



Preserve!

FRIENDS OF THE LAKESHORE NATURE PRESERVE

SPRING 2019

KEYNOTE TALK AT ANNUAL MEETING

Flock and awe: The incredible (and perilous) lives of migratory birds

Matt Reetz, executive director, Madison Audubon Society



Dr. Matt Reetz, executive director of the Madison Audubon Society, will be this year's keynote speaker at our annual meeting.

About Dr. Reetz: After catching bird fever (figuratively) as a young field technician, Matt earned Master's and Ph.D. degrees in wildlife ecology and conservation from the University of Florida. Experience as a researcher, state agency biologist, and professor provided Reetz the opportunity to marvel at and conduct work on an amazing variety of birds in the Caribbean, Chile, Australia, and the U.S., including the gem that is Wisconsin.

Each spring and fall in the Madison area is a special time in so many ways. One reason is that we are fortunate to witness firsthand one of the most awe-inspiring and captivating phenomena in the natural world. Local elections. Wait, no... definitely not that. I'm referring, of course, to the arrival and departure of Wisconsin's splendiferous migrating birds. Twice each year, the land, air, and water are abuzz with wandering warblers, flitting flycatchers, sojourning swans, and roaming raptors. These and other amazing birds are in the midst of an arduous annual journey, often traveling many thousands of miles in search of quality feeding, roosting, or breeding spots.

Bird migration has both entranced and perplexed us for at least as long as we've been recording our history. In order to explain the annual vanishing of common redstarts and the

appearance of European robins, for example, Aristotle speculated that each redstart simply transformed itself into a robin in winter. Not to be outdone, 17th-century English minister and scientist Charles Morton claimed that birds simply migrated to the moon and back each year. Lunacy.

Thankfully, many years of careful observation, research, and advancement in technologies have shed light on the mysteries of bird migration and revealed its marvelous nature. Why do birds undertake such daunting journeys? How do they manage to navigate over such extensive distances? How do they survive such a taxing physical effort and the many perils they face along the way? If you've ever spied a beautiful bird at the Preserve and pondered these and similar questions, this talk on the science and splendor of avian migration might just be for you.

18TH ANNUAL MEETING

Tuesday, April 9—7:00 p.m.
Arboretum Visitor Center

Join us at 6:30 p.m. for refreshments and socializing. The public is welcome. Please bring a friend.



Arlene Koziol



Spring/summer field trips



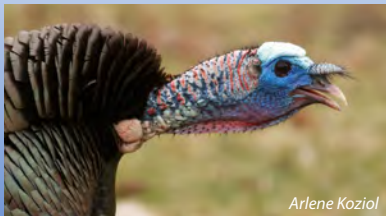
Arlene Koziol

April

7 Destination for Exploration at Picnic Point (Sunday, 2:00–3:30 p.m.). Learn the natural and cultural history of Picnic Point with the Friends. Stop at our five exploration stations along Picnic Point to learn from experts about rocks and fossils, trees, and effigy mounds; make seed balls to attract butterflies; and try out binoculars and a spotting scope. We'll have activities for children at each station. Meet at the entrance to Picnic Point. Coordinator: Doris Dubielzig (239-4196, dbdubielzig@gmail.com).

16 Beyond Backyard Birding (Tuesday, 7:30–9:30 a.m.). This trip is especially for backyard birders looking to improve their skills! Come to have your bird questions answered and get help identifying early spring migrants. The walk will be on even trails at a leisurely pace. We will have binoculars for loan. This trip is limited to 20 people—registration is required! Register with the Madison Audubon office (255-2473, bmarsicek@madisonaudubon.org). Meet at the entrance to Picnic Point. Leader: Alex Jeffers (330-931-6321, AlexJeffers@gmail.com).

4th SUNDAYS BIRD AND NATURE OUTINGS



Arlene Koziol

4th Sunday of the month, 1:30–3:00 p.m.—The Friends sponsor bird and nature outings in the Preserve with the Friends of Urban Nature (see our website for details). Meet at entrance to Picnic Point. Contact: Paul Noeldner (698-0104, paul_noeldner@hotmail.com).

NOTE: For most of the summer, **Lot 130 will be closed for construction. Please use Lot 129** (adjacent to the Picnic Point entrance) **or Lot 131** (on University Bay Drive at the intersection with Lake Mendota Drive).

