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Join us for a gathering at the winery

We're having a party! Enjoy a beverage and appetizer with members of the Friends of Cherokee Marsh at Drumlin Ridge Winery located in the uplands of Cherokee Marsh.

It's a great opportunity to meet with other supporters of Cherokee Marsh, including the Board of Directors, in a beautiful location.

No charge to attend; buy your own drinks and snacks.

Monday, Aug 7, 4 – 6 pm

Drumlin Ridge Winery, 6000 River Road, in the Town of Westport

Directions: from north Madison, take Northport Dr/HWY 113 north. About 1/3 mile after the intersection with HWY M, turn right at the stoplights onto River Rd. In 3 miles, the winery will be on your right.

The address for navigating is 6000 River Rd, Waunakee, WI 53597

drumlinridgewinery.com



Dine at Benvenuto's and help bring kids to Cherokee Marsh

Anita Weier

You will have a chance on **Monday, Sept. 25**, to support children's environmental education while enjoying a tasty Italian meal.

Anyone who has lunch or dinner at the Northside Benvenuto's on that day or orders delivery or take-out or buys a gift card—will be helping children learn about Nature on a trip to the Cherokee Marsh. But this money will flow **only if you mention that you want your purchase to benefit the Friends of Cherokee Marsh.**

The Friends group donates money every year to the Madison Metropolitan School District to be used to fund bus trips by students to Cherokee Marsh Conservation Park for guided, hands-on learning. The Friends strive to give more than \$1,000 per year to the school district for transportation. Last year, more than 800 students visited the marsh, with the Friends donating most of the cost.

"I take my class to Cherokee Marsh nearly every year," said Sheryl Rowe, a second-grade teacher at Franklin Elementary School. "It is a beautiful area that supports engaged learning and our science curriculum—specifically insect life cycles. The kids get the opportunity to scoop for aquatic critters and we usually find dragonfly and damselfly nymphs, mosquito larvae, scud, water striders, water boatmen, and so on, as well as tadpoles and small fish."

She added that, depending on the guides and the paths taken, the students also learn about invasive species, bird calls, leaf identification (including poison ivy), as well as historical facts about the river and the area.

Benvenuto's, located at **1849 Northport Drive** in the Northside Town Center, will donate a generous 20 percent of the purchases on Sept. 25 to the Friends, but only if customers mention that they want the restaurant to do so. The restaurant's hours are 11 am – 10 pm.

If you can't make it to Benvenuto's on that date, just go to Cherokeemarsh.org to donate and specify that you want your donation to be spent on environmental education.

Thank you to the Town of Westport

Our sincere thanks to the Town of Westport for their generous donation of \$1200 to the **Cherokee Marsh Conservation Fund**. The fund provides a permanent, ongoing source of funding for restoration at Cherokee Marsh.

[Learn more about the fund.](#)



DNR Volunteer Coordinator Jared Urban, nominated by Friends, receives Invader Crusader award

Our congrats to Jared Urban, Volunteer Coordinator for the Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources (DNR), for receiving an Invader Crusader award from the Wisconsin Invasive Species Council.

We've been working with Jared in the Cherokee Marsh State Natural Area since 2012. And we have been so impressed with Jared's helpfulness to us and other volunteers that we nominated him for the award. We were delighted, though not surprised, when we heard that he would be receiving the award.

In 2016, Jared managed over 350 volunteers at 42 sites. Volunteers worked to remove over 20 species of herbaceous and woody vegetation as well as helping with prescribed burns and planting restored areas with native species.

Jared put together an excellent [State Natural Areas Volunteer Handbook](#) to help the lead volunteers recruit, train, and retain volunteers. Jared promotes upcoming volunteer opportunities on the State Natural Areas Volunteer Program web page.

Jared's award was presented on June 8 at the MacKenzie Environmental Center in Poynette, with several Friends members in attendance to cheer him on.

Your photo can be in the Madison Parks calendar

Do you have great photos taken in Cherokee Marsh Conservation Park (or other City of Madison Parks)? Submit them for consideration for the second annual Madison Parks calendar. **The deadline is August 31.**

[Learn more](#)



Upcoming events

[See full calendar](#)

Aquatic Invasive Species Snapshot Day

Sat, Aug 5, 9:00 am – 1:00 pm

Including Token Creek!

Join nearly 200 other water enthusiasts at one of 18 rendezvous sites around Wisconsin for the fourth annual Statewide Aquatic Invasive Species Snapshot Day. Help search for invasive species such as escaped and released aquarium and water garden plants that could choke our rivers and lakes if gone undetected. Sponsored by the River Alliance of Wisconsin in partnership with UW Extension's Citizen Lake Monitoring Network.

[Learn more and sign up](#)

Bird and nature outings

Sun, Aug 6, 1:30 pm – 3:00 pm with guide Paul Noeldner

AND

Sun, Sept 3, 1:30 pm – 3:00 pm with Master Naturalist Kathleen Wolf

AND

first Sunday of EVERY month, year-round, ALWAYS 1:30 pm – 3:00 pm

Family-friendly bird and nature walks led by naturalist guides and other local experts.

Cherokee Marsh Conservation Park, North Unit, 6098 N. Sherman Ave. Follow N. Sherman Ave. north to the parking lot at the end of the gravel road. [\(map\)](#)

Sponsored by Madison Parks, the Friends of Cherokee Marsh and Madison Audubon Society. Questions? Contact Paul Noeldner at (608)-698-0104 or paul_noeldner@hotmail.com

[Madison Parks Bird and Nature Outings page](#)

Gathering at the winery

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Tour South Cherokee with Conservation Resource Supervisor Paul Quinlan

Wed, August 16, 6:30 pm – 8:30 pm

Come and learn about efforts to protect our natural resources in this conservation park located on a critical spot on our landscape. Sponsored by Madison Parks, led by Conservation Resource Supervisor Paul Quinlan.

Cherokee Marsh Conservation Park, South Unit. Meet at 5002 School Rd (corner of School Road and Wheeler Road).

Northside Farmers Market

Sun, Sept 10, 8:30 pm – 12:30 pm

Stop by and see us at the Northside Farmers Market!

In front of the Willy Street Co-op in the **Northside TownCenter**, corner of Northport Dr and N. Sherman Ave.

Dine at Benvenuto's to support environmental education at Cherokee Marsh

Monday, Sep 25, 2017, 11 am – 10 pm

All day, one day only! Dine in, carry out, order delivery, or buy a gift card and **mention the Friends of Cherokee Marsh and Benvenuto's will donate 20% of your tab** to bring schoolchildren to Cherokee Marsh for environmental education. (See above in this newsletter for more details.)

Benvenuto's Italian Grill, Northside Town Center, 1849 Northport Dr, Madison, WI 53704

Board meetings

Wed, Aug 16, 5:30 pm – 6:30 pm

Wed, Sept 20, 5:30 pm – 7:30 pm

Members and the public are welcome at our monthly board meetings. Occasionally we reschedule, so contact us to confirm: (608) 215-0426, janaxelson@gmail.com

Our August meeting is a special outdoor meeting at Northland Manor Park so we can attend the tour at 6:30 pm (see above). We will meet at the corner of School Rd and Wheeler Rd; bring a chair.

In September, we will meet as usual at:

Warner Park Community Recreation Center, 1625 Northport Dr

[Sign up to receive notices about upcoming events and volunteer opportunities](#)

