

Naturalist Report

November/December 2021

Admin/Finance

- Sarah Ironside started as our Assistant Naturalist on Tuesday, November 16th. She quickly started facilitating programs, designing new programs and creating lesson plans for existing programs.

Education

- Our spring field trip season is filling quickly. We only have a few openings left from the middle of April through the first week in June.
- We partnered with the Kaukauna Public Library to apply for a grant which will support native plant programs and projects for the summer of 2022. The grant program is encouraging native plantings to support our native bee populations. If the grant is awarded, it will include programs where participants will receive native seed packets, have a chance to build a planter box, be able to participate in citizen science programs and more. The initiative is connected to a PBS documentary released this past fall titled My Garden of a Thousand Bees. <https://www.pbs.org/video/my-garden-of-a-thousand-bees-trjhzt/>
- Our first public bird seed sale was successful. In total, we sold 1985 pounds of bird seed, raising \$1802, including \$265 in donations. Thanks go to Kaukauna Utilities for sponsoring this sale as well as Maureen Feldt for organizing the fundraiser.

Building & Grounds

- The prairie garden located at the far end of the parking was seeded before a snow fall in an effort to improve the quality of the planting for the next growing season.
- The majority of the trails in the Upper Woods have been marked with reflective markers to make wayfinding easier for visitors. Trails have been marked so that they don't go onto the Girl Scout Property.
- Four memorial benches have been installed in the Overlook area. We still have a number of benches that are waiting for installation. Installations will continue when the ground thaws.