

WOOD

prints

published quarterly by the Friends of Beaver Creek Reserve

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NATURE CENTER HOURS

Weekdays

8 a.m. – 4:30 p.m.

Saturdays

9 a.m. – 4 p.m.

Sundays

Noon – 4 p.m.

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Websites

www.beavercreekreserve.org

www.wisnatmap.org

Friends of
BEAVER CREEK RESERVE
connecting people with nature

CITIZEN SCIENTISTS CONDUCT WILD LAKES BIOBLITZ

What is a BioBlitz, you ask? A BioBlitz is a 24-hour period in which a group of volunteers count as many species in as many taxonomic groups as possible in a given area. The term was coined by researchers at the USGS, who conducted the first ever “BioBlitz” in 1996 at Kenilworth Park and Aquatic Gardens National Park in Washington, D.C.

This summer, Citizen Science Center Director Sarah Braun, Field Technician Nick Aliota and a group of volunteers teamed up with the Chippewa County Land Conservation Department to conduct the first Wild Lakes BioBlitz (WLB). The WLB is part of the new Wild Lakes Reserve program of the Land Conservation Department. The program’s goal is to permanently protect wild lakes and adjacent lands from development so that high quality plant and animal communities remain intact and continue to provide valuable ecological services. The Wild Lakes Reserve program has two levels of natural assessments called Tiers; the second Tier is where the BioBlitz comes into play. The benefit for the landowner is that Citizen Science researchers and volunteers conduct a BioBlitz on their property. After the BioBlitz is completed, Citizen Science Center staff compile the data into a large species list. A copy of the list is given to the landowner so

they know what kinds of plants and animals are on their property.

The inaugural BioBlitz was conducted on the John David Thurman Wildlife Area, a piece of property only recently donated to the Land Conservation Department. The Thurman Wildlife property is located in Chippewa County just south of the Ice Age Trail Center. It contains four lakes and is 160 acres in size. Most of the property, with the exception of the lakes, is forested. There are several trails on the property, all of which were mapped by Nick Aliota. Scientists and groups of citizen science volunteers were recruited to try to identify as many species of birds, bats, aquatic and terrestrial plants, worms, butterflies, and dragonflies as possible between 8 a.m. on August 23 and 8 a.m. on August 24. Of course, not all critters can be identified at all times of day and that is in part why the BioBlitz is 24 hours long. While a BioBlitz can produce an awesome species list, it is important to remember that it cannot document ALL the species on a property, but it can give land managers and land owners a great place to start.

Watch for the results of the August BioBlitz in the winter issue of *Woodprints!*

Mission Statement: To provide education and resources to help citizens develop and nurture their appreciation and understanding of our natural heritage and foster a lifetime commitment to the protection of our fragile planet Earth.

BOOYA – FALL FESTIVAL

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Newsletter

Editor Lynn Barrie
Layout Tricia Duyfhuizen
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Woodprints is published quarterly by the Friends of Beaver Creek Reserve.

The Friends of Beaver Creek Reserve are excited about holding its second annual Booya & Fall Festival. The one-day event takes place on Saturday, Oct. 4, from noon to 4 p.m. in front of the Hobbs Observatory on the Youth Camp side of the Reserve.

In addition to great tasting booya and food served, guests are invited to explore the Reserve's many events and activities, including:

- Hobbs Observatory solar sightings
- Live animals
- Naturalists led hikes
- A visit from Paddy Beaver
- Free children activities and games
- Nature Store sale

- Raffle opportunities
- Live music by Billy Krause and Chuck Roll

The Friends are pleased that Northwestern Bank, Mega, Global Finishing Solutions, UBS Financial Services and Wipfli LLC are sponsoring this year's event. Several sponsors and volunteers are still needed. If you'd like to sponsor this event or volunteer, please contact Lynn at lynn@beavercreekreserve.org or call 715-877-2212 ext. 107.

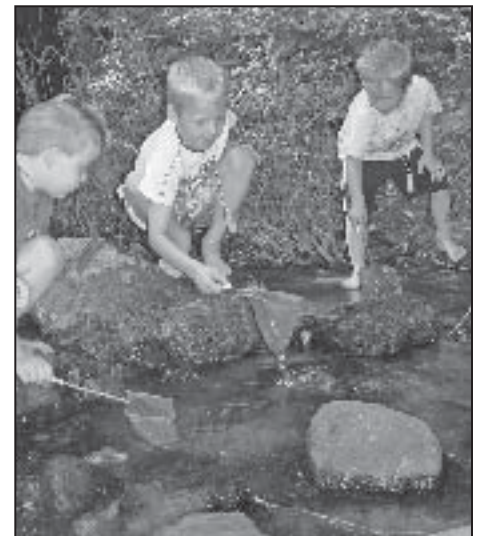
Mark your calendar and bring your family and friends out to the Reserve on Saturday, Oct. 4, for an afternoon of good food and fun. We look forward to seeing you at this fun-filled event.

NATURE CAMP—A HIT WITH BUDDING NATURE LOVERS

Beaver Creek Reserve staff and volunteers were ready to share their love for the environment and great outdoors this summer. This year campers included 166 budding outdoor and wildlife enthusiasts ranging in age from 5–11.

The fun-filled week included exploring streams, panning for gold, learning about trees and wild animals, playing nature-related games and in their spare time cranking out an art project or two.

Be sure to mark your calendar for next year's camp from June 15–19.



CITIZEN SCIENCE CENTER UPDATE

The leaves are changing colors, and a new class of students has arrived at Wildlands School. The signs are clear that summer has ended and fall has arrived at the Citizen Science Center. Here's what we did over the summer and what you can look forward to this fall!

The summer brought with it a host of new faces at the CSC. We welcomed the following field technicians to our crew: Kevin Mesiar, Aquatic Invasive Species (AIS); Nick Aliota, AIS and Bioblitz; and Rick Helgemo and Casey Shoptaw for Lake Altoona Monitoring. We also welcomed back Jo Heuschele, AIS Coordinator, and Anna Brady, AIS Assistant Coordinator.

Staff and volunteers put in over 1,800 hours monitoring aquatic invasive species and educating boaters about how to properly clean their boats before entering and upon leaving area lakes to prevent the spread of AIS in West Central Wisconsin. The AIS crew and volunteers from the Lake Wissota Improvement and Protection Agency (LWIPA) also spent time pulling Eurasian Water Milfoil (EWM) from the Lake Wissota State Park Beach area in June.

