

WISCONSIN PRAIRIE ENTHUSIASTS

THREATENED AND ENDANGERED SPECIES IN WISCONSIN

The following is a listing of Endangered and Threatened Species that has been (compiled since October 1, 1972) for the State of Wisconsin that may be expected in some of our prairie remnants. An Endangered Species or Threatened Species is a species whose continued existence as a component of the state's wildlife resource is determined to be in jeopardy on the basis of scientific evidence. This list was excerpted from the master lists by the Wisconsin Bureau of Endangered Resources, Department of Natural Resources, Box 7921, Madison, WI 53707-7921.

BIRDS

ENDANGERED

Loggerhead Shrike

THREATENED

Greater Prairie Chicken

Cooper's Hawk

Red-shouldered Hawk

REPTILES

ENDANGERED

Ornate Box Turtle

Slender Glass Lizard

Queen Snake

Western Ribbon Snake

Northern Ribbon Snake

Massasauga Rattlesnake

THREATENED

Wood Turtle

Blanding's Turtle

AMPHIBIANS

ENDANGERED

Blanchard's Cricket Frog

THREATENED

Tremblay's Salamander

PLANTS

ENDANGERED

Carolina Anemone

Large-leaved Sandwort

Purple Milkweed

Prairie Plum

Cooper's Milk Vetch

Hemlock parsley

Harbinger-of-Spring

Pale False Foxglove

Dotted Blazing Star

Smith Melic Grass

Small-flowered Grass-of-Parnassus

Smooth Phlox

Heart-leaved Plantain

Pink Milkwort

Rough White Lettuce

Great White Lettuce

Wild Petunia

Small Skullcap

Selago-like Spikemoss

Blue-stemmed Goldenrod

Hairy Meadow Parsnip

Foamflower

Dwarf Bilberry

THREATENED

Northern Monkshood

Yellow Giant Hyssop

Thickspike Wheatgrass

Wooly Milkweed

Prairie Milkweed

Forked Aster

Kitten Tails

Prairie Indian Plantain

Sand Reed

Beautiful Sedge

Garber's Sedge

Lenticular Sedge

Michaux's Sedge

White Lady's-slipper

Purple Coneflower

Yellowish Gentian

Round Stemmed False Foxglove

Prairie White-fringed Orchid

Prairie Bush-clover

Brittle Prickly Pear

Small Round-leaved Orchis

Marsh Grass-of-Parnassus

Wild Quinine

Prairie-parsley

False Asphodel

Marsh Valerian

New England Violet

HOW TO FIND A PRAIRIE*

We are interested and excited about having prairie inventory sheets filled out, but you ask WHERE do I look, HOW do I look, and WHAT do I look for. Here is the answer to those questions.

WHERE -Railroad rights-of-way, old unkept cemeteries, large marshy areas that cattle or machinery don't go into, large hills or ridges too steep to plow or graze, especially facing south, and areas where soil is poor for crops.

HOW -good maps quickly locate these and narrow the choices to look. A good place to look for maps is at the Soil Conservation Service Office. Also maps from the U.S. Geological Survey, air photos, earlier vegetation maps, OR watch where you are.

WHAT -variety of flower colors throughout summer, orange-brown color of grasses in fall, grasses in clumps, goldenrod shorter than grass and rarely forming thick patches, and lots of animal burrows and ant hills.

These hints will tell you that you have found something worth checking into.

On your Sunday afternoon drive or your way to and from work, look at your surroundings. You may find prairie remnants that you have been driving by for years. Once you have found an area that looks promising, get a form (at the office) or make notes describing the whereabouts and what you found. Tell others in WPE about your findings, and get more people to go look at it. Who knows you may find an endangered or threatened species!

*Taken from the Prairie Primer

NATURAL AREAS FORMS AVAILABLE

Would you like to explore your neighborhood for natural areas? Do you know where little patches of relatively undisturbed prairie, wetland, or oak savanna areas are found? We need to find and inventory plants and animals in

natural areas that you might know of. Forms for recording your observations that are designed so beginners can make substantial contributions to what is known about Southern Wisconsin Natural Areas are available from Marie Brown. We need to find locations with threatened or endangered species, and other wonderful locations that escaped the plow, grazing, or land development.

For these people that would like to help in identifying plants, especially rare species, WPE will offer a one day workshop to get this off to a good start.

Although a statewide natural area inventory was conducted, we have found the inventory only found larger areas; what remains to be found are small areas of less than an acre to several acres in size. After they are found we will design and conduct management to improve and restore areas. Several incredible areas were found last year by volunteers and we certainly need to find more.

