

Foundation for Dane County Parks
5201 Fen Oak Dr.
Madison, WI 53718



Foundation for Dane County Parks

Newsletter provided
thanks to sponsorship by:



Articles written by Judie Pfeifer, Bill Lunney &
Andy Lewis. Edited by Samantha Haas.

A stylized illustration of a park scene. In the foreground, a large wooden sign on two posts reads "FOUNDATION FOR DANE COUNTY PARKS". To the right, a smaller sign on a single post reads "Summer 2019 Newsletter". The background features several green trees with brown trunks and a yellow sun partially visible behind them. The ground is green with some small brown tufts.

FOUNDATION FOR
DANE COUNTY PARKS

Summer 2019
Newsletter

Contact Us
foundationfordanecountyparks@gmail.com
[Facebook.com/foundationfordanecountyparks](https://www.facebook.com/foundationfordanecountyparks)

CELEBRATION OF BILL LUNNEY: 50 Years of Conservation Leadership

The Foundation for Dane County Parks invites you to come celebrate the conservation legacy of Bill Lunney. Bill is retiring after 30 years of service as Park Commission Chair and over 50 years of service in county government.

Bill spoke at the first Earth Day in 1970 on the importance of wetland protection and has never stopped advocating for land conservation. Bill has served as Chair of the Dane County Parks Commission for 30 years, and his leadership has helped guide and build one of the best park systems in the Midwest. The system has grown from 3,500 acres to over 15,000 acres, expanded trails, and preserved cultural sites.

Dane County has established one of the most vibrant parks volunteer base in the region with over 3,000 volunteers. Bill's leadership extends to numerous statewide conservation organizations as well.

To celebrate Bill's work, the Foundation for Dane County Parks and over 50 organizations and supporters are sponsoring this celebration.

This is a fundraiser for the Foundation and its related programs, especially the Friends of Dane County Parks Endowment, with a donation of \$50 per person (one dollar for each of Bill's 50 years of service). Giving back to the community is a rich part of Bill's dedication and legacy, and here is an opportunity for you to join us in thanking him.

For more information or to become a sponsor, contact:

Please Join Us!
WEDNESDAY, SEPTEMBER 18, 2019
5:00 - 7:30 pm
Program starts at 6:00
Lussier Family Heritage Center
3101 Lake Farm Road, Madison
Purchase tickets online at:
danecountyparks.com/lunneycelebration
Tickets are \$50 and may be purchased in advance or at the door (if seats remain!)

Judie Pfeifer
Secretary
Foundation for Dane County Parks
imjude1109@aol.com

Darren Marsh
Director
Dane County Parks
marsh@countyofdane.com

We Value Your Time, Talent, and Financial Support!

Financial Support

Inserted into this newsletter you will find an envelope that you can use to make a contribution to the "Foundation for Dane County Parks." The Foundation supports the Friends of Dane County Parks Endowment Fund in the Madison Community Foundation and other parks projects such as the Accessible Piers Program.

While we have successfully raised over half a million dollars in a short amount of time, our goal is to grow the permanent endowment into a multi-million dollar fund, from which the interest will be used to support the goals of education, interpretation, and volunteerism in our parks. There are other means for providing financial support to the Endowment Fund such as planned gifts via estate planning, monthly/quarterly/annual automatic payment, memorials/tributes, transfer of appreciated stocks, etc. by contacting Madison Community Foundation at:

www.danecountyparks.com/donate

Volunteer

The Parks Volunteer Program is a partnership that not only benefits Dane County Parks, but also park users and the Dane County community. Each year thousands of volunteers of all ages restore native habitat, conduct research, serve as park advocates and public relations representatives, assist with conservation projects and fund-raising, and promote informational and educational activities and more. Dane County Parks has a variety of volunteer opportunities, ranging from one-time events to more in-depth projects that allow you to develop a deeper connection to the parks and trails you love. For more information, contact:

Rhea Stangel-Maier
Volunteer Coordinator
Dane County Parks
(608) 224-3601
stangel-maier@countyofdane.com

Serve

If you would be interested in volunteering to help the Foundation for Dane County Parks please send us an email at: foundationfordanecountyparks@gmail.com

Our WISH LIST includes: Website design, Volunteers for Office Help, Videography, Media or Fundraising help.



William G. Lunney Lake Farm County Park

On July 11, the Dane County Board of Supervisors renamed Lake Farm Park to William G. Lunney Lake Farm County Park, which is part of the 2,500-acre Capital Springs Recreation Area. The name honors Bill Lunney, who is retiring after 30 years of service as Park Commission Chair.

"We do not inherit the land from our ancestors, we borrow it from our children," is a Native American saying that has been the keystone of Lunney's 50-year tenure supporting conservation in Dane County and Wisconsin. Under his leadership, Dane County parkland and natural resource areas have increased in size from 3,500 acres to over 15,000 acres.

