

University of Wisconsin-Madison  
Lakeshore Nature Preserve Committee  
Facilities Planning & Management -FPM  
Preserve Staff Reports – November 17, 2023

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

**Permits issued since our last meeting on October 202, 2023:**

- 2023 – #63 – Cornelius – EPS 197-Cattails

- 2023 – #62 – Hotchkiss – BTNY 402-Dendrology

- Primary garden units within the UW Campus Student Farm (located at Eagle Heights Gardens) met to discuss the successes and challenges of the 2023 growing season. A process was proposed that would have garden progress reviewed monthly during the growing season by a garden team and issues identified before they get out of hand. Additional annual orientation and training was also suggested.
- Our staff met with Bill Quackenbush, Tribal Historic Preservation Officer for the **Ho-Chunk** Nation and an associate, Rene’ Heiden (local non-profit), and others to explore the creation of a *Traditional Cultural Property* within Eagle Heights Woods. This would be an area welcoming to members of the Ho-Chunk Nation and others to the scared mound area. Preserve staff is able to work with indigenous members of the UW community to care for the area and also establish gathering locations. I met with Cathrine Reiland and Omer Poler with Native Nations group and Carla Vigue, Director of Tribal Relations to express our support and discuss how this could be part of a Native Nations master plan for the campus.
- The Social Sustainability Coalition (a student group of the Office of Sustainability) will be hosting a meeting - Access to the Environment on Tuesday, November 28. This event will focus the intersection of disability, climate justice, and sustainability and hopes to inspire conversations to create a more accessible campus and community in consideration of those with disabilities who are often left out of these discussions. In addition to meeting with the planning group to recommend campus resources, I will be presenting a “lightening” talk.
- Preserve is providing input to the Office of Sustainability groups organizing Bee Campus and project Re:wild.

2023 visitor count through September - individuals walking along path to tip of Picnic point – **122,979**

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

**Capital Projects adjacent to the Preserve:**

- On the east end of the Howard Temin Lakeshore Path at the Limnology Building a study is being done to see if the path can be improved along the south side of the building, toward the Preserve.

**Capital Projects within the Preserve:**

- Lakeshore Nature Preserve Master Plan, complete will be presented to FPM leadership and Campus Planning Committee.
- Lakeshore Nature Preserve Outreach Center Advanced Plan is complete. Peter Schlecht, Assistant Vice Chancellor – University Architect, made a presentation on the building to the Campus Planning Committee. Further design and construction will be at a future time.

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

- Worked with NAA student crew on foliar treatment of buckthorn regrowth in sections of Picnic Point and Frautschi Point that were cut/mowed late summer.
- Began brush removal and cut-stem treatments at the head of Picnic Point and the water utility field.
- Continued to process collected seed, gather seed from the land where still available, and plan seed acquisition needs for project areas.
- Hosted field tour and work outing (Bryn) and presented in class on ecological restoration and Rx fire (Adam) to Intro to Sustainability course.
- Led tour of Frautschi/Second Point Woods for Ecological Restoration in Practice course.
- Volunteers continued invasive brush removal at the base of Picnic Point and Second Point Woods. See Bryn's volunteer report.
- Performed Rx burn unit preparations (install/maintain firebreaks, protect sensitive features, remove litter from around snags and downed trees).
- Cleared downed trees from trails in various locations.
- Performed routine Preserve-wide site checks and Picnic Point fire circle and wood rack maintenance.

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

### Outreach-Volunteer activities:

- Sun 10-8-23, drop in—Women in Science and Engineering (WISE), WI Competitive Cheer Club (WCCC), Medlife, Frautschi Point, 13 volunteers.
- Wed 10-11-23, supervised seed collecting volunteer, Preserve-wide, 1 volunteer.
- Sat 10-14-23 – two events on Picnic Point cancelled due to drizzle and wet, muddy ground conditions, rescheduled.
- Tues 10-17-23, School of Education, WCW seed collect, 2 volunteers.
- Wed 10-18-23, Env St 203 S-STEM, discussion and brush cutting activity on Lakeshore Path, 7 students.
- Thurs 10-19-23, Intro to Sustainability: 402 class, discussion and brush cutting activity on Lakeshore Path, 18 students.
- Fri 10-20-23, Family Weekend, prairie seed collecting and tour of Picnic Point, 3 families.
- Mon 10-23-23, Forest Ecology Allometry Lab, provided overview of invasive common buckthorn identification and control, provided tools, and hauled materials to lab in downpour, 12 students.
- Thurs 10-25-23, presented poster at Sustainability Symposium.
- Fri 10-27-23, JP Cullen, cut tree lilac, Far East Bills Woods, 7 volunteers.
- Sun 10-29-23, drop-in—WISE, Goodnight Hall, Medlife, WCCC, cut buckthorn and collect native seed, Frautschi Point and Biocore Prairie, 12 volunteers.
- Sun 10-29-23, Lambda Phi Epsilon and Triangle Fraternity, cut buckthorn, Frautschi Point, 9 volunteers.
- Sat 11-4-23, drop-in—AKPsi, WISE, Cut tree lilac, Far East Bill's Woods, 6 volunteers.
- Sun 11-5-23, Actuarial Club, cut buckthorn base of Picnic Point, 12 volunteers.
- Sun 11-5-23, Society of Women Engineers, collect seed and remove honeysuckle, Biocore Prairie, 5 volunteers.
- Sat 11-11-23, NSSHLA, cut and treat honeysuckle and buckthorn, old tree line Biocore Prairie, 9 volunteers.

### Total volunteers:

UW –105

Other – 15

Training, Collaboration, and Networking:

- Helped to plan Restoration Managers who Work with Volunteers Workshop—*Up Your Volunteer IQ!* on 11-7-23, 12 participants (4 new members including Tucker Sanborn former Preserve Natural Area Assistant and Prairie Partner intern)
- Helped to plan and facilitate UW Madison Volunteer CoP kickoff meeting on 11-9-23 (with new UW OHR Manager of Volunteer Services)



**Left: WI Competitive Cheer Club volunteers build a tightly packed burn pile. Right: Society for Women Engineers volunteers marvel at a giant puffball.**