

The BogHaunter

the newsletter of the Friends of the Cedarburg Bog
Volume 8, Number 2 SPRING 2013

BATTLING INVASIVES IN THE BOG

For a fourth year, the Friends of the Cedarburg Bog successfully secured funding for its battle against invasive species through the Adopt-a-Natural-Area program.

The \$10,000 grant under a program of the Natural Resources Foundation of Wisconsin comes from the Wisconsin Energy Foundation and is for work in 2013-'14. Wisconsin Energy Foundation, which had provided the same amount of funding in three previous years, invited NRF to seek similar support for the Cedarburg Bog again next year.

When Aldo Leopold helped to establish the State Natural Areas program to protect outstanding examples of Wisconsin's pre-settlement landscape, the two properties he initially wanted to safeguard were Parfrey's Glen near Devil's Lake and the Cedarburg Bog. In 1952, the Cedarburg Bog became the second State Natural area.

Owned primarily by the Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources and UW-Milwaukee, the bog is the largest example of the rarest type of wetland in southeast Wisconsin - a conifer swamp, including a "patterned" bog of stunted cedars and tamaracks alternating with flat, wet areas dominated by sedges. It has also been designated a National Natural Landmark by the Interior Department, a Wetland Gem by the Wisconsin Wetlands Association, and an Important Bird Area by the Wisconsin Bird Conservation Initiative.

An Adopt-a-Natural Area sign with the Wisconsin Energy Foundation's name on it is posted at the Highway 33 access to the Cedarburg Bog State Natural Area.

Last year, Wisconsin Energy Foundation also awarded the Friends of

the Cedarburg Bog a grant of \$4,900 to purchase a hand-held ANABAT device. We use it to record bat echolocation/vocalizations and conduct educational programs and field trips at the Cedarburg Bog and several area nature centers. The Wisconsin Bat Monitoring Program, uses volunteers to gather data on bats in a variety of Wisconsin locations. The Friends conducted two "bat walks" last year.

Since 2009, the Friends of the Cedarburg Bog and DNR have secured \$30,000 from the Wisconsin Energy Foundation/Natural Resources Foundation program, \$20,000 from a Knowles-Nelson Stewardship Fund Property Development Grant and \$12,000 from the North American Wetlands Conservation Act. All of these funds have targeted invasive removal and property restoration.

The Friends also have applied for a \$20,000 Stewardship Fund Property Development grant for 2014-2016.



Bittersweet

Funding from the Knowles-Nelson Stewardship Fund and the Wisconsin Energy Foundation over the past three years has allowed crews to work aggressively at removing buckthorn, Oriental bittersweet, and other invasive plants from the Bog and adjacent properties. Buckthorn work

was done in areas where it was least dense and easiest to control, and in high priority public use, education, or research areas.



Glossy buckthorn

The highest priority is to prevent buckthorn trees from reaching their fruit production stage in those areas that have already been treated at least once. Re-treating those areas will protect the investment in work already completed.

The buckthorn work will continue to be led by the UW-Milwaukee Field Station director, Dr. Jim Reinartz, and carried out by DNR State Natural Area crews and contracted workers from Environmental Design, a local landscape management company. The Friends and Field Station work together to coordinate the project, in concert with DNR property manager Andrew Krueger and the DNR's Natural Areas Conservation Biologist, Matt Zine, using a five-year invasives plan they have developed.

The Bog attracts a large number of people who enjoy bird watching, fishing, hiking, research, and educational activities. Programs offered by the UW-Milwaukee Field Station and the Bog Friends attract a geographically broad audience to the Cedarburg Bog and make the broader public aware of its significance.

Buckthorn is one of the most aggressive and harmful invasive plants to infest Wisconsin. Left unchecked,

it grows into dense clumps of large trees that out-compete native plants for sunlight and water. It also grows and spreads rapidly in relation to other trees and shrubs. Unfortunately, much of it took hold across the region before a broad campaign for public awareness and aggressive removal of it was fully developed.

