

DANE COUNTY PARKS

INFORMATION & EVENTS NEWSLETTER

OCTOBER 15, 2021



*Seed Cleaning at Libby Road Facility
Photograph taken by Sevie Kenyon*

VOLUNTEER SEED COLLECTION

Each year volunteers, staff, partners, and Operation Fresh Start participants collect and process native plant seed from prairie, savanna, wetland, and woodland ecosystems. The seed is worth approximately \$600,000 and is used to restore over 170 acres of park lands.

Join our natural areas staff to help us collect seed!
Upcoming opportunities include:

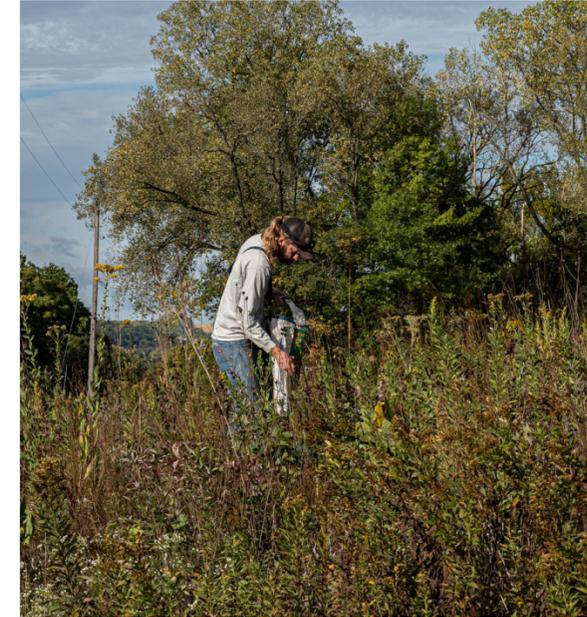
Wed. Oct 20 - [Holy Wisdom Monastery](#)

Fri. Oct 22 - [Ice Age Junction Hwy M Unit](#)

Tues. Oct 26 - [Walking Iron Wildlife Area](#)

Fri. Oct 29 - [Ice Age Junction Hwy PD Unit](#)

More opportunities will be posted on our [event calendar](#) throughout the fall.



*Seed Collecting
Photographs
taken by Sevie
Kenyon*



YOGA IN THE PARK

Yoga in the Park has been extended into the fall! Come join instructors from Wishing Tree Studios under the solar shelter at the W.G. Lunney Lake Farm Campground for a family friendly yoga class. **Every Sunday** in October from 4:00 p.m. – 5:00 p.m. we will have this fun outdoor yoga class. The cost is \$10/person, \$15 for two, and \$25/family. Bring your water and yoga mat to enjoy the fall scenery and yoga class!

[Learn More](#)



Nature Notes

from the Lussier Family Heritage Center
a Dane County Parks Facility

VIRTUAL CONSERVANCY DAY

Join the Friends of Pheasant Branch Conservancy on **Thursday, October 21st from 6:30 - 7:30 p.m.** for their virtual conservancy day. This talk will discuss the importance of citizen science volunteers and their dedicated work to watch Bald Eagle nests. The Bald Eagle Nest Watch program has gathered important information about the health, productivity, and nesting success of approximately 100 Bald Eagle nests in Wisconsin in 2021. Join us on zoom to learn more about what these volunteers look for, and some highlights of the nesting season!

*Please register beforehand through the "Learn More" button.



Photo courtesy of Gail Smith

[Learn More](#)

RESTORATION WORKDAYS



Friends of Stewart Park Restoration Workday

Sunday, October 17 from 1:00 p.m. - 3:00 p.m.

Join the Friends of Stewart Park for a Sunday workday in the Oak Trail Woodland and Savanna.

Lower Mud Lake -- Tree and Brush Removal Workday

Thursday, October 21 from 9:00 a.m. - 12:00 p.m.

