

Woodland Dunes Nature Center Dunesletter



Fall 2013 ☞ Volume 153

From the Director

A year ago I was writing about ecological reorganization, reflecting on storm damage in our preserve and how the land adjusts to change. This summer there have been storms of the same kind, and also changes of a different sort.

I'm sure most of you know that Kelly Vorrone has made a change in her career, accepting the position of School Program Coordinator for the Rahr Memorial School Forest which was previously held by member and friend Patty Maher. That this position became available was a surprise, but the fact that Kelly was chosen to fill it was not.

Kelly is destined for leadership, and her knowledge of environmental education is deep. We will miss her skills and enthusiasm at our center, but are very happy to continue a close relationship with the school forest that will result from her direction there. Eight years ago, Kelly came in to interview for a summer intern position. She was the first staff person that I was involved in hiring at Woodland Dunes, and she has been and will continue to be an exceptional educator. She built upon the programs that Bernie started, and we all benefited from her work. We look forward to continuing our work together, in a new way.

Filling Kelly's position as Assistant Director and Education Coordinator will be Jessica Johnsrud, who has been on our staff the last couple of years helping with marketing and development, but also volunteering her time as a teacher-naturalist as she had prior to her hiring. Like Kelly, Jess has a love for environmental education and a great attitude toward her work. This summer she's been handling duties of both marketing and development and at the same time increasing her role in education, so it's been a busy season for her. I appreciate the work she has done, and am confident the education will continue to be effective and meaningful under her guidance. We are very fortunate to have Jess on our staff, and for her willingness to coordinate our education efforts.

To coordinate our marketing and development (fundraising), Corissa Frank is joining our staff. We anticipate many new ideas from her and are really looking forward to working with her. There is more about Corissa on the pages to follow.

There are so many good people who care about our natural resources, and work hard to protect and educate about them. The best part of my job is being able to meet and work with them, both as staff and volunteers. Thank you Kelly, for your great work, and best wishes as you continue to foster a love for this land.

Jim Knickelbine, Director

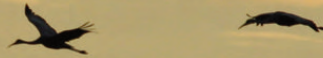


One of us has left the nest and moved to a different forest. We wish Kelly all the best at her new position at the Rahr Memorial School Forest! We will miss you Kelly! Jessica Johnsrud will be taking over as the Assistant Director/Education Coordinator for Woodland Dunes and looks forward to building on the programs Kelly and Bernie have started.

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Coming Events



To confirm events and register for classes, call (920) 793-4007 or email jessicaj@woodlanddunes.org.

Friday Morning Bird Walks

Fridays ♦ 8:15 a.m.

Join director Jim Knickelbine or a Woodland Dunes naturalist on a weekly route and help document the bird species on the preserve. Meet at the Nature Center and bring binoculars.

Birding the Marsh

September 6 & 20 ♦ 8:30-10:00 a.m.

In lieu of the regular Friday bird walk, the public is invited to join director Jim Knickelbine on a guided bird tour of the marsh.

Reservations required by the Wednesday of the week of the tour.

Limited spots available. Call 793-4007 to reserve your spot.

Meet at the Stop and Dock at 2510 W. River St. Two Rivers, WI.

Funded through a DNR River Planning and Protection Grant.

The Wonder of It All

What's Happening With Great Lakes Aquatic Species?

Wednesday, September 18 ♦ 1:00-3:00 p.m.

Join Titus Seilheimer, Fisheries Specialist with Wisconsin Sea Grant, for an informative program on the current status of Great

Lakes invasive species. Learn about the changes that quagga mussels are causing in the Lake Michigan food web, the current status of Asian carp and ballast water transport. Dr. Seilheimer will also discuss the current research being done to better understand and control these invaders. Sponsored by the Dominion

Foundation. **Registration required by September 13th.**

The Wonder of It All

Picture This: Wideman and Nature Photography

Wednesday, October 16 ♦ 6:00-7:00 p.m.

Join nature photographer Benjamin Wideman, the feature editor at the Herald Times Reporter, on a visual journey through some of his favorite photographs of nature, many taken at Woodland Dunes and in the area. Benjamin will provide some tips and tricks for taking nature-related pictures and recommend places in Manitowoc County to visit. Sponsored by the Dominion Foundation. **Registration required by October 11th.**

Owl Fest

Saturday, October 19 ♦ 4:00-10:00 p.m.

