

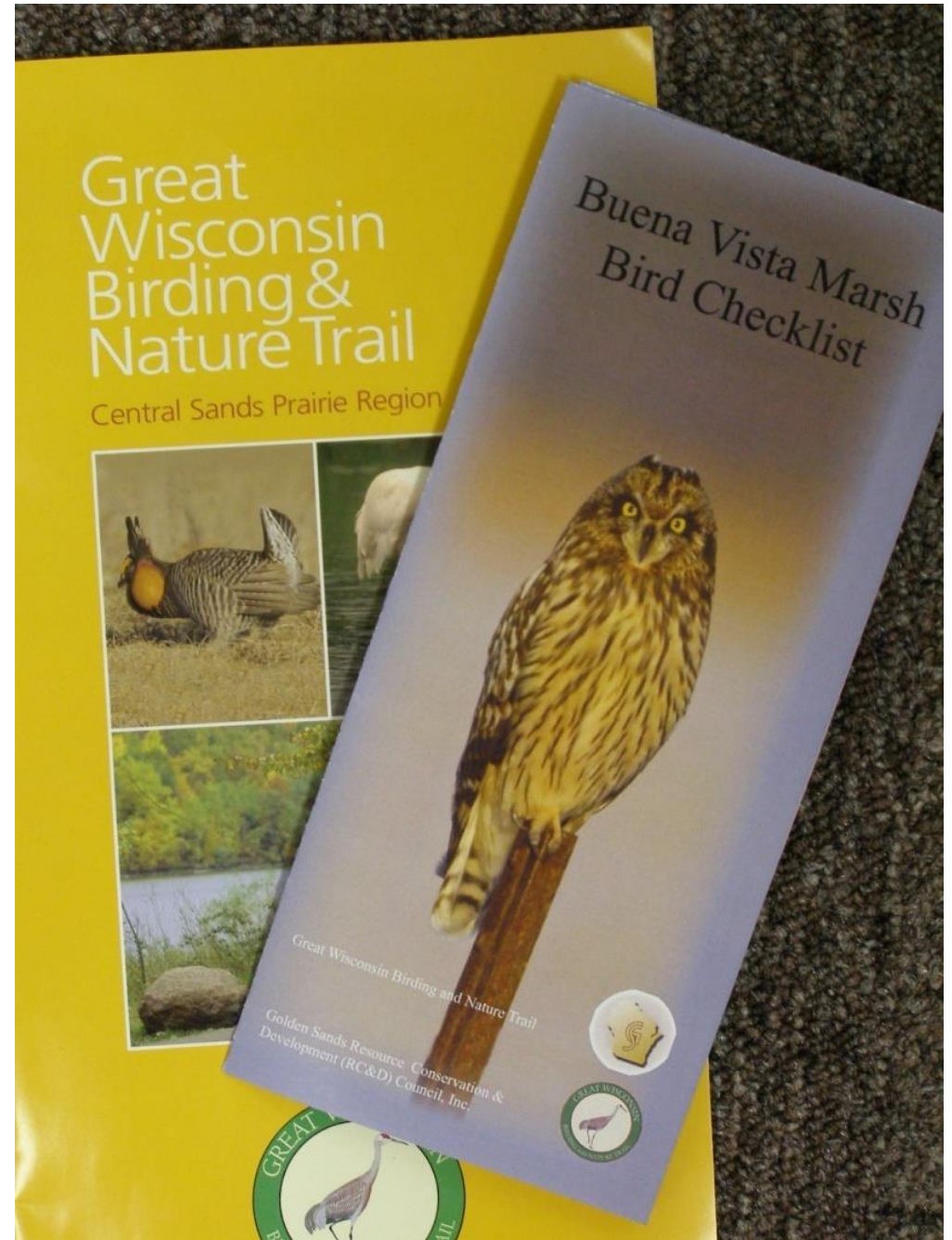


Dan O'Connell
Senior Conservation Tech
Portage County LWCD

Prairie Chicken Festival & Beyond

Information & Education

- *CWGCA Partnership 2005-2012*
 - Prairie Chicken Festival
 - Newsletters
 - Semi-monthly reports
 - Customized conservation program brochures
 - Annual *Partnership* meeting
 - Presentations (Youth & Adult)
 - Historical Kiosk
 - Customized Maps
- Buena Vista bird list
- Special Recognition
 - Important Bird Areas, 2006
 - Great WI Birding & Nature Trail, 2007



