

# DANE COUNTY PARKS

INFORMATION & EVENTS NEWSLETTER

NOV. 12, 2021



*Walking Iron County Park  
Photograph taken by Sevie Kenyou*

# VOLUNTEER SEED CLEANING

Our Natural Areas Staff and Volunteers have been working hard to collect seed from native prairie species all over Dane County. Come help with the next steps by cleaning seed! All seed cleaning will be held at the Dane County Seed Shed ([4401 Libby Rd., Madison WI](#))

**Registration is required for seed cleaning dates:**

**Monday, Nov 15** – 9:00 a.m. – 12:00 p.m.

**Monday, Nov 15** – 1:00 p.m. – 4:00 p.m.

**Tuesday, Nov 16** – 9:00 a.m. – 12:00 p.m.

**Tuesday, Nov 16** – 1:00 p.m. – 4:00 p.m.

All training and PPE will be provided. No prior experience necessary.



*Seed Cleaning  
Photographs  
taken by Sevie  
Kenyon*



[Learn More](#)

# BIRDS SCAVENGER HUNT

We have a new scavenger hunt set up along the Capital Springs Recreation Area trails! Enjoy the trail and the late fall weather with a fun hike to find all of the signs.

Hidden along the trail are 10 birds you can find in Wisconsin in the winter. Find all 10 birds and email something you learned to [HeritageCenter@countyofdane.com](mailto:HeritageCenter@countyofdane.com) to receive a prize (while supplies last).

[Learn More](#)

*Trails are open daily.  
Have fun!*



**Nature Notes**

from the Lussier Family Heritage Center  
a Dane County Parks Facility

# NEW TRAVELING STORYWALK

Head to Walking Iron County Park for our new traveling StoryWalk book, *A Garden in Your Belly* by Masha D'Yans. Enjoy a fun children's book that helps you understand your microbiome. Start at the parking lot and head east, taking the first left. The park is open from dawn till dusk.

Thank you to our partners, *Foundations for Dane County Parks*, *Dean Health Plan*, and *SSM Health* that work to support the traveling StoryWalk and our *Healthy Parks*, *Healthy You* initiatives.

The traveling StoryWalk moves to different Dane County Parks starting on the 15th of each month. Follow the [Learn More](#) link for details on future locations.

[Learn More](#)

*Walking Iron County Park*



# VIRTUAL CONSERVANCY DAY



Join the Friends of Pheasant Branch Conservancy on **Thursday, November 18th from 6:30 p.m. - 7:30 p.m.** for their virtual conservancy day. Pheasant Branch Creek is one of four waterbodies in Dane County, and over 40 waterbodies across Wisconsin, that are impaired by high chloride concentrations. Learn about the various contributors – it's not just road salt, what's being done to protect the creek, and how you can get involved.

\*Please register beforehand through the "Learn More" button.



[Learn More](#)

# RESTORATION WORKDAYS

## Friends of Anderson Farm Workday

*Saturday, November 13 from 8:00 a.m. - 10:30 a.m.*

## Lower Mud Lake Natural Resource Area -- Tree and Brush Removal Workday

*Thursday, November 18 from 9:00 a.m. - 12:00 p.m.*

## Silverwood -- Tree and Brush Removal Volunteer Workday

*Friday, November 19 from 9:00 a.m. - 2:00 p.m.*

## Friends of Stewart Park Restoration Workday

*Sunday, November 21 from 1:00 p.m. - 3:00 p.m.*

## Walking Iron County Park -- Restoration Workday

*Tuesday, November 23 from 9:00 a.m. - 12:00 p.m.*

## Silverwood -- Tree and Brush Removal Volunteer Workday

*Friday, November 26 from 9:00 a.m. - 2:00 p.m.*

[Learn More](#)



*Restoration Workday at Prairie Moraine County Park  
Photographs taken by Lorna Goshman*



# PARK SAFETY & HUNTING

Please remember that hunting is allowed on a select number of our properties. Gun deer season runs from **Nov. 20-28, 2021**. Gun hunting is **ONLY** allowed in Dane County Parks properties that are designated Wildlife Areas. To see a list of wildlife areas, visit our [website](#).



