecca Hoehn Paul Hoithaus Morgan Hoover

Ben Horn Chris Houben

Samuel Howard Terrie Howe Catherine Hu

Mingwei Huang Sarah Hubbard Katelyn Huebner

Jacob Hugen **Dustin Huset** John Hutt

Nick Iacovo Alexander Idarraga John Imes

Michael Istvanek Elizabeth Iverson Kylie Jackson

Ashlea Kielar

Logan Kirchenwitz

Maren Kirkland

Sean Kim

Noriko Jackson Stearns Jackson Rachel Jacobson

Erin Jamar

Jessie Jarosz Omar Jarrett Spencer Jastrow Christophe Jean-Pierre

Alexa Jeans Bennett Jenkins Vince Jenkins Amy Jensen

Tyler Kirsch Matt Kizaric James Klav

Grant Kleavland Kupczak Samantha Kleiber Jasdeep Kler Julie Klinner McKenzie Klipp

Chase Lakowske Evan Lallensack Halle Lambeau Michael Lamson Noah Lamson Owen Lamson Jackson Lanigan Eleanor Larsen



Kern Klippel Grace Jensen Drew Jenson Colin Knight Derek Johns Max Koch Alysha Johnson Jason Kok Brenna Johnson Allie Korbel Skylar Johnson Jenny Kosinski **Buck Iones** Daniel Kostuch Derek Jones Jen Kostuch **Garrett Jones** Johan Kostuch Mitchell Kostuch Mike Jones Lucas Jorgensen Noah Kostuch Regina Kostuch Tyler Juve Darcy Kabinsky Caleb Kowalski Tom Kabinsky Mike Kozuch Ben Kagan William Kraft Tim Kalkhoff Lynne Krainer Jarrett Kallas Jamie Krause Joe Kalscheur Abbie Krentz Katherine Katula Reilly Kroiss Amit Kavne Amy Kroll Atish Kc Adam Krouse Joe Keal Thomas Kruger Chris Keliher Mitchell Kuhlman Megan Kelly Daniel Kuhn Sean Kelly Chrissy Kujawa Erin Kempfer Kinzie Kujawa Ben Kempfert Zachary Kumm Colin Kenny Victoria Kusber Gavin Keogh Hanns Kuttner

Gisela Kutzbach

John Kutzbach

Joe LaBlanche Jared Ladish

Jaya Larsen **Greg Lauer** Tanner Lauer Lena Law Huy Le Anna Leadens Madison Leahy Harley Leavens Duane Lee Robbie Lee Abby Lembersky Roma Lenehan

Rourke Lenz Frin Lewis Nisse Lewison Mengdi Li Tzufen Li Anna Lichwa Peter Lindsay Sarah Litman Kauyer Lor Nicole Luczynski Carlie Lunowa Junalee Ly Katherine Ly Bryan MacDonald Julia Machgan Jordyn Mackey Tom Mackey Liz Maginot Dianne Maglaque Lexi Magnes Rebecca Makowski Vivek Malleshappa David Mallinson Angelica Mangahas Ben Marinin Ben Marquardt Nick Martin Kyle Martinez Dana Matasek Victoria Matson Will Matthei Carly Mayes Hannah McBride Reha McClone Connor McKeehan Alyssa McLaughlin Maria McMahon Bryan McMichael

Johanna Meassick Courtney Medick Mertin Medina Anna Meese Cody Michaelis Cory Michaelis Jordy Michalske Chloe Miland Andrew Miller Henry Mirsberger Kelsey Mjaanes William Moe Joe Moeller Marissa Monett Jon Monna Ceclia Monroy Cade Mooi Tom Moor Danielle Moore Luke Moore Kayla Moran Colleen Morken Nate Mortensen Carolina Mueller Robert Muether C.P. Murdoch Nell Murphy Matt Myers Zach Myers Mark Nadaus Disan Namude Cara Nastali Caitlin Nejedlo Anika Nelson Brooke Nelson Jacob Ng Benjamin Nguyen Nguyen Nguyen Tri Nguyen



