

Woodland Dunes Nature Center and Preserve

Final Report: RP -188-10

Project Goal:

The project aimed to support three major goals:

- 1) Enhance the Maritime Museum and Woodland Dunes watershed stewardship groups existing within the project area by building their capacity to reach and engage local citizens and officials.
- 2) Provide individual citizens and officials with the opportunities to participate in protecting and restoring the rivers.
- 3) Raise citizens' and officials' awareness and understanding of the threats to rivers in the project area, including contamination that results in listing as 303(d) impaired waters (East Twin, West Twin and Manitowoc Rivers.)

The results of our efforts are described below:

Project Products and Deliverables:

Goal 1: Enhance the Maritime Museum and Woodland Dunes watershed stewardship groups existing within the project area by building their capacity to reach and engage local citizens and officials. The watershed groups were enhanced and capacity was built through increased visibility in the public through events and event advertising. Cooperative work on litter clean-up events and advertising increased efficiency. Educational events were hosted on each of the four rivers along with a rain barrel making workshop hosted at Woodland Dunes Nature center in conjunction with the City of Manitowoc. Newspaper articles were released, 31,000 educational fliers advertising river events were sent to residents of Manitowoc county, event announcements and pamphlet excerpts were included in partners' newsletters and websites.

Goal 2: Provide individual citizens and officials with the opportunities to participate in protecting and restoring the rivers. Six events were held for people to learn about and help clean-up rivers.

March 13, 2010: "Rain Barrel Workshop" Known barrel builder, Kurt Hoffman will demonstrate how to build a rain barrel. All the pieces, including the barrel, will be provided to the first 20 registrants to make your own at home. 34 participants - we had over 50 people on a waiting list!

April 24, 2010 "Silver Creek Hike" Explore silver creek and learn about the little known critters living there, and the importance of the creek to life in the park. 8 participants, 24 were registered but inclement weather (rain) deterred many who had pre-registered.

May 22, 2010 "Collins Marsh Paddle" Explore the land and water of one of the largest remaining wetlands in the Manitowoc River watershed on this naturalist led journey. 20 participants

May 29, 2010 "East Twin River Hike" Hike along a section of the Ice Age Trail and learn about this forest and river ecosystem. 12 participants

July 10, 2010 "West Twin River Paddle" Paddle the Lower West Twin River through scenic country into the heart of Two Rivers. Stop for lunch at Woodland Dunes and explore the surrounding wetlands.

26 participants

June 26, 2010 "Maritime River Rendevous" Paddle your own canoe or kayak, or borrow one of ours. You'll travel past natural and historical points along the Manitowoc River. Following the paddle, relax to the sounds of live maritime music at the museum. 37 participants

Goal 3: Raising citizens' and officials' awareness and understanding of threats to rivers in the project area and specifically of 303.d impaired waters: An educational flier with information about

reducing water pollution and how water becomes polluted as well as advertising river related events was included in 31,000 newspapers distributed to residents of Manitowoc County. Local and recent experience has shown that at least 50% of recipients can be expected to read relevant publications that are mailed directly to them. Therefore through the mailings we expect to have reached approximately 15,500 people within the Manitowoc, East and West Twin River watersheds with our message.

Nine educational signs based on the information in the previously created brochures from the 2009 River Protection and Planning Explore and Restore grant were designed and installed in nine waterfront city parks in Two Rivers and Manitowoc. The signs include information about threats to water quality as well as practical steps to helping to prevent pollution in waterways. Animal life that uses the river as well as how humans use the rivers is also highlighted to help foster a connection to the river systems.

Summary

Through the continuing partnership between the Wisconsin Maritime Museum, the city of Manitowoc and Woodland Dunes Nature Center we are increasing the number of people in the community who understand the threats to the rivers and lakes in our area as well as how to mitigate these threats. Through the park signs and brochures created in 2009 and active education through scheduled programs and events we are reaching our project goals. We are looking forward to continuing this momentum into 2013. Thank you for all of your support.

Explore and Restore Your Local Rivers

Upcoming Events:

Rain Barrel Workshop

Saturday, March 13 9:30 to 11:00 a.m.

Silver Creek Nature Hike

Saturday, April 24 10:00 to 11:30 a.m.

East Twin River/Ice Age Trail Hike

Saturday, May 29 10:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m.

Collins Marsh Paddle

Saturday, June 5 9:00 to 11:00 a.m.

Manitowoc River Paddle

Saturday, June 26 9:00 to 10:00 a.m.

West Twin River Paddle

Saturday, July 10 10:30 a.m. to 1:00 p.m.

