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Bimonthly Newsletter of the Fond du Lac County Audubon Society

UPCOMING PROGRAMS

Wednesday, September 14, 2011 5 pm, Lakeside Park, Denevue Creek Shelter

Wild Feast Potluck and Buckthorn Removal Tactics

Our season kicks off with a potluck.

Participants are encouraged to bring a dish
made from wild plants,
although conventional food is fine, too.

Following the meal, find out how to eradicate buckthorn.
Weather permitting, sailboat rides will be available.

Wednesday, October 12, 2011 7 pm, Moraine Park Technical College, Room O-104

Protecting the Utah Wilderness

Speaker: Clayton Daughenbaugh, Chair of the Sierra Club's National Wildlands Committee

See the splendor of Utah's red rock canyonlands in a multi-media presentation narrated by Robert Redford. Find out about the status of the Utah wilderness movement and citizen efforts to protect

Utah's spectacular canyon country.

Audubon evening programs take place at Moraine Park Technical College. From National Avenue, turn into parking lot O. Enter the door labeled O-1. Classrooms are on your left. Audubon programs are open to the public with no admission charge. Adults, families, and young people with an interest in environmental issues are encouraged to attend.

Visit Us On the Web: www.fdlaudubon.org





Another Successful Zoopolis Tour

The fourth annual Zoopolis Tour was held on Sunday, August 7th. The weather cooperated nicely with some sun and clouds and even lower humidity by the end of the day. About 153 people attended and of those, 25 adventurous types bought the bike tickets. The bikers were quite enthusiastic about being able to park close and get some extra exercise. Many favorable comments were heard about the interesting variety in the sites. A special thanks to all who volunteered their property for showing and to the many volunteers who helped the Tour run smoothly and efficiently. We continue to work on educating the public about yards and habitat.



Wild Feast Potluck on September 14

Our fourth annual "Wild Feast Potluck" will be held at the Denevue Creek Shelter at Lakeside Park on Wednesday, September 14, beginning at 5 pm. The meal will take place about 5:30. Please bring your own plate, silverware, cup and beverage (beer and wine allowed), and of course, your food contribution to the potluck. We encourage those who know their wild plants to create a tasty dish, salad, dessert or beverage to share with others. Many recipes can be found on the internet or even in your own cookbooks. Please bring a label for your entrée and a list of ingredients, or bring copies of the recipe with you.

For those of you who are unsure which plants are edible, bring something from your own garden or trees, or a conventional potluck dish. If you feel unsure about this culinary adventure, be assured that past participants have found many of the dishes, soups, etc. to be tasty and fun to try.

After the meal, there will be some sharing of information on how to identify and control invasive buckthorn. If the weather permits, there will be sailboat rides available as well.

This event is a great way to meet and socialize with other Audubon members and is open to any interested people from the public.

Bird City Wisconsin

Birds are indicators of the health of the environment, and are enjoyed by many citizens. Enhancing the environment for birds can add much to a community's quality of life. Environmental consciousness is at an all time high, so much of the public is receptive to conservation ideas. Bird City Wisconsin seeks to encourage communities to implement sound conservation practices by offering high visibility and public recognition to those that succeed in doing so.

It will be patterned after Tree City USA. Currently Wisconsin boasts 173 Tree Cities, ranking third in the nation. Bird City Wisconsin would certify urban/sub-urban/rural communities that apply and successfully meet criteria for education, habitat management, and limiting or removing hazards to birds. The goal is to have the project formally launched on International Migratory Bird Day. For more information, visit: www.birdcitywisconsin.org

AUDUBON FIELD TRIPS, WORKSHOPS & EVENTS

Belle Reynolds School Forest Wednesday, Sept. 21, 4-6 pm, Oakfield

Take a walk with Liz Roy into DNR Glacial Restoration Habitat and school forest trails. Cross a log bridge over a ledge spring and walk to the base of the ledge where you have the option to wiggle through a crevice. After the hike, relax on an Aldo Leopold bench at the story-time tree to hear how the School Forest developed. Bring insect repellent and dress for the weather. Directions: In Oakfield, take County Y south to Belle Reynolds School. Just past the school take the gravel service road toward the water tower.

