

## Report from the Ellwood H. May Environmental Park – Maywood

Submitted by David Kuckuk, Interim Park Director

On January 27, 2023 Maywood Director, Samantha Lammers resigned. Former Director David Kuckuk was contacted to serve as the Interim Park Director until a new director is hired. Interviews are currently underway. Kuckuk was primarily brought back to handle the many program obligations that were arranged by Lammers. These included maple sugaring operations, three UW-Green Bay Lifelong Learning Institute programs, weekly OWLS (Older, Wiser, Livelier, Scholars) programs, and helping plan Maywood's 40<sup>th</sup> anniversary events. In addition, Kuckuk has been working with the Property Stewardship Committee on a variety of buildings and grounds projects.

On February 8<sup>th</sup> Maywood began another season of maple sugaring. This was the earliest tapping date in Maywood's history. The season was extraordinary with over 1800 gallons of sap processed and 45 gallons of syrup made. Maple syrup produced at Maywood is used to support the school programs and Flapjack Day. Remaining syrup is bottled and sold as a fund raiser to support Maywood. The new high tech evaporator worked flawlessly with volunteers running the evaporation process.

This was the 35th year of Flapjack Day. Good weather helped to bring in approximately 600 people for the event. Revenue from the pancake breakfast is used to support operations at Maywood.

A good number of volunteers have also been helping with spring cleanup. Volunteers came from the general public as well as corporate volunteers from Muth, Millipore Sigma, North High School, and Lutheran High School. Additional projects are being planned for more corporate volunteers.

To celebrate Arbor Day, Maywood will be planting a variety of tree species to revegetate areas devastated by Emerald Ash Borer, and to replace areas infested with invasive shrubs (i.e. buckthorn and honeysuckle). Arbor Day will also be honored through a tree identification hike led by David Kuckuk for friends of Glacial Lake Conservancy and Maywood.

Maywood is also working with Stantec to develop plans for handling erosion within the park due to runoff from surrounding areas. The plans being developed will propose solutions as well as funding sources through grants.

Maywood's collaboration with Camp Y-Koda continues to see good numbers of school groups visiting Maywood and record numbers of students enrolled and on a waiting list for the Nature-based Preschool at Maywood. Warriner High School has rented space again this year at Maywood to hold classes two days each week. Discussions are beginning to determine plans for the next school. Rental fees from SASD are used to help offset Maywood operational expenses.