PHENO-CAMS COME TO THE FIELD STATION

A common definition of the word phenology is the study of the timing of biotic and abiotic natural events and how they influence each other. The root of the word phenology comes from the Greek word "to appear", and is often associated with the appearances of biological or physical events through the course of a year. When will my maple tree leaf out? When will I see my first Mourning Cloak Butterfly? When will the river freeze? However, this paints an incomplete picture, as it is equally important to study when things disappear from the landscape, too. When do the juncos fly north in the spring? When do the leaves fall from the trees? When do the chipmunks disappear in the fall?

Often phenological events have important practical applications. Civilizations around the world have long relied on understanding seasonal changes that brought floods for agriculture or indicated when game would be migrating for hunting. Changes in the positions of heavenly bodies were used to determine when to sow or harvest crops.



Hepatica

Closer to home in Wisconsin, we know the importance of tracking temperature cycles in late winter that signal the time to start tapping sugar maple trees (daytime highs in the 40's and nights below freezing).

Over time, phenological observations begin to reveal important information about long-term trends. A wealth of

phenological studies have demonstrated shifts in the timing of blooming flowers, migrating birds and hibernating mammals. One of the most compelling demonstrations of phenology reflecting climate change came from a study by Wisconsin's own Aldo Leopold and his daughter Nina Leopold Bradley that spanned 61 years. Their studies demonstrate that in Wisconsin, many migratory bird species are arriving earlier and flowers are blooming earlier, coinciding with changes of climate, in particular a warming climate.



Red-winged Blackbird

As a naturalist and educator I pay close attention to the timing of events. I listen for the song of the cardinal around Valentine's Day and the sound of the Red-winged Blackbird the first week of March. Even in my lifetime the harbingers of spring have changed from Robins and Geese (which now are regular winter residents) to Killdeer and Phoebe.

The UWM Field station at Cedarburg Bog has been studying phenology for decades with long-term monitoring of weather, vegetation, birds and other communities. The station is extremely fortunate to be working with Dr. Mark Schwartz, Chair of the Department of Geography, and one of the world's leading experts in phenological studies. Through a partnership with Dr. Schwartz, the field station has been monitoring cycles in genetically cloned plants and fruit trees as indicators of climate change.

In 2013, the Field Station is adding a new and exciting tool to the already strong arsenal of phenological studies. Through a partnership with the Richardson Laboratory at Harvard University, the station is installing a pheno-cam, a high-resolution remote digital camera that will take and upload pictures of the landscape every 30 minutes. By pairing the field station camera with another installation aimed at Downer Woods at UWM's main campus, researchers will be able to compare spatial changes in vegetation between the two sites as well as temporal changes from year to year.

The cameras will focus on events such as spring leaf emergence and autumn senescence (falling leaves) to provide important data that can be used to measure primary productivity and carbon sequestration, among other things. Eventually these images should be available for the public to view and study.

It will likely be a while before the word phenology enters the everyday vernacular, in fact as I type this article my Spellcheck keeps telling me there's no such word as phenology. But as part of the phenology team at the Urban Ecology Center and a new and very excited member of the Board of Directors for the Friends of Cedarburg Bog, I will not rest until the word becomes a household name.

Tim Vargo, *FOCB Board of Directors*

BOG TIME

Once it starts, the spring phenology of the flowering plants in the bog and uplands happens in a relatively predictable order. Tough pioneers like Skunk cabbage and Leatherleaf set the stage, followed by a riot of spring ephemerals that race to finish their business before woodland trees leaf out and shade the ground below. Marsh marigold, hepatica, trillium, violets. Goldthread, bogbean and bluebead lily. Juneberry, red maple and tamarack. Wild geranium, bog rosemary and blue flag. It's a calendar as real as those we hang on the wall.

