



Woodland Dunes Nature Center *Dunesletter*

Spring 2015 & Volume 159

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From the Director

Hold on to your hats, it's going to be a busy year! Our first project, the bird observatory addition, is almost completed. Birds are already flocking to see it! The addition really brightens up our Edna Smith room, which has been painted and reorganized. More information and photographs about the project on page 7. We are now seeking additional funding for new exhibit cases and interpretive displays. Also, the FORWARD Endowment has approved funding for a second webcam showing our bird feeding area so our friends can share the view wherever they are.

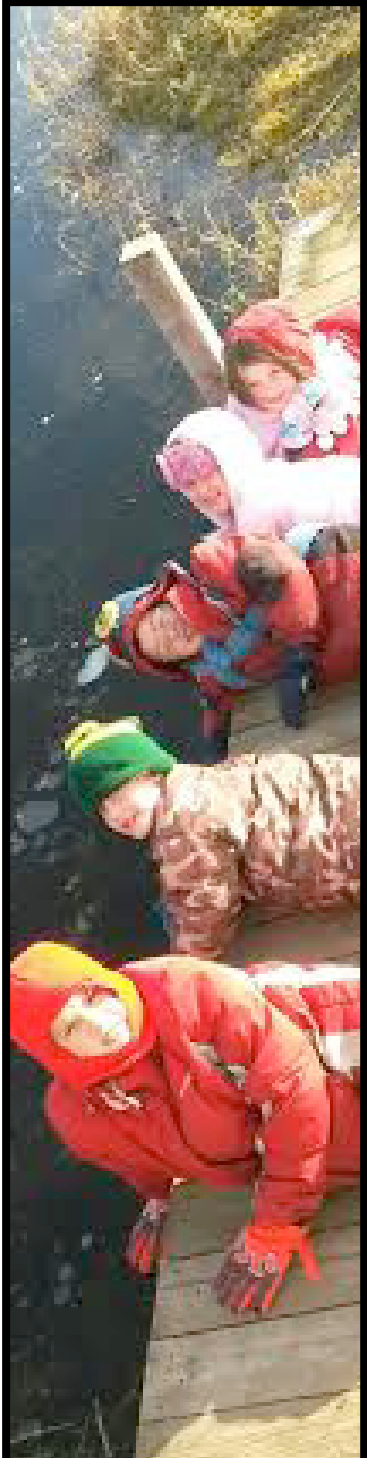
We're pushing forward with habitat restoration in and near our preserve. Our 2014 monitoring, done with the help of Darlene Waterstreet, recorded 110 species of birds using habitat along the lake and at our headquarters, which is pretty remarkable given the limited time spent recording observations. One colleague at the US Fish and Wildlife Service described the Two Rivers area as the best migratory stopover area on western Lake Michigan, and we have a lot of opportunities to help songbirds here. The Barberryans (volunteers helping with land management projects) are again at work removing invasive plants and replacing them with natives that help feed birds. We hope to continue working with other landowners along the Lake to make this songbird haven even better.

A major restoration will involve an old agricultural field we own along Woodland Drive. With funding from Wisconsin Public Service, we will be working to recreate a more natural wetland there by excavating 17,000 yards of soil which will be used by the City of Two Rivers to repair an old landfill. After excavation, the site will be planted in native vegetation, and two ditches on the property will be allowed to flow across the site to create a more natural stream channel. Once called Forget-Me-Not Creek, this area will be enhanced for the benefit of not only birds but fish moving up from Lake Michigan to spawn. This will be a major project that will occur in mid-to-late summer, after birds on the site have had some time to nest.