Members: Family, \$15; Individuals, \$5

Non-members: Family, \$20; Individuals, \$8

Join us for an exciting evening learning about owls and celebrating the migration of the Midwest's smallest owl - the Northern Saw-Whet! Owl prowl night hikes, family activities, live raptor presentations by Wildlife of Wisconsin & bird-banding programs will make this an evening to remember. Park at the Aurora Medical Center on Memorial Dr. (next to the hospital), then hike or travel by bus to the Owl Fest location. Watch our website and Facebook for the schedule of events.

The Enchanted Forest

Saturday, October 5 ♦ 4:00-8:00 p.m.

Members: \$4/person

Non-Members: \$5/person

Children 2 and under, free



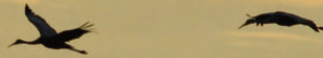
Journey along a candlelit trail and meet some of Mother Nature's favorite (costumed) animals. The outdoor, self-guided hike has surprises around every turn!

Enjoy warm refreshments inside and the boneyard and other 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. Times fill quickly!



Check our events calendar at woodlanddunes.org for additional programs and updates.

Coming Events



Sandhill cranes at sunset.

The Wonder of It All Solar Energy Systems: Which One is Right For You?

Tuesday, November 19 ♦ 10:00-11:30 a.m.

Join Brad Johnson of GreenSky Energetics, Inc. and explore solar energy systems and learn why you should be interested in this investment that secures your energy future and helps the environment. Each of the different solar technologies will be described with an explanation of how they work. You'll learn what to look for when identifying which technology may best fit your needs. And of course the available financial incentives will be reviewed. **Registration required by November 15th.**
Sponsored by the Dominion Foundation.

Save-the-Date

The Wonder of It All Bernie's Birding & Hummingbird Banding in Arizona

Thursday, December 12 ♦ Time TBA

Kids Christmas Bird Count

December ♦ Date and Time TBA

DON'T FORGET TO REGISTER FOR PROGRAMS

Simple, easy and greatly appreciated, call 920-793-4007, email jessicaj@woodlanddunes.org or stop in and visit.

Reminder:

All trails are closed for the gun deer and muzzleloader seasons from November 23 through December 11.

Getaway with the Dunes: Waikiki Beach

November 9 ♦ 6:00-9:00 p.m.

Admission: \$18 by Nov. 1st, \$22 after and at the door

Join us as we "Getaway" to Waikiki Beach on Saturday, November 9th from 6:00-9:00 p.m. in the Behringer room of the J. E. Hamilton Community House in Two Rivers. Enjoy drinks at the cash bar, Hawaiian cuisine and a silent and live auction featuring fabulous items. Bring your friends for a fun night out that raises critical funding to support Woodland Dunes Nature Center.

Admission to the event is \$18 if paid by November 1st, after it is \$22. Admission includes heavy Hawaiian appetizers and a chance to enter your name into a drawing for a weekend getaway to Door County! The drawing will take place at the end of the night and the winner must be present to win. If you are interested in attending Woodland Dunes' biggest fundraiser of the year, please visit www.woodlanddunes.org to pay for your admission (Paypal) or contact Corrissa Frank at corrissaf@woodlanddunes.org or 920-793-4007. More information about the event will be on our website soon.

****You can help!****

We are currently accepting donations of new items or services for the silent and live auctions at Getaway with the Dunes. This event is our biggest fundraiser of the year and raises crucial funding for the nature center. The silent auction will mostly feature themed baskets. If you are interested in helping make the Getaway a success, please consider putting together a themed basket and donating it to the event. This could be a fun thing to do with your friends! Basket theme ideas include:

BBQ basket (BBQ accessories, sauces, spice rubs, grilling book)

Girls Night In (margarita mix, chick flick, pedicure supplies)

Fun with the Kids (children's books, craft kit, bubbles).

We also need new or gently used wicker or other items that can be used as baskets. If you are interested in putting a basket together or have baskets to donate, please contact Corrissa Frank at corrissaf@woodlanddunes.org or calling 793-4007.

**Baskets and donations must be received by
Friday, October 25 at 4:00pm.**

Stay connected, fan us on facebook for event information and wildlife updates.

Meet Corrissa



Corrissa Frank has recently joined our staff at Woodland Dunes and is now the Marketing and Development Coordinator. She is a new graduate of the University of Wisconsin-Green Bay and

received a bachelor's degree in communication with an emphasis in public relations. During her college career she had two different marketing internships. One of these internships was through UW-Green Bay's Environmental Business and Management Institute. EMBI is a certificate program offered to any science major at the college. It offers environmental internship opportunities and a great learning experience. She put together marketing material such as partnership and student brochures, event calendars and any informational publications dealing with speakers or upcoming conferences and was involved with putting together events as well.

