



Halloween Haunts

25th Anniversary

October 17, 18 & 19

Wehr's 25th edition of Halloween Haunts combines the make-believe, spooky fun of Halloween with the beauty of nighttime nature to create an event that is fun for the whole family. Visitors follow our guides along a Jack-o-lantern lit trail into the Enchanted Forest to meet kooky characters that teach them about nature's misunderstood critters. The walk is just spooky enough to keep kids enthralled, but is not designed to give nightmares! Enjoy a magic show while you wait and an old fashioned carnival after your walk. Don't miss this evening of entertainment and education!

Advance Tickets On Sale Now!

\$10/ person \$7/ person Milw. Co. Resident or Friends Member Tickets are for a specific hike time between 6:30 to 8:30 pm

This event is sure to be a sell-out, so call soon! See Page 10 for Program Details



Frost Moon and Harvest Stews

Saturday, November 16

5-6 pm Cheese tasting by the Fire and watching the moon rise

6-8:15 pm Stew Sampling

5-8:30 pm Holiday Silent Auction

Come savor the wonderful flavors of fall by sampling Wisconsin cheeses and tasting three different stews made from local products. Bring your friends and enjoy a great evening of food and conversation. Do a little early holiday shopping at the silent auction while helping the Friends of Wehr raise money for new windows at the Center.

Reservations appreciated, call (414) 425-8550.

Homemade Holiday

Sat., December 7 11 am-3:30 pm

Children can make handmade gifts to share at the **Homemade Holiday Open House**. Come to the **Cookie Exchange & Sale** to get a variety of homemade treats for entertaining.

Shop the **Holiday Market** for decorations and presents and help raise money for Wehr's window replacement program.

See Page 10 for more details.





Center News

New Windows are Making Everyone Smile



Thanks to the amazing response from our community, the view from Wehr Nature Center is looking a lot brighter. The Friends of Wehr have been fundraising since January to replace the rotted, inefficient windows throughout the visitor center. Once windows are replaced, Milwaukee County Parks will re-side the Gardner Room with cement-board siding. While we fell short of our goal of completing all windows by August, the campaign has raised over \$50,000! New windows have been installed in the Fireplace room and Volunteer room. Five of the six worst windows in the Gardner Room are funded which will allow the County to begin the re-siding project.

Friends of Wehr would like to especially thank WE Energies Foundation for their generous \$5000 donation. This donation will be used to purchase windows that are not donated by individuals. Friends of Wehr will be able to continue raising funds for the windows through the end of the year. The proceeds from the auction and raffle at Cider Sunday, Oct. 6 as well as the Flavors of Fall fund raiser, Nov. 16, will go towards purchasing windows. Have fun and support Wehr's new windows by attending these events.

There is still time to help. Our "It Takes a Whole Community" window is adding up \$10 and \$20 dollars at a time. There are plenty of small, medium, and large windows left to support. A donation for as little as \$250.00 will get your name on a plaque for a quarter of a window. If you are looking for a holiday gift for the family that has everything why not support a window in their name? They and many others will be able to enjoy the gift for many years to come. Contact Deb McRae with any questions 414-425-8550.

THANK YOU, SUMMER INTERNS!



Jessie Gartzke, Amber VanOuwerkerk, and Kirsti Martinez were 2013 summer interns funded by Friends of Wehr.

Jessie and Amber worked with kids through educational programs and camps and developed our successful Fireside Fridays programs. Kirsti worked as our Natural Areas intern. Her project involved taking a survey of the aquatic plants in Mallard Lake. These interns provided invaluable help and got some valuable training in return.



Paul Kohlmann, Casey Schultz and Jon Bast

Paul Kohlmann, Jon Bast and Casey Schultz were Wehr's "techie" summer interns. Paul and Casey were funded through ITT Tech and Jon through UW-Milwaukee as work study students. They were instrumental in helping Wehr work through the Social Media maze, researching fundraising opportunities, and developing our first ever Annual Report.

MEET LAMONT WOODS

Wehr Nature Center is happy to welcome our newest Park Worker, Lamont Woods. Lamont came from Detroit as a child but hopes to travel well beyond our fair city to eventually visit every state. Lamont graduated from MATC and is currently working part time for Wehr but also works third shift for FedEx. In addition, he attends classes on weekends to become a semi-truck driver. Lamont is very interested in discovery and expanding his knowledge. When you meet him, ask him about his "bucket list" and his hopes for the future and watch his face light up. Sooner or later he'd, "...like to see the world!"





