

# DANE COUNTY NATURAL HERITAGE FOUNDATION

Dedicated to the protection and preservation of  
natural areas in Dane County through conservation  
easements, land donations and education.

Summer 1997

Photo: Henry Kosholek / Capital Times newspaper



## Greene Prairie an Urban Gem

Greene Prairie is the southernmost area in the Grady Tract of the UW Arboretum. The Greene Prairie was planted by hand by Prof. Henry Greene in the 1940's. He transplanted thousands of native plants and watered them from a nearby spring, transforming an old farm field into what is widely acclaimed as a world-class restoration area. He was an expert in fungus and could often identify a plant, otherwise unidentifiable, by knowing the species of fungus associated with it!

*As you emerge from the woods of the Grady Tract, Greene Prairie stretches before you, so expansive, you might even forget you're in the UW-Arboretum in the city of Madison.*

lovely prairie plants including the White-fringed Orchid, Yellow-Star Grass, Creamy False Indigo and Blazing Star. The prairie faces the sloping hillside of the Harlan Sprague Dawley (HSD) property, the last undeveloped parcel neighboring the Arboretum. The area lies within the Nine Springs E-Way boundary. The HSD land is currently farmed, but the owners Harlan Industries, have submitted a plat for residential housing on the land.

The Foundation has been working with the UW Arboretum, Dane County Parks and the Friends of the Arboretum to make an offer to purchase as much of the HSD property as possible. Our intention is to provide a physical and aesthetic buffer to Greene Prairie. Our greatest concern is about the visual impact of a 96-123 home sub-division on a visitor to Greene Prairie. There is also concern that the ongoing flooding of Greene Prairie due to past development may be exacerbated by this sub-division. University faculty have also pointed out that many native plants are ultra-sensitive to lawn chemicals that could drift into Greene Prairie.

Our original goal was to buy the property outright (50 acres). The property is in a prime location and receives considerable value because of its proximity to the Arboretum. The number of acres we can purchase depends on how much money we can raise and whether we can reach an agreement on the price with the owner.

The HSD property needs to be rezoned and the plat approved by the City of Fitchburg. The first plat was sent back to the drawing board on August 2, so a second proposal is expected soon.

It appears that some combination of development may occur on the SE corner of the HSD property. But we hope that a substantial part of the piece can be purchased for the Nine Springs E-Way to buffer Greene Prairie and provide open space in the City of Fitchburg for our community.

SEE INSERT  
GREENWAY / DUNN  
PROJECT  
SEE INSERT



# Citizen Action Impressive in Token Creek

The Token Creek Watershed Project (TCWP) has come a long way since the forum held last March. After the 90 Token Creek area residents created a "shared sense of place" at the forum, this community of motivated people organized work-groups around five major themes in order to work toward a better future.

Since then, citizens have volunteered over 2000 hours to project activities. After defining their purpose statements and goals, the groups identified informational needs and began gathering data. Several groups, impatient to "get active," have already conducted on-the-ground projects like field trips, creek clean-ups, and educational workshops. The education group is working to build a common vocabulary by composing a glossary of watershed terms. They have also assembled a project display board and a watershed binder—full of ways each resident can help improve water quality—to be exhibited at local libraries in September and October.

At the May plenary meeting, when the project was informed that funding for DCNHF's Token Creek Resource Specialist position was drying up, citizens spontaneously pledged \$1650 and formed a subcommittee to raise money through a Fourth of July raffle. At the second plenary meeting in July, Barb Hennings, a work-group member, proudly reported net earnings of \$1333 from the raffle, saying, "This raffle really raised awareness about positive activities of the project and it's significant that we were so well received by the public." Project members hope this proof of community support will attract more grants and corporate funding.

Recently, in an unprecedented move, the Board of DCNHF voted to fund the half-time Token Creek Resource Specialist position for another year with or without outside grant

money. This will allow Jon Doré to continue facilitating the community's watershed efforts. Consistent staffing is one vital factor missing from many watershed efforts and it has given the TCWP a real boost. A major challenge for the project in the coming year will be to find a way to inherit this staffing responsibility from DCNHF.



