



4th Sunday of the Month Birding and Nature Walk with Paul Noeldner, January 24 (Sunday), 1:30pm–3:00pm. Meet at the Picnic Point parking lot. Leader: Paul Noeldner, 698-0104 (paul_noeldner@hotmail.com)

4th Sunday of the Month Birding and Nature Walk with Chuck Henrikson , February 28 (Sunday), 1:30pm–3:00pm. Great Horned Owls should be sitting on eggs by Feb. 28. Join retired UW Veterinary Senior Lecturer Chuck Henrikson for an entertaining and enlightening Sunday nature walk in the Preserve with a stop for hot chocolate at a Picnic Point campfire. We will try to spot one of the Preserve's well loved Great Horned and Barred Owls and look for activity by the large, beautiful Pileated Woodpecker that was recently released in the Preserve by Four Lakes Wildlife Center. Meet at the Picnic Point parking lot. Leader: Chuck Henrikson, ckhenrikson@charter.net

Evening Owl Prowl in the Preserve, March 11 (Friday) and March 12 (Saturday) 6:30pm – 9:00pm. Explore Picnic Point and other areas of the Preserve by evening in a search for resident great horned and barred owls, and possibly screech owls. The Friends co-sponsor this Madison Audubon Society field trip. Bring flashlights or headlamps; binoculars are available on loan. Because these hikes are limited to 20 people, please RSVP to register. Meet at entrance to Picnic Point, in Lot 129. Leaders: Carolyn and BJ Byers (255-2473) carolyn.byers@madisonaudubon.org

Birding and Nature Walk with Paul Noeldner, March 27 (Sunday) 1:30pm – 3:00pm. Take the family for an enjoyable and relaxing Spring Easter Sunday stroll in the Lakeshore Preserve! We will visit the Old Orchard to look for ephemeral woodland flower blossoms and tiny buds. Along the way we will listen for the delightful Spring songs of birds staking out their territories in the trees and meadows and look for hungry ducks dabbling and diving in the lake, baby bunnies nibbling blades of grass, and other birds and wildlife chowing down left over winter nuts and berries. Afterwards we will gather to share stories about the beauty we've seen over hot chocolate and a campfire by the bay. Meet at the Picnic Point parking lot. Leader: Paul Noeldner (698-0104) paul_noeldner@hotmail.com

UW Science Expedition, April 3 (Sunday), 2-3:30. Learn the natural and cultural history of Picnic Point, Sunday April 3, 2-3:30pm with Friends of the Lakeshore Nature Preserve. Guided tour. Gather at the stone gate entrance to Picnic Point a few meters north of Lot 129, 2004 University Bay Drive. Friendly guides will accompany small groups of visitors to four different stations in the Preserve, where guests can learn from experts in geology, Native American mounds, trees and beach ecology, and children can engage in related activities.

Bird Banding at Biocore Prairie, April 16 (Saturday) 8:00am – 12:00 noon. Come by any time between the listed hours and learn about bird banding (hands on if you wish). See birds up close and find out about the contributions of banding to our knowledge of birds and our conservation efforts. Co-sponsored by the Madison Audubon Society. Park at the Frautschi point parking lot and walk up to the Biocore Prairie above the Eagle Heights Gardens. In case of temperatures near 50 degrees or rain, call the leader by 6:00 am to check whether banding is on. Leader: Mara McDonald (274-2534) mamcdona@wisc.edu

Beyond Backyard Birding, April 21 (Thursday) 6:30pm – 9:00pm and April 23 (Saturday) 8:30am – 11:00am. Both the evening and day trips are especially for birders looking to grow their skills. Have your bird questions answered and get help identifying all of those small streaky brown birds as we visit both prairie and woodland habitat. We may even hear some owls as dusk falls. Madison Audubon can provide binoculars on loan. Meet at entrance to Picnic Point, Lot 129, and bring your whole family. Please RSVP to register. Leaders: Carolyn and BJ Byers (255-2473) carolyn.byers@madisonaudubon.org

Birding and Nature Walk with Steve Laubach, April 24 (Sunday) 1:30pm – 3:00pm. The Living Land! Join UW Arboretum Naturalist Steve Laubach for fascinating stories about the land you are standing on and the geographical, ecological, Native American and social history that created what you see. Steve is also an expert on Aldo Leopold and how Leopold's contributions to the preservation and restoration of prairies while working at the University of Wisconsin Arboretum are applied at the Lakeshore Preserve and worldwide.