Friends Of Wehr

Thank You!

Your contributions to the Friends of Wehr are appreciated and always used with careful consideration.

Donations

Tonya Schnelle
Carol Nelson
Linda Krueger
Kathleen Reese
Nancy Sellars Memorial Foundation
The Helen Werner Family
Susan Petre & Russ Augustin
Helen Flynn
Gary Smieja
Anonymous
Robert Nowicki
Richard & Beverly Budny
Eloisa Gomez
Mary Medo
Norm Gunder
Russ & Susan Boushon
Richard & Diane Sterle

Memorials/Donations

In Memory of Marion Pientka
Gene & Debra Hart
Jim & Margie Brunette
Joe & Carol D'Acquisto
Dorothy Wuestenhagen
Jean Sisler
Carl Bachr
Barbara Krueger
Carl & Mary Schroeder
Guy and Carmen Johnson
Irene Nowak
Bill and Mary Scheuer
Tom Pientka
Terry & Cheryl Keckeisen
Joyce Fleischer
Lauretta Huston
Joe & Shirley Shircel
Carol Povlick & Ann Cloyd Family
Richard & Karolyn Carlson
Dimitri & Dianne Lazo
Bill Hetzel
Robert & Clarice Zaleski

In Honor of Daryl & Betty Olszewski
40th Anniversary
Daryl & Laurel Olszewski
Kevin & Rebecca Brandt

In Honor of Frank & Audrey Heuttl
Kristin Chybowski

In Memory of Herron 'Ike' Eckstein
Kenneth & Sally Waraczynski

In Memory of Dick Bauer
Kenneth & Sally Waraczynski

In Honor of Rodney & Linda Gehrig
Al & Betty Siemsen

In Memory of John Wade
Barbara Nickel

*In Honor of Andrea, Dennis,
Steven & Cliff Carr*
Steven Carr

In Memory of Judy Milewski
Karen Dymond
Kristen Gray
Christine Hammer
Rona Parsons
Rima Johnson
Elizabeth Lake
Heather Thieme
Julie Armatoski
Maura Murphy
Victoria Symonds

In Memory of Jean Muelrath
Ruth Cimperman

In Memory of Gina Clement
Brandon Clement

In Memory of Dennis Zagorski
David Zagorski

In Memory of Peter Gilbertson
Gerald Gilbertson

In Memory of Thomas Meier
Judene Schmidt

In Memory of Thomas Block
Carol Block

New Windows

Barbara Nellen
Michael Goodman
Anonymous
Margaret & Gilbert Bleck
Jim Boehm
Gene Balcerzak
Mary Maclaren
John & Mary Donovan
Michael & Suzanne Rudolf
Daniel & Christine Martin

Carol Block
Diane Lembck
Wehr Astronomical Society
WI Metro Audubon Society Inc
Alfred Block Family
Kathleen & Theodore Bosch
Paul & Patricia Brings
Marilyn Runge
Robert Wilson
Dean & Mary Rockstad
Tatnall Family
Mary Gease
Wisconsin Energy Foundation
Kristin Maegli
Alice Ambrowiak
Janet Matuszak
Gloria Zillig
Norm Gunder
Terrence & Gail Pavletic
McRae & Parpart Families
Gene & Charlotte DuPree
Carol Nelson
Peter & Nancy Conigliaro
Joanne Pfeffer

Memorial Windows

In Memory of Marty Stone
Charles & Doris Evans
Anne McNitt
Charles & Rachel Turner
Lee & Winnie Arhelger
Ruth LeMere

*In Honor of Ruth &
Claire Cimperman*
Marion Guild

*In Honor of Ernest &
Norma Krumnow*
Susan Krumnow

In Memory of Edward Piacentine
Piacentine Family

In Memory of Bob Hayek
Nan Hayek

In Memory of Jennifer Rick-Opichka
Mike and Mary Rick

In-Kind Donations

Dan Geshrick
Mariette & Dave Nowak
Kris Maegli
Robert Wyer
John Mishefske

Corporate/ Business Donations

GE Foundation

Thank you to Jackie
Crivello's Wild Birds
Unlimited for their
continuing support in
keeping our feeders full
and our birds happy.
Please support their
business located at
4454 S. 108th Street
in Greenfield.



