



The HERON

Quarterly Newsletter of the Fond du Lac County Audubon Society

UPCOMING PROGRAMS



Rain Gardens

Wednesday, March 13, 7 pm
MPTC, Room O-102

Susan Kenney, from the Wisconsin DNR Watershed Management Department, will provide information for homeowners on plant types and the process of establishing a rain garden.



PROGRAM CHANGE

Rafting through the Grand Canyon

Wednesday, April 10, 7 pm
MPTC, Room O-104

This program will feature an eighty minute DVD of our Audubon trip in June 2010.

Some local Audubon members and other people from our area will star in the picture. The presentation gives the viewer a chance to see what a raft trip through the Grand Canyon is like.

The adventure has been set to fun music and has been well received by audiences.



Marsh Management, Programs, and Events

Wednesday, May 8, 7 pm
MPTC, Cafeteria

Liz Herzmann, Natural Resources Educator for the Wisconsin DNR, will give a presentation on management practices at the Horicon Marsh and also give an update on spring and summer upcoming events and programs.



Annual Membership

Renew your membership each year through our local chapter. See form on the back page.

Visit Us On the Web

www.fdlaudubon.org

Save the Date

July 12-15, 2013
Audubon National Convention
Stevenson, Washington

International Migratory Bird Day Friday and Saturday, May 3–4, 2013

International Migratory Bird Day is the signature program of the organization Environment for the Americas. It is the only international education program that highlights and celebrates the migration of nearly 350 species of migratory birds between nesting habitats in North America and non-breeding grounds in Latin America, Mexico, and the Caribbean.

Public awareness and concern are crucial components of migratory bird conservation. Citizens who are enthusiastic about birds, informed about threats, and empowered to become involved in



addressing those threats, can make a tremendous contribution to maintaining healthy bird populations. By modeling what can be done and involving people, interest and involvement in stewardship can grow.

As an official Bird City, Fond du

Lac is pleased to offer the following activities for International Migratory Bird Day. (Wear comfortable shoes suitable for outdoor experiences. Bring binoculars if you have them.)

Family Bird Walk at Lakeside Park

Friday, May 3, 6–7:30 pm

Meet at the shelter to the west of Main Street on the north side, across from the bathrooms.

Walk Leader: Terry Leasa

Greenway Arboretum Bird Walk

Saturday, May 4th, 9–10:30 am

Meet in the Salvation Army Store Parking lot, west side of parking lot of Pick 'n Save on S. Main Street and W. Pioneer Road. *Walk Leader: Terry Leasa*

Bird Walk, Saturday, May 4, 11:30 am–1 pm

To be announced.

Gottfried Arboretum Walk, UW–Fond du Lac

Saturday, May 4, 2–3 pm

Walk Leader: Connie Ranthum

AUDUBON FIELD TRIPS

Spring Equinox Outing

Thursday, March 21, 8 am

When Dwight Weiser described early Native American artifacts visible on the Niagara Escarpment at our annual banquet, members requested a field trip to view these findings. Dwight has documented these phenomena and other mysteries of the Ledge in his book, *Secrets of the Ledge*. Join Dwight for a short walk to the Ledge to spot some possible archaeoastronomy phenomena. Dwight will explain sight lines and some Native American lore about what we see. Meet at the Rienzi Cemetery parking lot, N6101 County Road K, Fond du Lac. Go left at the cemetery office to the parking lot. Dwight will lead us by car caravan and then on foot. Limited to 15 Audubon members. Contact Kathleen Stetter (920-872-2250 or Stetter@centurytel.net) to reserve a place.

Midwest Annual Crane Count

Saturday, April 13, 5:30–7:30 am

Contact Dave Sehloff at 920-603-1649 or email SehloffD@agnesian.com.

Astronomical Paddle

Saturday, May 25, 7:30–10:30 pm

Sunset/Moonrise Paddle with Ted

Eischeid at Supple's Marsh in Fond du Lac.

We will paddle west on Lake Winnebago from Lakeside Park West as we enjoy the sunset, and then enter Supple's Marsh as the near-full moon rises in the east. This will be an excellent opportunity to enjoy a natural experience in your own backyard. This event is open to a maximum of 10 canoes or kayaks. Those lacking a boat can indicate interest in sharing a seat on someone's canoe when they register and every attempt will be made to accommodate their request. Life jackets and working flashlights required; insect repellent recommended! Register by contacting Diana Beck at dianahbeck@gmail.com or 922-7931.



Audubon Board Meeting

If interested in attending the Board meeting, please check the website, www.fdlaudubon.org or contact Diana Beck at 922-7931 or dianahbeck@gmail.com.



