

University of Wisconsin-Madison
Lakeshore Nature Preserve Committee
Facilities Planning & Management -FPM
Preserve Staff Reports – February 10, 2023

March 28 -29



OPERATIONS - PROGRAM MANAGEMENT – Laura Wyatt, Assistant Director

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

- 2023 - #2 – FWE375 -Biotic Sense of Place
- 2023 - #1 – FEW300 – Forestry Biometrics
- 2022 - #56 – DPLA-FIG – Indigenous Arts & Science
- 2022 -#55 – GradRes – Carbon-nitrogen-mycorrhizal

This is my favorite time of year to walk throughout the Preserve. Sunny days with snow blanketing the ground and outlining tree branches provides an artistry of contrasts. The distinctive branching patterns and bark textures of trees are highly visible with sounds of wildlife breaking the silence. Favorite trails start at Raymer’s Cove or Frautschi Point parking lots and follow the lake edge. Benches along the way provide opportunities for meditation.

As a result of our annual appeal, we have received \$40,000 from fifty-three preserve stakeholders and partners since December 1. \$32,000 was given to the Stewardship Fund at the UW Foundation and supports our programing, volunteers, and restoration. Eleven gifts totaling \$7,500 were directed to the Preserve Endowment.

We will participate in the UW Foundation digital fundraising campaign, Day of the Badger, in late March. This fund-raising event focuses on social media and digital outreach to acquaint folks with the needs and opportunities to support UW-Madison venues. Most Preserve visitors do not realize that gift funds are critical for the care and support of the Preserve. Bryn has shared Preserve Committee names with the foundation and if you are able to assist in spreading the word regarding the Preserve’s participation in Day of the Badger; information will be available.

FPM has allocated \$50,000 to address ash trees within the Preserve that are declining due to infestation by emerald ash borer (EAB). Impacted trees located along trails and at gathering sites (fire circles) that pose risk to visitors are assessed and hazard trees are removed and/or topped and left for wildlife. Over winter break eighteen trees were removed from Muir Woods. Additional trees will be removed along the walking path to the tip of Picnic Point and the Frautschi Point area.

Staff has been busy looking ahead and working on the upcoming, FY24 work plan and budget. Please review for discussion at our February committee meeting.

2022 visitor count of individuals walking along path to tip of Picnic point – **149,022**.

CAPITAL PROJECTS - Rhonda James, Senior Landscape Architect

Capital Projects adjacent to the Preserve:

- The Natatorium project nearing completion and Rec/Well is moving in in March 2023. The temporary building west of parking lot 130 should be removed in 2023. The exterior work will continue 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.

- At Well 19, the City of Madison is designing an expansion of the building to house a filter system. This will expand their easement and construction is expected in 2024-2025.

Capital Projects within the Preserve:

- Lakeshore Nature Preserve Master Plan, we are editing text and graphics.
- 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 UPDATE – Adam Gundlach, Field Projects Coordinator

- Muir Woods – Boley Tree Service completed removal of hazard ash trees around Social Sciences building and along Temin path at Lot 34. A red fox kept tabs on the work.
- Student Natural Areas Assistants completed woody control work across the Lot 60 swale prairie planting, brush removal across the old field (east savanna) at the base of Picnic Point and continued to expand the clearing in central Bill’s Woods.
- Completed brush pile burns in Frautschi Point to dispose of debris generated in volunteer work parties over the past year. Brush pile burns will continue in the coming weeks along Second Point Woods field edge, Bill’s Woods, and Picnic Point.
- Finalized seeding plans and compiled seed orders to supplement collected seed.
- Held initial meetings to discuss priorities and coordination needs for a formal Preserve monitoring program.
- Scheduling additional hazard tree removal along Picnic Point.
- Looking ahead: Preserve seasonal staff hiring, Rx burn planning, 2022 Field season planning, Prairie Partners internship interviews.

- Performed Preserve-wide site checks and Picnic Point fire circle and wood rack maintenance.



Late afternoon sun sinks low February 1 at the big oak in Frautschi Point.

OUTREACH & VOLUNTEERS – Bryn Scriver, Volunteer and Outreach Coordinator

Outreach activities:

- Day of the Badger (DOTB) Planning for March 28-29
 - Submitted Preserve Committee names as possible DOTB Ambassadors
- Preserve co-hosting a UW-Madison Extension, Wisconsin Master Naturalist hybrid training course Sept 5-Nov 5, 2023
 - Registration opens August 1, 2023
- Restoration managers who work with volunteers meeting Jan 25
 - Community of Practice started in June 2018
 - 16 participants in attendance: UW Preserve, UW Arboretum, City of Madison, Groundswell, Dane County, 5 Dane County Friends Groups
 - Compiled list of 2023 training resources
 - Planning to collaboratively promote activities for/around World Environment Day June 5
 - Raise profile on UN Decade of Ecosystem Restoration (2021-2030)
- Spring Semester Public Service Fair Jan 31
- Spring semester drop-in volunteer dates set and announced on [Preserve Events Calendar](#) and [UW Events Calendar](#)

Volunteer activities:

- December 1, L&S 106: Earth Partnership Indigenous Arts & Sciences FIG, 16 student volunteers, seeded 10 plant species at Willow Creek Woods
- December 3, Drop-in event, 10 student volunteers, cut and piled invasive bush honeysuckle plants at Frautschi Point
- December 3, Bradley Roundtable Seminar, 12 student volunteers, cut and piled invasive buckthorn at Willow Creek Woods

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