

DANE COUNTY PARKS

INFORMATION & EVENTS NEWSLETTER

SEPTEMBER 2, 2021



Volunteer seed collecting

PRESENTATIONS IN THE PARK: SCALY FRIENDS IN YOUR BACKYARD: WISCONSIN'S NATIVE REPTILES

Join us **tonight (9/2)** outside the Heritage Center for a **FREE** presentation featuring the Madison Area Herpetological Society.

Take some time out of your day to learn about some of Wisconsin's 37 native reptile species, how they benefit our environment, and the best ways to view and interact with our wild friends. Reptiles play an important role in our ecosystem and it's possible to peacefully coexist with the critters that live in our communities. Join us for an informative digital presentation with **live animal examples!**

Gates will open at 5:30 p.m. and talk starts at 6 p.m. Bring your own chair or blanket to enjoy the event!

Since there are live animals present we will not allow dogs at this talk.

[Learn More](#)



Nature Notes

from the Lussier Family Heritage Center
a Dane County Parks Facility



FISHING ADVENTURE PROGRAM

Join us **Monday, September 13th and 27th** from 2:00- 4:00 p.m. at the Jenni & Kyle Preserve (925 Post Rd, Madison). Learn how to cast, bait, catch, and identify fish. Staff will assist participants with removing fish and releasing them back into the water. Fishing equipment is provided.

This event is \$5 per person and open to youth (kindergarten - 8th grade) or persons with permanent disabilities. Click below to learn more and register.

Have a big group? You can also sign up for a Learn to Fish Field Trip just for your group.

[Learn More](#)



 **LEARN TO FISH**
AT THE JENNI & KYLE PRESERVE

A learning adventure program for youth kindergarten - 8th grade or persons with permanent disabilities. Group field trip packages also available.



Nature Notes

from the Lussier Family Heritage Center
a Dane County Parks Facility

FALL RUNNING EVENTS

This fall, Dane County Parks and park Friends groups have two unique running events to get your heart pumping while soaking in the fall scenery. No matter what type of race you are looking for, we have something for you! Race registration fees will help support park maintenance and educational activities so you can feel extra good about your participation.

Donald Dash

Saturday, September 11

5km and 15km options
traveling through prairies,
woods, and over all types
of terrain.

[Learn More](#)

Indian Lake Trail Run

Saturday, October 2

7km and 12km options
traversing prairie, woodlands,
sedge meadows, and newly
restored oak savanna.

[Learn More](#)



CELEBRATE DARREN MARSH



**FOUNDATION
FOR DANE
COUNTY PARKS**

[Learn More](#)

Come celebrate Darren Marsh's 28 year legacy on **Thursday, September 9th** with a celebration hosted by the Dane County Parks Foundation. Join us in recognizing his many accomplishments and the impact he has made on our county park system as well as the partners that will assist us moving forward.

- **When: September 9, 2021 from 4-7 p.m.**
- **Where: William G. Lunney Lake Farm County Park, Shelter #2**

"Darren would be the first to remind us that these accomplishments are not his alone but those of countless volunteers, staff and partners whose passion and dedication nurture our parks every day," said Foundation President Bill Lunney.

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:

Sept 3 - [Indian Lake County Park](#)

Sept 7 - [Yahara Heights County Park](#)

Sept 8 - [Anderson Farm County Park](#)

Sept 10 - [Swamplovers Preserve](#)

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



OUTDOOR STORIES

Join us at our Lussier Family Heritage Center facility every **Tuesday from 9:00 a.m. - 10:00 a.m.** for a story and activity under the Heritage Oak tree. These are free and there is no need to register in advance.

Select Tuesdays will feature a story in Spanish. Find sessions and more information on our event calendar.

Enjoy our StoryWalk on the trails surrounding the Lussier Family Heritage Center any day, sunup to sundown. Our new September book is [The Camping Trip by Jennifer K Mann.](#)

[Learn More](#)



Nature Notes

from the Lussier Family Heritage Center
a Dane County Parks Facility

CITIZEN SCIENCE ON THE WATER

Come join Wisconsin Salt Wise at Marshall Creek in Middleton on **Tuesday, September 14th** from 6 – 8 p.m. for a paddle and citizen science event on salt monitoring! Bring your own boat, or reserve one for a fee before the event from Marshall boats, to join this fun and educational paddle. State and local experts will guide inquiry-based investigations into salt concentrations. Participants will go home with the tools to support local monitoring efforts.