CSC staff assisted area organizations in developing the very first Lake Fair at Lake Wissota State Park in June. Several hundred people attended the fair



Photo courtesy Maureen K. Steltz, © Maureen K. Steltz.

and learned about a variety of lake issues. Kids participated in arts and crafts and play lake-themed games. Chipewa Rod and Gun Club hosted a fishing clinic for youngsters, and MI-ZI-ZAK Kayaks provided free use of kayaks for kids. It was a fantastic event and fun for all involved!

The Lake Altoona Lake District began dredging Lake Altoona in early July, and Rick Helgemo and Casey Shoptaw monitored twelve wells and took water samples for analysis for several nutrients.

Jordan Marg, 2008 graduate of Wildlands School, helped the CSC create an online training video for Wisconsin NatureMapping, which allows individuals to learn how to map wildlife observations from the comfort of their own home! We hope that this new training method will allow folks unable to travel to our workshops to be able to participate in NatureMapping. Watch for this video to appear on the NatureMapping website this fall (www.wisnatmap.org).

CSC volunteer Tom Thompson conducted NatureMapping trainings for teachers in Rhinelander and the Chip-

pewa Valley in August. Researchers from Colorado State University and UW-Madison trained CSC volunteers on how to enter data into the CitSci.org website for Invasive Species Data, a national invasive species database. CSC summer volunteers also worked on stream monitoring, the Wild Lakes BioBlitz, and Acoustic Bat Monitoring.

This fall we will need volunteers to assist us with our Worm Watch program monitoring exotic earthworms. Check out Upcoming Events for more information!

2008 BUTTERFLY COUNT RESULTS

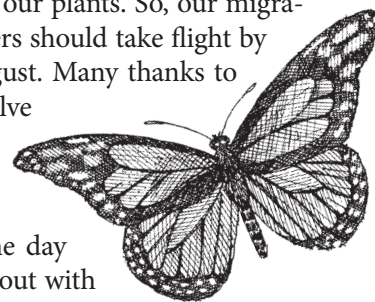
It was a beautiful sunny day for the 2008 Count. Expectations were not particularly high at the start—initial discussion focused on the apparent low numbers of butterflies seen this year. But 2008 count results yielded a total of 31 species, which compares with 33 species for 2007.

One notable exception was in the number of monarchs seen—a little over 50 for 2008, as compared with 109 for 2007. A number of factors may have contributed

to the low numbers of Monarchs and other butterflies. Early in the spring, the first generation of caterpillars were hit hard by tachinid flies. The flies lay eggs on the caterpillars, which hatch and burrow into the caterpillars. Just about the time the caterpillars are ready to go into a chrysalis, maggots eat their way out of the caterpillar, killing it.

The cool spring combined with several windy days may have also contributed to keeping butterfly populations down.

The good news is that the monarch population seems to be rebounding, with many eggs and small caterpillars seen on our plants. So, our migratory flyers should take flight by late August. Many thanks to the twelve volunteers who spent the day helping out with this year's count!



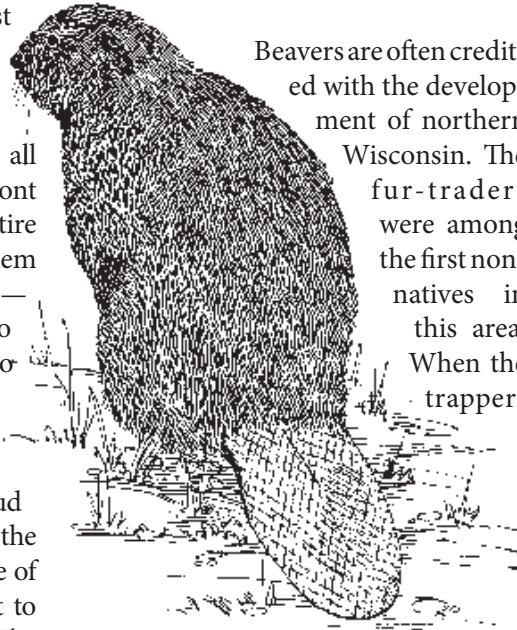
NATURALIST NOTES: BEAVERS OF BEAVER CREEK

When we are teaching school children about beavers, I am often surprised by the incorrect answers fed to the students via the adults in the group.

One misconception I hear is that beaver eat fish. Beaver are actually the largest member of the rodent family found in North America. The dentition (tooth set-up) of rodents make them herbivores (plant eaters). Like all rodents, beaver have large incisors (front teeth) that continue to grow their entire life. These strong front teeth enable them to munch on twigs of its favorite trees— aspen, poplar and alder. Of course, to reach the twigs they have to be able to chew down the entire tree.

Another mistake I hear is that beaver use their flat tail for packing the mud into their dams and lodges. While the tail has many uses, a trowel is not one of them. The beaver's front feet allow it to carry and pack mud in its structures. The tail is used as a warning system. The beaver family may stay together for two seasons, so there are newborn kits along with the kits from the previous year. When the family is out eating and building, one member can warn other family members of danger by a sharp slap of the tail on the surface of the water. Other uses for the tail include use as a rudder as the beaver swims through the water, as a prop like a kick-stand on a bike as they fell trees and as fat storage to survive the winter.

Another question that gets asked on hikes is "Will we see any beaver?" Beaver are generally nocturnal and rarely seen during the day. So even though we see signs of beaver activity, we seldom see the animal.



Beavers are often credited with the development of northern Wisconsin. The fur-traders were among the first non-natives in this area. When the trappers

went back to trade the furs, their stories of vast, un-ending timber brought the lumbermen who started many of the towns we know so well such as Chippewa Falls and Eau Claire.

Adult beavers average three to four feet in length including the 12 to 18-inch tail. They tip the scales at 45 to 60 pounds with Wisconsin's record weighing in at 110 pounds. They have large, webbed hind feet that help them paddle through







water. They build dams across streams and rivers to slow down the flow and create ponds that allow them to easily reach further into the woods for food. The beavers that occasionally (when food is present) take up residence along Beaver Creek don't have much luck creating ponds. The sandy shorelines allow the water to easily wash out the ends of the dam. One summer when the beavers were here we found nine dams up and down the section of the creek that runs through the Reserve.