Wild Birds Unlimited

FOW Summer Solstice Social a Spectacular Success

On Friday June 21st, following the Friends Annual Meeting, over 50 sun worshippers gathered in the amphitheater to sample tapas, scrumptious desserts, mead and the love of the outdoors. We celebrated by sprinkling flower petals on Mallard Lake while honoring the sun, the water, our strengths and the strengths we admire in others. The silent auction bidding was intense and generated enough revenue to sponsor a new window at the Center.

Thank you!

Thanks go out to the many donors, cooks/bakers, the staff and interns, the Friends Board and volunteers. Special thanks to: Barb's Greenhouse, Chrissy Ramakrishnan, Paul Damien, Mary Gease, Sue Gordon, Karen Kerans, Don & Shirley Knoll, Karyl & John Nells, Nick Nellen, Mary Pike, Ron Rebernick and Pat Szmerlo. Friends Program Committee Chair- Barb Nellen



Nature Volunteer News

Upcoming Opportunities for Current Volunteers

Dotty's Crafters: Wednesdays, October 2, November 6, December 4, 1:00 – 3:00 pm

Buckthorn Busting "Plus": Help reduce Wehr's buckthorn problem along with other shrubs in an oak woodland restoration area. Tuesdays, October 8 & 22, 1:30-3:30 pm

Bittersweet Busting: Help reduce Wehr's Oriental Bittersweet problem, before it turns into a "Buckthorn" type problem later. Tuesdays, Nov. 5 & 12, 1:30-3:30 pm

Volunteer Recognition Dinner

Friday, November 1 6-9 pm



The grateful staff takes this opportunity to honor and thank all of the many volunteers that make Wehr Nature Center possible. Join us for a potluck dinner and stay for a program celebrating the amazing "Metamorphosis" Wehr has seen in 2013. Space is limited, so please RSVP and let us know what dish you're bringing.



Ongoing Opportunities

Phenology, Wheel n Chip, Critter Care, Teaching Naturalists, Trail Patrol
To sign up to help call 414-425-8550.

New volunteers are always welcome! Contact Emily Brown today at emily.brown@ces.uwex.edu and make an appointment.

Homemade Holidays and Christmas Cookie Sale

Volunteers are needed to help kids decorate cookies and make crafts. Shifts between 10 am to 3:30 pm. Bakers Wanted! We need donations of home made cookies for the sale. Bake as many as you care to and create ½ or 1 dozen cookie zip lock bags. Please deliver by 10:30 am on Dec. 7.

Please call Wehr to sign-up as a volunteer or a baker.
Contact Barb Nellen for info.



THE GHOSTS ARE COMING! Halloween Haunts Needs Your Help!

It takes hundreds of volunteers to make Halloween Haunts happen. Please contact Bev Bryant at beverly.bryant@milwcnty.com if you or your group can help out.

Decorating – Sunday, October 13, 4-6 pm

We need people to climb ladders to hang crepe paper, blow up balloons, and decorate the walls with creepy cut-outs.

Dress Rehearsal- Monday, October 14, 6 pm for Characters; 6:30pm for Guides

Volunteers portraying characters or working as an Enchanted Forest guides must attend this rehearsal.

Pumpkin Carving- Wednesday, October 16, 9 am to 3 pm

Join the happy crew that creates the spectacular Jack-o-lanterns that line the Enchanted Forest Trail. No experience necessary and we provide ideas for faces.

Event Help- Evenings of Thursday, Friday and Saturday, October 17, 18 & 19; shift times vary

Serve popcorn, help with games and crafts, lead walks, or haul and light Jack-o-lanterns.