Ryan McMurtry

Volunteer Spotlight: Stephen Sentoff

By Bryn Scriver with Stephen Sentoff

Stephen Sentoff began volunteering more than 25 years ago for a small prairie restoration group in the western suburbs of Chicago. At the time he just wanted to find something worthwhile to do outside because he spent all week working at a desk as an engineer. He soon discovered that volunteering was a great way to meet likeminded people, and he gained a lot of satisfaction from making a difference to the environment. Eventually, Stephen ended up running that small volunteer organization, which he says taught him a lot about how to organize activities and motivate other volunteers.

Lucky for us, after retiring, Stephen and his wife Monica moved to Madison (they both attended graduate school at the UW) and started volunteering with the Lakeshore Nature Preserve. Stephen and Monica have joined many of the drop-in volunteer events in the past year. Stephen observed that there are many opportunities to help with habitat restoration in the Madison area, but he said they chose to volunteer at the Preserve because it was close to their downtown apartment.

In addition to joining our bimonthly volunteer events, Stephen joined the Preserve's on-going volunteer corps. Over the winter he provided a great service to the Preserve by organizing our equipment storage areas, cleaning and sharpening our hand tools, and assisting staff with buckthorn removal.

Stephen, whose background is in math and computer science, said a great benefit of volunteering is learning new things. Most of his biology and botany knowledge was gained through self-study and from working with others in the field. He said his enjoyment of volunteering



Stephen and Monica Sentoff chose to volunteer at the Preserve after moving to Madison in 2016.

is enhanced by learning more about the Preserve's history, anthropology, and biology.

When not volunteering at the Preserve, Stephen and Monica also volunteer at the Wisconsin State Historical Society and try to take advantage of all the things Madison has to offer.

To learn how you can get involved in the Preserve please contact Bryn Scriver at bryn.scriver@wisc.edu.

Get Involved!

Attending work parties is a great way to enjoy the Lakeshore Nature Preserve while working with other volunteers to care for it.

Visit the volunteer page on our website for information on drop-in volunteer work parties and group service projects.

Upcoming volunteer work parties:

Date	Day	Meeting place
Apr 2	Sun	Picnic Point lot 129
Apr 22	Sat	Picnic Point lot 129
May 21	Sun	Picnic Point lot 129
Jun 10	Sat	Frautschi Point lot
Jun 25	Sun	Picnic Point lot 129
Jul 15	Sat	Frautschi Point lot

Time: 9:00 am-Noon

2016 Preserve Volunteers

Andrew Nichols Chrissy Nichols Abby Nicholson Katie Nicolas Hercules Nikolaou Cassandra Nissi Dan Noar Elizabeth Norman Jenna Novak Maddie Nowakowski Zac Nowatzki Mike Nowicki Anthony Oates Andrew Ochoa Jack O'Connor Mark Oldani Andrew Olden Jordan Olesen Katherine Olexa Carleigh Olsen Stephaney Olsen Mitchell Oswald Debra Ott Josh Overturf JoLyn Owen Sam Palmer Ziyi Pan Priyanka Panjwani Ali Paulson Michele Peacock Anne Pearce Katelyn Pecha Kai Pederfon Martha Pena Mata Jack Pendleton Amanda Percarpio Jessie Perez Anna Perrill Sam Peters J.R. Petnkeu Morgan Pettit Maria Pfister Alec Pham Mikaela Pierson