28 Bird and Nature Outing: Bill's Woods Spring Wildflowers (Sunday, 1:30–3:00 p.m.). Explore the restoration area at Bill's Woods—the first Friends project, started in 2001. We will look for spring ephemerals and other tender new growth poking up in the Preserve. Learn how to identify wood phlox, violet, bloodroot, Jacob's ladder, wild strawberry, and other wildflowers. This is a family-friendly hike. Meet at the entrance to Picnic Point. Leader: Glenda Denniston (231-1530, glendadenniston8@gmail.com).

May

15 Warblers of Frautschi Point (Wednesday, 7:30–9:30 a.m.). We will focus on seeing warblers and other spring migrants through foliage. Bring binoculars and a field guide if you have them. Meet at the Frautschi Point parking lot on Lake Mendota Drive. Leader: Roma Lenehan (238-5406, rlenehan@charter.net).

19 Groundswell: Annual Bird Walk (Sunday, 8:30–10:30 a.m.). Join us for a walk in the Preserve with birder Marty Evanson. Hear how a group of citizens created a groundswell of community support and saved the 3.4-acre Wally Bauman Woods on the bluffs of Lake Mendota. We will look for different species of warblers and other migrants. This is a free public event, but registration is required. Use form to register: <https://groundswellwisconsin.org/page.asp?page=2019birdwalk>. Meet at the entrance to Picnic Point.

26 Bird and Nature Outing (Sunday, 1:30–3:00 p.m.). Join the Friends Board on a friendly and informative walk visiting their favorite places in the Preserve.

June

8 First Nations Cultural Landscape Tour (Saturday, 1:00–3:00 p.m.). Join Aaron Bird Bear for a walking tour of American Indian landmarks on the UW–Madison campus. Starting at Memorial Union, we will walk about a mile to DeJope Residence Hall, stopping at seven campus locations to learn about their Native history and cultural significance. Meet at Memorial Union (2nd floor main lounge). Some tour stops are accessible using the free campus 80 bus. Leader: Aaron Bird Bear (abirdbear@wisc.edu).

12 Lake Mendota Boat Trip (Wednesday, 9:00–11:30 a.m.; weather date, Friday, June 14). Learn about Lake Mendota and the shoreline of the Lakeshore Nature Preserve from aboard one of two vessels used for teaching, research, and outreach by the UW Center for Limnology. Meet at Hasler Limnology Laboratory, one block west of Memorial Union. Group size is limited to 12; reserve your place with leader John Magnuson (john.magnuson@wisc.edu).

23 Bird and Nature Outing: Class of 1918 Marsh (Sunday, 1:30–3:00 p.m.). Take an easy walk around the marsh and learn its history, nature, evolution and challenges. Meet at the entrance to Picnic Point. Leader: John Magnuson (698-0104, john.magnuson@wisc.edu).

July

7 The Biocore Prairie Experience (Sunday, 9:00–11:00 a.m.). Get a behind-the-scenes look at restoration efforts and various student research projects. The UW Biocore Prairie provides a unique natural classroom experience that supports

the goals of the Lakeshore Nature Preserve. Meet at the entrance to Picnic Point. Leader: Seth McGehee (265-2870, seth.mcgee@wisc.edu).

- 13 **Trees of the Preserve** (Saturday, 1:00–3:00 p.m.). A midsummer hike reveals the amazing variety of trees in the Preserve. Enjoy an afternoon identifying and learning about trees as they pass through annual seasonal changes. Meet at the entrance to Picnic Point. Leader: Glen Stanosz (265-2863, gstanosz@wisc.edu).
- 21 **Native Pollinators in the Preserve** (Sunday, 9:00–11:00 a.m.). Join us in searching for bees and other pollinators while learning about their diversity, behaviors, and importance. Meet at the entrance to Picnic Point. Leader: Susan Carpenter (886-7504, susan.carpenter@wisc.edu).
- 28 **Bird and Nature Outing** (Sunday, 1:30–3:00 p.m.). See box on p. 2.