Corrissa enjoys using her creative skills to work towards a common goal. She says, "When I heard about the position at Woodland Dunes, I was interested in being involved because I grew up in Manitowoc and remembered the educational experiences I had here at Woodland Dunes from elementary school through high school. I really wanted to work with an organization where I agreed with their principles and what they were trying to accomplish."

Corrissa is moving back to Manitowoc from Green Bay with her husband Andrew and they are also expecting a baby boy named Landon in November. They enjoy camping, archery and spending quality time with family and friends. Corrissa specifically has a passion for photography ever since she was young and often takes walks and explores the area for a new photo shoot opportunity. She is very eager to start becoming more involved as she learns her position and becomes even more familiar with our organization.

Woodland Dunes was fortunate to have two interns, Emma Keese and Danny Meicher, for the summer through the Wisconsin Association of Independent Colleges and Universities internship program. Woodland Dunes received 800 hours of work from the interns and the interns received a stipend, a scholarship and the experience of working at a non-profit nature center. Danny and Emma were busy greeting visitors, teaching, crunching bird data, working on invasive plant species and more. They will be missed and the staff wish them the best on their upcoming adventures!

Danny Meicher

I've had a meaningful experience as an intern this summer. What some might refer to as "grunt work," the different tasks I completed did require hard work but they also allowed me to spend the majority of my summer outdoors at a beautiful nature preserve. I felt proud to spend time with such a friendly staff and at a non-profit organization that stresses environmental education and preservation of significant wildlife habitat. My internship not only reinforced these important values, but it provided the perfect opportunity for me to develop a personal appreciation for nature.

It was rare when my labor became repetitive; I worked on a different task nearly every day. This pattern allowed for constant learning. I spent afternoons removing different invasive species, focusing on spotted knapweed and honeysuckle. While anticipating a late-June thunderstorm, I stained the gazebo while watching the huge clouds meander overhead. I spent many peaceful mornings pulling weeds and trimming bushes in our serene butterfly garden. One of my favorite opportunities was leading the 'Big Hike,' only after completing Kelly's crash course in environmental education. Taking a group of children for a walk along Willow Trail during the hottest week of summer put forth a great challenge, but a bag of Twizzlers provided the proper incentive for learning.

News at the Dunes

This preserve offers an underrated benefit that many jobs do not have. As the summer progressed, I increasingly appreciated the dedication of the Woodland Dunes staff. I found that their approach for running this nature center requires fresh, creative ideas and constant problem solving. This avenue of thought makes a non-profit organization an exciting place, which is filled with plentiful learning opportunities.



Danny at work trimming the bushes in the butterfly garden.

Emma Keese

My ten weeks at Woodland Dunes seems to have flown by. I had a wonderful time and learned so much from everyone, from my mentors specifically but also from the entire Woodland Dunes community. I hope to be privileged to have similarly wonderful working experiences in the future. The most rewarding part of this internship has definitely been teaching. I had limited experience with the kind of environmental education at Woodland Dunes. Teaching, especially Little Wings, was incredibly rewarding. This was the first time I went through the entire process of teaching, planning a lesson, teaching it and then analyzing what I had done and how it went.

I am planning on majoring in Environmental Studies but this has inspired me to explore education classes at Beloit College. Although teaching was the most rewarding part of my experience I cannot stress enough

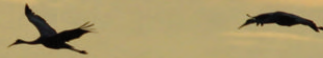
how important everything else was. Working with everyone taught me about the many aspects I can be involved in from teaching to conservation, and how interconnected all these facets are.

Most important to my positive experience was that everyone went above and beyond what was necessary. Geri and Marilyn Sontag offered me rides whenever they could. Kelly and Jim helped me find an apartment to stay in for the duration of my stay. Everyone, not just the people I worked with on a daily basis, been incredibly welcoming and made this a positive experience. Kelly helped me find interesting things to work on and evaluated how I'd done so I could improve in the future. Any time I spent more than five minutes with Jim I found myself learning about Woodland Dunes and all the life it supports. He was constantly teaching me, about everything from rare birds he'd spotted to what it's like working at a non-profit.

Everyone involved with Woodland Dunes knows how special it is and how hard many people work to keep it that way. As someone who hadn't even heard of Woodland Dunes three months ago I want to reiterate how phenomenal Woodland Dunes, and the community that supports it, is.



Emma helping a student in the summer program extract an insect from the net.



Declining Woodpecker



Early in the twentieth century the red-headed woodpecker was said to be “a very common resident” in Wisconsin. During the last half of that century, the population of the species dropped to the point that Partners in Flight placed it on their watch list. Data from

Breeding Bird Surveys shows the red-headed woodpecker population in Wisconsin decreased between 1966 and 2002 at a rate of five percent per year.

