



Feb 2014 News Update for Friends of Pope Farm Conservancy

Announcing...The 2014 Calendar of Events

The 2014 calendar of events for FOPFC is here! Exciting projects, more educational tours, and new events to educate the public on the history of the land will make for a full agenda for FOPFC this spring, summer, and fall. We hope that you are able to participate, and that you will find plenty of ways to get involved. We will be looking for people to help us organize and promote some of the larger events, as well as volunteer on the event day.

June 2014



Bird & Savanna Tour
Sat, June 21, 7-8:30 a.m.
Host: Mike McDowell



Spring Members Event
Sat, June 21, 1-3 p.m.
Topic: Seeds – In Dreams and in Nature

July 2014



Prairie Savanna Walk
Wed, July 9, 2014, 6:30-8:00 p.m.
Host: Mike Healy, Adaptive Restoration, LLC



Native American & Archaeological Tour
Wed, July 23, 2014, 6-7:30 p.m.
Host: Dr. Amy Rosebrough, State Historical Society

August 2014



Sunflower Days
August 1-8, Sunrise to Sunset
Actual dates depend on sunflower peak bloom



Annual Pope Farm Conservancy Tour
Wed, August 13, 6-7:30 p.m.
Host: Mel Pope, FOPFC Chair

September 2014



Heritage Days
Sat, September 13, 1-4 p.m.
5 speakers, plus wagon rides



Saving Our Soil
Wed, September 17, 5:30-7 p.m.
Host: Dr. Nick Balster, UW Soil Science Dept.

October 2014



German Immigration Tour
Wed, October 15, 5-6 p.m.
Host: Antje Petty, Max Kade Institute



Members Picnic
Sat, October 18th, 1-3 p.m.

For additional event information, go to <https://www.popefarmconservancy.org/events/>

Prairie Restoration 2014 Seed Collection Dates

The Restoration Committee has an ambitious agenda this year! For our volunteers, this will involve the collection of seed from 100 different species over the next two years. Some of the seed collection will take place at PFC; however, the majority of the savanna species we need do not exist at Pope Conservancy. We have had very generous offers by Tom and Kathie Brock (Pleasant Valley Conservancy) and Jerry Goth (Swamp Lovers Conservancy) to gather seed at their conservancies.

Below is the list Prairie seed collection dates for 2014. As a member, you will have the first chance to sign up for these seed collection sessions. Registration will open in late spring. Stay tuned for more information.

Seed Collection at PFC

- August 16, Sat (9-11am) and (11am – 1pm)
- August 30, Sat (9-11am) and (11am - 1pm)
- September 13, Sat (9-11am) and (11am – 1pm)
- September 26, Fri (9-11am) and (11am – 1pm)
- October 4, Sat (9-11am) and (11am – 1pm)
- October 11, Sat (9-11am) and (11am – 1pm)
- October 18, Sat (9-11am) and (11 am – 1pm)
- October 24, Fri (9-11am) and (11am – 1pm)
- November 1, Sat (9-11am) and (11am – 1pm)

Offsite Seed Collection

(Pleasant Valley Conservancy or Swamp Lovers Conservancy)

- June 21, Sat (9-11:30am)
- June 28, Sat (9-11:30am)
- July 12, Sat (9-11:30am)
- July 26, Sat (9-11:30am)
- August 9, Sat (9-11:30am)
- August 25, Fri (9-11:30am)
- September 6, Sat (9-11:30am)
- September 20, Sat (9-11:30am)
- October 3, Fri (9-11:30am)
- October 14, Tues (9-11:30am)
- October 25, Sat (9-11:30am)
- November 1, Sat (9-11:30am)

The Next Great Prairie Restoration Project by FOPFC

Paddock Oak Savanna

"One of the most threatened plant communities in the Midwest and among the most threatened in the world." (WDNR)

A relict savanna with 175 year-old burr oak trees lies within Pope Farm Conservancy on a hill between two sections of existing managed prairie. It is adjacent to walking trails and is a natural focal point for visitors. If managed properly, this rare habitat can support more than 100 species of native plants and provide visitors with a unique interpretive and educational experience.



FOPFC proposes to expand the adjacent Hillside Prairie management zone by 1.08 acres to include this relict of our by-gone heritage. FOPFC will be responsible for collecting seeds and establishing the savanna over the next two-years - and will maintain this prairie in the future.



The FOPFC has received permission to collect seeds – including species listed as rare or threatened -- from a mature Oak Savanna on private land in western Dane County. We estimate that we will have over 20 seed collection excursions throughout South Central Wisconsin over a 2 year period. It will take over 400 hours of volunteer time to bring these species to Pope Farm Conservancy. When finished, the Oak Savanna will be a draw to the conservancy as well as a great educational feature for school systems and to the public in general.

Question of the Month

Why did the postage for the newsletter cost so much?

We hope you enjoyed our first FOPFC newsletter that was mailed to you last month. We had many positive comments about the first edition, and someone asked why the postage cost was so much. Great question! We sent out 132 newsletters, and unfortunately we needed a 200-piece mailing before we can utilize our non-profit discount. Since then, we have found out that the difference in the rate (first class versus our non-profit discount) is so great that we are going to print some complimentary copies targeted to people working in the field of education. This will bring us up to a 200-piece mailing so that we can receive our discount. When you look at all the various components, we will save over \$100 per mailing!

If you have any questions, please send a message to info@popefarmconservancy.org, and we will try to answer them.

Help Wanted

Volunteers are need for the following positions:

1. Facebook Fan Page Manager

The Facebook Fan Page Manager would be responsible for moderating and facilitating discussions on the FOPFC Facebook fan page. This involves posting content approximately once a week and responding to fan comments and questions in a timely fashion. This person will work with the PR Team, events committee, and membership committee to obtain content and photos.

Skills & Requirements: Knowledge of Facebook is required. Much of the work can be done from home, so the volunteer will need to have his/her own computer and internet access. The person should be familiar with FOPFC's mission and maintain high ethics with Facebook presentation and content.

Estimated Hours Required: 1/2 - 2 hours/week

Contact: Janie Starzewski (PR Committee, Website Manager) at janie@popefarmconservancy.org

2. FOPFC Event Producer

The Event Producer will work with the Events Committee Chair on a creative, vendor relationship and logistical level. This volunteer contributes ideas for member and public events and assists in coordinating vendors and onsite needs. He/She will initiate contact with vendors to establish the schedule, pricing, and insurance requirements for each FOPFC event. The volunteer will provide onsite coordination for parking, power, water, tables, etc. He/she will send e-mail thank you notes to vendors after the event, and communicate with the vendors if there is a cancellation or schedule change.

Skills & Requirements: Customer service, interpersonal skills and negotiating skills, ability to organize and schedule, ability to attach documents and send via e-mail, and basic knowledge of Excel.

Estimated Hours Required: 2 hours every two weeks (June-October)

Contact: Doug Normington (Events Committee Chair) at doug@popefarmconservancy.org

Friend of the Month

Thank you, **Barbara Esser**, for your enthusiastic work at FOPFC. Your countless hours of review and thoughtful insights have contributed heavily to our success. Many of you have met Barbara as she walks the conservancy answering questions, and have felt her goodwill. Barbara is the Vice Chair of the FOPFC board of directors, and is responsible for the membership committee. From helping to park cars, to working on interpretive signage, to supporting Prairie restoration events, to putting pictures of Sunflowers on Facebook in the middle of winter...she has done it all, and she has done it well - for FOPFC!! Thanks to you, Barbara, for really making a difference!



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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!

