

DANE COUNTY PARKS

INFORMATION & EVENTS NEWSLETTER

OCTOBER 29, 2021



*Brigham County Park
Photograph taken by Sevie Kenyou*

VOLUNTEER SEED COLLECTION

Join us for our **FINAL** seed collecting events of the fall season.

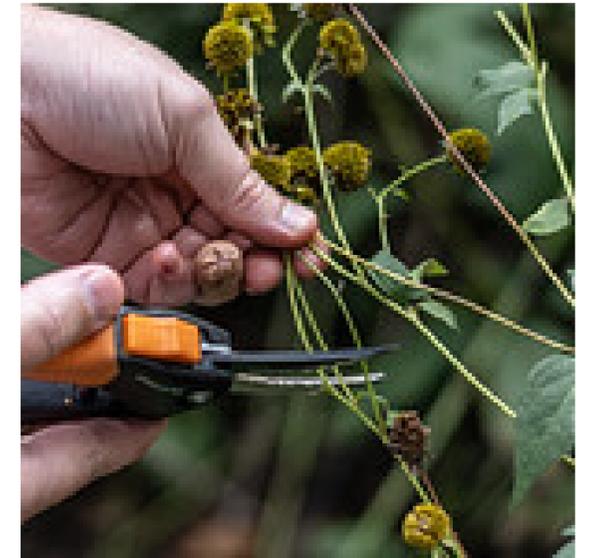
Sign up is required!

Wed. Nov 3 - [Badger Prairie County Park](#)

Wed. Nov 3 - [Ice Age Junction Hwy M Unit](#)

Each year volunteers, staff, partners, and Operation Fresh Start participants collect and process native plant seed from prairie, savanna, wetland, and woodland ecosystems. The seed is worth approximately \$600,000 and is used to restore over 170 acres of park lands.

[Learn More](#)



*Seed Collecting
Photographs
taken by Sevie
Kenyon*

VOLUNTEER SEED CLEANING

Our Natural Areas Staff and Volunteers have been working hard to collect seed from hundreds of 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](#))

Join our natural areas staff to help us clean seed! **Registration is required:**

Wed. Nov 1 – 9:00 a.m. – 12:00 p.m.

Mon. Nov 8 – 9:00 a.m. – 12:00 p.m.

Wed. Nov 10 – 9:00 a.m. – 12:00 p.m.

Thurs. Nov 11 – 9:00 a.m. – 12:00 p.m.

Fri. Nov 12 – 9:00 a.m. – 12:00 p.m.

Wed. Nov 1 – 1:00 p.m. – 4:00 p.m.

Mon. Nov 8 – 1:00 p.m. – 4:00 p.m.

Wed. Nov 10 – 1:00 p.m. – 4:00 p.m.

Thurs. Nov 11 – 1:00 p.m. – 4:00 p.m.

Fri. Nov 12 – 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](#)

RESTORATION WORKDAYS

Silverwood -- Tree and Brush Removal Volunteer Workday.

Friday, November 5 from 9:00 a.m. - 2:00 p.m.

Join Friends of Silverwood County Park for a morning of habitat restoration. These fall and winter workdays focus on removing invasive trees and brush from the woodlands.

Walking Iron County Park -- Restoration Workday.

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

Join Natural Areas Staff at Walking Iron County Park to restore and enhance Pasque Flower Prairie and adjoining project sites at Walking Iron County Park!

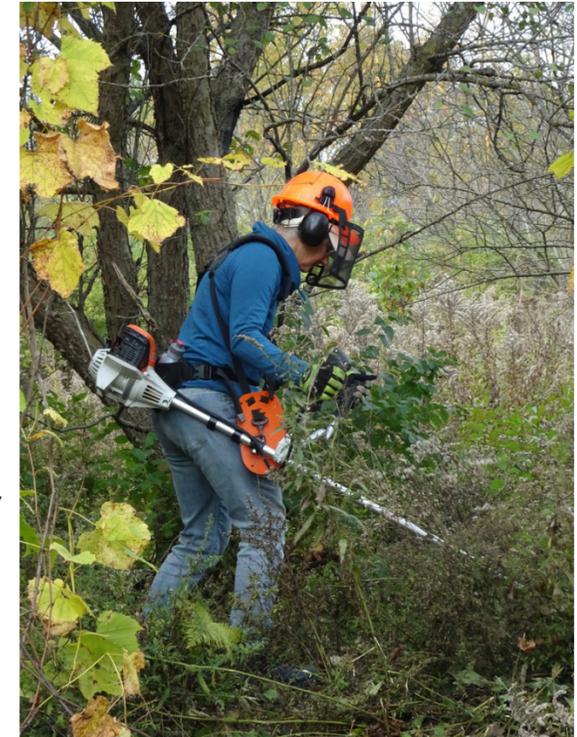
Silverwood -- Tree and Brush Removal Volunteer Workday.

