

NATURAL RESOURCES FOUNDATION OF WISCONSIN

# 2025 FIELD TRIP GUIDEBOOK

Join Us to Explore Wisconsin's Lands, Waters, and Wildlife



**278**  
AMAZING  
ADVENTURES

REGISTER STARTING NOON APRIL 8



## SYMBOLS



**WHEELCHAIR ACCESSIBLE** See below left.



**FAMILY FRIENDLY** Young naturalists welcome! Children must be accompanied by a registered adult. Recommended age and children's fees (\$10 discount) are listed.



**SNAs** State Natural Areas (SNAs) harbor 90% of Wisconsin's species of greatest conservation need. Explore these precious wilderness gems.



**BIRDS** Get out and birdwatch with some experts and learn about bird conservation and research.



**OUR IMPACT** See firsthand the sites, species, and conservation projects NRF currently supports, or has funded over the years.



**CARPOOLING** See below.



## USE ONLINE TOOLS TO FIND YOUR PERFECT TRIPS

Use our interactive map tool to easily locate Field Trips by physical demand, family-friendliness, topics, date range, or keyword search. Find a digital copy of the guidebook too!



Find tools here:

[WisConservation.org/Field-Trip-Finder](https://www.wisconservation.org/Field-Trip-Finder)

## ACCESSIBILITY

If you, a family member, or a friend have mobility challenges, we have several options:



Trips with this symbol are accessible for people using standard wheelchairs. There are accessible parking spaces and bathrooms (unless noted), no stairs, and ADA compliant surfaces.

**Use an all-terrain outdoor wheelchair!** (pictured right)

- ▶ These Field Trips have an outdoor wheelchair available to use on-site: 108, 121, 134, 223, 244, 254, 274. Contact us for details to reserve an outdoor wheelchair for use during the Field Trip.
- ▶ **Access Ability Wisconsin (AAW)** has all-terrain outdoor wheelchairs available to reserve and use free of charge at several locations throughout the state.

Don't hesitate to contact us for details on using wheelchairs, walkers, or outdoor wheelchairs on a particular Field Trip.

Learn more: [Wisconservation.org/Field-Trips-Accessibility](https://www.wisconservation.org/Field-Trips-Accessibility)



RIVEREDGE NATURE CENTER



TODD LEECH

## CARPOOL

**SAVE MONEY AND REDUCE CARBON EMISSIONS!**

A selection of trips in our lineup have a carpooling option administered by the WI-DOT's RIDESHARE program. It is free and you can choose to be a rider or a driver. Look for the trips with this symbol in the guidebook:



**Win an NRF t-shirt!** If you carpool through RIDESHARE, or even just drive to a trip with a friend, you can enter our monthly drawing to win an NRF t-shirt.

We think our NRF members are the nicest people. Consider making a new friend and carpool to a Field Trip together!

Learn more about carpooling and enter the t-shirt drawing here: [WisConservation.org/Field-Trips-Carpool](https://www.wisconservation.org/Field-Trips-Carpool)



## ONLINE REGISTRATION TIPS

Your trips are reserved for you the moment you add them to your cart. So, take your time entering contact information during check-out.

Search for trips quickly using the number index (on left side of screen) or switching to calendar view.

*Looking for a session B?* If it's on a different/later date, it may not be listed directly under session A. Use the calendar view to find it faster.

You will be asked for birth dates of everyone in your party during registration. If you don't know an adult guest's birthday, just enter 01/01/2000. Children should enter their real birthday (or something close to it).

Some trips are popular and fill VERY quickly (some within minutes). Have several back-up choices in mind.

If a trip is full, consider the waiting list. Spaces do become available over the course of the season and we are dutiful about contacting the wait-listers.

**Find more tips & videos: [WisConservation.org/Field-Trips-Registration](http://WisConservation.org/Field-Trips-Registration)**

## FIELD TRIP RULES

- ▶ Trips are non-refundable if you cancel your reservation.
- ▶ Trips run rain or shine.
- ▶ Online registration only (not by phone, email or mail).
- ▶ Limit of 4 total trips per person from April 8-13. If someone else registers you for a trip, that counts towards your limit. Wait-listed trips do NOT count towards your limit.
- ▶ Starting April 14, register for additional unlimited trips, as space allows.
- ▶ Please only register for 1 paddle trip per person prior to April 14.
- ▶ No dogs are allowed on trips.

## FIELD TRIP POLICIES

- ▶ **Youth pricing** is \$10 less than adult prices and are listed for trips that are Family Friendly. NEW! College students are invited to use our youth pricing during registration for \$10 less than adult prices listed for all trips.
- ▶ **Financial assistance:** In effort to make Field Trips affordable for all, we are piloting financial assistance for registration fees. Funds are limited. Please apply prior to April 1. More details and apply here: [WisConservation.org/Field-Trips-Financial-Assistance](http://WisConservation.org/Field-Trips-Financial-Assistance)
- ▶ Please refrain from registering for trips you have already attended. This gives others the chance to experience and learn too.

**JOIN US FOR  
MULTI-DAY ADVENTURES!  
SEE PAGE 61**



BROOK BURLING

## HOW TO REGISTER

1

### CHECK YOUR MEMBERSHIP RENEWAL DATE

Look above your name on the mailing label of this booklet. If your renewal date is before April 9, please renew now.

- ▶ Not a current member? Go to [WisConservation.org](http://WisConservation.org) and join or renew with a donation of \$35 or greater.

2

### FIND YOUR MEMBER ACCESS CODE

Existing members will find their member access code on the back cover of this booklet.

- ▶ New and renewing members will receive a member access code in their membership payment confirmation email.

3

### REVIEW FIELD TRIP RULES (AT LEFT)

4

### GATHER YOUR DETAILS

Have the names, contact information, and birthdays of all members in your party handy for when you register.

Some trips fill quickly, so have several back-up choices in mind.

5

### REGISTER AT WISCONSERVATION.ORG

Registration starts April 8 at noon. No phone or email registrations accepted.

**For FAQs, registration tips & video tutorials, visit  
[WISCONSERVATION.ORG/FIELD-TRIPS](http://WISCONSERVATION.ORG/FIELD-TRIPS)**

### QUESTIONS?

Email: [FieldTrips@WisConservation.org](mailto:FieldTrips@WisConservation.org)

Phone: 608-409-3123



KEWENAW ADVENTURE  
COMPANY

# 2025 FIELD TRIP INDEX

TOPIC	FIELD TRIP NUMBER
Amphibians & Reptiles:	5, 7, 64, 69, 97, 139, 190
Archaeology & History:	2, 13, 29, 34, 36, 44, 81, 117, 123, 126, 138, 171, 180, 181, 222, 242, 256, 268
Art & Photography:	17, 127, 184
Biking:	16, 86, 93, 115
Bird Banding:	19, 80, 95, 99, 113, 114, 121, 133, 134, 210, 216, 219, 253, 273, 274
Boat Rides:	55, 60, 80, 163, 168, 180, 181, 204
Bus Route Nearby:	16, 28, 38, 44, 74, 123, 128, 130, 141, 158, 160, 181, 184, 186, 188, 196, 226, 227, 231, 247, 250, 259, 268, 278
Butterflies, Insects & Pollinators:	53, 68, 71, 88, 89, 112, 137, 143, 149, 158, 161, 172, 178, 182, 193, 209, 227, 229
Climate Resilience:	13, 29, 12, 73, 87, 140, 152, 177, 214, 231, 239
Farming & Gardening:	28, 73, 74, 102, 109, 159, 177, 186, 195, 220, 254, 264
Fish:	55, 68, 82, 85, 156, 162, 168, 190, 237, 250
Foraging & Edible Plants:	11, 67, 126, 146, 202, 236
Forest Bathing & Mindfulness:	6, 72, 94, 128, 129, 208, 226
Freshwater Mussels:	190, 174, 200, 205, 214
Geology:	3, 35, 37, 66, 79, 157, 173, 175, 198, 201, 206, 221, 222, 232, 238, 243, 244, 262, 267, 275
Mammals:	89, 100, 185, 187, 192, 196, 228
Mostly Sitting:	60, 139, 141, 152, 180, 181, 219, 225, 251, 266, 278
Outdoor Skills:	211, 238, 252, 257, 259
Private Lands Management:	13, 23, 43, 68, 70, 73, 74, 81, 97, 110, 119, 120, 135, 142, 176, 186, 220, 239
WI State Parks*:	5, 29, 32, 36, 39, 47, 50, 63, 66, 90, 92, 96, 98, 112, 115, 138, 185, 188, 201, 208, 211, 238, 243, 244, 258, 260 *These trips require a WI State Park pass day of trip

## PADDLE TRIPS

Canoes Provided:	18, 75, 166, 174, 222, 245
Kayaks Provided:	48, 101, 132, 150, 175, 198, 217, 247, 263
Bring your own canoe/kayak:	23, 30, 84, 106, 107, 126, 151, 153, 154, 155, 159, 165, 169, 189, 191, 194, 197, 207, 212, 221

## CHERISH WISCONSIN WITH US

We are proud to be a key partner in the Cherish Wisconsin Outdoors Fund. This endowment provides permanent support for the care and management of lands and waters loved by hikers, birders, hunters, and anglers alike. It grows through voluntary contributions made along with hunting and fishing license purchases, or by direct donations. **These trips showcase lands supported by the Cherish Fund: 34, 46, 54, 86, 105, 213**



### 1. Terrell's Island: Springtime on the Shore

Behold spectacular views of migrating birds and learn about wetland ecology and local history as we venture on two portions of what was once a complete breakwall. Spy terns, egrets, herons, waterfowl, cormorants, pelicans, and other wildlife on the southern shore of Lake Butte des Morts. Limit: 25  
**Leaders:** Shannon Davis-Foust, Anita Carpenter & Holly Hoitink  
**Trail:** 3 miles, mostly flat, potholes, muddy  
**Saturday, April 19, 8-11AM**  
 Omro, Winnebago Co.  
 Cost: \$18 per person

### 2. Effigy Mounds of the Lower Wisconsin State Riverway

Journey on the wooded trails of the Lower Wisconsin State Riverway to see well-preserved earthworks from the Late Woodland Tradition. Although thousands of these effigy mounds were built on the Wisconsin landscape between 700 and 1200 A.D., few remain today. Learn about Wisconsin mound types and visit several premier sites in Richland County. Fundraiser for NRF. Limit: 15  
**Leaders:** Mark Cupp & Don Greenwood  
**Trail:** 2 miles, uneven, one hill  
**Saturday, April 19, 9AM-1PM**  
 Muscoda, Grant Co.  
 Cost: \$40 per person

### 3. Spring Blooms & Geology: Ledge County Park

*Challenging: steep stone stairs.* Hike the Niagara Escarpment in early spring to experience stunning geologic formations of "the Ledge" during its most beautiful display of exquisite spring flora. Travel along, inside, and below the escarpment in search of budding spring wildflowers while unraveling the history of this unique landscape spanning millions of years. Fundraiser for NRF. Limit: 15  
**Leaders:** Chelsy Herring & Jenny Kilburg  
**Trail:** 2.5 miles, very steep stone stairway  
**Friday, April 25, 8-11AM**  
 Horicon, Dodge Co.  
 Cost: \$33 per person



### 4. Gems of Green County

*Note: one steep hill.* Experience the majestic old-growth forest of Abraham's Woods SNA, known for its huge trees and spectacular display of spring wildflowers. Then drive to Muralt Bluff Prairie SNA and hike up to a sweeping vista to enjoy springtime plants and songbirds. Blooming trilliums and pasque flowers await! No bathrooms. Limit: 20  
**Leaders:** Ryan O'Connor & Amy Staffen  
**Trail:** 1 mile, short off-trail climb up steep hill  
**Friday, April 25, 9AM-12PM**  
 Albany, Green Co.  
 Cost: \$18 per person

### 5. Reptiles & Amphibians: Kettle Moraine

Get hands on exploring the Kellings Lakes as we wade in shallow water and hike prairies in search of rare snakes, salamanders, and frogs. See how biologists capture, ID, and monitor various amphibians and reptiles and learn about their ecology and habitats. Family-friendly fun! No bathrooms. Fundraiser for WI Amphibian and Reptile Conservation Fund. Limit: 20 Ages 7+  
**Leaders:** Richard Staffen, Rori Paloski & Jeff Lorch  
**Trail:** 1 mile, a few moderate hills  
**Saturday, April 26, 10AM-1PM**  
 Dundee, Sheboygan Co.  
 Cost: \$33 adult, \$23 youth, per person

TITLE COLORS INDICATE PHYSICAL DEMAND:

VERY EASY EASY AVERAGE CHALLENGING EXTREME



7



8



10



15



### 6. Shinrin-Yoku (Forest Bathing) and Japanese Tea Ceremony

Rejuvenate your energy and attitude by practicing Forest Bathing, or Shinrin-Yoku as it's known in Japan. Sit by a pond or walk slowly through fields and woods awash in spring blooms, using all your senses to appreciate the healing qualities of nature. Enjoy a traditional Japanese tea ceremony and find community with new friends sharing a bit of food around a fire as dusk arrives. Fundraiser for NRF. Limit: 10  
**Leaders:** Mary Binkley & Sumire Kawamoto Williams  
**Trail:** 0.5 mile, flat, easy

Choose one session to attend:  
**6-A. Friday, May 2, 1-5:30PM**  
**6-B. Saturday, May 3, 1-5:30PM**  
Waunakee, Dane Co.  
Cost: \$40 per person


### 7. Spring Frog Chorus at The Ridges Sanctuary

Twilight inspires a frog chorus! Enjoy a short indoor program to learn about Door County frogs and their life cycles, adaptations and sounds. Then hike out into The Ridges Sanctuary to listen and identify frogs. Limit: 20  
Ages 10+  
**Leaders:** Jane Whitney, Julie Knox & Katie Krouse  
**Trail:** 1.5 miles, boardwalks and beach




**Friday, May 2, 7-9PM**  
Baileys Harbor, Door Co.  
Cost: \$23 adult, \$13 youth, per person  

### 8. Spring Wildflowers of Baird Creek

Interesting wildflowers abound in the heart of Green Bay! Explore an urban greenspace and enjoy a spectacular spring wildflower display. Skunk cabbage, marsh marigold, bloodroot, trillium, and hepatica are a few of the species that we may encounter on our ramble through mature forest. Limit: 30  
**Leaders:** Lexi Angemi & Charlie Frisk  
**Trail:** 1 mile, narrow, uneven, steep sections

**Saturday, May 3, 1-3PM**  
Green Bay, Brown Co.  
Cost: \$18 per person 


### 9. Woodcock Watch at The Ridges Sanctuary

Experience firsthand what Aldo Leopold described as the "sky dance." After a short indoor presentation to learn about woodcocks, head into the field to watch their ethereal courtship dance in the twilight. Limit: 14  
Ages 10+  
**Leaders:** Katie Krouse, Jane Whitney & Julie Knox  
**Trail:** 1.5 miles, established dirt trail  
**Saturday, May 3, 7-8:30PM**     
Baileys Harbor, Door Co.  
Cost: \$23 adult, \$13 youth, per person

### 10. Horicon Marsh Birding Blitz


A birder's wonderland! Venture through forests, wetlands, and grasslands of Horicon Marsh to spot waterfowl, raptors, warblers, and more. There are species to delight everyone in this nationally recognized birding paradise where 300+ species have been sighted. Fundraiser for Bird Protection Fund. Limit: 15  
**Leaders:** Liz Herzmann & Jeff Bahls  
**Trail:** 3 miles, mostly level, small hills  
**Sunday, May 4, 6:30AM-2PM**  
Horicon, Dodge Co.  
Cost: \$75 per person\* 

### 11. Spring Ephemerals & Edibles in an Urban Gem

Discover a remnant southern hardwood forest in Milwaukee: the Forest Exploration Center! This 60-acre hidden gem harbors more than 50 different plant species, including many spring ephemerals. Hear the history of the land and explore the cultural and ecological significance of local plants. Learn (and taste!) the basics of sustainable foraging. No bathrooms. Limit: 15  
**Leaders:** Emma Czarnecki & Julie Hein  
**Trail:** 2 miles, crushed gravel  
**Sunday, May 4, 9:30-11:30AM**  
Wauwatosa, Milwaukee Co.   
Cost: \$18 per person

\*Percentage of cost is tax-deductible


### 12. Tour the Tri-County Recycling Facility

*Note: many stairs.* Where do recyclables go when they leave your curb? Tour a recycling facility to find out! See firsthand how 16% of Wisconsin's recycled materials are processed: from unloading a recycling truck to material being sorted, baled, and shipped back to market. Limit: 19  
Ages 14+  
**Leader:** Jordan Hiller  
**Trail:** 1.5 miles, many flights of stairs  
Choose one session to attend:  
**12-A. Monday, May 5, 8:30-11AM**  
**12-B. Monday, June 9, 8:30-11AM**  
Appleton, Outagamie Co.  
Cost: \$18 adult, \$8 youth, per person 

### 13. Leopold's Shack & the Leopold-Pines Conservation Area

*Challenging: 6-mile hike with steep sections.* Explore private land along the sandy banks of the Wisconsin River that makes up the 4,500-acre Leopold-Pines Conservation Area. Learn about this beloved landscape's geologic past, relationship to the Leopold legacy, and its diversity of native plants. Hear the history of restoration and land management within the context of climate. Visit the Leopold Shack and Farm, too! Limit: 20  
**Leaders:** Caty Abitz, Ari Zimney, Sophie Van Zee, Lily Simko & Catherine Nelson  
**Trail:** 6 miles, some steep ascents  
**Wednesday, May 7, 10AM-2PM**  
Baraboo, Sauk Co.  
Cost: \$38 per person

### 14. Sunset, Sights & Sounds at Pheasant Branch Conservancy

Hike atop Frederick's Hill for a commanding sunset view of the prairie, marsh, and watershed below. Watch birds and wildlife circling freshwater springs and blooming grasslands. Listen to the serenade of snipes and woodcocks in the dusky twilight. Learn the history, restoration, and management of this cherished urban oasis. No bathrooms. Limit: 16  
**Leaders:** Tom Bernthal, Patricia Trochlell & Rob Schubert  
**Trail:** 3 miles, moderately steep, gravel  
**Wednesday, May 7, 5:30-8:30PM**  
Middleton, Dane Co.  
Cost: \$18 per person 

### 15. Avon Bottoms: Migration Madness

Explore the wetlands, grasslands and forests of Avon Bottoms State Natural Area during peak bird migration! We'll search for warblers, tanagers, thrushes, flycatchers and other migrants and discuss the habitat restoration of this site. Find out why this site is a designated Wisconsin Important Bird Area and Wetland Gem. Complimentary lunch provided. Fundraiser for Bird Protection Fund. Limit: 25  
**Leaders:** Mike Foy, Brad Paulson & Quentin Yoerger  
**Trail:** 1.5 miles, paved, packed dirt  
**Thursday, May 8, 7AM-12PM**  
Brodhead, Rock Co.  
Cost: \$38 per person   





DAVE BRUGGINIK

17

### 16. Biking Tour of Eau Claire Area Grant Projects

**Challenging:** some steep hills. Pedal along the Chippewa and Eau Claire Rivers with stops to visit a variety of parks located along this stellar paved bike trail system. Enjoy scenic beauty and learn about the grants that helped to create and support these cherished green spaces, such as the Knowles-Nelson Stewardship Program. Limit: 12

**Leaders:** Sarah Brenner, Gina Keenan & Grace Mikelsons

**Trail:** 17-mile bike ride, some hills

**Friday, May 9, 1-5PM**

Eau Claire, Eau Claire Co.

Cost: \$18 per person

### 17. Bird Photography Workshop at Horicon Marsh

Looking to improve your bird photography? Join a National Geographic photographer in a hands-on workshop for experienced photographers. Learn pro tips specifically for bird photography: the impact of light and weather, the art of composition, capturing shots of birds in flight, and the ethics of avian subjects. You must bring a DSLR camera with a long telephoto lens (>300mm). Fundraiser for Bird Protection Fund. Limit: 10

**Leader:** Sunil Gopalan

**Trail:** 2 miles, boardwalk and groomed trails

**Saturday, May 10, 6:30-10:30AM**

Waupun, Fond du Lac Co.

Cost: \$103 per person\*



KATHY ADAR

21 & 235

### 18. Birding the Cedarburg Bog: Canoe & Hike

A true wilderness experience only 20 miles from a major metropolis! The Cedarburg Bog is a designated Important Bird Area, SNA, and a top birding hotspot in Ozaukee County. Hike along bog boardwalks and wooded trails awash in spring blooms. Then canoe on Mud Lake in search of uncommon birds, including bitterns, rails, waterthrush, warblers, and flycatchers. Canoes provided. Fundraiser for Bird Protection Fund. Limit: 24

**Leaders:** John O'Donnell, Nathaniel Reinartz, Alex Mann, Steve & Rachal Holzman

**Trail:** 3-mile hike, uneven, forest trail + 1.25-mile easy paddle

**Saturday, May 10, 6:30-10:30AM**

Saukville, Ozaukee Co.

Cost: \$55 per person\*



### 19. Bird Banding & Hike: Birchwood Lake Nature Preserve

Join a longtime naturalist to explore his beautiful land, which is part of a Glacial Lakes Conservancy conservation easement. Enjoy a birding hike at the peak of spring migration and marvel at birds up close at a bird banding station. More than 200 bird species have been documented at this location! No bathrooms.

Limit: 20 Ages 8+

**Leaders:** Bill Volkert & Miriam Duero

**Trail:** 0.75 miles, some steep, narrow trails

**Saturday, May 10, 7-10AM**

Campbellsport, Fond du Lac Co.

Cost: \$43 adult, \$33 youth, per person



### 20. Spring Birding at Mead: Four Oaks

**Challenging:** 4-mile long hike. Revel in the return of spring migrants at one of Wisconsin's largest wildlife areas. This site has it all! Spy migrating passerines and waterfowl along with the possibility of shorebirds and a variety of raptors. No bathrooms. Limit: 20

**Leaders:** Craig Ziolkowski & Rob Pendergast

**Trail:** 4 miles, flat, mowed grass

**Saturday, May 10, 7-11AM**

Junction City, Portage Co.

Cost: \$18 per person



JOSHUA MAYER

24

### 21. Train Ride & Birds: Tiffany Wildlife Area

All aboard! Ride on an antique open-air train into the most remote areas of the Tiffany Wildlife Area. Enjoy stops with short hikes into floodplain forests, wetlands, savannas, and prairies. We may see up to 75 bird species during peak migration. Fundraiser for Lower Chippewa River Basin Conservation Fund. Limit: 60

**Leaders:** Dave Linderud, Steve Betchkal & Anne Geraghty

**Trail:** 0.75 mile, short hikes, some hills

**Saturday, May 10, 7AM-12PM**

Durand, Buffalo Co.

Cost: \$50 per person\*



### 22. Birding Fair Meadows SNA

Enjoy a spring walk through diverse habitats of oak woods, sedge meadows, and prairies. From bald eagles to warblers – birds will be singing, feeding, or resting in the trees, shrubs, grasses, or ponds. Spy both migrant and resident birds and beautiful blooming wildflowers to boot! Limit: 20

**Leaders:** Penny & Gary Shackelford

**Trail:** 1.5 miles, grass, minimal shade

**Saturday, May 10, 8-10AM**

Milton, Rock Co.

Cost: \$18 per person



### 23. Paddling a Restored Wetland on Private Land

Paddle through an amazing transformation! See firsthand how 400 acres were restored from cropland to wetland using the Wetland Reserve Easement Program and expertise from U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service and Ducks Unlimited partners. Spy migrating and resident waterfowl and marshbirds. Some prior paddling experience required. No bathrooms. \*You must bring your own canoe/kayak. Limit: 16

**Leaders:** Tally Hamilton, Brendan Woodall & Brian Hornung

**Paddle:** 3 miles, flat water

**Saturday, May 10, 9AM-12PM**

Portage, Columbia Co.

Cost: \$20 per person



DEB WARREN

26

### 24. Shooting Stars of Chiwaukee Prairie SNA

Tread among blooming shooting stars as we explore the richest prairie in Wisconsin, which supports 400+ native plant species! Learn about prairie ecology, property history, and restoration at this premier site recently declared a Wetland of International Importance. Limit: 25

**Leaders:** Trent Leaf, Kay McClelland & Pam Holy

**Trail:** 1.5 miles, dirt, grass

**Saturday, May 10, 9-11:30AM**

Kenosha, Kenosha Co.

