



December 2018 News Update

A New School Will be a Neighbor to PFC

On Tuesday, November 6th, 2018 the referendum to add a new school adjacent to Pope Farm Conservancy passed overwhelmingly. This is great news for all of us!

In 2006 the adjacent 40 acres were sold by the Town of Middleton to the Middleton Cross Plains Area School District. The Town, the Pope Family, and the School District negotiated the sale of the property. The fit is excellent because the Master Plan of the Conservancy centers on educating grade school students. The proposed facility will be a grade school that will accommodate 525 students.

Construction of the new school is scheduled to begin next summer (2019), with the opening scheduled for the fall of 2020. More information will be available in the upcoming FOPFC news magazine.



Crops Harvested at PFC



The overabundance of moisture made it a rough growing season for the crops at the Conservancy. The farmer harvested the last of the corn on November 19th, which was later than usual. There was so much moisture this year that the corn stalks developed some problems, and it also caused a slight presence of mold.

Winter Activities at Pope Farm Conservancy

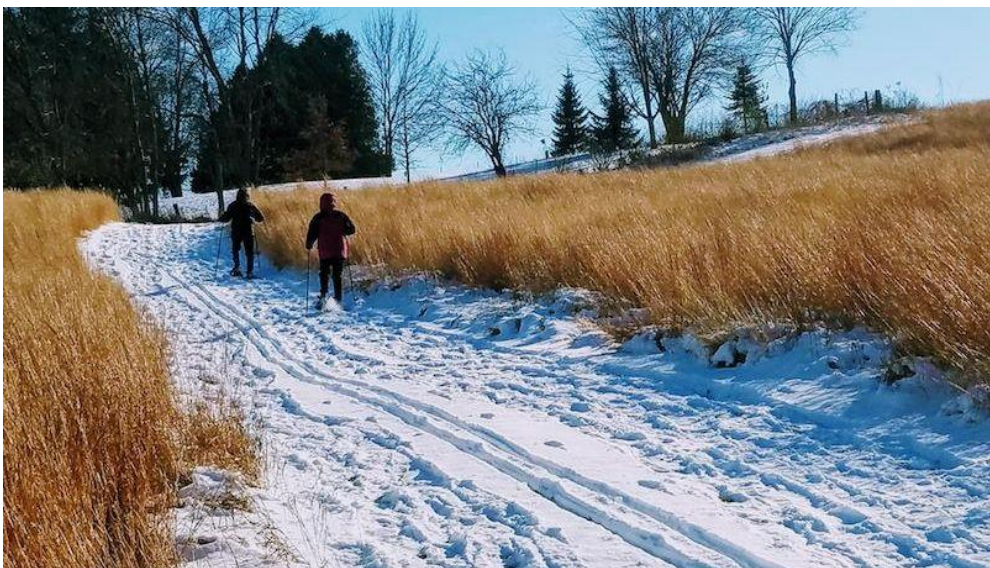
Make the most out of our Wisconsin winter weather by enjoying some fresh air and fun winter activities at Pope Farm Conservancy!

The Conservancy is OPEN daily from sunrise to sunset during the winter months. With sufficient snow accumulation, visitors are welcome to come and enjoy winter activities, such as snowshoeing, cross-country skiing, hiking, and sledding. The hiking trails will be groomed pending the amount of snow cover. Once the trails are groomed, we ask that hikers and snowshoers please try to stay to the side of the cross-country tracks to maintain their integrity. Thank you for your cooperation.



FOPFC Winter Events

This winter, the FOPFC Events Team plans to host a number of winter activity events, such as snowshoeing, at the conservancy. These events will be scheduled periodically throughout the winter based on weather conditions and snow cover. If you're interested in participating in these winter activities with other Friends during the season, please sign up on our website (see link below) and we will send you an email notification when an activity has been scheduled. We will try to post these events on our Facebook page, as well, but we recommend joining the mailing list for the most up-to-date info.



Go to <https://www.popefarmconservancy.org/events/winter> and sign up to receive email notifications for upcoming winter events at the conservancy.

Upcoming FOPFC meetings

There is no shortage of ways to get involved with the FOPFC. We welcome everyone to attend the following meetings to observe, offer your viewpoints, or to join our committees if you are interested.

Education Team Meeting

When: Thursday, January 17th, 2019 (6:30 – 8:00 p.m.)

Where: West Middleton Lutheran Church, 3763 Pioneer Rd, Verona, WI 53593

Discussion topics: The Education Team will work on the “History of the Land” interactive tour project and review initial drafts of those stories. We will also work on suggestions to improve the erosion story and brainstorming ideas for promotion of our German Immigration video series.

Events Team Meeting

When: Tuesday, January 29th, 2019 (6:30 – 8:30 p.m.)