Friday, November 12 from 9:00 a.m. - 2:00 p.m.

Join Friends of Silverwood County Park for a morning of habitat restoration. These fall and winter workdays focus on removing invasive trees and brush from the woodlands.

[Learn More](#)

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



INFORMATIONAL WEBINAR

Hear about efforts to reduce Chloride in Starkweather Creek on **Wednesday, November 3rd from 12:00 p.m. - 1:00 p.m.** in this virtual event. Starkweather Creek, an urbanized stream in Madison, is listed as impaired by chloride. Since 2020, the Capital Area Regional Planning Commission (CARPC) has been working with local stakeholders to monitor chloride concentrations in the creek, identify chloride sources and management measures, and develop an outreach plan to reduce salt use. Mike Rupiper, CARPC's Director of Environmental Resource Planning will report on lessons learned and next steps.

[Learn More](#)



PUBLIC INFORMATION MEETING

On **Wednesday, November 3**, drop in anytime between 5:30 – 7:30 p.m. to talk with Dane County Land and Water Resources Department staff and project partners about upcoming projects for the Mazomanie area.

Topics include:

- Walking Iron Trail/Great Sauk Trail/Wisconsin River bridge
- Walking Iron Wildlife Area – large wetland restoration project
- Walking Iron County Park – natural area restoration update and timber harvest, Black Earth Creek improvements, and general park updates

Location:

Wisconsin Heights High School STEP room (directly in front of you when using main entrance)

10173 US-14, Mazomanie, WI 53560



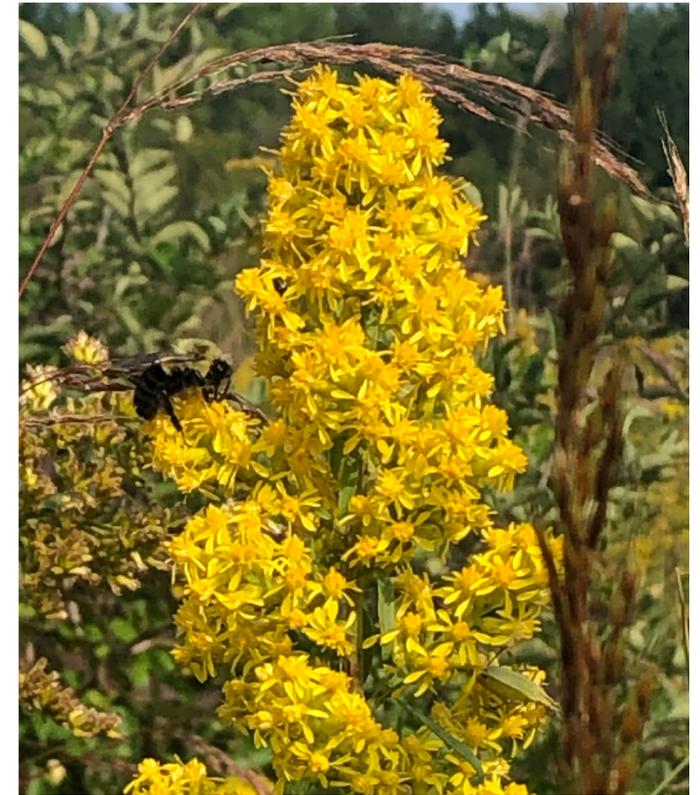
[Learn More](#)

PLANT OF THE WEEK!

This newsletter's prairie Plant of the Week is, **Showy Goldenrod**, or *Solidago speciosa*. This Goldenrod species blooms in fall, late July to early October. This plant ranges from 1 to 4 feet tall and has a pyramidal shape with small yellow flowers clustered together. Right now you may still find some of this species in bloom but you may also see it as it develops its fluffy white seeds! Go out into the prairie to see if you can spot this lovely native perennial. If you are lucky you may see a bee still using it as food before winter!

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

[Learn More](#)



2022 PARK PERMITS

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

2022 Camping/Shelter Reservations and Annual Park Permits will be available for purchase **Monday, November 1, 2021 at 7:45 a.m.**

Purchase your activity permits starting November 1st 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

[Learn More](#)



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

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 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](#)

WINTER CLOSURES

After an exciting year of recreating in our park system and using our shelters, all of our shelters are now closing for the season. Winter recreation is right around the corner with opportunities for snowshoeing, cross-country skiing, sledding, and MORE!