Cost: \$23 per person



### 25. Ice Age Trail Hike: Mekan Springs SNA

Enjoy a springtime hike along the Ice Age Trail as it meanders through the headwaters of the Mekan River. Experience the diverse flora and fauna that thrive near the picturesque bubbling springs, and learn a little history of the area and the unique trail complex. No bathrooms. Fundraiser for Mekan River Watershed Fund. Limit: 20

**Leaders:** Diane Humphrey Lueck & Randy Lennartz

**Trail:** 3.7 miles, steep, rocky, rustic footpath

**Saturday, May 10, 9:30AM-12PM**

Coloma, Waushara Co.

Cost: \$28 per person



### 26. Snapshots of Urban Wildlife

Black bears, badgers, and bobcats, oh my! Discover the world of urban wildlife through the lens of trail camera images captured at the Forest Exploration Center. Learn how the DNR's Snapshot Wisconsin project, a statewide network of volunteer-managed trail cameras, supports wildlife research. No bathrooms. Limit: 20

**Leaders:** Marie Jensen, Danielle Pahlisch & Mackenzie Druskins

**Trail:** 2.5 miles, crushed gravel, ADA accessible

**Saturday, May 10, 10AM-12PM**

Wauwatosa, Milwaukee Co.

Cost: \$18 per person



\*Percentage of cost is tax-deductible





SHELLY TORKELSON

28

### 27. Mindfulness in Nature: Driftless Connection

Create a deep connection with the Driftless! Immerse yourself in a guided Forest Bathing experience to reawaken your senses, deeply connect to the land, and satisfy your sense of BE-longing. Release stress and re-focus from fast-paced “doing” in the bucolic setting of Wild Oaks Preserve. Limit: 20

**Leader:** Colleen Robinson

**Trail:** 2 miles, mowed and dirt trails

**Saturday, May 10, 12-3PM**

Belleville, Dane Co.

Cost: \$28 per person

### 28. A Shiitake Log of One's Own

Dive into the fascinating world of fungi! This shiitake log inoculation workshop will examine the mushroom life cycle, at-home growing methods, incorporating mushroom cultivation into your yard, and care tips for inoculated logs. Get hands on with power tools to drill holes in oak logs, inject mushroom spawn, and seal the logs with wax. Take home an inoculated shiitake mushroom log of your very own. Limit: 25 Ages 10+

**Leader:** Matt Neff

**Trail:** 0.25 mile, flat paved

Choose one session to attend:

**28-A. Sunday, May 11, 9AM-2PM**

**28-B. Sunday, May 18, 9AM-2PM**

Madison, Dane Co.

Cost: \$68 adult, \$58 youth, per person 

### 29. The Wonders of Wyalusing!

*Note: some steep stairs.* Located at the confluence of the Wisconsin and Mississippi rivers, Wyalusing State Park boasts amazing cliff-top views. Spy birds (peak migration!) as we walk along bluffs overlooking expansive floodplain forests. Visit effigy mounds and the Passenger Pigeon Monument. Learn about threats facing the park and how partners work together to resolve them. Fundraiser for NRF. Limit: 20

**Leaders:** Michael Mossman & Yoyi Steele

**Trail:** 2 miles, steep steps, some hills

**Tuesday, May 13, 8-11AM**

Prairie du Chien, Grant Co.

Cost: \$28 per person  



LARRY STOPA

31

### 30. Lower Wisconsin Riverway Wetlands: Paddle & Hike

*Challenging: portages over beaver dams and navigating shallow waters.* Paddle through a river-bottom slough and hike through floodplain forest and oak barrens, all from the same location! Spy birds including prothonotary warbler, red-shouldered hawk, hooded merganser, lark sparrow, and perhaps cerulean warbler. Visit several natural communities that contribute to its designation as Ramsar Wetland of International Importance. No bathrooms. \*You must bring your own canoe/kayak. Limit: 20

**Leaders:** Katie Beilfuss, Mike Mossman & Travis Anderson

**Trail:** 1 mile, off-trail hike + 2-mile paddle with challenging portages

**Thursday, May 15, 8AM-12PM**

Lone Rock, Richland Co.

Cost: \$32 per person  

### 31. Celebrating Wildflowers in Our National Forest

The Chequamegon-Nicolet National Forest is Wisconsin's only national forest and covers more than 1.5 million acres. Caravan to various scenic sites within the National Forest and enjoy an up-close view of dazzling spring wildflowers on display. Spy butterflies and birds, too! Learn about plants, ecology, conservation, history, and current management. Limit: 20

**Leaders:** Nicole Shutt, Steve Janke & Nick Gremban

**Trail:** 1 mile, gravel, off-trail optional

**Thursday, May 15, 9AM-12PM**

Lakewood, Oconto Co.

Cost: \$18 per person



USFWS-KIMBERLY EMERSON

32 & 43

### 32. Birding Hotspots of Bong


Hike various habitats of Richard Bong State Recreation Area, an Important Bird Area where 267 species have been documented. Explore the fields, woodlands, and grasslands in search of diverse birdlife such as yellow-headed blackbirds, bobolinks, Henslow's sparrows, meadowlarks, migrating warblers, and more. Birders of all levels welcome! Fundraiser for Bird Protection Fund. Limit: 20

**Leader:** Beth Goeppinger

**Trail:** 2 miles on gravel, dirt and grass

**Friday, May 16, 7-10AM**

Burlington, Kenosha Co.

Cost: \$38 per person 

### 33. Birds & Blooms of Bass Hollow SNA

*Extreme: very steep terrain.* Venture off-trail to explore spring wildflowers and migrant birds passing through this forested 100-foot deep natural gorge. Enjoy an inviting view, brimming with many microhabitats. Limit: 20

**Leaders:** Tim Holme & Shannon Haley

**Trail:** 2 miles, steep hill

**Friday, May 16, 8AM-12PM**

Mauston, Juneau Co.

Cost: \$18 per person  

### 34. Former Badger Army Ammunition Plant: Healing of People & Place

Visit Maa Wácaçąk (Sacred Earth) to learn about the projects underway to heal the land and people. Hear the history of the land from a Ho-Chunk perspective, through a century of Euro-American settlement, to the development of a massive ammunition plant. Now transformed into an expansive green space, the 7,400-acre Badger Lands are managed by three different landowners with a shared vision. Enjoy a bus tour with stops to learn about geology, natural history, restoration, and future plans. Fundraiser for NRF. Limit: 34

**Leaders:** Randy Poelma, Mike Mossman, Curt Meine & Grace Vosen

**Trail:** Stairs into bus, optional short hikes

**Friday, May 16, 8:30AM-12:30PM**

Prairie du Sac, Sauk Co.

Cost: \$50 per person 



MICHELE MILFORD

35

### 35. Dells Off-Trail Trek

*Extreme: very challenging steep, off-trail.* Take a strenuous fast-paced power-hike through areas of the Dells of the Wisconsin River SNA not normally accessible to the public. Spectacular gorges, mossy glens, unique geological formations, and scenic river views await as we traverse steep off-trail terrain. Pack a lunch to enjoy atop a sandstone bluff with amazing vistas. Fundraiser for NRF. Limit: 20

**Leader:** Thomas Meyer

**Trail:** 3 miles, off-trail, rocky, steep

Choose one session to attend:

**35-A. Friday, May 16, 9AM-1:30PM**

**35-B. Friday, October 17, 9AM-1:30PM**

Wisconsin Dells, Adams Co.

Cost: \$45 per person  

### 36. Scuppernong Springs: Legacy of the Land & People

Nestled within Kettle Moraine State Forest, Scuppernong Springs has an interesting land legacy rooted in its formation by glacial forces, and by the plants, wildlife, and people that followed. Learn about freshwater springs, sand prairie, and savannas touched by Indigenous and industrious peoples. No bathrooms. Limit: 20

Limit: 20

**Leaders:** Peter Duerkop & Cory Peters

**Trail:** 1.8 miles, unpaved, small hills, no seating

**Friday, May 16, 9AM-12PM**

Ottawa, Waukesha Co.

Cost: \$18 per person 







UW-MILWAUKEE

38

### 37. Bjorklunden: Wildflowers & Ancient Shorelines

Hike the trails at Bjorklunden, Lawrence University's 425-acre private nature preserve on the shores of Door County. Learn the geology of ancient shorelines, enjoy spring wildflowers and migrating birds, and visit a wind turbine and solar field. Also tour the Boynton Chapel, a stave church built on the property. Limit: 18

**Leader:** Jane Whitney

**Trail:** 2 miles, rustic, uneven, rocky, sand, hills

**Friday, May 16, 1-3:30PM**

Baileys Harbor, Door Co.

Cost: \$18 per person

### 38. Tour UW-Milwaukee School of Freshwater Sciences

Did you know UW-Milwaukee has the first graduate school in the nation dedicated solely to the study of freshwater? Take a walking tour to see groundbreaking research projects conducted in these state-of-the-art facilities in Milwaukee's Harbor District. Enjoy a behind-the-scenes look at the largest academic research institute on the Great Lakes! Limit: 50

**Leaders:** Liz Sutton & Aaron Thiel

**Trail:** 2 miles, minimal seating

**Friday, May 16, 1-3PM**

Milwaukee, Milwaukee Co.

Cost: \$18 per person



### 39. Door County Birding: Woodland Warblers & More

Beautiful birds in a scenic setting! Enjoy a caravan tour in search of migrating warblers and other songbirds along the Door shore. We'll seek out a variety of habitats and lovely locations from the bay of Green Bay to the shores of Lake Michigan for a high bird tally. Fundraiser for Bird Protection Fund. Limit: 15

**Leader:** Paul Regnier

**Trail:** 1.5 miles, both easy and rough trails

**Saturday, May 17, 6:30-11AM**

Fish Creek, Door Co.

Cost: \$40 per person



TODD NELSON

39

### 40. Birds of Donald Park

Enjoy spring migration in one of Dane County's most beloved parks! Discover birding hotspots and learn a bit about restoration of different habitats along the way, including prairie, oak woods, springs, and streams. Beginning birders welcome! Limit: 15

**Leaders:** Brad Kolhoff, Mike Healy & Bryant Luhman

**Trail:** 3 miles, some hills

**Saturday, May 17, 7-10AM**

Mount Vernon, Dane Co.

Cost: \$23 per person



### 41. Rare Birds of the Namekagon Barrens

Anything but barren, this landscape harbors the highest population and best lekking views of sharp-tailed grouse in Wisconsin. Spy upland sandpipers and other rare birds as we caravan through unique pine-oak barrens habitats, which formerly covered millions of acres in northwestern Wisconsin and boasts an amazing diversity of native grasses, flowers, butterflies and wildlife. Limit: 16

**Leaders:** Jerome McAllister & Gary Dunsmoor

**Trail:** 1 mile, flat, grassy, some brush

**Saturday, May 17, 8-11AM**

Danbury, Burnett Co.

Cost: \$18 per person



### 42. Whooping Crane Reintroduction

Become part of the flock! In 2001, whooping cranes were reintroduced to Wisconsin in an effort to establish a migratory flock that breeds here and winters in Florida. That flock has grown to nearly 100 cranes! Spend the day with biologists touring the Necedah Wildlife Refuge to observe whooping cranes and learn about unique methods used to study and protect this still-fragile comeback. Fundraiser for Bird Protection Fund. Limit: 20

**Leaders:** Anne Lacy & Davin Lopez

**Trail:** 2 miles, paved, gravel, boardwalk, stairs

**Saturday, May 17, 8AM-3PM**

Necedah, Juneau Co.

Cost: \$110 per person\*



MELISSA ANDERSON

41

### 43. Yellow-headed Blackbirds & Bobolinks along the Bark River

See yellow-headed blackbirds with the possibility of bobolinks, meadowlarks, trumpeter swans, and more at this eBird hotspot along the Bark River. Discover prairie restoration efforts on a hike through wet habitat (rubber boots required). No bathrooms. Limit: 25

**Leaders:** David Adam, Michael Adam & Aaron Stutz

**Trail:** 3.5 miles, wet, boggy, grass trails

**Saturday, May 17, 8-11AM**

Cold Spring, Jefferson Co.

Cost: \$18 per person



### 44. Guardians of the Green: Forest Home Cemetery & Arboretum

Discover Wisconsin's largest and oldest operating cemetery founded just two years after statehood. Explore the natural aspects of this urban greenspace, larger than any Milwaukee city park. Visit the graves of the city's early environmentalists: Increase Lapham, Christian Wahl, Alfred Boerner, Haskell Noyes, and Dorothy Vallier. Learn about green burial options. Limit: 30

**Leaders:** Sara Tomilin & Sally Merrell

**Trail:** 1.5 miles, paved, grass, some rolling hills

**Saturday, May 17, 10AM-12PM**

Milwaukee, Milwaukee Co.

Cost: \$30 per person

### 45. Wildflowers Galore at Logan Creek Preserve

The spring wildflowers at The Ridges Sanctuary's Logan Creek Preserve are not to be missed! Hike part of the 170-acre State Natural Area that borders Clark Lake in search of Canada mayflower, yellow trout lily, sharp-lobed hepatica, and other spring ephemerals. Discover the hidden beauties of this spectacular site! No bathrooms. Limit: 16

**Leaders:** Jane Whitney & Julie Knox

**Trail:** 2 miles, narrow, uneven, rocky, some inclines

**Saturday, May 17, 1-3:30PM**

Jacksonport, Door Co.

Cost: \$23 per person



TRIST TRAM

42

### 46. Sips & Sunsets: Lodi Marsh

*Challenging: uneven terrain, hiking in the dark.* Take a springtime evening stroll on the Ice Age Trail as it meanders through Lodi Marsh Wildlife Area. Bring your favorite beverage to enjoy at sunset while chatting with local wildlife biologists. Listen for frog and toad calls, use ultrasonic detectors to ID bats, and scan for other fascinating nighttime acoustics. No bathrooms. Limit: 20

**Leaders:** Julie Widholm & Sara Kehrlri

**Trail:** 1 mile, steep, uneven hiking in the dark

**Saturday, May 17, 7-9PM**

Lodi, Columbia Co.

Cost: \$28 per person



### 47. Around Mauthe Lake on the Tamarack Circle Trail

Originally named "Moon Lake," Mauthe Lake is the heart of the Kettle Moraine State Forest - Northern Unit. Enjoy spring blooms and migratory birds as we hike the various habitats encircling this beautiful lake. Get to know two eBird hotspots and a unique variety of wildflowers and uncommon plants. Limit: 12 Ages 10+

**Leader:** Douglas Stadler

**Trail:** 2 miles, crushed limestone, paved, dirt

**Sunday, May 18, 8:15-11AM**

New Prospect, Fond du Lac Co.

Cost: \$18 adult, \$8 youth, per person



### 48. Mississippi River Conservation Paddle

Paddle through meandering backwaters of the Mississippi River with eagle nests dotting the forest canopy overhead. Witness soaring and diving eagles, investigate plants and bivalves (native mussels), and learn about conservation efforts that are keeping this iconic riverway healthy. A 1PM admission to the National Eagle Center also included. Kayaks and gear provided. Limit: 16

**Leaders:** Michael Anderson & Drew Savage

**Paddle:** 3 miles, flat water

Choose one session to attend:

**48-A. Sunday, May 18, 9:30AM-12PM**

**48-B. Sunday, October 5, 9:30AM-12PM**

Wabasha, MN

Cost: \$116 per person



\*Percentage of cost is tax-deductible



49 & 50



52



56

### 49. Birding Bonanza-Year 10!

Join three expert guides on a 12-hour caravan tour to the great birding haunts of Dodge County. Our focus will be Horicon Marsh, a Ramsar Wetland of International Importance with a wealth of diverse habitat and species. We'll aim for a high bird tally (100+) and pay attention to up-to-the moment hot spot reports. Stops at other nearby sites will help to maximize our species total. A guaranteed fun and bird-filled day! Breakfast and lunch included. Key fundraiser for the Bird Protection Fund. Limit: 20

**Leaders:** Carl Schwartz, Karen Etter Hale & Jeff Bahls

**Trail:** 1.5 miles, flat, unpaved

**Monday, May 19, 6AM-6PM**

Horicon, Dodge Co.

Cost: \$268 per person\*



### 50. Birding Bonanza: Door County

A bonus Bonanza! Aim for good looks and a high bird-tally on a 12-hour caravan tour of stellar birding haunts across Door County. Join three expert birders to explore grasslands in search of grasshopper sparrow, bobolink and upland sandpiper. Spy migrant songbirds in Peninsula State Park and Baileys Point. Visit legendary Toft Point SNA for migrants, ducks and shorebirds. Other possible stops include Heins Creek, Cave Point and Sturgeon Bay Ship Canal. Includes breakfast at Sister Bay Yacht Club and picnic lunch. Key fundraiser for Bird Protection Fund. Limit: 16

**Leaders:** Carl Schwartz, Karen Etter Hale & Mark Korducki

**Trail:** 2.5 miles, mostly flat, short hikes

**Wednesday, May 21, 6AM-6PM**

Sister Bay, Door Co.

Cost: \$268 per person\*



### 51. Life on the Ledge: Wonders of Oakfield Ledge SNA

*Challenging: one steep ascent.* Enjoy a springtime splendor of blooms as we explore above and below dolomite cliffs of the Niagara Escarpment. Wildflowers such as Jacob's ladder, yellow pimpernel, woodland phlox, and shooting star dot the landscape with bursts of color. No bathrooms. Limit: 20

**Leader:** Jake Koebornik

**Trail:** 2 miles, very steep, rocky, unsure footing

**Wednesday, May 21, 9AM-12PM**

Oakfield, Fond du Lac Co.

Cost: \$23 per person



### 52. Mimicking Beaver Dams to Restore Streams & Wetlands

Beaver dams are an essential component of wetland habitat creation. But what happens when beavers aren't around? Explore a demonstration site where 11 beaver dam analogs were installed to mimic the natural filtration and flood control that beavers provide. See how the bubbling springs at Briggs Wetland fuel the wetlands, sedge meadow, and trout stream that are brimming with life. No bathrooms. Limit: 30

**Leaders:** Mike Engel, Fred Faessler & James Brodzeller

**Trail:** 0.5 mile, mowed grass, uneven ground

**Wednesday, May 21, 9:30AM-12PM**

Beloit, Rock Co.

Cost: \$18 per person



### 53. Butterfly Royalty: Monitoring Monarchs at UW Arboretum

Does your heart fill with wonder when a monarch flutters by? Are you concerned about their decline? If so, become part of the Monarch Larva Monitoring Project! Attend this training session to learn monarch biology, monitoring procedures, and how to share your data. Your help is vital for scientists to gain a better understanding of monarch population health! (Same as #71 but different location)

Limit: 20 Ages 10+

**Leaders:** Karen Oberhauser, Annie Isenbarger & Amy Alstad

**Trail:** 1 mile, flat, groomed trails

**Wednesday, May 21, 1-3:30PM**

Madison, Dane Co.

Cost: \$18 adult, \$8 youth, per person



### 54. Bluff Creek SNA: Rare Fens & Wetlands

Take a trek through calcareous fen and wet-mesic prairie, which are among the rarest and most diverse wetland communities in Wisconsin. Marvel at puccoons, shooting stars, violets and lady slippers in bloom, bubbling springs, and a cold water trout stream. No bathrooms. Limit: 18

**Leaders:** Peter Duerkop & Allie Mazurkiewicz

**Trail:** 2 miles, off-trail, wet, very uneven footing

**Wednesday, May 21, 3-5PM**

Whitewater, Walworth Co.

Cost: \$18 per person



### 55. Lake Sturgeon: Lifting Nets on Lake Superior

Board boats in Lake Superior with DNR biologists to lift nets for lake sturgeon! Handle and hold these fish that can live 50+ years and grow to 9 feet long. This is a once-in-a-lifetime opportunity for a close encounter with this ancient species that swam while dinosaurs roamed the earth. Fundraiser for sturgeon conservation. Limit: 10

**Leaders:** Bradley Ray, Scott Sapper, Chris Zunker, Ross Lind & Dray Carl

**Trail:** N/A - in boats

Choose one session to attend:

**55-A. Thursday, May 22, 8:30AM-12:30PM**

**55-B. Friday, May 23, 8:30AM-12:30PM**

Ashland, Ashland Co.

Cost: \$100 per person\*

### 56. Kirtland's Warblers & Pine Barrens

*Challenging: off-trail, rugged, difficult terrain.* A chance to spy one of Wisconsin's rarest birds! Explore the carefully protected pine barrens to learn about Kirtland's warbler life history. Learn about cowbird control efforts, how these forests are managed especially for this bird, and with a bit of luck, see/hear the elusive and rare Kirtland's warbler! Enjoy wildflowers and other barrens birds such as clay-colored sparrow. Fundraiser for Kirtland's warbler conservation. Limit: 20

**Leaders:** Davin Lopez, Ashley Olah & Trina Soyk

**Trail:** 0.5 mile, off-trail, rugged, uneven

**Friday, May 23, 7:30-10AM**

Rome, Adams Co.

Cost: \$45 per person



\*Percentage of cost is tax-deductible





EPIC PRESTON

57



SUVAI GUNASEKARAN

63



JEFF GALLIGAN

65 & 87



TONI WHEELER

66

### 57. Tracking, Observing & Enjoying Birds at Afterglow Farm

Wonder what routes birds take on their migrations? Learn more by visiting a radio telemetry tower that tracks bird migration along the Lake Michigan shore. We'll continue our walk to see two thriving purple martin colonies, and birdwatch at the private 120-acre Afterglow Farm with its beaches, wetlands, vernal ponds, hardwood forest, ravine, and upland meadow. Breakfast included. Fundraiser for Bird Protection Fund. Limit: 20  
**Leaders:** Carl Schwartz, Jacob Woulf & Jill Kunsmann

**Trail:** 1.5 miles, established trails, some hills

**Friday, May 23, 7:30-11:30AM**

Port Washington, Ozaukee Co.

Cost: \$118 per person\* 

### 58. Bogging at Beulah

Explore an undisturbed bog lake within the heart of the Kettle Moraine State Forest! Learn about the formation and successional history of bogs and what makes Beulah Bog SNA a unique gem in southern Wisconsin. Look for rare plants such as cotton grass, sphagnum, pitcher plant, sundew, and bladderwort. No bathrooms. Limit: 18

**Leaders:** Alexandra Mazurkiewicz & Caleb Lang

**Trail:** 2 miles, some off-trail, one steep slope

**Friday, May 23, 10AM-12PM**

East Troy, Walworth Co.

Cost: \$28 per person  

### 59. Mounds View Grassland: Shea Prairie

*Challenging: off-trail, rugged terrain, stream crossing on narrow plank.* Explore an excellent example of large-scale prairie restoration at the 830-acre Mounds View Grassland preserve. Hike through a rolling, treeless landscape with a bubbling trout stream and encounter excellent habitat for rare grassland birds. Spy a variety of wildflowers, bees, and butterflies within the remnant prairies and restored wetlands. No bathrooms. Limit: 20

**Leader:** Rich Henderson

**Trail:** 2 miles, grass, some off-trail, steep

**Friday, May 23, 10AM-1PM**

Barneveld, Iowa Co.

Cost: \$18 per person

### 60. Mississippi River Boat Cruise

Cruise the Mississippi River via pontoon to spot wildlife such as eagles, deer, turtles, snakes, and beaver. Hear insights and stories about this famed waterway, and learn about navigational channels, the lock and dam system, and see barges moving goods. Enjoy spring migration on this iconic waterway! Limit: 48 Ages 8+

**Leader:** Aaron Repinski

**Trail:** N/A - boat

**Friday, May 23, 1-3PM**  

Winona, MN, Co.

Cost: \$43 adult, \$33 youth, per person

### 61. Bog Float: Dory's Bog & Hunt Hill SNA

Enjoy an exclusive tour of Dory's Bog, which is typically closed to the public. Kick your shoes off and walk along floating wooden mats all the way to the eye of the bog. Learn about a variety of plants uniquely adapted to live in the harsh bog environment including mosses, carnivorous plants, trees, orchids, and more! Limit: 12

**Leader:** Sage Dunham

**Trail:** 0.5 mile, floating wood mats, wet feet

Choose one session to attend:

**61-A. Saturday, May 24, 10AM-12PM**

**61-B. Friday, June 6, 10AM-12PM**

Sarona, Washburn Co.

Cost: \$22 per person 

### 62. Searching for Dwarf Lake Iris on Washington Island

Hike through Jackson Harbor Ridges SNA to search for the rare and beautiful dwarf lake iris in bloom. Enjoy other rare plants and abundant birds of this scenic harbor on the shores of Door County's Washington Island. Then jaunt over to Carlin's Point for a view of Rock Island State Park and its historic boat house. Limit: 20 Ages 8+

**Leader:** Steve Waldron

**Trail:** 1 mile, dirt trails, sandy beach

**Saturday, May 24, 10AM-12PM**

Washington Island, Door Co.