OCTOBER

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
		1	Hike for Health 2 10:30 am Dotty's Crafters 1-3 pm	3	4	5
6 12-5 pm	Little Wonders 7 2 yr olds 9:30-10:30 am 3 yr olds 11 am-12pm Nature Wizard 1-3 pm	Buckthorn Busting "Plus" 8 1:30-3:30 pm Wehr Astronomical Society 7 pm	Hike for Health 9 10:30 am Exploring the Ice Age Trail talk 7 pm	10	11	Fall Bike Hike 12 9-11 am Wehr Camera Club 9-11 am Wild Ones 1:30-3:30 pm
Halloween Haunts  Decorating 4-6 pm	Halloween Haunts  Rehearsal 6-8 pm	15	Hike for Health 16 10:30 am Halloween Haunts  Pumpkin Carving 9 am-3 pm	17 Wehr Opens at Noon Halloween Haunts 6:30-8:30 pm 	18 Wehr Opens at Noon Halloween Haunts 6:30-8:30 pm 	19 Wehr Opens at Noon Halloween Haunts 6:30-8:30 pm 
20	21	Buckthorn Busting "Plus" 22 1:30-3:30 pm	Hike for Health 23 10:30 am Wisconsin Metro Audubon Society 7 pm	24	25	Wehr Camera Club 26 9-11 am
Into the Wild 27 9 am-4:30 pm NatureNauts 1-2 pm	NatureNauts 28 9:30-10:30 am	29	Hike for Health 30 10:30 am	31		

For more information call 414-425-8550
All programs & events subject to change.
Parking fees may apply.

NOVEMBER

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
					Volunteer Recognition Dinner 6-9 pm 1	Into the Wild Overnight Leave 9 am 2
Into the Wild Overnight Return by 4:30 pm 3	Little Wonders 2 yr olds 9:30-10:30 am 3 yr olds 11 am-12pm Nature Wizard 1-3 pm 4	Bittersweet Busting 1:30-3:30 pm 5	Hike for Health 10:30 am Dotty's Crafters 1-3 pm 6	7	8	Wehr Camera Club 9-11 am Wild Ones 1:30-3:30 pm 9
NatureNauts 1-2 pm 10	NatureNauts 9:30-10:30 am 11	Bittersweet Busting 1:30-3:30 pm Wehr Astronomical Society 7 pm 12	Hike for Health 10:30 am 13	14	15	Flavors of Fall Fundraiser 5-8:30 pm 16
17	Little Wonders 2 yr olds 9:30-10:30 am 3 yr olds 11 am-12 pm 18	19	Hike for Health 10:30 am Wisconsin Metro Audubon Society 7 pm 20	21	22	23
24	25	26	Wehr Nature Center Closes at Noon 27	Happy Thanksgiving Wehr Nature Center is Closed 28	Wehr Nature Center is Closed 29	Snowflake Sale Begins 8:30 am- 4 pm 30

For more information call 414-425-8550
 All programs & events subject to change.
 Parking fees may apply.

DECEMBER

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday	
1	2	3	4 Dotty's Crafters 1-3 pm	5	6	7 Homemade Holiday, Cookie Exchange & Sale Holiday Market 11 am-3:30 pm 	
8	9 Little Wonders 2 yr olds 9:30-10:30 am 3 yr olds 11 am-12pm Nature Wizard 1-3 pm	10	11	12	13	14 Wehr Camera Club 9-11 am Wild Ones 1:30-3:30 pm	
NatureNauts 1-2 pm 15	NatureNauts 9:30-10:30 am 16	17	18	19	20	21 Christmas Bird Count 8 am -4 pm	
22	23	 HAPPY HOLIDAYS WEHR IS CLOSED.			26	27 Wehr Open Noon-4 pm	28 Wehr Open Noon-4 pm
Wehr Open Noon-4 pm 29	Wehr Open Noon-4 pm 30	Wehr Open Noon-4 pm 31	Jan. 1, 2014 Happy New Year! Wehr is Closed		For more information call 414-425-8550 All programs & events subject to change. Parking fees may apply.		



Nature Discovery For Children

Little Wonders

A program for 2 and 3 year olds to share with their favorite adult

Times: **9:30-10:30 am for Two Year Olds** **11 am-Noon for Three Year Olds**

Falling Leaves Monday, October 7

Celebrate the beauty of autumn with your toddler as we learn about trees. We will read *Fall Leaves Fall* by Zoe Hall and learn about colorful leaves. Children will create leaf art, go for a leaf collecting walk, and enjoy an autumn snack.

Turkey Trot Mondays, November 4 & 18

Tots will do the turkey trot as they learn all about these beautiful birds. We will read *I'm a Turkey* by Jim Arnosky and discover all about the lives of wild turkeys. We will walk, talk, and eat like wild turkeys too! Tots will make a terrific turkey craft to share at the Thanksgiving table.