Our education programming is going to be strong again this year, with many diverse topics covered for people of all ages, as you'll see in pages to follow. Our events will also have some new twists that will make them more engaging. Thanks to the Hooper Foundation, the Wisconsin Association of Independent Colleges and Universities, and Silver Lake College, we again have the help of student interns this year. Misty Bowe is working with our staff for the spring semester, helping with environmental education, and Johannes Schneider from Germany is joining us for a few weeks to help with mapping of invasive species as part of his studies. Alek Henseler, a student at UW-Stevens Point will be joining us later in spring and in summer, working primarily on land management. We will be able to hire another intern for the summer, in addition.

We greatly appreciate the funding that will help us increase our staff capacity to achieve our mission, and also allow us to teach and work with these fine young people. One of our goals is to make Woodland Dunes a place that is continually fresh and interesting, as is nature itself. We hope you are looking forward to the coming season as much as we are, and we hope to see you often.

Jim Knickelbine



Spring Events



Kids' Nature Club

9:00am Guided nature walk
10:00am Guided nature activity
\$2 per participating child

All families with children and teens are invited to the Kids' Nature Club! Enjoy a guided nature walk followed by a guided nature activity. Please bring weather appropriate clothing, binoculars if you have them, a water bottle and comfortable shoes/boots. Kids' Nature Club is for all ages, especially young children. Children/teens must be accompanied by an adult. **RSVP to Margaret Pauwels at obyrrml@yahoo.com or 732-1562, by the Monday before the program.**

March 12th - Learn about maple syrup making and taste why March is the sweetest time of year! We will snowshoe if conditions allow.

April 9th - Learn about interesting spring plants at Woodland Dunes.

May 14th - Frogs - Meet some Wisconsin frogs and learn about their lifecycle.

The Wonder of It All: Maple Syrup Madness

Saturday, March 21st
10:00am
Members: \$4; \$10 family
Non-members: \$5; \$15 family



Experience the magic of maple syrup season! Learn about the syrup making process and see how it has changed over the years. Taste real maple syrup and discover why March is the sweetest time of year! This program takes place at the Field Station. Dress for the weather and be prepared to walk a short distance to the program site. **Registration required by March 19th.**
Sponsored by the Dominion Foundation.

Contact Information:

Woodland Dunes Nature Center
3000 Hawthorne Ave
Two Rivers, WI 54241

Phone: (920) 793-4007
Website: www.woodlanddunes.org
Like us on Facebook!

Farm Volunteer Days

9:00am-1:00pm
March 20th & April 3rd

Volunteer at Taproot Farm and Kitchen to help Woodland Dunes Nature Center! Meet at the Nature Center at 8:30am and carpool to the farm. Jobs could include tilling, fencing, and basic cleanup, depending on the volunteer's interests. The hours you volunteer help offset the cost of the dinner portion of the Farm to Table Dinner Fundraiser in August! More information on page 7. **Registration required by Thursday, March 12th.** Call the Nature Center at 793-4007 or email Corrissa Frank at corrissaf@woodlanddunes.org.

The Wonder of it All: Timberdoodle Walk and Star Party

Saturday, April 4th at 7:00pm
Members: \$4; \$10 family
Non-members: \$5; \$15 family

Search for the sky dancing American woodcock and witness its elaborate courtship displays during this guided hike. After, scope the night skies with a local astronomer and view constellations, the moon and other celestial objects (if the sky is clear). Bring a lawn chair and your own telescope if you wish. Weather permitting. Program takes place at the Nature Center.

Registration required by Thursday, April 2nd.

Sponsored by the Dominion Foundation.

Birding with Bernie

Saturdays April 11th & April 18th
9:00am-Noon

Donations are appreciated

Relax and enjoy the new bird viewing area inside the Nature Center. Join seasoned birder Bernie Brouchoud and identify and observe the birds as they come to the feeders. Stop in anytime between 9:00am and Noon.

