

# DANE COUNTY NATURAL HERITAGE FOUNDATION

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

Winter 2001

## Protecting Token Creek's Springs

The Dane County Natural Heritage Foundation (DCNHF) is continuing to make Token Creek a conservation priority. The Foundation started working in the watershed in the early 1990s. Since then, great progress has been made in protecting the creek, thanks to the efforts of partners like the Token Creek Watershed Association and local, state, and federal government agencies.

Now, DCNHF is building on previous conservation efforts by acquiring a portion of the collection of springs that feed Token Creek as

well as the adjacent wetland.

According to the Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources (DNR), the collection of cold water springs in the Token Creek Watershed is one of the largest in southern Wisconsin.

The Foundation recently worked with one of the landowners, Steve Pederson, to purchase approximately 13 acres of land east of Sun Prairie. Pederson Springs feed Token Creek, which is one of Lake Mendota's primary water sources. Says Executive Director

### A New Look for Your Local Land Trust...

DCNHF is updating its look this winter.

Keep watch for exciting improvements  
in our February newsletter!

Danielle Wood, "This property is in the path of development. Protecting the wetlands and springs now will help filter stormwater run-off should the area become residential in the future."

Protecting the Pederson springs property is also important because of its location. A major environmental corridor, which includes Token Creek and the former millpond, lies to the south and east of the property. Protecting the ecologically sensitive springs provides a significant link to the existing corridor.

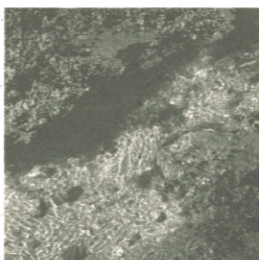
The Dane County Parks Open Space Plan and its Land and Water Resource Management Plan have (continued on page 2)

## Conservation Count

Easements: 668.4 acres  
Acquisitions: 1,706.9 acres  
Total Land Preserved: 2,375.3 acres

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An overview of the Pederson tributary near Token Creek.

The cool clear water of the springs bubble to the surface amidst watercress (above).

Photos by Jeffrey Strobel







## DANE COUNTY NATURAL HERITAGE FOUNDATION

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608/258-9797 [www.dcnhf.org](http://www.dcnhf.org)

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*Newsletter edited by Laurie Lewis Robertson*  
*Graphics production by Jeffrey Strobel*



Photo by Jeffrey Strobel

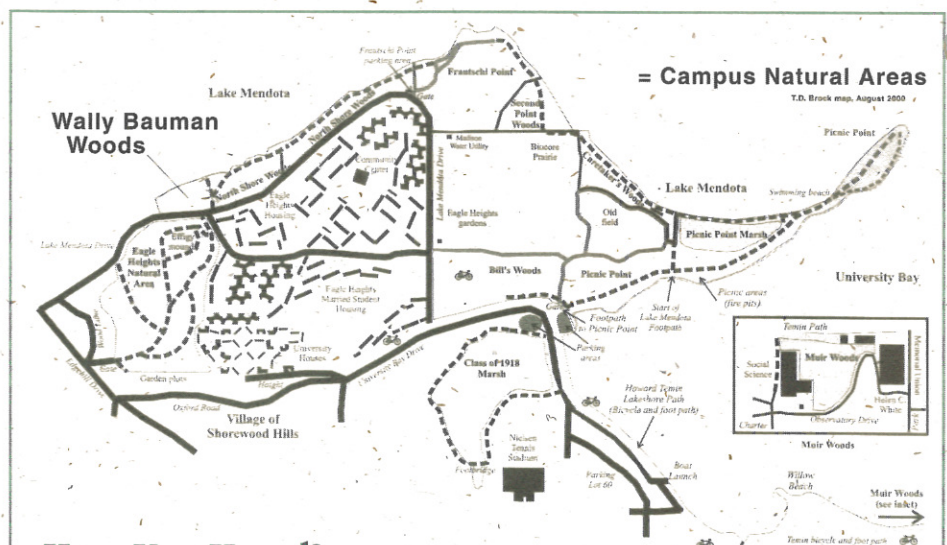
**“Protecting  
the property  
is a critical  
piece in  
what could  
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vision.”**

—Danielle Wood

## Token Creek's Springs (continued from page 1)

identified this region of the watershed as a conservation priority. In addition to meeting the goals of these plans, Wood notes, “Protecting the property is a critical piece in what could be a regional vision. The site has a great potential for linkages to both state and local green space.”