The red-headed woodpecker breeds in most of the United States and southeastern Canada east of the Rocky Mountains. The birds usually withdraw from the northernmost parts of their range in winter, but will remain when acorn crops are heavy, or if other food, such as corn, is available. The first white settlers found it in open woodlands, especially oak savannas, prairie-like areas with scattered oak trees.

The red-headed woodpecker excavates nesting cavities from eight to eighty feet up in dead or dying trees. They sometimes use natural cavities, or excavate in fence posts or utility poles, but they do not use bird houses. They lay three to seven eggs, but usually four or five. Both sexes incubate, the male taking the night shift. The eggs hatch twelve to fifteen days after being laid. Young leave the nest in another twenty-seven to thirty days.

Vegetable matter such as nuts, fruit, seeds, and grain make up a large part of the food of the red-headed woodpecker. They store food in cavities for future use. Young are fed insects, spiders, worms, and berries. Red-headed woodpeckers obtain most of their insect food by hawking, flying out from a perch to snatch insects from the air. They also glean food from bark and foliage of trees and may feed on the ground.

The reduction in the area of woodlands following white settlement may be a contributing cause of the red-headed woodpecker’s decline. The oak savannas that were their preferred habitat have mostly been

converted into our farm fields, cities, and towns.

When the decline was first detected, it was suggested the woodpeckers hawking for food along roads through woodlands, made them vulnerable to collisions with automobiles. Data collected about the middle of the twentieth century indicated that the red-headed woodpecker was killed by cars more often than any other bird species in its range.

The most prevalent theory at this time is the red-headed woodpecker suffers seriously from competition with the European starling for nest cavities. Introduced into this country in New York in 1890, starlings immediately multiplied and spread until, by 1940, they were abundant throughout the country. That is about the time the red-headed woodpecker population started to drop.

Though they have declined throughout their range, red-headed woodpeckers still occur regularly south of our area, where oak trees make up a larger component of the forests. There is still hope that a solution can be found to stop the decline in red-headed woodpecker numbers.

John Woodcock, Board Member

Adopt an Owl

For \$25 you can adopt a saw-whet owl caught and banded at Woodland Dunes. Funds raised from this program support Woodland Dunes education and preservation efforts. Owls can be adopted by contacting Corriisa at corrissaf@woodlanddunes.org or at Owl Fest on Saturday, October 19th.



The Living Classroom



Reflections of Summer

Woodland Dunes offered a lot of fun and learning opportunities for families and groups this summer. For the second year, Woodland Dunes partnered with the Wisconsin Maritime Museum to offer a two-week Watershed Ambassadors Summer Camp for area students. Guided by Kelly Vorrone and Wendy Lutzke, 13 campers had the opportunity to spend time and explore local watersheds by sailing on the Denis Sullivan schooner in Lake Michigan, kayaking, and hiking. Campers learned about the importance of healthy water, the impact of human activities on water systems and met local water specialists and scientists. The Watershed Ambassadors Summer Camp was funded by Cellcom, Wisconsin Public Service, the FORWARD Endowment, the Dominion Foundation and the Department of Natural Resources.

Several groups attended the summer field trip offered in the month of July. This year the program was designed so students could “choose their own adventure” and learn about insects, birds and bees, do a frog survey or take “the big hike.” Additionally, Little Wings Fridays was also offered in July. This popular 30-45 minute program was designed for 4-7 year olds and explored a new topic each Friday morning. Attendees were encouraged to stay and play in Little Wings, walk the trails or in the butterfly garden. I was very pleased to see many families use the play area and the Little Wings Kid’s Room. Families met in the play area and had picnics all while their little ones explored the space. Many children took their shoes off and squealed with delight as they waded right into the water feature. Children played the marimba, stacked wood slices, built forts and ran through the prairie maze.

Also popular this summer were the osprey pair that nested near the building. Visitors regularly stopped in to photograph the pair and their three young and observe their behaviors. Many of the photographers shared their images on the Woodland Dunes Facebook page.

As the summer winds down and fall sets in, there will be many programs and opportunities for learning at Woodland Dunes.

Jess Johnsrud

Incorporating Books with Nature Exploration

I love to incorporate reading into education programs or play time with my young nieces. Here are a few of my favorite children’s books appropriate for fall and younger children. I highly recommend reading one of these gems with a child in your life before outdoor exploration time.