SEED COLLECTING

WPE in cooperation with Applied Ecological Services will begin collecting seed for prairie, wetland, oak savanna, and forest plants in late May. Our goal will be to hand collect seeds for 300-400 species of native plants. Collected seeds will be used for ecosystem restoration projects in Southern Wisconsin and elsewhere in the immediate region. Some seeds will be sold to other groups to do restorations; this will constitute a potential way for WPE to generate a funding base for purchasing natural areas such as prairie, wetlands, etc. For those wanting to get involved, seed collection will be done 3 days each week from 25 May to 15 October. This will be an excellent opportunity to get out and see new areas, learn about our native plants and animals and become part of a good cause. Contact S. Apfelbaum (608) 897-8547 for information.

BURN SCHOOL - MONROE

On April 11th, the WPE sponsored a prescribed burning workshop at Monroe, WI. The workshop was taught by Dr. Andrea Koonce of the University of Wisconsin-Stevens Point. A total of 18 people attended from as far away as Madison and Chicago.

The program began with a 6 hour classroom session followed by a practice session in the field.

The planning strategy of a burn involves determining your objects, how these objectives can be accomplished, and a detailed proposal for the burn plan, including all the safety considerations that are needed.

Preparing for a burn involves establishing firebreaks, which may be done far in advance, permanently established, utilizing natural firebreaks or using a simple temporary firebreak. Also the needed tools and equipment and supplies should be arranged ahead of time. The proper authorities should be notified and any permits that are needed should be obtained.

Conducting the fire begins with a briefing to explain the burn plan to all the workers. The fireline is walked by everyone to familiarize them with the burn site and potential problem areas. The next step is a test burn to evaluate how the fire will behave under the existing conditions.

Several methods can be used to control and shape the fire to achieve the desired results.

One person can be involved with the monitoring of the weather and fire behavior during the burn and afterwards help determine the efficiency of the burn. Short-term evaluation can be done on the day of the burn and long-term evaluation can be done at a later date.

A burn was planned for April 12th as part of the workshop but due to weather conditions it had to be postponed. It was held informally the following weekend.

BOTANICAL CLUB OF WISCONSIN

On April 24-26, 1987 the 1987 Conference of Wisconsin Academy of Science, Arts & Letters and Ripon Community Festival was held in Ripon, Wisconsin. The title of this years conference was "Celebration of the Land". It was an organized weekend of social, educational, and artistic activities. A symposium of paper presentations, tours, art exhibits, concerts, dances, theatrical performances and receptions were among the activities.

They had tours of the Aldo Leopold Center in Baraboo, the Ice Age Museum in Dundee, and self-guided tours of Horicon, Kettle Moraine, Snake River and many more.

Dr. Richard Newsome, Beloit College, was moderator for part of the events, and Jon Wilde, artist, was one the panelists. The honored guest at the banquet was Owen Gromme, wildlife artist.

For more information about the Botanical Club of Wisconsin and the South-Central Chapter please contact Theodore S. Cochrane, Treasurer, Botanical Club of Wisconsin, 449 Jean St., Madison, WI 53703. The annual dues are \$5.00 per year, and include a subscription to THE BULLETIN.

ROCK COUNTY NATURALIST GROUP

A note from Dick Newsome, Prairie Steward of Friends of Newark Road Prairie. I think it is time to get a Rock County group organized. There is considerable need for such a group: to survey areas in the county for natural areas, for native species, for environmental problems, to collect information and make it available to planners and politicians, etc. The group also would be a means of getting in touch with others of similar interest. If you are interested or know of someone who is, call Dick Newsome, (608) 365-2609 evenings or Marie Brown, (608) 754-0443.

NEWARK PRAIRIE BURN

Saturday, May 9, is the scheduled date for the burn at Newark Prairie. Participants should assemble at the prairie at noon, instructions will be given, and the burn should be started about 1:00pm and should be finished between 4:00 and 5:00pm. More equipment is needed for the burn; Indian packs, rubber swatters, etc.

If you are able to attend and have equipment they can use either drop a note to Dick Newsome at Beloit College, Dept. of Biology, Beloit, WI 53511 or call him evenings at (608) 365-2609. If it is raining or weather conditions are not appropriate, the burn is postponed to the following Saturday.

BURN ACCOMPLISHMENTS

The Spring 1987 burn program was very successful. Fourteen acres were burned between March 8 and April 19th. Approximately fifty participants (many first timers) were involved in the various burns. The burning and burn preparation proceeded as follows:

- Sat, Feb. 7 Firebreaks mowed on Blumer Marsh
- Sat. Feb. 14 50 to 100 feet firebreaks burned on Blumer Marsh
- Sat. Mar. 7 *10 acres burned on Eric Dahl property near Albany
- Sun. Mar. 8 *Blumer Marsh burned - 60 to 70 acres? - 25 to 30 participants
- Sun. Mar. 15 *Greg Miller Oak Woods (Rock Co.)
- Sun. Mar. 21 Larry Harding property in Spring Grove Township - 1 acre
*Avon Bluff on Albert Atkinson property - 19 acres
- Sat. Apr. 4 Butenhoff Prairie - 14 acres

