

Glenway Woods Management and Sustainability Plan

Community Listening Events – July 13-14, 2022

What opportunities exist for improving Glenway Woods to be a more formal neighborhood amenity for passive recreation or community conservation efforts?

- Multiuse: -Bike, -Dog Walking, -Trail Maintenance
- Keep community involvement in maintenance and sacred enjoyment of canopy!
- Mountain biking allowed on specific trails
- Quarry Park (aka Hermits Cove) is a great model to follow
- Multiuse: hiking/running trail (unpaved) that birdwatchers + families could use – dogs leashed
- Path is magical + special because it is winding with often no visibility around corners. So not safe for biking and unleashed dogs.
[Additional comment to above note: Yes!]
[Additional comment to above note: YES again]
- A MTB trail: through the 130 athlete + 50 coach West MTB team to avoid the very busy bike path at 4:30pm when we practice.
- I'm not sure it needs anything "formal" to encourage passive recreation.
- I use the woods multiple times per week to walk with my children and dog. I love how undeveloped it is. It's perfect for exploring. I would love days/times for off leash dogs. I've seen other places designate even days no dogs and odd days off leash dogs. Some trail maintenance would be great also.
- Opportunity to manage the area but not develop it. Help with invasives and trail upkeep – maintenance, erosion control.
- While the woods need help with invasive species, it should look like a woods, not a park. Small winding trails are wonderful.
[Additional comment to above note: Yes!]
[Additional comment to above note: Agree +1]
- It would be great if part of this area could be a dog park.
[Additional comment to above note: Yes!]
- Leashed dogs should be allowed
- Multi-use; No organizing
- I would love to see the trails maintained a little better.
- Preserve high quality core area as conversation park. No dogs – no bikes.
[Additional comment to above note: Agree]
- Restore + manage to preserve.
- Consider other uses in disturbed peripheral areas of woods.
- Widen trails but not for bikes.
- Plan to reduce invasive plants.

- Prairie planting for natural and native plants.
- Defined multi-use trails.
- Friends group for the park.
- Yes! No fast vehicles, but yes to dogs on leash.
- Long term strategy for returning more native plants.
- Please keep it rustic and good for walking. MTB are dangerous for us older folk!! Dogs off leash can be OK, but they can get out of hand.
- Leave it as it is: woods for kids to roam and explore.
[Additional comment to above note: +1]
- Maintenance (trimming, dead wood, removing invasives) would be valuable to keep the area productive environmentally.
- Allow cross-country skiing on the wooded trails. No grooming needed.
- Experiment with natural path treatment such as leaf litter and pinus strabus needles during few weeks in spring when paths can be muddy.
- I would like to see a segment of the area parallel + adjacent to the park available for mountain bikes.
- I disagree with the premise. More formality not needed or wanted.
- Recognize the paths are often used as through walking paths including Glen Golf Park off season.
- Somewhere explain the history of the area and how it has come to be so special.
[Additional comment to above note: Include history and recognition of Ho Chunk land]
- Make sure City of Madison Park Rangers have easy access to address bad behavior.
- 1. Designated use areas for dog exercise, mountain biking, and walking. 2. Improve access. 3. Improve environmental impact on Lake Winga. 4. Public safety concerns. 5. Improve trail quality. 6. Make the trails designated.
- I'm interested in having a portion of the area available for off-leash dogs (presumably with a fence).
[Additional comment to above note: Ditto]
[Additional comment to above note: No fences!]
- Multiple obvious uses for the area are: 1. Walking path, 2. Meditation areas (w/ benches?), 3. Trail running/fitness stations, 4. Birding, 5. Dog walking (on leash), 6. Dog walking (off leash during set hours only), 7. Mountain biking (set hours only).
[Additional comments to above note: Yes! To off leash in certain hours. Yes to other suggestions. Ditto to dog walking off leash during set hours.]
- Consider mulching trails if this would help w/ trail conservation and/or hiker safety.
- Please consider a time period each day 6-8am (?) when dog owners could have dogs off leash. We had been doing that for decades w/ no issues until Covid.
[Additional comment to above note: Ditto]
[Additional comment to above note: yes!]
- There are lots of parks nearby- Childrens Park, Wingra Park, + Westmoreland. Keep this one natural and free.

- Paths could be a little wider + better maintained to reduce roots + mud. Cross country skiing on paths would be good.
- No fences please, as this is a natural area and wildlife corridor. Dogs are fine on-leash.
- To preserve a lush greenspace for current residents and others.
- It's not wild – but an unkept space. Kind of a sanctuary – and one so easily available on foot.
- There is a calming and nurturing effect with the way it is (e.g. no development and no infrastructure).
- Community involvement in helping to manage stormwater runoff.
- It is a space for wildlife (coyotes, deer, turkeys).
- Engaged neighbors who pick up garbage and remove invasives. They nurture this space, do not reduce this. Invite and welcome these partnerships.
- Allow bicycles
- Mountain bike trails for all skill levels
- Some hiking and mountain biking trails would provide great inner city recreation.
- Mountain bike trails/park
- Put in mountain biking skills trail, jumps, ladders, bridges, and drops from small to large
- Great terrain and area for mountain bike trails. With the explosion of NICA and Madison West's team having to ride to Fitchburg to practice it seems logical to make trails here. Mountain biking is one of the fastest growing sports and Madison despite being one of the most bicycle friendly towns in the USA has a huge lack of mountain bike trails.
- Mountain bike and winter bike trails with help from local clubs like CORP
- It would be great to have the trails open to shared use for both pedestrians and mountain bikes. This has been successfully accomplished at Quarry Park on Stevens Street.
- Mountain Bike Trails
- Addition of mountain bike trails
- Mountain bike and hiking trails
- Off leash dog area
- Great outdoor space, bring mountain biking back to this area like it used to be 15 years ago
- Add sledding trails for the winter and mountain bike trails for the summer
- Cut some mountain bike trails that would be great for my grandchildren
- mountain biking
- Mountain bike trails
- Mountain biking flow trails
- Keep trails maintained, it's a beautiful space. Love the lean-tos as well.
- None
- Continued allowance for young kids to use this space without defining exactly what they are or are not allowed to do! I grew up in those woods biking and building forts and have loved walking through there throughout my life as a resident of the neighborhood and seeing kids still engaged in the space.