[Learn More](#)



HERITAGE FEST

Join the Friends of Schumacher Farm Park for a fun Heritage Festival on **Sunday, September 12th** from 12 - 5 p.m.! Come see demonstrations of steam-powered antique threshing machines and 1920-30s harvesting techniques. Throughout the farm, guests are invited to participate in cooking in the farm's kitchen and petting small farm animals. Come try your hands at woodworking, weaving, knitting, spinning, cider making, and many other crafts. House tours, music and old-fashioned games will be going on all day so bring the whole family!

Tickets available day of the event; \$10/adult, \$3/children ages 3 & over, or \$20/family

[Learn More](#)



**Schumacher
Farm Park**
Heritage Fest

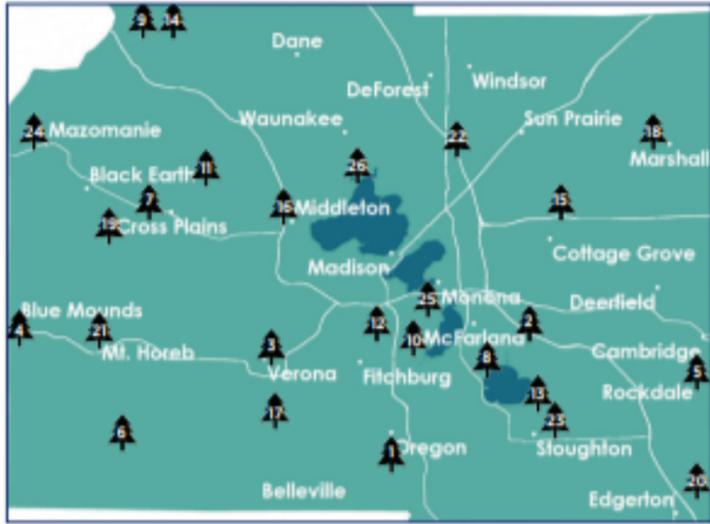


PARKS PASSPORT

Introducing the annual Dane County Parks Passport! A fun, new way to track your experience throughout our park system. After visiting 5 parks (or more!) before the end of the year, enter to win a \$100 gift card. Find the parks passport through the learn more button and download it to start tracking! You can enter to win by emailing your completed passport to foundationfordanecountyparks@gmail.com.

The Parks Passport is part of the #HealthyParksHealthyYou program. A huge thank you to our partners, Dean Health Plan, SSM Health, and Dane County Parks for making this project possible.

[Learn More](#)



- 1) Anderson Farm County Park
- 2) Babcock County Park
- 3) Badger Prairie County Park
- 4) Brigham County Park
- 5) CamRock County Park
- 6) Donald County Park
- 7) Festge County Park
- 8) Fish Camp County Park
- 9) Fish Lake County Park
- 10) Goodland County Park
- 11) Indian Lake County Park
- 12) Jenni & Kyle Preserve
- 13) LaFollette County Park
- 14) Lussier County Park
- 15) McCarthy Youth and Conservation County Park
- 16) Mendota County Park
- 17) Prairie Moraine County Park
- 18) Riley-Deppe County Park
- 19) Salmo Pond County Park
- 20) Silverwood County Park
- 21) Stewart Lake County Park
- 22) Token Creek County Park
- 23) Viking County Park
- 24) Walking Iron County Park
- 25) William G. Lunney Lake Farm County Park
- 26) Yahara Heights County Park

Visit at least 5 recreation parks and submit your passport by December 31, 2021.

How to submit your passport:

Paper: Mail your passport to: Foundation for Dane County Parks
5201 Fen Oak Drive #208 Madison, WI 53718

Electronically: Email your passport to:
foundationfordanecountyparks@gmail.com

Winners will be selected at random to win a \$100 gift card and will be notified January 2022.

Name:

Email:

Phone:

NEED A LYFT? Email foundationfordanecountyparks@gmail.com to coordinate a ride.

Note: The parks listed are considered recreation parks. Dane County has several other park properties but recreation parks usually have restrooms, ample parking and more developed recreation facilities and activity options. Visit danecountyparks.com to learn more about each park, access trail maps or more information.



FORAGING AND IDENTIFICATION

Join Chris Gavin, Naturalist & Outdoor Enthusiast, on **Saturday, September 11th** for a lesson on foraging and other useful outdoor skills at Festge County Park!