A Seed is Sleepy by Dianna Hutts Aston

A Tallgrass Prairie Alphabet by Claudia McGehee

In the Trees, Honey Bees! by Lori Mortensen

Hibernation Station by Michelle Meadows

Leaf Man by Lois Ehlert

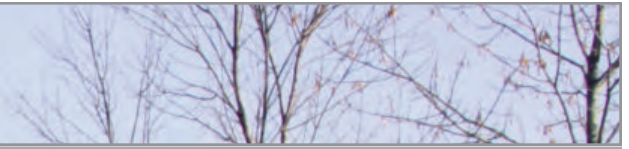
Red Sings from the Treetops: A Year in Colors by Joyce Sidman

Jess Johnsrud



Sweeping for insects was a favorite activity of many of the youngest students who attended the Summer Program. After catching an insect in the sweep net, students carefully put them into bug jars to observe these critters and count the number of legs, body parts and look at the antenna.

Nature at Work/Non-Native Plants Revisited



On a recent trip to New York and New Jersey, our son Charles took us to Prospect Park in Brooklyn. Frederick Olmstead and Calvert Vaux not only designed this park, but they also designed Central Park in Manhattan. Both parks are beautiful respites from the harried life happening just a stone throw away.

The first feature in Prospect Park that attracted my attention was a preserved home built in the early days of Brooklyn's development. The house was not especially unusual and reminded me of many early American homes even seen in this area. However, what interested me most was the garden behind the house. It was planted with Tansy (*Tanacetum vulgare*), Motherwort (*Leonurus cardiaca*), Feverfew/Bachelor's button (*Chrysanthemum parthenium*) and other medicinal plants. These plants were the homeowner's "pharmacy" when ills required medicinal attention. What struck me was these plants are the very "weeds" we are now trying to remove from our current gardens because they are no longer needed for their original intent.

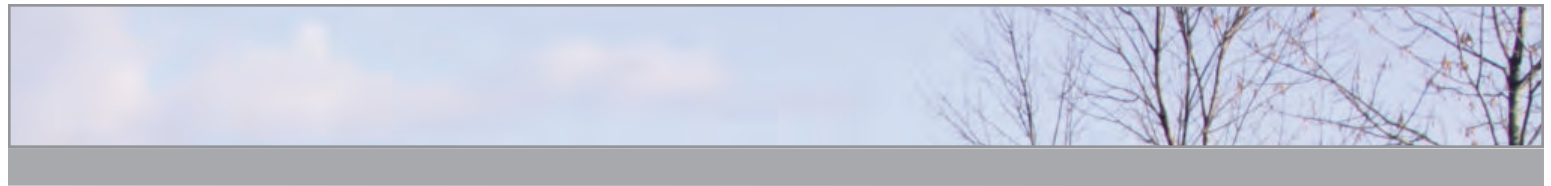


Traditionally tansy was used for a wide array of ailments such as worms, gout, diseases of the skin and arthritis.

Although no malicious intent was behind the introduction of non-native/alien species of plant, the problems they present are real and reset the course of evolution for the native plants and animals. In an earlier article citing the work of Dr. Mark Davis, Macalester College, it was suggested that once the non-native plants have entered the environment, the effort required to remove them, in all but certain situations, is prohibitive and at best counter-productive. Our efforts would be better spent preventing the addition of other plants that in the future, in all likelihood, will also require attention.

Sometimes, what is gained from the introduced species of plants and animals, is less important than what is lost. Many of the plants that we have added to our landscapes recently have been selected because they resist disease and insect infestation. This includes plants like Multiflora Rose (*Rosa multiflora*), Autumn/Russian Olive (*Elaeagnus angustifolia*), Japanese Honeysuckle (*Lonicera japonica*), Bradford pear (*Pyrus calleryana*), Norway maple (*Acer platanoides*) and many others. At first blush, this seems like a good thing, a "win win" for both the environment and the gardener because it's not necessary to apply toxins to the environment to control insect pests. However, if our native insects cannot or will not use these plants, they will decline, which is already happening. To some, this still seems like a desirable outcome, where the perception seems to be that all insects are bad, and "the only good bug is a dead bug." But, insects play many important roles in the environment, including





the pollination of many species of plants. And many insects, good and bad, serve as a food source for many species of animals, especially for the many birds that feed insects to their nestlings. Over 90% of our terrestrial bird species rear their young on insects, and if the young are not fed properly, their populations diminish. Unfortunately, this is also being witnessed. Insects adapt to these newly introduced species of plants slowly-very slowly, and as more non-native plants infiltrate the landscape, birds become the unwitting victims of this clever but misguided attempt to control insects.