- Add bike trails
- I do not think it needs to be a formal neighborhood amenity. There are already many formal parks within walking distance all around this neighborhood. It is an asset in its current state - like a small bit of untouched forest in our area. I enjoy walking there during all seasons, photographing the wildlife and scenery.
- I don't think this is necessary. There are lots of parks in This neighborhood already. The informal parks status has served the neighborhood well for the 31 years I've been here and probably long before that.
- Mountain biking is becoming much more popular. Adding trails would make a lot of sense and would be heavily used.
- Biking so kids don't have to bike in the street
- Allowing Mountain biking on specific trails. This connection along the bike path and close to downtown would be an awesome addition to the park
- I can't think of any reason why we'd want to do anything to this natural area. Increasing traffic will have a negative effect on wildlife and plants.
- Develop mountain bike trails
- Why are we building a new park in a rich, white neighborhood?
- I would like to see a neighborhood nominated conservancy board for this land. I would like to see it preserved and maintained as is. I do not want to see further development of it with courts, pavilions, etc. It feels very private when using these trails and to have something like that close to home and downtown is priceless. The trails at Hoyt are also nice but lack privacy and general safety
- I think it should be kept informal - it is the "secret garden" of our neighborhood and we would like to keep it that way.
- Opening the trails again after the windfall from the June storm would be nice.

What concerns would you have regarding future planning for Glenway Woods?

- It has been a great neighborhood resource forever – don't over restrict use.
[Additional comment to above note: Yes!]
- There is a lot of erosion on main trail that is becoming dangerous.
- If the park/area is recognized as a formal amenity, I would have concerns about spillover parking on nearby streets.
- Worried about collisions on narrow trails? FYI. The old MTN bike trails are so overgrown from disuse. You wouldn't even know where they were. Other parks allow multi-use by designating certain trails hiking only, dogs allowed (or not), MTN bike only.
- I'm concerned about the woods becoming a dog park. I would strongly prefer dogs remain on-leash- so hikers, runners, kids are safe and comfortable to enjoy the trails. I would like to see the woods stay close to what they are, maybe cut the trails a little wider + add stairs/steps on the steep muddy parts.
- Keep thoughtful maintaining of drainage. All ___ (?) no changes!

- Preserve, enhance native plants for wildlife.
- It's important for kids to have a place to explore, listen, interact – on foot. Hoyt Park did this for me 60 years ago. I don't think mountain bikes are compatible.
[Additional comment to above note: agree]
- Loss of natural, magical, non-structured area. Place to explore, build, no fences, no motorized vehicles.
- Need to include stormwater management – bad right now.
- It's small – just let kids play there + dogs on leash.
- Replicate info-gathering on-site to get info from people who use site daily.
- Having the trails stay as a neighborhood resource – for walking, birdwatching but no bikes in trails. Keep as natural as possible.
- Leave dead wood standing for habitat! Let trails be defined by users instead of mapping them out.
- Keep it a priority for Glenway to be a woods where KIDS CAN PLAY.
- Leave it alone.
[Additional comment to above note: Yes!!]
- Natural refuge for wildlife – would be a shame to lose habitat for birds, small mammals, reptiles.
- It's a de facto park and its been that way for 35 years I've been here (3 dogs!).
- I would like to see this remain a walking/biking destination – no parking lot.
- The woods are essentially an unregulated dog park. It is currently unused by the vast majority of the neighborhood. Change is necessary.
- How to manage: different groups, different interests, different opinions on intended park use. Maintenance of trails: Park, Friends Group, Volunteers. Maintenance of invasive plants.
- Right now there are lots of off-leash dogs + little enforcement. I would support off-leash use within designated areas.
- That it becomes exclusively or primary a dog park.
- Please do not fence in any way. This limits access and wildlife (I have seen deer).
- One of the best woods in Madison – if managed well.
- Make it accessible to more than just bikers and neighbors. With limited parking somewhere.
- As a neighborhood resident and dog walker x 25y, “Glenway Woods” has been a special place. I fear the 100y (1000?) tradition of walking in these woods with an (off leash) dog will be lost. Please consider a non-enforcement of leash laws for at least a small part of the day (before 9am?).
- The opportunities are to leave it alone.
- NO ADEQUATE PARKING. More development will draw more people & theres not enough space to park.
- There may be many infants and others buried in the area the park is considering for development (along Forest Hills boundaries). It may be against the law to remove these bodies or desecrate graves.

- Dogs are already not allowed in the arboretum. I'm concerned that dogs will not be allowed in these woods! It's such a crucial area for dog walkers in the Monroe neighborhood.
- Please not a dog park for unleashed dogs. I have been bitten & threatened by dogs off leash. Owners always believe their dogs are friendly and then they are surprised when it turns on somebody.
[Additional comment to above note: Yes!!]
[Additional comment to above note: Yes!]
- Please leave this alone! Natural footpaths, please no fences and no signs except "Take nothing but pictures, leave nothing but footprints."
- This park is under the "eye" of Indian Mounds. No modern toys – even bikes – are needed here. One should have a sense of power greater than us. "All is right with the world."
- That it become overly "groomed" or exclusive to certain users.
- Determine best walking/hiking use especially with Glen Golf Park open to all users on Sundays.
- Dogs on leash only.
- The wildlife owls, hawks, woodpeckers, foxes, etc. Don't disturb their habitat.
- Keep most trails narrow – a real asset of this area.
- The need for natural spaces. Nice place to walk dogs. Off leash hours would be okay for trained dogs.
- It's so great! Be careful not to ruin it with dogs and MTBs.
- Keep general unstructured wood appearance.
- Maintaining run off rain water collection system so we don't drain to Lake Winga.
- I would hate for it to lose its magic and become just another park. It should remain a place of discover.
[Additional comment to above note: Yes!]
- Glenway Woods is in desperate NEED of conservation/restoration work. Efforts by the City of a volunteer group ARE NEEDED. Erosion, deterioration of trees and plant life are very evident.
[Additional comment to above note: Agree]
[Additional comment to above note: +1]
- Please retain its ability to make kids feel it belongs to them. Let natural play continue. Help our goal of kids understanding nature + why we care about it.
[Additional comment to above note: Agree]
[Additional comment to above note: +1]
- Should remain unpaved for sure!!
[Additional comment to above note: ditto]
- Don't want it to look like a typical "city park." Keep the wild feel of the place.
- Still want to allow dogs, keep them welcome. Okay to have an on-leash rule though.
- Trail maintenance
- Not allowing biking

