



Friends OF THE
LAKESHORE NATURE PRESERVE

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June 25, 2020

Field trips

All field trips are canceled for the indefinite future, although we have begun planning for the fall in the hopes that some sort of field trips may be permitted.

Heritage Marker

Still waiting to hear any news on the grant proposal submitted by Eve Emshwiller and colleagues. Realistically this may not happen.

Annual Meeting

We have a tentative date of September 7 for our annual meeting at the Arboretum, but that will depend on what is permitted.

Citizen Science

This promises to be a successful season for the songbirds using the Bluebird trail nest boxes. By mid-June five Bluebird chicks had fledged and currently there are two new active Bluebird nests. In addition, there are 8-10 Tree swallow nestlings ready to fledge very soon. This popular citizen science project attracted two new volunteers this season.

With the addition of two gourd nesting compartments, now hanging below the Purple Martin house, we have been able to attract 3 subadults (1-year olds) to consider nesting. While adult martins return in early April to their nesting sites, subadults, which have to find new housing, do not arrive until May.

A team of six volunteers has begun monitoring the lake at the boat launch ramp. Observations are recorded twice weekly and reported to the LakeForecast.org web site. Little or no algal bloom has been seen so far. Our observations of the turbidity show a sharp drop from the “good” range to “fair” at the beginning of June, however this has not been reported at nearby sites and there doesn’t seem to be any obvious reason why we would be different.

