

Events Calendar Spring 2010

Fascinating Frogs field trip: Wednesday April 28, 7:30 PM

Join UW-Madison researcher Jeremiah Yahn to learn about frog identification and ecology. Bring the kids; we will try to catch some frogs and if lucky may hear a rare species. The location is a stream and wetland habitat restoration project on a Nature Conservancy preserve. Be prepared for possible muddy conditions and darkness; bring a headlamp or flashlight. Meet at The Nature Conservancy parking lot south of Barneveld: from 18/151 take Cty Rd K south for about 2 miles; the lot will be on your right, marked by a sign. In case of poor weather, an alternate date has been set for May 5. Registration is preferred but not required. If you have any specific questions about frogs or topics you would like covered, please let us know! Contact Katie Abbott for more information, to register, or to check for cancellation: (608)935-2791 x134 or (608)341-6493 (cell).

The Nature Conservancy Work Party: Saturday May 8, 9am-12pm

Help pull and bag non-native garlic mustard that is invading savanna remnants. Dress appropriately for outdoor, grubby work (long pants, long-sleeved shirt, sturdy footwear, work gloves). Exact work location may vary. Directions: From US Hwy 18/151 turn south onto Hwy K (near Barneveld) and go approximately 1.5 miles and turn right (west) onto Langberry Rd. Go 0.5 mile west and park at the junction of Langberry and Lee roads. Contact: Jim Lesniak (608-576-3310)

Native Wildflower Sale: Saturday May 15, 8am-1pm

Add diversity to your gardens and plantings! There will be a wide variety of local prairie, savanna, and wetland wildflowers to choose from. Help selecting plants appropriate for your project will be available. Many of the plants were grown by students in the Argyle Land Ethic Academy (ALEA) in Argyle, Wisconsin. Proceeds benefit Blue Mounds Area Project and ALEA. **Location:** Liberty Park Shelter, Mt. Horeb. Liberty Park is located minutes off Hwy 18/151 in Mount Horeb. Take the Hwy ID exit into Mount Horeb. Turn left onto Cox Drive, just past Ming's Garden Chinese Restaurant.

Schurch-Thomson and Underwood Prairies field trips: Sunday May 23, 1-4pm and Thursday May 27, 6-8pm

Hike into a secluded valley to explore prairie remnants (including spectacular displays of shooting star), watch grassland birds, and see progress being made to recover degraded prairie sod and convert old fields to prairie. Be prepared for a long hike. Field trip will occur rain or shine (except for severe weather), so wear appropriate clothing, including a hat, long-pants, and sturdy footwear. Bring sunscreen, insect/tick repellent, and water.

Directions: From Hwy 18/151 take County Rd F (south of Blue Mounds) approximately 5 miles south. Turn right onto Reilly Road, and proceed to the end of the road. We will be meeting at the parking lot west of the barn. (Note: about 1 mile south from 18/151, F turns to the right while Z goes straight. Stay on F). **Trip Leader:** Rich Henderson (608-845-7065 or tpe.rhenderson@tds.net)

The Nature Conservancy Work Party: Saturday June 12, 9am-12pm

Help pull and bag non-native garlic mustard that is invading savanna remnants. Dress appropriately for outdoor, grubby work. Long pants, a long-sleeved shirt and sturdy

footwear are essential, and always bring work gloves. Exact work location may vary.

Directions: From US Hwy 18/151 turn south onto Hwy K (near Barneveld) and go approximately 1.5 miles and turn right (west) onto Langberry Rd. Go 0.5 mile west and park at the junction of Langberry and Lee roads. **Contact:** Jim Lesniak (608-576-3310)

Grassland Birding in Western Dane & Eastern Iowa Counties: Saturday June 19, 10am-12:30pm

Explore the bird life at a 875-acre Nature Conservancy Preserve, including oak savanna and restored prairie habitat. Field trip will occur rain or shine (except for severe weather), so wear appropriate clothing, including a hat, long-pants, and sturdy footwear. Bring sunscreen, insect/tick repellent, water, and food. **Directions:** From Hwy 18/151 take Cty Hwy K south to the junction of Cty Hwy K and Langberry Rd. Go west on Langberry 0.5 miles to the junction of Lee and Langberry. Pull vehicles off to the side of the road at the junction of Langberry and Lee Roads. **Contact:** Steve Richter: srichter@tnc.org cell 608-577-3076 office 608-356-5300

Shea Prairie field trip: Saturday June 26, 2-4pm

Explore two prairie remnants and a trout stream, discuss management needs and restoration plans for the site, and see the showy State Threatened Hill's thistle. Field trip will occur rain or shine (except for severe weather), so wear appropriate clothing, including a hat, long-pants, and sturdy footwear. Bring sunscreen, insect/tick repellent, and water. **Directions:** From Hwy 18/151, 1.5 miles west of Blue Mounds, turn south on Mounds View Road. Proceed on Mounds View for 2.5 miles to where it joins briefly with Prairie Grove Rd. Stay with Mounds View and go another 0.7 miles south. Pull into the tractor access lane on the left side of the road, by the preserve sign, for parking. **Trip leader:** Rich Henderson (608-845-7065)

Flowers and Butterflies of Schurch-Thomson Prairie: Saturday July 10

Led by Rich Henderson & Ann Thering. More details to come; check www.madisonaudubon.org/audubon/html/tips.htm