



New Bluebird Boxes for Biocore Trail

When bluebirds return to the area in March, they will be treated to eight brand new nesting boxes along the Biocore bluebird trail. Last fall, Jeff Koziol, trail coordinator, donated these nest boxes to replace the seven-year-old existing boxes, which had suffered from exposure and wear and tear. The new boxes are protected by predator cones attached to the posts. Jeff and Gisela Kutzbach, accompanied by photographer Arlene Koziol, completed the replacement last October.

Bluebirds may raise two or three broods in one season. About 30% of adult bluebirds return to previous nesting sites the following season. They will begin house hunting in March, checking out nesting sites. They construct neatly built grass nests and lay four to seven eggs, one a day. The female starts incubating once all eggs are laid but may wait up to a week if the weather is still cold. Once hatched, the nestlings

are fed a diet of mainly insects and are ready to fledge in two-three weeks.

Patrick Ready, president of the Bluebird Restoration Association of Wisconsin, estimates that the bluebird population of Wisconsin had dropped to only 600 in the 1960s. The campaign to provide nest boxes for these cavity nesters has led to nearly 3,500 boxes used by bluebirds and 20,000 bluebirds fledged in 2020. To hear them warble and chortle, visit the Biocore Bluebird Trail this spring! Bluebirds may just bring you good fortune and happiness.



SPRING WILDFLOWER PLANTING

is scheduled for the morning of Saturday, May 22, with a rain date of the afternoon of Sunday, May 23.

Because of precautions during the pandemic, you must register to participate.

Please check our website in May for full information.

At this time, informal work parties, such as the Garlic Mustard Pull, are not scheduled.

Please continue to check the website.

2020 Annual Financial Report

Steve Sellwood, treasurer

BEGINNING BALANCE	\$111,538
Income	\$24,053
Memberships	\$16,080
Sustaining Fund Donations	\$1,300
Donations (non-members)	\$1,750
Gifts in Honor or Memorial	\$4,400
Dividends and interest	\$523
Expenses	-\$26,555
Gifts to Preserve Eagle Heights Woods	-\$15,000
Gifts to Preserve Stewardship Fund	-\$4,000
License Fees	-\$3,000
Newsletter & Website	-\$1,441
Postage & P.O. Box	-\$1,115
Legal & Insurance Costs	-\$1,050
Special Projects & Citizen Science	-\$771
Annual meeting	-\$101
Committee Expenses	-\$77
ENDING BALANCE	\$109,036