

Naturalist Report

May 2022

Admin/Finance

- Liliana Balthazor has started with 1000 Islands as our Summer Intern.
- Sub-committee based strategic planning has begun. It is the goal to have a draft strategic plan for Committee review at the July meeting.

Education

- We had a very busy, but successful spring field trip season. Things have quickly shifted to summer programming and our first summer public program, Wild Edibles, was well attended. Volunteer David Langner provided the program and donated his self-publish wild edible recipe booklet to help raise funds for 1000 Islands.
- The total revenue generated from this year's tree seedling sale was \$6,185.00 See the 2022 Tree Seedling Sale Summary for more detail.
- The bald eagle nest at 1000 Islands is still doing well. Although we had observed two eaglets at one time, we are down to one health eaglet that will hopefully fledge within the next few weeks.
- Pollinator Week is coming up June 20-25. We will be celebrating pollinators with a couple of programs on bees during the week and we will focus on bats on Saturday, June 25th. Terri Hauser, a local wildlife rehabber and bat educator, will provide a free public program on bats including some info on pollinating bats found throughout the world. She will have some live bats on hand for viewing as well.

Building & Grounds

- The City of Kaukauna has been notified that our Level 2 Charger grant application through the Wisconsin Department of Transportation Carbon Reduction Program has been approved. The grant was written with a total budget of \$50,000. 80% of project costs are covered with federal funds and 20% local share. We have not heard if the boardwalk replacement project has been approved yet or not. I will be working with John Neumeier and representatives from Kaukauna Utilities to move forward with the location and installation of the charger. This will allow visitors with battery electric vehicles (BEVs) or plug in hybrid electric vehicles (PHEVs) to charge their batteries while visiting 1000 Islands or the ball fields.
- Despite some very warm weather, Rock the Block was a great success. Volunteers got all of our picnic tables repaired with new boards and new hardware in just one day. Several sections of boardwalk trail were leveled out and a new railing was built in the overlook area. The perimeter of our new goat browsing enclosures was installed and a very large amount of woodchips were spread on the trails in the upper woods. It would have taken all summer for staff to accomplish the work that the Rock the Block volunteers were able to accomplish in just a few days. In total, we spent \$2661.34 in materials for the picnic tables and new railing.