From the Director

Spring is such an invigorating time, and overwhelming as well. Living things all around us are hurrying to make up for the winter down time, and people behave the same way. Like last year, our spring is short and intense, and summer will likely be the same.

This summer is guaranteed to be busy. More groups have signed up for field trips and we are working on dozens of acres to improve habitat in and around our preserve. We have been approved for a grant allowing us to increase our efforts to manage invasive phragmites on both the East and West Twin Rivers, of which our marsh is a part. We’re working with Wisconsin Public Service to restore a wetland and stream on the southern part of our preserve. Both neighboring city park departments will also be managing habitat along the Lakeshore for wildlife, as well as people in our community.

We’re working on developing our own little “bird parks” on previously unmanaged portions of our property by removing invasive species and planting a number of native trees and shrubs. The plants we chose have been selected because of their benefit to birds. These areas will be focal points for birdwatchers, present positive volunteer opportunities and also opportunities for sponsorship.

Thanks again to the generosity of the Alyea family, we will be doing some construction, such as adding an enhanced birdwatching portal in the Edna Smith room. This will give us better views of our birdfeeding area, which will also see some additional native landscaping.

The osprey cam is up and running and by the time this is published, we hope to see three young birds in the nest. The parents are constantly redecorating, adding branches, moss, a bandana, a glove, pieces of plastic and a cornstalk. Interior design doesn’t seem to be a strong point for them, but they are entertaining. They can be viewed night and day via a link on our website.

More and more people are realizing that we live in a wonderful area and that the natural features are an important part of what makes the Lakeshore special. I hope you have time to get outdoors this summer and enjoy the wonders around us.

Jim Knickelbine
**Coming Events**

**Friday Morning Bird Walks**
Fridays
(No bird walk July 11th)
8:15am
Join director Jim Knickelbine or a Woodland Dunes naturalist on a weekly route and help document the bird species on the preserve. Meet at the Nature Center and bring binoculars.

**Outdoor Movie at the Dunes: The Lorax**
Saturday, June 14th from 7:30-10:30pm

$20 per car load
(Bus loads pay individual pricing)
$5 per adult; $4 per child ages 3-12
Children ages 2 and under are free

Enjoy watching The Lorax outdoors at the Nature Center! Children’s activities start at 7:30pm and the movie will show at 8:30pm. Support our Nature Center and bring the whole family and all your friends! Bring your own lawn chair or blanket for movie viewing. Snacks and beverages available for purchase. Raffle tickets will also be sold for a chance to win a movie themed basket!

**Kids Bird Club**
First Tuesday of every month
9:00am
June 3rd, July 1st and August 5th

Anyone age 0-100, especially homeschoolers, are invited to the Kids’ Bird Club. Start with a short, guided bird walk and then enjoy a guided bird activity. Children must be accompanied by an adult. The suggested activity donation is $2 per child. We are also looking for adult volunteers capable of identifying basic birds to lead the youngsters and their parents on the paths at Woodland Dunes. Please contact Margaret Pauwels, 732-1562, obyrml@yahoo.com for more information.

**Birding the Marsh**
Fridays: June 6th and 27th, July 11th and 25th, August 15th
9:00-10:30am

Join director Jim Knickelbine on a guided bird tour of the marsh. Reservations required by the Wednesday of the week of the tour. Meet at the Stop and Dock at 2510 West River Street in Two Rivers. 
*Funded through a DNR Planning and Protection Grant.*

**The Wonder of It All: Unusual Cases in Veterinary Medicine**
Wednesday, June 11th from 6:00-7:30pm

Dr. Katz of Two Rivers Veterinary Hospital will present a collection of unusual cases from wildlife, zoo animals and domestic pets. Registration required by Monday, June 9th. 
*Sponsored by the Dominion Foundation.*

**Nature Time Tuesdays**
July 1st, 8th, 15th, 22nd, 29th and August 5th, 12th, and 19th from 1:30-3:00pm

Donations Appreciated
Families are invited to drop in and participate in a nature activity. There will be a new activity each week!

**East Twin River Paddle**
Wednesday, July 16th at 6:00pm
Rain Date: Wednesday, July 23rd at 6:00pm

Bring your own canoe or kayak and join Director Jim Knickelbine on a leisurely paddle on the lower East Twin River. Meet at Paddler’s Park at the end of 27th Street in Two Rivers. Registration required by Monday, July 7th.
*Funded through a DNR River Planning and Protection Grant.*
Coming Events

Little Wings Fridays: Nature Fun and Play Time for You and Your Little One
Fridays: July 18th, 25th and August 1st, 8th and 15th at 10:00am

$3 per child
Spend time with your kids this summer in our Little Wings nature play area. Start the morning with a guided nature activity, then let your little ones explore the play area, walk the trails or have a picnic lunch. Nature activities best suited for ages 4 to 7, but all ages welcome. Registration required by the Friday before participation.

