

FRIENDS OF THE LAKESHORE NATURE PRESERVE, in collaboration with THE FRIENDS OF URBAN NATURE and the UW-MADISON LAKESHORE NATURE PRESERVE present

Fall & Winter Field Trips 2026-27

Monarch Migration

Wednesday, September 13, 2026

1:30 to 3:00 pm

Seth McGee leads us on this Lepidopteran Royal Progress as the Monarchs head south through the Preserve to their overwintering palaces in Mexico.

Fascinating Fungi

Sunday, September 27, 2026

1:30 to 3:00 pm

Explore and compare with Marie Trest the wide variety of fall fungi fruiting in the Preserve.

Bat Research in Vietnam

Wednesday, October 21, 2026

7:00 to 8:15 pm

Join us for this Indoor Expedition as Makeela Magomolia shares sagas and insights from her June 2026 research trek in Vietnam. Room 1360 Genetics Biotech Center, 425 Henry Mall

Poetry in the Preserve

Sunday, October 25, 2026

1:30 to 3:00 pm

Share your favorite verses & rhymes as we peruse the autumnal prairies & woods with our poet laureate Paul Noeldner.

Bat Acoustic Walk

Friday, October 30, 2026

6:15 to 7:45 pm

Join Makeela Magomolia, FLNP board member, and the UW's Bat Brigade for a bat walk at dusk. Learn about bat conservation, acoustic surveying, and the important ecological roles bats play in Wisconsin.

Early Fall Migrating Birds

Sunday, November 8, 2026

1:30 to 3:00 pm

Join Jackie Edmunds & colleagues from the Biocore Prairie Bird Banding Observatory in scanning the skies, branches and grasslands for avian visitors passing through the Preserve.

Late Fall Migrating Birds

Sunday, November 22, 2026

1:30 to 3:00 pm

Chuck Henrikson leads us into the trees and onto the prairies to scan the lands & waters for birds heading south to warmer climes.

Preserve Trees in Winter

Sunday, December 13, 2026

1:30 to 3:00 pm

Tom Zinnen delves into ways to ID different trees even as the deciduous ones stand leafless against the winter sky by using clues from their form, bark and buds.

Friends Favorite Places

Sunday, December 27, 2026

1:30 to 3:00 pm

Cruise the Preserve with Paul Noeldner to visit your favorite hibernial destinations a week after the snowy solstice.

Testing for Transmissible Spongiform Encephalopathies, including Chronic Wasting Disease in Deer

Sunday, January 10, 2027

1:30 - 3:00pm

FLNP member Ben Johnson of the Wisconsin Veterinary Diagnostic Lab shares insights into the diagnosis and distribution of TSE diseases, including CWD that infects deer and affects the deer-hunting culture of Wisconsin. Location: Wisconsin Veterinary Diagnostic Lab (Room TBD), 445 Easterday Lane

Winter Wonderland

Sunday, January 24, 2027

1:30 to 3:00 pm

Trek the trails of the Preserve with Paul Noeldner to take in the wintry sights and crystalline delights of frozen Lake Mendota, and then warm up with hot chocolate at a Picnic Point fire pit.

Mapping Teejope

Sunday, February 14, 2027

1:30 to 3:00 pm

Join Professor Kasey Keeler on this "Indoor Expedition" as she describes Mapping Teejope, a digital mapping project that guides users on Indigenous walking tours of the UW-Madison as an entry point into learning and reflecting on the Indigenous history and presence here. Location TBD. Outdoor walkabout to follow, weather permitting.

*Take this pullout and save it
for future reference!*

Unless noted, field trips meet at the Picnic Point entrance kiosk, 2000 University Bay Drive. Public parking is free on weekends and after 4:30pm on weekdays in Lot 130, 2003 University Bay Drive. The entry point is served by Metro Bus Stop #2938 outbound and #2881 inbound. See map.wisc.edu. Once construction begins in the Frautschi Center site and surrounding area, parking and meeting locations will be subject to change. Verify meeting locations by checking the Friends website at FriendsLakeshorePreserve.org

Winter Birds

Sunday, February 28, 2027

1:30 to 3:00 pm

Join Chuck Henrikson to get a crisp look at our hardy winterovers, some of whom are already singing out mating territories and a few (like Great Horned Owls) that might already have young to care for.