Foraging – 10 a.m. – 12 a.m. \$20/person

Learn the basics of foraging edible plants, berries, mushrooms, etc. Includes history, folklore, uses and more.

It's Time To Go Nuts! 12:30 p.m. – 2:30 p.m. \$20/person

Learn ID of trees & nuts, harvest times, processing, storage, usage and recipes. Demo of various equipment & tools.



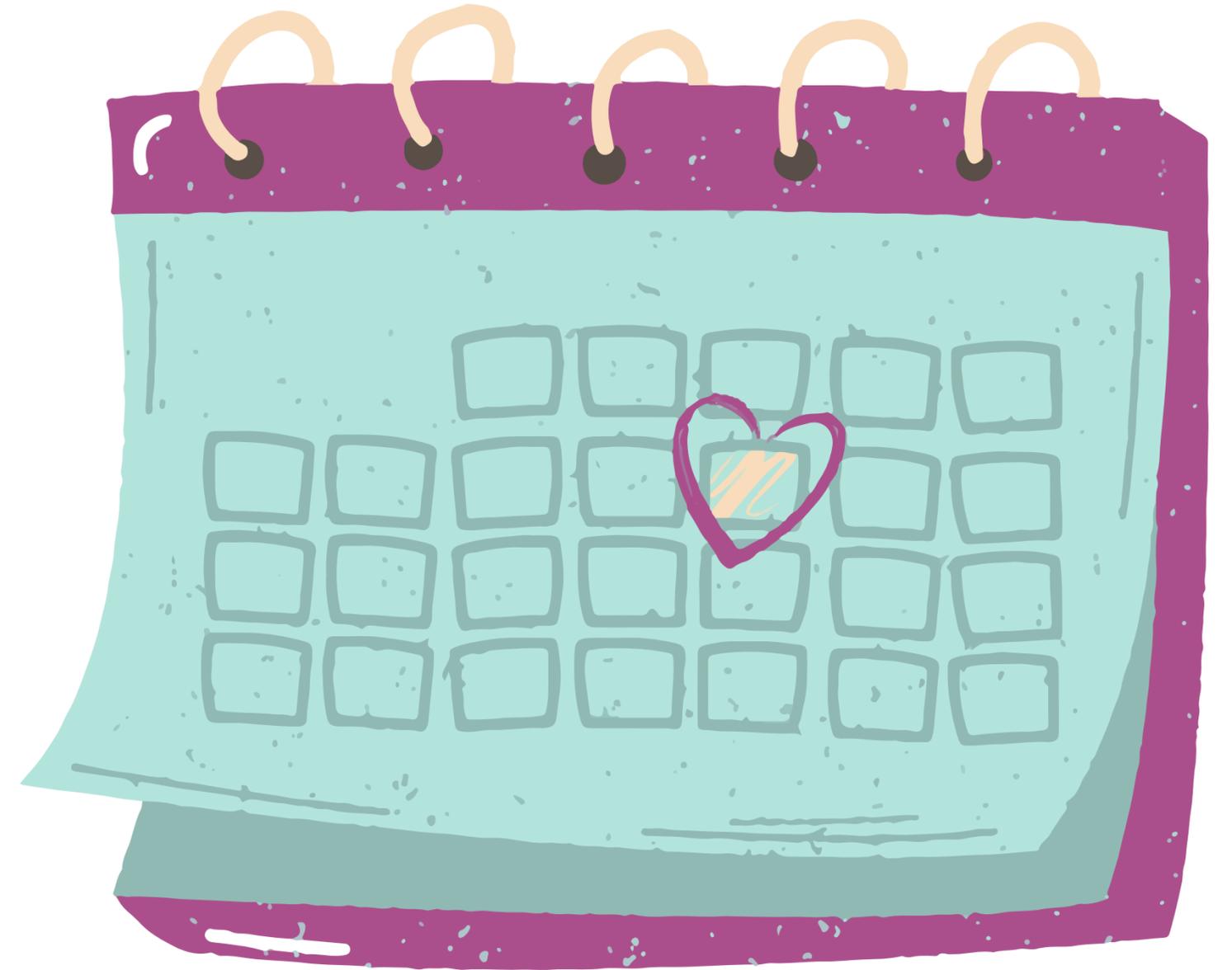
[Learn More](#)

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:

[Sign Up](#)