Where: West Middleton Lutheran Church, 3763 Pioneer Rd, Verona, WI 53593

Discussion topics: The Events Team will finalize the 2019 line up of public talks/tours and begin to identify and confirm speakers/presenters. We are looking to recruit more volunteers to join the Events Team this year. If you enjoy organizing and/or promoting events, please consider attending one of our meetings to learn more.

Question of the Month

Question: What is the status of the new security gates at the Conservancy?



Answer: The Blackhawk entrance will be closed for the winter season, but the **lower parking area on Old Sauk Road will be plowed and kept open for winter activities.** The road to the upper parking area will also be closed during the winter months. If you are planning to use the Conservancy for all winter activities, please keep in mind that only the lower parking area off Old Sauk Road is available for parking. Please come and enjoy Pope Farm Conservancy and all its beauty this winter.

If you have any additional questions/concerns, please email us at info@popefarmconservancy.org.

Friend of the Month

Thank you, Linda Josheff

Linda has answered our call for help on numerous occasions. When we send out an urgent request for help, Linda has come to the “rescue” several times. She has helped during Sunflower Days when a special call for help was necessary. Recently she volunteered to help with the MCPASD 4th grade field trips when we needed support. In the past Linda has been quietly there, attending our annual meetings and offering support. Linda’s participation at crucial times, has helped make a difference in our efforts at Pope Farm Conservancy. Thank You, Linda!



Happy Trails to you, Linda!

Winter Membership Drive

Give the Gift of FOPFC Membership

When you give a gift membership, your friend or family member will be welcomed into the Conservancy's family of dedicated individuals committed to enhancing the educational opportunities at Pope Farm Conservancy, preserving the balance of its wildlife habitat and historical features, and protecting its scenic landscapes and tranquility for the enjoyment of the public.



As a Conservancy member, your gift recipient will receive:

- A personalized card announcing your special gift, delivered via USPS
- Monthly email updates on the Conservancy
- Updates on upcoming activities, events and volunteer opportunities
- Our semi-annual magazine, filled with stunning photos, as well as informative and insightful articles about PFC's history, educational programs, and its many plants and animals.

To gift a membership to a friend or loved one, please download & print our Gift Membership Form: https://www.popefarmconservancy.org/wp-content/uploads/2013/05/FOPFC_Gift_Membership_Form-2017.pdf and send the completed form along with a check (payable to FOPFC) to FOPFC, 10333 Blackhawk Rd, Middleton, WI 53562.

Renew Your Membership

Just a reminder...you can now renew your membership online at <https://www.popefarmconservancy.org/membership>, or you can renew by mail. Please send a check (payable to FOPFC) to FOPFC, 10333 Blackhawk Road, Middleton, WI 53562.

If you have already renewed your membership, THANK YOU! We hope you enjoy being a part of our community. For questions regarding your membership, please send an email to info@popefarmconservancy.org.

Happy Holidays!



As the year comes to a close, we'd like to take this opportunity to thank our members, donors, and dedicated volunteers for all their support and hard work this year. Together, we...

- **Offered** 7 educational tours/talks that were free and open to the public
- **Managed** 4 prairies at Pope Farm Conservancy for the Town of Middleton
- **Collected** prairie seeds to improve the quality and diversity of the prairies at Pope Farm Conservancy
- **Coordinated** volunteer efforts to help control invasive species in the conservancy
- **Administered** self-guided tour programs
- **Educated** 4th grade students about Native Americans, and Land Formation, as part to the Middleton Cross Plains fall field trips
- **Tagged** over 100 monarch butterflies to track them through their migration to Mexico
- **Researched and developed** additional signage to share the history of the Land
- **Assisted** the Town of Middleton to fix the erosion problems along the Stone fence
- **Produced** a series of educational videos about "German Immigration"
- **Researched** the history of the land, ownership, crops, and livestock for the next set of educational videos
- **Hosted** a Friends brunch for FOPFC members to share information and for members to meet one another

We are proud of what we've accomplished in 2018, and we couldn't have done it without your hard work and support! We wish you and your loved ones a very safe and happy holiday season! And we look forward to the many exciting events, tours and projects to come in 2019.

Make a Year-End Contribution

We know how much you enjoy Pope Farm Conservancy and the value that the FOPFC adds to your experience. Please consider making a year-end donation to support the Friends' upcoming events and programs in 2019.

We welcome and appreciate contributions of any amount. You can donate online using a credit card via our website: <https://www.popefarmconservancy.org/donate> or mail a check (payable to FOPFC) to FOPFC, 10333 Blackhawk Road, Middleton, WI 53562.

Thank you again for your support!



Photo by Barbara Esser

Connect with FOPFC online

Website: <https://www.popefarmconservancy.org>

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

Flickr: <https://www.flickr.com/groups/fopfc-photos>

**Thank you for supporting the Friends of Pope Farm Conservancy!
Our journey is ongoing, and YOU are part of it!**