Language & Landscape

Sunday, March 14, 2027

1:30 to 3:00pm

FLNP board member and linguist Sarah Lundquist discusses the Indigenous linguistic landscape of Wisconsin

Early Migratory Birds in the Preserve

Sunday, March 28, 2027

1:30 - 3:00 pm

Join Chuck Henrikson as we keep our eyes and ears open for *Turdus migratorius* (Wisconsin's state bird) and other rufous harbingers of spring.

Friends' "Exploration Stations" for UW Science Expeditions

Sunday, April 11, 2027

1:00 - 3:00 pm

Explore a constellation of hands-on Exploration Stations spangled across Picnic Point as part of UW-Madison's annual science open house.

Spring Wildflowers

Saturday, April 10, 2027

1:30 to 3:00pm

Glenda Denniston, Eve Emshwiller and Paul Noeldner help uncover the ephemeral beauty of plants that flower amidst the warming sun and late snows of spring in Wisconsin.

Lichens of the Lakeshore Nature Preserve

Sunday, April 18, 2027

1:30 - 3:00 pm

Join botanist Susan Will-Wolf as we trek in search of lichens, they quintessential symbiosis, a kind of mutual-aid society of algae, fungi and bacteria that are like few other creatures in the panoply of Nature.

Ecological Restoration Work Parties

Learn about the natural world, meet new people or visit with old friends. Activities may include removing invasives plants, maintaining trails, planting, seed collecting and more. Tools and gloves and training provided. No need to register; however, groups and youth must contact the Volunteer Coordinator prior to the event. We cancel in case of inclement weather. For information on were to meet, visit the Preserve events calendar (<https://lakeshorepreserve.wisc.edu/events-calendar/>). Bryn.scriver@wisc.edu.

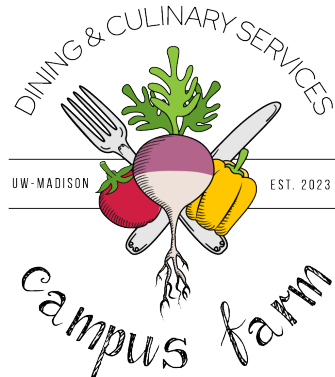
Volunteer Dates: Sat Sept 19, Sun Oct 4, Sat Oct 17, Sun Nov 8, Sat Nov 21, Sat Dec 5, all dates 9-11:30am

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These practices are in line with the Lakeshore Nature Preserve's vision to "foster biodiversity on campus and cultivate lifelong environmental engagement", teaching students and staff about where food comes from and how to work with the land.

This year, the Dining farm is growing so many Wisconsin favorites, including beets, carrots, collard greens, tomatoes, zucchini, herbs, flowers, pumpkins, and more. Chefs and Dining staff advise on crop varieties that are flavorful and versatile in recipes, then spend time working in the farm throughout the summer. Working with produce straight from the farm has helped Dining develop menus that best utilize Wisconsin produce at their peak season and get creative about preservation so that the summer harvest can be used all year long in

soups, sauces, and baked goods. Since 2023, 16,399 pounds of produce has been harvested from the farm and creatively used in Dining.



The farm is always open to new partnerships to help celebrate Wisconsin agriculture and campus-grown ingredients. If you would like to

get involved, all hands are welcome during open volunteer hours! This summer, volunteers are welcome on Mondays and Wednesdays from 5:30-7:30pm. Fill out the [Campus Farm Volunteering Form](#) to sign up for our volunteer email list and to get notified about weather-related changes to the schedule. You can also reach out to sustainability@housing.wisc.edu to tour the farm or schedule a group volunteering session!