When Wild columbine blooms along the road edges, Small yellow lady's slippers are flowering in the Bog, fol-



Showy lady's slipper

lowed three weeks later by Showy lady's slippers and then by Bog candle orchids. Insect pollinators emerge to ensure the next generation of plants; migrating birds get their energy from insects.

Marsh marigold is our showiest spring flower. Join us for a Marsh Marigold Walk on May 12.

CALENDAR

Friends' Events

Join us for these events, sponsored by the Friends of the Cedarburg Bog. All walks will meet at the UWM Field Station on Blue Goose Road. Space is limited and pre-registration is requested. For directions or to register, contact us at Bogfriends.org (click on the Events tab) or Fieldstn@uwm.edu or 262-675-6844. Walks are free and are open to the public; a \$5 donation is appreciated.

PLEASE - NO PETS ALLOWED

WOODCOCKS AND FROGS

April 18, 7 to 9 PM

Hear the early voices of spring. Celebrate the chorus of frogs, woodcock, cranes, and other wetland noise-makers. Boots not needed; bring a flashlight.

WOODCOCKS and FROGS and a FULL MOON, TOO

April 25, 7 to 9 PM

The early spring chorus of frogs at the Field Station can be a religious experience. Woodcock, cranes, and other wetland noise-makers add their voices. Boots not needed; bring a flashlight.

AT THE NORTH END OF THE BOG

May 5, 9 AM to noon.

Explore the public trails at the north end of the Bog. The trip will meet at the UWM Field Station and then head to the DNR parking lot.

MARSH MARIGOLD WALK

May 12, 9 AM to noon

Marsh marigolds are the showiest wildflower of the wetlands, and they're out before the mosquitoes. Come see the Bog in early spring.

SPRING BIRD WALK

June 2, 6:30 to 8:30 AM

Search for migrants and breeding birds of the Bog. Bring binoculars, dress for the weather.

WHAT'S UP IN THE BOG?

May 26, 9 AM to noon

Everything was early in 2012. Hike the boardwalk and experience the sights and sounds of spring.

SOLSTICE WALK

June 20, 6 to 8:30 PM

Take a walk in the Bog as the sun sets on our longest day. Bring insect repellent.

WILD FOODS WORKSHOP

July 6, 10 AM to 2 PM

Join experienced wild food foragers John Holzworth and Linda Conroy for a hike and tasting.

Fee: \$20

**The Cedarburg Bog:
designated an Important
Bird Area and
a Wetland Gem**

For even more events offered by our partner organizations (below), check:

Treasurosofz.org/calendar

RIVEREDGE BIRD CLUB

First Tuesday every month except December
Optional bird hike 6 PM Program - 7 PM
Free. The public is welcome.

Riveredge Nature Center Barn, Newburg.

SCIENCE FOR EVERYONE

7 to 8:15 PM

Programs on a wide variety of Natural History topics. For directions or for topics, check www.riveredge.us or call 800-287-8098.

Riveredge Nature Center (RNC), Newburg; or the Washington County Public Agency Center (WCPAC), West Bend.

MAPLE SUGARIN' PANCAKE BREAKFAST

April 7, 9 AM to 1 PM

"All you can eat" pancakes made with organic flour and topped with Riveredge's own maple syrup, plus ham, coffee, and other beverages. Dress for the weather since this event is held outdoors in our Sugar Bush.

Fee: Adult \$12, 12 and under \$8;

Members: Adult \$10, 12 and under \$6

Riveredge Nature Center, Newburg

MIDWEST CRANE COUNT

April 14, 5:30 to 7:30 AM

A great Citizen Science opportunity. To participate, contact your county coordinator:

Milwaukee, Ozaukee: Lee Arhelger,

91lee@337lee.com. 414-453-5243,

Washington: Bob Raffel, 262-966-2280 or

protectsandhillcranes@gmail.com.