*Local children chose winning tickets while Jon Doré and Barb Hennings record winners and their prizes. Prizes were donated by over 20 Token Creek area merchants and residents.*



*"Papa Drop" and watershed project members ride the project's 4th of July float, a hay wagon lent and pulled by Fred Mayr, a local farmer and TCWP education group member.*

## Raffle Sponsors

The Token Creek Watershed Project Raffle would have gone nowhere without the business who donated prizes. Thanks to the sponsors:

A&W Restaurant	Paddle Inn
Bank of Sun Prairie (downtown location)	Pedro's Restaurant
BaskeTree Gifts	Prairie Lanes Bowling
Kris' Custom Sewing	Pumpkin Hollow Driving Range
The Kountry Keg	Romp's Corner Inn
Culver's Frozen Yogurt (Sun Prairie, DeForest)	Routed-4-U
Fitzgerald's of Sun Prairie	Sentry Food Store in Sun Prairie
Fontana Sports	Tierney Farms
Herreman's Restaurant	Tony's Italian Restaurant
Lake Windsor Golf Course	Welton Enterprises
North Bristol Sportsman's Club	

# Happy New Developments in the Nine-Springs E-Way Deal

## E-WAY DEAL YIELDS HOME-SITES

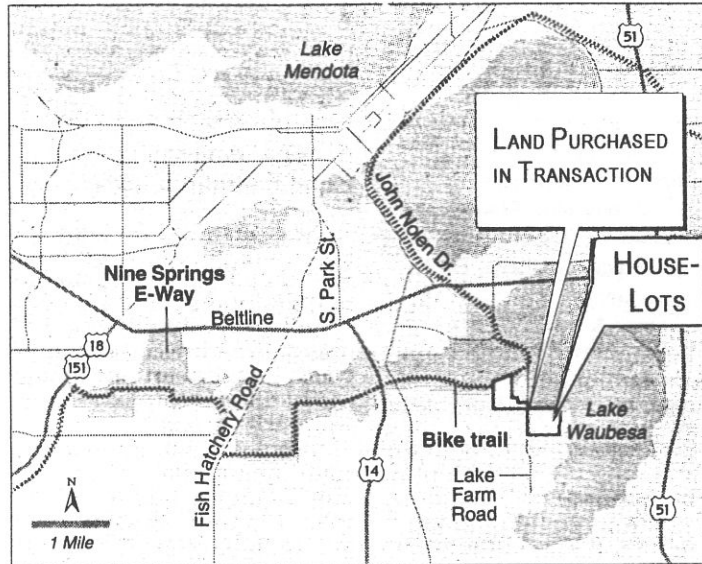
After the exciting news that we closed our \$1,000,000 purchase (*see the list of contributors, flip side*), good times were had at the celebratory picnic, on the oak savannah knoll which will become a Town of Dunn park. Revelers enjoyed surveying the rolling cornfields, the development rights of which have now been transferred to the Town of Dunn. The Foundation continues to work toward selling that land to a local farmer. We are waiting for final approval from the Town, County, and City of Madison on our plan to separate the property into different parcels for the Town park, the farmer, and DCNHF.

Beyond the farmland, picnickers saw the wetlands, and the residentially zoned wooded areas which will be marketed as two homesites, in order to break even from the Greenway / Town of Dunn purchase. One 9-acre and one 16-acre site will each be restricted by a conservation easement which will protect the land, while allowing the building of one residence per site. The Town of Dunn has already petitioned for use of the existing sewer line. Anyone interested in purchasing one of these parcels should give us a call!

### Special Gifts

Recently, Dane County Natural Heritage Foundation received the final installment of a bequest from the late **Dr. Alice Watts**.

A gift to the Natural Heritage Foundation may be in honor of a special occasion as well as in memory of a loved one, and could protect a wetland, restore a prairie, or preserve a woodland. Donations may be in the form of cash, bequests, life insurance, securities, or life income gifts. All contributions are tax-deductible as provided by law. If you'd like to discuss a gift to the Foundation, please call our office at 258-9797.