DCNHF is working with the Dane County Parks Department to transfer the land to public ownership. If successful, the site could become a preserve in one of Dane County's fastest growing areas.



## Have You Heard?

As many of you know, DCNHF was founded when concerned citizens gathered together to protect Wally Bauman Woods, located on Lake Mendota's north shore on the University of Wisconsin-Madison campus. Now, a new group, Friends of Campus Natural Areas (FCNA) has formed to preserve, restore and nurture the 325 acres of wonderful natural areas owned by UW-Madison. The campus natural areas are for public enjoyment and are used by the university for teaching and research. If you are interested in becoming a member of FCNA and/or interested in getting your hands dirty in trail and restoration work, contact Roma Lenehan, [rlenehan@chorus.net](mailto:rlenehan@chorus.net), or FCNA, PO Box 55056, Madison, WI 53705 for more information.



## Volunteers Give Their All for Native Species

By Sarah Gehlhoff, Stewardship Assistant

The Dane County Natural Heritage Foundation's volunteer work party, held October 6 at the Storybrook Farms easement was a great success. The goal of the day was to remove non-native species from the land to allow native growth to flourish, promoting a more sustainable and diverse ecosystem. The day was crisp and sunny, perfect for out-

door work. A mixed group of volunteers joined the effort, including neighbors, DCNHF members, staff and volunteers, and teacher Barbara Ridd and seven students from Oregon High School's Ecology Club. Naturalists Wayne Pauly, Bob Canter and landowner Steve Thurner ran chainsaws cutting through invasive honeysuckle underbrush. Other

volunteers hauled brush and treated the invasive stumps with RoundUp, a degradable herbicide used by land managers. The amount of area cleared by the crew in four short hours was amazing. Brush piles lay stacked higher than the heights of the tallest volunteers. Thanks to everyone who came out to pitch in and promote native growth!

*Photos by Joe Jackson*



Working on the banks of Story Creek



Espen Hessleberg

Jamie Kurtz



Ben Johnson



Oregon High School Ecology Club members hauling brush:  
Sarah Dutis, Jessica Klein, Ben Johnson and Jamie Kurtz



# Stewardship Winners Shine

A fly on the wall (or maybe in our case, an Asian lady-beetle) peaking into the Madison Ballroom of the Concourse Hotel the evening of September 18, would have found a room filled with warmth and much needed positive energy. One week after the tragic events of September 11, more than 180 people gathered together to focus on good

things close to home, honoring local conservation heroes at the Dane County Natural Heritage Foundation's 8th annual 2001 Stewardship Awards program.

The event included a keynote address by George Meyer, Special Assistant to the Secretary of the Wisconsin Department of

Natural Resources. Meyer inspired us with his views on the importance of cooperation and partnership in conservation.

In case you missed the event, here is an account of the conservation heroes we honored.

**Youth Award:** Winnequah Middle School, was honored for its environmental service

## The Many Faces of Stewardship

This year's Stewardship Awards program was a huge success, which is easy to understand given the amazing dedication and conservation achievements of the award recipients. However, the awards ceremony's success was due in large part to the wonderful support of individuals – our members, concerned community members and supporting businesses.

One participant in the evening's program told a DCNHF staff member that she was truly "inspired" by the event, and was "very impressed with the work the organization does and the people involved." DCNHF thanks those of you who personally contributed.

You made a difference and we are grateful.

### 2001 Stewardship Awards Business Sponsors

Bank of Waunakee  
BT2 Inc.  
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Country Creek Floral & Gifts  
Don Simon Homes  
First Business bank  
Fontana Sports Specialties  
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Jeffrey Strobel  
Mary & Mark Trewartha  
Mark & Peggy Williams  
Jan & Scott Zimmerman

### 2001 Stewardship Awards Individual Sponsors

Thomas Bolger  
Nan & Dan Cheney  
James and Lisa Cummings



Emily H. Earley, Lifetime Achievement Award Winner

Photo by Jan Zimmerman

Individual Award Winner Irene Silverwood, with Keynote Speaker George Meyer (seated); guests Diane Everson and Jeff Roethe (standing).





work. Teacher Bob Schläefer accepted the awards and students, Stephanie Eisch, Bobby Klinzing, Mark McKamey, and Eric Redding, shared insightful excerpts from their journals recounting their experiences battling invasive species.