The Wonder of It All: Introduction to Spiders and Their Ecology
Friday, July 25th from 1:00-3:00pm

Donations appreciated.
Join Jim Steffen, Ecologist with the Chicago Botanic Garden, as he teaches how to use methods to study and identify spiders. Through slide presentation, microscope and field work, participants will be introduced to the identification, life history and ecological importance of the diverse spider fauna of Woodland Dunes.
Sponsored by the Dominion Foundation.

Star Party
Saturday, August 9th from 8:30-11:00pm
Donations appreciated.
Join local astronomers and view night sky constellations, the moon and other celestial objects through telescopes. Attend the pre-program from 8:30-9:00pm and enjoy viewing the night sky after. Bring a lawn chair, mosquito spray and your own telescope or binoculars if you wish. Weather permitting. Program takes place at the Nature Center.

Butterfly & Garden Festival
Saturday, August 16th from 9:00-12:00pm

Members: $15 per family; $5 per individual
Non-Members: $20 per family; $8 per individual
Celebrate the Dorothy R. Star Garden and the animals that find refuge there. Butterfly and wildflower hikes, kids’ activities, games and more!

Farm to Table Dinner
Saturday, August 30th
5:00-6:00pm: Social Hour
6:15pm: Dinner
Enjoy a social hour with great music, drinks from a local brewery and winery, and delicious appetizers. After the social hour, a family style dinner will be served outside. Trusted Earth Farms will be catering the appetizers and dinner from their fresh and local produce.

Tickets are available for purchase on our website at www.woodlanddunes.org or stop in at our Nature Center. Reservations need to be made by August 1st. For more information, email corrissaf@woodlanddunes.org or call the Nature Center.
Thank you

**Education Support**
Thank you to all Teacher Naturalist’s who helped with spring programs! We could not offer the community these amazing opportunities without you!

**Memorials**
- In memory of Mark Houghten
  Vicki Bushman
- In memory of Armond Kueter
  Charles & Marilyn Sontag
- In memory of Vicky Mayer
  Charles & Marilyn Sontag
- In memory of David Schauf
  Jeffrey & Janet Kohn
- In memory of Harold Kocourek
  Charles & Marilyn Sontag
- In memory of Paul A. Kieffer
  Mona Moen
- In memory of Robert Peppard
  Grace Peppard
  Grace Peppard & Friends
- In memory of Marilyn Maples
  Judy Knickelbine
- In memory of Rita Londo
  Luann Ferron
  Donald & Helen Massay
  Mark & Katherine Hanson
  Marjorie Jehle
  John & Karen Berzinsky
  Evanston Firefighters Local 742
  Lucy Zeldenrust
  Bernie & Lyn Brouchoud
- In memory of Donna Feest
  Michael & Jenene Carey
  Becky & Sidney Gardner
  Bernie & Lyn Brouchoud
  Jeanette & John Eastman
  Judy Breitenfeldt & Dennis Pipgrass
  John & Judith Lango
  Martin & Nancy Drury
  Paul & Bonnie Carron
  Patrick & Gayle McGuire
- In memory of Dick Burger
  Ralph & Ann Proulx
  Nick, Amy, & Lilian Hanson
  Joe Holschbach
  David & Barbara Wilda
  Pat & Vickie Mullins
- In memory of Don Bleser
  Jerrel Ralph
  Bernie & Lyn Brouchoud
  Charles & Marilyn Sontag
  Carol Martin
  The Edgar Public School
  Mary & William Schmelzer
  The Zillman Family

**Sponsors:**
- **Dash at the Dunes:**
  - Aurora Kohls
  - Lakeside Foods
  - KI
  - Community First Credit Union
  - Northern Concrete Construction
  - Browns of Two Rivers
  - Mary Knickelbine
  - Associated Bank
  - Manitowoc Ice
  - Holiday Inn
  - Anne Flynn
  - Tom and Betsy Kocourek
  - Dave Kocourek
  - Festival Foods
  - Natural Ovens
  - SeedsNBeans
  - Road ID
  - Fricke Printing
- **DNR River Planning & Protection- Habititation Restoration Education**
- **Hooper Foundation- Internships**
- **WEEB- Education Programs**

**New Members**
- Beverly Mark
- Dan & Kay Stecker
- Adam & Marissa Brandt

**New Guarantors**
- Ed & Helen Hinz
- John & Kristin Epstein
- Jeff & Tina Kvitk

**Volunteer Spotlight**
Renee and Dave Evans

Aside from the opportunity to do much-needed good for wildlife, the best thing about being associated with Woodland Dunes is the people who make this organization work. And have done so for nearly 40 years. Some of them are quite visible, and others work quietly but consistently behind the scenes.