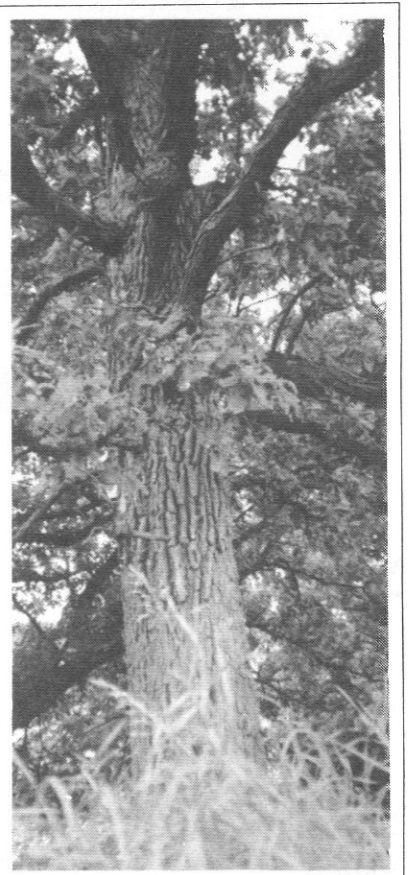
*Original graphic by Wisconsin State Journal/Laura Sparks.*

## MAYO CORPORATION AIDS GREENWAY

Over the past six months, the Foundation has tackled our most complicated and expensive transaction to date. Successfully completing the Nine-springs E-Way project south of Madison would have been impossible without the professional guidance

of the Mayo Corporation. After purchasing the whole parcel of 248 acres, the land needed to be surveyed and legal descriptions prepared in order to reconvey parcels to Dane County Parks, Town of Dunn, and a local farmer. The Mayo Corporation carried out this survey work, prepared permits and walked us through the transaction. The Mayo Corporation made a major contribution by offering their services at cost.

On behalf of the Foundation, we would like to acknowledge the generosity of the Mayo Corporation: Don Mayo, Michelle Burse and their professional staff. Thank you!



*One of the majestic old oaks on the knoll, destined to become a Town park.*

# CONTRIBUTORS TO THE GREENWAY / TOWN OF DUNN PURCHASE

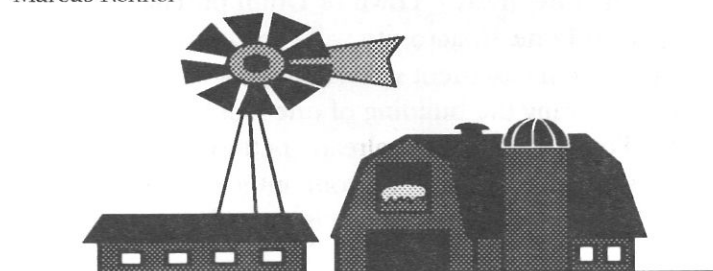
A special thank you to those of you who helped us toward the \$1,000,000 needed to complete the E-way deal!

Dr. John W. Anderegg  
Bettylu and Ernest Anderson  
Ms. Marion F. Anderson  
Vicki Anderson  
Anonymous (2)  
Gloria B. Berman  
Patti Bewick  
Bob Birmingham  
Mrs. Jo Ann and Mr. Lloyd Bitzer  
Hallie Lou Blum  
Helen B. Boley  
Nina & Charley Bradley  
DeeDee Britton  
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Katherine & Tom Brock  
Mr. Kenneth E. Brost  
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Mr. James F. and Ann C. Crow  
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Lisa and Jim Cummings  
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John & Patricia DeSmidt  
Gene L. Dewey  
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Patrick and Lloyd Eagan  
Emily H. Earley  
Ms. Marilyn J. Effland  
John and Virginia Emlen  
Mr. and Mrs. Epstein  
Mr. & Mrs. Richard A. Erney  
Marty and Terry Evanson  
Gale & Charlotte Ewald