August

- 10 **Bird Banding in the Preserve** (Saturday, 7:00–10:00 a.m.). Join Jackie Sandberg, Wildlife Rehabilitation Training Coordinator for the Dane County Humane Society, to learn about bird banding, how banding helps expand our knowledge of birds, and our efforts towards conservation. Stop by any time during the listed hours. From the Picnic Point entrance,

walk up to the picnic table under the tree in the Biocore Prairie above the Eagle Heights Gardens. Leader: Jackie Sandberg (838-0413, jsandberg@giveshelter.org).

- 18 **Food for Thought** (Sunday, 1:30–3:00 p.m.) Join UW-Madison ethnobotanist Eve Emshwiller in a search for edible and other useful plants in the Preserve. You will learn about the evolution and the conservation of a diversity of plants and their wild relatives. Meet at the entrance to Picnic Point. Leader: Eve Emshwiller (890-1170, emshwiller@wisc.edu).
- 25 **Bird and Nature Outing** (Sunday, 1:30–3:00 p.m.). See box on p. 2.

WANTED:
Preserve Volunteer Stewards

We're looking for folks who are interested in participating in a regular, ongoing volunteer activity. Following a day of training in April, you'll work independently in the Preserve with staff support.

We need trail monitors and native plant bed gardeners. To learn more, visit lakeshorepreserve.wisc.edu/volunteer/ or contact volunteer coordinator Bryn Scriver at bryn.scriver@wisc.edu or 220-5560.



GARLIC MUSTARD PULL
Sunday, May 5, 1–4 p.m.
We'll select the location once we see where weeding is most needed. Watch your email for updates.

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<https://commons.wikimedia.org/w/index.php?curid=1434095>

SPRING PLANTING
Saturday, May 18
9:00 a.m.–noon

Meet at Frautschi Point parking lot

Help us plant wildflowers, grasses, and pollinator plants along the new path through the woods. Gloves and tools provided. Enjoy refreshments at close.

Questions? Contact PreserveFriends@gmail.com.

Project funded by the Friends, planned with Preserve staff.

Gisela Kutzbach

Volunteer work parties

Volunteering is a great way to enjoy the Preserve. Long pants (not leggings) and closed-toe shoes are required; tools and gloves are provided. Groups and youth are welcome with advance notice. For more details, contact Bryn Scriver, 220-5560, bryn.scriver@wisc.edu.

TIME: 9:00 a.m.–noon

Date	Meeting place
Mar 31 Sun	Picnic Point, Lot 129
April 13 Sat	Picnic Point, Lot 129
27 Sat	Picnic Point, Lot 129
May 5 Sun	Garlic Mustard Pull 1–4 p.m., location to be determined
18 Sat	Spring Planting Frautschi Point Lot
June 8 Sat	Picnic Point, Lot 129
23 Sun	Picnic Point, Lot 129
July 14 Sun	Frautschi Point Lot
27 Sat	Picnic Point, Lot 129
Aug 10 Sat	Frautschi Point Lot

BOARD CANDIDATE BIOGRAPHIES

Nominees to the Friends of the Lakeshore Nature Preserve Board

The Friends nominating committee—Doris Dubielzig (chair), Jean Bahr, Seth McGee, and Steve Sentoff—recommends the following candidates. The board has endorsed this recommendation. Other candidates may be nominated by the membership at the annual meeting. All current members of the Friends of the Preserve present at the annual meeting (April 9, 2019) are eligible to vote. Board members are elected for 3-year terms; two student board members are elected for 1-year terms.



Tom Bryan

Student nominee—Tom is the Program Coordinator and Rooftop Greenhouse Manager for the Green-

House Learning Community located in Leopold Hall in the Lakeshore Residence Hall neighborhood. He went to UW–Madison for his B.S. in microbiology and is currently finishing a Ph.D. in food systems. He loves to cook, bake, and tinker with the terrarium for his red-footed tortoise.



Matt Chotlos

Student nominee—Matt is a junior studying biology at UW-Madison. He has a passion for Madison’s

lakes and, with the Vander Zanden lab, spent the last two summers researching how our changing climate may affect Wisconsin’s fish communities. Matt hopes to expand the Friends’ efforts at water monitoring along the Preserve and promote awareness of how closely linked the health of our lakes and the lands surrounding them are.



Eve Emshwiler

New nominee—Eve is an associate professor in UW-Madison’s Botany Department, where she

researches the ethnobotany, evolution, and conservation of crop plants and their wild relatives. She studies the origins and diversity of “oca,” *Oxalis tuberosa*, a food tuber domesticated in the Andes, and teaches “Ethnobotany” and “Plants and Humans” courses. Since arriving in Madison in 2006, she has converted her yard into a mixed perennial edible/woodland garden.



