

August 2014 News Update for Friends of Pope Farm Conservancy

Mark Your Calendars...

Heritage Day!

Saturday, September 13, 2014 (1- 4 p.m.)

Heritage Day is a great event for the entire family - not to mention a truly educational experience! Take a hayride around the conservancy in a wagon pulled by a team of draft horses. Get stunning views of the beautiful Madison skyline and Isthmus. And listen to talks from our featured presenters who will be positioned at different sites around the conservancy. During the afternoon, you will...

1. Hear how the land was formed by glaciers
2. See native plants from the prairies that existed here hundreds of years ago.
3. Learn how the Native Americans gardened and made stone tools.
4. Visit the site of a late 1800s settler's cabin.
5. See first-hand how the CCC and SCS worked to control erosion in the 1930s Dust Bowl era.



PLUS, Horse-drawn wagon rides! For \$2 per person, take a hay ride along the Madison sky-line in a wagon pulled by hard-working draft horses. Use your imagination and think of the draft horses being used by the settlers to move glacial rocks from the fields in the late 1800s.

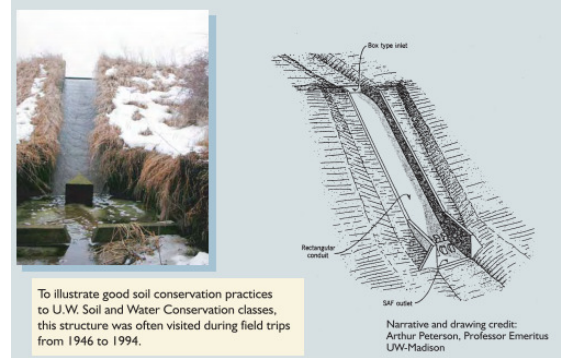
This is a FREE, family-friendly event. No registration is required. We hope you'll join us for an educational and fun afternoon in the conservancy!

Volunteers Needed: Goodwill Ambassadors are needed for the event to be at the "Friends Table", hand out information, lead visitors to stations, and help park cars. If you are interested in being a Goodwill Ambassador for this event, please contact us at info@popefarmconservancy.org.

Soil...It Gives Us Life

Wednesday, September 17, 2014 (5:30 p.m. - 7:00 p.m.)

Join Dr. Nick Balster, U.W. Madison Soil Science Department on this fascinating tour of Pope Farm Conservancy. Learn what soil is and why it is critical in our lives; what erosion is and how we are trying to control it; how the Soil Conservation Service and the Civilian Conservation Core worked on controlling erosion at PFC in the 1930's. Could there be a connection from the spillway to the famous "Dust Bowl"? You'll find out!



Hope to see you for our fascinating soil tour at Pope Farm Conservancy!

Prairie Seed Collection is Underway!

A message from Curt Caslavka – Prairie Restoration Committee, Chair

The prairies at Pope Farm Conservancy are still young and still in their restoration stage. Our goal is to establish a large variety of different native prairie plants throughout the prairies. To help that process along, we collect certain seeds from places where the plants are well established and then plant those seeds in other parts of the prairie.



That's where you come in! We need your help to collect seeds when they are ripe. The seeds of different plants ripen at different times, so we have chosen **9 dates** when we'll be collecting, weather permitting. Our first collecting date was August 16, but we have additional dates now through November.

You can sign up for one or more of these dates from the Friends of Pope Farm Conservancy (FOPOC) website. The easiest way to get to the registration page is to go to this URL:
<https://www.popefarmconservancy.org/events/2014-prairie-seed-collection/>

We will have team leaders on hand to help you on each of those dates. Please join us – it's fun and it's an investment in the future. Hope to see you in the prairies soon! If you have any questions, please send an email to toprairie@popefarmconservancy.com.

Past Events

Native American and Archaeology Tour at PFC



Photo by Dennis Schenborn

About 60 people attended the Native American and Archaeology Tour on July 23rd. The tour was led by Dr. Amy Rosebrough (pictured above) from the State Historical Society. Amy showed us how the Native Americans grew crops, lived here, and even demonstrated an atlatl. Thanks to Amy and all who attended.

Annual Pope Farm Tour...A beautiful evening



Photo by Janie Starzewski

On August 13th, about 75 people toured Pope Farm Conservancy on the annual tour (pictured above). We toured all 6 prairies, 7 different crops, and learned some history along the way. It was a great evening, and our thanks to Mel Pope and all those who attended.