Spring Events



The Wonder of It All: Effects of Non-Native, Invasive Shrubs on the Understory Flora

Friday, April 17th

1:30-3:00pm

Donations are appreciated

Join former Woodland Dunes intern, Rose Neumeyer, as she shares the results of her senior research project. Rose studied the effects of invasive shrubs on native herbaceous plants in the Woodland Dunes preserve during the spring and summer of 2014. After an indoor presentation, anyone interested is welcome to head outdoors to see a portion of the area that was studied. Rose is an undergraduate student at Silver Lake College. **Registration required by Wednesday, April 15th.**

Sponsored by the Dominion Foundation.



Rose Neumeyer

Dash at the Dunes 5k Trail Run/Walk

Saturday, April 25th

Race: 10:00am

Location: Aurora Medical Center,
5000 Memorial Drive, Two Rivers

NEW BIB CHIP TIMING!!

Registration:

To register online, visit <http://www.woodlanddunes.org/dash-at-the-dunes-5k-trail-run/>. You may also call (920) 793-4007 or stop in at the Nature Center.

Admission includes a t-shirt, snacks and drinks at the end of the race, and a chance to win a unique Dash at the Dunes wooden medal.

Now-April 3rd: \$25 per adult;
\$10 per child ages 12 and under
Guaranteed a T-Shirt

April 4th-April 22nd: \$30 per adult;
\$10 per child ages 12 and under

T-shirt sizes -first come first serve on the day of the race

Race Day: \$35 per adult;
\$10 per child ages 12 and under

T-shirt sizes -first come first serve on the day of the race

NEW Optional Activity- Win an Evening with the Owls

Support the Nature Center by raising pledges for our environmental education programs, either by yourself or by forming a team! This year, our goal is to raise \$5,000 for spring school field trips. Top fundraisers win an exclusive evening of owl banding with our Director, Jim Knickelbine, or a guided nature hike for your family or group.

After registering for the race, email Corriisa Frank at corrissaf@woodlanddunes.org the following information and you will receive further instruction:

1. Your full name and phone number.
2. If you have formed a team, I will need your team name and list of team members.

All proceeds you have raised will need to be dropped off or mailed to the Nature Center by April 21st. After sending Corriisa the above information, you will receive a pledge form and instructions on how your friends and family can donate to your team. Winners will be announced after the race at the Nature Center.

For more information, visit www.woodlanddunes.org, or call the Nature Center at (920) 793-4007.

Spring Events



Spring Hike

Saturday, May 2nd
8:00-9:30am



Donations are appreciated. Explore the trails with a naturalist and enjoy looking for birds, plants and other signs of spring. Bring binoculars and dress for the weather. Meet at the Nature Center. This program is weather dependent. **Registration required by Thursday, April 30th.**

Bat Monitor Training

Thursday, May 14th
7:30pm

Woodland Dunes participates in the Wisconsin Bat Monitoring Program and is looking for volunteers who are interested in monitoring bats in the area. Volunteers hold an AnaBat detector attached to a PDA and GPS and walk for a minimum of 1 hour after sunset on a pre-determined route. The detector picks up echolocation calls emitted by bats and translates it to a frequency the human ear can hear. The recorded data is submitted to the Wisconsin Bat Monitoring Program database. Monitors must attend a training session to learn how to use the monitor.

Registration required by May 11th as this is a weather dependent program.

Bird Breakfast & Migration Celebration

Saturday, May 9th
8:00-11:00am

Adults \$6, Children \$5;

Kids under 4, free (includes breakfast)

You are invited to a fun celebration of spring and the return of many of our migratory songbirds! Enjoy a ham and pancake breakfast, guided bird and nature hikes, bird banding demonstrations (weather permitting), and Birding with Bernie in the new Bird Viewing Area inside the Nature Center. Kids games and activities will be on-going throughout the morning. No registration necessary.



Bird Viewing Area Dedication

10:00am

Join us at 10am in the Nature Center for the dedication of the Bird Viewing Area, in memory of Esther Johnson and Jean Olson. This project was made possible by the generous contributions of Jack & Laurel Alyea, Fred & Charlotte Alyea, SMI, Inc., Dan Blitz and Green Construction. As of now, the inside is completed, and the outside brick will be laid in spring.