Cost: \$28 adult, \$18 youth, per person  

### 63. The Inside Scoop on Devil's Lake State Park

Ever wondered what it takes to keep Wisconsin's largest, most beloved, and busiest State Park running strong? Now's your chance to find out firsthand! Hike along the north shore of Devil's Lake with the park superintendent to learn some lesser known facts about the park and hear answers to a wide range of questions that get asked by park visitors. Limit: 25

**Leader:** Jim Carter

**Trail:** 1 mile, paved, level, ADA accessible

**Friday, May 30, 10AM-12PM**

Baraboo, Sauk Co.

Cost: \$18 per person   

### 64. Horicon Marsh Night Sounds Hike

Venture out into a Horicon Marsh sunset to welcome the twilight. Listen for secretive marsh birds such as sora, Virginia rail, and bitterns as the sounds of day switch to the creatures of the night. Limit: 20 Ages 10+

**Leader:** Liz Herzmann

**Trail:** 2 miles, boardwalk, packed dirt

**Friday, May 30, 7:30-9:30PM**

Horicon, Dodge Co.

Cost: \$18 adult, \$8 youth, per person  

### 65. Golden-Winged Warblers & Northwoods Migration

Grab your binos and lace up your hiking boots, it's spring migration in the Northwoods! Explore the Woodboro Lakes Wildlife Area, a picturesque mosaic of Northwoods habitats that includes several small lakes. Learn how recent research on golden-winged warblers, a Species of Special Concern in Wisconsin, relates habitat management to breeding success of this striking bird. No bathrooms. Limit: 20

**Leaders:** Zachary Ausavich,

Vanessa Haese-Lehman & Nancy Richmond

**Trail:** 3 miles, flat, crushed rock surface

**Saturday, May 31, 7-10:30AM**

Rhineland, Oneida Co.

Cost: \$18 per person 

### 66. Geologic History of the Baraboo Hills

*Challenging: rugged steep hikes.* The Baraboo Hills are among the oldest rock outcroppings in North America and a geologic marvel of the Midwest. Hike with an expert to learn how geologic forces, from mountain-building to glaciers, have shaped this unique landscape. Caravan with stops to hike and explore Van Hise Rock, Abelman's Gorge, Parfrey's Glen, and Devil's Lake. Fundraiser for NRF. Limit: 25  
**Leader:** Phil Fauble  
**Trail:** 5 miles, rugged, steep slopes, stream crossing

Choose one session to attend:

**66-A. Saturday, May 31, 9AM-4PM**

**66-B. Saturday, September 27, 9AM-4PM**

Baraboo, Sauk Co.

Cost: \$40 per person   

\*Percentage of cost is tax-deductible





67 & 72



68 & 69



73



74

SHELLY TORKELSON

BRUCE BARTEL

LAUREN LESSIA

CRFS PROJECT

### 67. Introduction to Foraging

Learn the basics of foraging for wild food in southern Wisconsin. Learn tips, tricks, techniques, and recommended readings for beginning and experienced foragers alike. Then explore Festge County Park with a focus on identifying edible plants and learning their specific uses. Sessions correspond with the seasons: spring, summer, and autumn. Limit: 25 Ages 8+

**Leader:** Chris Gavin

**Trail:** 1 mile, easy, flat, wide trail

Choose one session to attend:

**67-A. Saturday, May 31, 9AM-12PM**

**67-B. Saturday, July 26, 9AM-12PM**

**67-C. Saturday, October 4, 9AM-12PM**

Cross Plains, Dane Co.

Cost: \$28 adult, \$18 youth, per person



### 68. Trout Streams & Karner Blues: Restoring Landscapes for Wildlife

An enchanting day awaits! Tread amongst blooming wildflowers to spy endangered Karner blue butterflies and other pollinators that now thrive in a 40-acre prairie and oak savanna restoration. Side by side with biologists, see fish in a restored trout stream up close, then release them back into the water unharmed. Learn how the power of partnerships has restored this landscape, helped endangered species and grassland birds, and improved water quality. Fundraiser for Mecan River Watershed Fund. Limit: 40 Ages 10+

**Leaders:** Emily Snelson, Brendan Woodall & Tom Gross

**Trail:** 1.5 miles, flat, mowed grass, off-trail optional

**Saturday, May 31, 9AM-12PM**

Dakota, Marquette Co.

Cost: \$38 adult, \$28 youth, per person



### 69. The Little Things: Invertebrates at the MacKenzie Center

Traverse through restored prairie bursting with dense stands of wild lupine and other prairie plants. Learn about springtime pollinators including the endangered Karner blue butterfly and rusty-patched bumble bee. Then take a deep dive into pond ecology, getting up close with wonderful water critters. Enjoy family fun and exploring together! Limit: 35 Ages 7+

**Leaders:** Rachel Padour & Joseph Montaine

**Trail:** 1.5 miles, mowed grass, some inclines

**Saturday, May 31, 9AM-12PM**

Poynette, Columbia Co.

Cost: \$23 adult, \$13 youth, per person



### 70. Bog Walk & Blooms in Forest County

See a bog in peak bloom! Likely bog plants include Labrador tea, bog rosemary, leatherleaf, and lady's-slipper orchids. Then explore a 6-acre high-quality, private natural area abundant with native woodland wildflowers, ferns, and shrubs. Learn how to do a floristic quality assessment of your own property. Limit: 15

**Leaders:** Sherry Pethers & Clair Carty

**Trail:** 1.5 miles, bog mats and woodland trail

**Saturday, May 31, 11AM-2PM**

Crandon, Forest Co.

Cost: \$18 per person

### 71. Butterfly Royalty: Monitoring Monarchs at Holy Wisdom

Does your heart fill with wonder when a monarch flutters by? Are you concerned about their decline? If so, become part of the Monarch Larva Monitoring Project! Attend this training session to learn monarch biology, monitoring, and data-sharing. Your help is vital for scientists to gain a better understanding of monarch population health! (Same as #53 but different location) Limit: 20 Ages 10+

**Leaders:** Karen Oberhauser, Annie Isenbarger & Amy Alstad

**Trail:** 1 mile, flat, groomed trails

**Saturday, May 31, 1-3:30PM**

Middleton, Dane Co.

Cost: \$18 adult, \$8 youth, per person



### 72. Forest Bathing & Foraging: Jackson Woods

Forest Bathing guides you to find stillness, open your senses, and profoundly connect with nature. Learning about wild edible and medicinal plants can further hone your relationship with the landscape and natural world. Join a Certified Nature and Forest Therapy Guide and expert forager at Jackson Woods School Forest. No bathrooms. Limit: 25

**Leaders:** Kate Bast & Vince Aiello

**Trail:** 2 miles, rolling, rugged trail, one steep incline

**Sunday, June 1, 9AM-12PM**

Verona, Dane Co.

Cost: \$48 per person

### 73. Climate Friendly Farming: Full Circle Community Farm

Enjoy a wagon ride tour showcasing conservation and climate friendly farming practices on 240 acres that have been in the same family over 100 years. Visit lush green pastures with grazing cows and pigs, and an organic vegetable operation that feeds hundreds each week. See tree plantings, ponds, pollinator habitat, and bird havens. This Leopold Conservation Award winner is also the 2024 Organic Farm of the Year! Limit: 25

**Leaders:** Valerie Dantoin, Rick Adamski & Scott Rosenberg

**Trail:** 0.5 mile, 3 steps to hay wagon, no handrail

**Sunday, June 1, 1-4PM**

Seymour, Shawano Co.

Cost: \$23 per person

### 74. Lindsay Heights Eco Neighborhood Tour

Walk through the Lindsay Heights Neighborhood to experience the best of urban sustainability! Start at the Walnut Way Center, a formerly condemned home now transformed into an epicenter for environmental stewardship. See how prior vacant lots have bloomed into productive gardens, peach orchards, and stormwater management projects. Then venture to a redevelopment project for a lesson in sustainable infrastructure: green roofs, solar panels, and porous pavers. Limit: 50

**Leaders:** Bryan Rogers & Trusus Wright

**Trail:** 1 mile, paved

**Monday, June 2, 9AM-3PM**

Milwaukee, Milwaukee Co.

Cost: \$28 per person



### 75. Paddle the Upper Sugar River

*Extreme: challenging navigation for experienced canoeists only.* Meet at the historic Davidson House to hear the story of the old stone house and surrounding sacred land. Then canoe the beloved Upper Sugar River as it winds its way from Verona to Paoli. Bask in scenic beauty as you glide by eagles, hawks, and cranes. Fundraiser for Upper Sugar River Watershed Fund. Canoes and gear provided. Limit: 10

**Leaders:** Bill & Lisa Keen

**Paddle:** 4.4 miles, tight curves, strong current

**Wednesday, June 4, 1-4PM**

Verona, Dane Co.

Cost: \$58 per person\*

\*Percentage of cost is tax-deductible





DAN GOLTZ

80



NEL WARD

82



ALAN BELONGIA

62 & 83



WILL PARSON

68 & 85

### 76. Traipsing through the Tussocks: Pheasant Branch

*Challenging: wet, soft uneven ground.* What is a sedge meadow, how are they being restored, and why should we care? We'll answer these questions and more as we navigate the sedge tussocks at Pheasant Branch. Experience this fire-dependent natural community firsthand and learn about its unique ecology. Grab your rubber boots and join us! No bathrooms.

Limit: 15

**Leaders:** Pat Trochlell, Tom Bernthal & Rob Schubert

**Trail:** 2 miles, wet, uneven ground

**Wednesday, June 4, 5:30-7:30PM**

Middleton, Dane Co.

Cost: \$18 per person

### 77. Colorful Birds of Green Bay West Shores Wildlife Area

With coastal marshes and hardwood forests, this Important Bird Area is the breeding ground for many colorful and charismatic birds. New and experienced birders alike will enjoy a morning on the marsh spotting a variety of breeding birds including osprey, red-shouldered hawk, American bittern, black-billed cuckoo, sedge wren, and golden-winged warbler. No bathrooms. Limit: 12

**Leaders:** Joel Trick, Dave Halfmann & Zachary Ausavich

**Trail:** 3 miles, crushed rock surface

**Thursday, June 5, 7-10AM**

Suamico, Brown Co.

Cost: \$18 per person



### 78. Dawn on the Driftless: Birds & Plants of Bloomfield Prairie

Enjoy the serenity of sunrise over this 400-acre planted prairie and little-known birder's paradise. Listen to the dawn chorus of bobolinks, eastern meadowlarks, upland sandpipers, grasshopper sparrows, and Henslow's sparrows. Learn to ID these birds by sight and sound, and identify prairie plants, too! Hear about the partners involved in the grassland Bird Conservation Area. Limit: 20

**Leaders:** Rocco Delmedico, Britta Petersen & Ashly Steinke

**Trail:** 1 mile, knee-high grass, no shade or seating

**Friday, June 6, 5:30-8:30AM**

Dodgeville, Iowa Co.

Cost: \$28 per person



### 79. Mud Lake & Waterloo Quartzite SNA

In the heart of Mud Lake Wildlife Area is Pella, a 24-acre island that harbors Waterloo Quartzite Outcrops SNA. Hike through oak and hickory forests to discover abundant quartzite outcrops deposited in the Precambrian times. Learn about geology and local history, and spy birds, plants, and animals. No bathrooms. Limit: 15

**Leaders:** Jeff Bahls & Chelsy Herring

**Trail:** 1 mile, paved and dirt trails

**Friday, June 6, 8-10AM**

Reeseville, Dodge Co.

Cost: \$18 per person



### 80. Eagle Banding & Pontoon Tour: Turtle Flambeau Flowage

*Challenging: off-trail, steep climb onto/off boat.* Visit an eagle nest and watch up close as eagle nestlings are banded! Then take a scenic pontoon ride through the flowage to learn about the history, fishery, and land management of the 36,000-acre Turtle Flambeau Scenic Waters Area. Enjoy an exciting full day of wildlife, fisheries, and scenic vistas. Fundraiser for NRF. Limit: 24

**Leaders:** Jenna Malinowski, Zach Lawson, Jason Folstad, Sean Strom & Brian Dhuey

**Trail:** 0.5 mile, off-trail, rough, steep scramble off boat

**Friday, June 6, 8:30AM-4PM**

Springstead, Iron Co.

Cost: \$100 per person\*



### 81. Ancient Tree of Bromley Woods

Marvel at an ancient oak and hear stories passed down from the family who has cared for this land for six generations. Explore this picturesque 81-acre preserve and hike through oak forests and savannas to a 90' deep kettle pond created by glaciers long ago. No bathrooms. Limit: 40

**Leaders:** Tai Thompson & Kiera Theys

**Trail:** 2 miles, gravel, mowed, some inclines

**Friday, June 6, 9-11AM**

Whitewater, Walworth Co.

Cost: \$18 per person



### 82. Fish Passage along the Milwaukee River

Lake sturgeon, walleye, and northern pike, oh my! Fifteen years of hard work have reconnected more than 150 miles of rivers and streams in the Milwaukee River Watershed, allowing native fish access to high-quality spawning habitat. Caravan to several sites to discover dam removals, habitat restoration projects, and a fish passage with an underwater camera. Optional lunch stop at brewery after trip. Limit: 20

**Leaders:** Matt Aho & Andrew Struck

**Trail:** mostly car caravan with short walks

**Friday, June 6, 9AM-12:30PM**

Thiensville, Ozaukee Co.

Cost: \$18 per person

### 83. Research for Restoration: Orchids & Dwarf Lake Iris

Delve into the wonderful world of orchids! Enjoy an indoor presentation, then meander the trails of The Ridges Sanctuary in search of ram's head, showy, and yellow lady's slipper orchids. Learn about orchid reproduction, restoration, and germination techniques, and hear details of the current dwarf lake iris research project. Limit: 20

**Leaders:** Tony Kiszonas & Anna Foster

**Trail:** 1 mile, flat, boardwalk and smooth trail

**Friday, June 6, 9-11AM**

Baileys Harbor, Door Co.

Cost: \$23 per person



### 84. Paddle the Big Muddy: Meander the Mississippi River Backwaters

*Note: high water and winds can make this challenging.* Enjoy a paddling journey through the scenic backwaters of the Mississippi River. Stops along the way to talk about birds, mammals and the unique river and bluff habitat that exists along Wisconsin's West Coast in the Driftless Region. No bathrooms. \*You must bring your own canoe/kayak. Limit: 30

**Leaders:** Brenda & Scott Kelly

**Paddle:** 5 miles, flat water

**Friday, June 6, 9:30AM-3PM**

De Soto, Crawford Co.

Cost: \$18 per person

### 85. Rushing Waters Trout Farm Tour & Taste

Go behind the scenes of the nation's leading producer of all-natural, chemical-free rainbow trout. From hatch to harvest, see the process of raising a rainbow trout, learn how aquaculture helps feed the world, and enjoy a smoked fish tasting. Limit: 15 Ages 7+

**Leaders:** Peter Fritsch & Pete Murphy

**Trail:** 0.5 mile, gravel road

Choose one session to attend:

**85-A. Friday, June 6, 10-11:30AM**

**85-B. Saturday, June 7, 10-11:30AM**

Palmyra, Jefferson Co.

Cost: \$33 adult, \$23 youth, per person



\*Percentage of cost is tax-deductible





89

### 86. Biking for Birds in White River Wildlife Area

Like biking and birding? Combine the two for double the fun! Pedal through the White River Marsh on a Rustic Road that crosses lowland forest, shrub-carr, sedge meadow, and cattail marsh. Enjoy many stops to look for bitterns, rails, cuckoos, flycatchers, wrens, and sandhill and whooping cranes. No bathrooms. Fundraiser for Bird Protection Fund. Limit: 12

**Leaders:** Thomas & Wendy Schultz

**Trail:** 13 miles biking, leisurely pace

**Saturday, June 7, 5-11AM**

Berlin, Green Lake Co.

Cost: \$38 per person



### 87. Golden-winged Warbler Conservation

Wisconsin and Minnesota combined hold 75% of the entire breeding population of all golden-winged warblers on the planet. Hike through Treehaven to spy golden-winged warblers, ruffed grouse, and other northern forest birds. Learn about efforts to reestablish habitat that benefits the declining populations of birds dependent on early-successional forest.

Limit: 25

**Leaders:** Randee Smith & Eric Margenau

**Trail:** 2 miles, uneven, some slopes

**Saturday, June 7, 7:30-10:30AM**

Tomahawk, Lincoln Co.

Cost: \$26 per person



### 88. Wildflowers & Butterflies: Namekagon Barrens

Marvel at an incredible diversity of flowers, butterflies, bees, and birds while hiking the rolling hills of pine-oak barrens, a globally-rare ecosystem. See Wisconsin's northernmost stand of wild lupine, and perhaps spy an endangered Karner blue butterfly! Limit: 16

**Leader:** Kathy Bartilson

**Trail:** 1 mile, packed sandy dirt

**Saturday, June 7, 8:30-11:30AM**

Danbury, Burnett Co.

Cost: \$18 per person



94

### 89. Beauty & The Beasts: Karner Blues & Bison

Opposites attract! The Sandhill Wildlife Area has hosted American bison for 50+ years, transforming the land into a vast oak savanna ecosystem. Marvel at hundreds of acres of lupine that boast one of the largest populations of federally endangered Karner blue butterflies in the Great Lakes Region. Learn why this odd couple, a delicate butterfly and a massive herbivore, thrive as roommates. Limit: 30

**Leaders:** Darren Ladwig & Cheyenne Wehler

**Trail:** 1 mile, brushy sections, limited seating

**Saturday, June 7, 9AM-12PM**

Babcock, Wood Co.

Cost: \$38 per person

### 90. Brady's Bluff SNA: Bluff Prairie Natives

Venture along a wooded trail to discover breathtaking bluff-top vistas of the Mississippi River below. Learn about native plant identification and the management techniques used to conserve this remnant bluff prairie that is home to over 100 native Wisconsin plants!

Limit: 20

**Leaders:** Katie Pribnow & Nick Horzewski

**Trail:** 3 miles, very steep, limited seating, dirt, stairs

**Saturday, June 7, 9-11AM**

Trempealeau, Trempealeau Co.

Cost: \$23 per person



### 91. Vernon Marsh: Hike the New Pipke Trail & Boardwalk

*Challenging: 5-mile long hike.* Venture upon the new boardwalk and trails through Vernon Wildlife Refuge to search for waterfowl and other wildlife nestled within the Fox River and its vast wetlands. Explore the nearby grasslands, oak savannas, and lowland forests to learn about their conservation and management. No bathrooms. Limit: 20

**Leaders:** Erin McKeon & Kelsey Norton

**Trail:** 5 miles, flat, mowed grass, gravel

**Saturday, June 7, 9-11:30AM**

Mukwonago, Waukesha Co.

Cost: \$18 per person



95

### 92. Wyalusing Hardwoods SNA: Exploration of Native Plants

*Extreme: off-trail hike on steep, rocky terrain.*

Take a strenuous trek to a remote, rarely visited part of the park to explore rare plant communities. We'll go off-trail and get our hands dirty amongst the floodplain forests, oak woodlands, and cliffs. Our focus will be remnant plant communities, associated rare species, and their management. Spy some birds along the way. No bathrooms. Limit: 15

**Leader:** Matt Zine

**Trail:** 2 miles, off-trail, steep

**Saturday, June 7, 9AM-12PM**

Wyalusing, Grant Co.

Cost: \$18 per person



### 93. Bike Tour: Northern Highland-American Legion State Forest

*Challenging: 22-mile ride.* Celebrate the Centennial! For 100 years, this State Forest has protected and managed a span of 351 scenic square miles. Biking is a great way to discover its many treasures! Enjoy a bike ride along the Heart of Vilas County paved bike trail with stops at Crystal Lake, Trout Lake, Cathedral Point, and the Boulder Junction Historical Society to hear the legends of logging. Limit: 20

**Leaders:** Beth Feind & Adam Wallace

**Trail:** 22 miles biking

**Saturday, June 7, 9:45AM-2:30PM**

Sayner, Vilas Co.

Cost: \$18 per person



96

### 94. Forest Bathing: Gratitude for Nature from the Inside Out

Immerse yourself in nature! Release stress and re-focus from fast-paced "doing" by being quiet, being yourself, and gently connecting with community. Enjoy guided forest bathing and gratitude practices to reawaken your deep relationship with nature amongst the beauty of restored prairies and woodlands in the Driftless Area. Limit: 20

**Leader:** Colleen Robinson

**Trail:** 2 miles, hilly with steep section, paved, grass

**Saturday, June 7, 10AM-1:30PM**

Black Earth, Dane Co.

Cost: \$28 per person

### 95. Open Door Bird Sanctuary: Behind the Scenes

Raptor geeks wanted! Go behind the scenes to meet resident raptors up close and assist in food prep, feeding, and training of education ambassador birds. Enjoy a birding and nature hike on beautiful trails in the unique natural landscape of Door County. Limit: 20 Ages 8+

**Leaders:** Rob Hults & Sandor Bittman

**Trail:** 0.5 mile, flat, mowed grass, dirt

**95-A. Saturday, June 7, 12:30-3:30PM**

**95-B. Saturday, September 13, 12:30-3:30PM**

Jacksonport, Door Co.

Cost: \$38 adult, \$28 youth, per person



### 96. Neotropical Migrants: Straight Lake Wildlife Area

Visit pristine lakes, old-growth oak forests, and thriving wetlands at this unique location where southern forests transition to northern forests. Join DNR staff and the 2024 Wisconsin Teacher of the Year to search for golden-winged warbler, cerulean warbler, flycatchers, thrushes, and many other exciting Neotropical migrants. Limit: 20

**Leaders:** Aaron Seitz, Brian Collins & Zach Ausavich

**Trail:** 3 miles, wet, crushed rock trail

**Sunday, June 8, 6:30-10:30AM**

Saint Croix Falls, Polk Co.

Cost: \$18 per person





JESSICA PILSPANEN

BRENT BALKEN

CHRISTINE TANZER

TOM BENSON

97

100

102

105

### 97. Namekagon River: Wood Turtles & Wildflowers

Tour a private 250-acre reserve within the St. Croix River National Scenic Riverway with restored wetlands, prairie, and savanna, and through which the Namekagon River flows for 1 mile. Visit 20 scenic stations located in various habitats to identify native flowers and grasses and learn about turtle ecology. Sessions correspond to when wood turtles are laying their eggs (June) or when spiny softshell, wood, and snapping turtle hatchlings are emerging (August). Limit: 25 Ages 10+

**Leader:** Damian Vraniak  
**Trail:** 3 miles, mowed trails, some hills

Choose one session to attend:

**97-A. Sunday, June 8, 7-10:30AM**

**97-B. Sunday, August 24, 7-10:30AM**

Springbrook, Washburn Co.

Cost: \$68 adult, \$58 youth, per person

### 98. Northern Kettle Moraine Standout SNAs

Explore two very different SNA sites nestled within the Northern Kettle Moraine. Hike through a mature sugar maple and red oak forest to identify plants and wildlife at Haskell Noyes SNA. Then off to Spruce Lake Bog SNA for a short boardwalk stroll into this National Natural Landmark with habitats and species more characteristic of northern Wisconsin. No bathrooms. Limit: 15

**Leaders:** Connie Ramthun & Douglas Stadler  
**Trail:** 2.25 miles, dirt paths, some steep hills

**Sunday, June 8, 9AM-12:30PM**

New Prospect, Fond du Lac Co.

Cost: \$28 per person

### 99. Eastern Bluebird Workshop

Delve into the ecology of eastern bluebirds! Learn which nest boxes they use, habitat that attracts them, and how to set up a single box or a Bluebird Trail. Peer into nest boxes at Seno K/RLT Conservancy to see firsthand how to record data, how often to check, and what to do with the data collected. Limit: 15

**Leaders:** Nancy Carlson & Rick Fare

**Trail:** 1 mile, even surfaces

**Sunday, June 8, 10AM-12PM**

Burlington, Kenosha Co.

Cost: \$23 per person

### 100. Wisconsin Black Bear Research

Enjoy a behind-the-scenes look at the Wisconsin Black Bear Research Project! Join wildlife professionals to visit a bear research site, view specialized bear traps, and watch a demonstration of radiotelemetry and other field techniques. Hear about the complexities of managing bears in the Chequamegon-Nicolet National Forest. No bathrooms. Limit: 20

**Leaders:** Jennifer Summers, Cady Sartini & Hayden Walkush

**Trail:** 0.5 mile, uneven, some off-trail

**Monday, June 9, 11AM-1PM**

Clam Lake, Ashland Co.

Cost: \$70 per person

### 101. Birding Paddle: St. Croix National Scenic Riverway

Mix two passions: birding and kayaking! Search for eagles, herons, ospreys, mergansers, and spring migrants on a birdwatching paddle along the scenic Namekagon and St. Croix rivers. Learn birding techniques and enhance your bird identification skills on a most picturesque paddle. Intermediate paddling skills required. Kayaks and gear provided. Limit: 10

**Leaders:** Katrina Schlicker & Daniel Peterson  
**Paddle:** 8.5 miles

**Tuesday, June 10, 10AM-2:30PM**

Danbury, Burnett Co.