Olympia Mathiapparanam

First 3-year term (former student member)—

Olympia is a UW senior hoping to pursue a career in education research. She has served on the Friends board for two 1-year terms, where she focused on improving student engagement. Thanks to the Friends, Olympia found her second home in the Preserve, which has inspired her prairie restoration work and ecology research. She hopes to continue sharing the treasured native landscape with UW students during her term.



Seth McGee

Second 3-year term—Seth has a passion for teaching science in nature. As an instructor and lab

manager for Biocore, UW’s Honors Biology program, Seth invites students to explore, study and learn in UW’s most beautiful classroom, the Biocore Prairie. His research interests include phenological responses to climate change, using apps to enhance attitudes about nature, and tracking bat migration patterns. When

not teaching in the prairie, Seth enjoys birding with his 5- and 7-year-old naturalists-in-training.



MJ Morgan

New nominee (newsletter editor)—MJ and her husband, Tom, retired to Madison in 2018 from

Kansas State University in Manhattan, Kansas. An environmental historian, her published work includes books on the natural and human history of the Mississippi and Rio Grande Rivers. She and Tom were board members of their Audubon chapter and look forward greatly to being part of the Friends.



Paul Noeldner

Second 3-year term—Paul partners with Madison Parks, UW-Madison, and other groups to promote

nature recreation, education, and outreach, and citizen science projects that engage the public and educate kids. He helps coordinate multigroup initiatives such as the 4th Sunday Bird and Nature Outings at the Preserve. He also helps coordinate numerous area bluebird trails, including the one in the Biocore Prairie.

DEPARTING BOARD MEMBERS

The Friends operates on the talent and dedication of its volunteers. Please help us thank the following members for their contributions.



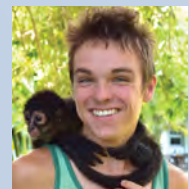
Amanda Budyak
project & financial committees, treasurer (6 years)



Linda Deith
newsletter co-editor, designer (3 years)



Peter Fisher
field trips, vice president (5 years)



Mitch Thomas
citizen science – bluebird trail (4 years)

FINANCES AND ACTIVITIES

2018 Annual Report: Measuring our worth

Doris Dubielzig, Friends president

I invite members to follow the paths created by their donations of time and funding to the Friends.

Our supported projects. In 2018, the Friends spent almost \$6,800 to support five Prairie Partners interns who worked in the Preserve each Thursday during the summer. Another \$4,500 was donated for plants and for the Stewardship Fund, and \$415 was well spent for the ongoing Bluebird Trail and the Purple Martin House special projects. Communicating with our members through the annual meeting, newsletter, and postage cost about \$3,700 for a total outlay of \$15,400. In addition, the 2015 fundraiser for Eagle Heights Woods funded a fourth year of rejuvenation work in that unique 28-acre section of the Preserve.

Our steady growth. Last year, our members contributed more than \$22,700 in memberships, donations, and memorials. Our net balance has increased over the past four years, from an ending balance of \$87,600 in 2015 to more than \$104,500 at the end of 2018. In June, the Board voted to transfer almost \$60,000 from our checking and money market accounts into a 22-month 2.23% CD. We reasoned that this would safeguard the money while we await the development of the Preserve's Strategic Plan and the Master Plan to be completed this year. The mature fund could then be applied to a number of our pipeline projects. We were pleased to see that the new CD earned more than \$700 in its first 6 months! To aid in the transition between treasurers, we had an external review of our finances and money handling.

Doris has been on the Friends board since 2014 where she's served as president, vice-president, and secretary. She likes to hang out in the Preserve with our amazing membership.

Our core value. Yet dollars and cents can't reveal the full value of the Friends, a volunteer-driven organization. Operating on time and talent contributed by our members, we do not employ a secretary or an administrative director. Neither do we rent office space nor own equipment. But with good will and joy, we protect the Preserve, discover its gifts and mysteries, and share them with the community. Last year, in consultation and cooperation with Preserve staff, we scheduled 30 field trips guided by 28 leaders and attracted more than 650 attendees. Educating and inspiring the public, the leaders—many of them Friends—generously shared their expertise in archeology, astronomy, birding, ecology, entomology, forestry, geology, and limnology. Friends volunteered for the Frautschi Point garlic mustard pull and the Picnic Point spring planting and served as stewards working long hours with and for the staff. New opportunities for involvement emerged last year with the Bat Brigade and iNaturalist observations; these will expand this summer with water quality monitoring at University Bay.