Join volunteers from Lower Mud Lake as they work to enhance the quality of the prairie restoration during their invasive tree and brush removal days!

Silverwood -- Tree and Brush Removal Volunteer Workday

Friday, October 22 from 9:00 a.m. - 2:00 p.m.

Join Friends of Silverwood County Park for a morning of habitat restoration. These fall and winter workdays focus on removing invasive trees and brush from the woodlands.

Find these volunteer opportunities and more on our event calendar



Learn More

HALLOWEEN AT THE FARM

Head to Schumacher Farm County Park for Halloween at the Farm, a fun event the whole family can enjoy! On **Saturday, October 23 from 4:00 - 8:00 p.m.** there will be activities and food to get you in the mood for spooky season. Come enjoy spooky activities such as storytelling, interactive characters and fortune telling. There are also activities such as live music, hay rides, and face painting. Admission is \$10 /person or \$30 /family. Kids 3 and under free. Pay at the door.



*Schumacher Farm County Park
Halloween at the Farm*

[Learn More](#)



BEER CAVE RESTORATION

Join Dane County Parks on **Saturday, October 16 at 11:00 a.m.** to celebrate the restoration of the historic Beer Cave at CamRock County Park. The event includes a presentation by Richard Moen on the history of the area and the beer cave and a description of his volunteer restoration efforts on the beer cave. The presentation will be followed by remarks from Dane County Parks on the importance of volunteer efforts for completing projects like this and will end with a "grand reveal" of the restored beer cave entrance. Stone soup and Sunshine Brewing Company "beer cave" oatmeal stout and a special farmhouse ale will be served.

[Learn More](#)



*Photo courtesy of The Capital Times/Ruthie Hauge
photographer*

CLEAN SWEEP HOUSEHOLD HAZARDOUS WASTE DISPOSAL EVENT

The City of Fitchburg is partnering with Dane County, the Madison Area Municipal Storm Water Partnership (MAMSWaP) and the Madison Metropolitan Sewerage District to host a household hazardous waste disposal event. This event is open to all Dane County residents and offers an opportunity for residents to safely dispose of hazardous waste, household chemicals and other items that pose potential environmental and safety risks. These items shouldn't be placed in curbside trash or recycling bins.

Electronics WILL NOT be accepted at the event.

Cost: \$10/vehicle -- Limited same-day tickets available, advanced ticket purchase recommended.

[Learn More](#)



Madison Metropolitan Sewerage District

PLANT OF THE WEEK!

Prairie's are an important part of our Dane County Park Systems and to promote their beauty the Dane County Park's Newsletter will begin to promote a new prairie plant!

This newsletter's prairie plant is, **New England Aster**, or *Symphyotrichum novae-angliae*, blooms in fall, late August to early October. This plant ranges from 1 to 5 feet tall and has a beautiful purple flower. This flower provides nectar to our native pollinators like bumblebees and butterflies. This plant's seeds are also important for migratory birds.

Want to support areas where these plants thrive? Click the "Learn More" button to find a range of volunteer opportunities that support our native prairie's and other ecosystems!



[Learn More](#)

CLOSURES

Prairie Moraine County Park - Dog Park **CLOSED** for Maintenance

- The Prairie Moraine Dog Park will be CLOSED on **Wednesday, October 20, 2021**. Volunteers and staff will be doing maintenance work and removing invasive species. If a dog park trip is a part of your plans that day, please consider exploring a different one -- visit our [Dogs in Parks](#) webpage for more information.

