



PRESERVE!

Volume 9, Number 3, Fall 2010

Friends of the Lakeshore Nature Preserve Newsletter

Dedicated to the Preservation and Stewardship of our Woodlands, Wetlands, Prairies and Shorelines

The Lakeshore Nature Preserve – A Place with Many Uses ...

by Glenda Denniston



To Take Great Photographs



To Enjoy Ice Cream with Friends



To Do Yoga while Breathing Fresh Air



To Study and Band Birds



To Do Research Projects



To Get Dinner - If You're Lucky



To Paint Beautiful Landscapes



To Learn to Squeak Grass



To Learn All About Nature



To Walk Your Pet Rabbit - Leashed, of Course!



To Volunteer



To Watch Warblers and Morris Dance on May Day

Fall Field Trips

Additional Field Trips may be posted on the
Friends of the Preserve Website: waa.uwalumni.com/lakeshorepreserve

Fall Birding at the Lakeshore Nature Preserve

August 29 (Sunday) 8:00 - 10:00 AM

Come search for fall migrants, including confusing fall warblers, flycatchers and sparrows while hiking through woods, prairies and gardens.

Co-sponsored by Madison Audubon Society. Meet at the Class of 1918 Marsh parking lot. Leaders: Marty Evanson (271-6846) and Roma Lenehan

Bird Banding at Biocore Prairie Bird Observatory

September 11 (Saturday) 8:00 AM - 12:00 Noon

Learn about bird banding (possibly with a bird in hand) and appreciate the importance of bird banding to conservation. Co-sponsored by the Madison Audubon Society, www.madisonaudubon.org. Park at Picnic Point Parking Lot and walk to the Biocore Prairie. Leader: Mara McDonald (274-2534)

Lakeshore Preserve Early Days

September 12 (Sunday) 1:00 - 4:00 PM

The Lakeshore Path and the current Preserve road system were created in the late 19th century by the Madison Park and Pleasure Drive Association. We will get intimate views of the surprising amount of this early history still remaining. Meet at Picnic Point Parking Lot and carpool. Leader: Tom Brock (238-5050)

Fall Hike for Families

September 12 (Sunday) 4:00 - 5:00 PM

Children and families, join Naturalists Sylvia Marek and Diane Dempsey for a hike as we look for signs of Fall in the plants and animals that live in the Preserve. Meet at the Picnic Point Parking Lot.

Leaders: Sylvia Marek and Diane Dempsey (238-4342)

Eagle Heights Community Gardens Tour

September 26 (Sunday) 2:00 - 3:00 PM

Tour one of the oldest and largest Community Gardens in the United States. Visit a few of the gardens with their diverse crops, cultivated by gardeners from more than 60 countries. Discuss ongoing co-operative projects. At the orchard area, sample apple juice fresh from the on-site apple press.

Meet at the Garden Shed of Eagle Heights Gardens (near Lake Mendota Drive). Park at Lot Z (on Eagle Heights Drive off Lake Mendota Drive).

Leaders: Robin Mittenthal (772-1091) and Will Waller

Seeds and Flowers of the Lakeshore Preserve

September 26 (Sunday) 3:30 - 5:00 PM.

Which comes first, the seeds or the flowers? Come learn how to identify, when to collect, and how to prepare seeds for planting in your own garden or prairie, while enjoying the fall beauty of the Preserve and the Biocore prairie. We may even get to take some samples home. Meet at the Frautschi Point parking lot (off Lake Mendota Drive). Leader: Kathie Brock (238-5050)

Late Fall Birding at the Lakeshore Preserve

October 2 (Saturday) 8:00 - 10 AM

In contrast to the rush of the spring migration, fall migrants linger in the Preserve. Join us for the challenge of sparrows and late fall warblers in the gardens, prairies, and woodland edges. Co-sponsored by Madison Audubon Society. Meet at the Class of 1918 Marsh parking lot.

Leaders: Peter Fissel (226-0260) and Eric Wood

(continued on page 8)

Friends of the Lakeshore Nature Preserve

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www.lakeshorepreserve.org

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Friends of the Preserve

is a 501(c)(3) non-profit organization

We Welcome Submissions to the Friends of the Lakeshore Nature Preserve Newsletter and Website

The Friends welcomes the submission of articles and announcements for our newsletter. We encourage people to share their checklists and other relevant Preserve materials on the Friends of the Lakeshore Nature Preserve Website. For information on submitting material, call Roma Lenehan at 238-5406 or send your articles or checklists to rlenehan@charter.net. To reserve space in our next newsletter, please tell us about your material by Sept. 9, 2010. The submission deadline is Oct. 7, 2010.