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- Limiting mountain biking. Many of the trails around the city are multi use and mountain biking should be allowed in this area.
- Dog walkers not picking up their dogs waste and ruining the space for mountain bikers
- Stubborn old people trying to preserve the space for only them to use to walk their dogs.
- Dogs, cranky old people with too much time on their hands
- Trail maintenance could be accomplished by volunteers such as the Capital Off Road Pathfinders trail advocacy group.
- That it was made into something lame like disc golf.
- Largest concern is that there would be a lack of mountain bike skills features for elementary, middle, and high schoolers to learn mountain biking
- Conservation of native habitat and minimizing tree removal.
- That it will be made inaccessible
- Dog walkers not picking up their dog waste, and off leash dogs
- Allowing motorized vehicles, four wheelers and dirt bikes
- People doing drugs in this park
- Care and upkeep of the trail system.
- Too many people want to use the same trails for different purposes creating issues between users
- That any of the brush would be cut away
- People have coexisted there for decades, why change anything?
- Stop insisting that everywhere needs a defined set of limits and allowed activities. It's a wonderful place because of how simple it is.
- People smoking and vaping
- I am concerned that the wildlife would be disturbed and we would lose another habitat for owls especially.
- Disrupting wildlife. There are lots of birds and other animals in that enclave. I'd also be concerned about erosion. The area was designed to catch runoff from the golf course and protect Lake Wingra. Increased use will lead to erosion.
- Being hit by golf balls
- Development. Loss of access.
- Erosion, loss of natural beauty, interference with control of golf course runoff into lake Wingra.
- Equity
- Over development, removing the quiet/privacy the trails currently offer, attracting crime like many of our local parks do (elver, hoyt) with people using and dealing drugs, feeling and being safe running there alone as a woman (I don't always feel safe at many of the city trails anymore due to drug use and deals). Making sure that we emphasize 'leave no trace principles' and teach good trail use behavior.
- Keep it simple -

- I would hope this park would remain open to leashed dogs. It is a popular spot for dog walkers, and there was once almost a community of daily dog walkers which was a nice feature of the neighborhood for me. Keep the bikes out! The appeal of this area is its wildness and the wildlife we share it with. I have noticed that the volunteer garlic mustard scheme over the past few years has really reduced the amount of garlic mustard and there are more native wildflowers coming back. Obviously, there's a lot of buckthorn that could be eliminated.

What are important planning considerations for the Madison Parks Division Planning Office to keep in mind as part of this planning process?

- This has been a great resource forever. Keep access very ____ (?).
[Additional comment to above note: Yes!]
[Additional comment to above note: Agreed]
- FAST BIKE CORRIDOR increase in pedestrian traffic could be a concern.
- This is a community gem – great place for kids + young families to explore + play in the woods. Kids need wild areas like this – their access to nature is so limited these days. Kids use it to build forts and play games.
- Where would dog waste be dumped – Don't need another off leash park!
- Great for bird watching esp in Spring + Fall migration – the trees are crucial. Also “dead” trees are part of a healthy woodland economy. I love hiking here year round.
- This has not been a “park.” It has been a natural area. Free. Open. Ours. Please don't groom it.
- The woods should be available for kids (+ adults!) to play in in an unstructured way. There are so few spaces like that.
- Lots of areas in Madison for off-leash dogs. Don't want to lose the more wild aspect of the woods.
- Implementing rules and restrictions is not effective as a replacement for courtesy and politeness between users. Let this remain a place for people to practice common courtesy.
- The fact that this area is a “no man's land” means that everyone belongs here equally!
- Pheasant Run Conservancy as a model.
- Involve the community.
- Please designate the entire area a Madison Parks Conservation Area like Turville Point. That means no bikes, no dogs – leashed or unleashed. There are been human and wildlife conflicts - daily.
- Please keep it a natural preserve type space with limited development.
- Leave it alone!
- 1. Make the woods inclusive for all. 2. Make it a safe place. 3. Make it environmentally beneficial for the neighborhood and Lake Wingra.

- It's a great spot that could remain a largely "natural" area with some maintenance to aid sustainability and allow multiple user groups to successfully co-exist (hikers, dogs, MTBs, nature lovers); Quarry Park is a great example.
- Old dead trees- great for birds, not so great for humans on windy days. This would be a maintenance nightmare.
- How important this woods is to the neighborhood.
- Please keep it as natural as possible – no pavement or play structures. There are many parks w/ access for children/families w/out dogs. There are many dog owners in the neighborhood who need a place to go.
- Maintain Woods – not another park.
[Additional comment to above note: ditto]
- There are many places where walkers can go with dogs on leash, or where dogs are not permitted. This is one of the few places where dog owners can let their dogs run! An off leash walking space is so important.
- Dog park not needed. 4 other parks nearby w/ in 2-4 miles.
- Fear of change or evolution of the use or intended use of the park.
- Leaving it natural is v. important.
[Additional comment to above note: ditto]
- I am the Lorax, I speak for the trees.
- Kids play? Glenwood Children's Park.
- Biking + dog use can be put in other areas.
- Preserve core woods as conservation park and maintain it.
- There is quite a bit of rough concrete detritus that has been dumped in the woods west of the drainage stream. Please clean up!
- Would avoid bikes + walkers on the same path.
- Where would people enter, park etc? No place for this.
- I would like to see disc golf.
- Don't make another clone of a city park. We have plenty of them. This is different.
- Consider making the absolute minimum visual impact. Avoid signage, infrastructure, etc. The marginal improvement brought by such measures is not worth totally erasing a unique place.
- This woods provides access to natural, unplanned surroundings. This inspires creative play. Child-directed activities that stir imaginations. We don't need another manicured park with swings. We need natural + free.
- This is a valued oasis of natural woods. Not every child gets to go to the wilderness. An environment where you can build "forts" and leave "treasures" for other families is exciting. Please preserve this free open function.
[Additional comment to above note: ditto]
- Too much development and planning will possibly bring more cars to area and already congested.
- Consider example of Prairie Moraine Park Example: -dog park, -Ice Age Trail, -Dane County Parks. Volunteers do extensive work to restore prairies and oak savannahs and