Cost: \$88 per person

### 102. The Farley Center: Natural Path Sanctuary & Green Burial

With 100+ acres of farm and wooded land, the Farley Center is a non-profit organization dedicated to promoting ecological sustainability, social justice, and peace. Their Natural Path Sanctuary is a nature preserve as well as a green burial ground/cemetery. Learn about their focus on sustainable end-of-life natural burial practices and support of local market gardeners through a Farm Incubator. Limit: 25

**Leaders:** Shedd Farley, Dustin Duve & Seth Riley

**Trail:** 2 miles, dirt path

**Wednesday, June 11, 10AM-12PM**

Verona, Dane Co.

Cost: \$18 per person

### 103. Hay Wagon Birding: Sandhill Wildlife Area

Enjoy a unique perch for birdwatching: a hay wagon! Take a ride to discover the diverse array of cranes, raptors, and songbirds that inhabit Sandhill's various habitats, from low sandy uplands to forests of oak, aspen, and jack pine. Great fun for beginning and experienced birders alike. Limit: 15

**Leaders:** Zachary Ausavich & Quentin Yoerger  
**Trail:** 0.5 mile, gravel, paved, short off-trail section

**Thursday, June 12, 7-11AM**

Babcock, Wood Co.

Cost: \$18 per person

### 104. Unique Northwoods SNAs: Bog & Old Growth

*Challenging: off-trail uneven terrain.* Take an in-depth look at two captivating communities of the Northwoods: bogs and old-growth forests. Start with a walk on a bog mat to see pitcher plants and orchids up close at Glocke Lake SNA. Then caravan to Cathedral Pines SNA to hike old-growth hemlock and pine forests to learn about its natural and cultural history. Limit: 20

**Leaders:** Nicole Shutt, Steve Janke & Nick Gremban

**Trail:** 2 miles, off-trail, slippery, floating bog mats

**Thursday, June 12, 9AM-12PM**

Lakewood, Oconto Co.

Cost: \$18 per person

### 105. Spread Eagle Barrens SNA: Barrens & Birding

Marvel at a mosaic of natural communities famed for their unique species. Caravan with stops to hike and explore barrens ecology, broad vistas, interesting plants, and rare barrens birds. Search bracken grassland, jack pine, scrub oak, and quaking aspen for mourning warbler, clay-colored sparrow, Brewer's blackbird, and other species that require large, open landscapes. Limit: 20

**Leaders:** Carly Lapin & Nancy Richmond

**Trail:** 2 miles, flat, gravel roads

**Friday, June 13, 6-11AM**

Florence, Florence Co.

Cost: \$18 per person

### 106. Paddle & Birdwatch Mud Lake Wildlife Area

Birding while boating is fun! Paddle the Beaver Dam River as it flows through the scenic wilds of Mud Lake Wildlife Area in Dodge County. Search for species such as bitterns, black tern, yellow-headed blackbird, common gallinule, and rails. Shuttle provided. No bathrooms. Fundraiser for Bird Protection Fund. \*You must bring your own canoe/kayak. Limit: 15

**Leaders:** Liz Herzmann, Jeff Bahls & Eric Kilburg

**Paddle:** 6 miles, flat water

**Friday, June 13, 8:30AM-12PM**

Watertown, Dodge Co.

Cost: \$40 per person





107

ANDREW BADJE

### 107. Birding, Boating & Breweries along the Milwaukee River

**Challenging:** experienced paddlers only. Enjoy paddling the scenic Milwaukee River from Waubedonia to the Town of Grafton. Stop at parks along the way to birdwatch and learn about restoration of terrestrial, riparian, and aquatic habitats within Ozaukee County. End at a local brew pub for a beer (optional). \*You must bring your own canoe/kayak. Limit: 10  
**Leaders:** Andrew Struck & Kristina Kroening  
**Paddle:** 11 miles

**Friday, June 13, 9AM-4PM**

Fredonia, Ozaukee Co.

Cost: \$18 per person



### 108. Native Plants of the Savanna & Prairie

Wondering how to improve habitat with native plants? Hike through savannas and prairies with the land manager of Wehr Nature Center for an in-depth understanding about the restoration work that has happened, and what is to come. Learn about assessing a site, identifying challenges and opportunities, and planning out management activities and techniques. Limit: 25

**Leader:** Jeff Veglahn

**Trail:** 1 mile, uneven, woodchip, grass, dirt

**Friday, June 13, 9-11:30AM**

Franklin, Milwaukee Co.

Cost: \$18 per person

### 109. Pastures Aplenty at Bouressa Family Farm

Enjoy a day on the farm! Take a wagon ride into lush pastures where farmer Rachel Bouressa raises 100% pasture fed British White Park Cattle. If lucky, we'll spy grassland birds who nest here. Learn firsthand about healthy soil by studying the striated layers within a hole so big you can step inside. Savor a catered lunch created with fresh local ingredients, including Rachel's own beef. Limit: 30 Ages 6+

**Leaders:** Brooke Patrick & Rachel Bouressa  
**Trail:** 0.5 mile, pasture

**Friday, June 13, 10AM-2PM**

New London, Waupaca Co.

Cost: \$43 adult, \$33 youth, per person



112

ERIC PRESTON

### 110. Private Lands Restoration: Pine Relicts & Savanna

Discover the woodland, fields, savanna, and pine relicts on a private property near Ridgeway Pines State Natural Area. Hear from experts at Adaptive Restoration about land management strategies and conservation easements. Birds abound, including pileated and red-headed woodpeckers, yellow-billed cuckoo, and Acadian flycatcher. Limit: 20

**Leader:** Brad Kolhoff

**Trail:** 3 miles, primitive trails, some hills

**Saturday, June 14, 8-11AM**

Ridgeway, Iowa Co.

Cost: \$18 per person



### 111. Bird Watching at Rose Lake SNA

Rose Lake SNA is a hotspot for waterfowl and a birder's delight. Hike aside calm lake waters and scan surrounding wetlands, savannas, and prairies to see pelicans, mergansers, owls, woodpeckers, orioles, and many species of duck. Fundraiser for Jefferson County Parks Fund. Limit: 15

**Leader:** Brad Webb

**Trail:** 2 miles, some hills

**Saturday, June 14, 9AM-12PM**

Fort Atkinson, Jefferson Co.

Cost: \$28 per person



### 112. Damsels & Dragons of Jackson County

Damsels and dragons may sound like legends of old, but not so! Wisconsin is currently home to 100+ species of damselflies and dragonflies. Begin with a short introduction on ecology and ID, then head out to search the diverse aquatic habitats near Black River Falls for these fascinating insects. Get hands-on to see many of Wisconsin's *Odonata* up close. Limit: 15

Ages 8+

**Leaders:** Dan Jackson & Jeff Fischer

**Trail:** 0.5 mile, short walks on level ground

**Saturday, June 14, 9AM-3PM**

Black River Falls, Jackson Co.

Cost: \$31 adult, \$21 youth, per person



113 & 114

JOSEPH JANSSEN

### 113. Kestrel Banding on the Buena Vista Grasslands

Enjoy an amazing opportunity to get up close with Wisconsin's smallest falcon: the American kestrel. Caravan to visit several kestrel nest boxes in this scenic grassland and watch researchers as they weigh and band nestlings. Learn about the ecology and long-time monitoring of this revered raptor. Fundraiser for kestrel research. Limit: 24 Ages 8+

**Leaders:** Janet & Amber Eschenbauch

**Trail:** mostly car caravan with short walks

**Saturday, June 14, 9AM-12PM**

Bancroft, Portage Co.

Cost: \$43 adult, \$33 youth, per person



### 114. Kestrel Banding around Sheboygan County

Enjoy a caravan trip to visit several American kestrel nests and watch as researchers weigh and band kestrel nestlings. Learn about the ecology of this beloved and smallest falcon of Wisconsin. Fundraiser for Cedar Grove Ornithological Research Station Fund. Limit: 22 Ages 8+

**Leaders:** Annie Mueller, Danny Erickson & Sue Kaehler

**Trail:** mostly car caravan with short walks

**Saturday, June 14, 10AM-2PM**

St Anna, Sheboygan Co.

Cost: \$43 adult, \$33 youth, per person\*



115

ROBERT GEITNER

### 115. eBike Tour: Lake Michigan Coastline

Pedal your way to beauty! Travel via ebike along the Lake Michigan shoreline to Cave Point County Park for a look at the caves from above. Then onto Whitefish Dunes State Park for a short hike to enjoy picturesque dunes and white sugar sand beaches that stretch for miles. Previous bike riding experience required. Helmets and bikes provided. Limit: 12 Ages 15+  
**Leaders:** Robert Geitner & Dane Spitzer  
**Trail:** 5 miles biking + 0.5-mile hike

Choose one session to attend:

**115-A. Saturday, June 14, 12-2PM**

**115-B. Saturday, June 14, 3-5PM**

**115-C. Saturday, September 13, 12-2PM**

**115-D. Saturday, September 13, 3-5PM**

Jacksonport, Door Co.

Cost: \$80 adult, \$70 youth, per person



### 116. Fair Meadows SNA: Prairies in Bloom

Immerse yourself in the white and blue splendor of Fair Meadows State Natural Area! White wild indigo and Ohio spiderwort will be at peak bloom to create an ethereal view. A slow walk through the prairie will reveal other early prairie blooms and pollinators galore. Limit: 20

**Leaders:** Penny & Gary Shackelford

**Trail:** 1.5 miles, flat, mowed, limited shade

**Sunday, June 15, 9-11AM**

Milton, Rock Co.

Cost: \$18 per person



\*Percentage of cost is tax-deductible







BRENNIA HOLZHAUER

CHRISTINE TANZER

JAMIE KOLLMAN

LICIA JOHNSON

119

120

123

126

### 117. Archaeology at the Historic Indian Agency House

The Historic Indian Agency House was built in 1832 to serve as an embassy between the U.S. government and the Ho-Chunk Nation during a pivotal juncture of American history. Join archaeologists to explore the cultural and historical significance of this site and enjoy special behind-the-scenes access to get hands-on with archaeological field methods, artifact analysis, and more. Limit: 20

**Leader:** Adam Novey

**Trail:** 1 mile, flat, mowed grass, optional hilly hike

Choose one session to attend:

**117-A. Sunday, June 15, 10:30AM-4PM**

**117-B. Sunday, June 22, 10:30AM-4PM**

Portage, Columbia Co.

Cost: \$30 per person

### 118. Learn to Love Native Shrubs

Where are the native shrubs? In many areas, removing invasive shrubs like buckthorn and honeysuckle is a primary focus of restoration efforts, but the important role of establishing diverse, native shrubs is often neglected. Learn about native shrubs of southern Wisconsin, how to identify them, and which species can be planted to attract birds and beneficial insects. Limit: 20

**Leaders:** Amy Alstad & Sylvia Marek

**Trail:** 1 mile, mowed grass, gentle hills

**Tuesday, June 17, 10AM-12PM**

Middleton, Dane Co.

Cost: \$23 per person

### 119. There & Back Again: An Ecologist's Tale

Saunter through a recovering ecosystem near the Sugar River and discover the ecological merits of nature-based farming. Sugar Valley Farm was a conventional, row-cropped farm for much of the past century and is now being converted to pasture, prairie, and savanna. See the amazing transformation from barren to biodiverse! No bathrooms. Limit: 20

**Leaders:** David, Richard & Joann Laufenberg

**Trail:** 1.5 miles, mowed vegetation, some hills

**Tuesday, June 17, 6:30-8:30PM**

Mount Horeb, Dane Co.

Cost: \$18 per person

### 120. Building Bird Habitat at Any Scale

Attract more birds! Create bird-friendly and water-wise habitats at any scale, from yards to parkland restoration. Venture on a walking tour that showcases a naturalized, underutilized park, a planting in the heart of the city, an outdoor education space, a birdhouse trail (with chicks!), and a yard with bird and pollinator-friendly plantings. Continental breakfast included. Fundraiser for Bird Protection Fund. Limit: 20

**Leaders:** Carl Schwartz, Jenny Bardeen & Joanna Demas

**Trail:** 1 mile, flat, paved, mowed grass, no seating

**Wednesday, June 18, 9AM-12PM**

Port Washington, Ozaukee Co.

Cost: \$45 per person\*



### 121. Kestrel Banding at Badger Mining Corporation Grasslands

Learn about America's smallest falcon! Join Beaver Creek Reserve researchers for an up-close view of American kestrels being measured and banded. Visit nest boxes located at Badger Mining Corporation, a privately held, family-owned silica sand mine that works to protect these fantastic falcons. Limit: 14

**Ages 8+**

**Leaders:** Heather Horton, Claire Molina, David Kragness & Betsy Sippel

**Trail:** 2 miles, steep, uneven ground, tall grass

**Wednesday, June 18, 9AM-12PM**

Taylor, Jackson Co.

Cost: \$33 adult, \$23 youth, per person



### 122. Remnant Bluff Prairies: La Crosse Blufflands

*Challenging: steep terrain.* Visit beautiful and endangered remnant bluff prairies at Hixon Forest and see some of the restoration work that NRF has helped to fund. Learn about the unique geology of the bluffs and local flora and fauna as you soak in the spectacular views of the Mississippi River Valley below. Limit: 30

**Leaders:** Jon Rigden & Mike O'Brien

**Trail:** 3 miles, dirt trails, some steep sections

**Wednesday, June 18, 9AM-12PM**

La Crosse, La Crosse Co.

Cost: \$18 per person



### 123. Havenwoods History Hike

Visit Wisconsin's only urban State Forest! Learn how this 237-acre landscape has changed over the years, from prison to park, and even a Nike missile site! Discover spring wildflowers and wildlife that inhabit its diverse habitats, including prairie, ponds, and woodlands. Limit: 30

**Leader:** Angela Vickio

**Trail:** 1.5 miles, established trails

**Thursday, June 19, 9-11AM**

Milwaukee, Milwaukee Co.

Cost: \$18 per person



### 124. Bog vs. Swamp Solstice Hike

Discover the difference! First, venture onto a quaking bog mat in search of orchids, carnivorous plants, and other unusual bog plants at Grandma Lake Wetlands SNA. Then caravan to explore Van Zile Cedars, a primeval old-growth cedar swamp, and marvel at the dark, quiet, moss-cloaked landscape of twisted conifer trees and fascinating swamp plants. Limit: 18

**Leader:** Thomas Meyer

**Trail:** 1 mile, uneven ground, floating bog mat

**Friday, June 20, 9AM-3:30PM**

Long Lake, Florence Co.

Cost: \$28 per person



### 125. From Logging to Loons: Star Lake

Enjoy the flora and fauna of the Northwoods! Hike through towering trees along the scenic shores of a peninsula that juts out into Star Lake. Learn about the rich logging history of the area, which is now full of diversity from conifers to bogs thanks to dedicated forest management. Limit: 30

**Leaders:** Bethany Heft & Kim Feller

**Trail:** 2.5 miles, rolling and uneven terrain

**Friday, June 20, 1-4:30PM**

Eagle River, Vilas Co.

Cost: \$35 per person

### 126. Manoominikaan: History & Ethnobotany of Rice Lake

Have you wondered why Rice Lake is called that? Paddle around the lake to learn about the interwoven history of people and place. Learn about wild edibles on the lake such as wild rice (manoomin) and their importance for the Anishinaabe and settlers. \*You must bring your own canoe/kayak. Fundraiser for NRF. Limit: 15

**Leaders:** Anna DeMers & Nicole Muschinske

**Paddle:** 3 miles, mostly calm, waves with wind

Choose one session to attend:

**126-A. Friday, June 20, 1-4PM**

**126-B. Saturday, June 21, 1-4PM**

Rice Lake, Barron Co.

Cost: \$40 per person

\*Percentage of cost is tax-deductible





127

### 127. Intro to Field Sketching

Let nature inspire your art! Field sketching is the practice of drawing and note-taking in nature, helping us to enhance our observation, recognition, and appreciation of different species. Immerse yourself in the beauty of Woodland Dunes to learn sketching skills and visually record your discoveries. Trip leader is the artist who created NRF's popular loon shirt design. Limit: 20 Ages 8+

**Leader:** Rebecca Jabs

**Trail:** 0.5 mile, choice of trail options

**Saturday, June 21, 9AM-12PM**

Two Rivers, Manitowoc Co.

Cost: \$28 adult, \$18 youth, per person



### 128. Forest Bathing for the Visually Impaired

Forest Bathing, or Shinrin-Yoku as it is known in Japan, guides you to find stillness, open your senses, and profoundly connect with nature. Join a Certified Nature and Forest Therapy Guide for guided meditations and meanders on generally flat terrain under a backdrop of soothing nature sounds at Warner Park. This trip is geared especially for those with visual impairments along with their guides/aides. Limit: 10

Limit: 10

**Leader:** Kate Bast

**Trail:** 1 mile, unpaved, rolling hills

**Saturday, June 21, 10AM-12PM**

Madison, Dane Co.

Cost: \$48 per person

### 129. Mindfulness in Nature: Observing Wildlife

Mindfulness hones being, seeing, and connecting with yourself and nature. It helps reduce stress and improve physical and mental health. Join us in nature-based guided mindfulness exercises: sitting and moving. Further deepen connections with yourself and nature by observing wildlife at the MacKenzie Center: bison, deer, eagle, owls, wolf, and more. Limit: 15

**Leaders:** Roger Reynolds & Jennifer Dobson

**Trail:** 100 yards, paved

**Saturday, June 21, 10AM-3PM**

Poynette, Columbia Co.

Cost: \$24 per person



128, 129 & 135

### 130. Tour the Madison Metropolitan Sewage District

When water goes down the drain, it doesn't just go away. Instead, it travels through the sewer system to wastewater treatment plants, where it is cleaned and then returned to the environment as safe, fishable, and swimmable water. Tour the Nine Springs Wastewater Treatment Plant to learn about the role of wastewater treatment in the water cycle, and how you can help protect our shared water resources. Limit: 15 Ages 7+

**Leaders:** Catherine Harris & Emily Jones

**Trail:** 1 mile, many stairs, uneven

Choose one session to attend:

**130-A. Saturday, June 21, 10-11:30AM**

**130-B. Thursday, June 26, 10-11:30AM**

Madison, Dane Co.

Cost: \$18 adult, \$8 youth, per person



### 131. Pollinators Aplenty: Davis Nature Preserve

Nestled along the banks of the Mukwonago River, a vibrant wetland ecosystem now thrives. Transformed from agricultural field into flourishing mesic prairie, sedge meadow, and wooded wetland, this land highlights the power of collaborative conservation. Celebrate National Pollinator Week by sipping local honey mead while taking a stroll to learn about native pollinators and their essential host plants. No bathrooms. Limit: 25

**Leaders:** Helen Holtz & Allison Heine de Romero

**Trail:** 2 miles, flat, mowed grass

**Saturday, June 21, 3-5PM**

Mukwonago, Waukesha Co.

Cost: \$28 per person



133

### 132. Door County Kayak: Pristine Logan Creek

Experience a less visited, still secret part of Door County! Start with a hike to discover wildflowers, natural history, and ecology. Then enjoy exclusive access to launch kayaks for a paddle through Clark Lake and into Logan Creek SNA. Marvel at towering white cedar and black ash while traversing spring-fed pools that harbor rare plants and breeding birds. Note weight limits: min 40 lbs; max 250 lbs. Tandem kayaks and gear provided. Limit: 12

**Leaders:** Rob Geitner & Dane Spitzer

**Trail:** 0.7-mile hike + 1 hr paddle, smooth water

**Saturday, June 21, 1-3PM**

Jacksonport, Door Co.

Cost: \$73 per person



### 133. Become a Purple Martin Landlord

Purple martin populations have dropped dramatically in the past 50 years, and are listed as a Species of Special Concern in Wisconsin. They rely exclusively on humans to provide them with nest structures to raise their young in colonies. Visit an active colony and peer into nests to see martins up close. Learn how to attract and care for a colony on your property! Limit: 25

**Leaders:** Russ Hefty, Patrick & Patricia Hermsen

**Trail:** Mostly stationary

**Monday, June 23, 9AM-12PM**

Oregon, Dane Co.

Cost: \$18 per person



134

### 134. MAPS: Banding Birds at Beaver Creek

Marvel at birds up close! Join biologists checking mist nets for golden-winged warbler, indigo bunting, rose-breasted grosbeak, and more. Since 2003, this location has banded over 1700 birds and contributed data to the continent-wide Monitoring Avian Productivity and Survivorship (MAPS) program, which guides conservation planning efforts. No bathrooms. Limit: 20 ages 8+

**Leaders:** Jeanette Kelly, Karen Mittag, Judy Schwarzmeier & Claire Molina

**Trail:** 2 miles, uneven terrain

Choose one session to attend:

**134-A. Tuesday, June 24, 6:30-9:30AM**

**134-B. Thursday, July 10, 6:30-9:30AM**

Fall Creek, Eau Claire Co.

Cost: \$33 adult, \$23 youth, per person



### 135. Demonstration Forest: A Guide to Woodland Management

What exactly is a "demonstration forest?" They are private woodlands that teach landowners how to enhance the productivity and wildlife value of their own woods. See land that was transformed from plantation into a mixture of prairie, and oak and pine forests. Enjoy interactive demonstrations on woody invasive species management and the different stages of woodland restoration. Limit: 30

**Leaders:** Claire Harwood & Jacob Fluor

**Trail:** 2 miles, flat, mowed grass

**Tuesday, June 24, 10AM-1PM**

Coloma, Waushara Co.

Cost: \$23 per person





137, 143 &amp; 158

### 136. Red-headed Woodpeckers at Cherokee Marsh

Hike through scenic oak savanna in search of nesting red-headed woodpeckers. Learn about restoration efforts that led them to nest in Cherokee Marsh for the first time in decades. Fundraiser for Cherokee Marsh Conservation Fund. Limit: 20

**Leaders:** Timothy Baker & Russ Hefty

**Trail:** 2 miles, uneven, mowed, dirt, some hills

**Wednesday, June 25, 8-11AM**

Madison, Dane Co.

Cost: \$28 per person



### 137. Bumble Bees at the UW Arboretum

Wisconsin is home to 20 bumble bee species, including the federally endangered rusty-patched bumble bee. Enjoy an indoor presentation to learn about bumble bee life history and conservation needs, and then head outside to identify bees in the field, and perhaps find rusty-patched bumble bees! Limit: 20

**Leaders:** Susan Carpenter & Elizabeth Braatz

**Trail:** 0.5 mile, level, paved, mowed grass

**Wednesday, June 25, 10AM-12PM**

Madison, Dane Co.

Cost: \$23 per person

### 138. Rock Island History Hike

*Challenging: long hike, hills, remote location.*

Discover one of Wisconsin's most unique state parks! Explore the island's rich history from original inhabitants to European settlers and the history of the Thordarson Estate.

Visit the iconic Pottawatomie Lighthouse and Thordarson boathouse on this bucket-list trip. Requires two ferry passages to get to meeting location. Fundraiser for NRF. Limit: 15

**Leader:** Brian Grube

**Trail:** 5.5 miles, challenging hike, steep hills, exposed roots, loose rocks.

Choose one session to attend:

**138-A. Wednesday, June 25, 10:30AM-3PM**

**138-B. Wednesday, August 27, 10:30AM-3PM**

Washington Island, Door Co.

Cost: \$40 per person



139

### 139. Let's Talk Turtles of Wisconsin

Enjoy a sunset walk through a variety of wetland habitats to look for basking turtles. Then venture inside to see native turtles up close and enjoy a presentation about all 11 species found in Wisconsin. Learn their unique characteristics, behaviors, and roles in the ecosystem, and how to contribute to their conservation. Limit: 35 Ages 10+

**Leaders:** Helen Holtz & Howard Aprill

**Trail:** less than 1 mile, woodchip, paved

Choose one session to attend:

**139-A. Wednesday, June 25, 5-7PM**

**139-B. Thursday, June 26, 5-7PM**

Franklin, Milwaukee Co.

Cost: \$23 adult, \$13 youth, per person



### 140. Rush Creek SNA: Diversity from Stream to Ridgetop

*Extreme: very steep terrain.* Discover one of Wisconsin's largest State Natural Areas and first grassland climate adaptation site! Featuring forests, prairies, cold water streams, bluffs, and ridgetops, it is home to a plethora of rare plants, birds, invertebrates, reptiles, and fish. Climb through woods to a bluff-top prairie with spectacular views of the Mississippi River. Learn how land management addresses climate change. No bathrooms. Limit: 25

**Leader:** Jason Garstka

**Trail:** 4 miles, steep bluff

**Thursday, June 26, 10AM-1PM**

Ferryville, Crawford Co.

