

MEMBER INFORMATION

Volunteers are Needed!

Please consider active participation in the land trust. Here's how you can help.

- Clearing trails
- Building the boardwalk
- Developing environmental educational materials
- Coordinating events
- Maintaining our member list
- Photography of properties and events
- Writing/editing newsletter
- Leading/hosting Preserve educational tours
- Becoming more informed about the land trust

Please call Stuart Nelson, 715-248-3829 if you are interested in helping out.

Or sign and return this form along with your membership enrollment.

Join Us!!

Please send membership form along with your check to:
SPLPT, P.O. BOX 155, New Richmond, WI 54017

Name _____

Address _____

City _____ State _____ Zip _____

Phone _____

Email _____

Membership Category

Please check one

- Individual @ \$20 each
- Business/Organization \$100

Additional Contributions Appreciated

- \$25
- \$100
- \$500
- _____ Other

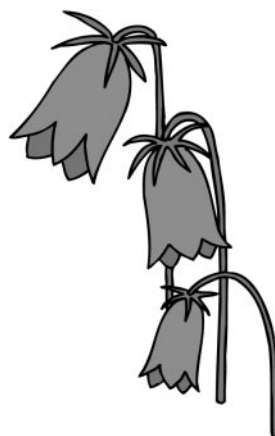
McMurtrie Preserve Spring Tour

Saturday, May 14th
9:00 a.m.

Meet at the parking lot west of the Star Prairie Community Center. We'll proceed to the property from there.

Things to see and hear along our new trails:

- ❁ Wildflowers in bloom
- ❁ Eagles nesting
- ❁ Songbirds singing
- ❁ Kids and grown-ups enjoying the fresh spring air!



Star Prairie Land Preservation Trust, Inc.

Volume 3 • 1st Edition

A NEWSLETTER FOR OUR FRIENDS

Spring 2005

ACTIVITY UPDATES

McMurtrie Preserve

The Deal is Done and the Work Begins . . .

We are extremely pleased to announce that Phyllis Menke deeded the 63 acre McMurtrie Preserve to the Star Prairie Land Preservation Trust on January 3rd, 2005. What a wonderful gift to the Cedar Lake Community and the wildlife that live in the Preserve! Just think about the changes that might have occurred with development of this property!

The land has much to offer in its natural state. It includes 1000 feet of undeveloped shoreline along Cedar Lake, hardwood swamp, upland forest, and forest openings. Cedar Creek, the outlet of Cedar Lake, winds through the property. A pair of eagles share the property with kingfishers, swans, songbirds, waterfowl, mink, deer and other wildlife. A red pine plantation will be managed according to a Department of Natural Resources Forest Management Plan.

To maintain the quiet beauty of the Preserve, the land is not generally open to the public. Deed restrictions do allow educational events and tours. The land trust looks forward to sharing the property during these events. Our first public tour is scheduled for Satur-



Stuart Nelson, Land Trust President, plans walking trails

day, May 14th (see more information on the back page). We hope you will join us for this event.

The property will serve as an outdoor learning center for area school children. The trust will develop interpretive information and environmental education activities. There are so many great features to share with youth!

To prepare for these educational activities, trust volunteers are working to clear walking trails. Signage will be used to interpret the special natural features present. Another work effort is to clear an opening of brush and invasive softwoods to prepare the land for planting native prairie grasses and flowers this summer.

ACTIVITY UPDATES



Cedar Lake South Access

Construction is planned this summer and fall for a new access on the south end of Cedar Lake. The Star Prairie Land Preservation Trust owns a 200-foot lot on Cedar Lake's south shore about 500 feet west of the drive-on winter access. The property will be used for bird watching and non-motorized uses like canoeing and kayaking.

Design planning is underway for a boardwalk and parking area. The parking lot will serve access users

and early winter ice anglers not yet parking on the lake. In prior years, parking along County Highway H has been a safety concern.

St. Croix County development funds allocated to the Town of Star Prairie financed this purchase that was completed in May 2004. Money is also allocated from the park fund for development of the access. Special thanks go to the Town of Star Prairie for sponsoring this project.

We Welcome Two New Board Members



Beth Wood

Beth Wood enjoys living on the west side of Cedar Lake with her husband Warren and vagabond black lab Blue. She enjoys riding her horse Liberty and volunteering at the River Valley Riders Therapeutic Riding Program. Her passion is photography and she finds each sunrise on Cedar Lake an inspiration. Beth enjoys sharing her love of the outdoors with her family which includes two new grandkids. Beth believes that the work of the land trust is critical to the protection of our rural character.



Mike Reiter

Mike Reiter retired after 35 years as a research biologist with 3M in June of 2004. Mike is a member of several local outdoor clubs including Star Prairie Fish & Game Association, St. Croix County Sportsman's Alliance and Willow River Rod & Gun Club. Mike also is St. Croix County's delegate and District 2 Councilor to the Wisconsin Conservation Congress and Chairman of the Upper Willow River Rehabilitation District.

Many thanks to Bob Goodlad who served on our board of directors. He left in November 2004 to pursue other interests and responsibilities.

THANKS TO OUR PARTNERS



Many thanks to two organizations that have contributed to our early work, and who carry out important projects of their own!



This winter the District and Star Prairie Fish and Game partnered to construct twenty-nine fish cribs; an additional thirty-nine were installed last year. The photo shows these cribs ready to fall to the bottom of Cedar Lake when the ice melts. A Department of Natural Resources grant request is underway to support additional installation of cribs in coming years.

Star Prairie Fish and Game
www.fishandgame.starprairie.org

Cedar Lake Protection and
Rehabilitation District
www.cedarlake-wi.org