have access to off-leash dog park that they maintain. For many years park users who were also dog owners worked on eliminating garlic mustard and other invasives. Now, most of don't go there (since pandemic and many tickets) and the woods is a total mess.

[Additional comment to above note: I agree with this]

[Additional comment to above note: yes!!]

- Keep the space separate and different than the golf park.
- Be inclusive of on-lease dogs.
- Keep it a lot like it is!! No MTB! No dogs off leash!
- User curtesy
- Kids in the neighborhood need a place to mountain bike.
- Allowing mountain biking
- West high school kids, commuters, and madison community members need more space to mountain bike and work on mountain biking skills trail, jumps, ladders, bridges, and drops from small to large
- This is a community space, not just a neighborhood space.
- Recreational demand, opportunities for help from local clubs
- WE WANT MORE SINGLE TRACK TRAILS
- Mountain bike trails are important to Dane county businesses and promote good health
- Avoid interruption of southwest commuter path. Keep continuous car-intersection free section.
- This is a lovely community resource that has happily existed without regulation. Hopefully it can still be used flexibly and easily.
- Madison needs to develop more mountain bike to support businesses like trek, pacific cycle, and saris
- Make mountain bike trails for commuters and kids
- Bring mountain biking this part for my grandchildren then they could visit me more
- The care of the trail since bikes were banned has nose dived. The mountain bike community are the only ones willing to volunteer time to the upkeep of the trails.
- To consult local trail building organizations
- Thinking about best use for the space
- Conserve the beautiful space please!
- There isn't anything to change, the way it is utilized has never been an issue. It should remain the way it is.
- This woods is a place for kids to grow up in nature. Let them continue to tell us what the space is for by the way they use it weather than putting in place restrictions on what they may or may not use it for.
- My kids are on the west mountain bike team and it would be really convenient to have them ride at the park for practice and not have to drive them places.
- Listen to the feedback and limit disruptions to it's current state.
- It's not necessary to develop everything. Let nature have this one. Lights installed a few years ago on the bike path have had significant impact on the owl population.
- Bring mountain biking to our neighborhood! So good for kids and adults

- Proximity to bike path and downtown. And popularity of outdoor sports such as mountain biking compared with access to places to do it. Madison relies heavily on the resources of neighboring communities like fitchburg and middleton for trail access. This would be nice addition within the city with access to more people without the need to drive.
- Needs of the neighborhood and community. Does this affluent area need additional parks or should parks money be spent in other areas of the city?
- Can we spend this money in disadvantaged neighborhoods instead?
- Maintaining native plants/trees/animals, keeping the trails feeling private and safe, not overdeveloping the trails which has been done of every park in the area with ball courts, hockey rinks, fire pits, buildings, etc. Keep it natural preserving the land and native plants/animals in the area (fox, turkeys, etc). Also to give neighbors input through a neighborhood elected and managed conservancy board. Use this land if its going to be given more attention and advertising for teaching proper trail etiquette, leave no trace principles and trail sustainability
- Preserve the trees and native plantings that the neighborhood has been working hard to incorporate and preserve.
- The mature hardwoods should be preserved. The snags are important for the many woodpeckers. The edge areas along the bike path and the golf course are great nesting sites for many birds. We've seen tons of warblers, vireos, and kinglets there in May.

Other Comments and Perspectives

- What is the status of the two management plans that were previously drafted for the space?
- Potters Field is possibly located in the northeast portion of Glenway Woods (by the treeline adjacent to the cemetery). Possible that burials took place here and need to be respectful of that. Consider an archeological survey prior to any planning effort.
- Keep close to as is – but make the steep eroded areas a little more safe. It's a wonderful space, especially for kids building forts and being in nature – looking at plants and birds. It would be sad to see construction/development in there.
- The space is not well-known city wide...but that is not a bad things considering it is a small neighborhood amenity.
- It is okay to have this continue to be unprogrammed space.
- It is a quality natural area within the Madison Parks system.
- All of my father's family are buried at Forest Hills Cemetery. In the early 1900's, two infants (which would be my aunt/uncle) were buried in the area designated as Potters Field. Records showed that Potters field was in section 13. The record showed that one infant was in Potters Field Tier 1, and the other infant was in Potters Field Tier 2. I contacted the cemetery office in person to be directed to section13-Potters Field and was told they didn't know where that was because there is no section 13 listed on the cemetery map. (See attachment) I was told that they suspected that Potters Field was

south of sections 24,15, 37 and 43. As I looked at the map put out by the Madison City Parks designating the area for possible changes to Glenway Woods, I believe this area could be Potters Field where the remains of my relatives (as well as many other people) are located. Before any changes are done to that area, I would greatly appreciate knowing the where-abouts of Potters Field and location of the remains of my family.

