



## Waukesha County Citizens Protecting Waukesha County's Remaining Natural Areas

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### Announcing A New Land Purchase

Part of the Summit Bog/Sedge Meadow, a SEWRPC- designated Natural Area, is now permanently preserved. Fifty-Four acres of this environmentally significant site has been acquired by the Waukesha County Land Conservancy.

- \* The Summit Bog/Sedge Meadow contains a good diversity of plant communities: bog, tamarack relict, sedge meadow, shrub carr, hardwood swamp, upland oak woods and old field. It is considered Class I Wildlife Habitat.
- \* Five plant species have been found here that are designated as uncommon. They are bog rosemary, wild sarsaparilla, round leaf sundew, bog bean and Indian pipe.
- \* Two bird species that are listed as "state species of special concern" are known to nest here. They are the veery and the Canada warbler. The northern water-thrush, another uncommon species, also nests here.
- \* This acquisition is part of a Primary Environmental Corridor connecting two major river basins: the Bark River and Battle Creek. The Waukesha County Land Conservancy permanently protects another 66 acres in this same environmental corridor with donated Conservation Easements on private property.



The purchase of the Summit Bog and Sedge Meadow was made possible by grants from the Wisconsin DNR Stewardship Fund and the Waukesha County Land Legacy Fund.

In addition, the Waukesha County Land Conservancy must raise \$105,560 from its members to pay for this purchase. **Please support the Conservancy's efforts to protect the remaining precious natural areas in Waukesha County by making a contribution toward the purchase of the Summit Bog/Sedge Meadow.**



Bog rosemary



Canada warbler



Northern waterthrush

## 2011 Annual Meeting



Jill Bedford and Bob Conley before the meeting.

Jason Dare of Dare Ecosystem Management LLC was the featured speaker. The subject was "How Herpetology Studies Influence Land Management."



Donna Meyer, board member, announced the "Northwoods Fete" which will be held on Sept 9, 2011.



Dodie Gutenkunst, chairperson for the Northwoods Fete voice auction, at the annual meeting.



Bill Irwin has helped WCLC raise funds by donating handmade teepees made of willow for our auctions.



The Annual Meeting was held at the Red Circle Inn in Nashotah.

# 2011 Volunteer of the Year

by Marlin Johnson



Theresa Kennedy receives WCLC's Volunteer of the Year award from Marlin Johnson at the annual meeting.

Every one of our volunteers are very special people. They take time out of busy schedules to help us make our properties even better. They do this because they care. We appreciate this very much.

This year we have singled out Theresa Kennedy to receive special recognition for her work.

Theresa is a home schooled high school student. She considers the hands-on work she is doing for the Waukesha County Land Conservancy as an important part of her education.

Here are some of the things Theresa has done: picked prairie seed and burned prairie, planted trees and put tree protectors around them to keep deer and rabbits from eating them, burned brush piles, and helped with a clam (mussel) survey on Scuppernong Creek on our Nelson's Woods Preserve.

This is a lot, but still not Theresa's major contribution this year.

As you know we had extensive amphibian and reptile surveys done on some of our properties in 2010.

Theresa conducted surveys on our 350 acre Ottawa Wildlife Refuge. Theresa put in 60 hours checking salamander traps and snake boards. She had to walk about 3 miles every day. Most of the time she was there alone. In March she had to wade into icy cold ponds to check salamander traps. (She had hip boots on.) She had to pull up the traps and open them up and pick out the salamanders one by one with her bare hands. Salamanders are not warm blooded animals like a mouse. They are the temperature of the water which in March can be icy cold. Theresa had some very WOW-ing experiences. One time she had 52 blue spotted salamanders in one trap. Later in April and May she surveyed 2'x4' snake boards laid on the ground. Snakes are attracted to the boards to prevent heat loss at night. Another WOW-ing moment occurred when she encountered 15 garter snakes under one board! (15 is an estimate; no way to count all those slithering bodies.) These are experiences she will carry with her for the rest of her life. How many teenage girls do you know who would do this kind of thing? Theresa is special! We thank her for all her work, and we hope to get another year of volunteering out of her before she goes to college.



*Waukesha County Land Conservancy*

***Please Consider a Membership With The  
Waukesha County Land Conservancy***

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

City: \_\_\_\_\_ St: \_\_\_\_\_ ZIP: \_\_\_\_\_

E-Mail: \_\_\_\_\_

I am a member. I would like to give a gift membership to:

I would like to make a gift in honor or in memory of:

- \$35 Contributor
- \$50 Sentinel
- \$100 Guardian
- \$250 Steward
- \$500 Conservator
- \$1,000 Benefactor

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_ City: \_\_\_\_\_ ZIP: \_\_\_\_\_

Match this gift through my employer's Matching Gift

Payment by:  Check  Visa  Master Card

Name on Card: \_\_\_\_\_

Card Number: \_\_\_\_\_ Exp Date: \_\_\_\_\_

Amount: \_\_\_\_\_ Signature: \_\_\_\_\_

Please make checks payable to WCLC (Waukesha County Land Conservancy.) WCLC is a non-profit 501(c)(3) charitable organization. Your gift is tax-deductible. All donors, unless directed "anonymous" will be listed in our annual donor recognition report.



## What to Look for in a Chain Saw

Following up on a request from a WCLC member, we asked Jason Dare of Dare Ecosystem Management LLC to give his recommendations for a chain saw for landowners who are serious about doing their own land management.



Jason has tried several different brands of saws and concluded the best for the job was a Stihl MS260 Pro with a 16" bar. It is heavier than other models but stronger, needs fewer repairs and is good for working on large multi-stemmed buckthorn. He has tried the Stihl MS25 which is less expensive but needs more repairs and has a carburetor burn-out problem. The MS200-Arborist is lighter but more dangerous; it is intended for tree climbers. MS180 is too weak and burns out fast. Do not buy any model that has a "quick chain tensioner" ... the device breaks easily. He

added that the MS260 will soon be replaced by the MS261, a more environmentally friendly saw (reduces harmful emissions).

Happy sawing!

### Memorial Contributions

The Waukesha County Land Conservancy wishes to thank the many friends and families who made memorial donations in memory of:

**Richard Solomon**

We hope that the lands that WCLC preserves will serve as a fitting memorial to him.

Contributions were also received in honor of:

**Donna & Tony Meyer**

## Land Letter



Waukesha County Land Conservancy

P. O. Box 2572  
Brookfield WI 53008

Non-Profit Org.  
U. S. Postage  
**PAID**  
Permit No. 133  
Mukwonago WI  
53149



Good Harvest Market, Waukesha County's largest natural food store, is devoted to improving the health of not just community members but of the community itself.

The Waukesha County Land Conservancy also seeks to benefit the local community through its efforts to preserve natural space, and Good Harvest is happy to support the organization again in 2011.

**Good Harvest will donate 5% of sales on Saturday, April 16th (their Earth day celebration) as well as proceeds from the Harvest Café tip jar for the month of April.**