



Director's Message

On behalf of the UW-Madison Division of Facilities Planning & Management, along with the Preserve Governance Committee, we extend our sincere appreciation to our many partners for their support of the Preserve's ongoing operations and endowment. These important partners include the Friends of the Lakeshore Nature Preserve, UW –Madison Physical Plant Grounds, along with the numerous individuals, organizations, students, faculty and staff, and our surrounding communities who volunteer their time and efforts in the Preserve. 2015 was a tremendous year of investment in the Preserve. The Friends of the Lakeshore Nature Preserve completed their fundraising campaign in record time, raising \$145,000 for the Preserve's five-year management plan to revitalize the 27-acre Eagle Heights Woods. Staunch advocates for the Preserve since its formation, the Friends partnered with the Preserve staff and the UW Foundation in this major outreach effort. We were equally pleased to receive a special gift of \$100,000 to support our important work to control invasive plants within the Preserve. This investment will allow us to add additional summer staff to target specific areas and establish an invasive plant mapping and monitoring program in partnership with Mark Renz, UW Extension Weed Specialist. The gift will also allow us to develop a regular/continuing volunteer team to specifically address invasive species management. The Preserve would not be where it is today without the generous time, talents, and financial support of these amazing partners. Thanks to all involved!

GARY BROWN PLA, FASLA, Director

Partners & Stakeholders

Friends Surpass Goal for Eagle Heights Woods

Since 2001 the Friends of the Lakeshore Nature Preserve has been the preeminent advocate of the Lakeshore Nature Preserve, formerly known as the "Campus Natural Areas." In 2015 the Friends officially launched their most ambitious fundraising campaign to raise \$135,000 for support of the Preserve's five-year management plan for Eagle Heights Woods. Ahead of schedule, and in less than six months, the Friends surpassed their goal raising \$145,000. Heading the fundraising committee were Sue Denholm, Peter Fisher, and Gisela Kutzbach who also developed a strategic plan and coordinated efforts with Preserve staff and the UW Foundation.

In addition to providing financial support for management efforts, Friends members are supporting the Eagle Heights project with volunteer service. Susan Will-Wolf (Senior Scientist Emerita in the UW Department of Botany) designed a plant monitoring protocol that was instituted in 2015. Joined by Friends members Ann Burgess (retired Biocore Director) and Glenda Denniston (volunteer steward), the trio completed quantitative spring surveys of the trees, saplings, shrubs, and ground layer vegetation within the central management zone of Eagle Heights Woods. In early July 2015, they worked with the Prairie Partners intern crew to complete summer vegetation surveys. The data collection protocol will be replicated by future volunteers for on-going monitoring and comparison. The data will be a component of future management decisions.



Volunteers Glenda Denniston, Ann Burgess, and Suzy Will-Wolf, survey plants in Eagle Heights Woods. Photo by Gisela Kutzbach.

The Preserve would also like to recognize ongoing support by the Friends through additional financial support and program outreach and education including:

- Additional donations of \$2,500 (annual gift and greenhouse fees) and \$10,350 (support of the Prairie Partners intern program).
- Free public field trips throughout the Preserve and co-sponsored monthly Bird and Nature Walks with FUN-"Friends of Urban Nature."
- Outreach events extending the Preserve to the UW and area communities.

Eagle Heights Woods Project

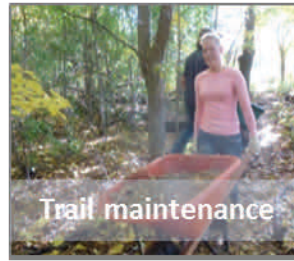
Adam Gundlach, Field Projects Coordinator

It was a busy year in Eagle Heights Woods. Several Friends members offered their expertise in plant identification to spearhead vegetation surveys during the spring and summer of 2015. The surveys shed light on plant community composition in the Central Zone ahead of planned invasive brush removal.

In late summer and early fall, crews from Good Oak Ecological Services worked diligently to treat resprouting buckthorn and seedlings in the Indian Mounds Zone. Through the winter months, Good Oak completed invasive brush removal across an additional five acres in the Central Zone. Newly emerged ephemeral wildflowers now find themselves in the open understory air, freed from the buckthorn's shroud. The brush generated by the clearing efforts was chipped onsite and staged along trails to await the busy hands of volunteers as they assist with trail maintenance.

Also during winter 2015-16, Wolfe Tree Service was enlisted to fell numerous hazard trees along trails. Though standing dead trees (snags) are critical habitat for a number of birds, insects and other wildlife, the abundance of dead trees within reach of trails poses hazards for Preserve users. Many of the snags of greatest concern now lie on the ground to fill a different habitat niche, as they are slowly consumed by fungi and return to the soil.

The past year brought the return of fire to the Eagle Heights oak woodland community. A prescribed burn was conducted across more than two acres of the Indian Mounds unit on November 9, 2015. Fire spread was patchy, but locations where fire was able to carry through the abundant buckthorn seedlings resulted in effective control.



