

DANE COUNTY PARKS

INFORMATION & EVENTS NEWSLETTER

AUGUST 20, 2020



Lussier Family Heritage Center
StoryWalk®

STORYWALK®

Our Lussier Family Heritage Center facility has partnered with the Monona Public library to add a StoryWalk® to our Prairie Learning Center. Each month, the pages of a new book will be set out along the trails so that kids can explore nature and read a story as they go.



[Learn More](#)

Seed THE NEED



Help the **Friends of Pheasant Branch** create a Platinum Prairie at Pheasant Branch Conservancy! In 2019, Dane County added 160 acres on the north end of the Pheasant Branch Conservancy. The Friends, along with other local partners, are raising money to help with restoration and purchase a Platinum (over 100 species) seed mix. Starting with a Platinum seed mix is crucial as evidence suggests that later overseeding of an established prairie with a more diverse seed is ineffective. Click below to learn more or donate to the cause.

[Learn More](#)

VISIT MADISON: DISC GOLF

Check out this AMAZING video from Visit Madison highlighting our Capital Springs disc golf course. Interested in trying disc golf? You can get an annual or daily pass on our website, valid at our Capital Springs and Token Creek courses.



[Learn More](#)

CONSERVATION LAND PURCHASE



MADISON.COM

Dane County to make its largest conservation land purchase of 2020 in town of Verona

[Learn More](#)

On Monday, Dane County Executive Joe Parisi announced a plan to purchase a 160-acre property that sits between the state Department of Natural Resources' Sugar River Wetlands Natural Resource Area and the county's Falk Wells Sugar River Wildlife Area. By purchasing this property and restoring it to prairie, we will be able to reduce flood risk downstream in communities like Belleville, which have experienced flooding along the Sugar River in recent years. Once the property is fully restored, **runoff will be reduced by 70 percent, infiltrating 2,057,000 gallons of water annually.** This property will also provide recreational opportunities within the popular Sugar River corridor.

SEED COLLECTION OPPORTUNITIES

Fall is a beautiful time of year to be out in the prairie! Dane County Parks is hosting several small seed collection events this fall to collect native seeds that will be used for restoration and enhanced plant diversity on other park lands. Last year, volunteers collected over **1,800 lbs of seeds** from **190 species**. To purchase the same amount of seed would have cost over **\$600,000**.

No prior experience is needed. All tools and training will be provided. Currently, all events are during the week from 9:00 am - Noon. COVID precautions will be taken and all events are limited to 10 volunteers. Learn more or sign up below.

[Sign Up](#)





PARTY FOR THE PLANET – CLEAN UP DAY SEPTEMBER 19, 2020

We have teamed up with Henry Vilas Zoo and other local partners to host a [Party for the Planet](#) clean up on September 19!

Even though we can't all celebrate together we can still make an impact. We are looking for groups that would like to host mini clean ups in their neighborhood. Groups can sign up to host a private cleanup with their group members or they can host a public cleanup that others in the community can join. Groups must **sign up by September 8th** so that we have time to follow up with COVID guidelines and clean up supplies. After September 8th, individuals can sign up to join a group or sign up to volunteer on their own.

[Learn More](#)

Interested in registering a group?

Learn more and sign up on the [Party for the Planet](#) website.

STAFF SPOTLIGHT



Brian Berkan

Lead Park Ranger

Brian monitors the park system to make sure park visitors are keeping themselves and our parks safe. He oversees all Park Rangers and other staff, takes calls from park users, and takes care of park enforcement, when necessary.



Roland Arndt

Mechanical Repair

Roland works on repairing and installing facilities in our park system. He is also our go to person for small engine repair. It takes a lot of weed trimmers and other small equipment to manage 12,000+ acres of land and Ronald keeps them all in good working order.

SOCIAL SPOTLIGHT



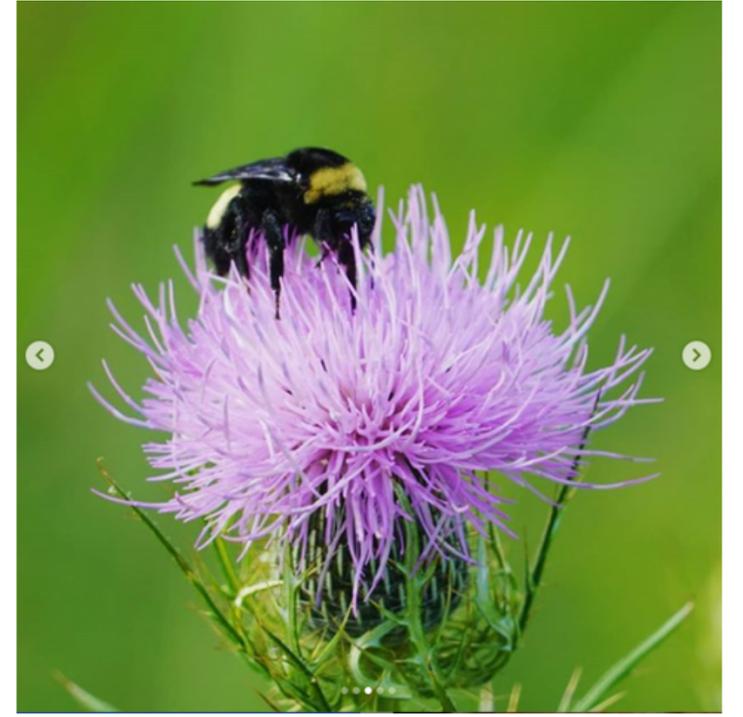
Old Halfway Prairie School
@raffel921



Donald County Park
@baileyser



Lussier Family Heritage Center
@beetandbean_2018



Pheasant Branch Conservancy
@uncommonly.fabricated

Share your photos with us **#danecountyparks**

