



# Woodland Dunes Nature Center *Dunesletter*

Fall 2016 & Volume 165

## From the Director

I hope your summer afforded many opportunities to enjoy nature. The warm temperatures and timely rains seemed to benefit many plants and animals in the preserve this year, and have aided our habitat restoration efforts. We've planted about 1,500 native trees and shrubs so far and almost all are growing exceptionally well. All are being protected from deer and rodents, and they will soon be providing shelter and food for migrating songbirds. Fall will bring a resumption of invasives removal and even more planting, including a special Restore the Shore day when about 100 high school students will join us to restore habitat along Willow Trail. We'll also begin to restore Forget-Me-Not-Creek and improve habitat at the Manitowoc harbor in partnership with the City and U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service - continuing to make this area not only more bird-friendly but also a top destination for visiting bird watchers.

On a new front, we are talking with the family of Marie Kaas about acquisition of her wooded wetland property south of our preserve, near the shore of Lake Michigan. This property could be restored as another stopover site for migratory songbirds - a critical need for them as they journey seasonally along the Lake.

Our education program continues to flourish, and many excited young faces have graced our trails this summer. In fact, this has been our busiest summer in terms of programs, and our education staff has done an exceptional job teaching hundreds of young people. To support that effort, a new education endowment fund has been established by Steve and Gail Winter. Steve was a prominent judge and public figure in Two Rivers and early member of our Board of Directors. Gail was a kindergarten teacher, and they both valued Woodland Dunes and our efforts to provide education about the natural world, helping improve the lives of young people. Sadly, Steve recently passed away, but the endowment he and Gail established will help Woodland Dunes continue to keep children educated and fascinated with nature. If you are interested in contributing to this endowment in Steve's memory, or for other reasons, please contact our office.

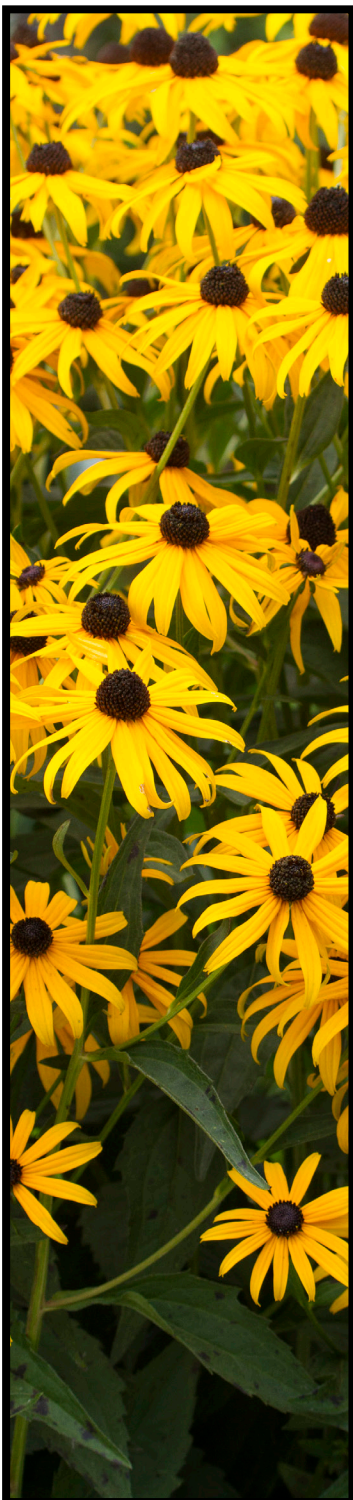
I'd like to extend special thanks to all the volunteers who have helped in so many ways this summer: front desk needs, habitat work, tree and shrub planting, trail grooming, maintenance and mowing, and work in the Butterfly Garden. Special thanks to Alek, Breanna, and Erica, our interns, and to the Foundations which made their time here possible. Our staff is very grateful for all of you, and the wonderful work you have done.

Fall is a special time of year - one of appreciation and enjoyment, and preparation for change. Our staff and Board hope you enjoy the progress our nature center is making. We also hope that you are able to visit often and see the difference you are making with your support.