Cost: \$18 per person



141

### 141. Careers of WI DNR: Law Enforcement, Forestry, & Wildlife Biology

Meet the people that protect and manage your public lands. Hear from a Wisconsin DNR conservation warden, wildlife biologist and forestry program supervisor regarding their careers in the natural resources field. Discover topics such as game species management, forest health, and the unique law enforcement roles of conservation wardens. Learn more about these critical functions and perhaps find a career path for yourself! Limit: 35

**Leaders:** John Sinclair, Julie Widholm & Rebecca Mouw

**Trail:** Indoors

**Thursday, June 26, 5:30-7:30PM**

Fitchburg, Dane Co.

Cost: \$18 per person



### 142. From the Ground Up: Restoration & Native Landscaping

Have you ever thought about going native? Learn how to transform your land into an ecological oasis using all native species! Discover all that goes into planning, designing, prepping, installing, and maintaining a native landscape. Hike through an exemplary property where beauty and wildlife abound. Bring a bagged lunch for an optional Q&A after. Limit: 20

**Leaders:** Emma Czarnecki & Kailey Goethe

**Trail:** 2 miles, uneven, unpaved, steep hill, no seating

**Friday, June 27, 9AM-12PM**

Mazomanie, Dane Co.

Cost: \$33 per person



142

### 143. Buzz Worthy: Pollinator Observation on the Dunes

Observe pollinators for citizen science amongst the dunes of the Lake Michigan! Hike the beautiful ridges and swales at Ship Canal Nature Preserve to witness one of the Great Lakes' largest remaining populations of the federally threatened Pitcher's thistle. Record which pollinators visit dune thistles and help contribute to our understanding of this rare ecosystem. No bathrooms. Limit: 18

**Leader:** Paige Witek

**Trail:** 1.5 miles, hills, soil path, sandy beach

**Friday, June 27, 10-11:30AM**

Sturgeon Bay, Door Co.

Cost: \$18 per person

### 144. Mounds View Grassland: Schurch-Thomson Prairie

*Note: hilly terrain, little shade, no seating.* Enjoy peak prairie bloom of pale purple coneflower and wild quinine as we hike through hundreds of acres of prairie remnants and restorations. This unique site hosts breeding populations of many rare grassland birds and nine species of bumble bees, including the federally endangered rusty-patched bumble bee. Limit: 25

**Leader:** Rich Henderson

**Trail:** 2.5 miles, mowed, steep hills, no shade

**Friday, June 27, 10AM-1PM**

Blue Mounds, Iowa Co.

Cost: \$18 per person





146



148



149 & 182



156 & 162

KRISTEN SMITH

USFWS-COURTNEY CELLEY

KATHLEEN HENNING

USFWS-KATIE STEIGER-MEISTER

### 145. Lower Green Bay West Shore: Birding, Restoration & Recognition

Did you know that the world's largest freshwater estuary is in Wisconsin? Green Bay is now one of only 30 sites across the coastal U.S. designated a National Estuarine Research Reserve. Caravan through the Green Bay West Shores State Wildlife Area and Ken Euers Nature Area with leading ecologists to learn why this area is so special. Limit: 30  
**Leaders:** Emily Tyner, Dave Halfmann & Amy Carrozzino-Lyon  
**Trail:** 3 miles, flat, crushed rock, boardwalk  
**Friday, June 27, 1-4PM**  
Green Bay, Brown Co.  
Cost: \$18 per person



### 146. Olson Oak Woods Mushroom Foray

*Challenging: some off-trail hiking on uneven terrain.* Join members of the Madison Mycological Society to look for common and unique mushrooms. Hunt for fruiting fungi and then identify what we find. This trip is good for novices and experts alike to learn more about mushrooms and how to safely identify them. No bathrooms. Fundraiser for NRF. Limit: 20  
**Leaders:** Jessica Ross & Ben King  
**Trail:** 3 miles, some off-trail, uneven ground  
**Saturday, June 28, 9AM-12PM**  
Verona, Dane Co.  
Cost: \$35 per person



### 147. Wisconsin's Desert: Blue River Sand Barrens SNA

*Challenging: very steep bluff.* Discover a desert in Wisconsin! Hike the Blue River Sand Barrens SNA to see prickly pear cacti, parasitic sand wasps, and other plants and animals adapted to the hot, arid environment along the Lower Wisconsin River. Take an optional steep hike in the afternoon to explore the prairie flora and enjoy a river view from the Blue River Bluffs SNA. Fundraiser for NRF. Limit: 20  
**Leader:** Thomas Meyer  
**Trail:** 2 miles, sandy, very steep bluff  
**Saturday, June 28, 9AM-2PM**  
Blue River, Grant Co.  
Cost: \$35 per person



### 148. Nonbinary Nature: The Queer Native Species of Wisconsin

Although queerness is sometimes called "unnatural," nothing could be further from the truth! Nature is full of species with a wide variety of sexualities, genders, and family relationships. Hike the Kelly Creek Preserve for a look at some of those species that occur in Wisconsin, including oaks, mushrooms, flowers, deer, eagles, and more. The information presented is educational, lighthearted, and identity-affirming. No bathrooms. Limit: 15  
**Leader:** Emilee Martell  
**Trail:** 2 miles, moderately flat, mowed grass  
**Saturday, June 28, 10-11:30AM**  
River Falls, St. Croix Co.  
Cost: \$18 per person

### 149. Dragonflies: Wolf River Watershed

Explore Wisconsin's fascinating world of *Odonata* (dragonflies and damselflies) on a caravan tour along the Wolf River. Marvel at the beauty of dragonflies and damselflies with up-close encounters of clubtails, jewelwings, and spiketails. Discover their life history, diversity, and how to contribute to citizen science monitoring efforts. Fundraiser for NRF. Limit: 12  
**Leaders:** Emily Hjalmarson & Brett Roberts  
**Trail:** 1 mile, level, paved, gravel  
**Sunday, June 29, 9AM-1PM**  
Elcho, Langlade Co.  
Cost: \$33 per person

### 150. Horicon Marsh Sunset Kayak Exploration

Bask in the sunset glow as we paddle to discover history, geology, flora, and fauna in one of our nation's largest freshwater marshes, recognized as a Wetland of International Importance. Kayaks and gear provided. No bathrooms. Limit: 12  
**Leader:** Steff Merten  
**Paddle:** 4.5-mile loop, calm, slow water  
**Sunday, June 29, 6-9 PM**  
Horicon, Dodge Co.  
Cost: \$73 per person

### 151. Paddle Tichigan Wildlife Area

Paddle the Fabulous Fox River Water Trail into Tichigan Wildlife Area, the largest and most diverse wildlife property in Racine County. Spot a variety of plants and wildlife and learn how local partnerships restored this cherished waterway. Paddle downriver and loop back. \*You must bring your own canoe/kayak. Limit: 10  
**Leaders:** Marty Johnson & Ola Kotlarski  
**Paddle:** 6 miles  
**Monday, June 30, 8:30AM-1PM**  
Waterford, Racine Co.  
Cost: \$28 per person

### 152. Demystify Waste: Tour Dane County Landfill & Trash Lab

Reduce, reuse, recycle! See how the Dane County Landfill facilities are putting those words into action! Explore the Dane County Trash Lab, and learn how Clean Sweep, the C&D Recycling facilities, and landfill are protecting the health of the community and environment while creating millions of dollars' worth of renewable energy every year. Become part of a sustainable future! No bathrooms. Limit: 32 Ages 7+  
**Leaders:** Wyeth Augustine-Marceil & Hanna Kohn  
**Trail:** Stairs into bus  
**Tuesday, July 8, 9:30-11AM**  
Madison, Dane Co.  
Cost: \$18 adult, \$8 youth, per person



### 153. Paddle the Upper Waupaca Chain O'Lakes

Discover bubbling springs, crystal blue waters, and the pristine Pope Lake SNA as we paddle through a picturesque chain of five connected no-wake wild and undeveloped lakes. \*You must bring your own canoe/kayak. Limit: 20 Ages 10+  
**Leader:** Fred Silloway  
**Paddle:** 3 miles, calm water  
**Tuesday, July 8, 10AM-2PM**  
Waupaca, Waupaca Co.  
Cost: \$23 adult, \$13 youth, per person



### 154. Paddle Paradise Valley Wildlife Area

Paddle along the Bark River and into Paradise Valley Wildlife Area, an 1,800-acre property of wetlands, oak forests, and grasslands. Learn from DNR wildlife staff about the property's history, current habitat restoration efforts, and the abundant plant and animal life that resides here. No bathrooms. \*You must bring your own canoe/kayak. Limit: 10  
**Leader:** Kelsey Norton  
**Paddle:** 6 miles  
**Wednesday, July 9, 9AM-1:30PM**  
Oconomowoc, Waukesha Co.  
Cost: \$30 per person

### 155. Paddle Horicon Marsh

Enjoy a leisurely paddle to explore the scenic waters of Horicon Marsh. Learn about the wildlife, history, and future of this amazing marsh of international importance. You never know what we may find around the river bend! No bathrooms. Fundraiser for NRF. \*You must bring your own canoe/kayak. Limit: 15  
**Leaders:** Liz Herzmann, Jeff Bahls & Eric Kilburg  
**Paddle:** 5 miles, mostly calm waters  
**Friday, July 11, 8AM-12PM**  
Horicon, Dodge Co.  
Cost: \$38 per person

### 156. Behind the Scenes: Wild Rose Fish Hatchery

Have you ever wondered where the fish on the end of your line may have come from? Experience a rare behind-the-scenes tour of Wisconsin's largest fish hatchery. Come see how this state-of-the-art facility raises trout, salmon, walleye, musky, and even sturgeon to support angling opportunities across the state. Limit: 20 Ages 10+  
**Leader:** Jesse Landwehr  
**Trail:** 3 miles, paved, gravel, some hills  
Choose one session to attend:  
**156-A. Saturday, July 12, 9AM-12PM**  
**156-B. Saturday, July 12, 12:30-3:30PM**  
Wild Rose, Waushara Co.  
Cost: \$18 adult, \$8 youth, per person





160



161 & 178



162



166

### 157. Caving at Carolyn's Caverns

Descend into a matrix of four interconnected caverns to discover geologic history from millions of years ago! Learn how caves are formed and the animals that use them. We will use stairs and ladders to access the caves, with the option to crawl through tunnels. Limit: 50 Ages 7+ only

**Leaders:** Louise Marum & Alaina Tiedt

**Trail:** 1 mile, ladders, stairs, crawling

**Saturday, July 12, 9:45AM-12:45PM**

Chilton, Calumet Co.

Cost: \$27 adult, \$17 youth, per person   

### 158. Bumble Bee Walk: Owen Conservation Park

Wisconsin is home to 20 bumble bee species, including the federally endangered rusty-patched bumble bee. Learn about the life history and conservation needs of these docile insects, and how to identify them in the field. Let's see how many of the 12 expected species we can find in this high-quality urban habitat! Limit: 20

**Leader:** Susan Carpenter

**Trail:** 1 mile, level, mowed grass, some hills

**Saturday, July 12, 10AM-12PM**

Madison, Dane Co.

Cost: \$18 per person

### 159. Ravensholme Farm Preserve Tour

Visit a 265-acre working farm situated along the banks of the Fox River that demonstrates sustainable agricultural practices. Explore the historic barn and farmstead. Meander through fruit and nut trees that supplement traditional crops and livestock in an "agroforestry" partnership with the Savanna Institute. Option to paddle the Fox River after the trip (bring your own boat). Limit: 50 Ages 7+

**Leaders:** Paul Meuer & Jessica Mysliwski

**Trail:** 2 miles, slightly uneven in pasture

**Saturday, July 12, 10AM-12:30PM**

Waukesha, Waukesha Co.

Cost: \$18 adult, \$8 youth, per person   

### 160. Environmental Equity with Nearby Nature MKE

Discover a hidden natural gem in urban Milwaukee! Hopkins Hollow's woods and prairies are a living laboratory for local schools to study wildlife including birds, bats, snakes, toads, and large mammals. Hike trails and hear about efforts to address environmental inequities and revitalize urban green spaces along the entire Lincoln Creek Greenway. No bathrooms. Limit: 25 Ages 10+

**Leaders:** Mars Patterson, Jerica Fehr, Makayla Cooper & Timothy Scott

**Trail:** 2.5 miles, mulched, some steep sections

Choose one session to attend:

**160-A. Saturday, July 12, 10:30AM-12:30PM**

**160-B. Saturday, October 4, 10:30AM-12:30PM**

Milwaukee, Milwaukee Co.

Cost: \$18 adult, \$8 youth, per person  

### 161. Butterfly Field Day in Fort McCoy

Explore a slice of Wisconsin seldom accessible to the public: Fort McCoy! Search vast grasslands for butterflies: Ottoo skipper, regal fritillary, and the rare and exquisite Karner blue. Learn how Fort McCoy biologists are managing the land to conserve the rich biological diversity of this unique site. Limit: 25

**Leaders:** Jessup Weichelt & Jessica Salesman

**Trail:** 3 miles, uneven, some hills

Choose one session to attend:

**161-A. Monday, July 14, 8:45-11:45AM**

**161-B. Monday, July 14, 12:30-3:30PM**

Tomah, Monroe Co.

Cost: \$23 per person

### 162. Genoa National Fish Hatchery & The Great River Road

Did you know Genoa National Fish Hatchery is one of the most diverse hatcheries in the nation? They rear freshwater mussels, Hine's emerald dragonfly larvae, and mudpuppy salamanders along with 15 species of fish. Take a walking tour of the 20 different ponds and explore fascinating exhibits on wildlife and conservation in the Upper Mississippi River region. Limit: 30 Ages 5+

**Leader:** Erica Rasmussen

**Trail:** 2 miles, flat, paved, woodchips, boardwalk

Choose one session to attend:

**162-A. Tuesday, July 15, 1-3PM**

**162-B. Thursday, July 17, 1-3PM**

Genoa, Vernon Co.

Cost: \$18 adult, \$8 youth, per person  

### 163. Loon Pontoon: Lake Owen

Embark on a pontoon exploration of a scenic Northwoods lake to learn amazing facts about these ancient birds and the beautiful lakes where they live. Enjoy stories from a local naturalist and author about the facts and fantasies behind this Northwoods icon. Fundraiser for Bird Protection Fund. Limit: 12

**Leader:** Emily Stone

**Trail:** Step-up into boat

**Wednesday, July 16, 9AM-12PM**

Cable, Bayfield Co.

Cost: \$110 per person\* 

### 164. Red Banks Alvar SNA: Snails & Rarities



*Extreme: very steep hike!* One of the rarest ecosystems of Wisconsin, alvars occur on limestone plains, have very little soil, and boast a unique geologic history in the Niagara Escarpment. Discover uncommon plants, natural wonders, and one of the most diverse land-snail communities known in the Midwest. No bathrooms. Limit: 15

**Leaders:** Jake Koebernik & Julie Hawkins-Tyrriver

**Trail:** 1.5 miles, very steep, rocky terrain

**Wednesday, July 16, 9AM-1PM**

Dyckesville, Brown Co.

Cost: \$18 per person  

### 165. Paddle Waupaca Chain O' Lakes: Invasive Species


Paddle through the scenic beauty of four connected lakes with crystal clear waters. Learn about various aquatic and wetland invasive plants and animals common to Wisconsin waterways, and how to prevent their spread. Paddling experience required. Fundraiser for Bird Protection Fund. \*You must bring your own canoe/kayak. Limit: 15 Ages 10+

**Leaders:** Chris Hamerla & Andrew Senderhauf

**Paddle:** 1.5 miles, flat water

**Thursday, July 17, 9AM-12PM**

Waupaca, Waupaca Co.

Cost: \$23 adult, \$13 youth, per person  

### 166. Paddle, Discover, Connect: Wisconsin River

Enjoy a delightful paddle on a serene section of the Upper Wisconsin River! Learn about the geological history of the area. Search for eagles, great blue herons, and a plethora of other wildlife and renew your connection with nature on this peaceful journey. Canoes and gear provided. Limit: 24

**Leaders:** Elizabeth & Rick Hengel

**Paddle:** 8 miles, flat water

Choose one session to attend:

**166-A. Thursday, July 17, 9AM-3PM**

**166-B. Thursday, August 14, 9AM-3PM**

Portage, Columbia Co.

Cost: \$79 per person

### 167. LEAF School Forest Tour: Cadott School Forest

Wisconsin was the first state to register school forests back in 1928, and is now home to 430+ school forest properties! Hike along burbling creeks and over a covered bridge on this exploration of the 160-acre Cadott School Forest. Learn about its rich conservation and education history and the importance of the Wisconsin School Forest Program. Limit: 30

**Leaders:** Steve Schmidt, Keith Becker & Gretchen Marshall

**Trail:** 3 miles, mowed grass

**Thursday, July 17, 10AM-1:30PM**

Cadott, Chippewa Co.

Cost: \$18 per person

\*Percentage of cost is tax-deductible





BEVERLY NEVSTROM

169

### 168. Catamaran Tour of the Nation's Largest Freshwater Estuary

One of the busiest ports in the Great Lakes is embedded within the nation's largest freshwater estuary. The proximity of Port of Duluth-Superior and St. Louis River Estuary raises the stakes for aquatic invasives spreading on ships. Climb aboard the Sadie Ann, a grand catamaran-style floating classroom, to view the scenic estuary and experiment with water sampling techniques. Then tour a ballast water research facility on shore. *Note: the boat may rock and sway in waves.* Limit: 30

**Leaders:** Alan Brew & Matt TenEyck  
**Trail:** 0.25 mile walking tour, gravel, paved

**Friday, July 18, 12:30-5:30PM**

Superior, Douglas Co.

Cost: \$98 per person



### 169. Crex Meadows Birding Paddle

Combine your two passions: birding and paddling! Start by learning which birds inhabit Crex Meadows. Then launch your boats with binos and paddles in hand to search for some of the 280 bird species found here. \*You must bring your own canoe/kayak. Limit: 25

**Leader:** Lauren Thomas

**Paddle:** 2 miles, flat water

**Friday, July 18, 5-7:30PM**

Grantsburg, Burnett Co.

Cost: \$28 per person



### 170. Creating Spaces for Crane Conservation

Tour the International Crane Foundation to discover how they protect ecosystems and safeguard crane populations worldwide. Enjoy the new \$10 million expansion that includes renovated interpretive sites and crane exhibits. Explore a tallgrass prairie and see what it takes to raise endangered cranes. Limit: 25

**Leader:** Quinn Brownell

**Trail:** 0.5 mile, ADA accessible, paved

Choose one session to attend:

**170-A. Saturday, July 19, 9AM-12PM**

**170-B. Saturday, July 19, 1-4PM**

Baraboo, Sauk Co.

Cost: \$28 per person



MICHAEL DAY

172

### 171. Deep History of a Prairie: York Prairie SNA

Look through the lens of anthropology and paleontology to learn about prairie ecology as you never have before! Hear the story of York Prairie SNA back to its very beginning. Contemplate how the plants that we see today reflect this deep history. No bathrooms. Limit: 20

**Leader:** Jim MacDonald

**Trail:** 0.5 miles, no trails, long grass, hills

**Saturday, July 19, 9AM-12:30PM**

New Glarus, Green Co.

Cost: \$18 per person



### 172. Insect Diversity: Collecting Techniques & Basic ID

At first glance you may not see many insects, but entomologists know how to find them!

Venture into Schmeckle Reserve and Iverson Park to try your hand at the various techniques used to collect and assess insect diversity in different habitats. Learn basic insect identification skills and marvel at preserved/mounted specimens. Limit: 30 Ages 8+

**Leaders:** Paul Whitaker & Jamee Hubbard

**Trail:** 2 miles, flat, dirt, gravel, woodchips

**Saturday, July 19, 9AM-3PM**

Stevens Point, Portage Co.

Cost: \$23 adult, \$13 youth, per person



### 173. Adventure Caving at Ledge View

*Extreme: crawling required in tight spaces.*

Looking for a fun, physical adventure? Crawl through a series of tunnels to explore a natural cave system in dolostone bedrock. Learn how caves are formed, geological history of the area, and animals that use the caves. Prepare to get dirty! Trip is geared for adults, any children must be 10+ to attend. Limit: 30

**Leader:** Louise Marum

**Trail:** 1 mile, wet, crawling, small tight spaces

**Saturday, July 19, 9:45AM-1PM**

Chilton, Calumet Co.

Cost: \$29 per person



BRIAN ROHLAND

175 & 198

### 174. Paddle Manitowish River in Search of Mussels

Paddle scenic waters in search of native mussels (freshwater clams). Learn about our state's 50 species of mussels, their amazing life cycle, interrelationship with fish, and contributions to the history of Wisconsin, from food to pearls to buttons. Stop along the way to snorkel and explore the underwater world to find and identify mussels. Canoes and snorkel gear provided. Limit: 12

**Leaders:** Jamie VandenLangenberg, Jesse Weinzinger & Lisie Kitchel

**Paddle:** 4.5 miles

**Saturday, July 19, 10AM-5PM**

Manitowish Waters, Vilas Co.

Cost: \$53 per person

### 175. Apostle Islands: Kayak the Sea Caves

Get up close with some of the biggest sea caves on the Apostle Island National Lakeshore mainland! Start at Meyers Beach with basic sea kayak instruction, then launch into the waters of Lake Superior for a paddle alongside towering red cliffs and exploration into iconic sea caves. Note: max weight 275lb; max height 6'6". Tandem sea kayaks and gear provided. Limit: 12

**Leader:** Ellie Kolodzieski

**Paddle:** 4 miles, strenuous if windy

Choose one session to attend:

**175-A. Saturday, July 19, 11AM-2:30PM**

**175-B. Saturday, July 19, 4-7:30PM**

Cornucopia, Bayfield Co.

Cost: \$100 per person



ROBERT POLLEY

177

### 176. Private Lands Restoration: Mineral Point

Enjoy an early autumn hike through a mature prairie restoration! Join experts from Adaptive Restoration for an exclusive tour of a 160-acre private property in its 15th year of habitat restoration. Learn tips and tricks for managing restored and remnant prairies, oak savannas, woodlands, and wetlands. Discuss interseeding prairie into old hayfields and creating habitat for grassland birds. Limit: 20

**Leader:** Bryant Luhman

**Trail:** 3 miles, primitive trails, some hills

**Saturday, July 19, 11AM-1PM**

Mineral Point, Iowa Co.

Cost: \$28 per person

### 177. Native Prairie Seed Collection at a Seed Farm

Where does seed for local prairie and oak savanna restoration come from? The seed farm, of course! Tour the St. Croix Wetland Management District's Seed Farm to learn about their native seed production program. Enjoy hands-on experience collecting and cleaning seeds of Ohio spiderwort, Junegrass, prairie phlox, and oxeye sunflower. Discover the importance of local, native seed in habitat restoration. Limit: 30 Ages 7+

**Leaders:** Alex Bouthilet, Jean Gfall & Chris Trosen

**Trail:** 0.5 mile, flat, mowed grass

**Saturday, July 19, 5:30-7:30PM**

Star Prairie, St Croix Co.