This time, our volunteer spotlight shines on Renee and Dave Evans of Manitowoc. Years ago, Renee took a class from Bernie, probably about bird identification, and she and Dave then became interested in helping Woodland Dunes. The Evans’ design and make jewelry, and Dave is knowledgeable about geology. They have attended some of our events as vendors, but also have helped with admissions, making food for Bird Breakfast, and encouraging memberships. Several times, I remember that they flirted with hypothermia as they took admissions outdoors for spring and fall events.

Dave and Renee have also been very encouraging to our staff, and have been great supporters of our organization. They are the classic example of the selfless volunteerism that keeps Woodland Dunes alive and well.

Thanks, Renee and Dave!
“There is symbolic as well as actual beauty in the migration of birds. There is something infinitely healing in the repeated refrains of nature—the assurance that dawn comes after night, and spring after the winter.”

Rachel Carson

When Rachel Carson’s Silent Spring was published in 1964, it shocked the public and the scientific community into a new reality: how easily the environment can be affected by our actions, however well intended they might be. DDT, which was thought to kill only the bad bugs, was believed to be the answer to the problem of insect pest control in agriculture. Unfortunately, the this pesticide was affecting more than just the targeted problem insects, and, in fact, was responsible for the loss of large numbers of animals, including songbirds and raptors. DDT was ultimately removed from sale and use in this country, but the story that is now emerging is that a new generation of pesticides may be a threat.

In the US alone, a billion pounds of pesticides are used annually. The National Audubon Society estimates that 72 million birds are killed each year, 7 million from pesticides used for lawn care. But, it isn’t just the birds that are affected by pesticide use. All life can be inadvertently disadvantaged or killed. Of special concern today are the declining numbers of bees. Bees pollinate crops responsible for one third of the human diet. Recently, a new generation of “nicotine” based insecticides has been formulated and synthesized under the name Neonicotinoids or neonics. If you are interested in exotic named chemicals, the offending neonics (Neonicotinoids) include the compounds clothianin, imidaclorpid, acetamiprid, dinofuran and thiametoxam. These tongue twisting neonics, have the advantage in that they can be applied to the seeds before planting, freeing the farmers from having to deal with applying a toxic insecticide as the crop is growing.

In addition, neonics are also being used on many plants used for decorating urban landscapes. This appears to be a great advantage to the home gardener because every part of the plant contains the toxin, and further application is unnecessary. However, these highly toxic plants affect all insects including bees. Even pollen gathered from these plants, when carried back to the hive, can destroy the entire hive. For homeowners that would like to be good stewards, killing bees is particularly troublesome. However, alternatives to these neonics are available.

Many know that any of the marigold varieties give off an insect “repellents” called pyrethrins. Pyrethrins are sufficient to discourage many insects, and any insect pests left can be more easily managed through other means. A big problem is that many of the “Big Box” home improvement centers sell these neonic nicotinic treated plants. One should ask the store manager if the plants have been treated, and if they have, do not purchase them. Another way to avoid the plants that are treated with neonics is to purchase your garden plants from a local greenhouse or garden center, where the plants probably have not been treated. It is always good to ask if neonics have been used, however. And last but not least, your voice can be used to make a difference.

-Thank you to Peter Weber for his enormous assistance with this article-
Charles Sontag
**Education**

**The 30 x 30 Nature Challenge**

Recently, I was listening to Wisconsin Public Radio and the guest was challenging listeners to participate in a 30 x 30 Nature Challenge. The idea is simple: spend 30 minutes outside for 30 days. Rain or shine. No electronics. Spend time in your backyard, a garden, in a city park or the Woodland Dunes preserve! Why is spending time outside so important?

1. A few minutes spent in nature can instantly reduce stress levels, blood pressure and muscle tension.
2. Time in nature facilitates better social and physical development in children.
3. Spending an hour or more in nature can improve memory performance and attention span by 20%.
4. Time spent in nature reduces symptoms of anxiety and depression.
5. Regular time in nature creates feelings of empathy for nature, especially for kids.

Number five resonates the most with me. As the Education Coordinator, my ultimate goal is to foster the next generation of environmentally literate adults. Environmentally literate adults consider how their actions impact the environment. Woodland Dunes’ education mission states: “In regard to nature, a person will love what they know and will preserve what they love: it is our mission to help people know enough to do both.” So how do we create this environmentally conscientious person? Studies demonstrate that as children, environmentally literate adults had repeated exposure to green space (their backyard, a park, an old vacant lot) and were allowed to freely explore that space in the presence of a mentor.

