



The HERON

Quarterly Newsletter of the Fond du Lac County Audubon Society

UPCOMING PROGRAMS



Wild Feast Potluck

Wednesday, September 3, 5 pm

Lakeside Park, Denevue Creek Shelter

Our season kicks off with a potluck. Participants are encouraged to bring a dish made from wild plants, although conventional food is fine, too.

(See inside of newsletter for more information.)

Weather permitting, sunset sailboat rides will be available.



Remembering a Lost Bird

Wednesday, October 8, 7 pm

UW-Fond du Lac, Room UC114 University Center/LGI 114

In 1914 the last surviving Passenger Pigeon died in a Cincinnati zoo, ending a calamitous half-century in which the pigeon declined from billions to one and then to none as a result of uncontrolled market hunting and the resulting disruption of nesting colonies. In 1871 the largest nesting ever recorded occurred in central Wisconsin. That well-documented colony of many millions of birds covered 850 square miles with nests in almost every tree. On the centennial of this tragedy, Stanley A. Temple, Beers-Bascom Professor Emeritus in Conservation at the University of Wisconsin-Madison, recounts the sobering story of the Passenger Pigeon and what it can tell us about the ongoing extinction crisis and our relationship with other species.



Creepy Crawly Zoo

A FUN FAMILY PROGRAM!

Saturday, November 8, 10-11 am

Theisen Middle School Cafeteria

Experience this dynamic, exciting, LIVE, hands-on insect exhibit! Changing fear and malice into curiosity and respect is the mission of the show's creator – performing educator, outreach specialist and award-winning film producer, Tony Gustin, who leads his audience into jokes, stories, and pranks, and gives everyone an opportunity to handle the creatures.



Visit Us On the Web
www.fdlaudubon.org

Like Us On Facebook

AUDUBON FIELD TRIPS

Oakfield Ledge Glacial Habitat Restoration Hike**Wednesday, September 10, 5 to 8 pm**

Join Deb Weidert of the Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources for a hike along the Panzer/Steger restoration area located on County Y, south of Oakfield. The Glacial Habitat Restoration Program, operated by the Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources, is designed to restore 10% of landscape back to native habitat within 24 townships located in Winnebago, Fond du Lac, Columbia, and Dodge counties. The program works with cooperative land-owners to manage a patchwork of habitat parcels for sustainable bird and native plant populations. Deb will give us more details about these restoration efforts as she leads us on paths along the top of the Oakfield Ledge. Meet at the southwest corner of the Fleet Farm parking lot to form a carpool. Wear hiking boots and expect some uneven ground and off-trail walking for about one mile. Dress for the weather and bring insect repellent. Limited to 10 people. Contact Kathleen Stetter (920-872-2250 or Stetter@Centurytel.net) to reserve a place. For more information about the restoration program see: <http://dnr.wi.gov/topic/lands/other/ghra.html>.

Whooping Crane Observation & Festival**Saturday, September 13, 5:15 am to 3 pm**

Thrill to see sunrise crane training with Operation Migration aircraft at White River Marsh State Wildlife area (weather permitting). Many Audubon members have already enjoyed this experience, so this year's field trip will be on an individual basis. After viewing the early morning crane training, attend the full day Crane Festival in Princeton, featuring a pancake breakfast hosted by the Berlin Rotary Club. Bid on the many items in the fantastic silent auction, visit the conservation booths, and sit in on the speaker sessions throughout the day. Speakers include George Archibald of the International Crane Foundation; Joe Duff of Operation Migration; Pat Fisher, raptor rehabilitator; Beverly Paulin – aerial surveys of wildlife in Wisconsin; and Tom Schultz, former Fond du Lac Audubon member – birding in Costa Rica. Directions to White River Marsh for



the early morning crane training observation: Take Highway 23 west through Princeton to County D (River Road). Turn right on County D and continue to Mile Road on the left. Park along the road and view the cranes. You will see 100 or so *craniacs* waiting for the flight, so join the quiet crowd for an incredible experience when the aircraft and cranes appear. Then, follow the group to the Princeton School for the Festival, 604 Old Green Lake Road, Princeton.

Silver Creek Water Trail**Saturday, October 18, 1 to 4 pm****Green Lake Conservancy Property**

After the mosquitoes have gone and fall color is still with us, explore Silver Creek from Spaulding Landing to Green Lake. The route goes by Sunnyside and Pools Hill Nature Preserves and Sugar Island Wetlands. The Green Lake Conservancy is a community-based land trust that works to preserve, protect, and enhance the aesthetic, ecological and recreational qualities of



Tom Eddy, Green Lake, Wis.

