



# Preserve!

FRIENDS OF THE LAKESHORE NATURE PRESERVE

FALL 2016

## Eagle Heights Woods project update

by Adam Gundlach

Good Oak Ecological Services was kept busy in the winter of 2015–16, working to remove invasive brush from the central zone of Eagle Heights Woods. All told, an additional 5 acres of woodland extending south of the initial Indian Mounds clearing were opened. The wood chips generated by brush removal were spread on trails later in the spring by a hearty group of Army ROTC volunteers.

A second prescribed fire was attempted in April in areas where brush removal had been completed. The weather on the day of the burn did not pan out as predicted, shifting to cloudy with high humidity. As a result, the fire spread was patchy and timid across much of the intended burn unit. Where fire was able to carry, buckthorn seedlings succumbed to the heat and shrubs were top-killed, opening more sunlight to the woodland floor.

Summer brings time to observe how the plant and animal communities respond to previous management efforts, and to note the existing community in areas planned for the next phases of management. Much of this has come in the form of vegetation surveys (documented in this newsletter) in the south zone. But other anecdotal observations can be made by the trained eye, noting areas where a swath of sunlight

beaming through a canopy gap encourages more vigorous growth and diversity in the understory community, or how a dense patch of jewelweed suppresses seedlings of grasses and sedges sown across portions of the Indian Mounds zone.

As fall and winter approach, we are beginning to put plans in place for the next round of invasive brush removal in the south zone and continued hazard tree abatement around the Indian Mounds and trail system. Fall also brings another opportunity to conduct a prescribed burn in portions of the site not yet treated.



- Eagle Heights Woods update* – 1
- Field trips* – 2
- News briefs, volunteer opportunities* – 3
- Member and donor thanks* – 4
- Wisconsin's conservation legacy* – 5
- Prairie Partner interns* – 6
- Asian jumping worms* – 6
- Plant survey, part 2* – 7



**Fire spread was patchy and timid** across much of the intended burn unit. Where fire carried, buckthorn seedlings succumbed to the heat and shrubs were top-killed, opening more sunlight to the woodland floor. (Photos: Adam Gundlach)

# Fall & winter field trips, 2016–17

## September

- 3 Fall birding in the Lakeshore Nature Preserve** (*Saturday, 8:00–10:00 a.m.*) Come search for fall migrants, including confusing fall warblers, flycatchers, and sparrows, while hiking through woods, prairies and gardens. Meet at the Frautschi Point parking lot on Lake Mendota Drive. Leader: Roma Lenehan, 238-5406, rlenehan@charter.net.
- 18 Pleasure bike ride through the Lakeshore Nature Preserve** (*Sunday, 1:00–3:00 p.m.*) Join Daniel Einstein, campus historic and cultural resources manager, as we retrace a segment of the road network created by the Madison Park and Pleasure Drive Association (MPPDA). Bring your bicycles (and helmets!) as we ride from Willow Creek Bridge to the Shorewood Hills Beach (approx. 2.5 miles). Along the way we will make brief stops at the Tent Colony, Raymer's Cove, the Daisy Field, and Eagle Heights, and end at the "rustic bridge" in Shorewood Hills. Meet at the Willow Creek bridge. Leader: Daniel Einstein, 265-3417, daniel.einstein@wisc.edu.
- 25 Birding and nature walk—a celebration** (*Sunday, 1:30–3:00 p.m.*) This special Friends outreach celebration of the Preserve will start with a birding and nature walk through the varied environments of the Preserve, and end with hot dogs and refreshments at Fire Circle #2. This is a special

edition of the monthly 4<sup>th</sup> Sunday walks with Paul, co-sponsored by the Friends and Madison Audubon Society. Meet at Fire Circle #2. Leader: Paul Noeldner, 698-0104, paul\_noeldner@hotmail.com.

## October

- 16 Fall colors in the Preserve** (*Sunday, 1:00–3:00 p.m.*) Enjoy a hike in the Preserve, identifying and learning about how trees prepare for winter while enjoying the rich color of their leaves. Meet at the Frautschi Point parking lot. Leader: Laura Wyatt, 238-3157, laura.wyatt@wisc.edu.
- 23 Birding and nature walk** (*Sunday, 1:30–3:00 p.m.*) See box.
- 30 Exploring past and present history of the Preserve** (*Saturday, 1:00–3:00 p.m.*) Take an autumn hike through the Preserve to learn about the rich cultural and natural history aspects of the area—including the Tent Colony, graveyard, and Native American presence. Meet at the Frautschi Point parking lot. Leader: Steve Laubach, 238-3157, slaubach@wisc.edu.