Michelle Quinn

Junior Quintero

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Marcia Schmidt

Drew Quiriconi Ben Rahiego Amy Racki Anthony Racki Jenna Radke Varen Rajesh Olivia Ramsfield Kayla Rasmussen Leland Raymond Scott Reetz Nate Reichardt Kiyoko Reidy Claire Reimer Ana Reisinger Max Renk Andrew Renner Allison Retzlaff Miranda Richio Jacob Rielly **Brian Riley** Lisa Robb Camille Robert Jessica Robinson Jake Roble Ben Rody Maddie Rohr Meredith Rolen Elena Rolseth Hailey Romuald Kristi Romuald Cathryn Rooney Michael Rosenblum Eli Rosenthal Matthew Rossing Magdalene Rothberger Jen Roy Anakel Roza Jessica Rust Nicole Rust David Rutkowski Marielle Sadowsky Sam Saghafi Torie Sailer Jordan Salinsky Emma Salman Kathrvn Pike Nick Pinzl Allison Samuel Kvlie Pischke Jacob Sanchez Melinda Plath Raquelle Sands Chris Poellinger Andrew Santoso Erik Polkowski Nikita Saoii Jeremy Portillo Katie Sarino Sarah Potter Isaac Sayre **Brian Potts** Sam Schaefer Melissa Prath Madeline Schebil Tim Prestby **David Schlais** John Purnell Morgan Schleicher Gretchen Quade Matt Schlidt Jacki Quast Cherie Schmidt

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Kelly Stark

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Hannah Wierzbinski Liz Willer Farin Williams Turner Williams Zach Williams Tara Wilson Kvle Winkler Daniel Winterrose Ethan Wise Grant Witynski Nicole Wlodarski Mackenzie Wolfe Michelle Worm Eli Wrenn Anna Wright Matt Wulff Jayda Wynn Luke Wynn Livia Xie Diane Xue Wanyi Xue Xing Yang Brian Yasosky Franklin Yeo Josh Ylinen Stephen Yuan Anna Zahn Devin Zahradka Allysa Loo Zainai Tizoc Zarate Amy Zellman Abigail Zellner Katy Zimmerman Vince Zimmerman Marah Zinnen Andrew Zole David Zoppo

Nicholas Westerlund

Ruslana Westerlund

Rob Westerlund

Tyler Weum

Sydney Widell

Kav Wiedenbeck

Friends of the Lakeshore Nature Preserve Free Guided Field Trips

March 26-Bird and Nature Walk (Sun, 1:30-3:00pm).**

April 2-UW-Madison Science Expedition at Picnic Point (Sun, 2:00-3:30pm). Guides will accompany small groups of visitors to stations in the Preserve to learn about geology, mounds, and trees. Children can engage in related activities. For more information about Science Expeditions, see http://www.science.wisc.edu/eventsscience-expeditions.htm.

April 20-Beyond Backyard Birding (Thurs, 6:30-9:30pm). These evening trips are especially for backyard birders looking to grow their skills! Bring the whole family. We will have binoculars for loan. Meet in Lot 129. Trip limited to 20 people; registration is required! Contact Carolyn Byers, carolyn.byers@madisonaudubon.org.

April 23-Bird and Nature Walk (Sun, 1:30-3:00pm).**

April 28-Beyond Backyard Birding (Fri, 6:00-9:00pm). See April 20.

April 30-Spring Wildflowers at Frautschi Point (Sun, 10:00am-Noon). Explore Frautschi Point for spring ephemerals and other tender new growth. This is a familyfriendly hike. Meet at Frautchi Point parking lot. Leader: Glenda Denniston, (231-1530) denniston@wisc.edu.

FULL-May 2 and 3-Wildlife Action Photography Workshop (Tues, 9:30-11:30am and Wed, 6:30-8:30am). This is a two-part class. Expert nature photographer Arlene Koziol will help you get started with the basics of wildlife action photography. Tuesday meet at the Henry Vilas Zoo Gate 1; Wednesday meet at the Willow Creek Bridge on the Lakeshore Path. A SLR or other good quality camera is necessary. Leader Arlene Koziol, (847-525-4405) arlenekoziol@mac.com.

May 10-Warblers of Frautschi Point (Wed, 7:30-9:30am). We will look for warblers and other spring migrants. Bring binoculars and a field guide if you have them. Meet at the Frautschi Point parking lot. Leader: Roma Lenehan, (238-5406) rlenehan@charter.net.