Hills of the Lakeshore Preserve

by Dave Mickelson

Look around from nearly any point in the Preserve and you will see hills -- Bascom and Observatory Hills along the south border of the Preserve, Picnic Point, and hills beneath Eagle Heights and University Houses. The ice sheet that flowed southwestward over this part of Dane County more than 25,000 years ago covered and shaped all of these hills, but they owe their existence to earlier geologic history. Before glaciation, the Madison lakes did not exist. Instead, a several hundred foot deep valley called the pre-glacial Yahara River Valley, collected water from smaller tributaries and channeled the water southeastward. At that time the hills we now call Bascom and Observatory did not exist, but Picnic Point and Eagle Heights hill were there as a bedrock ridge (called an interfluve) between the main river valley in the location of present day Lake Mendota and a tributary valley that extended westward beneath what is now University Bay, Class of 1918 Marsh, and the athletic fields to the west (figure 1).

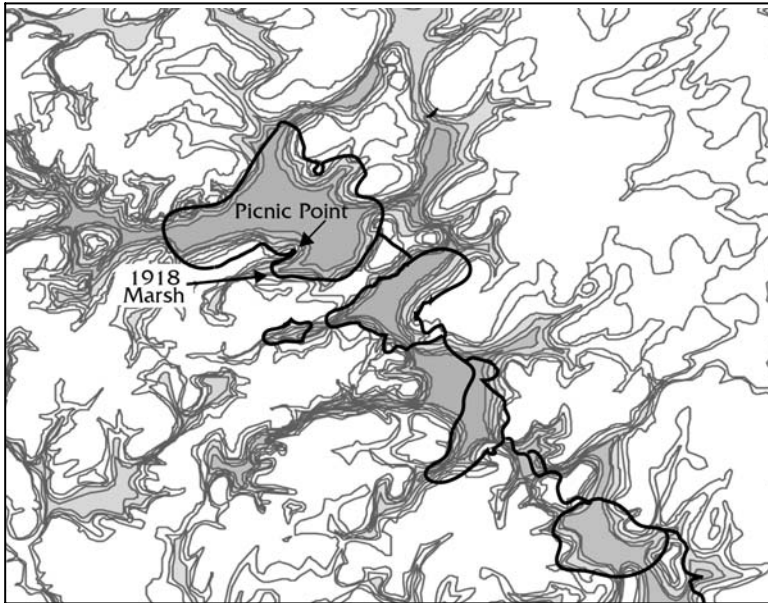


Figure 1: Outline of Madison Lakes and the Yahara River superimposed on a depth to bedrock map showing the path of the pre-glacial Yahara River Valley and its tributaries. Contour interval is 50 feet. Darkest gray shows areas where the bedrock surface is more than 300 feet below the land or lake surface. Areas in white have less than 50 feet of soil cover.

When the glacier advanced across the landscape, it shaped the underlying bedrock ridge and deposited till (a mix of particles ranging in size from clay to boulder). In places on Eagle Heights hill, till is 25 or 30 feet thick, but along part of Picnic Point and in a number of places along the shoreline between Frautschi Point and the west boundary of the Preserve there is exposed sandstone bedrock without any till at all. At Raymer's Cove the nearly 500 million year old sandstone is visible.

Streams deposited sand and gravel as they flowed away from the advancing glacier. These sediments were then overridden by the glacier and shaped into elongate hills called drumlins. Bascom and Observatory Hills are among the westernmost of thousands of drumlins in south-central Wisconsin. The hill on which the state Capitol sits is also a drumlin. The composition of these hills was first detailed by Upham (1894), after he saw many excavations on campus and downtown in 1892 (figure 2).

When the glacier retreated about 18,000 years ago, it left behind the preglacial Yahara River Valley only partly filled with sediment. Those parts of the valley that were not completely filled with sediment are now occupied by the Madison Lakes (figure 1).

Further reading:

Clayton, Lee, and Attig, J. W., 1997, Pleistocene Geology of Dane County, Wisconsin: Wisconsin Geological and Natural History Survey Bulletin 95.

Mickelson, D. M., 2007, Landscapes of Dane County: Wisconsin Geological and Natural History Survey Educational Series 43.

Upham, W., 1894, The Madison type drumlins. American Geologist, vol. 14, pp. 69-84.

