

Friends of Cherokee Marsh Newsletter April / May 2017

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The Cherokee Marsh News

April / May 2017



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News from Madison Parks

Much has been happening in City of Madison parks at Cherokee Marsh.

Prescribed burns

The conservation park crew has conducted two prescribed burns, one each at the North and South Units of Cherokee Marsh Conservation Park.

Weather permitting, the crew hopes to perform more burns this spring and fall.

[Read more about prescribed burns in conservation parks](#)

Maps of proposed burn areas: [North Unit](#), [South Unit](#)

New entrance nears completion

The new entrance and parking area at the south end of the North Unit is nearing completion. As we reported after the plan was presented at a public meeting in 2015, the gate across the roadway will be moved just south of the new entrance. The parking area will provide access to new trails in the parcels obtained by the City in 2008 and 2010. The main parking area at the end of N. Sherman Ave. will remain in use.

Storm water ponds



In the South Unit, work is nearing completion on the construction of the storm water pond at Bonner Rd and Wheeler Rd. The project also includes restoring a small wetland just north of the pond.

[Read more about the pond project](#)

Two new, smaller ponds have also been constructed along the west side of N.

Sherman Ave. One pond is near the proposed housing development near the Cherokee Clubhouse and one is by the new south parking area.

Paddlecraft landing



Canoers, kayakers, and SUPers, the improved paddlecraft landing on the upper Yahara River is ready for use. The landing is in the Cherokee Park neighborhood near the corner of Burning Wood Way and Mosinee Ln.

To check availability for canoe/kayak storage racks at the site, call (608) 266-4711.



Photo courtesy of Raptor Education Group, Inc. (REGI)

2017 Madison FUN Bird and Nature Festival

Welcome nature lovers, students, families,

and kids! Celebrate Madison Bird City, Arbor Day and Earth Day!

Free live birds of prey presentations by Raptor Education Group, Inc. (REGI) at 1:30 & 3:00 pm.

Plus

- »» Hayrides
- »» Bird & nature walks
- »» Arbor Day tree planting @2:45 pm
- »» Nature group activities
- »» Bird Bingo with prizes
- »» Pond life & butterflies
- »» Tree walks
- »» Face painting
- »» Bouncy house
- »» John Muir reenactment
- »» Egg hunt
- »» Food carts
- »» Music by Barry Riese

Sunday, April 16, 2017, 1:00 – 4:00 pm

Warner Park Shelter, 2930 N. Sherman Ave. ("Rainbow" shelter)

Sponsored by Madison Parks, Friends of Cherokee Marsh, and many other partner groups.



Dane County announces educational events

for volunteers

Dane County is sponsoring two series of events for volunteers and others interested in county parks or land and water conservation.

Watershed network gatherings

The Office of Lakes and Watersheds is continuing to offer a series of watershed network gatherings. Next up is:

Aquatic Invasive Species

April 27, 5:30 pm - 7:30 pm

Goodman Community Center, 149 Waubesa Street, Madison, room Bolz A

Aquatic Invasive Species (AIS) present new and continuing challenges to managing our water resources. How do you know they're there? What do you do when you find them? How do you go about removing them?

This Watershed Network Gathering will provide an update on state and county efforts to combat AIS and feature several local watershed groups that will share their stories of working on AIS removal and prevention.

Afterwards, there will be time to mingle and connect to find out more details about the specific projects you are interested in.

RSVP is not necessary but is much appreciated: [RSVP here](#)

This event is free and open to the public

[More about the watershed network](#)

County Parks educational series

Dane County Parks is sponsoring an educational series on a variety of topics for volunteers and others interested in county parks.

The topics for April and May are tree planting and pruning, Friends groups round table discussions, and Parks Division organization and operations.

[View details and the complete series.](#)

Thank you to member Virginia Davis for her \$25 donation in memory of Bill Davis.



Compost bin and rain barrel sale

[Order a compost bin or rain barrel](#) and pick up at the Alliant Energy Center, Northeast lot, Sat, May 13, 10 am – 2 pm. Enter through the main gate via Rimrock Road. Order by May 1 and save an additional \$10 when you enter the coupon code MAD17.

Upcoming events

[See full calendar](#)

Bird and nature walks

Sun, April 2, 1:30 pm – 3:00 pm with naturalist guide Dale Grimm. Will the skunk cabbage be up? Come and find out! We will look for ephemeral (early spring) flowers and listen to the music of the frogs and birds. Watch for sandhill cranes dancing in the wetlands, white pelicans on the upper Yahara River, and bald eagles soaring overhead.

AND

Sun, May 7, 1:30pm – 3:00pm with naturalist guide Alex Singer.

AND

first Sunday of every month, ALWAYS 1:30pm – 3:00pm

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

Evening at Cherokee Marsh

Friday, April 14, 6:30 pm – 8:30 pm

We are likely to see cranes, observe the courtship flight of woodcock and snipe, and see several spring migrants. Sponsored by the Friends of Cherokee Marsh and Madison Audubon Society.

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](#))

FUN Bird and Nature Festival

Sunday, April 16, 1 pm – 4 pm

See story above for details.

Earth Day Challenge - garlic mustard pull

Sat, April 22, 10am – 12pm

Make room for native wildflowers by helping pull garlic mustard in the woods. No experience needed. Gloves, bags, and refreshments provided. Sponsored by the Friends of Cherokee Marsh and Madison Parks. Questions, contact Jan at janaxelson@gmail.com or (608) 215-0426.

[Learn about garlic mustard](#)

Cherokee Marsh Conservation Park, North Unit, 6098 N. Sherman Ave.
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([map](#))

Warbler walks

Wed, April 26, 6 am – 8 am

AND

Wed, May 3, 6 am – 8 am

Join us for an early morning walk to look for colorful warblers and other spring migrants. Sponsored by the Friends of Cherokee Marsh and Madison Audubon Society.

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](#))

Fundraiser paddle tour (fee)

Saturday, May 20, 8:00 – 11:00 am

A few spots remain on our Paddle the Upper Yahara River in Cherokee Marsh tour. Cost is \$25 per person plus membership in the Natural Resources Foundation of Wisconsin (\$15). A portion of the fee benefits the Cherokee Marsh Conservation Fund. To find out more and register, visit wisconservation.org

Board meetings

Wed, April 19, 5:30 pm – 7:30 pm

Wed, May 17, 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

Warner Park Community Recreation Center, 1625 Northport Dr

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

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