



# UW-Madison Lakeshore Nature Preserve Draft -- 2017 Work Plan

The following document provides an overview of the proposed work in the Lakeshore Nature Preserve facilitated by staff within Facilities Planning & Management. This is not an exhaustive list of duties or proposed work, but does provide a general understanding of what is proposed for the upcoming year. The initiatives shown are also not prioritized, understanding that Preserve staff will work on the initiatives throughout the year with the ultimate goal to complete as much of the work as possible based on available staff and financial resources. The work plan is annually reviewed by Preserve staff and approved by the Lakeshore Nature Preserve Committee to provide guidance on priorities and initiatives to be undertaken in the year ahead. Major initiatives, not on this list that may come up throughout the year, will be considered in the following fiscal year deliberations for inclusion in future work plans. Projects already started in previous years are a priority for implementation and completion.

## 1) LAND MANAGEMENT OBJECTIVES

- Monitor and control priority non-native plant species across entire Preserve (e.g., porcelain berry, Japanese hedge parsley, garlic mustard).
- Continue follow-up management in sites cleared of buckthorn and honeysuckle in preceding years (i.e., resprout treatment, general weed control, over seeding).
- Establish greater diversity of native vegetation through over seeding and planting in sites that have been adequately prepared.
- Continue to implement prescribed fire as a land management tool where site conditions allow.
- Implement approved management plans, and begin to draft management plans for additional sections of the Preserve.
  - Working with UW Housing staff and other stakeholder groups, develop a vegetation management plan for the wooded area north of Elizabeth Waters Residence Hall.
  - Working with UW Housing staff and other stakeholder groups, develop a management plan for the compost pile in both the Eagle Heights Gardens and University Houses Gardens.
- Eagle Heights Woods Implementation – Continue follow-up control of invasive woody resprouts and seedlings in the Mounds, Central, and South Zones. Continue vegetation monitoring in Indian Mounds, Central and South Zones, and perform initial monitoring in West Zone. Identify potential burn units and prepare firebreaks ahead of prescribed burns. Identify hazard and undesirable trees for removal. Perform invasive brush removal in West zone.
- Establish a service agreement with UW-Grounds outlining the services/locations routinely provide the Preserve, the approximate value and processes for review and requests.
- Implement the second year of a four-year initiative focused on manual control of weedy herbaceous plants.

## **2) OUTREACH AND INFORMATION ACCESS**

- Implement volunteer program goals and policies.
- Engage volunteers in meaningful land stewardship activities in support of Preserve goals, and continue the ongoing volunteer program.
- Manage the Lakeshore Nature Preserve website and social media sites.
- Continue to provide site-based and virtual information through temporary work activity signs, audio trail recordings, and the website.
- Continue to develop on-going partnerships with organizations and community groups, including the Friends of the Lakeshore Nature Preserve.
- Assist promotional activities as appropriate for development initiatives.

## **3) SITE INFRASTRUCTURE**

- Maintain trails, parking areas, and work with campus partners for user safety and enjoyment of the Preserve.
- Maintain fire circles and stock wood racks (with assistance from UW Grounds Department).
- Remove hazard trees, control erosion, and install safety signs and barriers (with assistance from UW Grounds Department and contractors).
- As defined in the Preserve Master Plan, install benches as donations allow, and maintain views through selective vegetation removal.
- Maintain Picnic Point pit toilets (Custodial & Plumbing Departments), continue regular trash collection (Waste and Recycling Department), and maintain hand water pump (Plumbing Department).

## **4) ADMINISTRATIVE SUPPORT**

- Provide support for the Preserve Committee and subcommittees.
- Assist with capital project planning.
- Develop annual budgets and work plans.
- Provide development opportunities for UW Foundation fundraising, grants, and financial support to continue building the Preserve endowment and stewardship resources.
- Document internal organizational operations, processes, policies and procedures. This includes pesticide use, trail clearing protocol, fire circle maintenance and wood restocking, electronic filing protocol, etc.
- Begin the development of a strategic planning initiative to build on the overall vision and future of the Preserve.
- Manage permits and collaborate with student life and academic programs to enrich the quality of the resource.

## 5) CAPITAL PROJECT SUPPORT (ALPHA ORDER BY NAME, NOT PRIORITIZED)

- a. Class of 1918 Marsh trail – Support planning for the Healing Trail - connection from hospital to Class of 1918 Marsh. Repair bridge surface. (continuing project)
- b. Class of 1953 Central Lakeshore Path improvements – Continue regular maintenance. (continuing project).
- c. Class of 1955 Tent Colony Woods improvements – Continue regular maintenance with volunteer assistance from Roma Lenehan to control weeds along the Lake Mendota Drive corridor. (continuing project).
- d. Eagle Heights Apartments Storage Shed and recycle lot design – Project will include area for recycling containers, runoff control, edge protection, restoration of eroded slope and a metal storage building for Housing equipment and materials. (continuing project)
- e. Eagle Heights Woods Management Plan – Continue follow-up control of woody resprouts and seedlings where invasive shrubs have been removed in the Indian Mounds and Central zones. Continue vegetation monitoring in Indian Mounds and Central Zones, and perform initial monitoring in Southern Zone. Identify potential burn units and prepare firebreaks ahead of prescribed burns. Identify hazard and undesirable trees for removal. Perform invasive brush removal in Southern zone. (continuing project)
- f. Frautschi Point improvements – Continue land care improvements. (continuing project)
- g. Friends Interns – Five *Prairie Partners* interns receive educational experiences while assisting Preserve staff with field work 1 day per week summer 2017/11/18/162016-11-18. (continuing project)
- h. Tree island improvements – Plan and improve biodiversity of tree and boulder island at intersection of Eagle Heights Gardens, CALS, and Biocore Prairie. (continuing project)
- i. West Campus Stormwater Project – Lot 60 stormwater pond, University Bay Drive bio-retention basin: monitor planting and maintenance. The contractor (AES) is responsible for maintenance through fall of 2016, then Preserve will be responsible for maintenance and Grounds will assist with mowing of the edges. Review project provided maintenance plan and adjust as needed.
- j. Willow Creek Woods savanna restoration – Implement management plan (continuing project).
- k. Preserve kiosk at Picnic Point entrance – Planting in Spring 2017 by Preserve Staff.
- l. Point fire circle improvements sites 1, 4 & 5 – review needs and costs for improvements to these areas.
- m. Picnic Point fire circle 3 improvements - Improve drainage to reduce erosion, replace benches, formalize the fire circle, and rehabilitate the vegetation adjacent to the circle and along the path edge.
- n. Preserve Kiosks - Install an interpretive panel on each of the three Preserve kiosks.
- o. Raymer's Cove - Design and install a Preserve gateway sign.