Trail maintenance



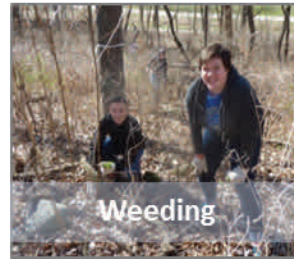
Planting



Monitoring



Seed collecting



Weeding



Prescribed fires

Student Engagement Grants

Laura Wyatt, Preserve Program Manager

In 2015 the Lakeshore Nature Preserve Committee awarded four grants totaling \$3,005 through a competitive process. Student Engagement Grants provide financial support to undergraduates and faculty/staff working with undergraduates utilizing the Preserve as a resource for research and education. The funds are made possible through the Academic Endowment Fund of the Preserve at the UW Foundation, established by former faculty members Robert M. Goodman and Henry Hart.

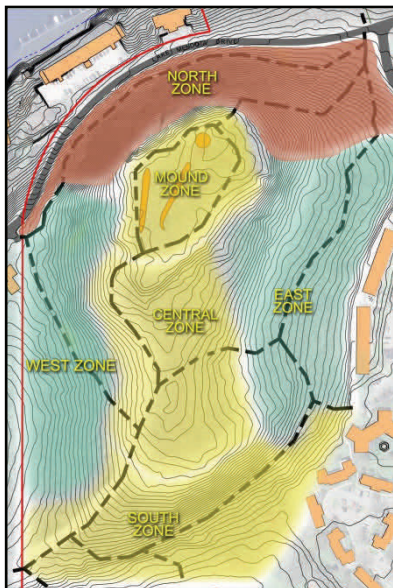
2015 Awardees:

Native Pollinator Conservation Program—Emily Greinwald, UW student in Zoology and Conservation Biology and Susan Carpenter, UW Arboretum—\$725

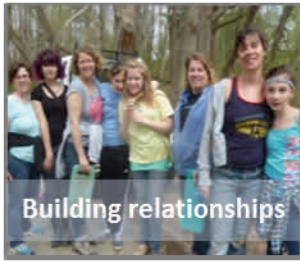
The Impact of Road Salt on the Water Chemistry of the Class of 1918 Marsh—Greta Helmueller, UW student and John Magnuson, Center for Limnology—\$1,000

Survival and Habitat Use of Eastern Gray Squirrels in an Urban Preserve—Professor Jonathan Pauli, Department of Forest and Wildlife Ecology—\$980

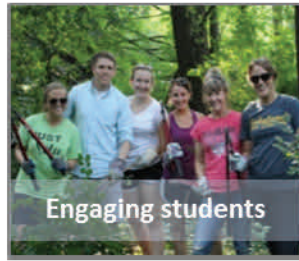
Propagation Bed for Fruit Cloning—Will Waller, Eagle Heights Community Gardens; Lynn Hummel, UW Agricultural Research Stations and Greenhouses; and F.H. King Gardens—\$300



Though challenging to implement given the site's urban surroundings, prescribed fire will be an important management tool in the years to come.



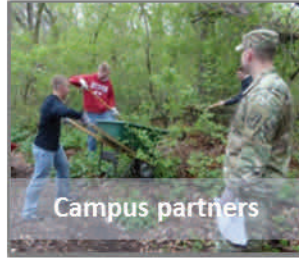
Building relationships



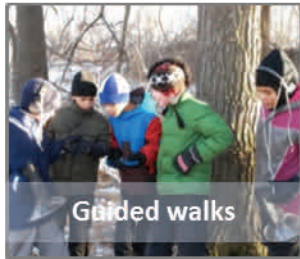
Engaging students



Community partners



Campus partners



Guided walks



Outreach

Students for the Preserve

Twenty plus students met in November to kick-off the reorganization of the Students for the Preserve. Guided by Preserve Committee student members Anne Pearce, Paul Metscher, and Katya Mullendore, students played *Preserve Trivia*. They also identified potential group projects and activities including volunteering to collect trash, to remove invasive plants and planting in Muir Woods, and to participate in Earth Day and Arbor Day events. Pizza was provided by the Friends of the Preserve. All students are welcome to join! For more information follow the [Students for the Preserve](#) on Facebook.



Preserve Committee student members lead a Students for the Preserve meeting. Photo by Gisela Kutzbach.

Volunteers

Bryn Scriver,

Volunteer Coordinator/Outreach Specialist

The Preserve benefits from the hard work of many campus and community volunteers. Volunteer opportunities vary with the seasons and with the types of projects being pursued in the field. Volunteers carry out projects to keep the Preserve clean, improve biological diversity, prevent erosion, maintain trails, and conduct vegetation and wildlife surveys.