For information or other counties: www.savingcranes.org/annual-midwest-crane-count.html



Leatherleaf

FRIENDS OF THE CEDARBURG BOG

Quarterly board meeting

April 11, 7 to 9 PM

Members welcome

UWM Field Station

AMPHIBIANS AND REPTILES WORKSHOP

April 20, 1 to 4:00 PM

Learn about the turtles, snakes, and amphibians of Wisconsin and how they influence the habitats they live in. Participate in a biological survey.

Pre-register at 800-287-8098 or

www.riveredge.us

Fee: \$15 for half day programs.

Riveredge Nature Center, Newburg

EARTH DAY at RIVEREDGE

April 20, 9 AM to noon.

Learn about the environment while working on projects at the Center. Activities promote the health of our community and planet. Opportunities for groups, families and individuals of all ages.

Pre-register at 800-287-8098

Fee: Free

Riveredge Nature Center, Newburg



Tamarack

EARTH DAY FESTIVAL at the URBAN ECOLOGY CENTER

April 20th, Noon to 4 PM

All ages can enjoy fun outdoor activities, crafts, food, volunteering and fun for the whole family! This year, the festivals will be happening at all three of our branches. Visit urbanecologycenter.org or call (414) 964-8505 for directions and more information. Urban Ecology Center, Milwaukee

THE DOOR IS OPEN!

April 22, 4 to 7 PM

Join us on Earth Day to celebrate our new Learning Center. Ribbon cutting at 4:30. Refreshments. www.laclawrann.org
Lac Lawrann Conservancy, 300 Schmidt Rd, West Bend

WORK, PLAY EARTH DAY

April 27, 9 AM to 3 PM.

Help plant 200 trees in the Park's campground area. Come for part or all of the day.

Preregister at 262-285 - 3015 or

andrew.krueger@wisconsin.gov.

Harrington Beach State Park

PROJECT RED

April 27. Noon to 4 PM

RED stands for Riverine Early Detectors.

Learn about the local aquatic invasive species and about the invasives that are threatening the area. Indoor presentation, followed by canoeing on the Milwaukee River in search of aquatic invasives.

Pre-registration by April 24th is required.

Call 800-287-8098 or www.riveredge.us

Fees: Members: \$7; Non-Members: \$10

Riveredge Nature Center, Newburg

BECOME A WATER QUALITY MONITOR

Saturday, May 4, 9:30 AM – 3:30 PM

Volunteers will learn how to identify aquatic invertebrates and do five tests that assess the water quality of a stream or river. They will conduct tests monthly during summer, and submit their data to the statewide Water Action Volunteers website.

Call 800-287-8098 to register.

Fee: Free (\$5 Donation Appreciated)

Riveredge Nature Center, Newburg

BIRDATHON/BANDATHON

May 11, - Dawn to Dusk:

Join the Riveredge Bird Club for this all-day birding and banding event. Bird solo or with a group, all day or part of the day. For more information contact Mary H. 800-287-8098 or mholleback@riveredge.us, or Noel at noel.cutright@we-energies.com.

Riveredge Nature Center

ANNUAL WILDFLOWER and PERENNIAL SALE

May 11, 9 AM – 1 PM

Pick from thousands of wild and garden plants and herbs at this annual spring event.

www.laclawrann.org

Lac Lawrann Conservancy, 300 Schmidt Road, West Bend, ¾ mile north of Hwy 33.

BIKE RIDE to MNP

May 18th, time to be determined

Ride to and through MNP on a guided journey. Please call Jason Nickels, Education & Restoration Manager at 262-242-8055 ex 103. Check our website calendar for more information. mequonnaturepreserve.org

Mequon Nature Preserve, 8200 W. County Line Rd, Mequon

RUNWILD at the PRESERVE

June 15th, 9 AM

The 2nd annual 5K trail run through MNP. Race begins at 9am, children's race and activities to follow. Proceeds to benefit wildlife research and habitat restoration. Check our website for more information

mequonnaturepreserve.org or

call (262) 242-8055.

Mequon Nature Preserve, 8200 W. County Line Rd, Mequon

SUMMER SOLSTICE SOIREE and AUCTION

June 15

Plan to join us for a special evening of food, music and fun to benefit the Center's mission.