Optional Grosbeaks Galore Workshop

8:30am-4:00pm

\$20 per person: includes breakfast as described above and lunch.

Learn how to make a small investment that will pay off BIG for migratory birds. What do birds need for food, shelter, and roosting? How do you plant native trees and care for them? How do you eliminate hazards to birds on your property? Why is Lake Michigan important for migration? For more information and to register, visit <http://grosbeaksgalore.wix.com/grosbeaksgalore>

Registration is required.



For more information, contact:

Kim Grveles

Kim.Grveles@wisconsin.gov
(608) 264-8594

Spring Programs



Exploring the Landscape Family Series: Spring

Saturday, May 16th

9:30-11:30am

Donations are appreciated. Join us for a new series focusing on nature play and exploration for families with young children (children 10 and under). Enjoy spring activities that encourage outdoor play for both caregivers and children. This is a program the whole family participates in! Registration required by Tuesday, May 5th. *Sponsored by a 2014-2015 grant from the Wisconsin Environmental Education Board with financial support from the Wisconsin Public Service Foundation.*

The Wonder of It All: Water Quality in Southern Manitowoc County Streams: Students, Data, Issues, and Solutions

Thursday, May 28th

6:00-7:30pm

The Lakeshore Water institute, a collaboration between UW-Manitowoc and Lakeshore Natural Resource Partnership, has been collecting water quality data on streams in southern Manitowoc County over the past five years. During their talk, Rick Hein and Rebecca Abler will discuss the sampling completed by their UW-Manitowoc students, data collected, results, and potential impacts on area beaches and Lake Michigan. Discussion and question session to follow.

Registration required by May 26th.

Sponsored by the Dominion Foundation

NEW! Little Wings Summer Camp

Preschoolers ages 4, 5 & 6 who have not completed kindergarten

July 13th-July 17th

9:00am-Noon

Members: \$95

Non-Members: \$115

Everyday is an adventure for Little Wings campers! Explore the outdoors and learn about all things with wings! Each day will include a snack, crafts, free play in the Little Wings nature play area and lots of outdoor exploration and activities! Families are invited to join their campers for a celebration on Friday at 11:00am.

Registration required. Register online or at the Nature Center. More information on page 8.

Photography Event

Saturday, May 30th

1:00-4:00pm

\$60 per 20 minute time slot

*Includes full rights to 5 color and 5 black and white photographs that will be put on a disc for you.

Come to the Nature Center and have your photographs taken by our staff member and photographer, Corrissa Frank.

Times fill quickly. Call the Nature Center at (920) 793-4007 or email corrissaf@woodlanddunes.org to book your photography session. If the above time fills quickly, there may be additional time slots.

All proceeds from this event will support the environmental education programs.

Save-the-Date

Outdoor Movie

Saturday, July 11th

Enjoy crafts and activities for children and families, snacks and beverages for purchase, and when the sun sets, watch a movie on a 25' outdoor screen at our Nature Center!

More details to come!



Farm to Table Dinner Fundraiser

Saturday, August 1st at 5:00pm

Location: Holiday Inn in Manitowoc

Enjoy local beer, wine and soda, a fresh, organic dinner catered by Taproot Farms, live music by Wild Irish Gerry and a silent and live auction! More information on page 8 and more to come!



Thank You

Education Support

Thank you to all Teacher Naturalist's (TN) who helped with winter programs! We could not offer the community these amazing opportunities without you!

Memorials

In memory of Eugene W. Shrank
Steffen City's Sales & Service, Inc.