## November

- 13 Geologic history of the Preserve and Madison lakes** (*Sunday, 1:00–3:00 p.m.*) On the cusp of winter, consider the glaciers that were here 25,000 years ago as we talk about geology on a walk to the Picnic Point entrance. Meet at Chamberlin Rock, next to Washburn Observatory, 1401 Observatory

Drive. Park on the street or at Lot 26, or park at Picnic Point and walk up. Leader: David Mickelson, 262-7863, davem@geology.wisc.edu.

- 27 Birding and nature walk** (*Sunday, 1:30–3:00 p.m.*) See box.

## December

- 10 Birding Madison's lakes** (*Saturday, 7:30–11 a.m.*) Madison Audubon and the Friends co-sponsor this wonderful overview of birdlife on Madison's lakes. As smaller ponds and lakes freeze, migrating birds become concentrated on and around Madison's large lakes, which remain open longer. We will look for waterfowl, gulls, and winter birds. We've had some unusual sightings on past trips, including red-throated loons—so don't miss it! We will carpool and leave at 7:30 a.m. from the middle of UW Parking Lot 60 at the north end of Walnut Street, near University Bay. Dress warmly and bring a scope if you have one. Leader: Al Shea, 852-2304, wisheas@gmail.com.
- 25 Birding and nature walk** (*Sunday, 1:30–3:00 p.m.*) See box.

## January

- 15 Animal tracking in the Preserve** (*Sunday, 1:00–3:00 p.m.*) Join UW wildlife specialist and professor David Drake as he shows how to track foxes, coyotes, and other denizens of the Lakeshore Nature Preserve. Meet at the Picnic Point entrance. Leader: David Drake, 890-0445, ddrake2@wisc.edu.
- 22 Birding and nature walk** (*Sunday, 1:30–3:00 p.m.*) See box.

## February

- 26 Birding and nature walk** (*Sunday, 1:30–3:00 p.m.*) See box.

## March

- 26 Birding and nature walk** (*Sunday, 1:30–3:00 p.m.*) See box.



Arlene Koziol

### 4<sup>th</sup> SUNDAYS—Birding and nature walk

(1:30–3:00 p.m.) Bring your binoculars and camera and explore the varied ecosystems and wildlife of the Preserve on a walk with Master Naturalist Paul Noeldner. Co-sponsored by the Friends and the Madison Audubon Society. Meet at the Picnic Point parking lot at 2002 University Bay Drive. See the website for more details. Leader: Paul Noeldner, 698-0104, paul\_noeldner@hotmail.com.



## NEWS BRIEFS



**Goldenberg family** pitches in at the Preserve's Garlic Mustard Pull.

(Photo: Gisela Kutzbach)

### Garlic mustard pull

by Sarah Goldenberg

This year's Garlic Mustard Pull was a great success! We had 16 volunteers filling 50 large trash bags in just 2 hours under the able direction of Roma Lenehan.

When I joined the Friends organization just over a year ago, I joined financially, but also decided some of the volunteer days were the best way to help give back. Last year I attended the Spring Planting Day, but this year I was only able to participate in the Garlic Mustard Pull. I enjoy these workdays so much that, just a few hours before heading out, I corralled my husband and two teenagers to join in. At first, they just looked at me with that "Right, mom" look. I smiled and said, "Yeah, really, it'll be fun!"

Being in these woods is one of my favorite places in Madison. My kids are 17 and 14 years old, so it's not often we're all together, let alone volunteering together—in the woods—on a spring day. I highly recommend it! Afterward, we feasted on sweet treats, coffee, juice, and of course, garlic mustard quiche.

The garlic mustard, already in flower, was tall and easy to spot. Since every missed plant can potentially produce hundreds of seedlings the following year, efforts like this help keep it in check in our woods.

When you see next year's call, I hope you will not only join in, but will also bring your family and friends, too!

### Amanda Budyak's board term renewed for 3 more years

by Doris Dubielzig

Ecological restorationist Amanda Budyak has served productively on the Friends Board of Directors for the past 3 years. Her name was inadvertently omitted from the slate of Board nominees elected at the Annual Membership Meeting on April 5<sup>th</sup>. At the next regular meeting of the Board, on May 5<sup>th</sup>, the 13 Board members in attendance unanimously approved Amanda's nomination to a second 3-year term on the Board. This announcement is intended to satisfy the Bylaws Article 3.3 requirement for membership participation in Amanda's election.