Central Wisconsin Prairie Chicken Festival

April 15 – 17, 2011

Locations:

- ❑ Buena Vista, Leola, Mead, & Paul J. Olson Wildlife Areas
- ❑ Historic Point Basse

Activities:

- ❑ Wildlife tours
- ❑ Book readings
- ❑ Viewing blinds
- ❑ Radio telemetry
- ❑ Book & art fair
- ❑ Auto tours



www.prairiechickenfestival.org



Photo: Kent Hall

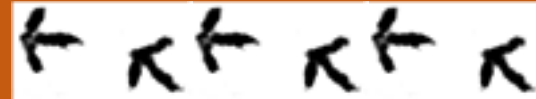
Getting the Word OUT!

- 1,607 direct mail to landowners within CWGCA:
 - Within ½ mile of WDNR owned or managed property
 - Within 1 mi of booming ground
 - Logical “stepping stone” between core areas
- Included:
 - Cover letter, county-customized brochure, return postcard, CRP-SAFE insert
 - Demographic and other interest surveys
 - Partnering with:
 - NRCS
 - FSA
 - WDNR
 - LCD
 - USFWS



RC&D & UWSP Research Reports

- An Analysis of Zoning Ordinances as they Relate to Prairie Chicken Habitat Conservation in the CWGCA
- Conducting a Mailing for a Collaborative Effort in Protecting Habitat for Greater Prairie-chickens and Other Grassland Obligates
- Land Use Map of the Buena Vista Wildlife Area
- Plant Species Present on the Buena Vista Prairie and the Buena Vista Prairie Chicken Meadow
- Threatened, Endangered and Special Concern Vascular Plants Species in the CWGCA
- Wood County, Wisconsin Habitat Parcelization Study of the Greater Prairie Chicken





Viewing opportunities

Kiosk in Buena Vista

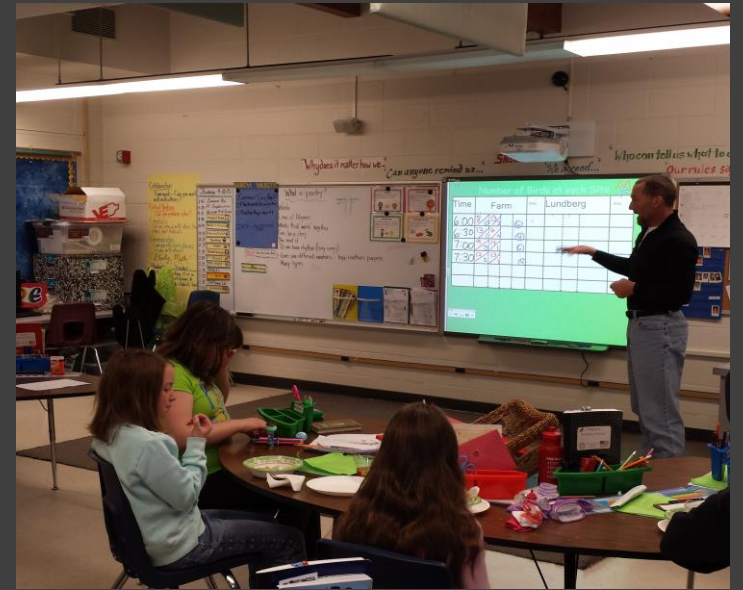


Prairie Chicken Poster Contest



Prairie Chicken School Programs

- Vesper Charter Elementary, 3rd/4th Grade
- Rudolph Middle School
- Roosevelt Elementary School