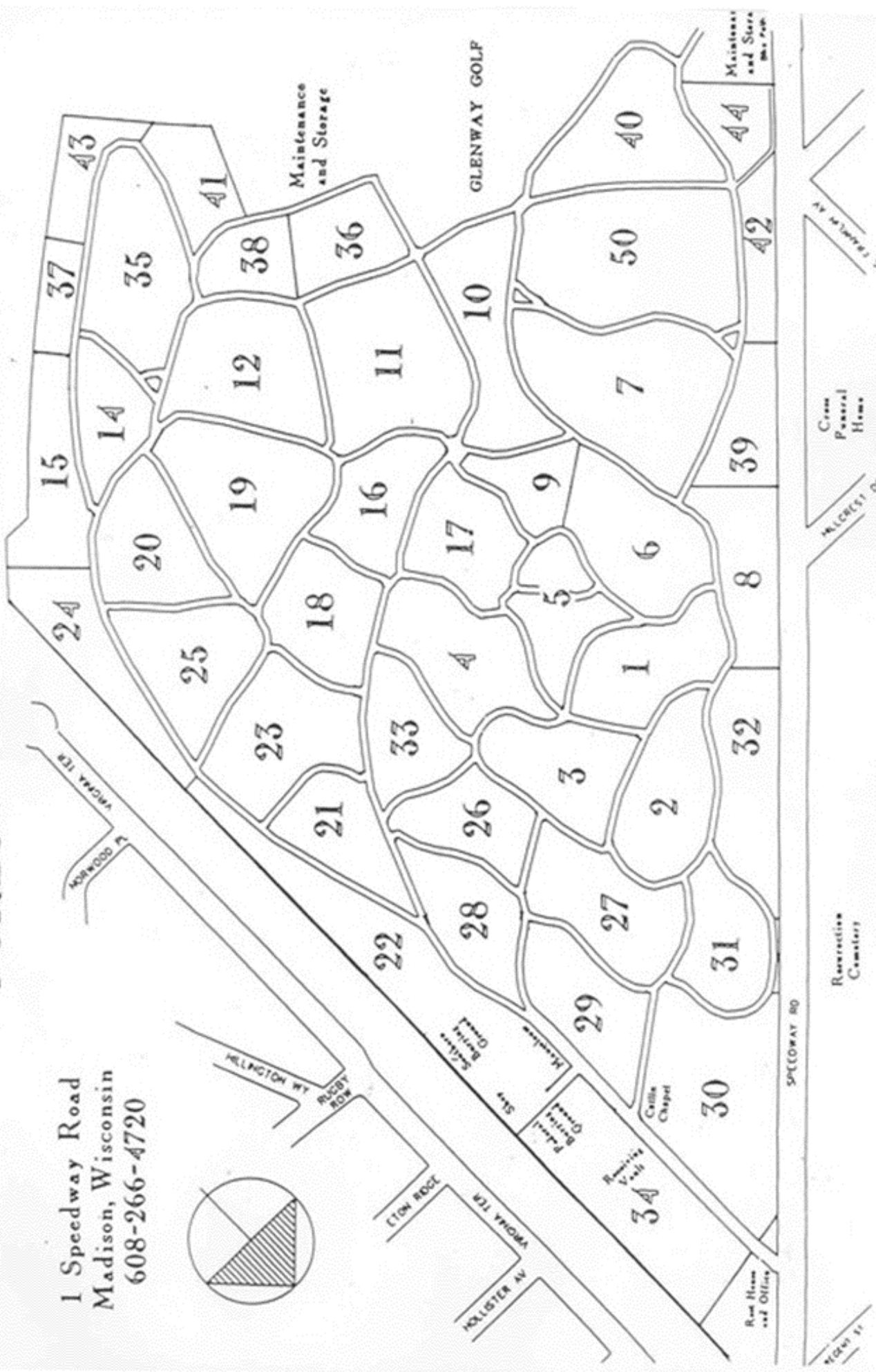
[See Supplement 1 at end of document for attached reference]

- I wasn't able to make the listening sessions last week but just wanted to relay that what's most important to me is that dogs on leash are allowed in the future Glenway Woods. I also would love it to connect with the new paths that will be at The Glen (which is hopefully going to be friendly to dogs on leash as well), the cemetery (where dogs on leash are allowed on the paths), and the southwest commuter. There are a lot of dog owners in the neighborhoods around this park I suspect I'm not the first voice to request keeping this space dog friendly. That said, I know that there are quite a few folks who let their dogs run off-leash in the Glenway Woods currently and I think having a leash law could be good, especially given its proximity to the bike path and golf park.

Map of

FOREST HILL CEMETERY

1 Speedway Road
Madison, Wisconsin
608-266-4720



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Volunteers join city staff in inventory of city's natural spaces

By *Michael Tews*

Created 11/14/2013 - 10:57am



[1]

Volunteers Jim Hughes and Tim Nelson remove invasive giant reed grass from Cherokee Marsh wetlands (Photo by Janet Battista)

In an effort to manage and maintain the undeveloped land areas of the Madison park system, the city's Parks and Engineering divisions recently initiated a citywide inventory.

Simon Widstrand, a retired conservation supervisor and planner for the City of Madison Parks Division, is working with other volunteers and city staff to inventory Madison's 4,000 acres of natural land to apply standard maintenance practices and prevent these areas from deteriorating or being overrun by invasive species.

"Most people embrace a land ethic that requires us to care for our land. To leave something for future generations and to protect our investment, we should provide good stewardship of our natural lands," Widstrand said. "The inventory is the first step of developing a plan for the city and volunteers to manage and restore more city natural areas."

He estimates about 800 volunteer hours per year are needed to monitor all of the natural areas. Volunteers have been asked to select parks to inventory while marking off woodland, meadow and wetland areas on a map and writing observations about invasive species in those areas.

However, due to lack of staff and coordination, it will need to be a collaborative effort.



[2]

Volunteers remove invasive shrubs at Glenwood Children's Park (Courtesy Simon Widstrand)

"The city does not have enough staff and resources to manage all city properties and it never will, so it will have to be done with a partnership of public, private and volunteer efforts," Widstrand said.



Volunteers pulling garlic mustard in woods along the Southwest Bike Path (Courtesy Simon Widstrand)

[3]

Sandy Stark, a council committee chair for the Dudgeon-Monroe Neighborhood Association, added, "As downtown areas change and neighborhoods grow and budgets shrink, it's a challenge to preserve parks and shared green spaces, so coordinating where and how to use volunteers in these areas is really important to getting more done."