"Bill has done outstanding work for Dane County's parks throughout his 30-year tenure as Dane County Park Commission Chair," noted County Executive Joe Parisi and County Board Chair Sharon Corrigan. "Naming this park in Bill's honor recognizes his commitment to preserve Dane County's natural spaces and passion to provide so many great recreational opportunities for residents and visitors."

"I am proud to be part of a team that has helped build a necklace of green adorning our County," Lunney noted recently in his remarks to the County Board. "Lake Farm is very special to us, with over 325 acres of prairies and savanna, nearly a mile of shoreline, and the venue of some wonderful community events."

As Chair of the Dane County Park Commission, Lunney helped advance the development of the park classification system to organize and define park uses and types, oversaw the parks and open space plan process that led to the adoption of six Dane County Parks and Open Space Plans, created some of the first dog parks in the nation, and advocated for the important role of volunteers, friends groups, and partner organizations in the success of Dane County Parks.

Statewide, Lunney also served in leadership positions with the Wisconsin Chapter of the Nature Conservancy, Natural Resources Foundation of Wisconsin, Friends

of Wisconsin State Parks, and cofounded the Wisconsin Wetlands Association.

Additionally, over the years, Bill Lunney and his wife, Judie Pfeifer, have partnered on a number of projects to benefit Dane County Parks. Together, the two helped to cofound the Foundation for Dane County Parks, the major private fundraising arm to support the Dane County Parks System. Along with the renaming of Lake Farm County Park, a kiosk and seating area will be added at the park to honor and describe Bill and Judie's contributions.

"Parks are not just pieces of land, they are a vibrant part of the community; they are a source of pride and a place for people to connect to the natural beauty around us," Lunney said.



Did You Know?

The Secret to Good Health
May Be a Walk in the Park.

Save the Date

Foundation for Dane County Parks
Fall Fundraising Event

Wednesday, September 18, 2019

Lussier Family Heritage Center
Refreshments provided

Endowment Grants Support Our Many Volunteer Organizations

The Friends of the Dane County Parks Endowment (managed by the Madison Community Foundation) was established to support education, interpretation, and volunteerism within our County Parks. The fund is permanent and the interest from the fund is used annually to support these three areas of focus.

For the first time, the Foundation for Dane County Parks announced that we would be accepting grant applications from volunteer organizations working on behalf of our County Parks. The Foundation is excited to announce the grant recipients from our first round of funding, totaling \$17,284:

- **Friends of Anderson Park: \$1,175**

Rear-tine rototiller to assist volunteers with the pantry garden that will also assist with other volunteer activities related to demonstration plots, and restoration.

- **Friends of Capital**

- Springs Recreation Area: \$1,706**

Tools, materials, educational markers, and publications for restoration of the prairie classroom.

- **Friends of Pheasant**

- Branch Conservancy: \$1,871**

\$1,000 towards the Make a Memory educational program for senior adults and \$871 for the purchase of plants for the Prairie Plant Propagation Garden planted by volunteers and used for educational programs.

- **Friends of Schumacher**

- Farm Park: \$1,275**

Marcella's Bedroom renovation in the farmhouse museum.

- **Southern Wisconsin Chapter of Trout Unlimited: \$950**

Oak trees to be planted by volunteers on stream easements to create awareness of how providing shade trees protect coldwater resources.

- **Friends of Cam-Rock Park: \$1,482**

Equipment for volunteers doing invasive species removal.

- **Friends of Festge Park: \$1,995**

Purchase of equipment to assist volunteers with the restoration of Festge Park.

- **Friends of Prairie Moraine: \$1,500**

Creation of content for a restored and moved informational/educational kiosk. The restoration and move of the kiosk will be done by Parks staff with parks funding, and this grant will be used to create content informed by a volunteer kiosk manager who will refresh content a minimum of four times a year.

- **Friends of Silverwood Park: \$2,000**

Interpretive signage fabrication for the agroforestry demonstration areas.

- **Friends of Stewart Park: \$1,330**

Domain name, maps, brochures, and speaker to enhance outdoor learning and community involvement.

- **Upper Sugar River Watershed Association: \$2,000**

Creation of the Outdoor Learning Series -- 12 educational events -- in Southwest Dane County.

As the Foundation for Dane County Parks grows the Endowment fund, there will be an increased ability to support the many volunteer and nonprofit organizations supporting our County Parks.

The Foundation for Dane County Parks wishes to thank all of the applicants and the following Allocation Committee members for their hard work: Nelson Eisman, Dean Kalmerton, Andy Lewis, Ray Ropers, Gail Shea, Caryl Terrell, Gary Werner, Dan Wisniewski, and staff advisory members Rhea Stangel-Maier and Darren Marsh.

\$600,000

\$500,000

\$400,000

\$300,000

\$200,000

\$100,000