Fall 2022

# HERON

The

Quarterly Newsletter of the Fond du Lac County Audubon Society

# FALL PROGRAMS AND ACTIVITIES

This year there is a room change for our programs at MPTC. We will meet in Room B124.

It is recommended that people park in lot B and enter door B3. After coming in, turn left and go to room B124.

> **Wild Feast Potluck** Wednesday, September 7, 5 pm

**Full Moon Walk at Eldorado Marsh** Sunday, October 9, 6:30 pm

**Trees and Shrub Pruning Presentation** Wednesday, October 12, 7 pm

**Bird Seed Sale at Haentze Floral** Saturday, October 15, 9–11 am

**Buckthorn Removal Sessions\*** Several dates in October and November (See back page)

**Full Moon Walk at Gottfried Prairie & Arboretum** Monday, November 7, 6:30 pm

**Papermaking with Invasive and Other Plants** Saturday, November 12, 10–12 pm

**Community Shopping at Just Fare Market** Thursday, December 1, 10 am-6 pm

> **Bird Window Strike Project and Peregrine Falcon Program** Wednesday, December 14, 7 pm

More information on programs and activities is on page 3. \*See the back page for more information on buckthorn removal sessions.

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#### Stetter Environmental Education Funds Support Boys & Girls Club Field Trip

Through the Dave Stetter Environmental Education funds, twenty-five second through fifth grade children and six adults in the Fond du Lac Boys & Girls Club Summer Program boarded a bus to Horicon Marsh Education and Visitor Center located on the southeast end of Horicon Marsh. Audubon members Mike Sweney and Margie Winter also went.

The kids first went through the Explorium in the Visitor Center. The Explorium is made up of many multi-media and interactive displays about the ice age, human history, and ecology of Horicon Marsh. Students even drove an airboat through the marsh!

After a brown-bag lunch, students divided into groups to attend education sessions taught by DNR environmental educators. The kids learned how to use binoculars and then took a hike to observe

birds in the marsh. The other session involved collecting and identifying invertebrates in a shallow pond using nets, tubs, and magnifying devices. The kids had lots of fun finding bugs and getting messy! The importance of how invertebrates support birds and the marsh food web was emphasized. It was a very worthwhile trip and experience for the kids!

The Dave Stetter Environmental Education Fund was established in honor of Dave Stetter, long-time Fond du Lac Audubon member and local science teacher who highly valued youth outdoor education activities for developing an understanding and



appreciation of the natural world. Those wishing to contribute to the fund may send checks payable to Dave Stetter EE Fund to Mike Sweney, Audubon treasurer at N5545 Winnvue Court, Fond du Lac, WI 54937. Fond du Lac County Audubon is a 501c(3) nonprofit tax-exempt organization.

# Contact for Wildlife Rescue

Calls for wildlife rescue and rehabilitation of orphaned, injured, or ill wild birds and mammals can be directed to our Audubon Board member, Lou Rea Kenyon. She has over 28 years experience and can give you excellent advice. Call 920-872-2266.

## **Reducing Light Pollution at Home**

Every year about \$3 billion worth of energy is lost to sky glow or light pollution in the U.S. About 35% of light is wasted by unshielded and/or poorly aimed outdoor lighting.

Research has shown that the extra artificial light at night is harmful to plants and animals. All life has evolved in conditions of a period of sunlight and a period of darkness each 24 hours. These circadian rhythms set our internal clock which affects our hormones and melatonin levels. Plants use the

natural light/dark rhythm to determine the response to the seasons. Insect populations are confused by artificial lights and many die from exhaustion without completing their breeding cycle. Bird migrations are also adversely affected.

We can each help to reduce the sky glow by minimizing light pollution in your own backyard and home. Lighting should only be on when needed and only light the area that needs it. If safety is a concern, use motion sensors. This technology helps to draw attention and is a better deterrent than more light.