Frautschi Point Mothers Day Wildflower Field Trip, May 8 (Sunday) 10:00am – 12:00 noon. Explore Frautschi Point and the adjacent areas for spring ephemerals and other tender new growth that is now poking up in the Preserve along the lakeshore. Identify such beautiful flowers as Wood Phlox, Violet, Bloodroot, Jacob's Ladder, Wild Strawberry, and many others. This is a family-friendly hike. Meet at Frautchi Point parking lot. Leader: Glenda Denniston (231-1530) denniston@wisc.edu

Warblers of Frautschi Point, May 11 (Wednesday) 7:30am – 9:30am. We will focus on seeing warblers through the leafy foliage and will look for other spring migrants. Meet at the Frautschi Point parking lot on Lake Mendota Drive. Leader: Roma Lenehan (238-5406) rlenehan@charter.net

Birding and Nature Walk with Sean Gere, May 22 (Sunday) 1:30pm – 3:00pm. Meet at Picnic Point Parking Lot. Sean Gere is a certified arborist who is an expert at rope climbing and loves to help with projects like Owl Cams. Join Sean for a fascinating free family friendly walk to explore the trees at the Lakeshore Nature Preserve!

Lake Mendota Boat Trip, June 14 (Tuesday) 9:30am – 12:00 noon (weather date, Thursday, June 16, 9:30am - 12:00 noon). Learn about Lake Mendota and the shoreline of the Lakeshore Nature Preserve from a different perspective aboard LIMNOS, the research vessel for teaching, research, and outreach operated by the University of Wisconsin-Madison Center for Limnology. Because group size is limited to 12, reserve your place for this always-popular field trip by email to the leader. Meet at Hasler Limnology Laboratory one block west of Memorial Union. Leader: John Magnuson (jjmagnus@wisc.edu)

Birding and Nature Walk with Charles Naeseth, June 26 (Sunday) 1:30pm – 3:00pm. Meet at Picnic Point Parking Lot. This walk is an opportunity to learn more about birds from one of the best 'bird by ear' experts in the Madison area, Charles Naeseth. Charles will bring nature alive for you by helping both beginners and experts hear bird songs and spot birds you didn't even know were there.

Groundwater Resources of the Preserve, July 10 (Sunday) 1:00pm – 3:00pm. Learn about the hydrogeology of the Preserve from the shores of Lake Mendota to the uplands by Eagle Heights. By visiting wells and viewing maps, guests will leave with a better understanding of the groundwater resources beneath their feet in the Preserve. A special tour of a Madison Water Utility well #19, located next to the Eagle Heights Gardens, will provide insight into how area residents obtain their drinking water. Trip leader is a hydrogeologist and outreach specialist with the Wisconsin Geological and Natural History Survey. Meet at the entrance to Picnic Point. Leader: Mike Parsen (228-3048) michael.parsen@uwex.edu

Birding and Nature Walk with Arborist Sean Gere, July 24 (Sunday) 1:30pm – 3:00pm. Meet at Picnic Point Parking Lot. Summer is a great time to be in the woods and see the magnificent oaks, maples and other trees in all their glory. Sean is a professional arborist, tree expert and nature educator who makes it fun to find and learn about the ancient Oak Opening habitat at the Lakeshore Nature Preserve and other types of trees and the birds and wildlife that live on them.

Native Pollinators in the Preserve, July 31 (Sunday) 9:00am – 11:00am. Join us in searching for pollinators in the Preserve while learning about diversity, lifestyles, and the importance of pollinators. Meet at the Picnic Point parking lot. Leader: Susan Carpenter (886-7504) susan.carpenter@wisc.edu

A Different "View" of the Lakeshore Nature Preserve, August 7 (Sunday), 1:00pm – 3:00pm. Enjoy a sensory tour of the Preserve by sight, sound, taste, smell, and feel, and experience a new appreciation of its natural beauty. Connect with nature in a different way for new awareness and understanding. Meet at the Picnic Point parking lot at 2002 University Bay Drive. Leader: Paul Williams (274-1958) phwillia@wisc.edu

Birding and Nature Walk with Pat Becker, August 28 (Sunday) 1:30pm – 3:00pm. Meet at Picnic Point Parking Lot. We will take a walk to the Union and stop to refresh ourselves before returning along the Lake Mendota shoreline. Pat Becker will point out hidden natural area gems along the way including the Class of 1918 Marsh, Willow Creek, and the Muir Woods hillside next to Memorial Union that support fox, coyote, hawks, owls and other megafauna right next to the University. Family and kid friendly, easy walking pace.