In memory of Helen Krivacek
James Fluck -
Little Wings Play Area

In memory of Evelyn "Tootsie" Meyers
Sue Mullins Witkin

In memory of Bob Deubler
Helen Bleser

In memory of Mary Jean McNulty Berger
Robert J. Holly
Ruth N. Holly
Kathryn Ryan
Benjamin Timm
Leigh & Janice Coenen
Mary Jo Haban
Helen Bleser
Karen J. Kaempffe
Dolly McNulty
Debbie & Mike Timm
Chris, Vicki, & Kaylee
Suettinger
Barbara Schmitz
Lee & Mary Fay Pinnow

Fund Drive Donors

Janice Tetzlaff
Rockea Hunting Club, Inc.
Paul & Carol Steinbrecher
Susan Eckardt
Patricia D'Aoust
Michael R. Lenth
Charles & Shirley Oswald
Mary Jane & Jim Nickels
John & Victoria Marquardt

Sponsors

Getaway to the '70s Fundraiser:

Holiday Inn in Manitowoc
Thrivent Financial
American Transmission Company
Cellcom
Bob and JoAnn Weinert
McMullen & Pitz
Trusted Earth Farm
Associated Bank
Cawley Company

Candlelight Night:

SeedsNBeans
Kwik Trip- Two Rivers

Donations

Manitowoc County
Chapter of Thrivent Financial
Robert Sisel
Dr. Robert Gahl
Darlene Waterstreet
Anonymous in conjunction with
Maritime Ford
Dru Giesler
Ice Age Trail Alliance -
Lakeshore Chapter
Green Construction

Grants

FORWARD Endowment -
Bird Feeder Camera
John W. & Laurel J. Alyea Fund-
Bird Viewing Area
The Hooper Foundation- Internships
James E. Dutton Foundation-
Land Management
Shopko- Education
Walmart- Education

New Members

Bill & Betsy Freiberg
Brenda Rettinger
Maggee Quilici
Jim & Julie Hippert
Megan Lloyd
Jeni Powell
Glenn Mella
Mike Gould
Ronald Ratajczak

Members Inadvertently Omitted from the Winter Dunesletter-

Please accept our apologies

Chuck & Marilyn Sontag
Dr. & Mrs. Russell Schwindt
Bob & Shelly Randerson

Volunteer Spotlight

Amy Schoepp



1. How long have you been volunteering/ involved at Woodland Dunes?

I started volunteering at Woodland Dunes in the summer of 2013

2. What made you decide to become involved?

I attended a kayak workshop in spring of 2013 at Woodland Dunes and remembered how much I liked the nature center. I started attending more of the events and decided to start volunteering. It has been so much fun and I've met so many wonderful people.

3. What do you most enjoy about being involved with Woodland Dunes?

The people at Woodland Dunes are great. I really appreciate the passion they have for preserving the land and teaching others how they can do their part in preservation. I truly enjoy the sights, sounds and smells of nature and Woodland Dunes is a great place to go to experience the purity of nature.

4. What are some of your other favorite hobbies or pastimes?

During my free time, I enjoy riding my bicycle and being out in the fresh air. I enjoy reading and I dabble in photography. Nature photography is my favorite. I am a member of the Manitowoc Crime Prevention Committee and a member of the Manitowoc Police Department Citizens' Academy Alumni.

NEW at the Nature Center



Bird Viewing Area

Woodland Dunes is blessed to have the support of people in our area who care about nature as it relates to the quality of their lives and our communities, and who want to protect places that wild things call home. More than 20 years ago, we were able to build an addition to the Nature Center, thanks to a generous bequest from Edna Smith, giving us a nice gathering space, a kitchen, and most importantly, indoor plumbing.

This winter, Jack & Laurel Alyea, Fred & Charlotte Alyea, SMI, Inc., Dan Blitz and Green Construction helped us improve our facilities through donations to build the Bird Viewing Area, an addition to our Edna Smith room. Although we did have many bird feeders before the addition, it was hard to see them through the windows. Now we have a much larger and more comfortable viewing area looking out at the feeders, which are currently visited by chickadees, juncos, tree sparrows, and others, including the occasional northern shrike. The area also looks over the Little Wings Nature Play Area, offering a view of a different kind of wildlife!