Bear Hunt Monday, December 9

Grab your teddy bear and join us for a bear hunt. We will learn about what wild bears do to get ready for winter and then take our teddies on an adventure. A snack fit for a bear awaits tots at the end of their journey. Please make sure to bring your child's favorite teddy bear along to the program (bears only, please!).

NatureNauts

A series of fun-filled programs for children 4-6 years old and their favorite adult.

1-2 pm for Sunday Classes

9:30-10:30 am for Monday Classes

Nocturnal NatureNauts Sunday, October 27 or Monday, October 28

The sun goes down and the animals come out. Discover what animals are active at night and their special adaptations.

Making a special appearance will be several live nocturnal animals.

Turkey Tales Sunday, November 10 or Monday, November 11

NatureNauts will delight in dancing the "Turkey Trot" as they discover how Turkeys are Terrific. Everyone will make their own craft turkey to take home for the holiday.

Cawing Crows Sunday, December 15 or Monday, December 16

Come discover the fascinating world of Wisconsin's smartest bird – the Crow. NatureNauts will learn how to "talk" like a crow, sing the crow song, and make their own craft crow to take home.

Nature Wizards

Hands-on, minds-on learning for homeschooled children ages 7 to 12 **1-3 pm**

Nature's Neighborhoods Monday, October 7

Learning what animals need to survive is as easy as saying H-A-B-I-T-A-T! Children will become an expert on one of the many critters that call Wehr home and go searching Wehr's natural neighborhoods to find its perfect habitat.

Turkey Tales Monday, November 4

There is a lot more to turkeys than the Thanksgiving table. Join the Nature Wizard as we peek into the personal lives of these adaptable, intelligent birds. We will learn to talk "turkey" and how to tell a jenny from a jake, then take a woodland walk to look for wild turkeys.

Solar System Song Monday, December 9

Take a tour of our Solar System with the Nature Wizard. We will learn about our star the Sun, visit Mars, and learn how scientists are exploring the furthest reaches of the Solar System.



Pre-registration is required for all children's programs Deadline is the Wednesday before the program date
Fees: \$10 per child \$7 for Milwaukee County Residents \$5 for members of Friends of Wehr



Nature Discovery for Adults

Autumn Bike Hike Saturday, October 12, 9-11 am

Bring your bicycle and strap on your helmet for a guided autumn bike hike of Whitnall Park and Root River Parkway. Discover the wildlife, and see the sights, as we reveal the colorful history of Milwaukee's largest park - all from the seat of your bicycle. *\$10 per person \$7 for Milwaukee County Residents \$5 for Friends of Wehr Members*

Hike for Health Every Wednesday, April to November 10:30 am

Hike along with this group that walks Wehr's trails together for camaraderie, exercise and fun. Meet in the Visitor Center. *No fee or registration required; regular parking fee in effect.*

Exploring the Ice Age Trail Wednesday, October 9, 7 pm

Learn about one of Wisconsin's great natural treasures, the 1000 mile Ice Age Trail. "Thousand miler" Pat Witkowski will share stories of her solo hike of the entire system, and tell us about the history and future of the Ice Age National Scenic Trail. This talk is in conjunction with the "Into The Wild" field trip to Ridge Run on October 27th. *Free*

Into the Wild

Weekend explorations to regional natural areas of interest lead by a Friends of Wehr Naturalist

Ice Age Trail and Ridge Run Sunday, October 27, 9 am to 4:30 pm

We'll be hiking a segment of the Ice Age Trail at Ridge Run County Park near West Bend. The trail follows a geological feature called an Esker that appears as a winding ridge. This program is in conjunction with the Ice Age Trail speaker on Wednesday, October 9.

\$25 per person \$10 for Friends of Wehr Transportation is provided or on your own. Registration is required by October 24.

Overnight Trip to Sandhill Wildlife Area Saturday, November 2 to Sunday, November 3

We will spend two days at the Sandhill Wildlife Area in Babcock, WI and spend the night at the Sandhill Outdoor Skills Center dormitory. There will be the possibility of seeing large gatherings of Sandhill Cranes preparing to migrate south, as well as hiking in a beautiful setting. Bring your binoculars, cameras and field guides for a great weekend of wildlife and plant watching. Depart at 9 am on the 2nd, return by 4:30 pm on the 3rd

\$90 per person (includes 1 night of dorm style lodging - 4 people/room) \$50 for Friends Of Wehr members Transportation is provided or on your own. Registration is required by October 28.