**Coalition Award:** Our new coalition award

recognized the joint efforts of a unique group consisting of a developer (Don Tierney), a village (Village of Waunakee), and a private foundation (Eugenie Mayer-Bolz Foundation). The coalition created a new park in Waunakee that incorporates natural areas with recreation and development.

**Individual Award:** Irene Silverwood's actions as an individual will have a lasting impact on countless future generations. Irene donated 300 acres of woods and farmland on Rice Lake near the Town of Albion to The Dane County Parks Department for a new county park. Edgerton Reporter Publisher, Diane Everson, graciously accepted the award on Irene's behalf.

**Government Award:** The Town of Windsor was recognized for its land conservation efforts amidst increasing urbanization, including their protection work on Token Creek.

**Nonprofit Award:** The Madison Audubon Society (MAS), was honored for its enduring commitment to the conservation of native plants and bird life, and education in our region since 1936.

**Lifetime Achievement Award:** Last, but definitely not least, DGNHF honored Emily H. Earley with our first ever Lifetime Achievement Award. Emily has dedicated over 30 years of work and experience in conservation and commitment to the Dane County region. Full of spunk and with a can-do attitude, Emily calls herself a "grandmother gadfly," but we call her a motivator and an inspiration.



Science teacher Bob Schläefer with students Bobby Klinzing, Mark McKamey and Stephanie Eisch.



Youth photos courtesy of Bob Schläefer

Student Bobby Klinzing reflects on his environmental service work.



Photo by Jan Zimmerman



Photo by Sue McDade

Coalition Award Winners: Jack Bolz, Rich Murphy, Bob Bolz and Don Tierney.



## ANNOUNCEMENTS

### In your community...

**Northern Wisconsin Bird Trip** — Friday-Sunday, December 7-9. Limited to 12. Group will meet at Cub Foods East, 4141 Nakoosa Trail. Madison Chapter of the Audubon Society. Contact Aaron Stutz, 232-1756

**Christmas Bird Counts** — Audubon Society:

Madison — Dec. 15; Tony and Carol, 249-8836

Waterloo — Dec 16; Kevin and Dawn, 920/478-2242

Baraboo — Dec. 26; Ken, 767-3343

Sauk City — Dec. 26; Nancy, 608/643-1274

Poynette — Dec. 29; Mark and Sue, 635-4160

Mt. Horeb — Dec. 30; Ken, 767-3343

**Winter Bird Watching** — Saturday, December 8, 1:00-3:00; Aldo Leopold Nature Center, 221-4038

**Winter Solstice Celebration** — Friday, December 21, 7:00-8:30 pm; Aldo Leopold Nature Center, 221-4038

**Restoring Wetlands** — a two day series presented by Soil and Water Conservation Society and Wisconsin Wetland Association: "Navigating the Regulatory Maze to Wetland Restoration" and "Wetland Restoration Planning for Watersheds;" January 31-February 1, 2002, 8-5 pm; Holiday Inn, Fon du Lac, Wisconsin. Call WWA 250-9971 for information.

### Wish List

New or used guides to Midwestern flora and fauna

Color Printer

Laptop Computer

Laptop Projector

Pentium Computer

3.5 MP digital camera

Flatbed scanner

### You may not want to go for a picnic now, but. . .

Since the Stewardship Awards, many DCNHF members have been asking about the new Bolz Conservancy Park in Waunakee. The park has a great hilltop view of the capitol and is in the process of being restored to native prairie. It is connected by corridor to Southbridge, a recreational park also owned by the village.

Directions from Madison: Enter the village of Waunakee from Hwy 19. At the 4-way stop light (Village park is ahead on your left) turn left onto Division Street. Follow Division Street south to Woodland Drive —turn left again. Your first right will be Wimbleton. The park is located at the end of the Wimbleton. The narrow street to the left is a private drive and should not be used for parking.

### Thanks for your help

Thanks again to everyone who participated in and supported the stewardship awards!

And all those who participated in the work party at Storybrook Farm.

