Join us for our 2022 workshops! These educational programs taught by expert instructors are intended for anyone interested in learning more about native prairie animals and plants.

Advance registration and a small fee are required, and class size is limited. See the TPE calendar for more information and to sign up. Workshops will start at the Mounds View Grassland Preserve barn, 8624 Reilly Rd, Barneveld, but most time will be spent outdoors.

**COVID Guidelines:** Workshop attendees are asked to follow the current COVID policy and guidelines. General rules include:

- Please stay home if you are feeling ill or been exposed to someone positive for COVID
- Be up to date with vaccines and boosters
- You may choose to mask at any time based on your own personal preference

Please see the TPE Current COVID-19 Guidelines for the latest guidance.

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**Wisconsin Bats – Ecology and Monitoring**

**Tuesday, May 3, 2022 (Rain date May 4)** 7:00 – 9:00 pm

**Instructor:** Heather Kaarakka - Wisconsin DNR Conservation Biologist

Bats are some of the most unusual and ecologically beneficial animals in the world, saving farmers billions of dollars in pest control every year. They are also the only mammals that truly fly. Wisconsin has 8 species of bats but some species are threatened due to a deadly disease, white-nosed syndrome. In this workshop you will learn about the ecology of these fascinating creatures and how the Wisconsin Bat Program monitors and assesses bat populations across the state. Learn how you can help survey bats by participating in Wisconsin’s Citizen Based Monitoring Network.

**What to bring:** Sturdy walking shoes and a headlamp. Be prepared to be outside after dark

**Class size:** Limit 30 people.  
**Cost:** $10
Grassland Birds Workshop

Sunday, June 5, 2022 8:00 am – 12:00 pm

Instructors: Dave Sample - Wisconsin DNR Conservation Biologist, Shawn Miller – Dane County eBird Team, Fred Dike - Wisconsin Master Naturalist, Tim Hansel - Wisconsin Master Naturalist

Grassland birds are one of the many wildlife wonders of the prairie and oak savannah landscapes. Bobolinks, meadowlarks, Grasshopper Sparrows, Red-headed Woodpeckers and many more are common sights at Mounds View Grassland (MVG).

Unfortunately, these sights are becoming more and more rare as bird populations dwindle globally. Since 1970, the number of grassland birds in North America has decreased by over fifty percent. Much of this is due to habitat loss, so we are lucky to have restoration efforts like MVG to provide a home to these wonderful birds.

Join us for a workshop at MVG where we will observe these wonderful birds in the wild and hear from experts discussing their habitat, behavior, and the challenges they face.

What to bring: Sturdy walking shoes and binoculars (if you have them)

Class size: Limit 25 people. Cost: $10

Nature Art – Field Sketching Prairie Plants

Sunday, August 14, 2022 9 am – 12:00 pm

Instructor: Carolyn Byers - Artist, Green Sparrow Arts.

Come join us for a morning sketching prairie plants surrounded by the beautiful Schurch-Thomson Prairie! This class is for people with little art experience or for artists who want to grow their skills drawing plants. We will warm up with gesture drawings and contour line drawings of prairie plants. From there, we’ll practice breaking down plants into simple shapes, working on getting accurate proportions and making plants look 3D. Next, we’ll explore ways of adding detail, texture, and creating focal points. The last part of class will be spent making a drawing of one plant using our new skillset. There will be time for Carolyn to work with participants individually to answer questions and provide feedback on their work (if they want!) Carolyn is also excited to share her knowledge of grassland birds, nests, and plants with everyone as we draw.

Recommended art supplies: All you need for this class is a pen or pencil, paper, and a hard surface to work on. This could be a #2 pencil, 10-15 sheets of computer paper, and a hardcover book. It could be drawing pencils, fountain pens, and a sketchbook. You may bring whatever
materials excite you! We will focus more on drawing the lines of a plant and less on adding color, but you are also welcome to bring watercolors, colored pencils, pastels, etc. Remember, whatever we bring in we will bring out, including pencil shavings and water from dirty brushes. Please plan ahead!

**Other supplies:** Please bring whatever you will need to be comfortable outside in a prairie for a morning. Long pants, close-toed shoes, and sun protection are recommended. Water, a snack, and something to sit on (folding lawn chair or small blanket) are encouraged!

Accessibility: This class will involve limited walking at a slow pace. We will likely walk the fairly even, mowed path until we reach an exciting patch of plants. Participants will walk into the prairie to select a plant to draw, and bring it back to the path. We will likely pause in an area for 30 minutes or more to learn and draw, so a chair or blanket to sit on is recommended. Total distance covered is expected to be about 1 mile.

In case of rain: We will still collect plants out in the prairie but will spend our time drawing in the barn. This space is large and will be breezy if we leave doors open.

Class size: Limit 20 people.  
Cost: $20

**Night-Flying Prairie Insects: Blacklighting & Sugaring for Moths**

**Tuesday, August 30, 2022 (Rain date September 1)**  
6:30 – 9:00 pm

**Instructor:** Tim Hansel, Wisconsin Master Naturalist

Prairies support an extremely diverse array of insects. We can easily observe the many butterflies, bees and other insects during the day but what about the moths? There are more than 10,000 species of moths in North America. This workshop will introduce you to the life cycle, behavior and ecology of prairie moth species. You will learn how to identify moths, particularly some prairie-specialist species which inhabit the Mounds View Grassland. We will demonstrate sugaring and blacklighting to collect and observe moths and other night-flying insects.

What to bring: Wear clothing appropriate for night hikes on the prairie. Bring a flashlight or headlamp and a camera with a flash.

**Class size:** Limit 25 people.  
**Cost:** $10