Christmas Bird Count

Saturday, December 21, 8 am-4pm

Come and meet up with some of the most talented and persistent birders in the area to count birds in the most important and longest running bird count ever. There will be a potluck chili lunch -we supply the chili, and you can bring a side or dessert if you like. Beginner and veteran birdwatchers are welcome!

Free, but pre-register by December 18.

FRIENDS OF WEHR NATURE STORE

Shop In The Beauty Of Nature

Snowflake Sale

November 30 to December 30

Draw a snowflake to see if you get 10%, 15%, or 20% off on store items

Need a Gift Idea for the Nature Lovers in Your Life?

*We carry . . . Discovery toys and books for budding young "ologists"
Nature themed holiday cards, jewelry, shirts, and collectibles
Field guides, bug boxes, and tools for exploring*

Give a Gift that gives all year: A gift Membership to the Friends of Wehr

Family memberships are only \$35 and provide discounts on programs, 10% off in the Nature Store, free parking, a year's subscription to Wehr Words and E-mail updates on upcoming events.

*All proceeds go to Friends of Wehr to support the educational programs at Wehr Nature Center.
Open 8:30 am-4 pm*



Nature Discovery for Families



Sunday, October 6, Noon-5 pm

Cider Sunday is THE place to kick off the fall season. This popular event features cider press demonstrations, FREE cider tasting, live music, crafts for kids, guided nature walks and lots of yummy food. Apples from Patterson's Orchard will be for sale. All proceeds benefit the Friends of Wehr and assist the needs of Wehr Nature Center.

\$2 per person (ages 2 & under free) Free for Friends of Wehr Members

Halloween Haunts

Thursday, Friday & Saturday October 17, 18, & 19

Hikes Start Between 6:30 and 8:30 pm

Join a Night Traveler for a haunting, humorous, and informative trek through the Enchanted Forest. Meet creepy characters along the Jack-o-lantern lit trail.

Refreshments, fortune telling, games, and much more greet little ghosts when they return to the Gardner Room.

\$10/Person non-Milwaukee County Resident \$7/Milwaukee County Residents & Friends of Wehr members

Tickets can be purchased in person or over the phone with a credit card.

- Advance ticket purchases only; **no tickets will be sold at the door**
- Limit of 15 tickets per person
- Tickets are non-refundable, non-exchangeable
- The program runs rain or shine

Holiday Cookie Exchange & Sale

Come join the fun and get a nice variety of homemade cookies for your holiday entertaining. Be a baker and exchange your cookies or simply come to purchase cookies. To exchange cookies, bring 4-10 dozen cookies packaged into 1 doz. or ½ doz. packages. One dozen of your cookies will be donated to the cookie sale and the rest will be included in the exchange.

Holiday Market

New! Special holiday items like angels, ornaments, candles, wall hangings, and other holiday decorations will be for sale.

Shop for holiday decorations and gift giving while raising funds to continue Wehr's window replacement program.

Saturday, Dec. 7, 11 am-3:30 pm

*No Fee for Cookie Sale or Holiday Market
\$3 parking fee applies*

Homemade Holiday Open House

Sat., December 7, 11 am-3:30 pm

Bring your children to Wehr to create homemade gifts from natural, recyclable and reusable objects. Children can make and take three different projects for the admission fee (additional projects are \$1.00). Stop by anytime during the Open House hours to make your works of art.

*\$6 per child \$5 for Friends members
\$1 for additional crafts*





Community Organizations

Wehr is fortunate to host several organizations who share their passion and knowledge about the natural world with the public. For more information about these organizations and details about their programs, please visit their web-sites or call Wehr (414) 425-8550.

Wehr Camera Club is dedicated to sharing a passion for photography and nature.

Visit <http://www.wnccameraclub.com> for program information. Public programs are held the second Saturday of each month, September to June, from 9-11 am.

Wisconsin Metro Audubon Society is a chapter of the National Audubon Society that encourages environmental stewardship through education and conservation. Public programs are held the third Wednesday of each month from 7-9 pm, September to May. Visit <http://www.wimetroaudubon.org> for program information.