When beaver over-winter on the Reserve they do not build a lodge but live in the undercuts along the bank. In winter it is easy to tell where the beavers are in residence as they cache (store) food, small branches and trees in front of the entrance to their homes. They remain active all winter and will come ashore for food when they can break through the ice. Google Earth satellite photos found the longest dam on record. The dam is 2,790 feet in length and has been present for at least 15 years in Wood Buffalo National Park in northern Alberta, Canada.

So the next time you are out walking along the banks of Beaver Creek, watch for signs of these amazing rodents: fresh chewed trees, slides where they access the creek or winter food caches sticking up from the ice.



Ways to Establish a Beaver Creek Reserve Legacy

-  Remember Beaver Creek Reserve in your will.
-  Name Beaver Creek Reserve as a beneficiary of your IRA or retirement plan.
-  Purchase a life insurance policy and name Beaver Creek Reserve as beneficiary.
-  Remember deceased loved ones with memorial gifts to Beaver Creek Reserve.
-  Encourage family members and friends to remember Beaver Creek Reserve with planned gifts.
-  Establish a charitable remainder trust with Beaver Creek Reserve as the charity.

2008 Beaver Creek Reserve Photo Contest Winners

Best of Show

Bob Hume
"Sunrise on Sand Island"

Birds

1st	Joe Motto	"Morning Alert"
2nd	Joe Motto	"Great Crested Flycatcher"
3rd	Joe Motto	"Baltimore Oriole in Flowering Crab"
HM	Joe Palzkill	"Hooded Merganser"
HM	Peter Schmitt	"Clear Lake Blue Heron"
HM	Joe Motto	"Red-Bellied Woodpecker"
HM	Joe Palzkill	"Watchful Woodie"

Man and Nature

1st	Bob Hume	"Winter Refuge"
2nd	Carol Knabe	"Fish Lake Burn"
3rd	Brian Rohland	"Capture the Light"
HM	Erik Huebler	"Oh! That's Where They Put it All!"

Other Wildlife

1st	Beau Wold	"Mating Damselies"
2nd	John Lauson	"Beauty and the Beast"
3rd	Pam Campbell	"Edward's Hairstreak on Butterfly Weed"
HM	Erik Huebler	"First Light. AHHH!"

Mammal

1st	Joe Motto	"My Butternut"
2nd	Erik Huebler	"Watch your Step"
3rd	James A. Larson	"Lunch Break"

Landscapes and Plant Life

1st	Beau Wold	"Snow Trillium Encircled by Hepatica"
2nd	Jeff Guettinger	"Porkies Fall"
3rd	John Lauson	"Winter Dawning on Winnebago"
HM	Ken Falch	"Beautiful Bogs"
HM	Terry Borman	"Columbine"

Dynamics of Nature

1st	Ken Falch	"Mystic Morning"
2nd	Jeff Guettinger	"Hoffman Hills Abstract"
3rd	John Lauson	"Precision-etched. Naturally"
HM	Pam Campbell	"Along came a spider..."

Youth

1st	Chris Kohn	"Untitled"
2nd	Chris Kohn	"Untitled"

Foundation News

The role of the Foundation Board will become much more significant as the Friends embark on running the Reserve. They have already shown they can effectively raise funds for the Reserve. Last year's endowment campaign yielded more than \$55,000. With our current economy, their challenge may be even greater this year. Over the past years, the Foundation Board has learned to work "smarter," which will be critical in these tight economic times.

The Board is currently gearing up for the fall's endowment campaign. They have revised the endowment brochure and will be contacting individuals in regard to planned gifts to the Reserve. A "Giving Tree" recognition plaque is planned for the entry to the Wise Nature Center and will be dedicated at the November Friends Annual Meeting.

Art Exhibit Showcases BCR Photo Club Images

The Beaver Creek Reserve Photo Club will present an exhibit at the Heyde Center for the Arts in Chippewa Falls from Oct. 5-24.

Although the BCR Photo Club has a strong history of creating photographs portraying diverse aspects in nature, this show allows all categories and topics of photography. Portraits, abstract, photo art, sports, technical augmentation, as well as our mainstay, nature, are included. The exhibit will show the diversity, specialty and best of club members.

The Heyde Center is open Monday-Thursday. 10 a.m.- 5 p.m. and Friday 10 a.m.- 4 p.m. An opening reception will be held on Sunday, Oct. 5 from 1-3 p.m.

HOBBS HITS THE ROAD

This summer, thanks to grants from the Department of Natural Resources, the Friends of Lake Wissota State Park, the Community Foundation of Chippewa Falls, the Eau Claire Community Foundation, as well as volunteers from the Chippewa Valley Astronomical Society, Hobbs Observatory has been participating in a new program initiative spearheaded by Beaver Creek Reserve called Nature in the Parks. This program brings nature and astronomy programs to the public where they are camping in area state and county parks.. As of this writing, Hobbs has conducted programs in two parks, the Black River State Forest and Coon Fork Lake County Park. By the time you read this article, we will also have presented a program at Lake Wissota State Park.

Taking astronomy to the parks presents a few unique challenges. At our first site, the campground was virtually empty because of the flooding and highway closures in the southern part of the state. Therefore, the attendance was very low. Another challenge that must be faced is access to the sky. Astronomers

like open spaces with easy access to the entire sky. Since campgrounds in the parks are in the middle of forested areas, this limits access to the open sky. However, by taking relatively portable telescopes, we can move from place to place to cover a fair amount of sky and give our visitors a look at a large number of interesting celestial objects.

Over the July 4th weekend, more than 150 people observed the night sky through our telescopes at Coon Fork Lake County Park. At both locations, the weather has been cooperative, and by moving the telescopes and binoculars around for the best views, we were able to show our guests numerous objects including the moon, Saturn, Jupiter, the sun, globular and open star cluster, nebulae, and even a few galaxies.

All of our visitors were very appreciative and excited about looking at these wonders of the heavens through our telescopes and binoculars. This program also presents an opportunity to publicize Beaver Creek Reserve and Hobbs

The Autumn Planets

This autumn most of the bright planets will be taking a vacation. At the beginning of August, Mars, Saturn and Venus will be in the evening sky just at sunset but will be so close to the sun that they will be very difficult or impossible to spot. Jupiter will be low in the southeast in the constellation of Sagittarius and will be easily identified since it is the brightest object in the sky except for the moon. By the end of October, Jupiter will be low in the west in the evening, and no other bright planets will be visible.

Observatory to a wider audience. We hope this will increase attendance at our Saturday public observing sessions during the summer and fall months.

This looks like a very successful program that we hope may be continued into the future.