Tom Eddy, Green Lake, Wis.

places that make the greater Big Green Lake Watershed special. See the route and learn more about the Green Lake Conservancy at <http://www.greenlakeconservancy.org/directory/silver-creek-water-trail>. Afterward, have dinner at a restaurant in Green Lake. Bring your canoe or kayak and life preservers. Meet at Menard's parking lot at 1 pm. Limit 10 boats. Contact Kathleen Stetter (920-872-2250 or Stetter@Centurytel.net) to reserve a place.

Environmental Research and Innovation Center

**Saturday, November 1,
8:15 am to noon**

Visit solid waste and water testing labs at UW-Oshkosh to see how water monitoring is done for Wisconsin beaches and public and private drinking water.

Learn how biogas potential is evaluated. Hear about the partnership between UW-Oshkosh and Rosendale Dairy to provide renewable energy with an anaerobic digester and visit the UW-Oshkosh food-waste processing digester, the first of its kind in North America.

For more information see: <http://www.uwosh.edu/eric/> and <http://www.uwosh.edu/eric/biogas-testing/case-studies/resources>.

Limit 15 people. Contact Kathleen Stetter (920-872-2250 or Stetter@Centurytel.net) to reserve a place. Meet at Menard's parking lot at 8:15 am.



Join the Fun at the Wild Feast Potluck!

Many of the plants that we battle in our yards were brought to this country because the plants were edible or medicinal. We consider them weeds, but they offer great nutrition and flavors. This is not about survival type of eating. We can add them to our dishes and combine them with many other ingredients. The results can be delicious!

Come on Wednesday, September 3, 2014, to the Audubon Wild Feast Potluck. This will be the seventh year for our annual fall kickoff. The public is welcome. Everyone brings a dish, soup, salad, beverage, or dessert that has been made with some wild plants, fruits, nuts or seeds. Anyone who is not comfortable with identifying and using wild plants can bring a conventional dish to pass.

Some of the entrées from the past have included creamed dandelion greens, savory burdock patties, plantain casserole, daylily bud salad, garlic mustard pesto, venison stew, hickory nut cookies and elderberry pie. Participants have always commented on how delicious everything is.

Many recipes can be found on the internet or even in your own cookbooks. Please bring a label for your entrée, and a list of the ingredients to inform someone with food allergies. Recipe copies are appreciated but optional.

Meet at the Denevue Creek shelter at Lakeside Park (east end of Harbor View Drive) at 5 pm. The meal will take place about 5:15 pm. Please bring your own plate, silverware, small bowl for soups, a cup and beverage (beer and wine allowed), and of course, your food contribution to the potluck.

Following the meal, there will be a short presentation and demonstration on solar ovens.

If the weather permits, there will be sunset sailboat rides available as well. For more info contact 922-7931 or dianahbeck@gmail.com.

Community Shopping Night to Benefit Audubon and Just Fare Market

Mark your calendar for Thursday, December 4 when Fond du Lac Audubon will host a shopping night at Just Fare Market in Peebles from 5–8 pm. Just Fare Market will donate 15% of total sales to Audubon during those hours. This is a great way to contribute to both Audubon and the social justice movement encompassed by Just Fare Market.



P.O. Box 84
Fond du Lac, WI 54936-0084

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

THE HERON

Fond du Lac County
AUDUBON
SOCIETY
MEMBERSHIP

- ☐ **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

Help Needed Removing Buckthorn

We need to adopt wild areas and help remove the invasive plants that threaten the native landscape. Our birds and wildlife are in trouble and loss of habitat is the leading cause. A big problem plant in our area is European buckthorn. They become so dense that nothing can grow beneath, resulting in bare soil and erosion. The habitat that buckthorn offers to birds is of poor quality and nests suffer more predation. The fruit offers little nutrition because of the laxative effect on the birds.

Join our effort to remove buckthorn. By becoming familiar with the plant, you can remove it from your own property. Wear long pants, long sleeved shirt and good work shoes. Bring work gloves. Equipment will be supplied. All sessions are from 9–11 am. Cancelled if steady or heavy rain. For additional info call 922-7931 or email dianahbeck@gmail.com.

Peebles Trail

Sunday, October 5	Thursday, October 9
Saturday, October 11	Thursday, October 16
Saturday, October 18	Thursday, October 23

Directions: Meet by the Peebles Trail on Prairie Road (about ¼ mile south of Winnebago Drive).

Hobbs Woods

Saturday, October 25	Sunday, November 2
----------------------	--------------------

Directions: Meet in the parking lot (about four miles south of the city on South Hickory Road).