At a superficial level, non-native plants may actually seem to benefit a species of bird. A recent study by Dr. Amanda Rodewall, Ohio State University, reported that bush honeysuckles, including Amur (*Lonicera maachii*) and Morrow's (*Lonicera morrowii*), have effects on both native plants and animals including nesting birds. The spring ephemerals, which grace the wooded forest floors in early spring, are absent when honeysuckle is present, as the early leafing of the honeysuckle screens out the sunlight needed for these early flowering plants. Honeysuckles also negatively impact native amphibians, by increasing mortality and changing the behaviour of the amphibian larvae. And, honeysuckle is also implied in promoting the presence of ticks and tick borne diseases. In many areas, including ours, ticks have recently appeared and are increasing in number.

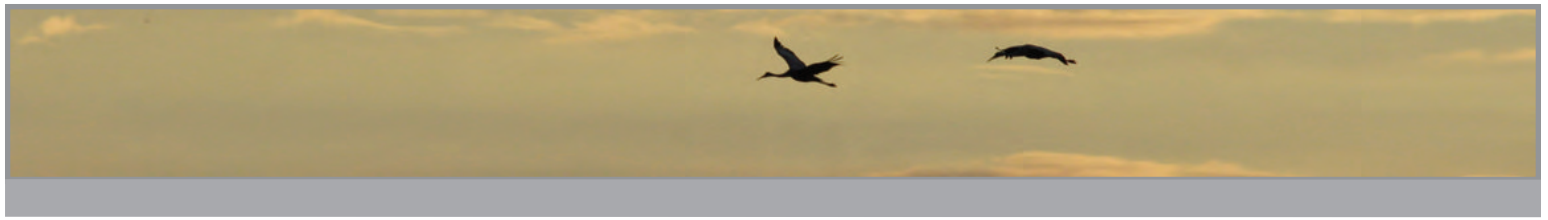


Honeysuckle plants are also an interesting lesson in the need for completing critical observations.

Superficially, the honeysuckle seems to benefit the Northern Cardinal (*Cardinalis cardinalis*). Their fruit is rich in carotenoids which provide the rich red colour of the adult male Northern Cardinal. The male cardinals feeding on these fruits attract females earlier because of their bright red plumage, and the pair even nest earlier and in the honeysuckle. However, these early nesting cardinals are parasitized with greater frequency by the Brown-headed Cowbird (*Molothrus ater*) and the clutch size and fledging success of the young cardinal is also reduced. What clearly appeared to provide the cardinals with an advantage actually put the birds at a disadvantage with reduced reproductive success.



Although it is the non-native plants that are considered to be the problem and the lead story, it is the effect that these introduced plants have on the native species of animals, insects especially, that is the real story. Even if the plant does not directly affect the insect, it has a ripple effect throughout the landscape ultimately to affect the insect. The reasons insects are the victims of plant introduction are complicated, and include many aspects of the plant and animal coevolution.



Douglas Tallamy, University of Delaware in Newark, has studied these plant/insect relationships and offers several reasons why displacing plants into new ecosystems is not an ecologically sound endeavor. First, insects are reluctant to use newly introduced plants as food because of flower colour, odors including attractants and repellants, different flowering time and other reasons perhaps not presently known. The Common Reed (*Phragmites australis*) in its native setting in Europe attracts 160 to 170 species of insects to its flowers, but in the United States, only about 5 species of insects are attracted. The same is true for insects which feed upon and limit plant populations. A long time is required for insects to adapt to an introduced plant species because of the “chemical mix” that characterizes the new plant. Second, plants and the insects that live with them have undergone an intricate “dance” of convergent evolution which happens at a very slow rate. Plants that are removed from these adaptive relationships and placed in a new landscape disrupt the established plant/animal relationships and upset the resident species of insects. And, a third reason, which parallels the second, is that insects associate only with those plants with which they coevolved. Even though change is the “important game in town,” time is the essential requirement for this to happen.

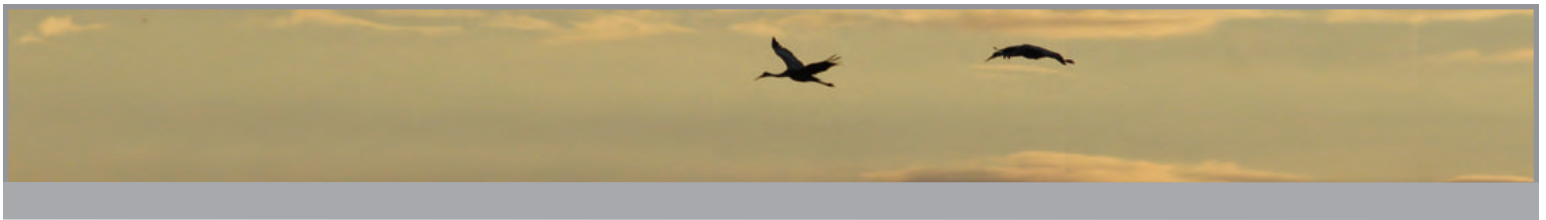
One of the recognized insect and plant relationships is that of the monarch and the milkweed.