Cost: \$18 adult, \$8 youth, per person






JOSHUA MAYER

179


### 178. Birdies, Bogies & Butterflies: Sand Valley Golf Resort

You can have your native habitats and golf in them, too! Once a red pine plantation, Sand Valley has been thoughtfully converted to a place where natural areas and golf resort co-mingle in harmony. Learn how sand barrens and sand prairie were incorporated into the restoration design for aesthetics, conservation, and a great round of golf. Spy Karner blue butterflies who now thrive in this Central Sands landscape. Limit: 15

**Leader:** Jens Jensen  
**Trail:** 3 miles, rolling, sandy  
**Wednesday, July 23, 8AM-12PM**  
Rome, Adams Co.  
Cost: \$18 per person 

### 179. Restoring a Lost Landscape: Westport Prairie Partnership

*Challenging: steep, rocky terrain.* Visit a showpiece of Wisconsin's glacial and prairie heritage where 100 native plant species thrive. Majestic bur oaks dot the landscape amongst the blooming wild indigo, blazing stars, compass plants, and coneflowers. Hear about prairie management and the partnerships that protect this stunning site in Empire Prairie SNA. No bathrooms. Limit: 25

**Leaders:** BJ Byers & Sam Douglass  
**Trail:** 2 miles, very steep, rocky, unsure footing  
**Wednesday, July 23, 9-11:30AM**  
Westport, Dane Co.  
Cost: \$18 per person 



MICHAELA PERECKAS

181

### 180. Turtle Flambeau Flowage Pontoon Tour

Explore the history and natural beauty of the 13,000-acre Turtle Flambeau Flowage Scenic Waters Area on a guided pontoon tour. Enjoy excellent birding and wildlife viewing as you learn about the history and cultural traditions of this jewel of the Northwoods. Fundraiser for local conservation. Limit: 10

**Leaders:** Hannah Thorpe & Jim Bokern  
**Trail:** Step-up into boat  
Choose one session to attend:  
**180-A. Wednesday, July 23, 11AM-4PM**  
**180-B. Thursday, July 24, 11AM-4PM**  
Springstead, Iron Co.  
Cost: \$75 per person\* 


### 181. Pontoon Tour: History & Habitat of the Harbor District

Enjoy a pontoon cruise through Milwaukee's Harbor District to see where three ecologically important rivers meet to flow into Lake Michigan. Explore its changing history from rich freshwater estuary to industrial hub, and learn about current efforts to restore and revitalize this working waterfront. Limit: 40

**Leader:** Aaron Zeleske  
**Trail:** Step down into boat, no handrail  
Choose one session to attend:  
**181-A. Wednesday, July 23, 12:45-3PM**  
**181-B. Wednesday, August 20, 12:45-3PM**  
Milwaukee, Milwaukee Co.  
Cost: \$60 per person

### 182. The Emeralds of Door County's Mud Lake

Venture into the land of damselfies and dragons – members of the insect order *Odonata*, of course! Observe a wide assortment of damselflies and dragonflies, including the endangered Hein's Emerald, as they whiz around the surrounding wetland and tallgrass prairie. Learn about ecology and identification techniques, and get a chance to view and photograph these charismatic insects. No bathrooms. Limit: 20

**Leaders:** Dan Jackson & Zach Ausavich  
**Trail:** 2 miles, crushed rock, dirt, gradual slopes  
**Thursday, July 24, 9AM-3PM**  
Baileys Harbor, Door Co.  
Cost: \$18 per person 



STEVE WALDRON

184


### 183: Ridge & Swale: Plant Ecology Ramble

Over hill, over swale, we will hit the Ice Age Trail as it rambles through one of the highest quality coastal ecosystems along Lake Michigan. Learn how the ridge and swale wetland complex formed as lake levels receded over thousands of years, leaving concentric dune ridges behind. See a unique assemblage of plants only known from a few locations in the state. No bathrooms. Limit: 15

**Leaders:** Kevin Doyle & Ryan O'Connor  
**Trail:** 3 miles, unpaved, flat to rolling, creek crossing, sand dune climb  
**Friday, July 25, 10AM-2PM**  
Two Rivers, Manitowoc Co.  
Cost: \$28 per person

### 184. Urban Nature Photography

Want to see a prairie in full bloom in the heart of downtown Milwaukee? Explore Three Bridges Park along the Hank Aaron State Trail and discover this unique place in a fun way: capturing the flora and fauna through a camera lens! Learn photography tips and tricks from an experienced teacher. Bring any camera, including a DSLR or smartphone. Limit: 20

**Leader:** Eddee Daniel  
**Trail:** 2 miles, dirt, paved, steps, hills  
**Friday, July 25, 10AM-12PM**  
Milwaukee, Milwaukee Co.   
Cost: \$18 per person




SOREN GOLDSMITH

186

### 185. Bats at Dusk & Dawn: Overnight Camping at Nelson Dewey State Park

*Note: trip includes overnight tent camping.* Each summer evening at Stonefield Historical Site, 3,000 bats emerge from bat houses to feast on insects and then return to their roosts before dawn. Join the Wisconsin DNR Bat Program for a Friday evening presentation on Wisconsin bats and their biology, then watch bats emerge for their nightly foray. Camp together at the neighboring Nelson Dewey State Park group campsite and venture out stealthily before sunrise Saturday morning to marvel as bats swoop and swarm in the dawn light. Fundraiser for WI Bat Conservation Fund. Limit: 30 Ages 10+

\*Must bring your own camping equipment.  
**Leaders:** Heather Kaarakka, J. Paul White & Jennifer Redell  
**Trail:** 200 yards, gravel, grass  
**Friday, July 25, 7PM to Saturday, July 26, 6AM**  
Cassville, Grant Co.   
Cost: \$50 per person\*

### 186. Homegrown National Parks: Make Your Yard a Wildlife Haven

Learn how to make your yard a sanctuary for wildlife! Visit a suburban yard to learn tips and insights for naturalizing your outdoor space. Bring your curiosity, ideas, and questions on how best to create a biodiverse yard and perhaps establish your own Homegrown National Park. No bathrooms. Limit: 18

**Leader:** Alex Singer  
**Trail:** 0.5 mile, flat trail, uneven surfaces  
**Saturday, July 26, 10AM-12PM**  
Madison, Dane Co.  
Cost: \$18 per person

\*Percentage of cost is tax-deductible



188

### 187. Penokee Hills: Beaver Ponds & Wetlands

*Extreme: off-trail, tripping hazards, standing water, steep rugged terrain.* Journey to one of Wisconsin's highest quality watersheds: the headwaters of Bull Gus Creek, a tributary to the Bad River. Learn about the importance of beavers in helping maintain upper watershed wetlands for capturing runoff, recharging groundwater, and supporting trout and wildlife habitat. Explore several different kinds of wetlands, including large beaver ponds.

Limit: 20

**Leaders:** Tracy Hames & Bill Heart

**Trail:** 2 miles, off-trail, steep, wet, tripping hazards

**Saturday, July 26, 10AM-3PM**

Mellen, Iron Co.

Cost: \$28 per person

### 188. Lakeshore State Park: Urban Oasis

Lakeshore is one of the newest and most urban of Wisconsin's State Parks. Located on a Lake Michigan peninsula in downtown Milwaukee, it sports spectacular views of both the city and lake. Hike through its shortgrass prairies to learn about ecology and marvel at the surprising diversity of wildlife, plants, and birds that inhabit this urban oasis. Limit: 25

**Leader:** Elaine Zautke

**Trail:** 2 miles, ADA accessible, paved

**Friday, August 1, 10AM-12PM**

Milwaukee, Milwaukee Co.

Cost: \$18 per person



192

### 189. Paddle Little Rock Lake: A Lake of National Significance

The 39-acre Little Rock Lake seems an unlikely waterbody to be nationally significant, but it is! For more than a decade it was part of the U.S. EPA's National Acid Precipitation Assessment Program which ultimately led to congressional action to reduce acid rain. Paddle its scenic shores to learn and discover more! No bathrooms. \*You must bring your own canoe/kayak. Limit: 15

**Leaders:** John Bates, Mary Burns & Susan Knight

**Paddle:** 1 mile around shoreline, easy portage

**Saturday, August 2, 9:30AM-12PM**

Minocqua, Vilas Co.

Cost: \$40 per person

### 190. Snorkel & Explore the Underwater World of Sparkling Lake

Sparkling Lake is heralded for crystal clear waters and abundant aquatic life including fish, turtles, and mussels. Explore this underwater world and learn about freshwater ecology in a unique way: snorkeling! Snorkels, masks, fins, and life vests will be provided. Some swimming skills required; beginning snorkelers welcome. No bathrooms. Limit: 10

**Leaders:** Jamie VandenLangenberg & Aidan Witthoff

**Trail:** Swimming 275 yards

Choose one session to attend:

**190-A. Saturday, August 2, 10AM-12PM**

**190-B. Saturday, August 2, 1-3PM**

Arbor Vitae, Vilas Co.

Cost: \$50 per person



195

### 191. Paddle Camp Lake & Pines SNA: Research on a Wild Lake

Over the last two decades, this beautiful 38-acre wild lake has been the site of several biocomplexity studies that have contributed to the understanding of lake ecology and lake management. Embark on an afternoon paddle in search of birds and aquatic plants, and hear from scientists about what they have learned. No bathrooms. \*You must bring your own canoe/kayak. Limit: 15

**Leaders:** John Bates, Mary Burns & Greg Sass

**Paddle:** 1 mile around shoreline

**Saturday, August 2, 1-3:30PM**

Minocqua, Vilas Co.

Cost: \$40 per person



### 192. Wolf Howl & Forest Lodge Tour

Join naturalists from the Timber Wolf Alliance to learn about area wolf packs. Caravan in your own vehicles through wolf territory with stops along the way to howl, look for wolf tracks and signs of other wildlife including elk and various forest carnivores. Enjoy dinner at Lakewood Resort and an outdoor tour of Forest Lodge on Lake Namakagon (included). Limit: 20

**Leaders:** Adrian Wydeven, Sarah Boles & Melanie Michaels

**Trail:** 2 miles, dirt roads, paths

**Saturday, August 2, 3PM-Midnight**

Cable, Bayfield Co.

Cost: \$88 per person

### 193. Pollinators-a-Plenty: Navarino Wildlife Area

Join the Bumble Bee Brigade! Explore the diverse insect life of Navarino Wildlife Area and the role that state lands have in pollinator conservation. Start indoors to learn about some of the pollinators we might see. Then take to the trails to spot some of these charismatic insects buzzing around the beautiful wildflower displays. Limit: 20

**Leaders:** Zachary Ausavich & Elizabeth Braatz

**Trail:** 3 miles, dirt, rock, grass surfaces

**Monday, August 4, 10AM-2PM**

Shiocton, Waupaca Co.

Cost: \$18 per person



196

### 194. Paddle Rice Creek SNA

*Challenging: difficult access, possible portage, and paddling through dense lily pads.* Float under the canopy of fir, tamarack and cedar, and past dense stands of wild rice. Enjoy a leisurely paddle through this ecologically diverse, botanically-rich site abundant in wildlife and cultural history. Have an opportunity to get your feet wet and explore a boreal rich fen on foot. No bathrooms. \*You must bring your own canoe or kayak. Limit: 10

**Leaders:** Licia Johnson & Rod Sharka

**Paddle:** 5 miles, challenging boggy launch

**Wednesday, August 6, 9AM-4:30PM**

Boulder Junction, Vilas Co.

Cost: \$43 per person



### 195. Explore The Christopher Farm & Gardens

Perched atop the bluffs of Lake Michigan's scenic western shoreline, The Christopher Farm & Gardens brings together horticulture, landscape design, education, and the arts. Enjoy an exclusive tour of this 50-acre private botanical garden and be inspired by flora, fauna and artistry! Limit: 50

**Leaders:** Robyn Jacobchick & Robert Pragatz

**Trail:** 2.5 miles, mixed surfaces, slight hills

**Wednesday, August 6, 1-4PM**

Sheboygan, Sheboygan Co.

Cost: \$20 per person



### 196. UW Zoological Museum Tour & Mammal ID Skills

Go behind the scenes at the UW Zoological Museum to explore the biological specimens housed in this 10,000-square-foot facility. Sharpen your identification skills of Wisconsin's mammals by studying their tracks, skulls, and field markers up close. Limit: 20

**Leaders:** John Stuhler & Emily Halverson

**Trail:** Indoor walking tour

**Friday, August 8, 9:30AM-12PM**

Madison, Dane Co.

Cost: \$23 per person







TODD NELSON

199

### 197. Paddle Lake Desair: Ethnobotany & Management

Paddle the scenic Lake Desair to learn about lake health, history, and some ethnobotany of the native plants that live along the shoreline. Discover how dedicated partners and landowners have worked together to restore and keep the lake clean. Hike a bit in the nearby conservancy to discover prairie plants, too! No bathrooms. \*You must bring your own canoe/kayak. Limit: 20

**Leaders:** Anna DeMers & Cate Lucas

**Trail:** 1 mile, groomed trail + 1-mile paddle

**Friday, August 8, 1-4PM**

Rice Lake, Barron Co.

Cost: \$28 per person

### 198. Sea Caves Full Moon Paddle

A unique kayaking experience: sea caves by moonlight! Launch into the waters of Lake Superior in the calm twilight, and explore the sea caves at Romans Point by the light of the moon. Start off at Cornucopia beach with basic sea kayak instruction, then paddle with the full moon rising behind us to light our way. Note: max weight 275lb; max height 6'6". Fundraiser for NRF. Tandem sea kayaks and gear provided. Limit: 12

**Leader:** Ellie Kolodzieski

**Paddle:** 4 miles, strenuous if windy

Choose one session to attend:

**198-A. Friday, August 8, 8-11PM**

**198-B. Saturday, August 9, 8-11PM**

Cornucopia, Bayfield Co.

Cost: \$120 per person



GARY WEGE

200 & 205

### 199. Shorebirds & Waterbirds of Cat Island

*Challenging: long, 5-mile hike.* Enjoy an exclusive opportunity to hike into the usually closed-to-the-public Cat Island Wave Barrier for a rare chance to see its amazing birdlife. Spy great egrets, black-crowned night herons, terns, pelicans and more on this island that has hosted more species of migratory shorebirds than any other location in Wisconsin! No bathrooms. Fundraiser for Bird Protection Fund. Limit: 18

**Leader:** Tom Prestby

**Trail:** 5 miles, gravel road

**Saturday, August 9, 8AM-12:30PM**

Green Bay, Brown Co.

Cost: \$100 per person\*



### 200. Treasures in the Stream: Mussels of Embarrass River

Wade in the cool, clear waters of the Embarrass River to search for one of our state's most diverse yet hidden treasures: freshwater mussels (clams). Learn about our 50 native species and their fascinating life cycles, interrelationships with fish, and unique contributions to Wisconsin history, from food to buttons to pearls. Great fun for kids and adults! Limit: 30 Ages 5+

**Leaders:** Lisie Kitchel & Jesse Weinzinger

**Trail:** 20 yards

**Saturday, August 9, 9AM-12PM**

Pella, Shawano Co.

Cost: \$18 adult, \$8 youth, per person



### 201. Dunes of Kohler Andrae: Flora, Fauna & Geology

*Challenging: steep, off-trail hiking on sand.*

Explore the amazing world of dunes along the Lake Michigan shore. Hike off-trail to discover unique sand dune ecology, rare plants, interdunal ephemeral wetlands, and a dry-mesic white pine forest in beautiful Kohler Park Dunes SNA. Fundraiser for local conservation. Limit: 25

**Leaders:** James Buchholz & Butch DuMez

**Trail:** 0.75 mile, sandy, cordwalk, some steep

**Saturday, August 9, 9:30AM-12PM**

Sheboygan, Sheboygan Co.

Cost: \$28 per person



MEGAN MICKELSON

203

### 202. Finding Fungi: Van Loon Wildlife Area

Traverse the picturesque floodplain forest and sand prairies perched along the banks of the Black River on a fungi foray! Early autumn is the perfect season for learning identification tips for tricky fungi and the rules for foraging on State Wildlife Areas. No bathrooms.

Limit: 20

**Leaders:** Mariah Rodgers & Zach Ausavich

**Trail:** 3 miles, hills, marshy areas

**Saturday, August 9, 10AM-2PM**

Holmen, La Crosse Co.

Cost: \$18 per person

### 203. Bloomfield Wildlife Area: Making Trails & Restoring Prairie

Bloomfield is abloom! Enjoy restored prairies awash with colorful coneflower, asters, and warm season grasses including big bluestem and Indian grass. Hike portions of what will be a designated trail with boardwalks and stream crossings to accommodate hikers, hunters, birdwatchers, dog walkers, and nature enthusiasts of all kinds! No bathrooms.

Limit: 20

**Leader:** Nathan Holoubek

**Trail:** 2 miles, mowed grass, some steep, wet areas

**Thursday, August 14, 9:30-11:30AM**

Lake Geneva, Walworth Co.

Cost: \$18 per person

### 204. Horicon Marsh Sunset Cruise

Enjoy a hike through beloved Horicon Marsh to learn about ecology and discover wildlife. Then board pontoon boats for an enchanting sunset cruise in search of birds and other dusk-hour delights. Enjoy light snacks and a drink onboard (included). Fundraiser for NRF.

Limit: 32

**Leaders:** Liz Herzmann, Jeff Bahls & Troy Kirchoff

**Trail:** 2 miles, flat, boardwalk, gravel, grass

**Friday, August 15, 3:30-8PM**

Horicon, Dodge Co.

Cost: \$75 per person



MICHELLE MILFORD

198 & 204

### 205. Treasures of the Mukwonago River: Native Mussels

Wade in the cool waters of the Mukwonago River to search for one of our state's most diverse yet hidden treasures: freshwater mussels (clams). Learn about our 50 native species, their fascinating life cycles, and their unique contributions to Wisconsin history, from food to buttons to pearls. Great fun for kids and adults! Limit: 25 Ages 5+

**Leader:** Lisie Kitchel

**Trail:** 0.5 mile, short walk, wading in river

**Saturday, August 16, 9AM-12PM**

Mukwonago, Waukesha Co.

Cost: \$18 adult, \$8 youth, per person



### 206. Hands-On Mineral & Fossil Collecting

Learn about rocks, minerals, and fossils as you collect your own geologic specimens from a local quarry. Then head over to the Earthaven Museum to tour their collection of more than 10,000 geologic specimens. Limit: 25 Ages 8+

**Leaders:** Ruth & Michael Riesch

**Trail:** 1 mile, easy

**Saturday, August 16, 10AM-2PM**

Lena, Oconto Co.

Cost: \$23 adult, \$13 youth, per person



### 207. Manitowish Paddle Adventure

Embark on a 5-hour paddling journey to discover the beauty and ecology of a scenic Northwoods river. Learn about aquatic plants, animals, and forest ecosystems along the river's edge. \*You must bring your own canoe/kayak. Limit: 15

**Leader:** Jenna Richardson

**Paddle:** 6 miles

**Saturday, August 16, 10AM-3PM**

Boulder Junction, Vilas Co.

Cost: \$58 per person

\*Percentage of cost is tax-deductible





209 & 229



211 & 259



214



216

### 208. Mindfulness in Nature: One Match Fire Starting

Mindfulness hones being, seeing, and connecting with yourself and nature. It helps reduce stress and improve physical and mental health. Join us in nature-based guided mindfulness exercises: sitting and moving. Further deepen connections with yourself and nature by learning to start a fire using only natural materials. Limit: 15

**Leaders:** Roger Reynolds & Jennifer Dobson

**Trail:** 50 yards, paved, slight incline

**Saturday, August 16, 10AM-3PM**

Bagley, Grant Co.

Cost: \$18 per person 

### 209. Monarch Tagging: St. Croix Valley

Monarchs need our help! One of the most recognizable butterflies on the planet is now on the decline. Become a citizen scientist and take an active role in their protection. Learn details of their fascinating life cycle then grab a net to help tag monarchs for scientific study within restored prairies of Carpenter St. Croix Valley Nature Center's Wisconsin Campus. Limit: 30 Ages 7+

**Leader:** Abbey Holden

**Trail:** 2 miles, some off-trail in grasslands

**Saturday, August 16, 1-3PM**

Hudson, St. Croix Co.

Cost: \$23 adult, \$13 youth, per person 

### 210. Banding Ducks Hands-On

Stealthily ascend into an elevated blind under the cover of darkness and watch ducks gather during sunrise at the Collins Marsh Wildlife Area. See biologists capture ducks with a cannon-net, then help catch and even band ducks yourself! A great hands-on experience to learn about waterfowl ecology and management. Fundraiser for NRF. Limit: 10 Ages 8+

**Leaders:** Steve Easterly & Andrew Krsnich

**Trail:** 300 yards, gravel, mowed, stairs, standing

Choose one session to attend:

**210-A. Tuesday, August 19, 4:30-8:30AM**

**210-B. Thursday, August 21, 4:30-8:30AM**

Reedsville, Manitowoc Co.

Cost: \$40 adult, \$30 youth, per person  

### 211. Falling in Love with the Night Sky: Wyalusing

Join the StarSplitters to explore astronomy! Start the evening in a classroom learning about the night sky: planets, galaxies, star clusters, and nebulae. Then venture outside with telescopes to view the Great Hercules Cluster, the Lagoon Nebula, the Andromeda Galaxy, and much more. Limit: 24

**Leaders:** Jean Napp & Josh Kozelka

**Trail:** 0.2 mile, flat walking path

**Thursday, August 21, 8-11PM**

Prairie du Chien, Grant Co.

Cost: \$23 per person

### 212. Paddle Theresa Marsh Wildlife Area

Venture out on a scenic paddle to explore the vast wetlands of Theresa Marsh! We'll travel past swooping black terns and dabbling wood ducks to learn about the property's history, current habitat restoration efforts, and the wildlife and plants found in the marsh. No bathrooms. \*You must bring your own canoe/kayak. Limit: 15

**Leader:** Steffen Peterson

**Paddle:** 5 miles, flat water

**Friday, August 22, 8:30AM-1PM**

Theresa, Washington Co.

Cost: \$18 per person

### 213. Lulu Lake SNA: Terrain in Transition

*Challenging: steep, off-trail hike in wet terrain.* Take a walk on the historical side! Traverse oak openings and venture into the fen to see the bubbling springs that feed the Mukwonago River as well as rare ecosystems. Hear about the geological and human influences on this exceptional State Natural Area. Possible poison ivy. No bathrooms. Limit: 15

**Leaders:** Cory Peters & Caleb Lang

**Trail:** 3 miles, off-trail, very steep, hummocks

**Friday, August 22, 9AM-12PM**

Eagle, Waukesha Co.

Cost: \$23 per person  

### 214. Macroinvertebrate Mayhem: Treehaven Field Station

Descend into the world of creepy crawlers! Hike along the creek with stops to wade a stream and identify freshwater crustaceans, insect larvae, mollusks, and more. Learn how these fascinating creatures act as bioindicators and help us detect pollution in aquatic ecosystems. Help record data and conduct a biotic assessment of Pickerel Creek. Combine family fun and science exploration! Limit: 30 Ages 7+

**Leader:** Fox Carvis

**Trail:** 1.5 miles, mostly even, some hills

**Saturday, August 23, 9AM-12PM**

Tomahawk, Lincoln Co.

Cost: \$28 adult, \$18 youth, per person 

### 215. Exploring Old-Growth: Van Vliet Hemlocks SNA

Bask in the glory of towering old growth trees! Immerse yourself in a majestic northern hemlock-hardwood remnant forest that contains evidence of our glacial past. At 1,700 feet of elevation, the Winegar Moraine marks a subcontinental divide where all waters to the north flow into Lake Superior, and all waters to the south flow into the Mississippi River. No bathrooms. Limit: 15

**Leaders:** John Bates & Mary Burns

**Trail:** 2 miles, rocky, some hills

Choose one session to attend:

**215-A. Saturday, August 23, 9:15AM-12PM**

**215-B. Saturday, August 23, 1-3:45PM**

Boulder Junction, Vilas Co.

Cost: \$40 per person  

### 216. Tour the Raptor Education Group Inc

View spectacular birds up close at REGI, one of Wisconsin's most important bird rehabilitation and education facilities which cares for 900-1,000 patients annually. They accept all federally-protected, native bird species as patients with a specialization in bald eagles, raptors, and trumpeter swans. Limit: 30 Ages 6+

**Leaders:** Samantha Brooks & Cinna Smallwood

**Trail:** 0.5 mile, gravel

**Saturday, August 23, 10AM-12PM**

Antigo, Langlade Co.

Cost: \$23 adult, \$13 youth, per person   

### 217. Horicon Marsh Kayak Exploration

Paddle to discover the history, geology, flora, and fauna of one of our nation's largest freshwater marshes, recognized as a Wetland of International Importance. Kayaks and gear provided. Limit: 12

**Leader:** Steff Merten

**Paddle:** 6 miles, smooth water, some wind

**Sunday, August 24, 8AM-12PM**

Horicon, Dodge Co.

Cost: \$78 per person





219




### 218. Mukwonago River: Oak Barrens Restoration

Explore unique sandy oak barrens and adjacent sedge meadows teeming with blooming plants, such as hairy puccoon, hoary frostweed, Canada frostweed, blunt-leaf milkweed, prairie pinweed, and blue toadflax. Learn about the restoration of this increasingly rare ecosystem and what it takes to protect it. No bathrooms. Limit: 20  
**Leaders:** Daniel Carter & Jessica Bizub  
**Trail:** 1.7 miles, no sitting, some off-trail, uneven ground

**Sunday, August 24, 12-3PM**  
Eagle, Waukesha Co.  
Cost: \$25 per person

### 219. Hummingbirds: Ecology & Banding

Marvel at these flying jewels up close as we watch a licensed bander capture and tag ruby-throated hummingbirds. Learn about hummingbird ecology and glean ideas on attracting various birds and butterflies to your own yard. No bathrooms. Fundraiser for Bird Protection Fund. Limit: 25 Ages 7+  
**Leaders:** Mickey O'Connor, Larry & Emily Scheunemann  
**Trail:** 0.25 mile, flat, mowed grass

**Tuesday, August 26, 7:30-9:30AM**    
Milton, Rock Co.  
Cost: \$68 adult, \$58 youth, per person\* 

### 220. Above and Below: Benefits of Multispecies Cover Crops

Calling all gardeners and farmers! Learn how cover crops can reduce soil erosion and compaction, suppress weeds, and increase soil fertility. Peer into a soil pit to marvel at the striated layers that make up healthy soil. See firsthand the butterflies, bees and other pollinators who also benefit from these living soil covers. Limit: 25 Ages 10+  
**Leader:** John Ruzicka

**Trail:** 0.5 mile, flat, grassy farm field  
**Thursday, August 28, 1-4PM**  
Bancroft, Portage Co.  
Cost: \$18 adult, \$8 youth, per person 



220

### 221. Gile Flowage: Geology, History & Ecology

*Challenging: potential of high winds.* Be “beguiled” with the Gile Flowage! Paddle to discover the fascinating geology, history, and ecology of this 3,138-acre, relatively undeveloped lake. Learn how Iron County and local citizens are working together to preserve this little-known jewel that harbors over 20 “wild islands” and is part of the Laurentian Shield that extends to the arctic. No bathrooms. \*You must bring your own canoe/kayak.