Birthdays are Naturally Fun at Beaver Creek

Schedule a birthday party for your child or child at heart today!

Party packages include:

- Exclusive use of one of our meeting rooms with kitchen facilities for two hours
- Nature program, craft or game
- Gift for the birthday child
- Party favors for birthday guests
- Opportunity to explore the Discovery Room and the Reserve's trails

Birthday Party Cost

Friends Members: \$6 per guest
Nonmembers: \$8 per guest (Chaperones – No Fee)

Minimum charge

\$36 Friends Members \$48 Nonmembers

A \$25 non-refundable deposit is required of all parties at booking to secure your date and time.

To book: please contact us at bcr@beavercreekreserve.org or (715) 877-2212.

UPCOMING

programs

published quarterly by the Friends of Beaver Creek Reserve

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SEPTEMBER

Introduction to GPS and Geocaching
Saturday, Sept. 13, 9:30–11 a.m.

Tiffany State Wildlife Area Train Ride
Saturday, Sept. 13, 9:30 a.m.–3 p.m.

Pinecone Centerpiece Basket
Monday, Sept. 15, 5:30–9:30 p.m.

NEW! The Fall Marsh
Wednesday, Sept. 17, 6 p.m.

NEW! Worm Watch Workshop
Saturday, Sept. 20, 8 a.m.–4 p.m.

Wildflower Ramble
Saturday, Sept. 20, 10:30 a.m.

OCTOBER

Booya & Fall Festival
Saturday, Oct. 4, 12–4 p.m.

Autumn Glory Basket
Monday, Oct. 20, 5:30–9:30 p.m.

Mat Cutting 101
Tuesday, Oct. 21, 6:30 p.m.

NOVEMBER

Friends of BCR Annual Meeting and Silent Auction
Sunday, Nov. 9, 4–9 p.m.

Holiday Crafting for Kids
Saturday, Nov. 15, 9:30–11:30 a.m.

Winter Brrrrd Feeding
Saturday, Nov. 15, 9:30 a.m.

Christmas Basket Workshop
Monday, Nov. 17, 5:30–9:30 p.m.

DECEMBER

Make Your Own Snowshoes
Saturday and Sunday, Dec. 6 and 7,
9:30 a.m.–3:30 p.m.



TO REGISTER

Call 715-877-2212

Program Registration Procedures

Once again Beaver Creek Reserve is offering many interesting, fun and educational programs, activities and events this fall. As you sign up for upcoming programs and classes, please follow the procedures listed below.

Program and class registration forms can be downloaded via the Reserve's website (www.beaver-creekreserve.org), which can be

found at the top of the Calendar of Event's page for those signing up for upcoming programs and classes.

- Every event (free or paid) requires pre-registration.
- Full payment is due at registration.
- We accept VISA, MasterCard, personal check or money order.
- Programs, dates and fees are subject to change.

- All cancellations require a 48-hour notice prior to the class date in order to receive a full refund.
- To register, call 715-877-2212 or download the form at www.beaver-creekreserve.org.

Thank you for your cooperation; we look forward to seeing you at the Reserve!

UPCOMING PROGRAMS

Introduction to GPS and Geocaching

Saturday, Sept. 13, 9:30–11 a.m.
Wise Nature Center

Learn the basics of using a GPS unit to navigate and to find geocaches. Geocaches are usually small waterproof containers that contain a logbook and some small trinkets or toys. Basically, it's hide and seek for grown-ups using a GPS unit. Using the Reserve's units, hunt for an on-site geocache at Beaver Creek Reserve. This is an introductory program for people with little or no experience who would like to learn more about using GPS units and geocaching.

Registration and full payment required by Sept. 10.

\$5 Friends \$7 Nonmembers

Tiffany State Wildlife Area Train Ride

Saturday, Sept. 13, 9:30 a.m.–3 p.m.
Tiffany Wildlife Area Parking Lot

Xcel Energy is proud to sponsor this popular event. If you missed last year's ride, here's your chance to experience riding the rails through the Tiffany State Wildlife Area with the crew from Beaver Creek Reserve. Spend the day on an open-air, antique train while exploring the wetlands. The round-trip ride, approximately 14 miles, will be led

by area naturalists and biologists discussing what makes these wetlands so unique and important to our plant and wildlife habitat. Pack a cooler with lunch and refreshments. We'll tour and hike the trails, 0.25–0.5 miles each. Be sure to dress for the weather and bring plenty of water. Rain or shine!

Directions to Tiffany State Wildlife Area: approximately a 45-minute drive from Eau Claire, follow Highway 85 to Durand and take Highway 25. Parking lot is about five miles south of Durand on left side of Highway 25. Look for Tiffany Wildlife Area Parking lot sign near the junction of Highway 25 and Thibodaux Road, which runs parallel to a railroad track.

Registration and full payment required by Sept. 7.

\$15 Friends \$25 Nonmembers

NEW! The Fall Marsh

Wednesday, Sept. 17, 6 p.m.
Wise Nature Center

Join naturalist Mike Harden for an evening interpretive walk at the Augusta Wildlife Area. Wetlands are among the most diverse habitats on the planet. Summer dies slowly in the marsh. In September the last flowers of summer still bloom, migrat-



ing birds congregate there, insects celebrate their last hurrah and critters of all type can be seen preparing for the season ahead. Meet at the Reserve at 5:30 p.m. to carpool to the wildlife area or call the Reserve for directions to the site.

Registration and full payment required by Sept. 12.

\$5 Friends \$7 Nonmembers

NEW! Worm Watch Workshop

Saturday, Sept. 20, 8 a.m.–4 p.m.
Citizen Science Center

Did you know that earthworms are NOT native to the Midwest? That bait on your hook is the great-great-great-grandchild of a worm that immigrated to the U.S. a long time ago! Learn how our exotic earthworm friends got here, how to identify them, and how to entice them from their underground lairs! This workshop will also teach you how to enter your worm observations into the WI NatureMapping database where the data will be used by Worm researcher Dr. Cindy Hale of the Great Lakes Worm Watch and University of Minnesota-Duluth. This program may be too long for young children. Older children should be accompanied by an adult.

Registration required by Sept. 15.

Friends Free Nonmembers Free

UPCOMING PROGRAMS

Wildflower Ramble

Saturday, Sept. 20, 10:30 a.m.
Wise Nature Center

Join BCR volunteer naturalist Pam Rasmussen for a short hike around the Reserve. The native plants will be spectacular this time of year. Pam will highlight and teach you how to identify some of the native prairies grasses and fall flowers.