**-Jim Knickelbine, Executive Director**

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# Fall Events



Woodland Dunes Nature Center  
3000 Hawthorne Ave - P.O. Box 486  
Two Rivers, WI 54241

Phone: (920) 793-4007  
Website: [www.woodlanddunes.org](http://www.woodlanddunes.org)

Nature Center Hours:  
Monday- Friday: 9am-4pm  
Saturdays (April-October): 9am-12pm

*Trails: All trails except Cattail, Willow and Goldenrod will be closed during gun deer (Nov. 19-27) and muzzleloader (Nov.28-Dec.7) seasons.*

## Friday Morning Bird Walks

Fridays in September & October from 8:30-9:30am

Donations are appreciated. Join Woodland Dunes staff on a weekly bird hike and help document the birds in the preserve. Meet at the Nature Center and bring your binoculars. *This is a weather dependent program.*

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## Yoga at the Dunes

Wednesdays from 9:00-10:00am  
August 24th - September 28th

\$50 for 6-week session/\$10 drop-in rate  
Children ages 4-18yrs \$25 for 6-week session

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## Fall Colors Series

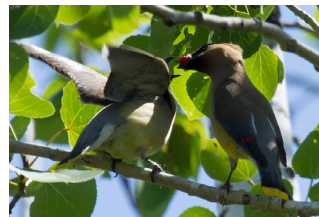
October 5th - 26th  
Wednesdays from 9:00-10:00am  
\$36 for 4 classes / \$10 drop-in rate

Join certified yoga instructors Jennifer Jelenic and Robin Blair for a gentle yoga session surrounded by the beauty of the outdoors. No prior yoga experience necessary.

Be prepared to practice outside. Bring your yoga mat, water and dress for movement/weather (limited supply of mats on site).

Class will take place inside the Nature Center in inclement weather. For more information, contact Jennifer at 920-242-4811/ [jjelenic03@yahoo.com](mailto:jjelenic03@yahoo.com) or Robin at 843-697-3983/ [twinmommy1@gmail.com](mailto:twinmommy1@gmail.com). **To pre-register, call Woodland Dunes at 793-4007 or email Jess at [jessicaj@woodlanddunes.org](mailto:jessicaj@woodlanddunes.org)**

## Breeding Bird Atlas



Did you know that Woodland Dunes has been surveying bird populations for years? In addition, we're also participating in the statewide Breeding Bird Atlas, a five year project to determine breeding populations throughout the entire state of Wisconsin. Since the project began last year, staff and volunteers have recorded data for 90 species for the Atlas. We also hosted a workshop on July 13 to help other "atlasers" gain more knowledge about the survey and best practices to follow.

## Kids' Nature Club Hike

September 8th at 9:00am

\$2 per participating child

All families with children are invited to enjoy a guided nature hike. Please bring weather appropriate clothing, binoculars, if you have them, and comfortable shoes. Children must be accompanied by an adult. After, play in the Little Wings Outdoor Play Area, explore the Little Wings Kids' Room or have a picnic lunch. **Registration required by Friday, September 2nd.**

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## Hawk Watch

Friday, September 30th from 10:00am-12:00pm

Join Jim along Lakeside Boulevard to look for migrating hawks and other birds on Lake Michigan. Bring a chair and binoculars. Registration is required by Wednesday, September 28th. This is a weather dependent program.

*Sponsored by Next Era Point Beach Nuclear Plant.*

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## Fall Star Party

Saturday, September 24th from 8:00-10:00pm

Join astronomers Al and Ben to view the night sky. Bring a lawn chair and your own telescope or binoculars if you wish. Weather and sky conditions permitting. Program takes place outside the Nature Center. *Sponsored by Next Era Point Beach Nuclear Plant.*

# Fall Events



## Enchanted Forest

Saturday, October 1st  
4:00-8:00pm

Members: \$5/person  
Non-Members: \$6/person  
Children ages 3 and under, free

Journey along a candlelit trail and meet some of Mother Nature's favorite (costumed) animals. This is an outdoor, self-guided hike with surprises around every turn! Enjoy warm refreshments inside and games and activities outside. This is an educational evening, not a scary one. Please wear costumes and warm clothes.

**Registration required. Call or email to reserve a tour time soon. Time slots fill quickly!**



## Kids' Nature Club Hike & Activity

9:00am Guided nature hike  
10:00am Guided activity  
\$2 per participating child  
October 13th

All families with children are invited to enjoy a guided nature hike. Please bring weather appropriate clothing, binoculars if you have them and comfortable shoes/boots. Children/teens must be accompanied by an adult. After, we will divide into groups according to age and learn about owls.

**Registration required by Friday, October 7th. Email Jess at [jessicaj@woodlanddunes.org](mailto:jessicaj@woodlanddunes.org)**

## Fall Mushroom Walk and Talk

Thursday, October 13th from 1:00-2:30pm

Fall is a great time for mushrooms in Wisconsin! Please join Rebecca Abler, Associate Professor of Biological Sciences at UW-Manitowoc, for a fun and informative talk and nature walk investigating this interesting group of organisms. Mushrooms and their relatives are often overlooked, but they represent incredible biological diversity and ecological importance. The talk will include basic background information about their biology and role in nature, toxicity, and economic importance. Then we'll walk through the preserve to observe common fall species of fungi.