About 3,000 out of the 4,000 acres have been previously inventoried, but Widstrand estimates that about half of the land receives no management to protect the habitat.

Without management, invasive species such as Norway maple trees and buckthorn shrubs have been infiltrating many natural areas and preventing native wildlife from flourishing.

"The trees, shrubs, flowers and grasses that are native to the Madison area are beautiful," Jan Axelson, president of Friends of Cherokee Marsh, said. "But a number of aggressive, mostly non-native species have the ability to out-compete the native plants and form monocultures that are of little use to wildlife."

According to Axelson, Cherokee Marsh Conservation Park has removed dense thickets of buckthorn and honeysuckle shrubs in the woods to allow for a more diverse and interesting understory of native wildflowers and grasses.

While Widstrand isn't expecting the areas to be fully restored, he hopes that new invasive outbreaks can be caught before they spread.

At a Friends of Hoyt Park meeting in late 2011, Widstrand explained the need for an inventory. "[The goal] is not proposing to restore all 4,000 acres to diverse, high quality vegetation, but it does preserve the option to do that with some areas in the future," he said.

But the complexity of gathering all the information from this project can become overwhelming.

"Plant communities can be complex, and gathering information and managing 400 different properties compounds the complexity," Widstrand said. "We're trying to keep it simple, look at the big picture and identify areas where actions... can be most effective."

Despite the obstacles, Axelson remains optimistic about the completion of this project.

"If residents are inspired to care for natural areas as a result of the project, the project will be a success," Axelson said.



Volunteers removing invasives and planting native shrubs at Glenwood Children's Park. (Photo by Sandy Stark)

[4]

City of Madison
Department of Public Works
PARKS DIVISION
City-County Building, Suite 104
210 Martin Luther King Jr. Blvd.
Madison, WI 53703



*Woodland Trails by
Glenway Golf &
Forest Hill Cemetery*

**1 & 3747
Speedway Rd**

Although every effort has been made in preparing these plans and conducting them for accuracy, the City of Madison and its Department of Public Works and dimensions of their work and be responsible for the same.