## Safety Tips:

- **KNOW BEFORE YOU GO:** Hunting Season dates set by the Wisconsin DNR.
- **WEAR BLAZE ORANGE** or other highly visible clothing.
- **IF YOU HIKE WITH A DOG**, it should have a dog permit and wear a blaze orange vest and be on a leash at all times, unless engaged in hunting activities.
- **USE EXTRA CAUTION AT DAWN and DUSK.** Hunting activity may increase at dawn and dusk when animals are feeding.
- **AVOID HUNTER INTERFERENCE:** It is prohibited by Wisconsin law to interfere with people engaged in lawful hunting, fishing, or trapping (WI Statutes 29.083).
- **BE HEARD:** Make sure you are heard, by whistling, singing, or talking while you hike.

[Learn More](#)

# TRAINING SERIES

Our partners at Project Wingspan, with the Pollinator Partnership, are offering a virtual 5-part series on topics related to land management. The overarching goal of this workshop series is to increase the success of native habitat restoration and management efforts by offering land managers and stewards advanced educational support, recent findings from scientific field research, guidance on current best management practices, and practical solutions to 'real-world' habitat management obstacles.

**Wednesday, November 17 from 12:30 p.m. - 2:30 p.m.**

**Wednesday, December 1 from 12:30 p.m. - 2:30 p.m.**

**Wednesday, December 8 from 12:30 p.m. - 2:30 p.m.**

The suggested audience includes former, current, and potential future conservation practitioners and partners.

[Learn More](#)



# 2022 PARK PERMITS

Get ready for another year of adventures in Dane County Parks!

2022 Camping/Shelter Reservations and Annual Park Permits are now available to reserve and purchase.

Purchase your activity permits now and it is valid from your day of purchase till the end of 2022. Park permits also make great gifts that support our parks and natural areas!

Purchase online at [www.reservedane.com](http://www.reservedane.com)

[Learn More](#)



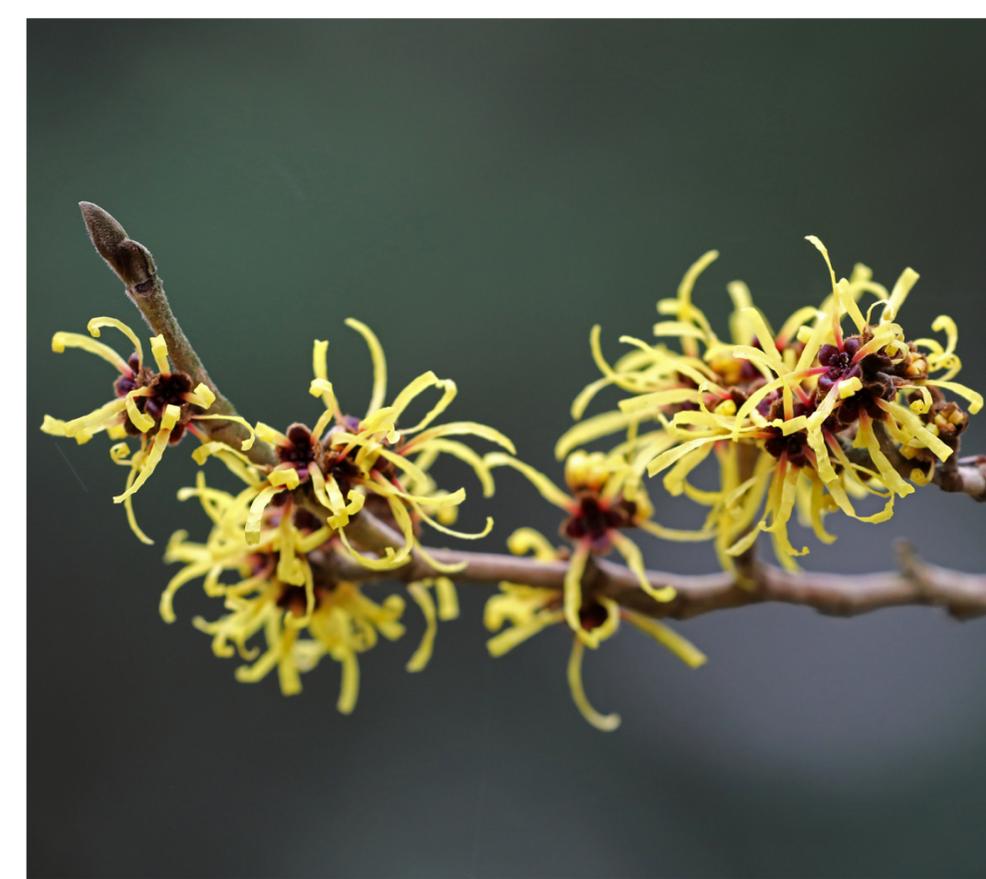
Disc Golf · Dog Park · Lake Access  
Ski Trail · Mountain Bike · State Trail Pass  
Horse Trail · Camping · Tenney Lock