Registration and full payment required by Sept. 17.

\$5 Friends \$7 Nonmembers

Booya & Fall Festival

Saturday, Oct. 4, 12 – 4 p.m.
Youth Camp

Mark your calendar to attend this fun-filled family event complete with mouth-watering booya, food, games, raffles and other activities. For more information, see page 2.

Mat Cutting 101

Tuesday, Oct. 21, 6:30 p.m.
Wise Nature Center

Back by popular demand! Enhance the beauty of your photos, paintings, poster and artwork in this class designed to teach participants the tools, equipment and techniques in mat cutting. The Logan and Alto Mat Cutters will be used to cut single and double mats. See how simple it is to cut your own mats. Materials will be provided with some hands-on opportunities, so bring a photo or picture to be matted. Instructed by Larry Bennett.

Registration and full payment required by Oct. 17.

\$6 Friends \$8 Nonmembers

Friends of BCR Annual Meeting and Silent Auction

Sunday, Nov. 9, 4 – 9 p.m.
Wise Nature Center

The details are almost set, but be sure to mark your calendars in the meantime for the Friends of Beaver Creek Reserve Annual Meeting and Silent Auction. The auction will start in the afternoon with the business meeting and dinner to follow. Invitations should be arriving in your mailbox by mid-October along with a list of silent auction items. You will be able to place absentee bids if you can't attend. Registration details will be in your mailing.

Holiday Crafting for Kids

Saturday, Nov. 15, 9:30 – 11:30 a.m.
Wise Nature Center

Bring the children to the Reserve for a morning of creative fun. Using a variety of materials including natural and/or recycled items, children will make simple ornaments and decorations for the upcoming holidays. Activities are suitable for school-age children. Preschoolers need an accompanying adult. (No charge for the assisting adult.)

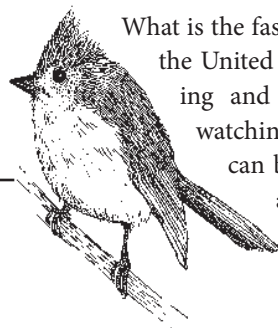


Registration and full payment required by Nov. 12.

\$6 Friends \$8 Nonmembers

Winter Brrrrd Feeding

Saturday, Nov. 15, 9:30 a.m.
Wise Nature Center



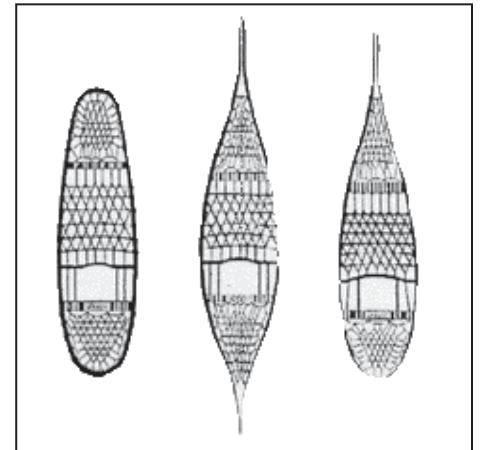
What is the fastest growing hobby in the United States? It's birdwatching and feeding birds. Birdwatching is an activity that can be enjoyed by any age and ability level. This program is designed to help you learn to attract, feed

and identify the LBB's (Little Brown Birds) and others in your own backyard. Participants can choose to build their own bird feeder to take home. (\$5 additional charge for bird feeder kit.) Caution: birdwatching has been shown to be a highly addictive activity with no known cure.

Registration and full payment due Nov. 7.

\$5 Friends (program only)

\$7 Nonmembers (program only)



Make Your Own Snowshoes

Saturday and Sunday, Dec. 6 and 7,
9:30 a.m. – 3:30 p.m.

Wise Nature Center

Make your own snowshoes in this popular two-day workshop and be able to say with pride "I made these myself!" Choose from three styles of snowshoes: Green mountain bear paw (10" x 36"), Alaskan trail shoe (10" x 56") or the great all-purpose Ojibwa style (11" x 54"). Be sure to state which style snowshoe you would like to make when registering for the class. All shoes are laced with tubular nylon, which is comfortable to work with, and have great strength when varnished. *Bring to class: PATIENCE, bag lunch, tape measure, pencil, scissors and matches or lighter.*

Registration and full payment required by Nov. 14.

\$150 Friends \$160 Nonmembers

Fee includes one kit, binding and class instruction.

FALL BASKET CLASSES

Full payment is required by the registration date so materials can be ordered. If you need to cancel a class and do not wish to take a kit, we will refund your money, providing you cancelled 48 hours before the registration date. If you paid in full and cannot make the class, a kit will be saved for you.

Supplies to bring to class: bucket, pencil, sharp pointed scissors, ruler, towel and spray water bottle.
.....



Pinecone Centerpiece Basket

Monday, Sept. 15, 5:30–9:30 p.m.

Wise Nature Center

This oval-shaped basket is perfect for the fall and winter season as a centerpiece or as a table decoration in a family room. This is an easy, beginner basket with a ceramic pinecone sleeve woven in and colored reed for decoration.

Registration and full payment required by Sept. 4.

\$36 Friends \$40 Nonmembers



Autumn Glory Basket

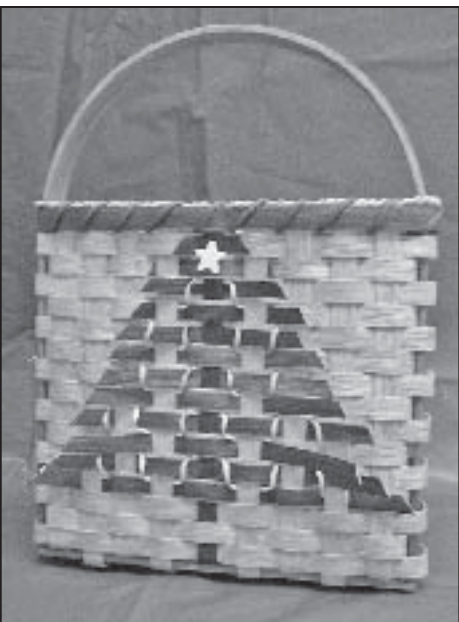
Monday, Oct. 20, 5:30 – 9:30 p.m.