ITEM Updated 2016 path survey DATE 5/27/2022

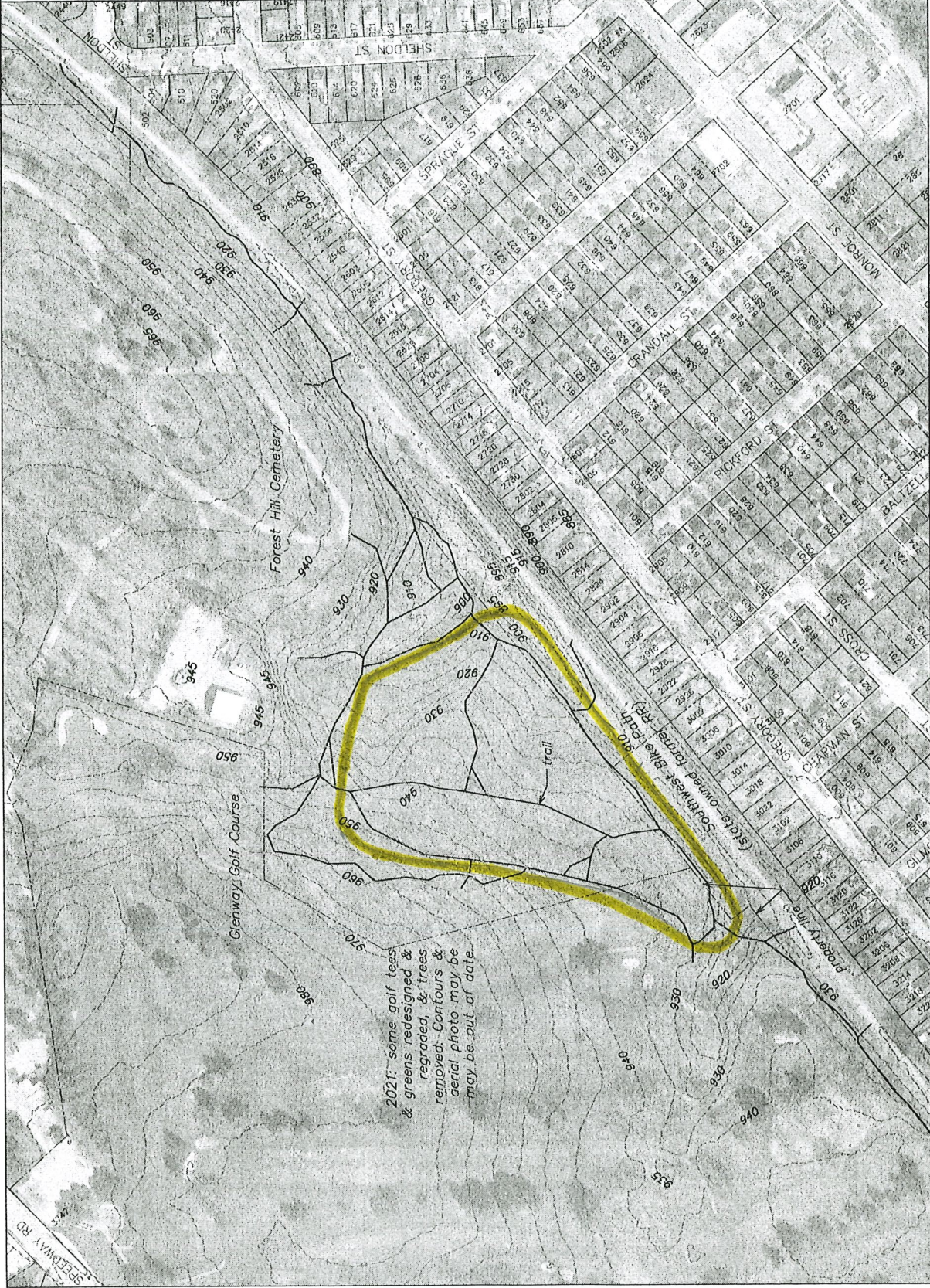
PUBLIC WORKS PROJECT #

PROJECT NUMBER

SHEET TITLE

SHEET NUMBER

1



high quality area - S. Wistland

Glenway Woods Volunteer Restoration & Management Proposal

Site Description

Glenway Woods is a 10-acre oak woods located between Glenway Golf Course and the Southwest Bike Path. It appears to be of higher quality than many Madison oak woods, with an excellent stand of large canopy oaks and some indications of diverse wildflower populations. This higher quality is probably due to farm grazing being discontinued prior to the 1927 opening of Glenway Golf Course. While invasive honeysuckle and buckthorn are present, they are not as large or as dominant as in most Madison woodlots. There is also a large population of sub canopy trees, 4-12" in diameter, which are beginning to grow into the crowns of the mature oaks, threatening their good health. These sub canopy trees and invasive shrubs also cast too much shade for the wildflowers to survive and expand.

Goals of Volunteer Plan

The overall goal of this proposal is to maintain the woods in the present and future as a closed canopy woodland, not a savanna. To do this, we would establish an ongoing, long-term volunteer commitment to maintaining and improving the natural qualities of the woods.

Specific goals:

- Preserve the large canopy oaks
- Promote the best of the sub-canopy trees to become the next generation canopy
- Remove some undesirable sub canopy trees and invasive shrubs to allow more sunlight to reach the ground layer
- Identify areas of the best wildflower populations and make those high priority for maintenance.
- Prevent further spread of invasive species while removing existing invasives.

Implementation Strategy and Timing

Ecologically, a case could be made to support a large-scale clearing of the sub canopy and shrub layers of the woods, as the City has done at Turville Point. That would protect the large oaks and let more light reach the forest floor to revive the remnant wildflower populations that are likely present. However, while effective, we think that such a dramatic approach would not be acceptable to most neighborhoods or park users. We propose a different approach that would retain the existing character of the woods.

Thinning of the sub canopy and shrub layers would be done gradually with some selective removals every year. Removals would be prioritized to meet the goals of the plan (remove the invasives and less desirable trees). Simultaneously, there would be a program of controlling invasives such as garlic mustard in the ground layer, so that native plants can compete. Similar projects have been done in other Madison Parks over a long period of years.

Specifically, we propose the following.

VW
Students
21 prof
49r consultant
from on

Main Woods Interior –

2013

- Cut the subcanopy trees that were broken or leaned horizontal in the heavy snow of December 2012, and do routine trail clearing.
- Cut (and treat stumps with herbicide) approximately 25% of the invasive shrubs in the understory, with priority on seed-bearing honeysuckle and buckthorn, and invasives crowding native trees and shrubs.
- Identify areas of the best patches of native wildflowers, where control of invasives can be focused.
- Identify and remove scattered small patches of garlic mustard and similar invasives before they can expand.
- Evaluate progress with City staff in the fall. Develop a five-year plan, with public input as necessary, to guide subcanopy tree removals in winter 2013-14 and in future years.

2014

- Cut (and treat stumps with herbicide) approximately the worst 25% of sub canopy trees encroaching into the canopy.
- Cut and treat approximately 25% of the invasive shrubs in the understory, with priority on seed-bearing buckthorn and invasives crowding native trees and shrubs.
- Identify areas of the best patches of native wildflowers, where control of invasives can be focused.
- Identify and remove scattered small patches of garlic mustard and similar invasives before they can expand.
- Evaluate progress and future plans with City staff at the end of the year.

2015

- Repeat 2014 work with an additional 25% of sub canopy and invasive removals.
- Garlic mustard, small buckthorn and other invasives would be manually removed from identified high quality wildflower patches.
- Evaluate progress and plans with City staff at end of year.

2016 and continuing

- Continue the program from 2014, including annual evaluation with City staff and adjustment of the amount of removals needed.

Canopy Openings - Several of the large canopy trees have died in the last two decades, creating both threats and opportunities. (The newly dead trees and the older openings are visible on Google Earth summer air photos). When a canopy opening is created, it allows much more sunlight to reach the forest floor. This stimulates the vegetation, predominantly invasive shrubs like honeysuckle and buckthorn, and garlic mustard where it is present, posing a significant threat of more extensive invasion. Left unmanaged, invasives will dominate and these openings will be of poor quality.

But some positive things also happen in canopy openings. More light helps to regenerate oaks, hickories, other native trees and shrubs. Dormant wildflowers may also be revived by the additional light. With so many invasives present, these newly opened areas must be managed to remove the undesirable plants and promote the best natives. The management plan would identify these areas in the first year, and give them priority. This intensive management of scattered small areas would not be obtrusive. If they have good wildflower populations, they might actually become the best (most diverse) areas of the woods.

Eastern and Southern Woods Edge. These areas are more severely degraded due to construction and stormwater impacts. They should be kept as shady as possible to prevent invasives, especially Japanese Knotweed. On the East edge, a strategy should be developed to use shading and herbicide to prevent the knotweed from spreading further up the drainageway from the SW Path.

Northwest Woods Edge. This area abuts the mowed golf course. It too would be managed like the central woods. However, further evaluation may lead to different management strategies. For example, if solid patches of buckthorn are present on this edge, they might be controlled by brush mowing and treating every 1-3 years. Or perhaps the natural area could be expanded/replanted into the currently mowed oak grove where it is out of play for golf.

Procedures for Volunteer Activities:

Each volunteer crew/event will be managed by an on-site supervisor. Individual support, e.g. pulling garlic mustard and trash pickup, will occur on an ongoing basis.

Volunteers may use a variety of hand tools to assist in brush cutting, pruning, removal of invasive species, or other maintenance work. All pruning of desirable trees will be done in accordance with City ordinances and standards.

Where the goal is to kill and prevent re-sprouting of the removed trees, the cut stump or girdled trunk will be treated with an appropriate herbicide (supplied by Parks Division for Parks work). Treatments will be performed by a state-certified volunteer applicator, following label instructions and all city policies for pesticide application (posting signs and keeping records of use).

