

Restoration and Stewardship

The land on which Anderson Farm Park now sits was continuously inhabited for at least 12,000 years and would not be what it is today without past and present stewardship efforts. Staff and volunteers are currently working to restore the park to six primary natural communities: Oak Opening/Savanna, Oak Woodland, Southern Dry-Mesic Forest, Mesic Forest, Mesic Prairie and Southern Sedge Meadow.

RESTORATION EFFORTS

Prescribed Fire

Many native ecosystems rely upon fire to remain diverse and resilient landscapes. Professionally trained staff and volunteers conduct prescribed burns on over 1,000 acres of county-owned land annually, which help combat brush, manage invasive species, and maintain healthy habitats.



Prescribed burn of the Anderson Farm prairie.

Invasive Species Management

Invasive species can spread quickly, out-competing native species and harming ecosystems. Professionally trained staff and volunteers combat invasive species at this park through cutting, pulling, digging, prescribed fire, mowing, herbicide, and biological control.



Volunteers removing Burdock during a workday.

Seed Collection

Volunteers help collect seeds from prairie and woodland plants. The seeds are used to restore and add plant diversity to hundreds of acres of prairie habitat all over the Dane County Park System.



Collecting native plant seeds.



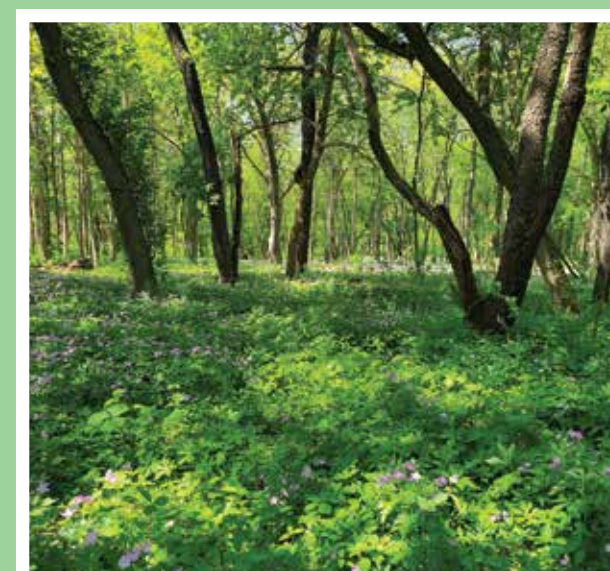
Garlic Mustard

Honeysuckle

Wild Parsnip

Buckthorn

Burdock



Wild Geranium blooming.

Plant Diversity

The Anderson Park Friends are working to increase plant diversity in the park. Take a walk in the woods in the spring and you will notice wildflowers growing where garlic mustard once took over.

Forestry Health Challenges

Our forests are facing a number of threats – from pests and diseases, such as Oak Wilt and Spongy Moth, to invasive plants, such as buckthorn and honeysuckle which grow quickly and shade out oak seedlings. Oaks support hundreds of species of wildlife and are incredibly important to local ecosystem health, so removing invasive brush and treating select oak trees to provide protection against fungal disease and insect pests has been a top priority.

STEWARDSHIP – VOLUNTEERS IN ACTION!

Anderson Park Friends Inc. is a non-profit organization that works with Dane County Parks to develop, protect, preserve, and enhance beautiful Anderson Farm County Park.

There are many ways you can support their efforts! Join them at one of their family-friendly events, volunteer your time at a restoration workday, or support their efforts financially by becoming a member.

Learn more at

www.andersonparkfriends.org



Volunteer workday, Anderson Park Friends, Inc



www.danecountyparks.com
dane-parks@countyofdane.com
608-224-3730 TTY: Call WI Relay 771



Translations Available
www.danecountyparks.com/QRA4