Following her graduation from UW-Madison, Amanda worked with the Preserve as an Audubon Summer Intern. Now the land manager for Pleasant Valley Conservancy, she also works for Integrated Restoration, LLC. In December, Amanda gave birth to a wonderful baby girl who has already attended her first two Friends meetings.

## Volunteer opportunities

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

**TIME:** 9:00 a.m.–noon

Date	Meeting place
Sept 10 Sat	Picnic Point, Lot 129
25 Sun	Frautschi Point lot
Oct 8 Sat	Picnic Point, Lot 129
22 Sat	Picnic Point, Lot 129
Nov 5 Sat	Picnic Point, Lot 129
20 Sun	Lot 34, east side of lot
Dec 10 Sat	Frautschi Point lot

### IN MEMORY OF

#### Mara McDonald

For many years, Master Bander Mara McDonald led Friends field trips to the Biocore Prairie Bird Observatory to net and band birds. It is with great sadness that we report that Mara died unexpectedly in early July. Mara was a former member of the Board of the Friends of the Lakeshore Nature Preserve. She worked for many years in the UW-Madison Laboratory of Genetics, where she served a term as administrator for the Crow Institute for the Study of Evolution. Mara created the Biocore Prairie Bird Observatory and was tireless in using it to provide students with ornithological field work experience and research project opportunities, and to engage visitors to the Preserve in issues related to bird ecology and conservation. Mara will be greatly missed by the many colleagues and friends touched by her enthusiasm for understanding and appreciating the natural world.



## Many thanks to our generous members and donors

### Membership

\*Indicates new members

Kris Ackerbauer  
Hildegard and Julius Adler  
Eleanor Albert  
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Kathryn Allen  
David Sulman and Anne Altshuler  
Fernando and Carla Alvarado  
Joan Nugent and Dan R. Anderson  
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Paul and Joy Zedler

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#### Donations

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Diana Webb Trust,  
Madison Community  
Foundation  
Indian Hills Garden Club  
John Bottemiller Estate  
Shorewood Hills  
Garden Club

#### Eagle Heights Woods Fund drive

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William Cronon  
Dan and Carole  
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Kathi and Richard Dwell  
Alan and Sarah  
Goldenberg  
Hatheway Hasler  
Jack McLeod  
Kathleen Remington  
Joan Falk and  
David Robbins

Millard Susman  
Patricia and  
Thomas Wolfe

#### In memory of: Carter Denniston

Roma Lenehan

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Bobby Peckarsky and  
Steve Horn

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#### Elizabeth Middleton

Jean and Dick Lottridge

#### Fredericka Paff—*for Upper Eagle Heights Woods*

Walter and  
Stacey Meanwell

#### Harriet Riley

Ron Towle and  
Elinor Riley



#### EXCERPT FROM KEYNOTE ADDRESS

## Wisconsin's proud conservation legacy—is it in danger?

by Spencer Black

*The following is an excerpt from  
Spencer Black's keynote address  
at the 2016 annual meeting.*

Wisconsin has a proud conservation legacy. We were the first state to ban DDT when it threatened our national symbol, the bald eagle. We were the first state to enact comprehensive groundwater protection legislation, and it was our Senator and Governor, Gaylord Nelson, who launched Earth Day.

That legacy has two parts. The first part is to appreciate that Wisconsin is naturally blessed: great forests, extensive grasslands, a wealth of water resources, a varied and beautiful landscape, and an abundance of wildlife.

With that blessing comes the opportunity to enjoy, and enjoy we do. Along with the Packers and cheese, nothing unites the people of our state

as much as the joy we take in being outdoors. The Lakeshore Preserve and the adjacent Lake Mendota are cases in point. I take advantage of this wonderful resource, as do many of you, by paddling, fishing, swimming, biking, walking, or just sitting back and enjoying the view.

If the first part of our legacy is enjoying the blessing of our natural resources, the other half is the realization that with such a blessing comes the responsibility to protect it.

Basic to protecting our resource is understanding it. I remember when Gaylord Nelson was asked if he could pass just one environmental bill, what that would be. His immediate response was "environmental education." And basic to the understanding of environmental protection is the realization that our resources are not unlimited. One can imagine

the first European settlers coming to Wisconsin and thinking the forests were inexhaustible, the passenger pigeon population was close to infinite, and the millions of acres of prairie were beyond their ability to disturb. But, as we know, less than 1% of our original grasslands remain, the great northern forests were largely cut down in just a few decades, and the passenger pigeon, once among the most numerous of bird species, is extinct.