[Learn More](#)



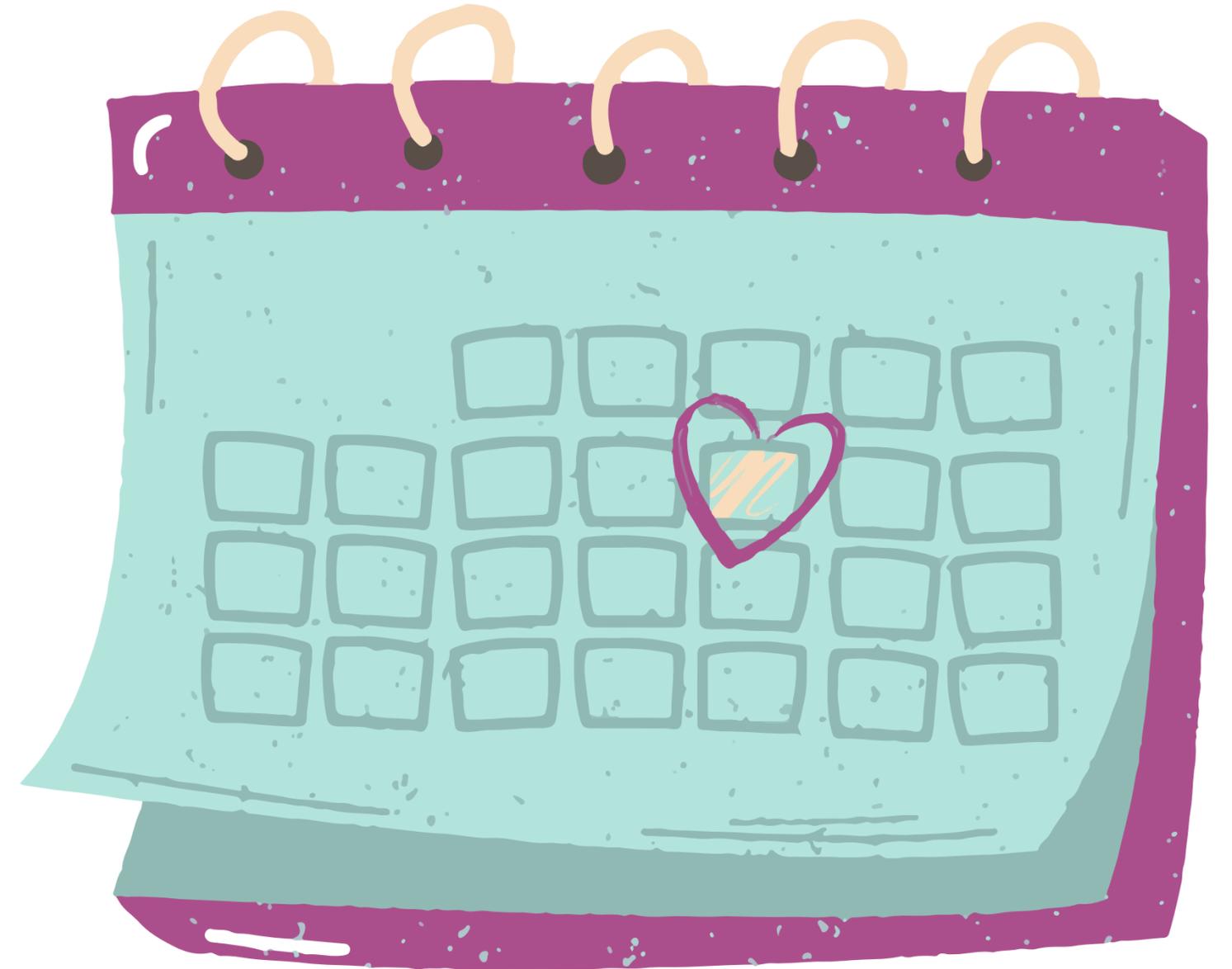
Photo courtesy of Steve Dahlgren

FULL CALENDAR OF EVENTS

For more event listings, check out the event calendar on our website. Events include:

- Youth Adventure Days
- Volunteer Workdays
- Music and craft events hosted by friends groups
- and more!

[Learn More](#)



NEWSLETTER SIGN UP

If someone forwarded you this newsletter you can **sign up** to receive future editions on our website:

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