

# Land Resources and Environment Department: Monthly Report

## Land Conservation

### Highlights

- Interviews were held for the Conservation Technician position funded through USDA-NRCS on 11/13 & 11/15. Jennifer Schneiderman's first day with the LRE department will be 12/18.
- Staff attended the Lake Redstone Partners Meeting on 11/7 with representatives from Lake Redstone Protection District, WDNR, USGS, USDA-NRCS & Juneau County in attendance.
- Staff completed the fall transect survey throughout Sauk County and also in the Lake Redstone watershed.
- Staff hosted Ag Plastics collection event on 11/15 with 10 attendees
- Staff presented the Enviroscape Model at Tower Rock Elementary on 11/21 with 34 third graders in attendance.
- Staff attended the SSWIG meeting 11/16 with 13 people in attendance.

### Conserve Sauk Film Festival



The third biennial Conserve Sauk Film Festival was held at the UW-Platteville Baraboo Sauk County campus on November 4th with over 80 people in attendance. LRE staff collaborated with local conservation and community groups to host this event. A variety of conservation themed films were screened at the event including many produced locally and regionally. Attendees participated in facilitated discussion after the films and learned more about local conservation efforts and opportunities for involvement.

### Staff Testify in Support of Grass Pilot Program



Staff testified before the Wisconsin Assembly Agriculture Committee in support of Assembly Bill 655 relating to a transition to Grass Pilot Program. This program would provide grants up to \$40,000 to producers who are implementing livestock grass-based managed grazing systems. Staff provided information on the successful grazing programs Sauk County has implemented and explained how the proposed program could work alongside the programs we already administer.

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## Planning and Zoning

### Highlights

- Staff are continuing to work with WisDOT and WSOR to finalize the GSST rails with trails project. Remaining items to be addressed include the installation of a fence, no trespassing signage, and signage related to the parking lot.
- Staff are continuing to work with HKGi, municipalities and various stakeholders to distill public input received to date into a preferred GSST route.
- Annual nonmetallic mining reclamation report reminder letters were sent to nonmetallic mine operators/owners. Wisconsin Administrative Code NR 135 has annual reporting requirements that staff must submit to the WDNR.

### Certified Survey Map Review



According to Chapter 22 of Sauk County's Land Division and Subdivision Regulations Ordinance, Sauk County has review and approval authority over all land divisions in unincorporated areas that are done by Certified Survey Map (CSM). Chapter 22 grants this authority to the zoning administrator as follows, "Authority to approve CSM's if hereby delegated from the Agency to the Zoning Administrator..."

Sauk County has a team of staff from multiple disciplines that review CSM's for compliance relative to their specialty area such as zoning, land conservation, highway, and for compliance with Wis. Stat ch. 236. Thus far in 2023 there have been 202 CSM's submitted to the county for review before they are recorded with the Register of Deeds.

### Lake Redstone Protection District



Will Christensen attended the Lake Redstone Protection District Annual Partners Meeting. Will discussed and answered questions on aspects of the Shoreland Protection Ordinance.

It was discussed that Sauk County has jurisdiction landward from the ordinary high water mark (OHWM), and the DNR has jurisdiction on the lake side of the OHWM.

Will explained that the quickest way to get a response from Sauk County if there is a concern/violation complaint is to call the general LRE office phone number so available staff can provide a response/begin filing a complaint to pass on to Will or another staff member if the situation warrants.

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## Parks and Recreation

### Highlights

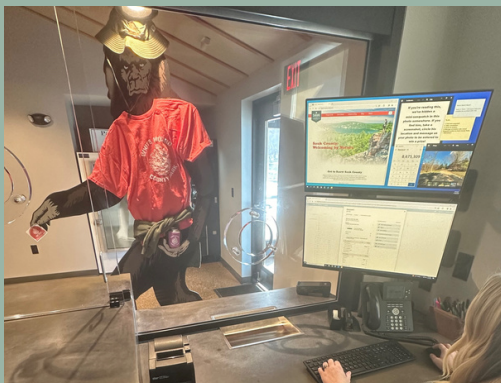
- Multiple logs and debris were removed from the Delton Dam.
- Staff attended intake court for unpaid ordinance violations.
- Some of the prairies at White Mound County Park were mowed.
- Staff participated in the Baraboo Christmas Light Parade by donning the Kubota UTV with holiday decorations and driving through the parade.
- The roof was framed and concrete blocks were placed for the manure pit at the horse campground.
- Staff painted parking lot lines at the Goette Road parking lot near the GSST.
- Trails at were checked in preparation for the upcoming snowmobile season.

### Campground & amenities closed for winter



Staff spent time in November getting parks and facilities ready for winter. This includes bringing the paddle sport equipment inside, removing piers from 3 boat landings and the beach at White Mound County Park, and installing gates to shut down White Mound Drive. Most water was shut off in the campground, and the campground was officially closed on November 27. Early reservation requests for 2024 are already being sent in and we look forward to the 2024 camping season!

### 2024 Sauk County Parks & GSST passes now available!



Sasquatch stopped by our office to help make the announcement that the Great Sauk State Trail passes and Sauk County annual stickers were delivered to our vendors in November and are now available for purchase! We have several vendors scattered throughout the county that graciously sell our passes for us, in addition to purchasing through our office and/or parks. It appears that we are on track to meet and perhaps exceed entrance fee revenue collected in 2022.