- Sun. Apr. 5 *Sahy Prairie (Rock Co.) - ? acreage
- Mon. Apr. 6 Sulzer Prairie - 4 to 5 acres - five participants including Hans & Mike Sulzer
- Tue. Apr. 7 Harold Vale property - approx. 4 acres
- Sat. Apr. 11 Fire School
- Sun. Apr. 12 *Robt. Slocum property on Hwy 59 - 1.5 acres
*Dale Gough property - roadside & two islands burned - approx. 5 acres
- Sat. Apr 18 *Monroe Airport property - 4 to 5 acres - ten participants and some spectators.
- Sun. Apr. 19 *Mark & Sheila Franzen property - 10 acres - Rock Co.
- Tue. Apr. 28 Parts of Muralt Prairie burned by DNR crew

* indicates first time management burn

GREEN COUNTY CONSERVATION LEAGUE

The next Conservation League meeting is May 7th at the VFW Hall in Monroe. This meeting will be concerned with the upcoming Show on May 16 and 17 at the Fairgrounds.

CONSERVATION LEAGUE SHOW

There are many exciting activities planned for the May 16-17 at the Fairground in Monroe, WI from 9 to 9 on Saturday and 10 to 5 on Sunday. Some of the activities include a contest between the Yellowstone Flint and Cap members and the Marshall Bluff Bowhunters, Big Buck Contest, bait-casting contest, lots of door prizes, archery lessons, recreational fashion show, films, demonstrations, seminars, wood carving, and much more. Jerry Wenger of Channel 15's "Outdoor Living" will be a special guest and seminar speaker. There will also be food, beer, and live entertainment provided by Ray and Connie and Karl Brandenburg's bluegrass band.

Raffle tickets are still available for, WPE's donated grand prize the cedar-redwood canoe, and other donated prizes such as a camper topper, and a collector print by Jonathan Wilde, Wildlife Artist of the Year. The proceeds from this raffle and show is to be used for land acquisition to restore and preserve prairie and wetlands.

SOOOO..... PLEASE PLAN ATTEND
BRING FRIENDS!!!

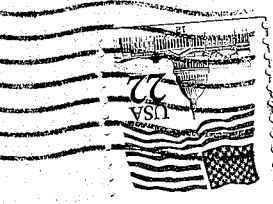
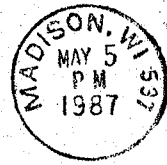
SOUTHWEST WISCONSIN CHAPTER

The next meeting of the Southwest Chapter will be a potluck at Walter and Alice Mirks house on County Hwy C outside of Millville on June 7th at 5:00pm. Beverages will be provided so please bring a dish to pass. At the meeting we'll discuss seed collection, sales, inventory and seed propagation. If you have any questions phone (608) 988-4681 or (608) 375-5271.

PRAIRIE ENTHUSIASTS

OUR NEXT MEETING WILL BE MAY 14TH AT THE VFW HALL IN MONROE. THE MEETING WILL START AT 7:30PM. This will be the final meeting before the Conservation League Show. All people on the committee for the booth or people with ideas, time or materials, please attend. We must get together and finalize our WPE booth. People will be needed to spend time in the booth on the two days of the Show. Do you have an hour or two free either of those days to help? We also will need to sell raffle tickets to people entering the fairgrounds which could only be done if a bunch of enthusiastic WPE members were working the crowd.

Gary & Gail Adams
Rt. 2, Box 63
Soldiers Grove, WI 54655



Wisconsin Prairie Enthusiasts
N673 Mill Road
Juda, WI 53550

Wild Petunia



Wild Petunia

Wild Petunia is not actual-ly related to our cultivated petunias, but was probably given the name because of its similar tubular flowers



which vary from blue, magenta, and gray to white. Wisconsin's plants tend toward magenta and bloom May to October. Wild Petunia grows one to two feet tall, with smooth-edged, hairy leaves. Innumerable spiraled threads on the seeds uncoil when wet, and help bury themselves. Wild Petunia ranges in eastern US, west to Nebraska, south to Texas and east to Pennsylvania. Common in central Illinois and further south, it is dramatically more rare in Wisconsin, the northern range boundary. The only known surviving Wild Petunias in the state grow just north of the Illinois border in a strip of deep-soil prairie, adjacent to a railroad.

In Missouri, a different species of Wild Petunia is grown as a palatable and nutritious forage for grazing cattle. Wild Petunia could be cultivated for

its floral beauty as well. Like many prairie perennials, Wild Petunia is adapted to periodic fires and seems to adjust to occasional disturbance of its mesic prairie habitat.