More information will be posted at

urbanecologycenter.org, or call

(414) 964-8505.

Urban Ecology Center, 1500 E. Park Place, Milwaukee

TREASURES of OZ

June 15, Self-guided tour from 9 AM to 3 PM, Celebration at Forest Beach from noon to 6 PM

Explore the beauty of eight natural Treasures of Ozaukee County. Finish your trek at Forest Beach Migratory Preserve (former Squires Golf course), just north of Port Washington. See article elsewhere in the newsletter.



Arctic skipper

BUTTERFLY COUNT

June 29, 8:30am Butterfly Review, Count 9:30–3pm

Join us for all or part of the day, learn to identify butterflies, and participate in this annual event. Wear old shoes and pack a bag lunch if you're staying for the day. Binoculars are helpful.

Pre-register at 800-287-8098. Adults and children age 12 and over.

Fee: Free (\$5 donation appreciated)

Riveredge Nature Center, Newburg



Lesser Yellowlegs

WANTED

A few people who would like to learn to be leaders for Friends' events. People who wouldn't mind learning something about the Bog as a system, as well as about its plants and animals so they could teach others. Who enjoy talking to people. Who wouldn't mind falling in love with a 2,200 acre wetland. Interested? Contact Kate at the Field Station mailing address.

GREAT WISCONSIN BIRDATHON

In 2012, the Natural Resources Foundation of Wisconsin launched a unique fundraiser to help the cause of Bird Conservation. The Great Wisconsin Birdathon challenged teams and individuals to see how many birds they could log within the state during a 24 hour period on the date of their choice, in the locations of their choice, during the month of May. A lot, it turns out.

Teams solicit pledges for each species seen or for their effort; the proceeds will help birds through statewide projects like Bird City Wisconsin, the Wisconsin Stopover Initiative, and the Important Bird Areas program. Thirty percent of the 284 bird species recorded in Wisconsin are considered "Species of Greatest Concern" due to declining numbers.

There are several "Celebrity Home teams" to support. "Hawkeye and the Ancient Murrelets" includes Board members Carl Schwartz and Tom Uttech and Friends' Advisor Noel Cutright (the Ancient Murrelets), and Seth Cutright (Hawkeye). This team set the present record of 162 species. Another team, made up of Owen Boyle and Board member Tim Vargo, will cover the Bog and the Lakefront.

For more information, to join a team, start a team, or support a team, visit <http://www.wibirdathon.org/>. It's never been so easy to do a good thing for the birds!

FORAGING FOR FOOD

There is a cornucopia of wild edible plants all around us – we just need to step back and open our eyes. Wild foods are tasty and wholesome and best of all they're free! The Friends of the Cedarburg Bog have invited local foraging enthusiasts Linda Conroy and John Holzward to the Field Station on July 6 to share their expertise. It turns out that many plants in our garden or lawn that grow there of their own volition (mistakenly referred to as weeds) can be harvested and included in the menu. In fact, some invasive species are delicious! For example, Japanese Knotweed is considered one of the world's worst invasive species; it is also quite tasty and nutritious. Some say it tastes like rhubarb but better.

John & Linda will help participants to identify tasty wild foods, explain ethical wildcrafting and finish the day in the kitchen with samples for all.

Wild food foraging has become a popular pastime across the US. If you already enjoy hunting morels and picking wild blackberries, you will relish this opportunity to discover other safe and healthy plants to harvest in the wild. See the calendar of FOCB events to register.

The Friends of the Cedarburg Bog

Support stewardship and appreciation of the Cedarburg Bog through land management, preservation, research and education

WOOD DUCKS IN THE BOG

One of the most common, most spectacular and noisiest ducks in the Bog was once almost extinct. In less than a century, from the early 1800s to 1900, the Wood Duck fell victim to habitat destruction (lumbering and the draining of wetlands) and to the pressures of hunting. Market hunters harvested the birds for their feathers, which decorated women's hats, and for their meat. Hunters enjoyed both fall and spring seasons on Wood Ducks, which could be taken even during the nesting season. By the start of the 20th century, they were almost gone.