Wild Ones, Natural Landscapers Inc. supports the preservation, restoration and establishment of native plant communities by promoting the use of native plants in landscaping. Meetings are held at WNC from 1:30-3:30 pm the second Saturday of each month from September to April. Visit www.wildones.org for program information.

Wehr Astronomical Society is a group of amateur astronomers that promote the study of astronomy. Meetings are from 7-9 pm the second Tuesday of each month, September to June. Visit <http://www.wehrastro.org> for information

A New Look for the Friends of Wehr Website

A few months ago, the Friends of Wehr Board of Directors and Wehr staff undertook the major project of revamping the Friends of Wehr website. The goal was to increase the amount of informational resources and photos on the site, and do a better job of promoting events and sharing Wehr's successes and needs. We are thrilled to announce the launching of our new site and invite you to explore www.friendsofwehr.org

Technology is not slowing down and our refreshing website will help us catch up with the times. The new site was developed with help of Blue Iris Graphics. The site is a responsive web design, meaning it is made for optimal viewing on computers, but also devices like smart phones and tablets.

The new website will change seasonally and will highlight upcoming programs and events. The site has new special features like an interactive historical timeline as well as an interactive trail map. Visitors can stop by the site regularly to view our calendar, get a preview of events, become a member or donate.

Building a website is a dynamic process, one that is never really finished. Please let us know how you like our new site as well as any additions you'd like to see. We will continue to grow and change to best serve the visitors and supporters of Wehr Nature Center.

We also encourage you to connect with us through the many social networks, i.e. Facebook, Twitter, Pinterest, Google Plus and LinkedIn. These are no cost, fun ways to share exciting news, photos and nature updates about the latest and greatest of Wehr Nature Center.

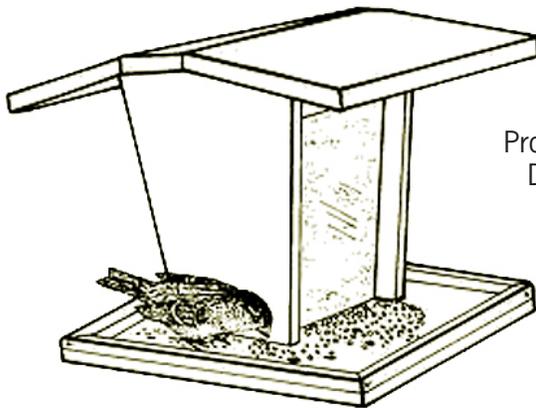
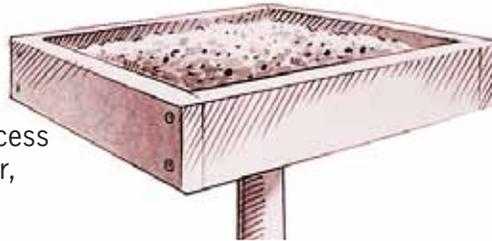
Celebrate Wehr's 40th Anniversary in 2014
Help Us Reach 1000 Likes on Facebook by January 1, 2014

Bird Feeder Basics

It's fall and time to get feeders ready for winter bird feeding. Feeding birds brings these spectacular animals into our backyards, allowing us to connect with them and helping us to appreciate nature. There is an endless array of feeders to choose from, but here are our five favorites.

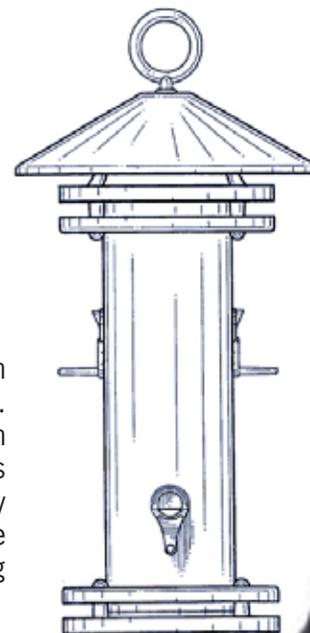
Tray or Platform Feeders

Pros- Will Attract a wide variety of birds
Easy to see birds at the feeder
Can be hung or placed on ground
Drawbacks- Easy for squirrels and deer to access
Food is unprotected from weather,
so needs frequent cleaning



Hopper or "House" Feeders

Pro- Seed is protected from the weather
Drawback- Birds are not as visible and
fewer birds will visit at a time.