I think you'll agree, you get a lot for your investment in the Friends. But in addition to your membership dues, please give us your input and join us in our activities. We value your Friendship!



Doris Dubielzig



Doris Dubielzig



Doris Dubielzig

2018 Annual financial report

BEGINNING BALANCE	\$96,271
Income	\$23,697
Memberships	\$14,055
Donations and memorials	\$8,680
Dividends and interest	\$962
Expenses	-\$15,387
Summer interns	-\$6,777
Gifts to Preserve	-\$4,500
Committees, supplies, newsletter	-\$1,777
Postage	-\$1,464
Annual meeting	-\$454
Special projects	-\$415
ENDING BALANCE	\$104,581



LOOKING MORE CLOSELY

Heroes in miniature: Lichens at Picnic Point

M.J. Morgan, retired environmental historian, Kansas State University

Even in the depths of winter, lichens on deeply furrowed trunks of red oak and hackberry are not lifeless. In fact, they are testaments to species survival in a shoreline world once filled with threat: air pollution, especially from sulfur dioxide and heavy metals, or lake waters laced with road salt run-off.

Today, Wisconsin has 70 fewer lichen species than neighboring Michigan or Minnesota, and its nearly 800 species are distributed unevenly; many more kinds have been documented for northern Wisconsin. Lichens on trees are more at risk than those species growing on rocks, soil, and gravestones. However, lichens on managed and protected land have a better chance for a future that Dr. Jim Bennett, retired UW lichenologist, calls "precarious."

Lichens are wonders of symbiosis. Usually termed "plantlike" organisms, they are composed of both an alga and a fungus. The fungus covers the algae, protecting it, while nutrients

in the microscopic algae are important in nitrogen-fixing, stabilizing soils, and providing food for hungry mammals through the winter. Lichens come in a variety of shapes. Some grow as scales on half-buried boulders. And the long, coiling strands of once-profuse beard and lung lichens provide camouflage for insects as well as nesting material for birds—even hummingbirds patch lichen bits into their palm-size nests. Not surprisingly, lichenologists describe lichens as "integral" to our ecosystem.

Lichens grow very slowly and need a stable environment over many years. Yet stability has often been taken from them through clear cutting, industrial pollutants, and habitat alteration.

The beauty and complexity of lichens can be breathtaking year-round. Even common species, such as the candleflame lichen and rough speckled shield lichen, noticed on Picnic Point Trail draw the eye. Their colors may startle us among the drab browns and grays of winter. Orange or olive-green, cool slate blue, and pale aqua—no lichen is like another. Bring a small magnifying glass on your next walk and prepare to marvel!

"There is a low mist in the woods. It is a good day to study lichens."

—Henry David Thoreau
Journal, Dec. 31, 1851



Bottlebrush frost lichen (*Physconia detersa*)



Mealy rosette lichen (*Physcia millegrana*)



Candleflame lichen (*Candelaria concolor*)



Rough speckled shield lichen (*Punctelia rudecta*)

Photos generously shared by Dr. Jim Bennett.



MONITORING THE MARSH

Too many cattails? An expert visits the Class of 1918 Marsh

Pamela Geddes, associate professor of biology, Northeastern Illinois University

When John Magnuson approached me about visiting the iconic Class of 1918 Marsh, I was extremely excited. I had given a seminar the day before about cattails (*Typha* spp.), important wetland plants. Three recognized cattail species are found in North America; however, due to hybridization, identifying cattail species is challenging. My visit was all I had hoped for, and a highlight was walking the trails of the marsh! Early on the cold morning of November 18, several Friends of the Lakeshore Nature Preserve, Preserve staff, and two wetland experts took me out on the marsh trail.

Throughout the walk, I heard about the history of the marsh and the sense of responsibility this group feels. And it was clear to me why this urgency was on their minds: the marsh is a true gem. Although

small, its 18 acres represent a unique ecosystem housing a multitude of plant and animal species. Yet preserving the marsh means having to be alert to challenges that make it vulnerable, be it air or water pollution or invasive species.

