



Star Prairie Land  
Preservation Trust, Inc.

P.O. Box 88

Star Prairie, WI 54026



# Star Prairie Land Preservation Trust, Inc.

Volume 14 • First Edition

A NEWSLETTER FOR OUR FRIENDS

December 2016

## CONSERVATION DAY



### Join Us!!!

Visit us at: [starprairielandtrust.org](http://starprairielandtrust.org)

Please send membership enrollment to:  
SPLPT, P.O. Box 88, Star Prairie, WI 54026

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

City \_\_\_\_\_ State \_\_\_\_\_ Zip \_\_\_\_\_

Phone \_\_\_\_\_

Email \_\_\_\_\_

#### ANNUAL MEMBERSHIP

##### Category

*Please check one*

Individual @\$20 each

Business/Organization \$100

Additional donation \$ \_\_\_\_\_

The fifth annual "Conservation Day on a WPA" scout outing was held the weekend of October 1st, 2016. This event is a partnership between the US Fish and Wildlife Service, numerous local organizations, and the Star Prairie Land Preservation Trust. Between 130 -140 scouts took part in this very successful event. This year milkweed seeds were harvested for monarch butterfly propagation. A total of 52 pounds of milkweed seeds were gathered on a nearby Waterfowl Production Area (WPA). These seeds have a value of \$180 a pound equaling a total of \$9,360! This dollar amount will be used as "match" for future grant applications. The seeds will be mixed with other seed types for prairie seeding projects in our local area. About 20 scouts camped at the McMurtrie Preserve each night. Several scouting activities and badge requirements were completed during this very productive weekend!





## McMurtrie Preserve Pavilion

The McMurtrie Preserve is a 63 acre plot of land on the southeast corner of Cedar Lake. It contains over 1,000 feet of undeveloped Cedar Lake shoreline. Cedar Creek, the outlet of Cedar Lake, winds through the property then enters the Apple River at Huntington. One would be hard pressed to design a property with a more perfect layout. Members of the land trust and Star Prairie Fish and Game developed nature trails throughout the property with careful planning and great physical effort.



This year, a newly constructed pavilion was built on the property off of County Highway M just a mile and a half west of the Village of Star Prairie. The pavilion is the product of the hard work and generosity of several local organizations and individuals in partnership with Star Prairie Fish & Game. The family of Stuart Nelson generously contributed donations to the Stuart Nelson Foundation to this project, and Hank Menke and Phyllis Menke donated the cost of installing electricity. It will add greatly to the Preserve as a location for educational, conservation, and environmental activities. The McMurtrie Preserve has been used by area scouts, educators, and outdoor resource trainers. Recently it was the site of a New Richmond High School “Earth Spy Mission” which laid out a set of detailed clues and problem solving exercises based in biology and math to lead students to the objective. Getting outdoors while learning and having fun is what it is all about.

For more information about the McMurtrie Preserve and other Star Prairie Land Preservation Trust endeavors, contact the land trust at SPLPT, Box 88, New Richmond, WI 54017, or call SPLPT President Beth Wood at 715-248-7300.



## Legacy Giving

The Star Prairie Land Preservation Trust (SPLPT), in cooperation with the New Richmond Area Community Foundation/St. Croix Valley Foundation, has established two funds in which donors can contribute to the sustainability of the land trust. The SPLPT has both an endowed fund and a non-endowed fund available to receive donations from people committed to the preservation of land and the protection of the environment.

Please consider the SPLPT as you make decisions regarding your charitable gifts at the end of the year. The SPLPT is an entirely volunteer organization. Our mission is to preserve environmentally sensitive land and to promote rural character while protecting water quality and wildlife habitat for future generations. The SPLPT is a 501(c)(3) non-profit organization.

If you would like more information regarding conservation easements and the SPLPT, please visit our website at [starprairelandtrust.org](http://starprairelandtrust.org). You can also find us on Facebook.

### BOARD MEMBERS

Beth Wood - President  
 Rita Lawson – Vice President  
 Mike Reiter - Recorder  
 Alaina Fedie – Treasurer

Mike Kelly  
 Shawn Schottler  
 Trish Moberg  
 Don Demulling  
 John Peterson

## Thank You

The SPLPT would like to thank Attorney Ron Siler of the firm Williamson & Siler in New Richmond for the legal work provided to the land trust over the years. We are fortunate that Judy Remington and Brian Remington of Remington Law Office in New Richmond have agreed to provide the land trust with assistance in the future as we continue to offer land owners the opportunity to create conservation easements and deed restrictions, and/or to gift or sell properties to the land trust. These actions protect and secure open space for future generations. The primary geographic focus of the trust is northern St. Croix and southern Polk Counties.

A big thank you also goes out to our membership volunteer – Meletta Cran, who has donated numerous hours to organize our donor/member list.