Nelson and Pade Aquaponics Tour Saturday, Sept. 24, 8 am-12:30 pm, Montello

See how fish and plants are grown together in one integrated, soilless commercial farming system called aquaponics. Aquaponics combines aquaculture and hydroponics. "The fish waste provides a food source for the plants and the plants provide a natural filter for the water the fish live in. Aquaponics produces safe, fresh, organic fish and vegetables. When aquaponics is combined with a controlled environment greenhouse, premium quality crops can be grown on a year-round basis, anywhere in the world. Aquaponics can be used to sustainably raise fresh fish and vegetables for a family, to feed a village or to generate a profit in a commercial farming venture" (cited on http://www.aquaponics.com/).

While on this fascinating tour, you will:

- Learn about aquaponics and controlled environment agriculture.
- Discover what can be grown and why it tastes better and is better for you.
- Explore the 5000 sq. foot greenhouse and various aquaponic systems and methods on display.
- See science-based, highly productive Clear Flow Aquaponic SystemsTM in action.
- Taste naturally raised, aquaponic produce.

 Meet at the southwest end of Menards parking lot at 8 am to form a carpool/caravan. (Highway 23 construction may alter our meeting place and route.) Group tour fee: \$4.50 per person. Contact Kathleen Stetter to reserve a place (872–2250 or Stetter@ Centurytel.net). Mail checks to KR Stetter,

W9392 State Road 23, Rosendale, WI 54974.

Green Fire Showing Thursday, September 29, 6:30 pm Fond du Lac Public Library

If you missed the spring showings of *Green Fire*, here is another chance to see the first full-length, high-definition documentary film ever made about legendary conservationist Aldo Leopold and his environmental legacy! *Green Fire* shares highlights from his extraordinary career, explaining how he shaped conservation and the modern environmental movement. It also illustrates how Leopold's vision of a community that cares about both people and land continues to inform and inspire people, highlighting modern projects that put Leopold's land ethic in action in a multitude of ways.

Nature Photography Workshop Saturday, October 8, 2-4:30 pm Fond du Lac School District's Conservation Education Center on Highway 23 West

Come experience hands-on nature photography. Ted Eischeid will introduce the basics of nature photography in a natural setting. Participants will then have a chance to practice their skills at the Fond du Lac School District's Conservation Education Center. A sharing session will follow. All photographers are invited, but the emphasis is on amateurs with simple digital cameras. Be sure to bring patch and power cords for sharing your work. Wear appropriate outdoor clothing and shoes/boots for the weather, since we will be spending some time outside capturing images. Limit: 20 participants. Ted Eischeid, facilitator. Contact Kathleen Stetter to reserve a place (872–2250 or Stetter@Centurytel.net).

Saw Whet Owl Festival Two Rivers, Saturday, October 15 7:30 am-2:30 pm

Celebrate the fall migration of the saw whet owl. See banding and release demonstrations, hear about animal rescue from Wildlife of Wisconsin (WOW). Children's activities available during the festival; area hikes available all day. Fee: \$15 for families, \$8 for individuals. Meet at the UW-Fond du Lac campus main entrance parking lot near the picnic shelter to form a car pool/caravan at 7:30 am. Food available on the grounds or bring your own lunch.



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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 W4148 Kiekhaefer Parkway, Fond du Lac, WI 54937

Successful Garlic Mustard Pulls

Report on the garlic mustard pulls in the spring – 54 volunteer hours were spent at Shaginappi, and 27 volunteer hours were spent on the Peebles Trail making a total of 81 hours pulling garlic mustard.

All Are Welcome to the Board Meeting

The Audubon Board will meet on Wednesday, August 31 at 6 pm at Margie Winter's home: N6786 Hilltop Drive. A picnic dinner will be followed by the meeting. Bring a dish to pass. All members are welcome to attend Board meetings.

Help Remove Invasive Buckthorn

Buckthorn is one of the most invasive non-native plants in our area. It shades and crowds out native plants, creating a dense, dull monoculture with barren erosive soil beneath. Fall is the best time to target buckthorn for removal. Join the work parties to help restore the habitat along the Peebles Trail, 9 to 11 am on the following days: Sunday, October 2; Wednesday, October 5; Saturday, October 8; Thursday, October 13; Wednesday, October 19; Sunday, October 23; Wednesday, October 26, Saturday, November 5; Friday, November 11. Meet by the trail bridge east of Prairie road. If late, walk east down the trail to find the group. Bring gardening gloves, and if available, loppers and a dandelion fork. No experience necessary. Cancelled if raining. For more information, call 922-7931 or email dbeck7931@charter.net.