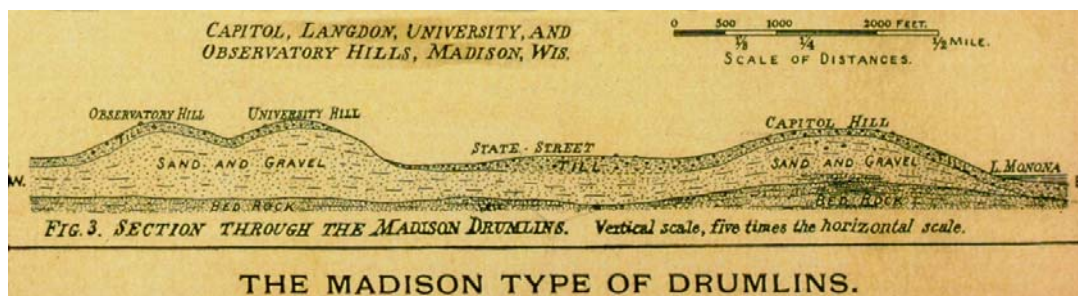


Figure 2: An 1892 cross-section from the Lakeshore residence halls (left) to downtown Madison (right) showing three gravel cored drumlins. University Hill is now called Bascom Hill (from Upham, 1894).

Thank You, Donors

Membership and special donations to the Friends of the Lakeshore Nature Preserve and the donations to the UW-Foundation for the Preserve (not listed) enable the Preserve staff to do the work of the Preserve. Money from the Friends of the Preserve funds the Bill's Woods project, buys plants, and pays for invasive species control. The Friends pay for the Prairie Partners Interns, who do 400 hours of work throughout the Preserve (see below). Multiple donations provide funds for the part-time field staff. Major donations through Class Gifts paid for the Tent Colony Woods, Muir Woods, and Lakeshore Path projects. Thank you all.

Thank you all for helping care for the Preserve.

Major Donors

Major donors donated more than \$100 since July 2009. See also starred listings.

Peter and Eleanor Blitzer
Elsa and Andrew Crummy
Diane and Robert Dempsey
Indian Hills Garden Club
Jerald Ketchum
Dolly Schoenberg
Shorewood Hills Garden Club
Pat Powers and Tom Wolfe

Memorials and Gifts

In memory of Gloria Berman
Kathleen Fullin

In memory of Carter Denniston
Roma Lenehan*

In memory of Dorothy Daley
Harriet Riley*

In memory of Stanley Dodson

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In memory of Jock Evanson
Friends of Little Blue*

In memory of Laurie Joiner
Harriet Riley*

In memory of Frank Slapnick
Roma Lenehan*

**In honor of Meggin and
Kyle Anderson**

Richard McCoy*

In honor of David Dunaway
Teddy Brown and
Franklyn Harrison

In honor of Roma Lenehan
Rebecca Christoffel and
Andrew Williams

In honor of Dick McCoy
Dan and Carole Doeppers*

In honor of Jean Meanwell
Steven Dopp

In honor of Walter Meanwell
James Effland

Bill's Woods & Plantings
Glenda Denniston*

Gifts

Michael Allen

Plants and Seeds

Kathie and Tom Brock
Dick and Kathi Dwelli

* Major Donor

New Members

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Susan Gruber
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Carol Miller
Katie Mulligan
Darlene Olson
Ruth Siegel
Mareda Weiss
Christopher Wilde
Katrin Wilde
Mary Woodward

Interns Work in the Preserve

Five Prairie Partners Interns are again working throughout the Preserve – planting trees and shrubs, removing weeds, and controlling erosion in the Preserve. The Friends of the Preserve are delighted to fund these energetic Interns who help the staff care for the Preserve ten Thursdays in the summer. Madison Audubon oversees this program. The Prairie Partners organizations share the Interns, each using the five Interns one day a week: the Prairie Enthusiasts (at its Mounds View site), Pleasant Valley Conservancy State Natural Area, Pheasant Branch Conservancy (Middleton), UW-Madison Lakeshore Nature Preserve, and the Goose Pond Sanctuary of the Madison Audubon Society.



Erosion Control (Adam Gundlach)

Interns
Lauren Brooks,
Jane Coughenou,
Anne Gottwald,
Tyler Hasheider,
Darren Ladwig
in Tent Colony
Woods

Thank You, Volunteers

Volunteers are essential to the Preserve. Without volunteers the Preserve would be a different place – overrun by invasive species with little successful restoration. Volunteers remove invasive species including Garlic Mustard, Thistle, and Burdock. They control invasive brush like Buckthorn. They plant and care for many areas of the Preserve including Bill’s Woods, the Big Oak Trail, and the Frautschi Point Gully and field edge. They help staff maintain restorations in Willow Creek Woods, Tent Colony Woods and Frautschi Point. They build and maintain trails and clean up trash in the Preserve. The Friends is an all volunteer organization – volunteers raise money for the Preserve, recruit members, run field trips, and publish a newsletter and website. Thank you all!



Bill’s Woods Buckthorn Warriors June 2010 (Adam Gundlach)

For the first time, the Preserve has a volunteer coordinator, Bryn Scriver, who has planned, coordinated, kept records of, and led volunteers in the Preserve, allowing us to use our volunteers more efficiently and to thank the many volunteers.

