

University of Wisconsin-Madison
Lakeshore Nature Preserve Committee
Facilities Planning & Management
Preserve Staff Reports – December 7, 2022

OPERATIONS - PROGRAM MANAGEMENT – Laura Wyatt, Assistant Director

Permits issued since our last meeting on November 7, 2022:

- None
- Working on receiving project reports for our files

The first flakes of snow have appeared, ice is forming on Lake Mendota, Tundra Swans have returned, and Adam has shifted into burn season. We are fortunate to have him on board to ensure this cultural practice of years past has returned in a manner to support Preserve plant communities. Missy Nergard and I have begun to craft the Preserve budget for 2023-2024. Approximate expenses covered by gift funds for 2022 were \$84,000, plus an additional expense of \$80,000 for the Master Plan for a total of \$160,000. I am still waiting for final figures regarding the UW-Madison contribution which primarily covered staffing expenses. We will review this information further in January.

In December we will be conducting an annual appeal for gifts to support our expenses accounts within the UW Foundation. In a slightly different format, we will be printing and mailing our fall issue of the e-newsletter with the appeal. Over the years, I have discovered several of our older donors are not familiar with the e-newsletter. We want them to know, if they would prefer to receive a print copy, we can certainly accommodate that request. Please look for the annual appeal mailing in your mailbox.

It looks like our hand pump, located east of the “narrows” along the path to Ebling Circle will be repaired. After years (since 2018) of not having it in service, we secured a plumbing company familiar with the pump and recommended by the manufacturer to examine the equipment and prepare a bid for approximately \$2,500 to have it repaired. Once repaired, if it passes testing for portability, it will be reopened!

Adam and I have marked a second batch of ash for removal and/or mitigation to reduce hazards to our visitors within the Preserve. Boley Tree Service will be out during winter and early spring to complete removals. We appreciate the \$50,000 in additional funding the UW-Madison is providing to support this activity which is based on safety.

In November Bryn, Adam and I participated in training provided by the Nelson Institute, *Cultural Responsiveness in Working with Wisconsin Native Nations*. This is an example of how our relationship with the Office of Sustainability is positioning the Preserve in a much more prominent position to be recognized and appreciated for the contributions it provides in supporting the academic mission of the UW-Madison.

CAPITAL PROJECTS - Rhonda James, Senior Landscape Architect

Capital Projects adjacent to the Preserve:

- The Natatorium project is under construction. The temporary shed should be removed in 2023.
- Vet Med is under construction.
- Design work for creating a bridge across the lake side of Limnology Building is on-going. Expected construction 2023-2024.

- The City of Madison is designing an expansion of the building to house a filter system to be added to Well 19. This will expand their easement and construction is expected in 2024.

Capital Projects within the Preserve:

- Lakeshore Nature Preserve Master Plan – discussion of recommendations to follow.
- Lakeshore Nature Preserve Outreach Center – first public meeting was held to introduce the potential site locations; design team is furthering the study of those sites.

LAND MANAGEMENT - Adam Gundlach, Field Projects Coordinator

- Performed late season foliar treatments to weeds at Willow Creek savanna.
- Performed brush resprout treatments in Eagle Heights Woods central zone.
- Bryn, with support from Preserve Natural Areas Assistants, has been busy with volunteers removing brush in sections of Bill's Woods, Picnic Point, Frautschi Point and Willow Creek Woods.
- Finished seed collection and processing to be incorporated into seed mixes.
- Planning seed order needs for project areas.
- Assessed and marked dead and dying hazard ash trees for next round of arborist removal in Muir Woods, Picnic Point and Frautschi Point.
- Planning winter brush pile burn needs.
- Performed Preserve-wide site checks and Picnic Point fire circle and wood rack maintenance.

OUTREACH & VOLUNTEERS – Bryn Scriver, Volunteer and Outreach Coordinator

Outreach activities:

- Promoted Master Plan update meeting #3
- Thank you cards to partners
- Promoted Giving Tuesday

Volunteer activities:

- November 19, Drop-in, 36 volunteers, cut buckthorn and honeysuckle at the bottom of Bills Woods



Volunteers cut down a large buckthorn along the Temin Path.



Volunteers pose with cutting tools after clearing area of buckthorn plants.

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