



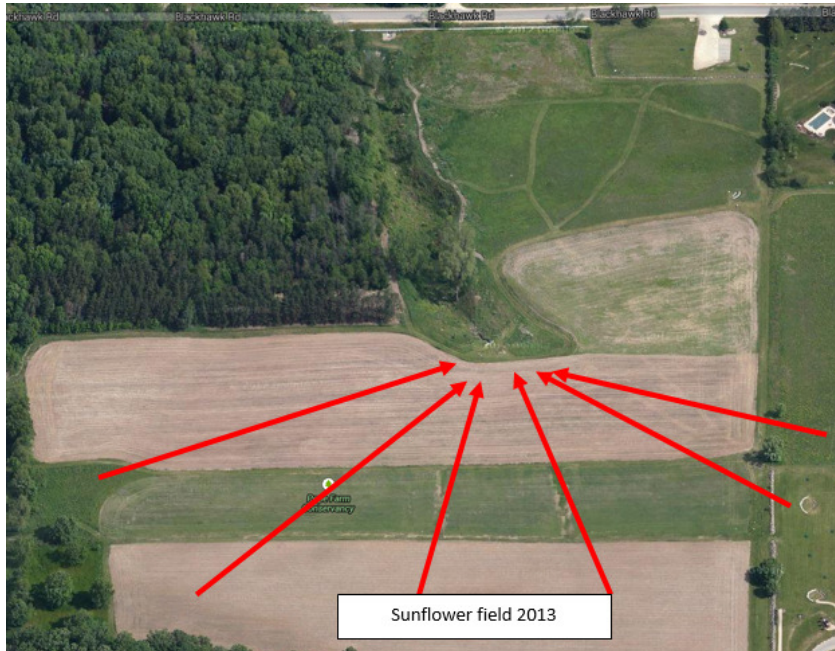
March 2014 News Update for Friends of Pope Farm Conservancy

The CCC Spillway - Nature on the Move

For those who frequently walk Pope Farm Conservancy, you will no doubt remember the CCC spillway. This structure was built in the 1930's by the Civilian Conservation Corp to prevent the hillside from eroding away, and in turn, saving the farm fields above it. It is quite unusual for people to see this spillway in action because it can sit dormant for 20 years at a time, but when it is working, it is a sight worth seeing. There are several key conditions that are usually present for large amounts of water to reach the spillway. First, the ground is frozen - we certainly have that present this year! Second, there is usually a large amount of snow on the north facing fields above the spillway - we have that condition, as well. Finally, we need a burst of warm temperatures. When that happens, usually in the late afternoon, the hills literally begin to flow. Another condition to cause this type of flow is a heavy rain while the ground is still frozen.



Picture Below: Water flows toward the spillway in ever increasing amounts and velocity!



In the next six to eight weeks, we will know if the spillway will flow this year. If you are interested in watching the “hills flow”, it is quite easy to know when this is occurring during a warm up or heavy rain. Simply drive down Blackhawk Road and observe the ravine in the Conservancy. If water is flowing down the ravine and into the culvert under Blackhawk Road, the Spillway is operating and the hills are “flowing”. Park your car at the Blackhawk entrance and walk up the hill to see “nature on the move”.

FOPFC Applies for Our First Grant!

In February, FOPFC applied for our first grant from the Dane County Environmental Council. The grant is part of the Community Partners Program, which provides funding for projects that promote environmental education, conservation and restoration of Dane County's natural resources. The funds requested would enable FOPFC to purchase small non-capital equipment (brush cutter, shovels, pruners, brush knife, etc.) to aid in the restoration of the prairies, oak savanna, and native shrub habitats of Pope Farm Conservancy. This is an important first step, not only in learning how to write grants to benefit PFC but getting to know the organizations that are offering them. Congratulations to Dennis Schenborn and Curt Caslavka for completing this application!

Spring Field Trips at PFC

The Middleton Cross Plains Areas School District field trips at Pope Farm Conservancy will be held on June 3rd, 4th, and 5th this year. The spring field trip includes stations where 4th grade students learn more about Wisconsin archaeology and geology. Students have the chance to plant seeds common in native gardens and learn more about artifacts and wild foods. They also will learn about the effects of the glacier on the land, the rocks that were removed from the fields to form the rock fence, and ice age mammals.



Question of the Month

When will the upper parking lot open at the Conservancy?

Pope Farm Conservancy is open year round, but the upper parking lot is only open during the summer months to accommodate heavy traffic. The upper parking lot will open up after the Conservancy has been prepared for heavy use (trail repair, fencing off newly seeded areas, signage put up, mulch down, water turned on, etc.). This preparation is dependent on the weather, and varies from year to year. Subsequently, there is no set date when the upper parking lot will open. We will be updating you on how the preparations at the Conservancy are progressing by way of this news update.

If you have any questions, please send an email to info@popefarmconservancy.org.

Thank You, Volunteers!

Many thanks go to:

- Peggy Ahlgren - Events Coordinator
- Stephanie Abramowitz - FOPFC Facebook Fan Page Manager

Help Wanted

Volunteers are need for the following positions:

1. FOPFC Event Refreshment Coordinator

Job Description: The Friends Of Pope Farm Conservancy event refreshment coordinator works with the events committee chair on the coordination and delivery of refreshments for planned events. This volunteer contributes refreshment ideas for member and public events and assists in coordinating vendors and onsite needs.

Specific Responsibilities:

Meeting Planning - Creative

- Brainstorms with events committee chair and committee members to create and provide refreshments for meaningful and memorable events for FOPFC members and the public.

Refreshment Planning – Coordination

- Initiates contact with vendors and volunteers.
- Schedules vendors, documents price and confirms schedule.
- Confirms that vendors comply with insurance requirements.
- Provides onsite coordination for vendors (Parking, power, water, etc...)
- Provides onsite coordination of required physical elements (tables, etc.)
- E-mails thank you note to vendors post event.
- Communicates with the vendors if there is a cancellation or schedule change.
- Schedules and communicates with refreshment volunteers.

Skills & Requirements:

- Customer service, interpersonal skills and negotiating skills.
- Ability to organize and schedule.
- Ability to attach documents and send via e-mail.
- Basic knowledge of excel.
- Can update database with timing requirements (will train).

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

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

2. **Graphic Designer Volunteer (Event Promotion)**

Job Description: The graphic designer volunteer is responsible for designing promotional materials for upcoming FOPFC events. Design needs include graphics for print and web materials, including, but not limited to: brochures, flyers, and social media/website graphics. This person works with the Event Committee and PR Team to obtain event information. The design should be consistent FOPFC's branding.

Skills & Requirements:

- Excellent design skills or past experience in graphic design
- Knowledge and skill in design software and related suites
- Organized, detail-oriented, and self-motivated
- Familiarity with FOPFC mission and branding

Estimated Hours Required: 2-5 hours per event

Contact: Janie Starzewski (PR Committee Chair) at janie@popefarmconservancy.org

Friend of the Month

Thank you, Lucy! Your advice and your efforts with the FOPFC board have been HUGE during our first year. Thanks for helping with the IRS nonprofit application, bylaws, articles of incorporation and all the other forms that needed to be filled out. Typing out the flow charts, timelines, and committee charts, job descriptions, and writing copy for so many communications has been a godsend to FOPFC. Although you live in Montana and we do not see you often, talking to us by phone every week has helped develop the structure of the FOPFC and is much appreciated. Thank you, Lucy, for helping FOPFC get to where it is today!



And a Happy Field of Sunflowers to you, Lucy!

Connect with Us 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!