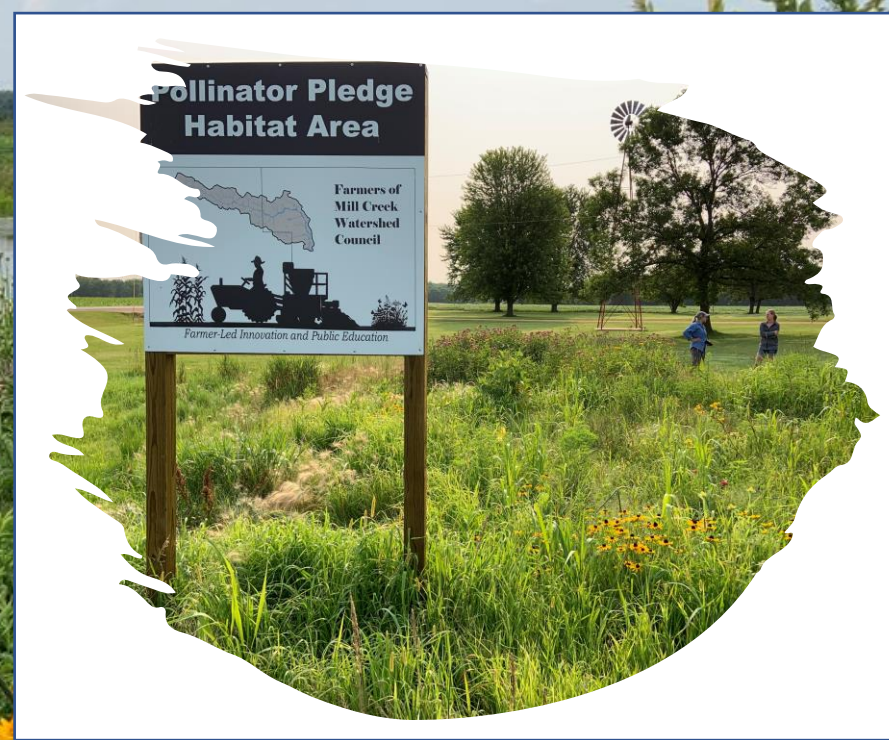


Beyond!



Information & Education

- *2017 and Beyond*
 - Prairie Chicken Festival
 - Prairie Chicken Advisory Committee
 - Presentations (Youth & Adult)
 - Building New Observation Blinds
 - Local Partnerships (Farmers of Mill Creek)



Nature/Farm Tourism Workshops and School Programs

- “How Nature/Farm Tourism Can Profit You & Your Community”
- Diverse community participants
- Examples:
 - Farmer interest in promoting booming grounds
 - CVB interest during April” “shoulder season” in support of Central Wisconsin Prairie Chicken Festival
 - Field trips
 - Field tours
 - Fund Raising events





For complete details visit, and friend the festival on Facebook, or search: www.cleangreenaction.org

Monday, April 10 McMillan Memorial Library 490 East Grand Avenue Wisconsin Rapids WI “Dairyland” is a film focusing on today’s farming challenges in Wisconsin, with farmer/ entrepreneur, Dan Wegmueller, attending to answer Q & As with two viewing opportunities at 1:30 p.m. and 6:00 p.m.

Saturday, April 15 McMillan Memorial Library 490 East Grand Avenue Wisconsin Rapids WI WRITERS NIGHT: 6:00 to 7:00 p.m. featuring award-winning East Coast children’s book author/illustrator of numerous titles, Lita Judge (who is the granddaughter of the late Frances Hamerstrom); 7:00 to 8:00 p.m. featuring Emily M. Stone, author of “natural connections 1” and “natural connections 2” who is a naturalist/educator at Cable Natural History Museum in Cable, WI. Q & A to follow each presentation.

Sunday, April 16 Eron’s Event Barn 3471 County Road C, Stevens Point WI Early to late morning events: pre-registered viewing blind opportunities; other birding tours (guided by Stan Skutek and Susan Vos); exhibits, speakers (Sharon Schwab, Deann DeLaRonde, Auburndale students, UWSP students, Dan O’Connell, Tracy Arnold, & Jon Eron); and Farmers of Mill Creek Watershed Council provide a complimentary breakfast; and special appearances by the costumed festival mascot, Boomin’ Bob (providing great for photo opportunities at no charge.) Fun opportunities, for all ages, to learn more about our natural world.

Fest day activities

- Watch kids doing the chicken dance with Booming Bob
- Counting the birds on the lek and a bird tour.
- Breakfast
- Discussions and presentations at Library and fest he quaters
- Vendors
- Birding with Booming Bob and photos with the unique bird



A discussion between local farmers and the fest's blind and bird tour folks





After the discussions many folks walk outside with Booming Bob to see what birds and wildlife are outside the farm.





**New blinds built by students from
Auburndale High School in coordination
with the Farmers of Mill Creek**





