



The HERON

Quarterly Newsletter of the Fond du Lac County Audubon Society

SPRING EVENTS

March 8

Pollinators in Peril: How Can We Help? Program

March 11

Audubon Bird Seed Sale

April 5

Easter Full Moon Walk at Eldorado Marsh

April 12

Thru-Hiking Wisconsin's Ice Age Trail Program

April-June

Invasive Species Removals

May 4

May Full Moon Walk at Eldorado Marsh

May 5-6

Fond du Lac Bird City World Migratory Bird Day

May 6

Birding Bike Ride on the Loop

May 10

Whooping Cranes in Wisconsin Program

May 20

Kay's Ledge Discovery Day

See page 3 for activities on this Ledge property.



Membership Renewal:
Check date by your address
on the mailed newsletter.

Visit Us Online
fdlaudubon.org
Follow Us on Facebook

More information on inside pages of the newsletter.

AUDUBON SPRING EVENTS

Pollinators in Peril: How Can We Help?

Wednesday, March 8, 7 pm, MPTC, Room B124

Charlie “CharBee” Koenen has been passionately preaching about pollinator peril for more than 20 years. His experience includes former State Bee Inspector, inventor of a vented top bar hive system, Director of SE Wisconsin Honey Producers, educator, advocate, and longtime bee slinger for the largest honey bee distribution operation in the country. His Beesentation looks at the role of honey bees, then focuses attention on the rest of the pollinators that brought abundance and diversity to our world. Wisconsin is home to more than 500 species of bees and only one makes honey; most are single moms that helped make our native plants. Find out ways we can be the change.

Audubon Bird Seed Sale

Saturday, March 11, 9–11 am, Haentze Floral
Limited amount for drive-up sales. Pre-order by Feb. 17. Get form: fdlaudubon.org/bird-seed-sale/

Easter Full Moon Walk

Wednesday, April 5, 6:30 pm, Eldorado Marsh
Come on a sunset and full moon hike on the dike. At this time of evening, there should be an opportunity to see and hear the birds in the marsh. The moon will be rising at 7:06 pm and the sunset will be at 7:26 pm. We will meet in the parking lot at the end of Dike Road on the east side of Eldorado Marsh at 6:30 pm. Bring binoculars and wear good hiking shoes. We will cancel the event, if overcast or bad weather.

Thru-Hiking Wisconsin’s Ice Age Trail

Wednesday, April 12, 7 pm, MPTC, Room B124

Recently retired as the Director of Sheboygan’s Maywood Environmental Park, David Kuckuk has had a long-time interest in environmental education and natural resources. In 1998, he and his Siberian Husky companion, Yukon, began a unique educational expedition starting at St. Croix Falls State Park. Their 1,000-mile journey

along the Ice Age Trail vicariously involved students across Wisconsin through their web page and in-person stops at select schools. Upon completion at Potawatomi State Park, Yukon was inducted into the Wisconsin Veterinarian Association Pet Hall of Fame. Stories, pictures, and items used on this exciting adventure will be shared in this program.

May Full Moon Walk

Thursday, May 4, 7 pm, Eldorado Marsh

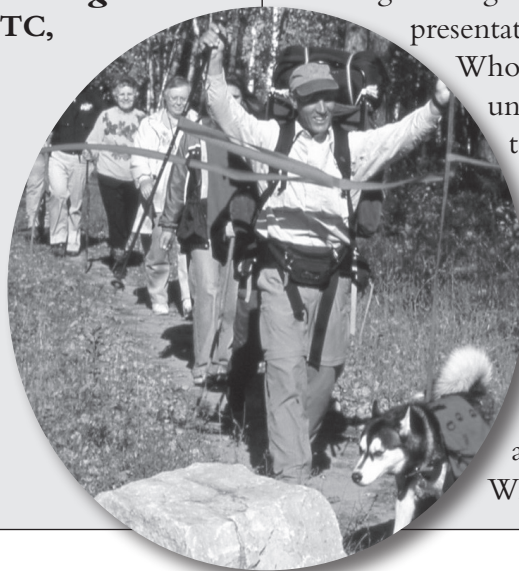
Come on a sunset and full moon hike on the dike. At this time of evening, there should be an opportunity to see and hear the birds in the marsh. The moon will be rising at 7:08 pm and the sunset at 8:01 pm. We will meet in the parking lot at the end of Dike Road on the east side of Eldorado Marsh at 7 pm. Bring binoculars and wear good hiking shoes. We will cancel the event, if overcast or bad weather.

Whooping Cranes in Wisconsin

Wednesday, May 10, 7 pm, MPTC, Room B124

In the 1940s Whooping Cranes, once native to Wisconsin, faced near extinction as a result of increased threats from habitat loss, hunting, and more. It wasn’t until 2001 that Whooping Cranes returned to the eastern United States following a collaborative reintroduction program led by the International Crane Foundation (ICF). Today, around 75 Whooping Cranes will spend their summers in Wisconsin’s wetlands each year. Please join Stephanie Schmidt, Whooping Crane Outreach Coordinator for the International Crane Foundation, to learn about the Whooping Cranes of Wisconsin and the work ICF and crane conservation partners are doing to safeguard their future. Following this presentation, you will be able to identify

Whooping Cranes by sight and sound, understand the historic threats toward Whooping Cranes that led to their decline, know the ins and outs of the reintroduction program, and the current work crane conservation partners are doing to protect cranes in Wisconsin and throughout their flyways. Find out how you can be an ambassador for cranes in Wisconsin.