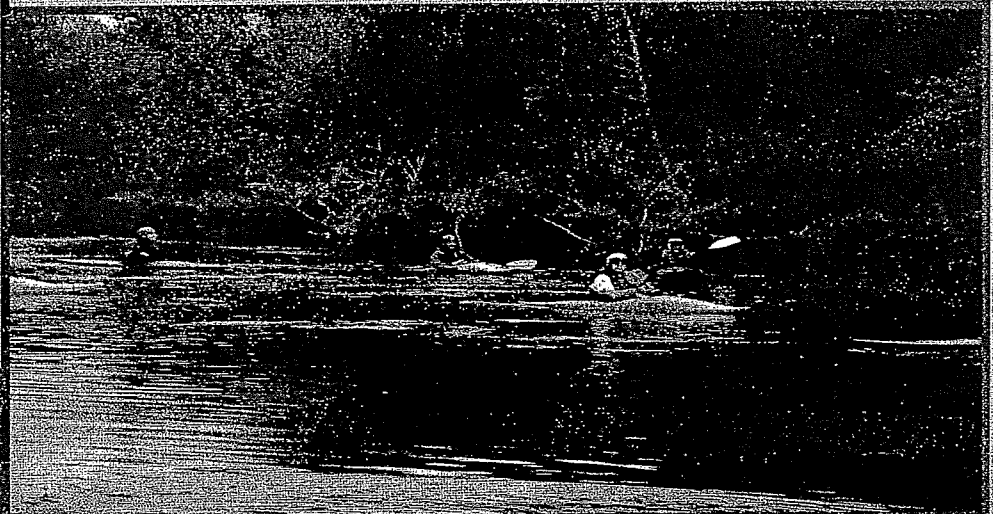
Reservations Required for All Events

See Back for Details



What you can do to reduce pollution...

- ◆ Don't put anything in storm drains but rainwater.
- ◆ Avoid throwing litter into the street.
- ◆ Pick up after your pet.
- ◆ Recycle your motor oil.
- ◆ Be smart when you apply pesticides and fertilizers.
- ◆ Compost or recycle grass, tree limbs, leaves and other yard waste.
- ◆ Use yard waste as mulch, as natural fertilizer, or as ground cover.
- ◆ Carefully store and dispose of household cleaners, chemicals, and oil.
- ◆ Practice good car care.
- ◆ Report illegal dumping.



These events are sponsored by the City of Manitowoc, the Wisconsin Maritime Museum and Woodland Dunes Nature Center, with funding from a WDNR River Protection and Planning Grant.

Explore and Restore Your Local Rivers

Event Details:

Rain Barrel Workshop

Saturday, March 13 • 9:30 to 11:00 a.m.

Known barrel builder, Kurt Hoffman, will demonstrate how to build a rain barrel. All the pieces, including a barrel, will be provided to the first 20 registrants to make your own at home.

Meet at Woodland Dunes Nature Center, Hwy 310.

Reservations: Janet at (920) 686-6910 or jsosnosky@manitowoc.org

Silver Creek Nature Hike

Saturday, April 24 • 10:00 to 11:30 a.m.

Explore Silver Creek Park and learn about the little known critters living there and the importance of the creek to life in the park. Meet at the Silver Creek Field House.

Reservations: Kelly at (920) 793-4007 or kellye@woodlanddunes.org

East Twin River/Ice Age Trail Hike

Saturday, May 29 • 10:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m.

Hike along a section of the Ice Age Trail and learn about this forest and river ecosystem. Call for directions to the meeting area.

Reservations: Kelly at (920) 793-4007 or kellye@woodlanddunes.org

Collins Marsh Paddle

Saturday, June 5 • 9:00 to 11:00 a.m.

Explore the land and water of one of the largest remaining wetlands in the Manitowoc River watershed on this naturalist-led journey. Some canoes are available, or bring your own. Call for directions to the meeting area.

Reservations: Wendy at (920) 684-0218 or wlutzke@wisconsinmaritime.org

Manitowoc River Paddle

Saturday, June 26 • 9:00 to 10:00 a.m.

Paddle your own canoe or kayak, or borrow one of ours. You'll travel past natural and historical points along the Manitowoc River. Following the paddle, relax to the sounds of live maritime music at the museum. Meet at Manitou Park.

Reservations: Wendy at (920) 684-0218 or wlutzke@wisconsinmaritime.org

West Twin River Paddle

Saturday, July 10 • 10:30 a.m. to 1:00 p.m.

Paddle the lower West Twin River through scenic country into the heart of Two Rivers. On our journey we will stop at Woodland Dunes to explore wetland habitat and eat lunch. Call for directions to the meeting area.

Reservations: Kelly at (920) 793-4007 or kellye@woodlanddunes.org

Where Does Water Go?

Rain or Melting Snow flows over the land (grass, streets and parking lots) and picks up dirt, litter, pet waste and chemicals from fertilizer, pesticides and cars. This dirty water, or stormwater runoff, drains to our rivers, streams and lakes.



Water from Homes and Businesses flows in pipes to wastewater treatment facilities which remove solids and waste but not all chemicals. The treated water then discharges into rivers and lakes.

Heavy rains can cause stormwater and untreated water to flow directly into rivers and lakes which is one of the sources of drinking water for thousands of people and home to many species of birds, reptiles and animals.