Volunteers approved to use a chain saw will provide their own equipment and safety gear (hard hat, eye and ear protection, chaps, steel-toed shoes, gloves) and will keep all equipment well maintained and in safe working order. Chain saw volunteers are expected to be experienced, must be approved by the City, and must sign a release form. They will cut down or girdle trees and shrubs that are competing with more desirable species. A chain saw may also be used to clear trails and prune trees. All chain saw work is ground work, unless the City provides special, prior approval for a highly trained climbing arborist.

Cut trees and brush will be removed from trails, sidewalks, mowed areas or highly visible areas. Volunteers may pile brush for pickup by City crews, or may drag it to designated areas, as per agreement with City staff for each project area.

All volunteers must sign a standard volunteer release form and volunteer hours will be reported to the City. Volunteers will work safely and use good judgment about the limits of their equipment and abilities.

SPRING EPHEMERALS IN THE GLENWAY WOODS

2013

Observed by Sue Reindollar

1. Wood anemone
2. Early Meadow Rue
3. Blue Cohosh
4. Trout lilies
5. Wild Geraniums
6. Lady Fern
7. Maiden Hair Fern
8. Prairie Trillium
9. Violets
10. Merry Bells/Bellwort
11. Solomon Seal
12. May Apples
13. Jack -in- Pulpit
14. Wild Sarsaparilla
15. Wild garlic (although it tastes like green onions, but is not ramps)
16. Shooting Star

Targeted INVASIVES

Garlic Mustard

Buckthorn

Honeysuckle

2015x

SANDY STARK 3, Jim LORMAN, Edgewood

Science in the 'Hoods & Woods: Pathways to Connections: A Proposal
for Collaboration between Edgewood College and Dudgeon-Monroe
Neighborhood Path Committee Volunteer Projects

What We Do:

1. The DMNA SW Path Committee maintains native plantings from Odana to Prospect, and tackles invasive species along the path corridor in the hope of establishing equally aggressive native plants in their place when possible. We meet once a month, and typically garner the same 3-5 volunteers.

2. We also volunteer our time in Glenway Woods, an under the radar city park that runs parallel to the SW Path between Glenway Golf Course and Forest Hills Cemetery. We have formed a volunteer stewardship group for this purpose, and have been removing garlic mustard, burdock, buckthorn, and honeysuckle in selected areas for almost two seasons now. City of Madison Parks Dept. removes downed trees for safety purposes, and will arrange for our debris to be picked up after garlic mustard pulls, but does not wish to transform this park into a high-traffic area. We are in agreement that its value is as an oak forest and wildflower area, with unmarked walking trails.

We get a few volunteers for garlic mustard each spring. Otherwise, one or two of us tackle a few invasives as they bloom. Certified chainsaw volunteers keep working on buckthorn and honeysuckle.

What We Need Help With:

1. The Bike Path: Surveys of the dominant invasive species along the corridor would help us focus our efforts. So far we have done this by walking and marking maps. We could use better mapping and data bases to help us manage these areas and to chart our progress over time. We have been active in this corridor for approximately 12 years, and would like more professional data. Although City of Madison Engineering has maps of the entire SW bike path, they are designed for engineers.
2. Glenway Woods: A huge need. Again, gathering baseline data to help us judge the results of our management work is a prime goal now. We have incomplete charting of areas we have worked in, and general impressions of how much garlic mustard has resprouted in pulled areas. But real data sets could include: inventories of trees, shrubs, vines, wildflowers and pest plants; inventories of birds (migration is a busy time in there!) and animals seen.

More detailed data sets could be: randomized sampling of woods in quadrants of some size and shape large enough to gather data on trees and shrubs; small sampling (one meter square?) for data on native wildflowers and invasives. We have only crude site maps of trails.

July 18, 2022

Tag Evers
Alderson 13th District
2329 Keyes Avenue
Madison, WI 53711

Dear Mr. Evers,

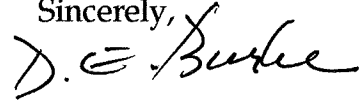
I moved into my home at 2305 Eton Ridge in January 1974. In short order my wife and I had two lovely daughters. Our first dog arrived in 1980. That's when I began my twice daily walks through what we affectionately came to call "The Woods." Just me, my dog, my wife and kids and dozens of neighbors who soon became fast friends. Cops, judges, doctors, lawyers, pilots, the list goes on. All brought together in this wonderful green space within our bustling city.

Our first dog lived 14 years, our second, twelve, and our third is now nine. If my arithmetic serves me that adds up to thirty-five years I have spent walking those woods. Cleaning garlic mustard, trimming bushes and trees, chasing out kids intent on vandalism, smoking dope, starting fires. All of us cared dearly for that greenspace and looked after it as if it was our own. And during those years the list of wonderful friends met there kept growing. We went to weddings, graduations, and funerals of those extended families. We buried beloved dogs there. That place brought a peace of mind, a sense of community, a wholesomeness that I found nowhere else in Madison.

It must have been a year ago that the park rangers chased out anyone with a dog. The reasons for the heavy-handed enforcement were never clear, but I imagine it had something to do with the rehabbing of Glenway golf course. Good folks, neighbors, were chased down and ticketed like vandals. When I would screw up my courage and walk there (feeling ever so much like Butch Cassidy) I would lament the lost laughter, the life stories shared, the familiar faces. All these good folks sent away, for what? Really?

This morning's paper had a front-page article on "The Woods." The National Park Service, the RTCA have been summoned! To fix something that was never broken. To impose more restrictions and regulations. To put an end to something that wasn't just good, but great. To suggest that things there might ever return to their pristine innocence is beyond wishful thinking. I'm just writing this letter so you'll know you had a hand in ending something that made Madison so special.

That was special while it was left alone, to be enjoyed and looked after by so many who loved it so much.

Sincerely,


Dennis Burke
2305 Eton Ridge
608-238-3679
Madison, WI 53726

cc: Ann Friewald
City Parks Planning and Development