The types of fixtures and bulbs can also be important. Find light fixtures that direct the light

downward to where it is truly needed. Use bulbs that are no brighter than necessary and minimize blue light emissions

Dim the Lights for Birds at Night

Audubon

(no more than 3000 kelvins). Red to yellow light does not brighten the night sky as much as blue light and also attracts fewer insects. *— Diana Beck* 

# AUDUBON PROGRAMS AND ACTIVITIES

# Wild Feast Potluck Returns on September 7

#### Wednesday, September 7, 5 pm Denevue Creek Shelter, Lakeside Park (east end of Harbor View Drive)

After a two-year suspension due to Covid, the Wild Feast Potluck returns. We plan to be eating at 5:30 pm. Bring your own plate, cup, bowl, utensils, and beverage. Alcohol is allowed in the shelter area. Your contribution of food or drink to the potluck should include some wild ingredients or fresh produce from your garden. This is an opportunity to experiment and try something new. There are many edible weeds in your own yard. However, avoid areas that are treated with pesticides. Please bring a list of the ingredients or the recipe, so that people can avoid allergy problems. For more information call 920-922-7931 or email dianahbeck@gmail.com.

#### **Trees and Shrub Pruning Program** Wednesday, October 12, 7 pm, MPTC, Room B124

Have you ever stood in your yard and wondered if the tree or shrub you're looking at should be pruned now or in the winter or spring? Should you cut it back all the way or just certain branches? Or do you have a lopsided shrub? Whatever your question might be, Eamonn can help you learn what to do and when. This informative presentation includes pictures, samples of right and wrong pruning techniques and their results. The presenter, Eamonn Lenaghan, is the municipal arborist for the city of Grand Chute.

Papermaking with Invasive and **Other Plants** Saturday, November 12, 10 am-12 pm **Open** Circle Unitarian Church, 19 3rd Street Mel Kolstad, a local artist, will lead attendees in a hands-on papermaking workshop using grass, fibers, lilies, and phragmites. Participants will make samples to bring home. School-age children are welcome with a supervising adult.

#### Audubon Bird Seed Sale

Saturday, October 15, 9–11 am, Haentze Floral Due to uncertainty in pricing for fall and the crazy costs this summer, we are unable to get a good price for seed delivered in October. We will have the new flyer printed by mid-September.

Check the selection and prices out then and place your order. How to get information mid-September: 1) email fondyaudubon@ gmail.com and we'll email or snail mail a flyer, or 2) check our website: fdlaudubon.org, or 3) call Lori at 920-960-7930

## Autumn Full Moon Walks

Join members of Audubon for full moon walks.

#### ELDORADO MARSH Sunday, October 9, 6:30 pm

Meet at the end of Dike Road on the east side of Eldorado Marsh.

#### GOTTFRIED PRAIRIE & ARBORETUM Monday, November 7, 6:30 pm

Meet in the east parking lot at the UW campus.

Wear good hiking shoes. Walks will be canceled if raining or totally overcast. Call 920-922-7931 or email dianahbeck@gmail.com for more information.



**Community Shopping Night Thursday, December 1, 10 am-6 pm, Just Fare Market** Both in-store and online, this event benefits both Fond du Lac Audubon and Just Fare Market.

#### Bird Window Strike Project and Peregrine Falcon Program

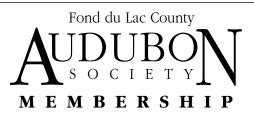
*Wednesday, December 14, 7 pm, MPTC, Room B124* Information from the Sustainability Program at UW-O.



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



- ❑ 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.
- □ I am a renewing member.

Name

Address

City

Zip

State

Phone

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

#### **Buckthorn Removal Sessions 2022**

This will be a great opportunity to learn to identify this small tree and how to control its spread. Wear a long-sleeved shirt and long pants. Bring work gloves and safety glasses if available. All equipment will be supplied.

All sessions are from 9:00 to 11:00 am. Cancelled in the event of steady rain.

#### Peebles Trail (Prairie Road)

Meet on Prairie Road at the junction with the trail (about 1/4 mile south of Winnebago Drive).

Monday, October 17; Wednesday, October 19; and Saturday, October 22

#### Peebles Trail (County K)

Meet 1/3 mile south of Winnebago Drive.

Monday, October 24; and Wednesday, October 26

#### Lallier Park

Meet at the southern end of Lallier Park on National Avenue, (1/4 mile south of 4th Street).

Saturday, October 29; Monday, October 31; and Wednesday, November 2

#### Hobbs Woods

Meet in the new south parking lot five miles south of Fond du Lac on Hickory Road.

Monday, November 7; and Wednesday, November 9

For more information call 920–922–7931 or email dianahbeck@gmail.com