Wise Nature Center

This beginner basket ushers in fall with its warm colors and attached painted-metal autumn leaves. The 8” by 10” basket has many uses or can be enjoyed as a display piece.

Registration and full payment required by Oct. 6.

\$35 Friends \$39 Nonmembers



Christmas Basket Workshop

Monday, Nov. 17, 5:30 – 9:30 p.m.

Wise Nature Center

Participants will have their choice of a variety of small and medium-size holiday baskets. All baskets will be made up as kits. This is the perfect opportunity to complete those Christmas gifts. Kit material costs range from \$5 to \$18. Participants choose which kit(s) they want to make that evening.

Registration and full payment required by Nov. 10.

\$12 Friends \$16 Nonmembers

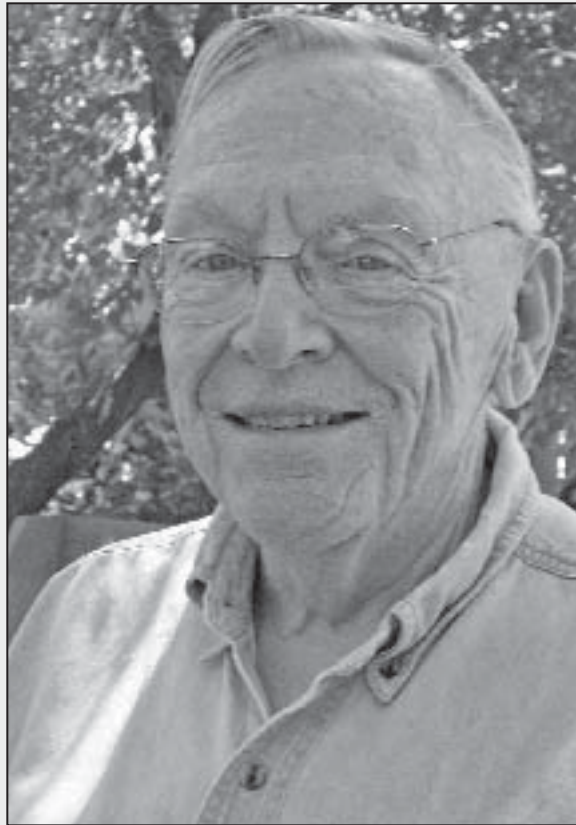
FEATURED VOLUNTEER—JIM SIMONSON

I have enjoyed Beaver Creek Reserve for almost 50 years. After joining the physics staff at UW-Eau Claire in 1957, I became aware of the Eau Claire County Youth Camp. My wife Pat and I raised three daughters and during that time Pat was a Campfire Girls Troop Leader, so in the 70's and the 80's our family spent many days and nights at the Youth Camp.

When our friends Bob and Ann Elliot moved to their home adjacent to the Reserve, we became more familiar with the activities and followed the building of the Nature Center and Observatory with great interest. We also took great interest in the Reserve during construction of the Hobbs Observatory. When I retired in 1994, I searched for a place to volunteer.

In addition to my interest in physics and astronomy, my hobbies included gardening, photography, sailing and traveling. I joined the Reserve's Photo Club and participated in the Reserve's annual photo club contest with a special interest in flowers and was pleased to have several photos appear in past BCR Nature Calendars. I have been involved with greenhouse activities by helping build the light tables and transplanting seedlings.

I have also enjoyed volunteering as a receptionist in the Nature Center for more than ten years. I started volunteering on Saturdays, which allowed me to observe the many weekend



activities and programs and witness the numerous children and adults who enjoyed our offerings. Currently, I take pleasure in spending time as a weekday receptionist on Monday afternoons. This has been a joy that has allowed me to become familiar with the staff and observe the many school groups that benefit from the facilities and the fine programs presented by the staff and volunteer naturalists.

One of the great pleasures of volunteering is the people I see: the staff, the volunteers and the visitors. They are here because they want to be involved and they are positive and pleasant to be around.

Another joy is the opportunity to see and learn about the many subjects I'm interested in—wildflowers, birds and the beauty of our natural world. I peek at the programs, learn from the staff, and get to look at all the good books in the bookstore — I buy quite a few.

Then there are the children and their natural enthusiasm and energy. We brought our girls here and now our grandchildren love to visit the exhibits the butterfly house and walk the trails. Finally, I have been privileged to sit on the Board of the Friends of Beaver Creek this last year and see the planning and challenges that we face. We

are all grateful to the staff who are a joy to work with.

Volunteering at the Reserve offers the chance to meet interesting people, to learn fascinating things and to appreciate the beautiful and mysterious natural world that is our home. The people and activities of Beaver Creek have enriched my retirement years and added to the enjoyment of my hobbies.

VOLUNTEER OPPORTUNITIES

ADOPT-A-HIGHWAY

Date & time to be determined by your group

This is an ideal community service project for scout groups or Junior Volunteers (14–18 years of age) and adult supervisors. Volunteers meet at the Wise Nature Center and are taken to the stretch of road near Beaver Creek Reserve where litter needs to be picked up. Long pants, boots and a pair of gloves are strongly suggested. Trash bags and safety vests are provided.

ALTOONA CHILD DEVELOPMENT DAY

**Thursday, Sept. 18,
9:30 a.m. – 12:30 p.m. & 2:30 – 5:30 p.m.**

Families from the Altoona community attend this event, which will prepare preschoolers for their upcoming kindergarten experience and will alert families to the existing family support systems within the Eau Claire area. A basic knowledge of Beaver Creek Reserve is necessary.

CALENDAR SALES

Volunteers are needed to help promote BCR 2009 Nature Calendar in local schools and area businesses. Volunteers are asked to assist Angie and introduce the program to the students, drop off calendars and collect the money. You may help with all or part of this project.

WEEKDAY RECEPTIONIST

Several weekday and weekend receptionist opportunities are available at the Reserve. If you enjoy spending time at the Reserve here's your chance to share your love of nature with other volunteers and staff on a weekly basis. Duties include greeting visitors, answering the telephone, light filing and typing and ringing up Nature Store sales. Weekday

morning shifts are 9 a.m. – noon while afternoon shifts are from 1 – 4:30 p.m. Weekend shifts vary slightly. Sign up today. You'll be glad you did!

BOOYA & FALL FESTIVAL EVENT VOLUNTEERS

Saturday, Oct. 4, noon – 4 p.m.