In addition, the Friends have had regular summer work parties, co-led by John Magnuson. They have planted and weeded the Bill’s Woods restoration. Pictured are Phil Certain, Susan Slapnick, Kennedy Gilchrist, and John Magnuson, a few of our energetic volunteers after pulling Buckthorn in the wet Preserve in June. The next work parties will be August 28 at 1:30 PM and August 30, September 19 and 20 at 9 AM – meet at the Picnic Point entrance.

If you volunteered between July 2009 and July 2010 and your name was left off the list or your name is misspelled, please accept our apologies and contact Bryn Scriver at 608-220-5560 or bscriver@fpm.wisc.edu.

We want to thank all our volunteers. Thank you all for making the Preserve a better place!

Field Volunteers - Groups

4H Youth Conference
 Beta Chi Theta
 Black Hawk Church LOVE Madison Service Day
 BlackHawk Church College Age Ministry
 Boy Scout Pack 34
 Center for Limnology
 Chadbourne Residential College
 Chancellor’s Scholarship Program Anniversary & Reunion
 Friends of Little Blue
 Friends of the Lakeshore Nature Preserve
 Goodman Community Center Middle School Boys Group
 Horticulture 120
 Kappa Delta Chi
 Liz Waters Residence Hall
 MBAs with a Heart Day of Community Service
 National Society of Collegiate Scholars
 Nelson Institute for Environmental Studies 126
 Nelson Institute for Environmental Studies
 Doris Duke Fellows
 Students of the Lakeshore Nature Preserve
 The Crossing Badlands Quest
 The Crossing Costa Rica Quest
 The University League
 UW Furlough Service Day
 Water Science and Engineering

Individuals

Rao Adibhatla
 Preston Alexander
 Dunca Allison
 Carlos Alvarado
 Kathy Anderson
 Peter Anderson
 Will Anderson
 Megan Arendt
 Cara Aronson
 Darla Armstrong
 Ian Armstrong
 Maddalen Armstrong
 Russell Armstrong
 Alysa Aschebrook
 Caleb Aschebrook
 Bill Bailey
 Christina Balgeman
 Stephanie Balgeman
 Dave Balsiger
 Tania Banak
 Gabriela Banda
 Bill Barker
 Taylor Bates
 Ryan Batt
 Leah Bellack
 Biarra Bello
 Nathan Bentley
 Galen Berkowitz
 Rick Berstein
 Willy Berstein

Ted Bier
 Grace Blitzer
 Greg Block
 Jen Bloesch
 Alex Bloomquist
 Laikyn Boettcher
 Helen Boldt
 Aidan Boyle
 Kristin Branch
 Jolene Brigman
 Kathie Brock
 Logan Brock
 Jeff Buckingham
 Dale Buechner
 Ann Burgess
 Jacob Bures
 Christina Burke
 Katie Burns
 Erin Byrd
 Debbi Calaway
 Debbie Cardinal
 Michael Carey
 Andrea Carlson
 Lisa Carlson
 Nina Carlson
 Tom Carlson
 Curt Caslavka
 Phil Certain
 Lainey Chavez
 Audrey Chen
 Zhenxiang Chen

Gary Choncholas
 Jim Choncholas
 Lizzie Choncholas
 Patty Choncholas
 Christine Chung
 Ray Clark
 Tim Collins
 Jen Conant
 Erin Coutts
 Ryan Crawford
 Colleen Crill
 Kim Crye
 Laura Dague
 Diane Dempsey
 Sue Denholm
 Glenda Denniston
 Kory Douglass
 Kusey Douglass-White
 Degi Dugarav
 Katie Dunboer
 Irem Duyar
 Kathi & Dick Dwelle
 Mark Dyer
 David Egger
 Evan Eifler
 Jonthan Eimergreen
 Jay Ekleberry
 Sam Eldred
 Caroline Ellerkamp
 Carol Ensecki
 Elizabeth Evanson