Question of the Month

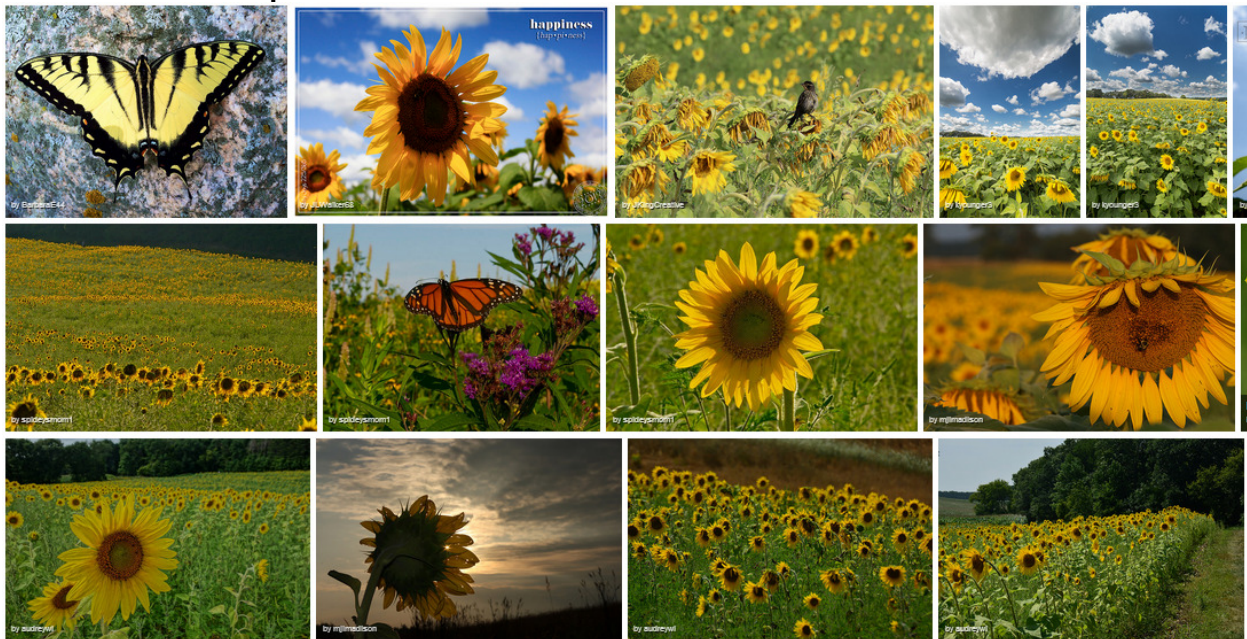
Why were the Sunflowers so different from last year?

This year, we wanted to plant the sunflowers on the low ground in attempts to create an image of a yellow carpet floating below you. Unfortunately, that did not work out quite as we had planned. The sunflowers were planted on June 1st, and it was followed by a record setting month of rain. (Sunflowers do not like too much rain.) This, combined with cool and cloudy weather, set back the sunflowers growth and promoted the weeds. All of this is a lesson in farming; nothing is the same from year to year. In the future, the sunflower field will be rotated on higher ground.

If you have a question for us, please send your question to info@popefarmconservancy.org and we will try to answer it.

Share Your Photos of a Favorite Place

Join our Flickr Group



We invite you to join our new photo-sharing community on Flickr. Check out these photos (above) shared by some members of the group. This is a great way for visitors to share all their favorite photos of Pope Farm Conservancy. Our group name is "Pope Farm Conservancy Photos", and our group page can be found here: <https://www.flickr.com/groups/fopfc-photos/>. Your pictures will also appear in the photo gallery on our website.

If you need help joining our group and/or uploading your photos, please visit <https://www.popefarmconservancy.org/photos/> for step-by-step instructions, or send an email to info@popefarmconservancy.org.

New T-shirts for Sale

Show off your love for a favorite place in a new PFC t-shirt!



The Friends are excited to be selling t-shirts during all of our major events this year at Heritage Day. The price is \$16 for small, medium, large, and x-large. The price for XXL and XXXL is \$18. We accept cash, check, or credit card. All proceeds will help support FOPFC and our mission to preserve the land and its stories!

Friends of the Month

The Goodwill Ambassadors

(Photo by Barbara Esser)

The Goodwill Ambassadors had a great time meeting each other and handing information to the public about Pope Farm Conservancy and the sunflowers. Pictured above are Bill and Robby Sonzogni enjoying the afternoon at the top of the hill at Pope Farm Conservancy. If you would like to be on the Goodwill Ambassador mailing list please contact us at:info@popfarmconservancy.org



Because of the efforts of the Goodwill Ambassadors, funds were generated by the sale of t-shirts, and the membership was increased.

The following Goodwill Ambassadors volunteered for time slots during Sunflower Days:

Peggy Ahlgren	Nancy Gunder	Verelene Morris
Charlene Avery	Moira Harrington	Doug Normington
Julie Boelter	Erin Janssen	Karen Prochaska
Lorraine Bradley	Navjot Kaur	Amy Rosebrough
Pam Brys	Daniel Killelea	Dennis Schenborn
Curt Caslavka	Ruth Killelea	Karen Schnieder
Chuck Callender	David Kollasch	Andy Shrago
Mary Collet	Jean Kollasch	Robby Sonzogni
Ann Conroy	CJ Kuehl	Bill Sonzogni
Martine Debaisieux	Stan Lebow	Diane Smidt
Shelly Dutch	Patty Lebow	Eileen Williams
Barbara Esser	Nancy McGill	Vina Yang
Kathleen Gregory	Dan McLain	Martha Zydowsky
	Jim Morris	

Parking Assistance:

Fred Bartman
Jim Bolitho
Jim Byrd
Dick Hinrichs
Mel Pope
Hans Zoerb

Thank you, Goodwill Ambassadors!

Our sincere apologies to anyone else who we did not name.



And a happy field of Sunflowers to the Goodwill Ambassadors!

Connect with Friends of Pope Farm Conservancy on Facebook

Are you on Facebook? It's a great way to share your pictures and stories with others who "like" Pope Farm Conservancy.

<https://www.facebook.com/FriendsOfPopeFarmConservancy>



**Thank you for joining the
Friends of Pope Farm Conservancy!
Our Journey Begins and You are part of it!**