A number of measures helped Wood Ducks recover. Restricting hunting seasons and bag limits, habitat improvement, and the passage of protective federal legislation in 1916 and 1918, got the ball rolling, and in the 1930s, the wood duck nest box was developed. Because of nest box programs sponsored by a variety of organizations, these man-made nests are making a lot more sites available in and around wetlands (with a little chewing around the entrance hole, nest boxes become winter homes for squirrels and even raccoons).



Installing wood duck nest box

Wood Ducks like swamps or quiet waters with nearby woodlots and are regulars on the bird counts done at the Bog. They are one of only a few species of tree-nesting ducks, with strong claws that allow them to perch on branches. They can't hollow out their own nest, but depend on cavities in hollow trees a foot or two in diameter or on the occasional woodpecker nest, five to fifty feet above the ground.

The ten to fifteen eggs laid in the hollow take about four weeks to hatch. When they are less than two days old, the ducklings, heeding a call from the female, climb up to the nest opening and jump to the ground. Ducklings

eat lots of aquatic insects, but adults are primarily vegetarians, feeding on duck weed, seeds of aquatic plants and fruits like wild grape. Acorns are their favorite food, and they will graze the forest floor or fly up into trees to harvest acorns before they fall. They also perch in trees to eat grapes.

In recognition of the drake's spectacular plumage, the Wood Duck's scientific name, *Aix sponsa*, means "waterbird in wedding dress."

Four Wood Duck and four Screech Owl boxes are being installed on the Bog's edges. Friends' Board member Bruce Ross is shown here putting up a Wood Duck box near Watts Lake at the north end of the Bog. Four Kestrel nest boxes will be put up in spring.

SEWISC

The story of any natural area today must include a chapter on invasive species. The Cedarburg Bog and its uplands host a number of species of exotic plants, and a few of them are potentially hazardous to its health. In the past few years, the Friends of the Cedarburg Bog have raised funds to attack Oriental bittersweet and glossy buckthorn in the Bog, while garlic mustard, purple loosestrife, Phragmites (Giant Reed Grass), wild parsnip, and teasel are on the "watch list." Other alien plants, like dandelions and daisies don't pose a threat.

A word about the words. "Alien," "exotic," and "non-native" all refer to species that aren't "from around here." The up-side of being an exotic species is that you've left your natural enemies behind and can increase at will. Buckthorn is a Eurasian shrub, sweet clovers arrived from Europe and Asia, and the Emerald Ash Borer originated in Asia. All three are found in the wetlands, grasslands and woodlands of the Cedarburg Bog



Garlic mustard

The Rusty Crayfish is considered an alien; though it's a native of the east-central United States. It has greatly

expanded its range and is now damaging aquatic habitats from the Western Great Lakes through New England. "Invasive" refers to a species that is out of control, dominating its habitat to the detriment of other species and to the habitat itself. Not all invasive species are aliens, and not all alien species are invasive.

The Southeastern Wisconsin Invasive Species Consortium (SEWISC) was formed in 2009 for the purpose of educating the public about invasive species and the threat they pose to local ecosystems. It aims to share information and resources in order to control both the invasives that are here now and those that will cross our borders tomorrow. The consortium includes counties from Kenosha to Sheboygan, and from Walworth to Washington.



Phragmites

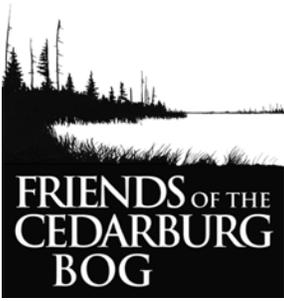
An example of an on-going SEWISC project is the roadside surveys compiled for the past two years. Though "the horse is out of the barn" as far as some species like garlic mustard are concerned, other exotics are in the early stages of invasion. Volunteers charted the locations and density of patches of Phragmites, Purple loosestrife, Teasel, Wild Parsnip, and Japanese Knotweed along roadways in eight counties. With populations mapped, SEWISC personnel are working with local highway departments so that highway workers can recognize and eliminate invasive species as part of their maintenance activities.