Cattails have been present since the area was restored to marsh, but today they have almost filled the open water. This may be due to exotic and invasive species and/or to hybridization. Important plants in marsh ecosystems, cattails provide critical habitat for shoreline birds and for fishes; avian nesting locations; and a food source for muskrats, which also use cattail leaves for their lodges. Cattails also provide “water purification” through a series of underground processes. All of these services can be threatened by the invasion of exotic plant species reducing natural biodiversity.

So what kinds of cattails grow in the marsh? From a quick assessment, it seems that some of the exotic and/or hybrid cattails are likely to be present (*Typha angustifolia*, or narrow-leaved cattail and *Typha x glauca*, or hybrid cattail, respectively). This may confirm why there has been such an expansion of cattails here. Further molecular testing can aid in a more confident assessment.

What’s next? Vigilance, to make sure that, if indeed there are exotic and hybrid cattails, they are controlled to maintain the marsh integrity. The Class of 1918 Marsh may be experiencing challenges common to many other urban ecosystems, but one thing is for certain: there are not many other ecosystems with the privilege of having such a dedicated group of people taking an interest in its health.

I WANT TO MAKE A DIFFERENCE by joining or making an additional gift

Friends of the Lakeshore Nature Preserve

Name _____
 Street _____
 City _____
 State _____ Zip _____
 Phone _____
 Email _____

- I'd like to VOLUNTEER—please send me information by email.
- I'd like to GO PAPERLESS and receive my newsletter by email.

Please mail this completed form and your check payable to:

Friends of the Lakeshore Nature Preserve
 P.O. Box 5534
 Madison, WI 53705



Join Renew Gift

ANNUAL MEMBERSHIP

- Student \$10
- Individual \$20
- Household \$35
- Steward \$50
- Patron \$100
- Other . . . \$_____

ADDITIONAL GIFT
(For members—does not include membership)

- Woodland . . . \$500
- Savanna \$250
- Wetland \$100
- Prairie \$50
- Other \$_____

Friends of the Lakeshore Nature Preserve is a tax-exempt 501(c)(3) non-profit organization.

Friends of the Lakeshore Nature Preserve

P.O. Box 5534
Madison, WI 53705

Ideas and *Friends* announcements for our newsletter and website are welcome. If you'd prefer to go paperless and receive your newsletter electronically, please email us at **preserveFriends@gmail.com**

President: Doris Dubielzig
Vice President: Steve Sentoff
Secretary: Paul Quinlan
Treasurer: Amanda Budyak
Field trips: Peter Fisher
Newsletter: Linda Deith, MJ Morgan
Friends Volunteer Coordinator:
Galen Hasler, 608-206-5218

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Nature Preserve* is a 501(c)(3)
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Please visit our website: **www.FriendsLakeshorePreserve.com**

GUIDING THE PRESERVE'S FUTURE

Lakeshore Nature Preserve embarks on strategic planning process

Gary Brown, director, Facilities Planning and Management

I am happy to report that we are in the final process of engaging UW–Madison's Office of Strategic Consulting to assist in our development of a strategic plan for the Lakeshore Nature Preserve.

It is important to remember that this strategic planning process is a broad statement and guide for the ongoing management of the Preserve. It is not a land management plan, ecological restoration plan, or a long-range facilities plan to guide or set priorities for capital improvement projects. These elements will all come after the strategic planning process is complete in late 2019 as an update to the 2006 Lakeshore Nature Preserve Master Plan.

The strategic planning process includes the following draft goals:

- Review and update the Preserve's 2006 Mission, Vision, Core Values and Guiding Principles.
- Provide a strategic direction to guide the use and management of the Lakeshore Nature Preserve over the next 10+ years.
- Develop and facilitate stakeholder engagement processes that allow for the collection of ideas, information and data needed to develop the strategic plan.
- Focus the strategic planning process on desired impacts and how to obtain those impacts in the coming years.

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- Develop a written list of action items for moving the strategic plan forward and gaining approval and support from university leadership.

During April, stakeholders will have opportunities to engage in the process. Please visit the Preserve website at <https://lakeshorepreserve.wisc.edu/> to learn how you can be involved.