Luckily, most non-native plants remain in the garden in which they were placed. It is the escape that is the cause for concern. And, as we know, dealing with these maverick non-native plants is not easily corrected, since they have become incorporated into almost every landscape and ecosystem we have, and removing them is no longer an option. However, several things can be done to reduce the impact that these plants are having on the native plants and animals. The first approach is also the most obvious. Stop introducing those plants that we know have the greatest potential for causing trouble. Convince our city leaders and gardeners of every kind to stop adding Norway maple and the other plants that are known disrupters of insects and the native ecology to the city landscapes. A second approach is to target the removal of particular species that exert serious consequences such as *Phragmites* sp, Buckthorn (*Rhamnus cathartica*) and Multiflora Rose from critical areas. But, this approach is labor intense and must be repeated with dedicated and deliberate effort. Biological control measures can also be used including the use of insects, but only if they are carefully selected to remove only the unwanted plants. We have enjoyed success in removing Purple Loosestrife (*Lythrum salicaria*) from many areas with the use of the beetles, *Galerucella californiensis* and *Galerucella pusilla*, which selectively attack the Purple Loosestrife, and nothing else.



Woodland Dunes raised beetles to control Purple Loosestrife in the preserve and Manitowoc County.



Perhaps even microorganisms, such as bacteria or a virus, can be engineered to infect a particular “problem” plant, but will not interfere with similar plants. Many bacteria have been engineered to do specific biological jobs, and when the job is complete, the bacteria are also engineered to self-destruct.

Nature at work is a very complex process, since human activity predisposes the natural landscapes to such disruptive events. Nature at work also has many faces, and our good intentions to redesign nature to our wishes do not always produce good results.

Charles Sontag, Board Member , Professor Emeritus



Three osprey chicks have fledged the nest! They have been swooping around the Nature Center, squawking and putting on quite a show for visitors and staff. In just a couple of short weeks, the adults and young will begin their migration to Central and South America. Stop out soon to get one last look before their big journey south. We hope the adults return next spring and nest on the platform. Photo taken by Scott Denny.



Thank you to all that participated in the first Oh! Snap! Mini Photo Session Fundraiser! We are grateful to Olivia Brey and Jennisa Novitski for donating their time and all the proceeds to Woodland Dunes! Above are a couple of photos from the event. Watch for next year's dates!

Volunteer Spotlight

Summer Volunteer Spotlight Mary Savage



Mary is one of those rare individuals who is always up for anything. She bakes delicious goodies for events at Woodland Dunes, shares her skills and passion for gardening by caring for the berm near the parking lot and she is the boiling station maven in the maple syrup school program. Mary is a very compassionate and caring person and we are so lucky to have her as a volunteer. Thank you Mary!

We ask each of the volunteers to answer a few questions about themselves and volunteering at Woodland Dunes.

1. *How long have you been volunteering at Woodland Dunes?* Since 2008.
2. *What made you decide to volunteer here?* I have for years wanted to become involved, but my work schedule prevented the opportunities as a TN.
3. *What do you most enjoy about being involved at Woodland Dunes?* So many aspects of participating here are enjoyable, so my favorite activity at Woodland Dunes is whatever I'm involved with at that time! I consider it a privilege to be part of such a valuable asset to Manitowoc County.
4. *What else do you do in your free time?* I have a profound respect for Mother Nature's gifts and love learning about anything having to do wildlife and her flora. I love gardening and sewing, things that relax and "ground" me. My sense of adventure is still very much alive as well as curling up with a good book.