Spring Invasive Species Removals

Help save some of our local wild areas from being overrun with invasive plants. Volunteers are needed to help remove garlic mustard, dames rocket, and celandine. This is a wonderful way to be outdoors, meet some new people, and help the local ecosystem. The Fond du Lac County Audubon Society is sponsoring these sessions:

HOBBS WOODS

April 10 (Monday), April 12 (Wednesday), April 15 (Saturday), April 17 (Monday), April 19 (Wednesday), April 22 (Saturday), April 24 (Monday), April 26 (Wednesday), April 29 (Saturday), then June 7 (Wednesday), June 10 (Saturday), June 12 (Monday), June 14 (Wednesday), June 17 (Saturday)

Meet at Hobbs Woods County Park (five miles south of Fond du Lac on Hickory Street).

LALLIER PARK

May 3 (Wednesday), May 6 (Saturday), May 10 (Wednesday), and final cleanup on June 21 (Wednesday) *Meet at the south end of the park on National Avenue.*

PEEBLES TRAIL

Session 1: May 13 (Saturday), May 17 (Wednesday), May 24 (Wednesday) *Meet at the intersection with Prairie Road (¼ mile south of Winnebago Drive).*

PEEBLES TRAIL

Session 2: May 31 (Wednesday), June 3 (Saturday), June 5 (Monday) *Meet at the intersection with Cty K (½ mile south of Winnebago Drive).*

KETTLE MORAINÉ ADOPTED AREA

Mondays: May 1, May 8, May 15, May 22 and a final gleaning session on June 19 at 9:00 am. *Check with Diana Beck for directions to our meeting site in the Kettle Moraine.*

All sessions will run from 9:00 to 11:00 a.m. in April and May. The June sessions will run from 8:00 to 10:00 a.m. Cancelled in the event of steady rain. Please bring work gloves. Long pants and a long sleeved shirt are recommended. Sometimes we are pulling in areas with stinging nettle plants. Garden boots are also helpful. Bring a dandelion fork or a hori hori if you own one. The tools can be helpful in removing the roots. No experience is necessary.

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

Kay's Ledge Discovery Day

May 20 (Saturday) The day will begin with a work session from 9:00 to 11:30 am to help with invasive species removal from the property, followed by a picnic lunch (provided) and a fire from 11:30 to 1:00 pm. After lunch we will enjoy a leisurely flower walk on the trails at Kay's Ledge. Rain date on May 21 (Sunday). *N7836 WH — Drive east on Cty WH, up the Ledge .9 miles from the 151 bypass to the entrance on the west side. Watch for an Audubon sign on the fence. No dogs will be allowed.*

Bird City World Migratory Bird Day Walks/Hikes/Bike

Look for the Bird City banner at the locations below.

Friday, May 5

6 pm Camelot Business Park, 28 Camelot Drive

Saturday, May 6

7 am Greenway Arboretum, 55 W. Pioneer Road

10 am Supple's Marsh (on the one-mile trail). Meet by the dog park.

10 am Birding Bike Ride: Meet at the gazebo at the Gottfried Arboretum, UW0-Fond du Lac.

Ride Leader — John McDowell

1 pm Lakeside Park, Kiwanis Shelter

Walk leaders — Dave and Kerry Sehloff

Bring binoculars and wear good hiking shoes.

Be Part of "No Mow May"

Starting in Great Britain and spreading to Appleton, Wisconsin, a movement called "No Mow May" has taken hold in several Wisconsin communities in the last few years. The big reason to participate is to help the early native pollinators get started in the spring. Research has shown that one in four pollinators are imperiled.

Not mowing allows early flowers to grow and help the bees emerging from hibernation. Does it make a difference? Studies have already shown that "No Mow May" lawns had five times the number of native bees and three times the bee species compared to mowed areas.

The easiest part of your participation is the fact that you don't have to do a thing, but remember it is only for one month. What can you do beyond May to help protect the bees? Perhaps plant bushes and flowers that offer pollen and nectar? And even mow less frequently during the summer?

Inform your neighbors with a yard sign that lets them know that you are observing "No Mow May," or helping the early bees. —*Diana Beck*

Fond du Lac County
AUDUBON
SOCIETY

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.
- I am a renewing member.

Name

Address

City

State

Zip

Phone

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

Summer Camp for Middle Schoolers

Scholarships through the Dave Stetter Environmental Education Fund will be available for students entering grades 6–8. Camp will be at Upham Woods near Wisconsin Dells, June 14–17. Registration info will be on our website.

AmazonSmile Program Discontinuing

We appreciate everyone's support of Fond du Lac County Audubon Society through AmazonSmile. After almost a decade of AmazonSmile, the company learned that with 1 million eligible organizations globally, their ability to have an impact was often spread too thin. It will end in early 2023.

Successful Community Shopping Event

Thank you to everyone who came out to Just Fare Market or shopped online for our collaborative Community Shopping Event. This year's annual event will take place on Thursday, December 7.