Farm to Table Dinner Fundraiser August 1st, 2015 at Holiday Inn in Manitowoc *More information to come*

Last year, we added a Farm to Table Dinner Fundraiser in August and also had our 40th Anniversary Celebration- Getaway to the '70s in November. The Farm to Table Dinner was so successful, that we decided to combine it with our annual fundraiser. This year, we will be having our one combined, Farm to Table Dinner Fundraiser to support our environmental education programs.

Our guests will enjoy local beer, wine and soda, live music by Wild Irish Gerry, a fresh, organic dinner catered by Taproot Farms, and a silent and live auction.

We are so grateful for all of our community members who have donated auction items in the past. This year, we would like to keep our items in line with our Farm to Table theme. We want to use this event to promote our local farms and in general, our local businesses. If you are interested in donating items, please contact Corriッサ Frank at corrissaf@woodlanddunes.org or call the Nature Center at (920) 793-4007.

Farm Volunteer Days

Volunteer at Taproot Farm and Kitchen to help Woodland Dunes Nature Center! Meet at the Nature Center at 8:30am and carpool to the farm. Jobs could include tilling, fencing, and basic cleanup, depending on the volunteer's interests. The hours you volunteer help offset the cost of the dinner portion of the Farm to Table Dinner Fundraiser.

More information on dates on page 2.



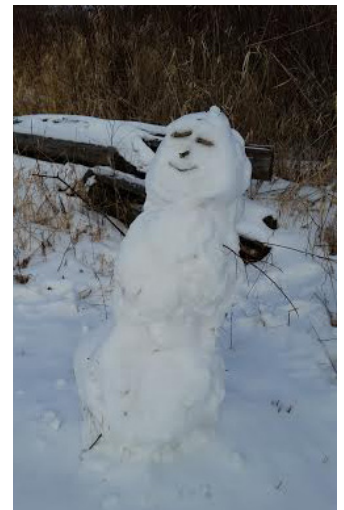
Let Them Spread Their Wings!

I have fond memories of playing outdoors when I was a little girl. I remember making potions with dandelions and violets, picking and eating cherry tomatoes in my great grandfather's garden, cracking open milkweed pods and watching the silky seeds flit and float in the wind and making mud pies at the beach. In fact, many of my earliest memories involve playing outside. This summer, your young children can make their own outdoor memories at our first ever Little Wings Summer Camp. This camp is specifically for children ages 4, 5 and 6 who have not completed kindergarten. The camp will take place from July 13th-17th from 9:00am until noon at the Nature Center. Each day, we will learn about something in nature that has wings - think bees, birds, seeds and more!



The Little Wings Outdoor Play Area and the Nature Center will be the home base for programming, but we will stretch our wings and hike the trails too. The week will be full of outdoor exploration, nature play and good old-fashioned fun! Families are invited to join their camper and celebrate with us at 11:00am on the last day of camp. Registration is now open and space is limited. You can register your child on our website or stop at the Nature Center. If you have questions, please contact Jessica Johnsrud at jessicaj@woodlanddunes.org.

Candlelight Night was a success!



Candlelight Night was a huge success this year! One hundred and forty four people took advantage of the mild winter weather, exploring the trails, enjoying the fire and even building a few snowpeople. The music inside the Nature Center was fabulous and the sweet treats really topped it all off. Thank you to the volunteers, staff and attendees for making this a fun, relaxed event! We hope to see you next February!