Heather Feldhusen	Dustin Kilburg	Hanna Middlebrook	Aleshia Schiller	Thomas L. Wilson
Rosie Forester	Hui Jung Kim	Andrew Miller	Caitlin Schmid	Michelle Wing
Carissa Franz	Gianna King	Michelle Miller	Angel Schmidt	Luke Winslow
Kyle Furry	Matthew King	Sean Miller	Marcia Schmidt	Chris Worley
Peter Ganzlin	Rachel Kirchner	Wu "Tom" Minghai	Ashley Schneider	Bob Wright
Dan Gardeen	Jim Kitchell	Katherine Mitchell	Carol Schraufnagel	Gabriela Zepeda
Michael Gauger	Neil Kline	Adam P Mittermaier	Amanda Schultz	Yuging Zhang
Marissa Gehrke	Luke Kluever	Eric Moody	Brint Schwerbel	Mike Zwaska
Sean Geygan	Sam Knapp	Joey Montaine	Shirley Scriver	
Rosanne Gilbertson	Carly Knoche	Hannah Morehouse	Mai Seki	Field Trip Leaders
Kennedy Gilchrist	Tim Knoespel	Kelsey Moss	Sapna Sharma	Bill Barker
Melody Gintner	Shree Kojke	Bill Muehl	Sophia Sheen	Bob Birmingham
Terry Goeldner	Jason Korzke	Tanner Mueller	Lilly Shields	Hal Burdsall
Gavin Golas	David Kornhauser	Lisa Munro	Mark Siefert	Diane Dempsey
Abigail Granzin	Max Kotelnicki	Clara Nam	Susan Slapnick	Glenda Denniston
Gretchen Granzin	Derrick Krenke	Karen Nakasone	Ed Slotten	Dan Doeppers
Grace Graszner	Kristie Kurtenbach	Laura Neilson	Alexandria	David Eagan
Ellery Graves	Gisela Kutzbach	Brett Nelson	Smigielski	Daniel Einstein
Nicholas Greely	Marilyn Larsen	Danielle Nesi	Rachel Smit	Marty Evanson
Jacob Greshik	Scot Lauwasser	Carissa Nichols	Chris Solomon	Peter Fissel
Corinna Gries	Joseph Lawinger	Melissa Nied	Shelby Sonnenberg	David Gjestson
Logan Gutenberger	Chelsea Lawliss	Danna Olsen	Sara Soon	Al Holzheuter
Marquez Guzman	Matthew Ledvina	Ryan Patrick O'Neill	Jacob Stai	Roma Lenehan
Gretchen Hansen	Ashley Lee	Maria Ontiveros	Miranda Stanek	John Magnuson
Helen Hanson	Joneen Lee	Carla Oppenheimer	Jacob Steadman	Mara McDonald
Claudia Hardie	Ying-Ying Lee	Olivia Oyamada	Jeff Strobel	Edgar Spalding
Lydia Hardie	Andrew Leibfried	John Palmer	Amy Sullivan	Stephen Thomforde
Dave Harring	Roma Lenehan	Monica Papes	Dan Sullivan	Dr. Tran Triet
Trish Haza	Krista Lessner	Brady Parks	Jay Sullivan	Susan Will-Wolf
Jack Heiden	Dan Lessor	Daniel Parrell	Megan Sullivan	Eric Wood
Jesse Heiden	Michael Levin	Whitney Passint	Ben Swedlund	Dan Young
Jenni Heisz	Kathy Lewis	Jackie Peiquex	Alaina Tarczewski	Organizational Vol.
Eric Hendries	Lee Linstroth	Qing Peng	Travis Tennesen	Ken Albrecht
Ellen Heyn	Ryan Linzmeyer	Dustin Piper	Nickolas Theisen	Kathie Brock
Thomas Hickey	Debora Litza	Kristin Pospeschil	Terra Thimm	Phillip Certain
Clayton Hiemke	Marina Litza	Adam Post	Ellen Thompson	Diane Dempsey
Scott Higgins	Nicolas Litza	Abigail Przybylski	Hillary Thompson	Susan Denholm
Jan Hornback	Patrick Litza	Ankit Puri	Sammy Thompson	Glenda Denniston
Samuel Howell	Kara Longenecker	Rachel Ransom	Scott Thompson	Amy Jo Dusick
Ally Hrkac	Michelle Louis	Sean Rattigan	Tonya McKenna	Peter Ganzlin
Weijne Huan	Faith Lowry	Sarah Rezko	Trabant	Kennedy Gilchrist
Miguel Huerta	Maura Lynch	Jeannie Rhoda	Mary Trewartha	Brent Haglund
Meghan Hughes	Lisa Maas	Julia Riabardyn	Raymond Tsang	Nancy Heiden
Shane Hutter	Norma Magallanes	Harriet Riley	Jake Vander Zanden	Evelyn Howell
Emily Iehl	John Magnuson	Darin Ripp	Ashley Van Dyck	Karen Icke
Angie Ipsen	Daniel Malacara	Colin Regan	Pa Phouala Vang	Gisela Kutzbach
Abigail Jackson	Samantha Mamerow	Molly Roberts	Melissa Vasquez	Roma Lenehan
Noriko Jackson	Dan Mangal	Peter Robertson	Meagan Vassallo	Michelle Louis
Nicole Jelinek	Emilija Markovic	Shannon Robinson	Libby Vertz	John Magnuson
Kayla Jensen	Patrick Martin	Michaela Rockney	Logan Voellinger	Sylvia Marek
Hae Ton Jeon	Chris Matcke	Lisa Rosenblum	Carol Warden	Blair Mathews
Jasmine Jolitz	Mark Matosian	Andrew Rowan	Anais Webster	Richard McCoy
Aaron Johnson	Blair Matthews	Sarah Rowe	Abby Wedig	Mike McDowell
Gavin M Jones	Katie McCarthy	Amy Rozek	Matt Weinman	Jean Meanwell
Edward R. Jung	Alex McClain	Diana Ruzga	Laurinda Weisse	David Mickelson
Leah Junker	Brandon McGirr	Victor Santos	Brad Welnick	William Muehl
Haviryaji Kalluri	Kate McGrary	Barbara Satnik	Mark Wetter	Lisa Munro
Denise Karns	Sami McKeough	Maria Satnik	Phil Weyers	David Redell
Aaron Kedlich	Sean McLaughlin	David Scheer	Lewis Wiechmann	Harriet Riley
Adam Keenan	Jean Meanwell	Jennifer Scheer	Heidi Wilde	Marcia Schmidt
Sarah Keller	Sarah Meanwell	Anna Schettle	Abby Wilson	Susan Slapnick
Katelynn Kermicle	Beinaldo Medina	Kevin Schiesser	Nichole Wilson	Will Waller