It'll take a small army to pull off this second annual fundraiser for the Reserve. Volunteer opportunities for this one-day event range from parking attendants, booya servers, brat grillers, leaders for children games/activities, etc. Volunteer for one or more shifts. Most shifts are two-hours in length, which will give you plenty of time to enjoy the Booya & Fall Festival with your family and friends.

PACT AUCTION VOLUNTEERS

Saturday, Nov. 8, 10 a.m. – 12:15 p.m.

Each year the Public Access Community TV Station has a live auction. For several years Beaver Creek Reserve has donated items for this event as an opportunity to promote the Reserve. Once again, if we provide volunteers to answer the phones, we will have an opportunity to talk on air about the activities and facilities here at the Reserve. Training is provided.

HOLIDAY CRAFTING FOR KIDS

Saturday, Nov. 15, 9:30 – 11:30 a.m.

You do not have to be a crafty person to help with this event. Volunteers are needed to help guests make ornaments and other holiday crafts. Join the fun and add a helpful hand.

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If you would like to help with these events or learn about other volunteer opportunities at Beaver Creek Reserve, please contact Angie Serchen at 715-877-2212 or angela@beavercreekreserve.org.

Attention BCR Volunteers

A few months ago, you may have received a letter from the Reserve's Volunteer Coordinator Angie Serchen asking you to return and fill out a volunteer interest form. This completed form will help her better understand what your interests are and provide us the opportunity to update our records. If you haven't done so already, please complete and return the form to the Reserve at your earliest convenience. We sincerely thank those of you who have filled out and returned your form.

Your service to the Reserve is so important, and we thank you very much for all that you do! If you need another form, please contact Angie at 715-877-2212 ext. 106 or at aserchen@beavercreekreserve.org.

Silent Auction Items Needed

It's that time of year again. We're gearing up for the Friends annual meeting and silent auction, set for Sunday, Nov. 9, at the Wise Nature Center. As staff works out guest speaker and menu details, they are also actively seeking donations to be included in this year's exciting silent auction line up.

We are still on the hunt for unique items, cabin or vacation rentals, art pieces, etc. to include for this year's extravaganza. Please contact Lynn at 715-877-2212, ext. 107, or lynn@beavercreekreserve.org if you have items to donate.

MONTHLY CLUB MEETINGS

Chippewa Valley Astronomical Society

First Tuesday, 7:30 p.m.
Everyone welcome.

The Chippewa Valley Astronomical Society (CVAS) meets on the first Tuesday of the month at 7:30 p.m. Most meetings are at Hobbs Observatory but are occasionally held off-site. CVAS is open to anyone with an interest in astronomy. For more information please contact the Reserve or check out the club's web site at www.cvastro.org.

Chippewa Valley Watercolor Artists

First Wednesday, 9 a.m. – Noon
All watercolorists welcome.

The Chippewa Valley Watercolor Artists meet the first Wednesday of each month to paint, critique and share information related to watercolor painting. All watercolor artists, beginning through advanced, are invited to participate. For information, contact Jan at 715-874-5870 or kippenjp@uwec.edu.

Quilting Club

Second Monday, 1 – 4 p.m.

The Quilting Club meets the second Monday of each month to work on individual projects and to share ideas on quilting. Beginners to seasoned quilters are always welcome. For information call Barb at 715-835-9937.

Beaver Creek Bird Club

Second Tuesday, 7 p.m.

Bird Club meets at the Reserve on the second Tuesday of each month at 7 p.m. The club is open to all bird lovers.

Sept. 9

Claire and Garry Foltz: *"The Story and Work of the Patuxent Wildlife Center"*

Oct. 14

Tou Yang: *"The Art and Sport of Falconry."* He will bring one his birds.

Nov. 11

Dr. Joe Motto: *"The Beauty of Antarctica"*

Beaver Creek Photo Club

Third Thursday, 7 p.m.

Everyone welcome! The Beaver Creek Photo Club meets the third Thursday of the month January through May and September through November. There are no summer or December meetings, although workshops or seminars are often scheduled during the summer.

Sept. 18

Opening and awards for Beaver Creek Reserve's 2008 Photo Contest and Exhibit. Richard Kelly will share winning images from the Twin Cities Camera Club spring show. John Lauson will also share his photos of New Zealand.

Oct. 5–24

BCR Photo Club's "Fall Photographic Art Exhibit" at the Heyde Center for the Arts in Chippewa Falls. Opening reception Sunday, Oct. 5, 1–3 p.m. (not the same exhibit as the Photo Contest).

Oct. 16

Meeting at the Heyde Center for the Arts and critique of show photos.

Nov. 20

Digital workflow sharing session.

HOBBS OBSERVATORY HAPPENINGS



Come learn fascinating facts about the night sky from members of the Chippewa Valley Astronomical Society (CVAS) as they host public programs on the third Saturday of each month at 8 p.m. in the Hobbs Observatory. Programs are designed to broaden our understanding of astronomical aspects.

Programs are open to the public and are free of charge. Public viewing is available on all clear Saturdays from May through October.

For more information, please contact the Reserve at 877-2212 or visit us at www.beaver-creekreserve.org or www.cvastro.org.

OBSERVATORY PROGRAMS

September 20

"Constellation - Pegasus"
Speaker: Ray Forsgren

October 18

"An update on Mars Exploration"
Speaker: Allan Moose

November 15 (Tentatively)

"Discovery of Neptune"
Speaker: Bill Smethells

NATURE STORE NEWS— SPECIAL ORDER OPPORTUNITY

Once again we are offering binoculars at discounted prices. Delivery will be in time for holiday giving. The binoculars available have received great reviews. Members will enjoy a savings of more than 30 percent!

Audubon Equinox HP 10 x 42,
Retail \$349.95—BCR Members, \$240
Non-Members - \$290

Audubon Equinox HP 8 x 42,
Retail \$339.95—BCR Members, \$230
Non-Members - \$280

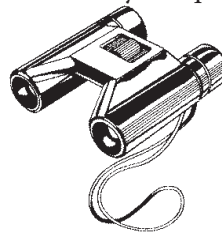
Audubon Raptor 10 x 42,
Retail \$159.95—BCR Members, \$115
Non-Members, \$130

Audubon Raptor 8 x 42,
Retail \$149.95—BCR Members, \$105
Non-Members, \$120

To order, contact Amy at 877-2212 ext 105 or amy@beavercreekreserve.org. Orders will be taken until November 1, and

payment is due at time of order. Prices do not include tax. All special order sales are final—no refunds or exchanges.