Education Support

Summer Program Naturalists

Lou Ann Gray
Susie Polk

Memorials

In Memory of Edwin Boettger

Ronald and Diane Budnik

In Memory of Virigina Brandt

Richard and Stephany Kniep
Gerald and Kay Thiede
Donald and Joan Schanke
Ronald and Donna Feest
Kurt and Gail Mueller
Alma Anderson and James Aasen
Ruth Westberg
Gail Berney and Lee Buchheit

In Honor of George and Julie Grinde

Chuck and Marilyn Sontag

In Memory of Helen and Mark Hooper

Hooper Foundation

In Honor of Marilyn Sontag

Vera, Lisa and Mare Mayer

In Memory of Gary Stangel

Helen and Don Bleser

Thank You

The following reflect gifts, donations and memberships received through August 15th

Grants

DNR River Planning Grant, assisting
land owners on the Lower Twin
Rivers

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Wisconsin Public Service Foundation

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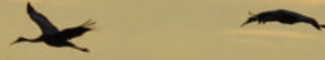
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Donations

American Legion Drews Bleser Post 88,
Fish Fry Fundraiser
Olivia Brey, 8 mini photo sessions
Barb Kussman, filing cabinet & tools

Thank You



Donations Continued

Fricke Printing Service, posters for
Butterfly Garden Festival
Jenene Garey, rug
Jewelers Mutual Insurance Co, three
printers
Tom and Betsy Kocourek, coffee
warmer
Jody & Ken Kuchar, owl house
Bill Lewis, books
Rockwell Lime Co, crushed limestone
Cathleen & John Torke, framed
photograph
Trainor Family, clothespins

New Members

Jerry and Patricia Augustine
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Cheyenne Lane
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Jim Rabas
Albert and Pauline Sears
Janet Smith and Michael LeClair
Robert and Peggy Turnbull



The rain at this year's volunteer appreciation picnic kept us inside, but we still had a great time! Thank you to all the volunteers who attended and enjoyed the food and ice cream sundae bar. We are so grateful for our volunteers!

Corporate Members

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Wisconsin Webwriter, LLC

If your business is interested in becoming a corporate member, please contact Corrissa Frank at corrissaf@woodlanddunes.org. Corporate memberships support the programs and trails at Woodland Dunes Nature Center.

Wish List

Black oil sunflower seed
Butcher paper
Crayons
First Aid Kit

Kids hammock for Little Wings
New floor for the bathrooms and
kitchen
Niger seed
Paper towel

Large plastic storage bins with lids
Tea light candles

If you are interested in donating any of these items, please contact Jess at jessicaj@woodlanddunes.org

Ways of Giving



Earn Rewards for Woodland Dunes at MC Sports

Next time you're at MC Sports, enroll in their ACTIVE REWARDS points program. This program is a no cost, no catch, points program. For every \$1 you spend, you earn 1 point. Once you reach 500 points, you receive a \$15 MC Sports gift certificate. Additionally, for every 10 points you earn, Woodland Dunes will also get a point. Woodland Dunes will receive a \$250 gift card for MC Sports once 250 points have been reached. This gift card can be used to purchase equipment for the education programs or be used in a fundraiser. When you join, let the cashier know that you want to be affiliated with Woodland Dunes. MC Sports is located off Calumet Ave. in Manitowoc at the Harbortown Mall.

Planned Giving

If you are interested in giving that supports Woodland Dunes in the long-term and continues your legacy of protecting nature, there are many options available, some with significant benefits for donors. Contact our office or your financial consultant for more information.

Help Raise Money for Woodland Dunes Every Time You Search the Internet

I recently joined GoodSearch.com to raise funds for Woodland Dunes. GoodSearch is a free search engine that donates one cent to a charity of your choice, each time you use it to search the Internet. It is easy to set up on your computer – you simply create a user name and password, make GoodSearch your homepage and pick Woodland Dunes as your charity. I've already earned Woodland Dunes \$6.14 in the short, six weeks I've been using it! Additional money can be earned for Woodland Dunes if you use GoodShop. If you shop online at certain stores such as Amazon, they will donate a percentage of each sale to Woodland Dunes. Again, this is easy to use! Woodland Dunes will receive a check in November of each year. Just think, if just 50 of our members did this and earned an average of \$2.00 per month, that can add up quickly! For more information, visit www.goodsearch.com. Please consider making GoodSearch your search engine of choice! Thank you!

As the seasons change and we are reminded of all there is to be thankful for, please consider making a tax-deductible contribution to Woodland Dunes. We would be thankful for your support!

I wish to support Woodland Dunes with the following donation:

\$10 _____ \$25 _____ \$50 _____ \$100 _____ \$200 _____ other _____

Name (please print) _____ Phone _____

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- \$35 Family
- \$50 Patron
- \$100 Contributor

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- \$250 Conservator
- \$500 Benefactor
- \$1,000 Steward
- \$5,000 Guardian

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

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Hwy. 310 west of Two Rivers

Hours

Monday - Friday: 9 a.m. to 4 p.m.
 Saturday: Summer • 9 a.m. to noon
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Phone (920) 793-4007

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