Cavity Nesting Birds in the Lakeshore Nature Preserve

by Roma Lenehan

The Lakeshore Nature Preserve, with its many older trees, supports a diverse collection of cavity nesting birds. Some of these birds, like the woodpeckers, dig their own hole in either living or dead wood. Others, like the Black-capped Chickadee, need dead rotting wood to dig their holes. Still other species, like the Prothonotary Warbler, Great-crested Flycatcher, Screech Owl, Bluebird and Tree Swallow, cannot dig their own cavity and use existing holes, often dug by woodpeckers, or birdhouses.

Prothonotary Warbler Nest

This summer a pair of Prothonotary Warblers nested in a fallen snag in the Picnic Point Marsh (see photo).



Prothonotary Warbler at Picnic Point, June 19 (Mike McDowell)

The male was photographed at the hole as early as May 20. By mid-June, the pair was carrying food to the hole. Mike McDowell took a video of the pair (www.youtube.com/watch?v=U6tC08n5R6c). It is thought that the young fledged and the family left the area.

Prothonotary Warblers are the only North American Warbler that nests in holes in trees. They nest in wooded swamps and on lake and river edges, living as far north as Madison. The Prothonotary Warbler is a priority species for both the National and Wisconsin Partners in Flight (broad coalitions whose purposes are to preserve North American birds). Its numbers have declined at an average rate of 1.6% per year from 1966 through 1996, about a 50% decline in the population.

This Warbler has previously tried to nest in the Preserve. For several years before 2001, males persistently defended a territory in the Picnic Point Marsh in May and June. Glenda Denniston and Roma Lenehan hypothesized that these birds failed to nest successfully because the area lacked appropriate holes for nesting. Prothonotary Warblers compete with House Wrens and Tree Swallows for available holes. Warblers are vulnerable to nest predation by raccoons and to nest parasitism by Brown-headed Cowbirds.

In other areas Warblers have been shown to accept nest boxes, increasing nesting success. Glenda and Roma obtained a Preserve permit and in 2001 and 2002 put up two birdhouses in the Picnic Point Marsh to see if the Warblers would successfully nest.

Unfortunately, the Prothonotary Warbler failed to nest in the boxes. Tree Swallows immediately took over all the boxes both years. Most of the boxes also had a subsequent House Wren nest. In 2002 the Warbler stayed a month, but did not appear to nest.

In the Preserve, most nesting holes near water are highly competed for and usually occupied by Tree Swallows. Why were the Prothonotary Warblers able to keep this hole this year? Was the nest so crooked or unstable that the Tree Swallows did not want it? How can we help this Warbler to breed successfully despite the competition for holes?

Other Cavity Nesting Birds

The Preserve has good numbers of many cavity nesting birds. The Great-crested Flycatcher is the only cavity nesting flycatcher. The Screech Owl (see photo) nests in bigger cavities. The Owls can often be seen sunning at the mouth of their hole. The Tufted Titmouse, also at the northern edge of their range, is fairly common in the Preserve. In areas near water, Tree Swallows are fierce competitors for holes, driving out Bluebirds and other hole nesting birds. The House Wren male will claim every hole in his territory and fill them all with sticks. The female chooses one hole and removes the sticks to make her own nest. House



Screech Owl at Picnic Point (G Denniston)

Wrens will destroy the eggs of other cavity nesting birds. The Eastern Bluebird has made a dramatic recovery since the 1970s due to houses provided and maintained by humans.