Please come prepared when recreating in our park systems with water, snacks, and layers for colder weather. We cannot wait to see you all outside enjoying our parks. Participate in fall hiking, birding, and other fun activities.

*Trails are open daily.
Have fun!*



[Learn More](#)

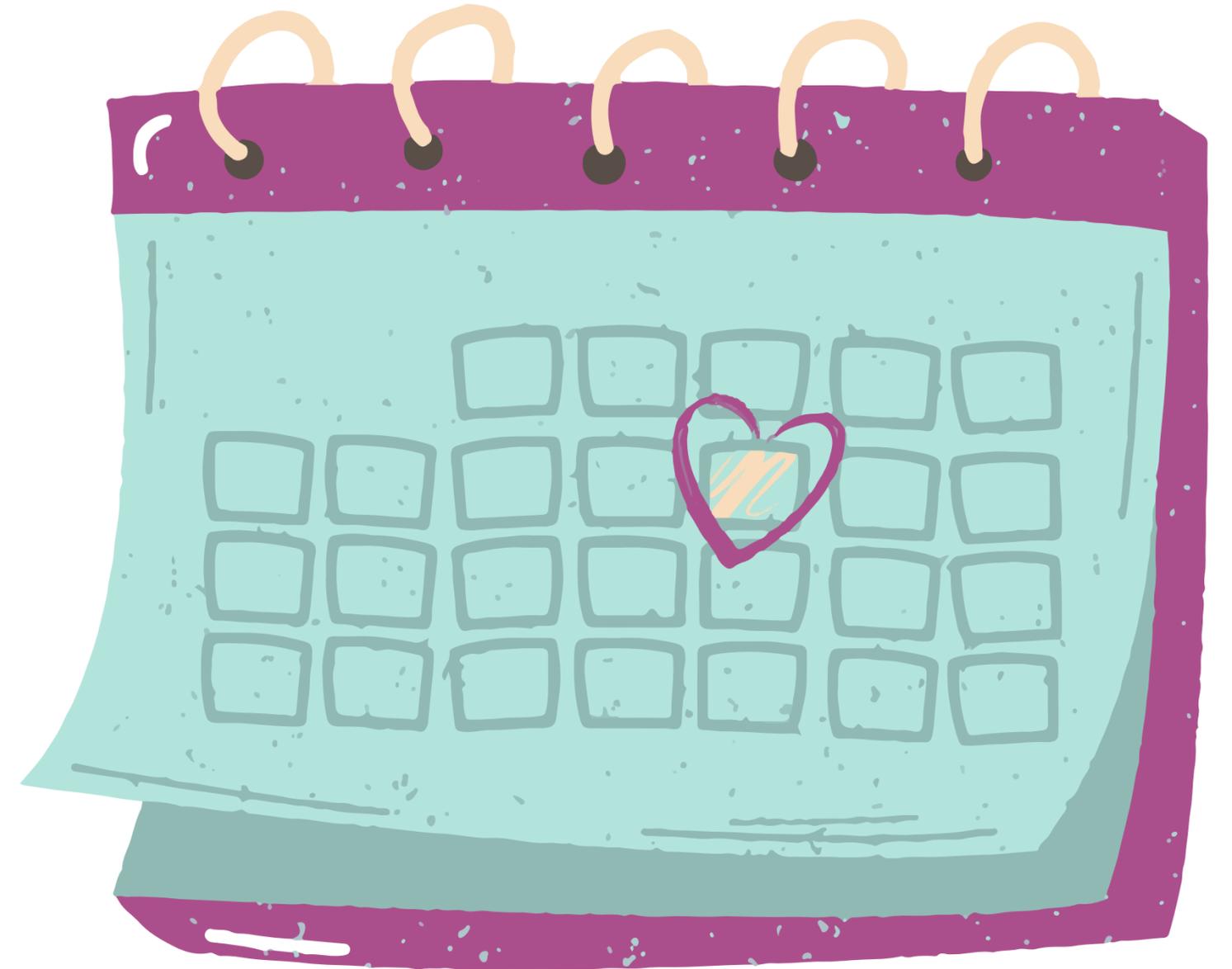
*Badger Prairie
County Park
Photograph taken
by Sevie Kenyon*

FULL CALENDAR OF EVENTS

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

- Youth Adventure Days
- Volunteer Workdays
- 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](#)

