

**SPECIAL
POINTS OF IN-
TEREST:**

- Need for a Deer Harvest this year being evaluated
- Dead trees being replaced by Village in October; swales continue to be maintained by HOA
- Waterbody Classification Project could inhibit use of your land; what to do to stay informed
- Rivers Turn possible location for future elementary school

**The CONSERVATOR is a quarterly newsletter for residents of Conservancy Place. Our hope is to give you updates on current happenings as well as offer a place for you to communicate with other residents. If you would like to have a voice in the next edition or have an idea for a story, please e-mail your comments to us. We would love to hear from you!



CONSERVANCY PLACE The CONSERVATOR

OCTOBER 2009

Conservancy Commons Park Serves as Neighborhood Celebration Gathering Spot

On July 11, community members and Village officials gathered for a celebratory event at Conservancy Commons Park. All who attended were able to

conversation, while children played on the equipment and splashed in the water feature. The shelter provided a place to

To reserve the park facilities, contact the Village of DeForest Parks and Recreation Department at 846-6751.



Two boys show their swinging skills on the new playground equipment



Two children enjoy the splash pad



Residents enjoy a bite to eat in the shelter

enjoy a beautiful day of food and beverages, activities for the kids and live music.

sit and eat while listening to music provided by local resident, Doug Cleary

The celebration was enjoyed by all and we thank you for coming out and celebrating with us!

The park proved to be a great place to gather; adults enjoyed

In addition, the park offers access to the beautiful trail system along the corridor.

Residents Doing Their Part for the Environment

This year the Hometown News Group has published two stories involving Conservancy Place. The first, titled "Bringing People Together," featured Dawn Depeler, volunteer coordinator for the community gardens and resident of Conservancy Place.

As a follow-up to the April article, Dawn reflected on the growing season, calling it a success. "Having fresh vegetables so close was the best part," she said. "I already know two people who

want space for next year who did not have plots this year."



Pumpkins growing in the community gardens

The second article, titled "A Home with Energy," featured Dan and Lydia Jansen's green-built home. Their 3,000 square-foot home is twice as big as their former home, but the difference in their utility costs is staggering. "Our utility bills were about three times higher in the old home," says Jansen.

To read the full stories, visit ConservancyPlace.com/WhatsNew.



An example of deer rub damage

“Having the corridor connected directly to the school site would give teachers a great educational tool for students and could be used for a hands-on learning experience”

Village to Evaluate the Need for a Deer Harvest in 2009

The option of a 2009 deer harvest at the Conservancy Place Corridor is currently being reviewed by the Village of DeForest.

There were harvests in 2006 and 2007 but not in 2008. The harvest is conducted by the Village due to concerns of overpopulation of deer within the village boundaries.

The deer population be-

comes a concern because of damage to vegetation and the possible safety hazard on Village roads. The abundance of deer within Conservancy Place has occurred because of the amount of natural vegetation and the Yahara River.

Deane Baker, the Public Works Director for the Village will be evaluating the

deer population in the next month. If these numbers exceed the DNR threshold, a harvest will be highly considered. The harvest would be approximately 30 to 50 deer.

Your input regarding the harvest would be beneficial. Please contact Deane at the Village 846-6751 to express questions, comments, or concerns.

Dead Trees to be Replaced in October

Many trees in Conservancy Place have seen better days.

We have lost a number of trees on the right-of-ways throughout Innovation Springs, Hawthorn Point, and Rivers Turn. The Village will be replacing these trees sometime in early October.

These trees will continue to be the responsibility of the Village for general maintenance and replacement.

The Village will be placing mulch around the replacement trees and requests that they remain free from further landscaping. Help watering trees is appreciated but not required.

Pruning requests may be directed to the Village Parks Department.

To see which trees are being replaced, read the spreadsheet on our website www.ConservancyPlace.com/WhatsNew, under “Helpful Links.”

School Site Option Signed by School District

Rivers Turn, LLC is now completing an option agreement with the DeForest Area School District (DASD) for a future elementary school site in Conservancy Place.

The future school would be on lot 10, a 28-acre site to the west of Rivers Turn. The option gives the DASD rights to acquire approxi-

mately nine acres for the school at no cost if they do so during the first seven years of the option.

The remaining 19 acres would be for a future Village youth park. Specific park uses are unknown at this time, although emphasis on it being a youth park is certain.

Having the corridor connected directly to the school site would give teachers a great educational tool for students and would be used for a hands-on learning experience.