Be sure to stop by the Nature Store, which is bursting with clothing for all ages with lots of new designs and colors. Cool weather will be upon us soon so be sure to check out the toasty sweat-shirts! Books are always a good choice, and we've expanded the paperback selection for children with many unique titles for under \$10.



Upcoming Sales

Saturday, Oct. 4
Booya and Fall Festival

Sunday, Nov. 9
Annual Meeting

Saturday and Sunday, Nov. 15 & 16
Holiday Crafts and Sale

NEW MEMBERS

Robert & Kristine Berray
Shirley Campbell
Tim & Colleen Chmelik
Priscilla Drury & Robert Wilson
Jessica Effertz
Bridget Ellenbecker
Paul & Betsy Engman
Stephanie & Robert Facchini
Jan Favret
Judy Ferber
Matt & Liz Germonprez
Susan Gillig
Kevin & Brenda Gilmartin
Carla Golden
Tammy Hanko
Roger Hanson
Rick & Janet Heidtke
Christine & Randy Jensen
Craig & Jill Johnson
Michael Kennedy Family
Rosemary Kilbridge
John Leary Family
Loretta Lunderville
Weber McCampbell
Kevin Meier
Chad & Janie Mowl
Rhonda Neary
Susan & Dallas Nelson
Janine Polk
Andrea Sanfelippo
Rebecca & Matt Schneider
Cheryl Tennille
Maureen & Paul Vanyo
Mark & Debbie Waters
Marilyn Wisner
Bill & Janet Zenner

Nature Center Wish List

- Black-oil sunflower birdseed
- Copy paper (colored)
- Mice (trapped, not poisoned)
- Postage stamps (first class)
- VCR/DVD combo player
- New or gently used digital camera
- DVD compatible television (medium to large size)
- New or gently used laptop computer with CD/DVD
- Gift cards to purchase: Storage containers, office supplies, birdseed

Citizen Science Center Wish List

- Calculators (old ones are fine)
- Clipboards
- Laptop computer with Windows 2000 or later (wireless compatibility preferred)
- Pencil sharpeners (for field use)
- Plastic spoons (for field samples)
- Rubbermaid tubs (shoebox size and larger)
- Wax paper
- Ziploc bags (sandwich size and larger)



SEE YOU AT THE BOOYA & FALL FESTIVAL
SATURDAY, OCT. 4, YOUTH CAMP SIDE, NOON—4 P.M.

DONATIONS

Our thanks to the following individuals and organizations whose generous contributions help make Beaver Creek Reserve a success.

MEMORIALS

In memory of Mike Connolly

D'Arcy Becker
 Jean and Jerry Brod
 Chamlin Associates
 Mandy Heard
 Steve Henke
 Dennis Knutson
 Rich and Dorothy Lenard
 Debbie and Dale Marchesi
 Pat McKearn and Richard Smith
 Joline and Mike Morrison
 Peggy and Jim Murray
 Kathy and Mark Pieterick
 Kristine Radtke and Paul Schlosser
 Donna and Roger Selin
 Tom and Jamie Warnberg
 Pat and Bobbie Wilson

In memory of Evelyn Foster

Barb and Larry Bennett

In memory of Richard Horstman

Monte and Cheryl Bluske

In memory of Fred Jensen

David and Joan Angell

In memory of Lola Lincoln

Jane and Roger Whiting

In memory of Gladys Martin

Richard and June Knudtson

In memory of Marika Mittag

Gloria Dickson

In memory of Warren Randall

Craig Carlson
 Judy Dekan and Rick Koziel
 Phillip and Barb Fey
 Family and Friends

In memory of Karl Riekemann

Gary and Bev Nyseth

In memory of Margaret Stokes

Barb and Larry Bennett

In memory of Myron Wathke

Richard and June Knudtson

In memory of Chris Weitz

Chippewa Valley Watercolor Artists

HONORARIUMS

Thelma and Jerry Schilling 50th wedding anniversary

Richard and June Knudtson
 Ed and Carol Nogosek

Retirement of Manz Elementary School teachers: JoAnn Barden, Cheryl Kultz, Sue Strangfeld, Barb Thomas and Marilyn Thompson

Sharon Leppert

Bird banders Augie Wirkus and Larry Bennett

Tom and Jill Barland

Wedding of Tim Owen and Aileen Villanueva

Steve and Marita Buehler
 Kerry and Dianna Dahl
 Donald Ellickson and family
 Mary Kinney
 Brian and Maureen Klink
 Charles and Sandy Larson
 Paul and Karen Roback

DONATIONS

Bare-root plants for plant sale

Beau Wold and Gayle Kleppe

Basket weaving materials

Donna Oesterreicher

Books and magazines

Judy Dekan

Booya cauldron and accessories

Gene and Joyce McManus

Butterfly House sign

Trophies Plus

Mounted snowy owl

Alfred Wittig

Microscope bulbs

BR Supply

Monetary donations

Anonymous (parent from Blair-Taylor)
 Kathleen Clark (shower house fund)
 Steve and Vicki Cole (bird seed)
 HSBC-North America (plus volunteer hours)
 Pam Rasmussen (4Charity matching gift)
 Lynn Solie (Jean's Day)
 Sherry Sprague (mileage reimbursement)
 Steve Swenson (4Charity matching gift)
 U.S. Bancorp Foundation (matching gift)

Newsletter layout

Tricia Duyfhuizen

Office supplies/kitchen equipment

Martha and Conrad Walkowicz

Projection screen

Ross Johnson

Rain garden plants and supplies

Amy Buvala
 Sarah Braun
 Mandy Heard
 Jo Heuschele
 Paula Kleintjes

Microwave

Lynn and Mike Barrie

Friends of Beaver Creek Reserve Membership Form

Please mark the appropriate space.

- Individual, \$25 – \$99
 Family, \$30 – \$99
 Organization, \$50 and up
 Sustaining, \$100 – \$249
 Advocate, \$250 – \$499
 Sponsor, \$500 – \$999
 Donor, \$1,000
 Corporate, \$500 – \$10,000
 New Renewal

- Interested in volunteer work
 Send information on the BCR Endowment

NAME

ADDRESS

EMAIL

CITY

STATE

ZIP

DAY PHONE

EVENING PHONE

All contributions are tax deductible as allowed by law. Please make checks payable to:

Friends of Beaver Creek Reserve
Mail to: S1 Cty Hwy. K, Fall Creek, WI 54742

