

Woodland Dunes Nature Center and Preserve

Final Report: RP -241 - 13

Project Goal:

The project aimed to support three major goals:

1. Enhance Woodland Dunes' watershed stewardship activities within the project area by building capacity to reach and engage local citizens.
2. Raise citizen awareness and provide individual citizens with the opportunities to participate in protecting and restoring the rivers.
3. Continue monitoring efforts through the Water Action Volunteers program.

The results of our efforts are described below:

Project Products and Deliverables:

Goal 1: Enhance Woodland Dunes watershed stewardship activities within the project area by building capacity to reach and engage local citizens. Watershed activities were enhanced and capacity was built through increased visibility in the public through events and event advertising. Cooperative work on litter clean-ups with the City of Two Rivers and the Wisconsin Maritime Museum and advertising increased efficiency. Newspaper articles were released, 90 educational fliers advertising programs were distributed throughout the community and event announcements and informational excerpts were included in partners' newsletters and websites.

Goal 2: Raise citizen awareness and provide individual citizens with the opportunities to participate in protecting and restoring the rivers. Fourteen programs were offered for people to learn about and help clean-up rivers.

March 30, 2013: "Kayak Destinations" Lakeshore sea kayakers shared their favorite Wisconsin and Midwest paddling destinations and discussed and answered questions about gear, equipment, clubs and trips. 15 participants.

April 13, 2013 "Timberdoodle and Frog Hike" Explore the wetland in early spring and search for the sky dancing woodcock and listen for frogs that live in the preserve. 30 participants.

April 24, 2013 "Adopt-a-Beach and Park Clean Up" Volunteers helped pick up litter at Neshotah Beach and along the Mariner's Trail in Two Rivers. 60 participants. 50 pounds of garbage collected.

May 23, 2013 Wisconsin Bats and Bat Monitoring" Enjoy an evening learning about bat ecology and the status of bat populations in Wisconsin with DNR Conservation Biologist Paul White. Learn how you can help collect data and enjoy an evening bat walk. 15 participants.

June 22, 2013; September 20, 2013 (two tours); June 6 & 27; July 11 & 25; August 15, 2014 "Guided Marsh Tour by Boat" Enjoy a guided pontoon trip along the lower West Twin River. Sit and relax as you learn about the river ecosystem. 69 participants.

August 31, 2013 "West Twin River Paddle" Paddle the Lower West Twin River through scenic country into the heart of Two Rivers. 4 participants.

July 22, 2014 "East Twin River Paddle" Enjoy a leisurely paddle on the lower East Twin River guided by Jim Knickelbine. 5 participants.

Goal 3: Continue Monitoring Efforts through the Water Action Volunteers (WAV) program.

Continuing to engage community members in data collection on the East and West Twin Rivers helps build investment in the rivers. Woodland Dunes trained and coordinated 42 volunteers for the WAV program. Many of these volunteers were students in area high schools, who continued to monitor as a class after their initial training. Woodland Dunes offered to assist the City of Two Rivers with additional

phosphorous monitoring on the West Twin River, however the City decided to go a different route for phosphorous testing.

Summary

Through expanding our partnership to include the City of Two Rivers, we are increasing the number of people in the community who understand the threats to the rivers and lakes. This grant increased Woodland Dunes' capacity to offer several education programs that built participant knowledge about local water quality issues. Woodland Dunes coordinated WAV trainings on the East and West Twin Rivers and coordinated beach and park clean-ups with the City of Two Rivers. These projects provided citizens with the opportunity to take action and make a meaningful and positive impact on water quality in their community.

Knowledge and awareness surveys distributed to participants of the guided pontoon tours, indicated there is more work to be done. Although most surveyed understood what storm water is and what invasive species are, many were unable to name a specific invasive species that affects local water quality. Additionally, many surveyed never or hardly ever consider the weather when applying fertilizers or pesticides to their lawns. Educating the community about the natural world and water quality continues to be a priority for Woodland Dunes. Thank you for your continued support of our work.

Explore and Restore Your Local Rivers

Join Us For These Upcoming Events:

Manitowoc Beach Cleanup
Saturday, April 26th, 9:00 a.m.

Celebrate Earth Day by pitching in and cleaning up litter along our local beaches. For more information, contact
Kim Kettner: kkettnerm@gmail.com

Two Rivers Park Cleanup
Saturday, May 3rd, 8:30 a.m.

Help clean up our local parks. Meet at Neshotah Park or Mariners Trail (includes Rawley Point Trail). Contact 793-5592 for more information.

Manitowoc River Cleanup
May 31st, 9:00 a.m.
Contact Kim Kettner: kkettnerm@gmail.com

**Invasive Species Seminar
at Wisconsin Maritime Museum**
Wednesday, June 4th, 6:00 p.m.

Contact Sherrill Anderson: sherrill@lnrp.org

Birding the Marsh
Fridays, 6/6, 6/27, 7/11, 7/25 & 8/15
9:00-10:30 a.m.

Enjoy a guided bird tour of the marsh.
Reservations required, limited spots available. Call 793-4007 to reserve your spot.

Bio Blitz
Saturday, May 31st
10:00am-4:00pm

Take a Saturday to explore the natural areas in our community with an expert! Lunch included.
Register by May 16th at
www.woodlanddunes.org



Many of these programs made possible from a DNR
River Planning and Protection Grant

Join Us for These Upcoming Events:

Project RED Training
Saturday, June 7th

Learn how to be an Early Riverine Detector by monitoring aquatic invasive plant species.
Contact Nissa Enos: nissake@gmail.com

Manitowoc River Paddle
Friday, July 4th, 8:00 a.m.
Contact Wendy Lutzke:
wlutzke@wisconsinmaritime.org

Watershed Ambassadors Summer Camp
Wisconsin Maritime Museum
July 14th-18th,
8:30 a.m. - 3 p.m.
Contact Wendy Lutzke:
wlutzke@wisconsinmaritime.org

East Twin River Paddle
Wednesday, July 16th 6:00-7:30 p.m.
Rain Date Wednesday, July 6:00-7:30 p.m.

Bring your own canoe or kayak and join Woodland Dunes Director Jim Knickelbine on a guided paddle down the Lower East Twin River. Registration required by Monday, July 14th. 793-4007.



Tips for Protecting Water Quality:

1. *Never flush unwanted or expired medications down the toilet or drain. Contact the Manitowoc County Recycling Center and ask about the dates of the Drug Disposal Program. 683-4333*
2. *Compost yard and garden clippings.*
3. *Do not pour anything down the storm drains. These drains empty directly into our waterways and are not treated.*

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