# PLANT OF THE WEEK!

This week's Dane County Parks Plant of the Week is, **Witch Hazel!** Witch Hazel's latin name is *Hamamelis virginiana* L. *Mamamelis* is latin that developed from the Greek word for service tree. Witch hazel can be considered a tree or shrub. It can grow to be 15 - 30 feet tall and the same length wide. This plant blooms in late October - December meaning you can find its bright yellow blooms right now in some of our parks! The flowers have four long, narrow petals which are pollinated by moths.

Want to support areas where these plants thrive? Click the "Learn More" button to find a range of volunteer opportunities that support our native prairies and other ecosystems!

[Learn More](#)



# GREEN FRIDAY

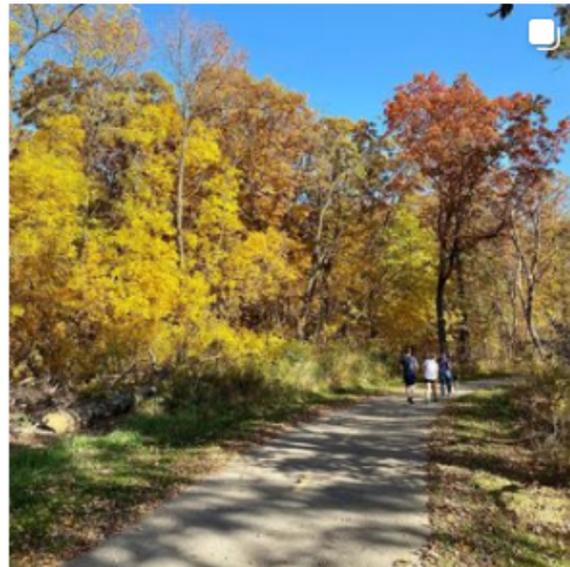
Enjoy the fall (winter!) weather with members of your household and visit one of our parks or trails. With over 12,000 acres of land and over 100 miles of trails, you are sure to find something that will quickly become your new favorite. Visit our [hiking](#) webpage or check out this list of [park properties](#) to find a new place to explore. If you visit one of our parks, make sure to tag @danecountyparks in your adventures on Facebook or Instagram.