May 28-Bird and Nature Walk (Sun, 1:30-3:00pm).**

June 13-Lake Mendota Boat Trip (Tues, 9:00-11:30am). (weather date, Thurs, June 15). Learn about Lake Mendota and the shoreline of the Preserve aboard LIMNOS, the UW Center for Limnology research vessel. Group size is limited to 12; email John Magnuson (john.magnuson@wisc.edu) to reserve your place. Meet at Hasler Limnology Lab one block west of Memorial Union along the south shore of Lake Mendota.

June 25-Bird and Nature Walk (Sun, 1:30-3:00pm).**

July 8-Restoration Ecology in Eagle Heights Woods (Sat, 9:00-11:00am). Get a behind-the-scenes summer look at efforts to restore the biological health of this oak woodland. Park along Wood Lane and walk to the Shady Lane trailhead. Leader: Adam Gundlach, adam.gundlach@wisc.edu.

July 16-Native Pollinators in the Preserve (Sun, 9:00-11:00am). Join us in searching for bees and other pollinators while learning about diversity, lifestyles, and the importance of these wonderful insects. Meet at lot 129. Leader: Susan Carpenter, susan.carpenter@wisc.edu.

July 23-Bird and Nature Walk (Sun, 1:30-3:00pm).**

Aug 5-Pretty Things with Wings (Sat, 10:00am-Noon). Join in a search for butterflies, dragonflies, and an occasional bird. Bring your binoculars. Co-sponsored with the Madison Audubon Society and the Southern Wisconsin Butterfly Association. Meet at lot 129. Leader: Edgar Spalding, spalding@wisc.edu.

Aug 27-Bird and Nature Walk (Sun, 1:30-3:00pm).**

** Bird and nature lovers, students, families, and kids welcome! Held every 4th Sunday of the month. Explore the Preserve and the wildlife that lives there. Meet at Lot 129. Contact: Paul Noeldner (698-0104) paul noeldner@hotmail.com.



Scenes from the 2016 UW Science Expedition at Picnic Point. Photos by Gisela Kutzbach.

Preserve Works with University Housing to Control State Prohibited Invasive **Plant**

By Bryn Scriver, Preserve Volunteer and Outreach Coordinator

Several years ago volunteers alerted Preserve staff to the presence of a state-prohibited invasive plant, fig buttercup (Ficaria verna), in two separate lawn areas at Eagle Heights Apartments. These volunteers dug the plant from the edges of Big Woods and Eagle Heights Woods for several years, but the number of plants and the growing size of the infestation necessitated that we take a more aggressive approach to controlling it.

When we approached University Housing about the issue they were very receptive to dedicating resources to control this plant. Preserve staff worked with Housing to identify the extent of the problem and connect them to an experienced contractor to carry out the work. After two years of herbicide treatment, we will monitor the area for effectiveness this spring.

Part of the challenge with managing this plant is that it completes its life cycle in winter and spring. The blooming period occurs from early to mid-spring, lasting about one month. After that time the plant virtually disappears until the following year.



Plants consist of a basal rosette of dark green, stalked kidneyto heart-shaped leaves. The flowers are bright yellow with 8 to 12 petals, and are borne singly on stalks

that rise above the leaves. The plant spreads both by underground tubers and by bulblets produced in the leaf axils.

Fig buttercup has been shown to form dense patches in natural areas which can displace native plants, especially spring ephemeral plants.

Like what you've read? Help us do more!

Support the Lakeshore Nature Preserve with a gift to the Stewardship Fund at the UW Foundation. supportuw.org

Enter "Lakeshore Nature Preserve" into the Search Box.

Lakeshore Nature Preserve Staff

Gary Brown, Director gary.brown@wisc.edu

Laura Wyatt, Program Manager laura.wyatt@wisc.edu

Bryn Scriver, Volunteer and Outreach Coordinator bryn.scriver@wisc.edu

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For announcements, photos, and information on the Lakeshore Nature Preserve, please join us on:





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