Land Management



Program Update

It looks to be a very busy spring for the land management program again. The Restore the Shore project is building on last year's success. As a reminder, this project involves invasive species removal and native vegetation planting aimed at improving food sources for birds and restoring the stopover habitat for migratory birds along the lakeshore. We are currently working on our Phragmites control project on the East and West Twin Rivers, funded by a 5 year DNR Aquatic Invasive Species Control grant. This is the second year of this grant. Under funding from the DOA's Coastal Management program and matching funds from the Dutton Foundation and in partnership with the City of Two Rivers, we are controlling invasive species in 10 acres of the Zander Park woods across from Woodland Dunes along Columbus Street as well in 10 acres of Woodland Dunes woods in the State Natural Area along Goodwin Road. We are applying for funding for other restoration projects and have other projects already in progress which will be starting up in the summer.



The Barberrryans can start working hard on invasive species again. We have been controlling invasive species pretty much all year, thanks in part to the mild winter and minimal snow cover. New this year, we are going to have the volunteers guide the work day schedule, instead of having a set date for work days. This more flexible schedule should work nicely and may lead to an increase in work days. If anyone is interested in volunteering or would like more information, please contact Jennifer Powell at jenniferp@woodlanddunes.org.

Ways of Giving

#1 Donate funds or items on our wish list below

Wish List:

- ATV for land management use
 - Bird Seed
 - Books in the Little Wings Room
- *please email jessicaj@woodlanddunes.org for book wish list*

#2 Attend Programs/Events

When you attend programs and events, you support our projects. All program and event fees fund our environmental education programs. Enjoy our programming with your family and feel good about supporting a great resource in the community!

Woodland Dunes is a non-profit organization and provides educational programs for youth and adults while maintaining 1300 acres of land for the community to enjoy free of charge. Please consider making a donation.

I wish to support Woodland Dunes with the following donation:

\$10 ___ \$25 ___ \$50 ___ \$100 ___ \$200 ___ Other ___

Name (please print) _____ Phone _____

Address _____

City _____ State _____ Zip _____

Please make checks payable to Woodland Dunes and return this form with your donation:

Woodland Dunes, P.O. Box 486, Two Rivers, WI 54241

#3 Membership

Become a member of Woodland Dunes Nature Center! An individual membership is \$25 per year and a family membership is \$35 per year. More information on page 10.

#4 Volunteer

We could not offer our programs and events without the help of volunteers. If you are interested, visit our website at www.woodlanddunes.org/volunteer.

#5 Search

Use GoodSearch for your search engine online. Pick Woodland Dunes as your nonprofit, and everytime you search, GoodSearch donates a portion to Woodland Dunes.



Woodland Dunes Nature Center

P.O. Box 486

Two Rivers, WI 54241-0486

woodlanddunes.org

Woodland Dunes

Headquarters and Nature Shop

Hwy. 310 West of Two Rivers

Hours

Monday-Friday: 9am-4pm

Saturday: 9am-12pm (April-October)

Contact

Phone: (920) 793-4007

Email: nature@woodlanddunes.org

Website: www.woodlanddunes.org

Facebook: Look up Woodland Dunes in Two Rivers, WI and like our page!

Staff

Executive Director

Jim Knickelbine

Assistant Director/Education Coordinator

Jess Johnsrud

Marketing and Development Coordinator

Corrissa Frank

Land Management Coordinator

Jennifer Powell

Administrative Assistant

Tina Kvitek

Board of Directors

Chairman

Tom Kocourek

Vice Chairman

Bruce Robinson

Treasurer

Troy Christiansen

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Board Members

Helen Bleser

Ed Brey

Robert Gahl

Michaeleen Golay

Jon Henry

Susan Knorr

Ellen Lewellen

Dolly McNulty

Bruce Robinson

Charles Sontag

John Woodcock

Lucy Zeldenrust

Become a member or give a gift membership!

Name _____

Address _____

City _____

State _____ Zip _____

Phone _____

Email _____

____ \$25 Individual

____ \$35 Family

____ \$50 Patron

____ \$100 Contributor

Guarantors

____ \$250 Conservator

____ \$500 Benefactor

____ \$1,000 Steward

____ \$5,000 Guardian

Please send this form and your tax-deductible membership to Woodland Dunes!