*We regret if we missed anyone!*

A special thanks to Nancy Weiman and Sarah Gehlhoff for hosting registration at the Stewardship Awards,

Kristen Tomasheski for representing us at an event and for her internship work,

Sarah Gehlhoff for organizing our work party and being an ace volunteer,

Craig Robertson for installing virus software,

Bob Canter and Wayne Pauly for leading the work party,

Steve and Chris Thurner for providing lunch at the work party,

The Oregon High School Ecology club for volunteering at the work party,

Chet and Donna Thomas for volunteering at the work party,

Scott Sauer for volunteering at the work party,

Bill Pielsticker for his photography,

Jeff Strobel for his photography and design and layout,

Jan Zimmerman for her photography,

Joe Jackson for his photography,

Chrysalis for their great work and service in preparing our mailings,

Julie Hayward for donating her wonderful artwork for our cards,

Anita and Marty Cornell for their continued dedication to maintaining trails at Wilke Prairie,

Gordie and Nancy Miller, for their help with signage at Wilke Prairie,

Gathering Waters, Land Trust Alliance, and The Nature Conservancy for hosting a Site Conservation Workshop and providing grant funding,

Our members and donors who generously keep us going,

As always, our dedicated board members who have given countless hours of their time and talents to the foundation.



## Black Earth Creek and Token Creek Watersheds

*Our conservation focus in the Black Earth Creek and Token Creek Watershed continues...*

*Many thanks to our project supporters:*

### Black Earth Creek:

Ed and Pat Baker

David Fallow

Reid and Sue Jorgenson

Rose Meinholz and Larry Hochman

Louise and Donald Novotny.



Photo by Jeffrey Strobel

### Token Creek:

John and Judith Hutchinson, Fontana Sports Specialties, Inc.

If you would like to contribute to our Black Earth Creek or Token Creek Watershed projects please fill out the form below. *Thank you!*

## *A Point to Ponder*

I only went out for a walk  
and finally concluded to stay out  
until sundown,  
for going out,  
I found,  
was really going in.

—John Muir (1838-1914)  
*American naturalist*



**Don't Forget...end of the year giving for tax deductions!** With the season's changes and the year winding down to a close, this is your last chance to take advantage of charitable deductions on your taxes before the end of the year. Renewing your membership and making a donation to your favorite nonprofit land trust is a great way to both give and receive. *Thank you.*

## Dane County Natural Heritage Foundation

Help us protect natural areas close to home!

### Membership categories:

- ☐ Individual \$25
- ☐ Household \$50
- ☐ Enthusiast \$100
- ☐ Benefactor \$250
- ☐ Other \_\_\_\_\_

### Additional Project Contribution:

- ☐ Black Earth Creek Watershed \_\_\_\_\_
- ☐ Token Creek Watershed \_\_\_\_\_

Send to:



DCNHF  
303 S. Paterson, Suite 6  
Madison WI 53703

### Please send me information on:

- ☐ Volunteering
- ☐ How to make a gift through my will
- ☐ How to make a gift of real estate

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

Thank you!

☐ Check this box if you prefer to remain anonymous.

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

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

E-mail \_\_\_\_\_



## 2001 Business Donors

Architectural Building Arts  
Bock Water Heaters, Inc.  
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Town and Country Engineering

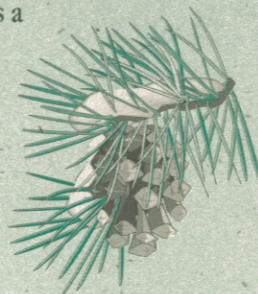
Urban Land Interests  
W. Jerome Frautschi Chairitable  
Lead Unitrust  
Wheeler, Van Sickle & Anderson  
Williams Environmental Associates, Inc.

## Need a gift for that special someone?

Give the gift of trees, clean water and open spaces in which to play this holiday season.

Consider giving a DCNHF gift membership to a friend or family member! You can feel good about giving a gift that makes a difference. The recipient you choose will receive a card acknowledging your gift, DCNHF membership perks (newsletter, updates, invitations to events) and most importantly, the satisfaction that they are helping protect natural places in and around Dane County.

Members, watch your mailbox for gift cards coming soon! Or call Laurie at 258-9797.



Dane County Natural Heritage Foundation  
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