



2014 Sunflower News

It has been determined that the location of the sunflowers in 2014 will be the field at the bottom of the hill, along the pine trees by the CCC spillway. This is where the Sunflowers were located in 2012 (as shown right). The field is approximately 9 acres, and about the same size as the field this year. If the growing season is right, you will be able to look down on a “sea of yellow” from the top of the hill.



Photo By: Janie Starzewski

PFC Winter Trails Update

The trails around the outer perimeter of Pope Farm Conservancy will be groomed this year courtesy of the Blackhawk Ski Club. A big thank you is in order! The parking entrance on Old Sauk Rd. will remain open during the winter for your cross country skiing and snowshoeing enjoyment.

Photo By: Mel Pope



8,000 lbs. of Sunflower Seeds Harvested at PFC

This summer, visitors to Pope Farm Conservancy would often ask: "What do you do with all the sunflowers at the end of the season?" Well, yesterday, I had the privilege of riding in the combine with Bill Hinrichs of Hinrichs Farms. At the end of the day, he harvested over 8,000 lbs. of sunflower seeds! And that didn't even include some 4,000 pounds that the birds ate before the sunflower seeds were harvested.



Bill commented that the seeds were much smaller than previous years, and attributed their size to the dry weather in August. The seeds will be sold to a local mill where they are then cleaned, processed and packaged for bird seed. So, if you shop at Mounds Pet Food Warehouse, you might just be feeding your birds with sunflower seeds from Pope Farm Conservancy!

More photos can be found on our Facebook page: <http://www.facebook.com/FriendsOfPopeFarmConservancy>

Story and Photos By: Janie Starzewski

Seed Cleaning at Pope Farm

The Prairie Restoration Project Continues at PFC!

On November 16th, volunteers gathered in the shed at Pope Farm to clean some of prairie plant seeds that they collected this fall. Over 30 species of prairie plants had been collected, but on this day, they cleaned yellow coneflower, Pale Indian Plantain, and Cream Gentian, which is considered threatened in Wisconsin. Seed cleaning takes a considerable



amount of time and patience. Many thanks to our diligent & hard-working volunteers!

Photos By: Barbara Esser



Volunteers Needed

We are currently seeking volunteers & member participation for:

1. **The Prairie Restoration Committee**

Additional volunteers are needed to supervise the seed collection sessions and assist with our Prairie Restoration work days.

2. **The Education Committee**

Help is needed to expand and improve our educational opportunities, which includes developing curriculum, coordinating & recruiting naturalists, promoting adult and family education, and researching grant & funding opportunities.

3. **The Events Committee**

Join us as we continue the planning process for our 2014 'Sunflower Days.' We also need help preparing for our public tours, which will take place next summer.

These committees will be meeting throughout the winter months in preparation for next season.

If you are interested, please send an e-mail to info@popefarmconservancy.org and we will give be happy to provide you with further details.

Visit our NEW Online Store

Just in time for the holidays!

The Friends of Pope Farm Conservancy has a new online store. Thanks to CafePress.com, we are now selling a number of products, including t-shirts, sweatshirts, hats, tote bags, mugs and more, with our unique logo printed on them. 15% of sales proceeds will go to FOPFC to help preserve, protect, and promote PFC.



MORE COLORS AVAILABLE



MORE COLORS AVAILABLE



Website: <http://www.cafepress.com/friendsofpopefarmconservancy>

Our store will be expanded on in the future, but if you have any suggestions for additional items you might want to purchase, please send an email to info@popefarmconservancy.org.

Friend of the Month: Curt Caslavka

Thank you, Curt Caslavka, for your never-ending enthusiasm in leading the Prairie Restoration projects for the Friends of Pope Farm Conservancy. Thank you for organizing the seed collection, the seed processing, and the seed planting that help make the restoration projects at PFC so very special. In addition to being a board member of FOPFC, Curt and his wife, Arlys, built and maintained the blue bird houses at PFC that have been home to over 500 hundred blue birds and tree swallows over the years!

And a Happy Field of Sunflowers to you, Curt!!



Season Greetings!

We wish everyone a very safe and happy holiday season!

Thank you for making 2013 a HUGE success! We would like to thank all of our members, donors, and volunteers for your continued support! We look forward to working with you all in 2014!



Join the Friends of Pope Farm Conservancy on Facebook

Join us on Facebook for news and happenings at Pope Farm Conservancy. It's been a great way to share pictures and information with those who "like"

Pope Farm Conservancy. Like us Today!

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



**Thanks again for joining the
Friends of Pope Farm Conservancy!
Our Journey Begins and YOU are part of it!**



The mission of the Friends of Pope Farm Conservancy is to contribute to the enrichment of Pope Farm Conservancy as a community and educational asset. We strive to protect and preserve the balance of the conservancy's unique natural, agricultural and historical features and volunteer as stewards to promote our passive conservancy.