

Naturalist Report May 2023

Admin/Finance

- The City is utilizing a facilitator through Fox Valley Technical College to do some strategic planning. Department Heads will be participating in a 2-day strategic planning event as well as meeting with the facilitator in small group sessions. A community survey has been published and all employees, City residents, business owners and visitors are encourage to complete the survey. If you have not already, I would encourage all Committee Members to participate in the survey as well. A link to the survey can be found on the City website.
- The City is piloting a change in summer hours and tracking visitors through the end of the year. Although 1000 Islands is not participating in the pilot program, we will still track visitors and phone calls to get a better understanding of when the Nature Center sees the most use.

Education

- Jabber has had a follow-up appointment at the vet. His exam went well, but due to continued falling episodes he has been prescribed a second pain medication to try. If noticeable improvement occurs in the first few weeks, we can keep him on the additional medication, but bloodwork will need to be re-checked to make sure it is not affecting his kidneys. Administering the heart medicine and original pain medication will continue as he is taking it well. With the plan to continue the medication, I will start seeking public donations to cover the cost of his care.

Building & Grounds

- Invasive plant work has been a big focus in the past month. We have had groups from Park Community Charter School and River View Middle School come out to help pull garlic mustard. Community service workers have spent many hours removing dames rocket, and work continues with removing buckthorn.
- The Fox-Wolf Watershed Alliance held their annual River Clean-up Day on May 6. 1000 Islands was one of the clean-up sites. In total for the entire cleanup event, 1,643 volunteers participated and removed 7,431 pounds of trash from the watershed.