This is where Woodland Dunes can play a key role. It is our job to get young kids excited about the outdoors. As they get older, their excitement is the catalyst for a greater understanding of nature. People protect and care for the things they understand. I invite you to join me in the 30 x 30 Nature Challenge this July. Garden, journal, ride your bike, quietly observe nature in your favorite spot or join Jim on his regularly scheduled Friday morning bird walk at 8:15am. If you have children, Woodland Dunes will have two regularly scheduled programs each week in July: Nature Time Tuesdays and Little Wings Fridays (see events page for details). For some great ideas of how to spend your 30 minutes in nature, visit http://30x30.davidsuzuki.org/daily-tips.

**Jessica Johnsrud**

**Dash at the Dunes**

Thank you to our sponsors, volunteers and runners/walkers who participated in the Dash at the Dunes 5k Trail Run/Walk Fundraiser! Once again, the event was a success and raised $5,000 for our environmental education programs. This was my first year being a part of such an amazing event. The support from our community for Woodland Dunes is outstanding!

**Corrissa Frank**
Program Update

Spring is finally here and the land management program is busy. We have been busy working with the Woodland Dunes invasive species volunteers, better known as the Barberryans, removing invasive plants. Volunteers from Denmark Community School, Lincoln High School, and Lakeshore Technical College assisted with honeysuckle and Japanese barberry removal and native tree planting. Denmark Community School students and staff also assisted with removal of undesirable plants at the Rotary wayside. All of these locations and activities are part of a larger effort titled “Restore the Shore.” This project involves removing invasive tree and shrub species and replacing them with native species beneficial to migratory birds. Trees and shrubs are arriving almost daily it seems and when they are all here, they will total over 3,000. We will be working diligently to keep the trees and shrubs healthy by protecting them with tree tubes and watering them as needed.

In addition, Woodland Dunes will be working on a large scale Phragmites removal project on the East and West Twin Rivers. We were awarded a 5 year, $68,675.00 grant from the Department of Natural Resources Aquatic Invasive Species Control Grant Program to remove Phragmites from the Twin Rivers, up to the dams in Mishicot and Shoto. As part of this grant, we will also be working at the boat landings talking to boaters about invasive species and training volunteers to look for invasive species on the rivers while they are out enjoying them. Lastly, we will be seeding the treated areas with native seeds to restore the sites.

Jeni Powell

Ways of Giving

If you would like to support Woodland Dunes by donating a specific item, or funds towards that item, we are in need of the items listed below:

- Small Outboard Motor
- Bird Seed
- Books in the Little Wings Room

*please email jessicaj@woodlanddunes.org for book wish list

Program Work Days

Come join Woodland Dunes for the Whack ’Em Wednesdays and Sock ’Em Saturdays programs work days! Work will involve using hand tools to cut the invasive species and spray bottles to apply small amounts of herbicide to the remaining stem. All necessary equipment will be provided and refreshments will also be provided afterward at the Nature Center. Work days will last 2 hours and will be weather dependent. Please register a week prior to any work day so we can contact you if we need to cancel due to weather.

Whack ’Em Wednesdays (WEW) and Stop ’EM Saturdays

Starting at 10:00am at the Nature Center unless otherwise noted

June

11th: regular WEW, 14th: Meet Lincoln Park Zoo Manitowoc at 9-11am and/or 1-3, 25th: regular WEW and 28th: Special day/time working with the Manitowoc County Master Gardeners on dame’s rocket along Columbus Street on Woodland Dunes property at 9-11am and/or 1-3pm.

July

9th, 19th and 23rd

August 20th, 23rd and 27th

Woodland Dunes is a non-profit organization and provides educational programs for youth and adults while maintaining 1300 acres of land for the community to enjoy free of charge. Please consider making a donation.

I wish to support Woodland Dunes with the following donation:

$10  $25  $50  $100  $200  Other

Name (please print)_______________________ Phone__________________

Address__________________________________________________________

City________________________State________Zip________________

Please make checks payable to Woodland Dunes and return this form with your donation:

Woodland Dunes, P.O. Box 486, Two Rivers, WI 54241
Woodland Dunes Nature Center
P.O. Box 486
Two Rivers, WI 54241-0486
woodlanddunes.org

Headquarters and Nature Shop
Hwy. 310 West of Two Rivers

Hours
Monday-Friday: 9am-4pm
Saturday: 9am-12pm (April-October)

Contact
Phone: (920) 793-4007
Email: nature@woodlanddunes.org
Website: www.woodlanddunes.org
Facebook: Look up Woodland Dunes in Two Rivers, WI and like our page!

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Please send this form and your tax-deductable membership to Woodland Dunes!