Lot 10 will continue to be cropped until building begins. Further information will be given as it becomes available.

Workers to Know Around Conservancy Place



Doug Porter, A Park Towne Employee, stands by the Jeep he uses to do his inspections at Conservancy Place.



Two workers from Premier Lawn Services stand by the truck they use to do landscaping work in Conservancy Place



Schmidt Landscaping truck with logo.



Conservancy Place magnet identifying authorized vehicles on trail system

Only Conservancy Place employees or approved Conservancy Place contractors' vehicles are allowed on the trail system.

All vehicles are to be identified either by a Conservancy Place magnet placed on the door (as seen in the photo to the right), or an authorized contractor logo.

Authorized contractors at this time are Premier Lawn Services and Schmidt's Landscaping.

It is our intention to minimize damage to the trails and maximize safety for all users of the Conservancy Place trail system. At present, use of the corridor

If any vehicles not identified as Conservancy Place, Premier, or Schmidt's are on the trails, please contact the local DeForest Police Department.

“The new legislation also reclassifies bodies of water into three categories: urban, developing, and rural waters. This classification will determine minimum lot sizes, building setbacks, buffer area sizes and uses.”

Proposed Shoreland Zoning Changes Would Effect Lots in Conservancy Place

The proposed changes to shoreland zoning regulations will effect thousands of properties in Dane County, including many in Conservancy Place

Currently under DNR and County regulations, cities and villages control the shoreland zoning within their municipal boundaries. The code (NR 115), provides for minimum lot sizes, building setbacks and uses along the shoreline.

Right now if you are within 300 feet of the ordinary high water mark of a navigable body of water, you must follow the shoreland zoning requirements. Dane County wants to expand that to within 1,000 feet of a lake or

pond and 300 feet of rivers and streams and to have the new rules apply within cities and villages.

The new legislation also reclassifies bodies of water into three categories: urban, developing, and rural waters. This classification will determine minimum lot sizes, building setbacks, buffer area sizes and uses.

The Yahara River is classified as developing water. This would require lots to be a minimum of two acres at 200 feet width, and requires 100 foot setback with 75 foot vegetative buffer. Legally permitted structures or lots near developing waters (and rural waters) that do not conform to proposed standards would be grand-

fathered and allowed to remain.

Property owners may be required to take measures in meeting performance standards on their lots. Costs of such practices will depend on degree of nonconformance, lot size, existence of natural vegetation, and other factors.

If you are interested in learning more about effects of shoreland zoning changes or want to see when the Lakes and Watersheds Commission meets to discuss this important issue, please visit www.DaneWaters.com and click on the link to the Dane County Water Body Classification Project.



CONSERVANCY PLACE

Building Community, Respecting Nature

The CONSERVATOR

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At Conservancy Place we are doing everything we can to respect the environment. If you would like to help us save on paper by receiving The CONSERVATOR by e-mail in the future, please let us know at: contact-us@ConservancyPlace.com!

Eye On The Environment: Keeping Dane County Free Of Emerald Ash Borer

The Emerald Ash Borer (EAB) has been talked about a lot recently, but what exactly is it, what harm can it do to the natural environment, and what can individual home and land owners do to prevent the spread of this invasive species?

Quick Facts:

What is it? EAB is a wood boring beetle species that strictly attacks ash trees

Where is it? First spotted in Wisconsin in 2008. Contained in regions in the eastern and western parts of the state and has not yet been spotted in Dane County.

What harm does it cause? EAB can kill a tree within 2-4 years and has a 100 percent fatality rate.

What effect would could EAB have on the ash

population in Wisconsin?

There are 770 million ash trees in the state, 5.2 million of those are on either public or private property in cities and villages (aka urban forests) It would cost



Emerald ash borer in relation to a penny.

well over \$2 billion to remove, dispose of and replace those trees if they were to become infected.

Can is hurt me? No, EAB presents no danger to human health.

What can I do to help prevent transportation of EAB? Transportation of wood by hu-

mans is the main cause for spread of EAB. The DNR has set up regulations to help protect state parks and stop transportation of wood out of quarantined areas.

Which areas are quarantined? A quarantine has been issued for Brown, Crawford, Fond du Lac, Kenosha, Milwaukee, Racine, Sheboygan, Ozaukee, Vernon, Washington and Waukesha counties, as well as other states and parts of Ontario.

To see a map of quarantined areas, read about wood transportation regulations, or get other EAB questions answered, visit the DNR website at www.EmeraldAshBorer.wi.gov.