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Louise Rogers Fisher  
Jerome & Gertrude Foy  
Gordon & Jean Freese  
Ms. Anna Garner-Strickon  
Ms. Susan Gilchrist, DNR  
Tom Gross  
George & Anita Gurda  
Nancy J. Hagen  
Drothy Haines  
Mr. and Mrs. Harrison  
Janice Behn & David Henige  
Mr. & Mrs. Herbert Howe  
Sara Hulsether & John Brugge  
Judith & John Hutchinson  
Mark Jeffries  
David Jenkins  
Rosemary and Lee Jones  
Dr. and Mrs. Katzelnick  
James and Mary Knickmeyer  
Patricia G. Koenecke  
Elaine P. Koepf  
Norma J. Kolthoff  
Jeffery T. Kuesel  
Doug LaFollette  
Margaret Lalor  
Chuck Lemke  
Madelyn Leopold  
Lawrence Levy & Ruth Saunders  
Elizabeth A. Lewis  
John D. and Phoebe R. Lewis Fdtn.  
Jean and Ron Lewis  
Kate Lieber  
Tibi Light & Steven K. Larson  
Stanley Livingston and Anne Hughes  
Art & Sue Lloyd  
Marjory & David Lyford

Ms. Geraldine Malak  
Carol S. Maroney  
Margaret and Ronald Mattox  
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Marie McCabe  
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The Mayo Corporation  
Jean & Walter Meanwell  
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Bruce & Judy Sperling-Newton  
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Wayne and Jackie Clancy-Pauly  
James & Jean Potter  
Mr. Paul Rabinowitz  
Elaine D. K. Rattunde  
Audrey Ready  
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Walter & Jean Rideout  
Harriet Riley  
Hans and Theron Ris  
Eugene M. Roark  
Betty and Max Rosenbaum  
Hershel & Arlene Rotter  
Patricia J. Sammataro  
Steve Schooler and Marsha Mansfield  
Gerald & Mary Schwoch  
Mr. and Mrs. Selk  
Marge Shepherd  
Kathryn Sievers  
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Lucy & Mick Solberg  
L & E Solomon  
Ms. Emma-Lou Sorum  
Debra Steaffens  
Frederick C. Suhr  
Donald E. Thompson  
C.W. & Constance F. Threinen  
Jon and Peggy Traver  
Sarita Trewartha  
Donald W. Venden  
Ronald & Peg Wallace  
Mr. & Mrs. Watrous  
Pat and Lawrence Watson  
Thompson and Diana Webb  
Jan & Scott Zimmermann  
Dr. Gabriele M. Zu-Rhein



----- ✂ ----- cut and return -----

## DANE COUNTY NATURAL HERITAGE FOUNDATION

### Membership Categories

- ☐ \$25.00 *Individual*
- ☐ \$35.00 *Household*
- ☐ \$50.00 *Sustaining*
- ☐ \$100.00 *Donor*

### Please send me information on:

- ☐ Volunteering
- ☐ Token Creek Streambank Program
- ☐ How to make a gift through my will
- ☐ How to make a gift of real estate

### Send to:

DCNHF  
633 W. Main St.  
Madison, WI 53703-2633  
608-258-9797

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

City/Zip \_\_\_\_\_

Contributions are tax-deductible as provided by law. Please make checks payable to Dane County Natural Heritage Foundation. Thank you!



## Help us Welcome Our New Board Members

The Foundation is fortunate to have an active board which contributes time and expertise to carry out our conservation and fundraising projects. This year, we welcome three new members.

**Douglas Berry** is a Certified Public Accountant with Suby, Von Haden & Associates. He holds a Bachelor's degree in information systems from the

University of Maryland. Douglas is serving as the Treasurer for the DCNHF.

**Lisa Binkley** holds a master's degree in Urban Planning from UW Milwaukee. She has served on the citizen's planning committee for Hoyt Park, is a member of the American Planning Association and Nature

Conservancy and works as a planning and policy analyst for the State Dept. of Transportation.

**Anne Monks** has worked as an assistant to Sen. Russ Feingold and most recently Mayer Paul Soglin. She has a master's degree in real estate and appraisal. Anne served on the Madison Common Council from 1980 - 1986.