**Registration appreciated by Monday, October 10th.**

*Sponsored by Next Era Point Beach Nuclear Plant.*

## Foundations of Cheese Making

Saturday, November 5th from 9:30am-12:00pm

Members: \$40 or \$65 for both  
Non-Members: \$45 or \$75 for both

Join veteran cheese maker Linda Conroy and sample cultured butter, cultured milk (yogurt and kefir), mozzarella and several varieties of soft cheese. Learn to make kefir and transform this fermented milk beverage into soft spreadable cheese and a soft condiment. Learn some cooking ideas for whey, a byproduct of cheese making. Class includes: samples, cheese to take home, recipes and a cheese culture to get you started. Space is limited. **Registration and payment required by Tuesday, November 1st.**

## From Curd to Press: Learn to Make and Press Cheese Curds

Saturday, November 5th from 1:00-4:00pm

Members: \$40 or \$65 for both  
Non-Members: \$45 or \$75 for both

Join Home Cheese Maker Linda Conroy as we make delicious cheese curds. The curds can then be made into a cheddar style cheese. Participants will be guided through the process of making cheese curds.

Participants will leave with recipes and cheese curds! Space is limited. **Registration and payment required by Tuesday, November 1st.**

# Fall Events



## Kids' Nature Club Hike

November 10th  
9:00am Guided nature hike  
\$2 per participating child

All families with children are invited to enjoy a guided nature hike. Please bring weather appropriate clothing, binoculars if you have them and comfortable shoes/boots. Children/teens must be accompanied by an adult. After, play in the Little Wings Outdoor Play Area, explore the Little Wings Kids' Room or have a picnic lunch. **Registration required by Friday, November 4th.**

## The Good, the Bad, and the Ugly: Native and Invasive Lamprey in the Great Lakes

Friday, November 18th at 2:00pm

The word Lamprey most often brings to mind the slimy vampire of the Great Lakes. However, Wisconsin is home to 5 native species in addition to the invasive Sea Lamprey. Join Titus Seilheimer, Fisheries Specialist with the UW-Sea Grant, as he describes the fascinating ecology of these species along with the current status of Sea Lamprey and lamprey control in the Great Lakes.

**Registration appreciated by  
Wednesday, November 16th.**

*Sponsored by Next Era Point Beach Nuclear Plant*

## Save the Date:

### Herbal Gift Making with Linda Conroy

December 6th: 6:00-8:30pm

### Christmas Bird Count for Kids

December 17th: 9:00-11:30am

## Tropical Blast



This February 25th, 2017 we're bringing the tropics here so you don't have to migrate south!

Woodland Dunes will be holding its first annual Tropical Blast fundraiser at the Silver Lake College Atrium in Manitowoc. Highlights of the evening will include food such as coconut shrimp, grilled watermelon salad and mango & crab stuffed chicken breast. There will also be an auction of beautiful works from Bonnita Budysz and other exciting items. **Mark you calendar now and be watching for more details. If interested in sponsoring or donating to this event or volunteering, please call Nancy at 793-4007 or email [nancy@woodlanddunes.org](mailto:nancy@woodlanddunes.org).**

## Volunteer Spotlight Dick Luchsinger



I've been a volunteer at the Dunes for a bit over 16 years. Before I retired from Weyerhaeuser, I was on the board for a few years. After retirement, I got involved in helping with kids' programs such as Cottonwood, Maple Syrup and a few others.

I love setting trail cameras. I was the person who got the picture of the Fisher

and Bear on the Dunes property.

I was always interested in wildlife and wanted to be a protector of the outdoors. After meeting Bernie B. and Dr. Sontag a number of years back, I knew volunteering at Woodland Dunes was my calling. I never feel I'm doing enough but I enjoy everything about the Dunes and wish I had more time to

spend there. In all reality, I started out as a hunter even before Woodland Dunes bought the land, and I knew then that this was a very special area that was in need of being preserved.

I live by the saying - "Be yourself, everyone else is taken." If you're an outdoors person by all means get outdoors.

# Thank You



## **Education Support**

Thank you to all Teacher Naturalists (TN) who helped with summer programs! We could not offer these programs without you!