## Check out the places others have explored in our parks:



**Anderson Farm County Park**

@kailee\_lessner



**Brigham County Park**

@robot\_w\_no\_wig



**Pheasant Branch Conservancy**

@burlepix



**Lewis Nine Springs E-Way**

@kenton\_a\_fowler



**Springfield Hill Natural Resources Area**

@jenbaldock

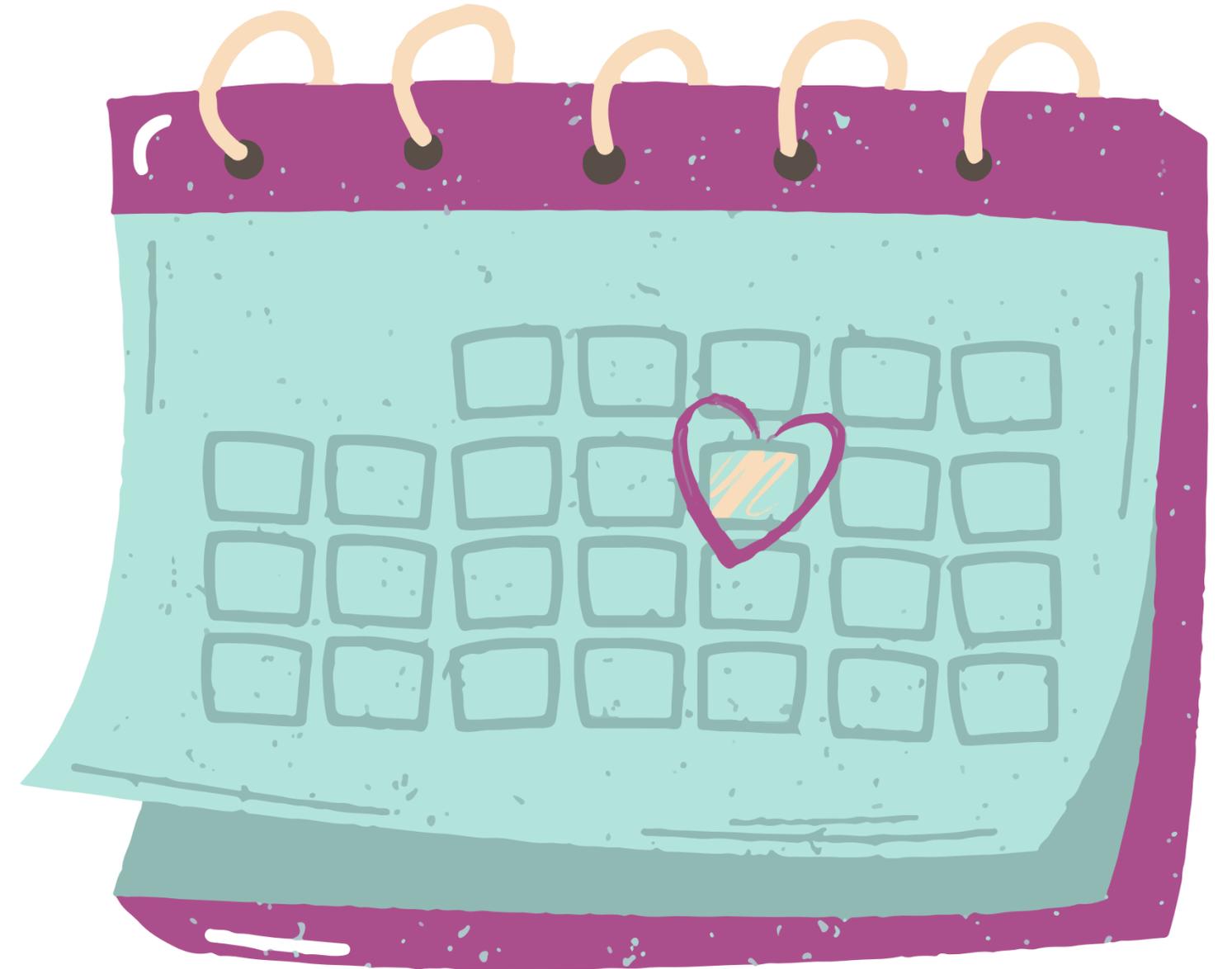
*A reminder that gun deer season runs from November 20-28 and is only allowed in Dane County Parks Wildlife Areas so it may be best to avoid those.*

# FULL CALENDAR OF EVENTS

For more event listings, check out the event calendar on our website. Events include:

- Volunteer Workdays
- Music and craft events hosted by friends groups
- Webinars
- and more!

[Learn More](#)



# NEWSLETTER SIGN UP

If someone forwarded you this newsletter you can **sign up** to receive future editions on our website:

[Sign Up](#)