Limit: 15  
**Leader:** Cathy Techtmann  
**Paddle:** 4 miles, poss. windy, choppy waters  
**Friday, September 5, 9AM-12PM**  
Pence, Iron Co.  
Cost: \$28 per person

### 222. The Dells: Upham Woods Perspective on Place & Legacy

Canoe along Blackhawk Island SNA in the Upper Dells and gaze up at the towering sandstone cliffs above. Climb onto the island's sandy shores and hike the craggy peaks to explore the cultural history, geology, and ecology of the area. Canoes and gear provided. Limit: 24


**Leaders:** Rachael Lewandowski Sarette, Amy Workman & Jen Maggio-Laack  
**Trail:** 1.5-mile hike, steep + 2-mile paddle  
Choose one session to attend:  
**222-A. Friday, September 5, 3-6:30PM**  
**222-B. Friday, September 26, 3-6:30PM**  
Wisconsin Dells, Juneau Co.  
Cost: \$55 per person



222

### 223. Exploring Mosquito Hill

Despite its name, Mosquito Hill Nature Center has far more to offer than just pesky insects. The large sandstone outcropping, located within Wisconsin's tension zone, provides scenic views and a diverse array of animal and plant species. Enjoy a hike to learn more about the unique history, geology and habitats of this special place. Limit: 30 Ages 7+  
**Leader:** Adam Brandt  
**Trail:** 3 miles, dirt and paved trails

**Saturday, September 6, 9AM-12PM**  
New London, Outagamie Co.  
Cost: \$23 adult, \$13 youth, per person 




### 224. A Wisconsin Desert, Complete with Cacti

*Challenging: off-trail hike.* Explore Blue River Sand Barrens SNA, one of the largest and best examples of the oak barrens natural community in Wisconsin. See prickly pear cacti, sand dunes, and a diversity of grasshoppers as we explore this arid landscape. No bathrooms. Limit: 16

**Leaders:** Jared Urban & Jeff Lorch  
**Trail:** 2 miles, off-trail  
**Saturday, September 6, 10AM-1PM**  
Blue River, Grant Co.    
Cost: \$18 per person

### 225. A Night Out with Chimney Swifts

Be awestruck at the spectacle of hundreds of chimney swifts coming to roost together! During late summer evenings, these birds form large tornado-like flocks above chimneys and then simultaneously funnel down into the openings. Witness it firsthand and learn more about these amazing aerial insectivores. No bathrooms. Fundraiser for Bird Protection Fund. Limit: 35 Ages 7+

**Leaders:** Spencer Stehno, Karen Schoenike, Mary & Meredith Cullen     
**Trail:** Mostly seated  
Choose one session to attend:  
**225-A. Saturday, September 6, 6-8PM**  
**225-B. Sunday, September 7, 6-8PM**  
Okauchee Lake, Waukesha Co.  
Cost: \$38 adult, \$28 youth, per person




228

### 226. Forest Bathing & Foraging: Hoyt Park

Forest Bathing guides you to find stillness, open your senses, and profoundly connect with nature. Learning about wild edible and medicinal plants can further hone your relationship with the landscape and natural world. Join a Certified Nature and Forest Therapy Guide and expert forager at Hoyt Park. No bathrooms. Limit: 20  
**Leaders:** Kate Bast & Vince Aiello  
**Trail:** 1 mile, unpaved, rolling hills  
**Sunday, September 7, 9AM-12PM**  
Madison, Dane Co.  
Cost: \$48 per person

### 227. Restoring the Monarch Migration

Explore a rare migratory roost site for monarchs in the heart of Wauwatosa! Traverse the meadows, prairies, oak savanna, and wetlands of the Monarch Conservancy to learn about the monarch's complex life cycle and how you can help conserve this iconic species that is in decline. No bathrooms. Limit: 20 Ages 7+

**Leader:** Barb Agnew  
**Trail:** 1 mile, bumpy, narrow trail  
**Sunday, September 7, 4:30-6PM**  
Wauwatosa, Milwaukee Co.   
Cost: \$18 adult, \$8 youth, per person

### 228. Elk Bugling in the Flambeau River State Forest

Greet the sunrise by bugling for elk! Tour the Flambeau River State Forest to look for signs of elk and discuss the biology of this majestic animal. Learn the history, present, and future of the Wisconsin elk program from initial reintroduction efforts to an annual harvest season by tribal and non-tribal hunters. Fundraiser for NRF. Limit: 20

**Leaders:** Ron Weber, Josh Spiegel & Laine Stowell  
**Trail:** 2 miles, forest roads, uneven surfaces  
**Monday, September 8, 6AM-12PM**  
Phillips, Sawyer Co.  
Cost: \$38 per person



\*Percentage of cost is tax-deductible



231

### 229. Tagging Monarch Butterflies at Goose Pond Sanctuary

Grab a net and blaze through prairies to capture and tag monarch butterflies! Discover details of monarch ecology, their awe-inspiring migration story, and marvel at this site where 900+ monarchs are tagged annually. Learn how to attract monarchs and other butterflies to your own yard. Limit: 25 Ages 10+

**Leaders:** Mark Martin, Graham Steinhauer & Emma Raasch

**Trail:** 2 miles, off-trail in tall grass

Choose one session to attend:

**229-A. Tuesday, September 9, 9:30AM-12PM**

**229-B. Tuesday, September 9, 1-3:30PM**

Arlington, Columbia Co.

Cost: \$28 adult, \$18 youth, per person

### 230. Geneva Lake: Wetlands, Woodland & Prairies

Explore Kishwaukee Nature Conservancy, a beautiful 231-acre preserve with bountiful habitats. Saunter through the prairies, oak woodlands, kettles, and the last remaining wetlands on the shore of Geneva Lake. Once slated for development, this site is now a protected haven for birds, coyote, fox, river otter, and many other wildlife species. Limit: 25

**Leaders:** Brian Cook, Don Skalla & Jim Killian

**Trail:** 2 miles, unpaved, wide trail

**Wednesday, September 10, 10AM-12PM**

Williams Bay, Walworth Co.

Cost: \$23 per person

### 231. Green Roofs Walking Tour of Milwaukee

Can we use nature to make our cities healthier and more livable? Yes, through green infrastructure! This approach can take many forms, including rain gardens, tree plantings, porous parking lots, and green roofs. Walk to several green roofs in downtown Milwaukee to learn how they reduce stormwater runoff, protect waterways from pollutants, and provide energy savings. Limit: 20

**Leaders:** Chris Schultz & Kevin Patterson

**Trail:** 1 mile, paved, stairs

**Friday, September 12, 8:30AM-12PM**

Milwaukee, Milwaukee Co.

Cost: \$18 per person



237

### 232. Lunch on Lone Rock & Quincy Bluff SNA

*Extreme: steep, difficult hike scrambling over large rocks.* Discover one of Wisconsin's largest SNAs, Quincy Bluff and Wetland, a huge wetland complex bordered by soaring mesa-like sandstone bluffs. Then venture for a hike to eat your lunch atop Lone Rock with a stunning vista of the wild landscape below. Must not be afraid of heights. No bathrooms. Fundraiser for local conservation. Limit: 20

**Leaders:** Tim Holme & Shannon Haley

**Trail:** 5 miles, rocky

**Friday, September 12, 10AM-2PM**

Adams, Adams Co.

Cost: \$28 per person

### 233. Explore Waubesa Wetlands SNA

*Challenging: off-trail hike in wet terrain.* Trek through restored prairie to experience one of the highest quality and most diverse wetlands remaining in southern Wisconsin! Peat deposits up to 95' deep support shrub-carr, sedge meadow, and calcareous fen communities. Discover rare plants such as lesser fringed gentian, grass-of-parnassus, and Riddell's goldenrod. No bathrooms. Limit: 25

**Leader:** Alex Wenthe

**Trail:** 2.5 miles, off-trail, some wet areas

**Friday, September 12, 1-4PM**

Fitchburg, Dane Co.

Cost: \$18 per person

### 234. Autumn Prairies Abloom at Holy Wisdom

How many native plant species can you ID? Learn how to identify asters, goldenrods and gentians on this meandering hike through Holy Wisdom Monastery's prairies and savanna.

We'll keep a sharp lookout for birds, bees, and butterflies on this early autumn stroll! Limit: 18

**Leader:** Sylvia Marek

**Trail:** 2 miles, mowed, some small hills

**Saturday, September 13, 9-11:30AM**

Middleton, Dane Co.

Cost: \$18 per person



238

### 235. Train Ride & Bluff Prairie Hike: Tiffany Wildlife Area

A full day of fun! Enjoy a morning walk in 5-Mile Bluff SNA for amazing views of the Chippewa and Mississippi rivers as we learn about glacial geology, goat prairie management, and snakes. Then off to the tracks for an open-air train ride into the remote areas of the Tiffany Wildlife Area, stopping for short hikes into prairies, savannas, and floodplain forests. Enjoy one of the most ecologically unique areas of the state! Fundraiser for Lower Chippewa River Basin Conservation Fund. Limit: 60

**Leaders:** Mark Rasmussen & Dean Edlin

**Trail:** 1 mile, hills, long periods standing

**Saturday, September 13, 9AM-5PM**

Pepin, Pepin Co.

Cost: \$50 per person\*

### 236. Fungal Foray: McMillan Marsh Wildlife Area

*Extreme: off-trail, uneven terrain, stepping over logs.* Lace your hiking boots for a fun foray through scenic forests ablaze in autumn color in search of mushrooms and other fungi! Learn the basics of mushroom identification and ecology, and history of the area. No bathrooms. Limit: 20

**Leaders:** Craig Ziolkowski & Zach Ausavich

**Trail:** 3 miles, off-trail, wet, brambles

**Saturday, September 13, 11AM-2PM**

Marshfield, Marathon Co.

Cost: \$23 per person

### 237. Fish Diversity of Baird Creek - for kids!

Bring the whole family to learn about the fish and other aquatic creatures hidden in the waters of Baird Creek. Watch as fish are temporarily captured using a large seine net and get up close with aquatic biodiversity. Great fun for young kids and adults! Limit: 30 Ages 3+

**Leaders:** Charlie Frisk & Lexi Angemi

**Trail:** 1.5 miles, steep ascents, uneven surfaces

**Saturday, September 13, 1-3PM**

Green Bay, Brown Co.

Cost: \$18 adult, \$8 youth, per person

\*Percentage of cost is tax-deductible



239 &amp; 240

### 238. Beginning Rock Climbing: Devil's Lake State Park

*Challenging: vigorous, very steep hike on rocky terrain.* Explore Devil's Lake like never before! Take a steep hike to remote quartzite cliffs overlooking Devil's Lake and Oak Forest SNA. Then don climbing gear and harnesses to learn the basics from certified rock climbing instructors. Take 3-5 climbing routes, belay others, and experiment with scaling vertical cliff faces. All climbing gear is provided. Perfect for beginners! Limit: 20 Ages 16+

**Leaders:** Nick Wilkes, Carrie Van Lanen & Mark Grman

**Trail:** 1 mile, steep, rocky, requires strength

**Sunday, September 14, 8AM-3PM**

Merrimac, Sauk Co.

Cost: \$68 adult, \$58 child, per person

### 239. Climate Smart Forestry in Action

Discover the many climate adaptation tools used at the Forest Exploration Center. Hike through this 60-acre southern hardwood forest to learn how climate change is impacting our forests and what we can do to keep our forests healthy, sustainable, and resilient today and into the future. No bathrooms. Limit: 15

**Leaders:** Brad Hutnik, Julie Hein & Mike Sieger

**Trail:** 2 miles, crushed granite, ADA accessible

**Sunday, September 14, 10AM-12PM**

Wauwatosa, Milwaukee Co.

Cost: \$18 per person

### 240. Pelican River Forest: Water, Wildlife & the Forest Economy

The 70,000-acre Pelican River Forest is one of the largest successful conservation efforts in Wisconsin history. Enjoy a caravan tour with stops to hike through scenic forests. Discover the history of private forestlands and why their conservation is vital to protecting water, wildlife, and the economic foundations of northern Wisconsin communities. Limit: 30

**Leaders:** Clint Miller & Charlie Carlin

**Trail:** 2 miles, rustic trail

**Tuesday, September 16, 1-4PM**

Pelican Lake, Oneida Co.

Cost: \$18 per person





241

### 241. Eagle Research: Kohler Co.'s Eagle Valley Nature Preserve

The wooded bluffs and prairies of Eagle Valley provide vital winter shelter for hundreds of bald eagles. Several eagles nest here in the summer too, making it a prime location for 30 years of raptor research. Learn about raptor ecology and hike through diverse habitats that support 87 different breeding birds, dozens of mammals, and many amphibians and reptiles. Enjoy Mississippi River vistas, too! Fundraiser for Bird Protection Fund. Limit: 12  
**Leaders:** Brett Mandernack, Davor Grgic & Ryan Schmitz

**Trail:** 2.6 miles, mowed, some hills

**Friday, September 19, 9-11:30AM**

Cassville, Grant Co.

Cost: \$43 per person\* 

### 242. Conservation Legacy: UW-Madison Arboretum

Visit the birthplace of ecological restoration in the United States! The John T. Curtis Prairie was the first-ever attempt to return worn-out farmland to a native tallgrass community and is designated a National Historic Landmark. See grassland, wetland, and woodland restorations. Hear about pioneering research on prescribed fire and the role of the Civilian Conservation Corp. Limit: 20

**Leaders:** Anne Pearce & Kathy Miner

**Trail:** 2 miles, packed soil, some hills

**Friday, September 19, 10AM-12:30PM**

Madison, Dane Co.

Cost: \$18 per person



245 &amp; 247

### 243. Geology of Two Creeks Buried Forest SNA

*Challenging: steep hike.* Discover a buried forest! Hike along a lakeshore bluff where ancient wood from pre-glacial forests is exposed. Learn about geologic, climatic, and human events from this epic episode of Wisconsin's glacial history at one of our most famous geologic sites! Nice pairing with trip #244. No bathrooms. Limit: 20

**Leaders:** David & Vin Mickelson, Dolly McNulty

**Trail:** 2 miles, very steep hills, boulders

**Saturday, September 20, 10AM-12PM**

Two Creeks, Manitowoc Co.

Cost: \$18 per person 

### 244. Geologic Origins of Point Beach SNA

For thousands of years the Lake Michigan shoreline has moved miles both to the east and west, and was once 300 feet lower than today's shoreline. Hike over ridges and swales, through sand dunes, and onto the beach to understand how waves and wind have shaped the shore we see today. Nice pairing with trip #243. Limit: 25

**Leaders:** David & Vin Mickelson, Dolly McNulty

**Trail:** 2.8 miles, dunes and beach

**Saturday, September 20, 1:30-3:30PM**

Two Rivers, Manitowoc Co.

Cost: \$18 per person  

### 245. Canoeing the Concrete Jungle

Many have paddled canoes under a canopy of trees, but here's a unique opportunity to paddle under a canopy of skyscrapers and museums in downtown Milwaukee! Explore how natural and human histories shaped the Milwaukee River and learn current efforts to restore the ecological health of this urban wilderness. Experienced paddlers only. Canoes and gear provided. Limit: 14

**Leaders:** Tim Vargo, Amanda Tokuyama & Maggie Steinhauer

**Paddle:** 4 miles, mostly flat water

**Thursday, September 25, 10AM-3PM**

Milwaukee, Milwaukee Co.

Cost: \$48 per person



246

### 246. Autumn Splendor: Fall on the Flambeau River

*Challenging: some rock scrambling.* Enjoy early autumn splendor on a day-long bus tour with stops to hike. View powerful rapids on the historic Flambeau River, visit a wilderness lake, and walk through enchanting hemlock-hardwood forests. Learn more about the history and future of hidden jewels within the Flambeau River State Forest. Limit: 25

**Leaders:** Ron Weber & Maggie Lorenz

**Trail:** 3 miles, flat dirt trails, rocky section

**Friday, September 26, 9AM-3PM**

Winter, Sawyer Co.

Cost: \$40 per person

### 247. Kayaking the Kinnickinnic: The Urban Watershed

*Note: possible waves with wind.* Explore the heart of Milwaukee's South Side by kayak! The Kinnickinnic River Watershed is the most urbanized watershed in the entire state — though paddling in a kayak, you might not know it! Learn about river history, restoration, and how green infrastructure can improve water quality. Spot herons, turtles, and other urban wildlife. Kayaks and gear included. Limit: 10

**Leader:** Yesi Perez

**Paddle:** 6 miles, some wind, waves

**Friday, September 26, 1-4:30PM**

Milwaukee, Milwaukee Co.

Cost: \$53 per person

### 248. Waterloo Prairie SNA: Seed Collection & Restoration

*Challenging: off-trail hike with hummocks.* Lend your hand restoring a rare natural community! Enjoy a delightful hike through a wet prairie brimming with spotted joe-pye weed, big bluestem, Indian grass and various asters. Hear about the natural processes that formed the site, restoration techniques, plant identification, and invasive species control. Then collect and spread seed at the end of the trip! No bathrooms. Limit: 20

**Leaders:** Richard Imp & Trent Leaf

**Trail:** 3 miles, off-trail, tall vegetation, hummocks

**Friday, September 26, 1-3PM**

Waterloo, Jefferson Co.

Cost: \$18 per person 



248

### 249. Historical Tour of Meadow Valley Wildlife Area

Take a trip back in time to the logging days of the 1800's, the early settlers of the 1900's, and the land management of today. Enjoy a caravan tour with stops for short hikes to learn about historical events that shaped this land, including logging, railroads, wildfires, mossing, and cranberry production. Limit: 20  
**Leaders:** Carrie Milestone & Dave Rheinschmidt

**Trail:** 2 miles, uneven, forest roads

**Saturday, September 27, 9AM-2PM**

Babcock, Juneau Co.

Cost: \$18 per person

### 250. Nevin State Fish Hatchery: Raising Healthy Trout

Ever wondered how fish that are stocked into our state waters are raised? Tour a fish hatchery with state culturists and fish health veterinarians to see firsthand how the Wisconsin DNR rears trout species to help jump-start, maintain, and conserve populations within the state. Limit: 20  
**Leaders:** Danielle Godard, Mike Aquino & Jason Himebauch

**Trail:** 0.5 mile, paved, some steps

**Saturday, September 27, 9:30-11:30AM**

Fitchburg, Dane Co.

Cost: \$23 per person

### 251. Amazing Raptor Migration: Hawk Ridge Observatory

Experience peak raptor migration from a ridgetop perch with panoramic views of Lake Superior. The right winds can bring several thousand raptors! Expect sharp-shinned hawk, broad-winged hawk, northern harrier, merlins, and peregrine falcons. Learn about raptor ecology and identification, and see banded birds up close. Limit: 15

**Leaders:** Richard & Amy Staffen, Sharon Fandel

**Trail:** mostly sitting/standing, watching

**Saturday, September 27, 10AM-1PM**

Duluth, MN

Cost: \$28 per person  

\*Percentage of cost is tax-deductible





252



253



256



261

WILL RANGER

MARTIN KAHRLE

JONATHAN BEERS

ARB WARDIUS

### 252. Hunting Without Harvest: Nature Observation & Orienteering

Unlock the mysteries of nature on this stealthy hike! Practice skills used by traditional hunters to get close to and observe elusive wildlife, but leave the woods with only a photo, sketch, written observation, or memory. Learn animal tracking, habits and preferred habitats, and basic orienteering. Limit: 20 Ages 8+

**Leader:** Ron Weber

**Trail:** 2 miles, some hills, some off-trail

**Saturday, September 27, 10AM-3PM**

Ladysmith, Rusk Co.

Cost: \$18 adult, \$8 youth, per person



### 253. Hawk Banding: 70+ years in Southeast Wisconsin

Experience a firsthand look at one of the oldest continuous hawk banding operations in the United States—over 70 years and 44,000 hawks banded! Get an up-close view of banding red-tailed hawks, sharp-shinned hawks, and other raptors. Fundraiser for Cedar Grove Ornithological Research Station Fund. Limit: 6

**Leaders:** Sharon Fandel & Steve Holzman

**Trail:** 0.25 mile, level, some stairs

Choose one session to attend:

**253-A. Tuesday, September 30, 9AM-12PM**

**253-B. Tuesday, September 30, 1-4PM**

**253-C. Wednesday, October 8, 9AM-12PM**

**253-D. Wednesday, October 8, 1-4PM**

**253-E. Thursday, October 16, 9AM-12PM**

**253-F. Thursday, October 16, 1-4PM**

Cedar Grove, Sheboygan Co.

Cost: \$118 per person\*



### 254. Farm to Forest: Mequon Nature Preserve Celebrates 25 Years

Experience some of the groundbreaking ecological projects of the Mequon Nature Preserve. Hike through hardwood forest restored from fallow fields. Marvel at newly restored wetlands woven into regenerative agricultural acres. Learn how the Fondy Farm Project provides farmers within the Hmong community greater access to farmland. Being harvest time, we are bound for a bountiful hike! No bathrooms. Limit: 30

**Leaders:** Kristin Thiel & Cory Gritzmacher

**Trail:** 2 miles, uneven, gravel and dirt trails

**Tuesday, September 30, 5-7PM**

Mequon, Ozaukee Co.

Cost: \$18 per person

### 255. Sack Lake Old-Growth Forest Hike

*Challenging: long off-tail hike on uneven terrain.*

Hike through the massive yellow birch and hemlocks surrounding Sack Lake. Learn about the ecology and importance of old-growth forests while being immersed in vibrant fall color. No bathrooms. Limit: 12

**Leaders:** Troy Walters & Richard Bostwick

**Trail:** 4 miles, some off-trail, rolling hills

**Friday, October 3, 10AM-1PM**

Pine Lake, Iron Co.

Cost: \$28 per person

### 256. John Muir's Boyhood Haunts

It's been over 100 years since John Muir penned his iconic book, "My Boyhood and Youth." Explore Muir Park SNA and other boyhood haunts that were part of the original Muir homestead, enjoy Observatory Hill SNA, and visit Wee White Kirk where John's father preached and his family is buried. Limit: 25

**Leaders:** Mark Martin & Kathleen McGwin

**Trail:** 0.75 mile, narrow, steep rocky

**Saturday, October 4, 9:30AM-3:30PM**

Montello, Marquette Co.

Cost: \$28 per person



### 257. Porcupine Wilderness Area: Forest Ecology & Orienteering

*Extreme: long, off-trail hike.* Unlike most Wisconsin forests, the Porcupine Lake Wilderness Area has been untouched by human influence for decades. Hike both off-trail and on the scenic North Country Trail to discover forest ecology and learn the art of orienteering with compass, map, and GPS. No bathrooms. Limit: 15

**Leaders:** Ron Weber & Justin Cook

**Trail:** 5 miles, off-trail, steep slopes, rocks

**Saturday, October 4, 10AM-3PM**

Grandview, Bayfield Co.

Cost: \$18 per person

### 258. Wyalusing: A Hike Through Time

*Challenging: steep hike and rock stairways.* Hike along the bluffs high above the confluence of the Wisconsin and Mississippi rivers. See stunning vistas and learn about the unique geologic, natural, and human history of this beloved State Park. Fundraiser for local conservation efforts. Limit: 22

**Leaders:** Bruce Klang & Josh Kozelka

**Trail:** 2 miles, steep stairs, dirt trail

**Saturday, October 4, 1-4PM**

Bagley, Grant Co.

Cost: \$28 per person



### 259. Star Gazing at Washburn Observatory

*Note: steep staircase.* Tour historic Washburn Observatory and discover the fascinating history of the observatory's telescope and the study of astronomy at UW-Madison. Then, weather permitting, open up the observatory dome to view objects in the night sky with the 15.6-inch refracting telescope. Limit: 30

**Leaders:** Jim Lattis

**Trail:** 0.25 mile, steep staircase with no railing

**Saturday, October 4, 7-9PM**

Madison, Dane Co.