## **Memorials/Honorariums**

*In memory of Steven Heinzen*

Helen Bleser

*In memory of Joann Mullins*

Anne Meyer – Cattail Trail

*In memory of Sydney Egger*

Kenton & Donna Langman

*In memory of Ray Kessenich*

Helen Bleser

Edith Rusboldt

*In memory of James Anderson*

Karen Christensen &

Kevin Jablonski

The McFadzen Family

*In memory of Addie Pospeshil Walls*

Virginia Walls Mitchell

*In honor of the marriage of*

*Jennifer Powell & Paul Klein*

Merle & Bernadine Powell

Richard & Donna Suszek

Michael Zahn

Rachel Hosterman

Sue Poehlman

John Ward &

Karen Hosterman Ward

Lawrence & Mary Kapheim

Matt & Kendra Myers

## **Donations**

Laurel Alyea

Tim & Nancy Leigh –

Exxon Dollars for Doers

The Cawley Company

Birders' Lunch Bunch

Michael Matusinec

Grace Congregational Church –

Cattail Trail

Todd Brandt

M&M Lunch & Catering

Mike Kronforst & C. J. Kronforst

Nancy Nabak

Fricke Printing

Tim & Nancy Leigh – Network for Good

The Cawley Company – Rain Garden

sign for Girl Scouts

Patricia Augustine

Ken & Jody Kuchar

NEW Master Gardeners

Marc Cegielski

James Taddy

## **Grants**

Pheasants Forever

## **New Members**

Aaron & Leigh Sisneros

Dale & Charlene Berg

Barbara Seaberg

Mark Pupeter

Dale Sharkey

Scott Zipperer

Emily Endter

Mike & Janet Sponholtz

Jennifer Niquette

David & Louise Hilburger

Allison Taylor

Josh & Brianna Trainor

Justin & Keri Gerlach

LuAnn Ferron

## **Fun Drive Donors**

Ron & Mary Balzan

Pat Bast

Audrey Bean

Gary & Chris Blimel

Bernard B. Booth

Dale & Judith Brassler

Edwin & Lee Brey

Fran Brinkman

Rosemarie Bugs

John Cashman & Mary Govier

Mary Jeanne Censky

Crystal Pathway, LLC

Catherine Daum

Bill & Mary Dean

Wayne & Sandy Denfeld

Ellie Deubler

Donna Drexler

Holly Engelland

Betty Fink

Edgar & Jessica Foster

Glenn & Janet Gaterman

Henry & LouAnn Gray

Tammie Gronewold

Peter & Diane Hansen

Linda Helf

William & Nancy Jagemann

Wade & Michelle Juza

Mary Knickelbine

Barbara Koch

Karl & Jeanne Koch

Karen Koebel

William & Pamela Krieger

Ken & Jody Kuchar

Diane Lupke & Ron Kysiak

David Larsen

Eugene & Katherine LeClair

Charles & Jane Lohmeyer

David & Nancy Ludwig

Jim & Sue Luther

Constance Lutz

Nic & Debbie Lyons

Carol Martin

Richard & Tammy Mathewson

John Matyas

Randall & Jona Miller

Mona Moen

Lee & Suellen Mueller

George Naidl

Erwin Naidl

Pet Nirvana

Al & Cherie Petrashek

Raymond & Kay Pollen

Norb & Rita Pritzl

Jerrel K. Ralph

Ronald Ratajczak

Vicki Rathsack

Tom & Judy Rauschenberger

Edith Rusboldt

Tim & Karen Schroeder

Carl Schwartz

Ann Shebesta

Florence Shekoski

Robert Sisel

John & Teresa Sisel

Gerry Sisel

Mark & Jean Stecker

Jack & Joanne Troupe

Raymond Vesely

Bill & Barbara Vorrone

Bob & Sue Wallen

John & Gina Welch

Roger Wykes

## **Corrections**

The Ice Age Trail Alliance – Lakeshore Chapter was incorrectly listed as Ice Age Park & Trail Foundation – Manitowoc Chapter. Please accept our apology.

# Education



**Summer Interns** (left to right): Breanna, Alek & Erica



Even though my summer here at Woodland Dunes has been cut short because of my college classes, it has been packed with projects. The highlight was the completion of our bird viewing area on the porch. It is now a great area to sit and enjoy watching the birds or visit with family and friends. As for the rest of my days, they have been spent fighting invasive species and working to bring our preserve back into natural vegetation. It has been another fun, productive summer.

-Alek

My second summer as the education intern at Woodland Dunes has been so great. Returning has allowed me to grow in many ways that I didn't think were possible! My knowledge on plants and animals has greatly increased, I have gained great teaching experience with a variety of age groups, and I was able to be involved in the planning process for several new camps! This was very rewarding because I was able to add my own ideas while also collaborating with the Education Coordinator. My favorite part of the summer was teaching groups from the Two Rivers public schools week after week. It was a lot of fun to see and get to know the same groups throughout the summer. I will miss the Woodland Dunes staff and volunteers so much, but I will definitely be back to visit!