Conservation Issues

All of these birds are dependent on holes – which require mature trees and dead or dying wood. Although houses provided by humans can sometimes replace natural holes, many species need “messy” natural dead snags. The Preserve has many cavity nesting species because it has mature, untrimmed trees.

Field Trips (continued from page 2)

Lake Mendota and the Lakeshore Nature Preserve

October 13 (Wednesday) 10:00 - 11:30 AM

(Weather date, Friday, October 15) Come learn about the ecotone (transition) and the interactions between the lake and the Preserve. We will examine the changes in Lake Mendota and the Preserve shoreline over the years. The boat we will use is the LIMNOS, operated by the Center for Limnology for teaching and research. Group size will be limited to 12 participants. *Please reserve your place by an e-mail to the trip leader.* Meet at the Limnology Parking Lot 8 at the Limnology Pier. Leader: John Magnuson (jjmagnus@wisc.edu)

Reading History of the Picnic Point Woods Landscape

October 16 (Saturday) 12:00 - 2:00 PM

We will compare the history - from internal evidence - and current tree species of two adjacent areas (Picnic Point marsh woods versus woods on the ridge), and the effects of these differences on plants and birds that use the woods in winter. We'll search for signs of fall and enjoy fall foliage. Meet at the Picnic Point parking Lot. Leader: Susan Will-Wolf (262-2754 weekdays)

Around the Preserve

Lakeshore Nature Preserve Audio Trail

Did you know that people have lived near Lake Mendota for more than 13,000 years? Or that 300 people lived in the Tent Colony during the summer? The new audio tour developed by Daniel Einstein and the Preserve staff tells about these and many other aspects of the Preserve. The tour highlights interesting areas of the Preserve including the Biocore Prairie and the Class of 1918 Marsh. At each of the ten stops there is a green and blue sign, "What Happened Here? Reading the Landscape." You can access the tour recordings from your cell phone while in the Preserve, or you can download the audio files from the Preserve website, and listen on your computer or portable media player (www.lakeshorepreserve.wisc.edu/map/audiotrail.htm). A map showing all of the audio trail stops is available on the Preserve website. New stops are being added.

Unusual Softshell Turtle Found



Turtle Near Willow Creek, July 2010 (Adam Gundlach)

Around the Preserve (continued)

Vote in the Orchard Contest Until August 31

The Eagle Heights Community Gardens is participating in a national competition for fruit orchard funds. By voting you can help the Gardens obtain additional fruit trees. The garden community has 35 trees and hopes to add to their collection of modern and heirloom trees. Their dedicated group of volunteers supports their existing trees and offers free workshops on pruning and organic pest management. Join the Gardens field trip on Sunday, September 26 at 2 PM and see the Gardens and its fruit trees (see page 2).

Support the Eagle Heights Community Gardens orchard proposal. Go to www.communitystakeroot.com, click on LEADERS, and vote for the proposal (you can vote daily). You will be asked to type in your name, email address, and two security words to confirm that you are a real person and not a computer. An electronic ballot will be emailed to you for vote confirmation.

Vote often – the competition ends August 31st

Mammal Monitoring at Biocore Prairie

Students, under the supervision of Mara McDonald, have been studying small mammals in Biocore Prairie to determine how they respond to restoration. During four days of live trapping in June 2009, Beth Dumont, a Genetics graduate student, captured two species, deer mouse and meadow vole. This spring, using pit traps, Jodie Kreuser caught the same two species and a (difficult to catch) shrew. Lauren Brooks is investigating microhabitat differences between species, determining if voles prefer brushier habitats than deer mice. Kara Bretzman is looking at the species that occur on the edges of habitats – prairie, garden, and old field. These data, and all data from the area, will be archived with the Preserve.

Garlic Mustard Update

Garlic Mustard was successfully removed from the Preserve. Most areas had significantly less Garlic Mustard this year, indicating that persistence is paying off. Thank you Garlic Mustard warriors!

Join the Bill's Woods Work Parties Help Care for the Friends Project

August 28 (Saturday)

1:30 to 3:30

Aug. 30 (Mon), September 19 (Sun) and 20 (Mon)

9 AM to Noon

Meet at the Picnic Point entrance

For future dates, see wwa.uwalumni.com/lakeshorepreserve

To add or remove a name to the email work party list, notify John Magnuson at jjmagnus@wisc.edu

Robert E. Gard Storyteller's Circle

Announcements

The Robert E. Gard Memorial Storyteller's Circle is now complete. This overlook of Lake Mendota is located on Muir Knoll at the east gateway to the Lakeshore Nature Preserve. The area now has a circular limestone seat wall to accommodate group gatherings as well as individual respite from the busy campus life. Native plantings complement the limestone walls and medallion with words from Robert E. Gard.



