



The HERON

Quarterly Newsletter of the Fond du Lac County Audubon Society

SUMMER NATURE WALKS

Summer Evening Tuesday Walks

Explore area nature trails and native yard landscaping with an Audubon guide.

May 31 Eldorado Marsh

June 7 Mullet Creek State Wildlife Area

June 14 Shaginappi County Park

June 21 Ledge Hike and Yard Tour

June 28 Marsh Haven Nature Center

July 5 Habitat Yard Tour

July 12 Lakeside Park West

July 19 Greenway Arboretum

July 26 Isaak Walton League

August 2 Kiekhaefer Park

August 9 Gottfried Prairie & Arboretum

August 16 Habitat Yard Tour

All walks begin at 6:30 pm.

See page 3 for more information. Canceled if steady rain.



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www.fldaudubon.org

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AUDUBON HABITAT HEROES

Local Weed Warriors

We are celebrating the volunteer efforts of the many weed warriors who have been helping with the invasive species removals. Each spring for the last twelve years, a group of Audubon members and concerned citizens have been pulling garlic mustard, dames rocket, and celandine. In the fall, the weed warriors have been tackling buckthorn. Our Audubon sponsored sessions have focused on the Peebles Trail, Lallier Park, Hobbs Woods, and an adopted area out in the Kettle Moraine, that is within Fond du Lac County. The number of volunteer hours is now well over 2,000 and has made a difference. A huge thanks to all who have given some of their time and energy to saving our wild habitat areas.



Where to Get Audubon Information

Many people participating in our local Audubon events, walks, and programs have received information from the Action Advertiser. Since the publication will no longer be printed, find out about Audubon's programs in our newsletter, on our website fdlaudubon.org, subscribe to The Reporter, follow FdL Reporter on Facebook or @fdlreporter on Twitter, or see the Events listed by Destination Lake Winnebago Region at fdl.com.

Fond du Lac (Snowy Owl) Update

After "going dark" during 2021, the snowy owl named Fond du Lac returned and was as near as Lake Winnebago this winter. She quickly found her way to the Traverse City area in Michigan and has remained in that area. An anonymous donor has donated through Fond du Lac County Audubon Society multiple times to provide transmitters that provide GPS data to researchers. For more information, go to their website: projectsnowstorm.org.

**Dim the
Lights
for Birds
at Night**

World
Migratory
Bird Day
May 14



Summer Invasive Species Removals

Volunteers are needed to help remove garlic mustard, dames rocket, and celandine. These plants are taking over our wild areas. The Fond du Lac County Audubon Society is sponsoring these sessions:

HOBBS WOODS

June 11 (Saturday), June 13 (Monday), June 15 (Wednesday), June 18 (Saturday) Meet at Hobbs Woods County Park (five miles south of Fond du Lac on Hickory Street).

PEEBLES TRAIL

Session 1: May 28 (Saturday), May 31 (Tuesday)

Meet at the intersection with Prairie Road (¼ mile south of Winnebago Drive).

Session 2: June 2 (Thursday), June 4 (Saturday), June 6 (Monday), June 8 (Wednesday)

Meet at the intersection with County Highway K (½ mile south of Winnebago Drive).

KETTLE MORaine ADOPTED AREA

June 20 (Monday) at 9:00 am.

Check with Diana Beck for directions.

May sessions: 9 to 11 am. June sessions: 8 to 10 am. Canceled if steady rain. Please bring work gloves. Long pants and a long-sleeved shirt are recommended (due to possible stinging nettle plants). Garden boots are helpful. Bring a digging tool if you own one. No experience necessary. **For more information call 920-922-7931 or email dianahbeck@gmail.com.**

SUMMER EVENING TUESDAY WALKS

Explore trails and yards in Fond du Lac County and City with members of Audubon. All walks begin at 6:30 pm. Wear good walking shoes, bring insect repellent, and binoculars if available. The walks will last an hour to an hour and a half. For more information about the summer walks, contact dianahbeck@gmail.com or 920-922-7931.

May 31 Eldorado Marsh The .75 mile-long dike provides excellent wildlife viewing opportunities. West on 23, east on Heinrich, north on Dike Road. *Leader – Adam Knueppel*

June 7 Mullet Creek State Wildlife Area

Explore a rich array of wetland, forest, grassland, and farmland. Mullet Creek flows through the entire property, eventually joining the Sheboygan River. Be prepared for the possibility of bugs and perhaps muddy conditions. Take Hwy 23 east several miles. Turn RIGHT on Pit Road (after Log Cabin Road). When Pit Road ends, turn left on Old Town Hall Road. Stay on Old Town Hall Road until it ends at Banner Road. Take a right on Banner Road. Banner will turn from a paved to a gravel road. Follow Banner Road until it ends in a gravel parking lot. Park here and look for Margie. Bring binoculars. *Leader – Margie Winter*