It was probably the reaction to the cutover of our forests that spawned the beginnings of a public conservation conscience in 19<sup>th</sup> century Wisconsin and from which our deep culture of environmental protection initially springs.

*For the full text, please visit  
[FriendsLakeshorePreserve.com/  
2016-keynote](http://FriendsLakeshorePreserve.com/2016-keynote).*



**HANDS-ON LEARNING****Prairie Partner interns**

by Adam Gundlach

*Since 2007, the Friends have supported summer interns in the Preserve, providing funds to support them one day a week for 12 weeks over the summer.*

This summer the Friends of the Lakeshore Nature Preserve sponsored five Prairie Partner interns, students and recent graduates from UW–Stevens Point, UW–Eau Claire, and UW–Madison who are exploring careers in ecological restoration and natural resources management. Working with Preserve staff, they not only focused on invasive species control and restoration, but also spent time with several Friends members to discuss topics ranging from the historic cultural landscapes represented in the Preserve and viewing Aldo Leopold’s original manuscripts in the Steenbock Library, to understanding the swirling Lake Mendota ecosystem as viewed from the deck of the Center for Limnology’s Limnos research vessel.

The intern season started this spring with time spent walking sections of woodland in search of garlic mustard. From there, the tasks followed the changing seasons, often focused on priority plant species to control. Spring brought opportunities for planting plugs of native grasses and forbs in areas needing a quick boost of diversity. The crew also helped Friends members Suzy Will-Wolf and Glenda Denniston complete the summer vegetation survey in the south zone of Eagle Heights Woods, which will provide baseline data on the plant community prior to planned invasive brush removal in the winter of 2016–17. The interns left with much accomplished for the Preserve by their efforts in the field and new views and understandings of ecological interactions to ponder.

**RECENT INVASIVE SPECIES****Asian jumping worms**

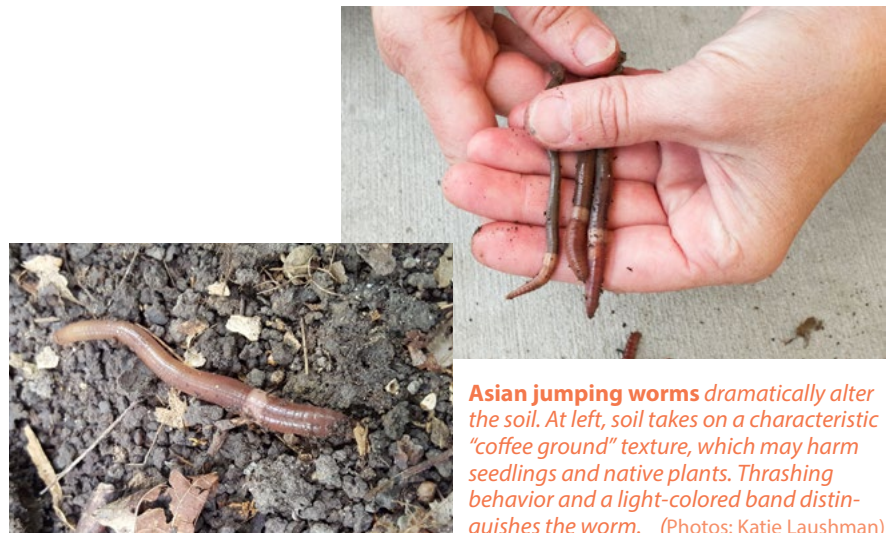
by Katie Laushman

In 2013, a new type of earthworm was documented in the University of Wisconsin–Madison Arboretum. These earthworms belong to a different genus (*Amyntas*) than the European earthworms that are commonly found in the area. These worms are native to East Asia and are colloquially called “jumping worms” because of their thrashing and flailing defense behavior. Mature worms also have a light-colored band, the clitellum, that completely encircles the body without a break. Little is known about the biology of the jumping worms, and even less is understood about the effects they will have on the ecology of Wisconsin habitats.

What is clear so far is that this worm drastically alters soil properties. Most noticeably, they transform a forest’s surface soil into a granular, coffee ground-like texture, suggesting that seedlings and native plants could be disrupted. Jumping worms have recently been found in the Eagle Heights Community Garden. While the distribution of *Amyntas* in the Preserve will be monitored by staff, it’s vital that regular visitors understand how to identify and prevent further spread of these worms.

The Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources (DNR) has classified the jumping worm as a restricted species under the invasive species rule (NR 40), making it illegal to possess or transport. The DNR has produced fact sheets on the jumping worms and established Best Management Practices for those who may come into contact and risk the spread of the jumping worm. It is possible that worm cocoons may be transported in dirt on boots or tools, so properly cleaning gear before and after venturing into the woods is important, as is inspecting any gardening materials before purchase or use. For more information, visit the DNR’s website ([dnr.wi.gov](http://dnr.wi.gov)) and search for “jumping worm”.

Make sure you educate yourself and other visitors about how to recognize this recent invasive species and its distinct soil signature to help protect Wisconsin’s parks and wild areas, including the Lakeshore Nature Preserve.



**Asian jumping worms** dramatically alter the soil. At left, soil takes on a characteristic “coffee ground” texture, which may harm seedlings and native plants. Thrashing behavior and a light-colored band distinguishes the worm. (Photos: Katie Laushman)



**PLANT SURVEY, PART 2** (Part 1 in Spring 2016 newsletter)

## Plant survey of the Eagle Heights mounds (spring and summer 2015)

by Susan Will-Wolf and Glenda Denniston

In spring and summer of 2015, we surveyed plants of the three Eagle Heights Woods mounds. We recorded the presence of species in 10-meter-long sections of the two linear mounds and on the entire conical mound, 14 “sections” in all. Comparing species during these two periods allows us to evaluate seasonal changes. It also creates baselines for comparing changes over time, including the effects of management practices such as the November 2015 burn of the Mounds Zone.



**Shooting stars** (*Dodecatheon media*) on a linear mound. (Photo: Bryn Scriver)

In total, we found 66 species of herbaceous plants, with 18 of them on all three mounds. Eleven species were exotics, but most of those (including garlic mustard) were found only once. We also found 33 species of vine, shrub, or tree seedlings. Only four were seen on all three mounds, and six were exotic.

As expected, surveying in both seasons was important—only about half of the species were present in both surveys. Eleven herbs, mostly native spring ephemerals, were found only in spring on at least one mound, while 14 herbs, mostly natives, were seen only in summer.

Mounds differ in the number of species present, but all have mostly native species in similar proportions (*list of species on website*). The most common exotics on all three mounds were

European buckthorn (92% of sections) and hybrid honeysuckle (38% of sections). The conical mound has less than one-third the area of the smaller linear mound but has more than two-thirds as many species as either linear mound. The conical mound clearly provides some special advantage for herbaceous plants, possibly because it is taller.

Past management appears to have greatly reduced the incidence of exotic plants as compared with earlier verbal reports. However, the many woody plant seedlings and especially the widespread exotic shrub seedlings and sprouts show continued management is needed to keep out woody plants. It will be interesting to see from future surveys how much the November 2015 burn reduced the incidence of buckthorn and other woody species on the mounds.

**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



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

#### 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  
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](mailto:preserveFriends@gmail.com)

*President:* Gisela Kutzbach  
*Vice President:* Peter Fisher  
*Secretary:* Doris Dubielzig  
*Treasurer:* Gretel Dentine  
*Newsletter Designer:* Linda Deith  
*Friends Volunteer Coordinator:*  
Galen Hasler, 608-206-5218

*Preserve!* Vol. 15, no. 3, Fall 2016

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

Please visit our website: [www.FriendsLakeshorePreserve.com](http://www.FriendsLakeshorePreserve.com)

**REVISED DRAFT MASTER PLAN—Presentation at Union South, Varsity Hall, September 13, 7:00–9:00 p.m.**

Your opportunity to find out what's in the works and provide feedback. This is the last open house before the roll-out in early 2017.



**Spend time in the Preserve?  
Be an extra set of eyes and ears.**

If you have safety or crime prevention concerns, call the UWPD **non-emergency** number at **608-264-2677**. Enter this number into your mobile phone contacts for easy access.

For **emergency** situations, always call **911**.



Join us on September 25 for a special  
**FRIENDS PICNIC CELEBRATION**

Meet up with old and new Friends at this special celebration. Join us on Sunday, Sept. 25<sup>th</sup>, 1:30–3:00 p.m. at Fire Circle #2 (a short walk from the Picnic Point entrance). We'll have refreshments and roasted hot dogs. Enjoy the gorgeous view across University Bay or join one of the naturalists on a walk to the Biocore Prairie. Board members will be there to greet you and share news about the Preserve and our educational exhibits.

**Questions?** Contact Doris Dubielzig at [dbdubielzig@gmail.com](mailto:dbdubielzig@gmail.com).