Cost: \$28 per person

### 260. Turkey Vultures Up Close

*Note: one climb up a very steep rock stairway.*

Hike upon the bluffs of Devil's Lake State Park to marvel at more than 100 migrating turkey vultures gathering in their nightly roost. Learn about turkey vulture natural history and meet a charming live vulture up close! Limit: 20 Ages 7+

**Leaders:** Lisa Hartman & Mike Mossman

**Trail:** 1 mile, steep climb on rocky stairs

**Sunday, October 5, 2:30-7PM**

Baraboo, Sauk Co.

Cost: \$28 adult, \$18 youth, per person



### 261. Bus Tour: Autumn Color in the Northwoods

Discover the 100-year history of the Northern Highland-American Legion State Forest by bus. We'll meander down rustic roads ablaze with fall color and hear captivating stories from a local historian. This 6-hour bus tour will take us from Camp Mercer to Star Lake with several stops for short hikes. Culture, history, and scenic views await! Limit: 25

**Leader:** Beth Feind

**Trail:** 3 miles, some hills, packed dirt

**Friday, October 10, 8:45AM-3PM**

Manitowish Waters, Vilas Co.

Cost: \$78 per person

### 262. Fall Colors of the Blue Hills Felsenmeer SNA

*Extreme: long hike with steep, rugged terrain.*

Discover an ecological rarity with unique geology: the Blue Hills Felsenmeer (felsenmeer is German for "sea of rocks"). Enjoy flora and fauna on this hike through forests awash in autumn color. Limit: 20

**Leader:** Ron Weber

**Trail:** 4.5 miles, steep, rugged, challenging

**Friday, October 10, 10AM-3PM**

Weyerhaeuser, Rusk Co.

Cost: \$18 per person



\*Percentage of cost is tax-deductible





264



266, 270, 272, 276



267



271

### 263. Fall Foliage Paddle

Paddle down the scenic waters of the Eau Claire River in search of bald eagles, migratory birds, beavers, fish and more! Immerse yourself in the brilliant fall colors and unique seasonal changes of Wisconsin's river ecosystems.

Kayaks and gear provided. Paddling experience recommended. Limit: 10

**Leaders:** Megan Giefer & John Muetz

**Paddle:** 3.5 miles, experienced paddlers

**Friday, October 10, 10AM-1:30PM**

Fall Creek, Eau Claire Co.

Cost: \$83 per person 

### 264. Hayward Nursery: Collecting Tree Seed for Wisconsin's Future

Ever wonder how seeds are harvested from towering pines? To find out, tour the Hayward Nursery, which for 80 years has worked to reforest Wisconsin by maintaining orchards of improved spruce, pine, butternut, and more. See firsthand how tree seeds of all varieties are collected, processed through machinery, then eventually grown into seedlings for the state nursery system. Limit: 40

**Leaders:** Richard Nessler, Missy Prieve & James Gadicke

**Trail:** 2 miles, flat, sandy roads

**Friday, October 10, 11AM-2PM**

Hayward, Sawyer Co.

Cost: \$18 per person

### 265. Kangaroo Lake: Fall for Autumn Foliage


Gaze in awe at the natural beauty of autumn at Door County's Kangaroo Lake Nature Preserve and learn the biological secrets of how the tree's leaves change color and why. Travel along the trail beginning atop an ancient shoreline, winding down to the lake edge. Enjoy stunning views and observe wildlife. No bathrooms. Limit: 20

**Leader:** Paige Witek

**Trail:** 1.5 miles, steep slopes, rocky terrain

**Friday, October 10, 3-5PM**

Baileys Harbor, Door Co.

Cost: \$18 per person 

### 266. Sunset Trolley Tour: Cranes of Navarino

Board an ADA accessible trolley to embark on a journey through the forests, prairies and waterways of Navarino Wildlife Area. Enjoy the sunset hour as hundreds of cranes fly overhead and fill the Pike's Peak flowage.

Learn about history, logging, and management along the way. Trolleys are accessible for walker and wheelchair users. (Wheelchair space is limited, reserve prior to trip date.) Limit: 30

**Leaders:** Tim Ewing & Kaylee Lietz

**Trail:** mostly sitting on trolley

**Friday, October 10, 4:30-6:30PM**

Navarino, Shawano Co.

Cost: \$28 per person  

### 267. Geology & Natural History: Hagar Mountain SNA

*Challenging: off-trail hike on steep rugged terrain.*


Much of northeastern Wisconsin is covered by 100-foot-thick layers of flat glacial till, but Hagar Mountain SNA is one exception! Marvel at 60-foot cliffs of granite, rhyolite, and volcanic formations over a billion years old. Learn its unique geologic history, see waterfalls, and enjoy stunning views from the top overlooking autumnal color. Limit: 25

**Leaders:** Nelson Ham, John Lampereur & Scott Valitchka

**Trail:** 4 miles, steep (400 vertical ft), rocky

**Saturday, October 11, 9:30AM-3PM**

Mountain, Oconto Co.

Cost: \$28 per person 

### 268. Behind the Scenes at the Wisconsin State Herbarium


Botanists within the Wisconsin State Herbarium on the UW-Madison campus have been documenting flora for more than 175 years, and have amassed one of the world's largest collections of preserved plants, algae, lichens, and fungi. Learn about the herbarium's 1.3 million botanical specimens and enjoy hands-on activities with museum curators. Limit: 25

**Leaders:** Ken Cameron, Mary Ann Feist & Melanie Link-Perez

**Trail:** 0.25 mile, indoors, short walks

**Sunday, October 12, 9AM-12PM**

Madison, Dane Co.

Cost: \$23 per person 

### 269. Deansville Wildlife Area: Meander in the Marsh

*Challenging: off-trail hike.* Explore Wisconsin's first public hunting grounds and see the stark contrast between channelized sections of the Mauneshia River that supported a former mint farm and the river's original meanders that resemble small oxbow lakes. Hike upland forest, open marshland, and sedge meadow to discover wildlife and learn about human and natural history. No bathrooms. Limit: 12

**Leaders:** Jason Pitzer & Terry Bradshaw

**Trail:** 3 miles, off-trail, possibly muddy and wet

**Sunday, October 12, 12-4PM**

Marshall, Dane Co.

Cost: \$25 per person

### 270. Crex Meadows: Crane Roosting Caravan



Start indoors learning about sandhill crane ecology. Then caravan through Crex Meadows Wildlife Area during sunset hours to marvel at thousands of cranes flocking to their nightly roost. Limit: 25 Ages 10+

**Leader:** Lauren Thomas

**Trail:** caravan with cars, getting out to view

**Friday, October 17, 4:30-7PM**

Grantsburg, Burnett Co.

Cost: \$18 per person  

### 271. Fall Waterfowl Viewing on Chequamegon Bay

Waterfowl galore! Caravan along the scenic shore of Lake Superior to view a plethora of waterfowl. Expect to see diving ducks, an assortment of dabbling ducks, and other waterbirds, such as common loons and horned grebes. There's a good chance we will see scoters, long-tailed ducks, or Pacific loons!



Limit: 20 Ages 12+

**Leader:** Nicholas Anich

**Trail:** caravan with cars, getting out to view

**Saturday, October 18, 8AM-12PM**

Ashland, Ashland Co.

Cost: \$18 adult, \$8 youth, per person  

### 272. Crane Roosting: Sandhill Wildlife Area

Behold the beauty of cranes at sunset! Start indoors to learn about crane ecology. Then hike out to the marsh edge to marvel at breathtaking views of thousands of cranes coming to roost in Gallagher Marsh at sunset. There's a good chance to see eagles and swans, too! Limit: 20

**Leaders:** Cheyenne Wehler & Quinn Brownell

**Trail:** 1-mile walk + 2 hours sitting on ground

**Saturday, October 18, 3-8PM**

Babcock, Wood Co.

Cost: \$18 per person 

### 273. Saw-whet Owl Migration: Carpenter Nature Center


Have a close encounter with Wisconsin's smallest owl! Venture out with the research banding team as they capture and band northern saw-whet owls. Learn the natural history of this tiny predator and marvel up close at this mysterious bird of prey. The majority of this program is indoors. Limit: 20 Ages 7+

**Leaders:** Jennifer Vieth & Sonia Martinez

**Trail:** 0.25 mile, paved, flat

**Thursday, October 23, 8-10PM**

Hudson, St. Croix Co.

Cost: \$28 adult, \$18 youth, per person  





273 & 274



277 & 278



## LOVE NATURE. WILL TRAVEL.

### EXPLORE CONSERVATION AROUND THE WORLD WITH NRF

Travel with NRF for intimate, unique experiences focused on nature, wildlife, and conservation efforts. Our travel hosts are dedicated to the sustainability of our planet, reducing our carbon footprint, and supporting local conservation projects in the countries where we travel.

#### 274. Owls under the Stars

Did you know that many birds migrate at night using stars to navigate? Watch Beaver Creek Reserve researchers trap and band one of these nocturnal migrants: the tiny northern saw-whet owl. Then learn about the night sky, and weather permitting, view celestial objects through telescopes. Limit: 28 Ages 8+

**Leaders:** Jeanette Kelly, Mike Brown & Laruen Likkell

**Trail:** 0.25 mile, indoors, short walks

**Friday, October 24, 7:30-10PM**

Fall Creek, Eau Claire Co.

Cost: \$33 adult, \$23 youth, per person



#### 275. Glacial Ghosts of Whitnall Park

The Ice Age lives on! Journey back 15,000 years to an era when glaciers were in retreat and mammoths roamed. See up close the kettles, moraines, erratics, and other glacial features and discover how glaciers left their mark on the Whitnall Park we enjoy today. Limit: 30 Ages 12+

**Leaders:** Howard Aprill & Emily Brown

**Trail:** 1 mile, uneven ground

**Saturday, October 25, 9-11AM**

Franklin, Milwaukee Co.

Cost: \$18 adult, \$8 youth, per person



#### 276. Crane Congregations: Wisconsin River

Back from near extinction in the 1930's, sandhill cranes are a conservation success story. Learn about crane ecology, long-term studies, and potential conflicts with agriculture. Then caravan to observe thousands of cranes fly into roost for the evening. Fundraiser for Bird Protection Fund. Limit: 20 Ages 7+

**Leaders:** Ryan Michalesko & Andy Gossens

**Trail:** caravan with cars, getting out to view

**Saturday, October 25, 2-6PM**

Portage, Columbia Co.

Cost: \$38 adult, \$28 child, per person



#### 277. Migration on the Mighty Mississippi

A sight to behold! Expect to see 100,000 waterfowl on this caravan tour to several birding hotspots along the Mississippi River. Spy swans, pelicans, bald eagles, hawks, and more during the peak of fall migration at this Globally Important Bird Area. Learn about challenges to river management and witness success of habitat restoration efforts.

Fundraiser for Bird Protection Fund. Limit: 25

**Leaders:** Jim Nissen, Steve Houdek & Luke Fara

**Trail:** caravan with cars, getting out to view

**Thursday, November 6, 8:30AM-3PM**

La Crosse, La Crosse Co.

Cost: \$50 per person\*



#### 278. Tips & Tricks to Mastering Waterfowl ID

Get to know the ducks, geese, and swans of the Mississippi River flyway. Learn tips and tricks for waterfowl identification in an indoor classroom, then venture to iconic Pools 8 and 9 on the Mississippi River to hone your skills during the peak of waterfowl migration.

Limit: 40

**Leaders:** Brenda & Scott Kelly

**Trail:** Mostly indoors, some outdoor viewing

**Saturday, November 8, 9AM-1PM**

La Crosse, La Crosse Co.

Cost: \$18 per person



#### Kayaking Isle Royale National Park

August 24-29, 2025

Cost: \$3,799 per person

Join NRF on this 5-day kayaking and camping adventure to explore the rugged coastlines, fjord-like bays, and pristine forests of this remote archipelago on Lake Superior. This is a unique opportunity to experience the solitude, breathtaking scenery, and abundant wildlife of this little-known gem in the Midwest. Enjoy delicious, guide-prepared camp meals and stunning sunsets each evening. Camping gear and kayaks provided. Hosted by Keweenaw Adventure Company. Group size: 6 participants



#### Northern Wisconsin Discovery Tour

October 9-12, 2025

Cost: \$750 per person

Join us on a 4-day adventure to explore hidden gems of Wisconsin's Northwoods. Enjoy hikes, paddles and pontoon rides to learn why the ecology, habitats and wildlife are so unique in this region. Our journey will reveal forests ablaze with yellow, orange and red fall colors and spectacular waterfalls cascading over ancient bedrock. Hosted by North Lakeland Discovery Center. Group size: 14 participants



LEARN MORE:

[WisConservation.org/Travel](https://WisConservation.org/Travel)

\*Percentage of cost is tax-deductible





SHELLY TORKELSON

## THANK YOU TO OUR 2025 PARTNERS

Our stellar Field Trip leaders have been the backbone of this program for over 30 years. We owe our success to these partners, who generously share their expertise about Wisconsin's lands, waters, and wildlife.

Adaptive Restoration, LLC  
 Aldo Leopold Audubon Society  
 Aldo Leopold Foundation, Inc.  
 Audubon Great Lakes  
 Badger History Group  
 Badger Mining Corporation  
 Baird Creek Preservation Foundation  
 Beaver Creek Reserve  
 Benjamin F. Goss Bird Club  
 Bjorklund-Lawrence University  
 Bouressa Family Farm  
 Broken Paddle Guiding  
 Cable Natural History Museum  
 Cadott High School  
 Carpenter St. Croix Valley Nature Center  
 Cedar Grove Ornithological Research Station  
 Chippewa Valley Astronomical Society  
 Chiwaukee Prairie Preservation Fund  
 Cultural Landscape Legacies  
 Dane County Dept. of Waste & Renewables  
 Dane County Land and Water Resources Dept.  
 Devils Lake Climbing Guides  
 Door County Land Trust  
 Door County Tours  
 Ducks Unlimited  
 Eagle Outdoor Skills  
 Earthaven Museum  
 Forest Exploration Center  
 Forest Home Cemetery & Arboretum  
 Fort McCoy Army Reserve Installation  
 Friends of Cherokee Marsh  
 Friends of Hartman Creek State Park  
 Friends of Kohler-Andrae State Park  
 Friends of Namekagon Barrens Wildlife Area  
 Friends of Pheasant Branch Conservancy  
 Friends of the Cedarburg Bog  
 Friends of the Monarch Trail  
 Friends of the St. Croix Wetland Management District  
 Friends of Vernon Marsh  
 Friends of Wyalusing State Park  
 Full Circle Community Farm  
 Gathering Waters  
 Geneva Lake Conservancy  
 Genoa National Fish Hatchery  
 Glacial Lakes Conservancy

Golden Sands RC&D Council, Inc.  
 Groundswell Conservancy  
 Harbor District, Inc.  
 Historic Indian Agency House  
 Ho-Chunk Nation  
 Holy Wisdom Monastery  
 Horicon Marsh Bird Club  
 Horicon Marsh Boat Tours  
 Hoy Audubon Society  
 Hunt Hill Nature Center  
 Ice Age Trail Alliance  
 International Crane Foundation  
 Iron County Extension Office  
 Jensen Ecology, LLC  
 Kettle Moraine Natural Landscaping  
 Kishwaukee Nature Conservancy  
 Kompas Business Partners  
 Lake Michigan Bird Observatory  
 Lake Superior Research Institute  
 LEAF Forestry Education Program  
 Ledge View Nature Center  
 Linda and Gene Farley Center for Peace, Justice & Sustainability  
 Lost Creek Adventures  
 Lower Chippewa River Alliance  
 Lower Wisconsin State Riverway Board  
 Madison Metropolitan Sewerage District  
 Madison Mycological Society  
 Manitowish Waters Historical Society  
 Maunasha River Alliance  
 Mequon Nature Preserve  
 Milwaukee Metropolitan Sewerage District  
 Mosquito Hill Nature Center  
 Mu Mushrooms LLC  
 National Park Service  
 Nature's Good Company, LLC  
 Navarino Nature Center  
 Nearby Nature Milwaukee  
 North Lakeland Discovery Center  
 Northeast Wisconsin Land Trust  
 Northwoods Land Trust  
 Open Door Bird Sanctuary  
 Outagamie County Recycling and Solid Waste  
 Ozaukee County Planning and Parks Dept.  
 Peninsula Kayak Company  
 Pheasants Forever  
 Preserve Our Parks  
 Quercus Land Stewardship Services  
 Raptor Education Group, Inc.

Rice Lake School District  
 Riveredge Nature Center  
 Rushing Waters Fisheries  
 Seno K/RLT Conservancy  
 Shinrin-Yoku Madison  
 Sixteenth Street Community Health Centers  
 Southern Wisconsin Bird Alliance  
 St. Norbert College  
 StarSplitters of Wyalusing State Park  
 Sugar Valley Farm, LLC  
 Tall Pines Conservancy  
 Tamarack Wetland Services, LLC  
 The Christopher Farm & Gardens  
 The Conservation Fund  
 The Prairie Enthusiasts  
 The Ridges Sanctuary  
 Timber Wolf Alliance  
 Trails North  
 Treehaven UWSP  
 Trees For Tomorrow  
 Trout Lake Station  
 U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service  
 U.S. Forest Service  
 Upham Woods Outdoor Learning Center  
 Urban Ecology Center  
 USGS Upper Midwest Environmental Sciences Center  
 UW Arboretum  
 UW Space Place Outreach Center  
 UW Zoological Museum  
 UW-Green Bay  
 UW-Madison  
 UW-Milwaukee  
 UW-Oshkosh  
 UW-Stevens Point  
 Walnut Way Conservation Corp.  
 Washington Island Art and Nature Center  
 Waukesha County Land Conservancy  
 Wehr Nature Center  
 Wild Rivers Conservancy  
 Wild Wisco Waters Canoe & Kayak Outfitters, LLC  
 Wisconsin Bird Conservation Partnership  
 Wisconsin Chimney Swift Working Group  
 Wisconsin DNR  
 Wisconsin Dragonfly Society  
 Wisconsin Mycological Society  
 Wisconsin Society for Ornithology  
 Wisconsin State Herbarium  
 Wisconsin Wetlands Association  
 Wisconsin Young Forest Partnership



BRENT BALKEN

APRIL 15-  
JUNE 15



## JOIN US FOR WISCONSIN'S LARGEST FUNDRAISER FOR BIRD CONSERVATION

Getting involved is easy (and fun!). Pick a day between April 15th and June 15th to count as many birds as you can, then collect pledges and donations from friends and family. Your efforts support Wisconsin's birds that need your help, such as Kirtland's warblers, piping plovers, whooping cranes, and more. Our Birdathon is for anyone, from beginners to birding experts, to classrooms or organizations.

[WISCONSERVATION.ORG/WIBIRDATHON](https://www.wisconsinconservation.org/wibirdathon)



SHELLY TORKELSON

Natural Resources Foundation of Wisconsin

# WAYFARERS

The Natural Resources Foundation's Wayfarers program connects young adults (20- and 30-somethings) to Wisconsin's outdoors. Join us for volunteer workdays, conservation-themed happy hours, and special outings to explore our amazing state!

[WISCONSERVATION.ORG/WAYFARERS](https://www.wisconsinconservation.org/wayfarers)



SHELLY TORKELSON

## EXPLORE. LOVE. PROTECT.

The Natural Resources Foundation of Wisconsin is a statewide nonprofit organization that protects our state's lands, waters, and wildlife by providing funding, leading partnerships, and connecting all people with nature.

When you participate in a Field Trip, you help support:

### ENVIRONMENTAL EDUCATION:

Supporting outdoor learning experiences for children and adults



ELIZABETH RAML

### WILDLIFE:

Working to save Wisconsin's threatened species



ELIZABETH BRAATZ

### LANDS AND WATERS:

Caring for Wisconsin's most ecologically important landscapes



BEN ALBERT

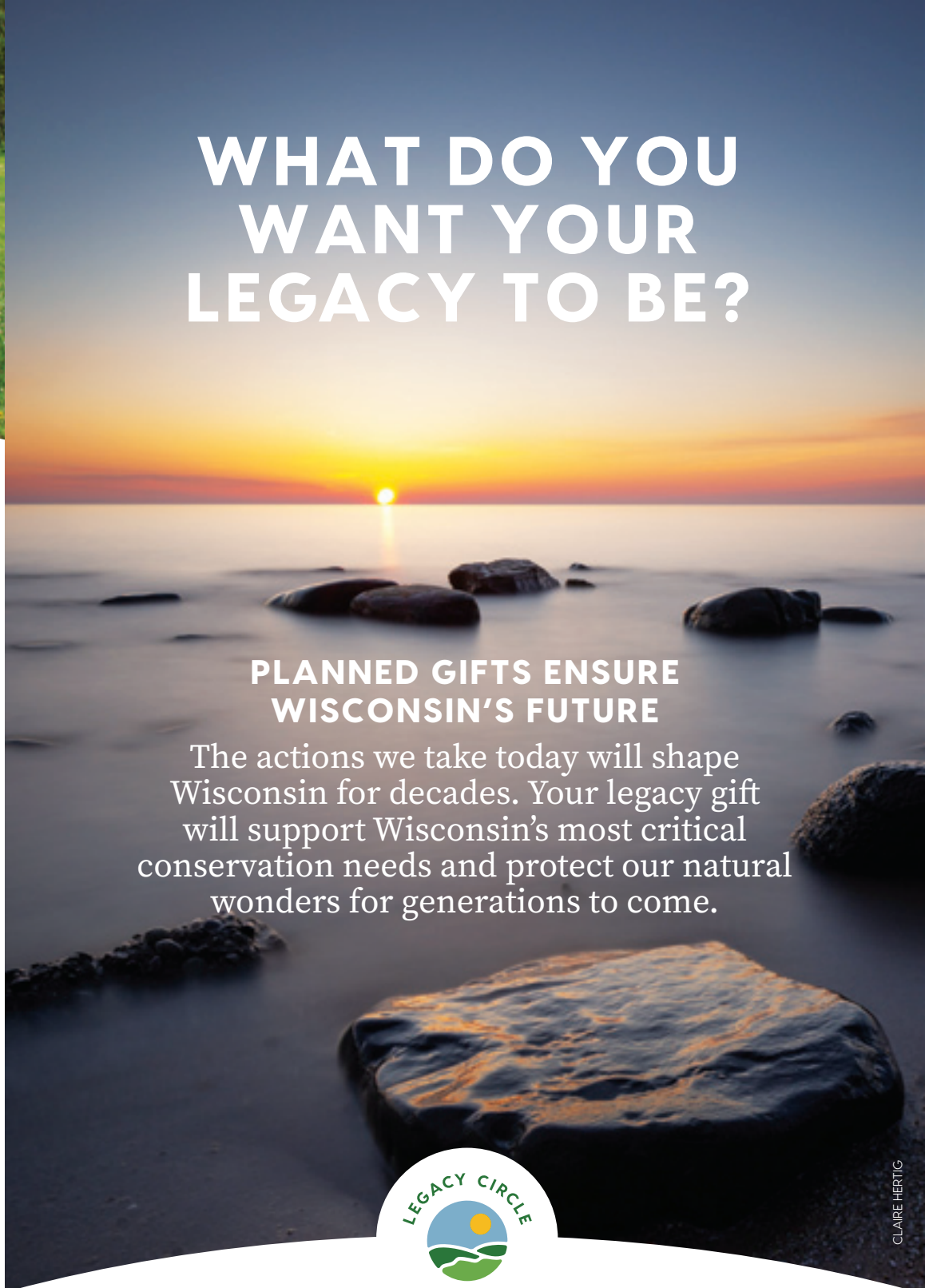
### DIVERSITY IN THE OUTDOORS:

Working towards a world where all people feel welcome while exploring nature



CATLYN WILLIAMS

# WHAT DO YOU WANT YOUR LEGACY TO BE?



CLAIRE HERTIG

## PLANNED GIFTS ENSURE WISCONSIN'S FUTURE

The actions we take today will shape Wisconsin for decades. Your legacy gift will support Wisconsin's most critical conservation needs and protect our natural wonders for generations to come.



Find sample language for your will or trust on our website, and learn more about planned giving by contacting Ben Strand, Director of Philanthropy at [Ben.Strand@WisConservation.org](mailto:Ben.Strand@WisConservation.org) or (608) 921-2391.

[WISCONSERVATION.ORG/PLANNED-GIVING](https://www.wisconservation.org/planned-giving)



Natural Resources  
**FOUNDATION**  
of Wisconsin

211 S Paterson Street Suite 100  
Madison, WI 53703

**REGISTER STARTING: NOON – APRIL 8  
WISCONSERVATION.ORG**

**MANY THANKS TO OUR SUPPORTERS**



QUALITY SUPERIOR AREA  
**COMMUNITY  
FOUNDATION**



Network for Landscape  
**CONSERVATION**

