



Wisconsin State Journal

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You, too, can help 'Save the Woods'

The woods overlooking Lake Mendota have changed only slightly since Wisconsin emerged from the last ice age.

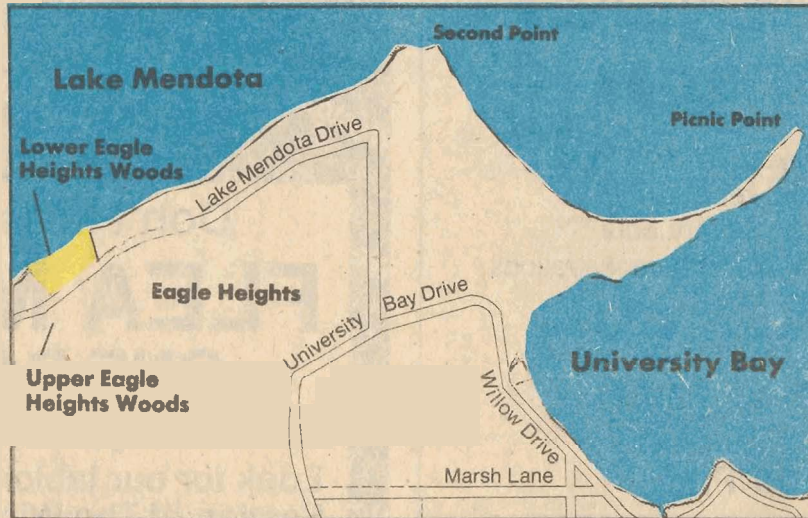
For centuries, Indians hunted there. In more recent history, Chief Blackhawk used the woods for cover as he fled the U.S. Army.

Fifty years ago, Boy Scouts camped on the hill overlooking the woods and explored the area where Blackhawk camped.

Now, part of the Lower Eagle Heights Woods is endangered. Gerald Welch, owner of the three lots that make up the western section of the woods, has agreed to sell two of the lots to the Dane County Natural Heritage Foundation, a private non-profit organization.

But if the foundation cannot raise the money, Welch says, he will have to renew efforts to develop the land.

The Natural Heritage Foundation has until March 9 to tell Welch



whether it will buy the first lot. The foundation must raise \$250,000 for the purchase.

University of Wisconsin-Madison Chancellor Irving Shain says he will

ask the Board of Regents for \$100,000 to help meet the goal. Environmental groups are also asking the Madison City Council for \$80,000 and the Dane County Board for \$40,000.

But you can help, too.

The Wisconsin State Journal feels its readers want to help the foundation raise that money. So, the newspaper is beginning a "Save the Woods" campaign.

If you can help, make a check out to the "Dane County Natural Heritage Foundation" and send it to:

**Save the Woods
Wisconsin State Journal
Box 8058
Madison, Wis., 53708**

Your contribution to the woods is vitally important. Not only does it help the Natural Heritage Foundation raise the money it needs for the purchase, but it also tells the Regents and the Dane County Board and the Madison City Council that people want to save the woods.

If the foundation can raise the money to exercise its first option, it will have until Aug. 1 to decide

whether it can also purchase the second lot for an additional \$148,000.

So, the Natural Heritage Foundation must raise a total of \$398,000 to save the woods.

The Lower Eagle Heights Woods is located east of the Cove condominiums. Welch plans to keep the lot adjacent to the Cove.

Those lots are adjacent to woods owned by the University of Wisconsin-Madison; if the lots are saved, the entire lakeshore in front of Eagle Heights Apartments will remain wooded.

Emeritus Professor Joseph Hickey, a wildlife ecologist with an international reputation, said the Lower Eagle Heights Woods has both aesthetic and wildlife value.

Thumbing a well-read copy of Aldo Leopold's "Sand County Almanac," Hickey said, "Keeping land in its natural state is what Leopold was talking about; it is a very high value."