Tube Feeders can be used for various types of seed, such as thistle or Niger to attract finches.
Pros- Can handle many sizes of seed from thistle to sunflower seeds to peanuts
Longer ones can accommodate many birds at a time
Drawback- Must be hung





Suet Feeders are specialized feeders for holding suet cakes. Some birds eat a lot of insects and will be attracted to suet as a substitute.

Pro- Will attract Woodpeckers and other insect lovers like Chickadees and Nuthatches

Drawbacks- Some suet cakes melt in summertime
Can attract raccoons and opossums



Specialty Feeders are meant to attract specific species of birds. The most popular one is the Hummingbird feeder that is filled with a mixture of sugar water and is usually red to serve as an attractant. Oriole feeders come in many different variations and can have sugar water, grape jelly or oranges incorporated. Drawback- Require frequent cleaning to prevent bacteria, ants and wasps

Once you've figured out what type of feeder to use, follow these tips to keep birds safe and healthy:

- Position feeders in a quiet place.
- Install feeders 3 ft or less from windows, or at least 30 ft from a window to prevent window collisions. They can even be attached to a window frame.
- Locate feeders within 10 ft. away from cover like shrubs and brush piles.
- Place hummingbird feeders in shaded areas protected from wind.
- Feeders should be out of reach of deer.
- Thoroughly clean feeders at least once a year.

After hanging a feeder it usually doesn't take long before birds will show up to get some tasty food!

Wild birds generally don't need the "free" food that we provide at bird feeders, in fact, studies show that the bulk of a bird's diet comes from natural sources. But birds do need us to protect habitats. For very comprehensive information about how to make your yard more attractive to birds using native plants check out the book *Birdscaping in the Midwest* by Mariette Nowak (available in our Nature Store). To help identify the birds at your feeder we recommend "*The Feeder Watcher's Guide to Bird Feeding*" and "*Birds at Your Feeder*" by the Cornell Lab of Ornithology. Once the birds start to visit your station you may want to get more involved in monitoring and recording what you see. Cornell Lab of Ornithology's Project FeederWatch is a great way to have fun while helping scientists monitor the health of bird population.

Visit <http://www.birds.cornell.edu/pfw/index.html> to learn more.

At Wehr Nature Center
 9701 W. College Ave.
 Franklin, WI 53132
 In Whitnall Park
 Open Daily 8-4:30
 (Check for holiday hours)
 wehrnaturecenter@milwcnty.com



Spend An Evening With The Owls
 Owl Prowl for Families, January 24 & 25, 7-9 pm
 NEW Owl Prowl for Scouts, January 31, 7-9 pm
 Owl Prowl for Adults, February 7, 7-9 pm

Wish List
 Contributions of any amount will be appreciated for:

- Hydraulic Log Splitter
- Wildlife Trail Cam
- Used Postage Stamps (on or off envelopes)
- Large Paper Cutter

If you are interested in donating any of these items, or would like to contribute money toward their purchase, please contact Deb at (414) 425-8550. Your contributions are tax deductible when made to the Friends of Wehr.

Bushnell Trail Cam



LOOK FOR US ON FACEBOOK

FOLLOW US ON TWITTER

FIND US ON

Membership Application: This is an annual membership from January - December
 Mail to: Friends of Wehr 9701 College Ave. Franklin, WI 53132 Make checks payable to Friends of Wehr or renew online at www.friendsofwehr.org

NAME _____

ADDRESS _____

CITY-STATE-ZIP _____

PHONE (____) _____ EMAIL _____

MEMBERSHIP TYPE		Individual	Family
Regular	\$25 <input type="checkbox"/>	\$35 <input type="checkbox"/>	
Senior (65)	\$20 <input type="checkbox"/>	\$30 <input type="checkbox"/>	
Supporting	\$100 <input type="checkbox"/>	\$100 <input type="checkbox"/>	
Volunteer (50 hrs)	\$20 <input type="checkbox"/>	\$30 <input type="checkbox"/>	

Payment Method Cash Check# _____ (payable to Friends of Wehr) Additional Donation \$ _____

Charge (Visa MC Discover AE) # _____ Expires _____ Security Code _____

Signature _____ Staff Initials _____ Date Received _____