June 14 Shaginappi County Park The park is a natural area of 100 acres of wetlands, lakeshore, woods, and prairie and is situated adjacent to Columbia Park, sharing Calumet Harbor. Pipe Creek also winds through the park property. North on Hwy 151 to just north of Pipe. Turn left on Velvet Beach Road. Continue about ½ mile and turn into a parking lot on the left. *Leaders – Dave & Kerry Sehloff*

June 21 Ledge Hike and Yard Tour Hike Oakfield Ledge (northern portion). Meet in small parking lot on Cty Y just beyond water tower. After the hike, join us for a Habitat Yard Tour in Oakfield, featuring a rain barrel system. *Leader – Diana Beck*

June 28 Marsh Haven Nature Center See purple martin nestlings. Hike a section of the trail and see the nature center. Three miles east of Waupun on Hwy 49. *Leader – Diana Beck*

July 5 Habitat Yard Tour The yard tour will start at N7141 Leonard Drive that features birdscaping. Then the group will move to 529 Willow Drive with many native plants. *Leaders – Diana Beck and Evelyn McLean-Cowan*

July 12 Lakeside Park West Explore the new trail. Meet by the dog park. *Leader – Margie Winter*

July 19 Greenway Arboretum Discover over two miles of beautiful nature trails along the Fond du Lac River on 24.5 acres in town. Through the efforts of ParkWatch and local citizen volunteers, restoration of native tree plantings and an oak savanna are in progress, along with new walking trails. Meet at the west side of the parking lot at the south Pick 'n Save store at 55 West Pioneer Road. *Leader – Evelyn McLean-Cowan*

July 26 Izaak Walton League N6491 County Road K. Go south ¼ mile on Hwy K from Hwy 23. Parking lot is on the left. This private property on the Ledge features an open forested area, wildflowers, and beautiful stream sites. *Leader – Liz Roy*

August 2 Kiekhaefer Park W4235 Kiekhaefer Parkway. This park of 120 acres has wonderful trails through hilly, wooded terrain and is part of the Niagara Escarpment. *Leader – Diana Beck*

August 9 Gottfried Prairie & Arboretum The Gottfried Prairie & Arboretum offers 37.5 acres of native prairie. It includes 55 kinds of native wildflowers and six species of grass, as well as a 3.5 acre formal arboretum of 250 native trees and 140 native shrubs. Meet in the east parking lot at the UW campus, 400 University Drive. *Leader – Margie Winter*

August 16 Habitat Yard Tour at Liz Roy Property N5806 Esterbrook Road. Please ride share if possible. Explore a one and a half acre property that has reduced turf grass. The owner has introduced a few plants, but allows nature to take over. The back half acre is now wild and thick with dogwoods, prairie plants, milkweed, asters, coneflowers, etc. See a frog feeding. There will be a drawing for a dozen fresh backyard eggs from her chicken flock.



Fond du Lac County
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Submit articles for the Audubon newsletter
via e-mail to evelyn@mcleancowan.com

THE HERON

Fond du Lac County
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M E M B E R S H I P

- Yes!** I want to become a member or renew my membership to the National Audubon Society, and the Fond du Lac County Chapter. The annual membership dues of \$40 entitle me to six issues of the Audubon magazine, and all local chapter benefits. I am enclosing a check payable to Fond du Lac County Audubon.
- I am only interested in being a member and supporting the programs of the Fond du Lac County Audubon. The annual local membership dues of \$20 entitle me to receive the chapter newsletter and all chapter benefits. I am enclosing a check payable to Fond du Lac County Audubon.
- I am a new member.
- Save trees. Please send the newsletter to me via email.

Name

Address

City State Zip

Phone Email

Mail this form with payment to:
Fond du Lac County Audubon, Membership Services
N5545 Winnvue Court, Fond du Lac, WI 54937

Audubon Bird Seed Sale

We will have two bird seed sales in the upcoming season: October 15, 2022 and March 2023 (date to be determined). Watch for the details in the fall and winter newsletters and on our website.

Wild Feast Potluck Resumes

The Wild Feast Potluck, which was canceled the past two years due to covid, will return this year on Wednesday, September 7 at the DeNevue Creek Shelter at Lakeside Park. This is a reminder to plan ahead with wild ingredients when they are available. Some items can be frozen or preserved for later use. More details will follow in the fall newsletter.



Environment Events This Summer

Find out more about clean energy and sustainable living at the Midwest Energy Fair, June 24–26 in Custer, Wisconsin. Read more at TheEnergyFair.org.

Experience nature and learn more about the environment at Prairie Fest on the UW-O Fond du Lac campus, Saturday, August 6 from 9 am–noon.