

Nature Preserve Newsletter

SPRING 2010

Christine Nuernberg Becomes MNP Volunteer

When Mayor Christine Nuernberg leaves office April 20, she will open an office at the PieperPower Education Center to continue her volunteer service on behalf of the Mequon Nature Preserve.

“Without the partnership of the Greater Milwaukee Foundation, the Ozaukee Washington Land Trust and the City of Mequon, there would not be a Mequon Nature Preserve. Equally important are the thousands of donors and volunteers who have turned farm fields into a community gem.” Christine said. “Little has been said about the city’s help, but it has been phenomenal. Whether it is the DPW plowing the parking lots, the fire chief overseeing a burn, my assistant helping with the newsletter, or the GIS coordinator making maps for grants, whenever anyone was asked to help they did. The contribution has been enormous. I can not thank the city staff enough.” Please stay in touch with Christine. Her contact information is provided below.



Christine Nuernberg examines a bug caught by a young student at the Mequon Nature Preserve

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Go Green May 1

Go on a bird walk! Paint a rain barrel! Take a nature photography class. Build a compost bin. Sign up for these workshops and other activities taking place at the Mequon Nature Preserve on Saturday May 1, 2010. This free event starts at 8:00 AM and concludes later in the day with a volunteer celebration and picnic. To register, go to www.mequonnaturepreserve.org and print out the registration form. The deadline is Friday, April 23.



MMSD Executive Director Kevin Shafer (far right) at a previous Go Green event

Go Green is hosted by the **Ozaukee Washington Land Trust**. Thank you to the sponsors who are providing financial and in-kind support. The sponsors are **West Bend Mutual Insurance Company, Johnson’s Nursery, Wheaton Franciscan Healthcare, Johnson Bank, Moraine Park Technical College, Wisconsin Energy Foundation, Wild Birds Unlimited and the US Forestry Service.**

Mequon-Thiensville Fourth Grades Visit

All 250 Mequon-Thiensville School District fourth graders will visit the Mequon Nature Preserve in May. Students will plant trees, sow prairie seed, conduct a bird count, and monitor the frog population. This effort is supported by a generous grant from the **Frieda and William Hunt Memorial Trust**. Thank you to the Trust.

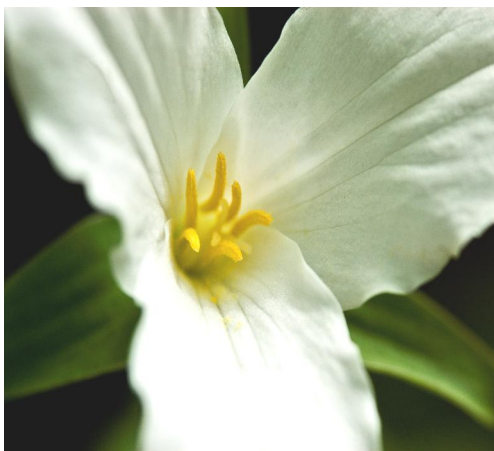


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Quick Takes at MNP

Take a walk in **Harvey's Woods in May**. You will see **thousands of spring woodland flowers** including Jack-in-the-Pulpit, Trillium, Wild Geranium, Wood Violets, and more. The ephemeral spring pond will also be at its best. To reach Harvey's Woods, park at the Swan Road parking lot, 10000 N. Swan Road, Mequon. . . . **40 people volunteered for Disney Day**. OWLT sponsored a day of service that qualified each person to receive a voucher to attend Disney World this year. Volunteers carried out a number of land stewardship activities. . . . The **Ecological Planning Committee**, made of professionals who volunteer at the Nature Preserve, set 2010's restoration goals. One effort will be to plant 2,000 native shrubs on the south side of Harvey's Woods. The shrubs will protect



Trillium in Harvey's Woods, one of many spring flowers

native tree seeds that will be planted underneath the shrub's branches. This effort will jump start the expansion of Harvey's Woods.

Signs Arrive!

Almost **50 signs are now being installed** at the Mequon Nature Preserve. The signs give directions to the many visitors who hike and snowshoe the five mile trail system. Other signs explain the Preserve's habitats and green features at the Pieper-Power Education Center. Kiosks with maps are placed at Donges Bay and Swan Road parking lots. Thanks to the many sponsors who underwrote the signs' costs and to **Thiel Design** who designed and oversaw the installation of the sign package.

Please consider becoming a **volunteer at the Mequon Nature Preserve**. To do so, contact **Kristin Gies**. Her phone number is 262-242-8955, and her email is kgies@owl.org.



Disney Day Volunteers at Mequon Nature Preserve