

University of Wisconsin-Madison  
Lakeshore Nature Preserve Committee  
Facilities Planning & Management -FPM  
Preserve Staff Reports – May 12, 2023

**OPERATIONS - PROGRAM MANAGEMENT** – Laura Wyatt, Interim Director

**Permits issued since our last meeting on March 10, 2023:**

- 2023 – #25 – NutriScie 421 - Moreno
- 2023 – #24 – Vuyk – Amphibian Project
- 2023 – #23 – SS575 – Ventura #2 EH Community Gardens
- 2023 – #22 – SS575 – Ventura #1 EH Housing
- 2023 – #21 – SEG Castiblan - Accessibility
- 2023 – #20 – DNR Fish Mobile - Sinclair

Our thanks and appreciation to our four Natural Areas Assistants who will be graduating or leaving us at the end of the semester. We celebrated with them at a farewell lunch with appreciation gifts. Best wishes to: Ben Kotte (2 years & graduating), Max Derleth (1 year & graduating), Nicholas Wandscheider (1 year), and Lily Shayegan (1 year).

The plumbing contractor has performed preliminary repairs on the hand pump at Picnic Point but must return to replace a gasket. It will be chlorinated and once it passes inspection, opened to the public. Boley Tree Service will be starting initial ash tree removal in Frautschi Point. We are thankful to be receiving \$50,000 annually to address hazard trees resulting from emerald ash borer infestation. Last year we experienced a heavy infestation of spongy moth (formerly referred to as gypsy moth) in the Raymer's Cove and Tent Colony Woods areas. Keeping our fingers crossed, the infestation appears to have declined 😊 We did feel many of the overwintering egg masses appeared parasitized.

The garden season is off and running with Eagle Heights Community Garden 600 plots filled and several new student groups making up the newly named UW Student Organic Farm. These garden activities are performed within the Preserve footprint and the Garden Oversight Committee (GOC) attempts to organize all. The Preserve is seeking each group completes a “teaching & research permit” as a way to share the long-standing garden policies with newcomers.

For the second year Preserve staff will participate in the Wisconsin Idea Seminar, which traditionally has visited the Preserve's Ebling Circle. This year the group will gather at the Ho-Chunk Clan Circle display at Bakke Center to share information on the mounds within the Preserve and how they are cared for.

2023 visitor count through March - individuals walking along path to tip of Picnic point – **14,704 (6073 March)**.

**CAPITAL PROJECTS** - Rhonda James, Senior Landscape Architect

**Capital Projects adjacent to the Preserve:**

- Bakke Recreation and Wellbeing Center is open, there was a dedication event for the Ho Chunk 12 Class Circle to the north of the building on May 4. The exterior work will continue in 2023.
- On the east end of the Howard Temin Lakeshore Path Alternate options to adding a bridge on the lake side of the Limnology Building are being evaluated.

### **Capital Projects within the Preserve:**

- Lakeshore Nature Preserve Master Plan, we are editing text and graphics.
- Lakeshore Nature Preserve Outreach Center is working toward wrap up of the Advanced Plan later in May 2023.

### **LAND MANAGEMENT UPDATE** – Adam Gundlach, Field Projects Coordinator

- Spring ephemeral wildflowers are at their peak. Get out and enjoy the beautiful scene across the Preserve.
- The Preserve’s student Natural Areas Assistants supported volunteer events, sowed seed across recent burn units at Bill’s Woods, Picnic Point, and Willow Creek Woods, and helped flush out the newly refurbished well pump on Picnic Point.
- Volunteers have been busy clearing invasive brush in various locations. See Bryn’s volunteer report.
- Picnic Point – UW Grounds Department arbor crew carefully removed tipped cherry tree hung up over a linear mound and the main path.
- Scouted garlic mustard population across the site to identify volunteer opportunities and gauge control effort needed for the spring season.
- Assisted with LA 581 Rx Fire course live fire exercises. Discussions continue regarding expansion of the course in 2024 to two sections, including live fire exercises at Biocore prairie.
- Assisted UW Arboretum staff with prescribed burns at Faville Prairie and Pasque Flower Hill.
- Provided a Rx burn discussion and hands on demonstration for Forest & Wildlife Ecology students (Silviculture and Disturbance Ecology) in the old field southeast of Biocore prairie.
- Planning 2023 field season needs, preparing to onboard new student hires and bid farewell to current Natural Area Assistants.
- Invited to participate in Wisconsin Idea Seminar campus tour kickoff Monday May 15, alongside Bill Quackenbush of Ho-Chunk Nation (*Ho-Chunk Stories of Life Among the Oaks*), interjecting discussion of current management of the Willow Creek Woods site.
- Performed trail maintenance on segment extending north of the Picnic Point entrance gate.
- Performed Preserve-wide site checks and Picnic Point fire circle and wood rack maintenance.

### **OUTREACH & VOLUNTEERS** – Bryn Scriver, Volunteer and Outreach Coordinator

#### Outreach activities:

- Nelson Institute Earth Day Conference table April 18
- Center for Ecology and the Environment Spring Symposium poster May 1-2
- Updating signage in kiosks and replacing worn signage at fire circles

#### Volunteer activities:

- Sat April 15, Lakeshore Path, remove woody invasive plants, Drop-in and Medlife and Japanese Karate Club, 21 volunteers
- *Sat April 15, afternoon event—Canceled due to rain*
- *Sunday April 16, 3 volunteer events—Canceled due to rain and high winds*
- Friday April 21, Lot 34 and Muir Woods, pick up trash and remove woody invasive plants, Hoofers and Hoffers Ambassadors, 11 volunteers
- Saturday April 22, Picnic Point beach path, remove woody invasive plants, Drop-in and STLF, 7 volunteers
- Sunday April 23, Picnic Point beach path, remove woody invasive plants, Drop-in and Student Print and Nutritional Sciences, 16 volunteers
- Sunday April 23, Frautschi Point Woods, remove woody invasive plants, APAA and AED, 22 volunteers
- *Sunday April 30, 2 events—Canceled due to rain and high winds*



Volunteers took turns pumping the recently repaired well on Picnic Point in preparation for testing.