Volunteers contribute to the Preserve as individuals, as members of community groups, as students in classes, as groups of friends or family members, and as academic units. If you would like to get involved with the Preserve, contact Bryn Scriver, Preserve Volunteer Coordinator at bryn.scriver@wisc.edu.

2015 program year statistics:

833 volunteers

3,267 hours of service

Estimated value = \$ 73,442

Preserve Research Permits

During the 2015-16 program year, 72 research permits were active representing engagement by 27 different UW-Madison departments and programs.

Long-term research partners include: Biocore Prairie, F.H. King Gardens, CALS Research Plots, Soils and Geography Soil Pits, Art and Anthropology Kilns, Class of 1918 Marsh Studies, North Temperate Lakes Long-Term Ecological Research, and ROTC Training.

Permits were also obtained by external entities including a Bird Breeding Study, Forest Products Laboratory, Girl Scouts, University of Minnesota-Department of Biology, USDA Center for Forest Mycology, and citizen scientists working with the Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources.

Administration – Preserve Policy Makers and Staff

Preserve Committee

Established by the UW provost in 2000, the **Lakeshore Nature Preserve Committee** is charged “to ensure the integrity of these cherished campus resources through the provision of necessary and appropriate oversight, policies, guidelines, stewardship and management.” Operating under principals of shared governance, the committee is comprised of three faculty, three academic staff, and three students. We thank the current members for their time and service.

2015-16 Preserve Committee

Voting members:

- **David Drake**-faculty, Forest & Wildlife Ecology
- **Sara Hotchkiss**-faculty, Botany
- **Phil Townsend, Chair**-faculty, Forest & Wildlife Ecology
- **Jacob Hahn**-academic staff, Social Education Office
- **Alan Turnquist**-academic staff, Undergraduate Programs & Services
- **Matilde Urrutia**-academic staff, Soil Science
- **Paul Metscher**-student
- **Ekaterina Mullendore**-student
- **Anne Pearce**-student

Non-voting ex-officio or consultants:

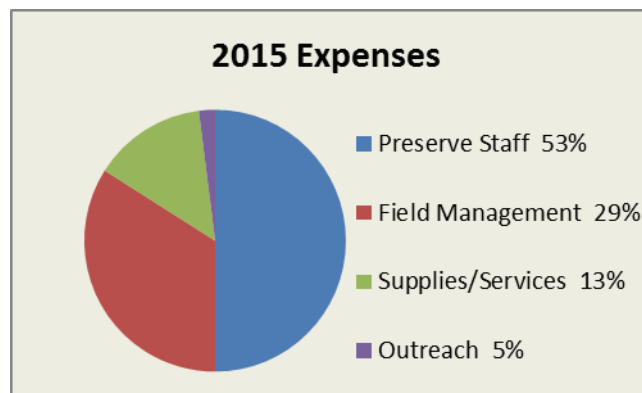
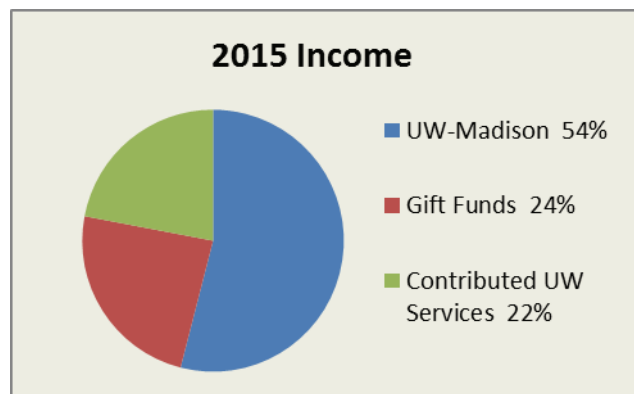
- **Gary Brown**, Director, Lakeshore Nature Preserve
- **Will Waller**, Board President, Friends of the Lakeshore Nature Preserve
- **Rhonda James**, Senior Landscape Architect, Campus Planning and Landscape Architecture
- **Donna Paulnock**, Interim Director, UW Arboretum
- **Kelly Ignatoski**, Director, University Apartments

For additional information on the Lakeshore Nature Preserve, please visit our webpage at <http://lakeshorepreserve.wisc.edu/>

Join us on



2015 Financials



Gifts to the Preserve

In 2015 the Preserve received gifts totaling \$169,599. **Special gifts were received in memory of:**

Robert F. Hendricks

Art Hove

Professor John T. McNelly

Dallas Miner

Carol Peterson

Alice Pugacz Staeck

To learn how you can make a lasting difference within the UW-Madison at the Lakeshore Nature Preserve contact Laura Wyatt, Program Manager, 608-265-9275.

Support the Lakeshore Nature Preserve with a gift to the Stewardship or Endowment Funds at the UW Foundation

www.supportuw.org

Enter “Lakeshore Nature Preserve” into Search

Lakeshore Nature Preserve Staff

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- 👤 **Adam Gundlach**, Field Projects Coordinator adam.gundlach@wisc.edu