## Thanks to our Business Supporters

So far, 36 businesses have made contributions or provided in-kind service to the Foundation in 1997. Thank you!

AE Business Solutions  
American Family Insurance  
Architectural Building Arts  
Bank One, Madison  
Bruce Co.  
Chickadee Depot  
DEC International-Albrecht  
Fdn.  
Demco, Inc.  
Eugenie Mayer Bolz Family  
Fdn.

Everen Securities, Inc  
Famous Footwear  
First Business Bank of Madison  
Foley & Lardner  
Geib Realty  
General Casualty Companies  
Genetics Computer Group  
Haen Real Estate  
Hooper Construction Corporation  
John J. Frautschi Family Fdn.  
Kennedy Hahn TV & Appliance

Klipstein Insurance Services,  
Inc.  
Madison Dairy Produce Co. /  
Steinhauer Trust  
Madison Gas & Electric Fdn.  
Madison-Kipp Corporation  
Marling Lumber Co.  
Marshall Erdman & Associates,  
Inc.  
Mayo Corporation  
McFarland State bank

Mount Horeb Truck Parts, Inc.  
Placon Corporation  
Suby, Von Haden & Associates  
Thorstad Chevrolet  
Vogel Foundation  
W. Jerome Frautschi Charitable  
Trust  
Webcrafters, Inc.  
Williams Environmental Asso-  
ciates  
Zimbrick, Inc.

## Wilke Preserve

### Prairie Growing, Wetland About to Return

The restored prairie at our Wilke Preserve, near Waunakee, is in its third growing season, and earlier this summer we counted 22 native plant species now growing there (*listed underneath the photo*). We also found (grrr!) non-natives, the hurdles to our restoration effort. If you'd like to help pull non-natives or do any other work on the prairie, let us know. We're planning other upcoming events at Wilke, too—details TBA.

In addition to prairie, the preserve was once the site of a wetland with springs, much appreciated by thirsty stagecoach horses who travelled a route across what is now the preserve. With the land drained for farming, many animals lost habitat, and waterfowl lost breeding areas and migration rest-stops.

With the Wisconsin Waterfowl Association, we are restoring a piece of the wetland, an 8-10 acre pond in a corner of the preserve, which will attract a variety of creatures—mostly ducks, shorebirds, and amphibians who live in wetland habitat. In addition to other benefits, wetlands seem to help control regional flooding and can be pretty to look at. We're excited to replace a smidgeon of one of the most beneficial, yet most endangered, ecosystems in Dane County and the country.



*Today, a mere puddle; tomorrow, an 8-10 acre pond.*

### Found on the Prairie

**Native species:** Bergamot, Brown-Eyed Susan, Canadian Milk Vetch, Cup Plant, Evening Primrose, Golden Alexander, Heart-Leaf Golden Alexander, Meadow Rue, New England Aster, Old-Field Thistle, Ox-Eye Sunflower, Prairie Dock, Prairie Phlox, Purple Prairie Clover, Rosin Weed, Sawtooth Sunflower, Stiff Goldenrod, Thimbleweed, White Avens, Canada Wild Rye, White Prairie Clover, Yellow Coneflower.

**Non-native species:** Bull Thistle, Curly Dock, Canada Thistle, Dandelion, Field Bindweed, Reed Canary, Sweet Clover, Wild Lettuce.

## INSIDE:

- ◆ Discover Greene Prairie
- ◆ The exciting unfolding of the Token Creek Watershed Project
- ◆ Insert: The ongoing fruition of the Greenway / Town of Dunn transaction
- ◆ We thank Greenway contributors and business sponsors
- ◆ Wetland restoration and other projects at the Wilke Preserve
- ◆ Welcome new Board Members