Dave Stetter and Amy Oechsner relaxing on a raft trip through the Grand Canyon.

Consider Joining Us for Rafting 2014!

Our local Audubon chapter will organize a group to raft in Desolation Canyon in Utah for the dates of June 1 through June 9, 2014. The trip will consist of six days of rafting on the Green River and hiking to explore a number of Anasazi ruins with an archaeologist. More details will be given in the summer newsletter with signups beginning next fall.

Audubon Board Needs Secretary

The position involves attending and taking the minutes at the four board meetings each year. Ruth used to be involved in sending out the newsletter, but that will no longer be a concern for the secretary due to changes in post office requirements. Anyone interested in serving as secretary should contact Diana Beck at dianahbeck@gmail.com or 922-7931.



2013 Garlic Mustard Pulls

Garlic mustard poses a severe ecological threat to native plants and animals in forest communities in much of the eastern and midwestern United States. Many native wildflowers that complete their life cycles in the springtime (e.g., spring beauty, wild ginger, bloodroot, Dutchman's breeches, hepatica, toothworts, and trilliums) occur in the same habitat as garlic mustard. Once introduced to an area, garlic mustard outcompetes native plants by aggressively monopolizing light, moisture, nutrients, soil and space. Wildlife species that depend on these early plants for their foliage, pollen, nectar, fruits, seeds and roots, are deprived of these essential food sources when garlic mustard replaces them. Humans are also deprived of the vibrant display of beautiful spring wildflowers.

Source: www.nps.gov/plants/alien/fact/alpe1.htm

Join Audubon members, as we work on eradicating this invasive plant from the Fond du Lac area:

May 9 (Thursday), 9–11 am

Meet on Prairie Road at the Peebles Trail

May 11 (Saturday), 9–11 am

Meet on Prairie Road at the Peebles Trail

May 16 (Thursday), 9–11 am

Meet on Prairie Road at the Peebles Trail

May 18 (Saturday), 9 am–12 noon

Meet at Park 'n Ride to carpool to Shaganappi

May 19 (Sunday), 9 am–12 noon

Meet at Park 'n Ride to carpool to Shaganappi

May 23 (Thursday), 9–11 am

Meet on Prairie Road at the Peebles Trail

May 24 (Friday), 9–11 am

Meet on Prairie Road at the Peebles Trail

The Park 'n Ride is located at the junction of WH and the 151 Bypass. The Peebles Trail is located about 1/4 mile south of Winnebago Drive on Prairie Road.

Bring garden gloves, a kneeling pad and if possible a small dandelion weeding fork.

Cancelled in the event of rain. For additional information, email dianahbeck@gmail.com or call 922-7931.

Fourteen volunteer hours conquer a small mountain of garlic mustard.

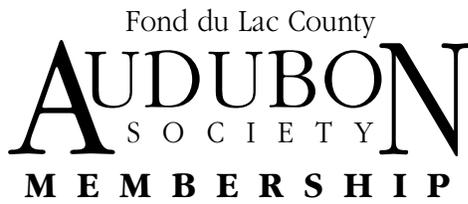


P.O. Box 84
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Submit articles for the Audubon newsletter
via e-mail to evelyn@mcleancowan.com

CHANGE SERVICE REQUESTED

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.

Name

Address

City

State

Zip

Phone

Email

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

Welcome the Return of Dandelions

Almost everyone appreciates the beautiful yellow dandelion flowers that come with spring. Remember that all of the dandelion is edible and very nutritious. In fact, it is hard to find anything in the grocery store that compares nutritionally. The dandelion leaf is nature's richest source of Vitamin A and beta-carotene (better than carrots), more calcium and iron than spinach, more potassium than bananas, twice the protein of eggplant, and the list goes on.

The trick to eating dandelions is to minimize the bitterness. Springtime before the flowers bloom is the best time to harvest the leaves. It also helps to cook and combine the leaves with other food ingredients that help to cancel the bitterness.

Crock-Potted Dandelions

8 cups dandelion greens, chopped coarsely
2 cups cream style cottage cheese
3 eggs, beaten
1/2 cups butter, cut into small pieces
1-1/2 cups cheese, diced into 1/2" pieces

Grease crock pot. Mix raw chopped dandelion greens with other ingredients. Cook 1 hour on high. Reset to low 2-3 hours. Some people like a little (1/4 tsp.) nutmeg, but the young folks like sweet basil and oregano. Creamy and yummy.

—Mabel Haugen, Tomahawk, Wisconsin