Robert E. Gard Memorial Storytelling Circle (Rhonda James)

As part of this project a large concrete reservoir next to the overlook was removed. This 50 foot diameter 16 foot deep concrete structure was dangerously deteriorated from the inside. It will be replaced by a woodland edge planting.

Please note that until the construction on Observatory Drive and the Education Building is complete, access to the site is only from the Lakeshore Path.

New Preserve Directional Trail Signs

Navigating the trail network in the Preserve can sometimes be confusing. The installation of new trail signs throughout the Preserve along major routes and trail intersections should help. The signs were designed and located by staff from the campus planning and landscape architecture department of Facilities Planning and Management. The size, color scheme and material choices for the signs were vetted by an ad hoc working group that collaborated with the designers. The work group wanted distinctive signs that blend into the environment and use sustainable materials.

The signs with the Preserve's logo color scheme are mounted on four-foot posts of black locust lumber milled from Preserve trees. This lumber is naturally rot-resistant so toxic preservatives are not needed.

Thanks to Darin Newman, landscape architect intern, for his trail mapping and sign design work (not to mention post-hole digging), Daniel Einstein, and Rhonda James.

Wanted – Information on Bats

Needed – information on the location and size of bat colonies in caves, mines, barns, bridges, churches, schools, or other buildings. The Department of Natural Resources is conducting a baseline study of bats in Wisconsin before White-nose Syndrome, a fatal fungal disease, arrives in Wisconsin. Contact the Wisconsin Bat Program (DNRbats@wisconsin.gov or 608-266-5216). For more information, see (<http://wiatri.net/inventory/bats>).

Friends of the Preserve Officers

In May the Friends of the Lakeshore Nature Preserve Board elected the following officers, to serve one year:

- Kennedy Gilchrist – President
- John Magnuson – Vice-President
- Marcia Schmidt – Treasurer
- Roma Lenehan – Secretary

Join the Friends of the Lakeshore Nature Preserve

Name _____ Student \$10
Address _____ Individual \$20
City, State _____ Zip Code _____ Household \$35
Phone (optional) _____ Email (optional) _____ Steward \$50
 Please send me information about how to volunteer Patron \$100
(Include your email address and telephone number if you would like to volunteer) Other _____

Mail your check payable to Friends of the Lakeshore Nature Preserve with this form to:
Friends of the Lakeshore Nature Preserve P.O. Box 55056 Madison, WI 53705

Your donation is tax deductible to the full extent of the law.

Major Progress in the Friends Bill's Woods Restoration

Big changes can be seen in the Bill's Woods Woodland Restoration (begun in 2001), a 6.5 acre Friends of the Preserve project. This spring the Friends donated \$10,000 for a hired contractor, under the supervision of Preserve Management, to cut and treat with herbicide most of the remaining Buckthorn so that they would not resprout and to chip the many large piles of resulting brush. Due to this work, more light reaches the forest floor and new chips cover the trails.

A Very Successful Joint Effort

On March 1 Glenda Denniston marked all the shrubs and small native trees that were not to be removed by the contractor. The next day, with snow still on the ground and temperatures low, the contractor crew arrived and spent all day cutting and treating invasive Buckthorn, shrub Honeysuckle, and other undesirable woody plants. This time-consuming work continued for about two weeks, with contractors individually cutting and treating many thousands of saplings.

Glenda, to stretch the allocated money, spent 80 hours dragging all the cut trees and shrubs to large piles in places where chipping could be done efficiently. Two Preserve staff members spent 72 hours helping

with the chipping of the brush and later moving the large piles of chips and mulching existing paths.

New Plantings in Bill's Woods

In order to replace the invasive plants that were removed, volunteers planted hundreds of plants. The Friends donated more than \$2000 for 100 trees and shrubs and hundreds of native wildflowers for Bill's Woods. Volunteers planted these as well as hundreds of greenhouse grown plants. In addition, in areas where previously planted native plants were doing exceptionally well, they were divided and moved to areas with fewer native plants. Although many of these wildflowers are dormant now, visitors will be able to enjoy them every spring for years to come.

Ongoing Volunteer Efforts

Bimonthly Friends of the Preserve work parties are now being held in Bill's Woods. These work parties are doing a variety of maintenance work, including removing the small Buckthorn seedlings (see photo on page 5). Come see the results of our efforts and join our enthusiastic group of volunteers in the woods. For the schedule see waa.uwalumni.com/lakeshorepreserve/.

Friends of the Preserve
P.O. Box 55056
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