*On August 9th, the Token Creek Watershed Project conducted a watershed tour to several highlights of the area, Harbison and Culver Springs and the DNR Trout Pond renovation project. They also visited areas of concern. In the photo above, tour participants survey a gully formed by storm water runoff. In November, the watershed project plans to host a series of working meetings bringing together all concerned stakeholders to examine the storm water runoff issue. Two goals are to build shared understanding of the problem and to enhance collaborative efforts to improve the way we manage storm water. Sarah Van Tiem of the Environmental Resources Center will be volunteering with DCNHF (258-9797) on Fridays to coordinate this effort.*

## DANE COUNTY NATURAL HERITAGE FOUNDATION

633 West Main Street  
Madison, WI 53703-2633  
608-258-9797

Address Correction Requested

Michael A. Slavney, *President*  
Jerry Smith, *Vice President*  
Douglas Berry, *Treasurer*  
Kristine Euclide, *Secretary*

Norman C. Anderson  
William G. Lunney  
Jean D. Meanwell  
*Past Presidents*

**BOARD OF DIRECTORS**  
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James Bricker  
Emily H. Earley, *Chair, Stewardship*  
Larry W. Gleasman  
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Randall Ney  
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Jeanie Sieling, *Chair, PR/Development*  
Jerry Smith  
Mark B. Williams

Robert M. Bolz  
Cal DeWitt  
Harold "Bud" Jordahl  
*Emeritus Board Members*

Jon Doré, *Token Creek Land Resource Specialist*  
Benson Gardner, *Program Assistant*  
Ruth Oppedahl, *Program Director*

William O'Connor, *Conservation Director*

Benson Gardner, Ruth Oppedahl, *Newsletter Editors*

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The Town of Dunn and  
Dane County Natural Heritage  
Foundation  
present a celebratory

# PICNIC

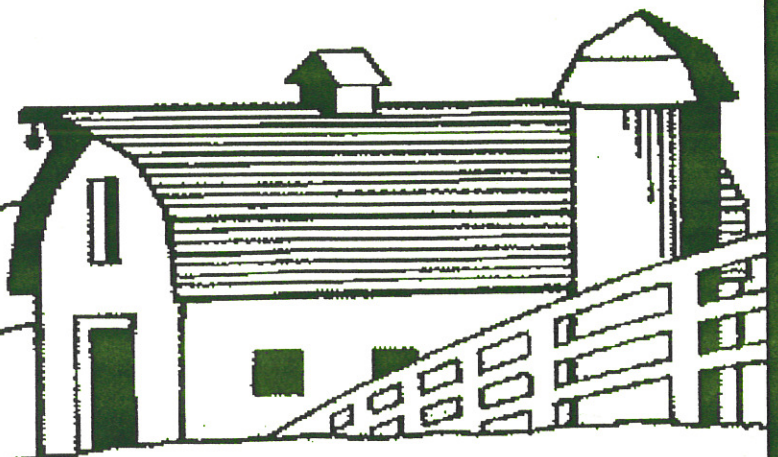
in honor of the Town of Dunn's Rural Preservation Program's  
first purchase, facilitated by Dane County Natural Heritage Foundation

CELEBRATE the preservation of FARMLAND  
AND OPEN SPACE

at the oak knoll on the corner of Lake Farm Road and Alma Road

Saturday, April 26<sup>th</sup>, NOON - 3 PM

- enjoy *HAY RIDES* and *HIKES* through the property
- bring a *DISH TO PASS* and a *TARP OR BLANKET* to sit on
- we'll supply *HOT DOGS, LEMONADE, and GRILLS*