-Breanna

I was fortunate to be able to intern at Woodland Dunes for the second summer in a row, and I am very thankful. During my time here this summer, I have increased my knowledge of the natural world by attending more bird and bat surveys and helped in the removal of invasive species and the planting of native species. I loved working with the school groups and teaching children of all ages about nature and its importance. I have also enjoyed working with the staff and all of the volunteers who make time to help maintain this beautiful place. I am sad to leave as Woodland Dunes has become a very special place for me, but I know that all good things must come to an end. As I start out in my new career path this fall, I will always remember what Woodland Dunes has taught me these past two summers, and I would like to thank all who have helped me along the way.

-Erica

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## Owl Fest

Owl Fest in July was a hoot! We had gorgeous weather, great attendance and enjoyed learning about owls. Thank you to Wisconsin Society for Ornithology, American Transmission Company and Bob and JoAnn Weinert for sponsoring the event.



## Pig Roast



It was a perfect summer night as 100 people listened to the smooth sounds of Wild Irish Gerry & the Knickelbine 3. Guests enjoyed roast pork and fixin's from Broken Plate Catering and a selection of drinks, served up by Troy Christiansen & Al Henrickson. Thank you to all of the volunteers who baked desserts, parked cars, set up, and sold raffle tickets. It was a lovely evening at the Dunes.

# Land Management



We are wrapping up our tree planting efforts for this year, and have planted approximately 1,500 trees and shrubs this spring and summer. We also have been caging the trees with chicken wire to protect them from deer and rabbits, and have also been replacing the white tree tubes we used the past two years with the chicken wire caging as well. The wire will allow those tiny seedlings to continue to grow in size.

This spring and summer we are continuing to manage our new wetland, that was restored last year. Reed canary grass management will be a focus for the next few years, as well as mowing current vegetation to allow the seeds planted last year to grow. This project was made possible through multiple partnerships and we are under management plans from multiple federal government agencies.

This spring and summer we worked with neighboring farmers to seed 45 acres of Woodland Dunes fields for pollinator habitat. In addition, our neighboring farmer seeded 31 adjoining acres of his fields for pollinator habitat. This fall, we will be seeding an additional 43 acres of field for pollinator habitat. We are extremely fortunate to have the partnerships and resources available to be able to complete these important projects.

We will again be controlling the Phragmites on the lower East Twin River and lower West Twin River. We are in the third year of a five year control grant from the DNR to treat Phragmites on these rivers. As part of our Phragmites grant, our interns and staff spend a total of 200 hours a year at the boat launches on these rivers, educating boaters about invasive species and how to help prevent the spread. If you are interested in volunteering to assist in this effort, please contact me at (920) 793-4007 or [jenniferp@woodlanddunes.org](mailto:jenniferp@woodlanddunes.org).

Our Barberrians will continue invasive species removal in the fall. Scheduled work days are Wednesdays from 10am-12pm in September and October. Contact Jeni Klein to register at [jenniferp@woodlanddunes.org](mailto:jenniferp@woodlanddunes.org).

**-Jennifer Klein, Land Management Coordinator**

## Ways of Giving

*Woodland Dunes is a nonprofit 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 general donation:**

\$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

### *Wish List:*

\*Updated Computer Programs: Desk chairs, scanner, new carpet for Education room and office space, and new riding lawn mower.

### *Additional Project Contribution:*

\$\_\_\_ Educational Displays

\$\_\_\_ Cattail Trail Boardwalk

\$\_\_\_ Education Programs

\$\_\_\_ Land Restoration Projects

\$\_\_\_ Endowment Fund



**Woodland Dunes Nature Center**

P.O. Box 486

Two Rivers, WI 54241-0486

**Woodland Dunes**  
Nature Center & Preserve

# Woodland Dunes Nature Center

## 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](mailto:nature@woodlanddunes.org)

Website: [www.woodlanddunes.org](http://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

*Communications & Development Coordinator*

Nancy Nabak

*Land Management Coordinator*

Jennifer Klein

*Administrative Assistant*

Tina Kvitek

## Board of Directors

*Chairman*

Tom Kocourek

*Vice Chairman*

Bruce Robinson

*Treasurer*

Troy Christiansen

*Secretary*

Lyn Brouchoud

## Board Members

Helen Bleser

Ed Brey

Robert Gahl

Jon Henry

Susan Knorr

Ellen Lewellen

Dolly McNulty

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-deductable membership to Woodland Dunes!