For more information about SEWISC and to see mug shots of invasive species along with the recommended control methods, visit <http://sewisc.org/>.

TREASURES OF OZ MEETS THE STRING BOG

This summer Treasures of Oz, an event which debuted in 2010, will invite area residents to fall in love with Ozaukee County all over again as they visit as many as eight natural treasure sites on June 15.

Download an event passport and start exploring. Docents and guides will



UWM Field Station
3095 Blue Goose Road
Saukville, WI 53080

ADDRESS CORRECTION REQUESTED

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greet folks at each site and share their expertise to make the visit unforgettable.

This year's free event focuses on places that are totally surprising, newly unveiled, or rarely available to the public. And for the third time in four years, it will feature an opportunity to visit the Cedarburg Bog. At the heart of the Cedarburg Bog lies the southernmost string bog in North America.

The Friends of the Cedarburg Bog is supplying the naturalists who will lead people into the Bog.



Treasures of Oz participants are invited to end their day of adventuring at the celebration's headquarters, Forest Beach Migratory Preserve, just a few minutes north of Port Washington, where food, down-home music, interesting exhibits, and a silent auction that includes fine art and crafts from local artists will be available.

Those passports that have been stamped along the way can be turned in for free raffle tickets to win local dining, entertainment, or other surprises. The more stamps you collect, the more raffle tickets you'll get.

The sites for the 2013 Treasures Tour include:

1. Forest Beach Migratory Preserve -- Home base for the celebration as well as a Treasures site for touring. The preserve is a "recovering" golf course that continues to change as it matures. This is an Ozaukee Washington Land Trust (OWLT) site.

2. The Port Washington Coal Dock -- Port Washington has turned the old coal dock into a bird sanctuary with awesome views of the coastline. The Grand Opening is a week after Treasures, so this is a first peek for the public.

3. Cedarburg Bog Boardwalk -- The University of Wisconsin-Milwaukee Field Station is opening their amazing boardwalk for Treasures this year. It goes out into the bog, over two islands and into the area of the string bog. The boardwalk and string bog is only open to classes and organized trips -- but on June 15th, the general public can experience it.

4. Blue Heron Wildlife Preserve -- This beautiful private preserve is open to the public, but few people know about it. It runs along the Milwaukee River, right near Tendick NaturePark.

5. Quarry Lake -- The Friends of Harrington Beach State Park will lead tours of this site with an emphasis on the history of the stone quarry. Quarry Lake is circled by a beautiful trail. Harrington Beach will offer free admission to the park for this event.

6. Armin Schwengel Waterfowl Production Area -- Armin was a student of Aldo Leopold and was responsible for many of the wetland restorations in Ozaukee County. This natural breeding area for waterfowl was named in his memory. Guides will highlight the Aldo

Leopold Land Ethic as visitors explore this site.

7. Kurtz Woods -- Visitors will have a "down-the-rabbit-hole" experience as they enter a path between two suburban homes on a typical suburban street and find themselves lost in a Kettle Moraine-type setting filled with huge trees, rocky paths and very interesting topography. This is another OWLT preserve.

8. Shady Lane -- A natural area site that has never been open to the public before. It is now part of Hawthorne Hills County Park (behind the golf course.). It has quite a story leading to its acquisition by Ozaukee County with the very happy ending that this beautiful wild place will be preserved for generations to come and is now open to the public.

Visit the Treasures web site for the latest and most complete information on Ozaukee County's preserves, parks and trails. Passports and event information will be available after May 1 at www.treasuresofoz.org.



Mallard