Directions to site on the back ↘

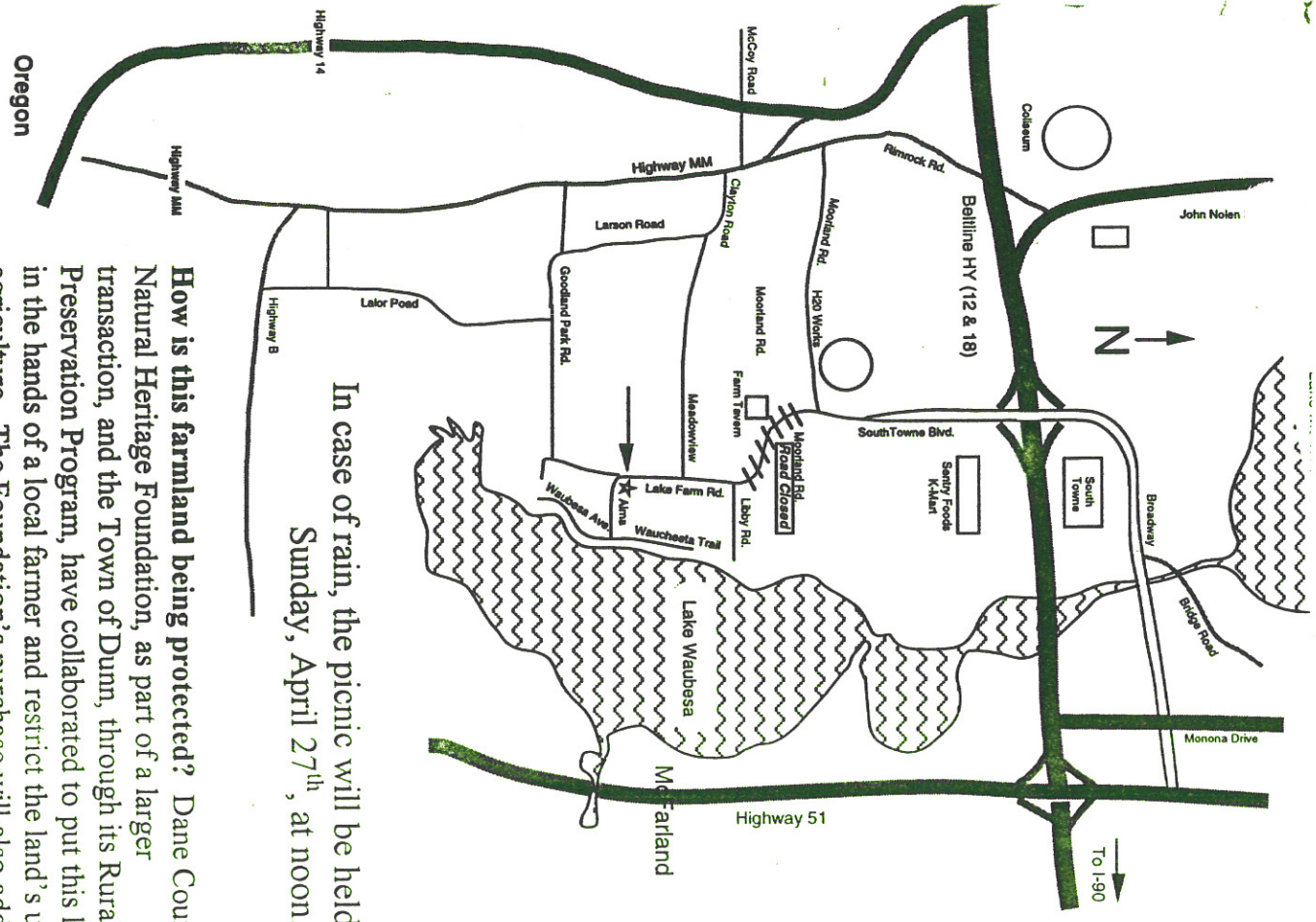
If you would like to support the Rural Preservation Program, contact the Town of Dunn, 4156 CTH B, McFarland, WI 53558, 255-4219. If you would like to support the Farmland / E-Way purchase, contact Benson Gardner at Dane County Natural Heritage Foundation, 633 W. Main, Madison, WI 53703, 258-9797.

**How is this farmland being protected?** Dane County Natural Heritage Foundation, as part of a larger transaction, and the Town of Dunn, through its Rural Preservation Program, have collaborated to put this land in the hands of a local farmer and restrict the land's use to agriculture. The Foundation's purchase will also add to Dane County's Nine Springs E-Way Park.

In case of rain, the picnic will be held Sunday, April 27<sup>th</sup>, at noon.

Dane County Natural Heritage Foundation  
633 W. Main Street  
Madison, WI 53703-2633

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CELEBRATE WITH US!