



BRUSH PILES

NORTH BRANCH RESTORATION PROJECT

FALL 2008

NATIONAL PUBLIC LANDS DAY

Saturday, September 27, 2008

Somme Woods Forest Preserve

9am - Noon and 1pm - 4pm

Would you like to join a multitude of folks and have some fun doing something powerful? National Public Lands Day is an annual event where local volunteers gather to restore habitat in our forest preserves. This year the North Branch Restoration Project will observe the day at Somme Woods. We'll be gathering rare seeds, cutting some brush, and burning a brush pile.

We expect to get good press coverage, do great work, and introduce large numbers of new people to restoration. Mighty oaks, some great birds, and four distinct wetlands will thank us for our efforts. (Buckthorn will "dis" us, but you can't please everyone!)

Lots of North Branch help will be needed in planning and carrying off this great event. We want people who can lead interpretative tours, be small-group work-crew leaders, help with refreshments, and contribute great ideas of all kinds. To sign up to help, contact Linda Masters at 847-509-0431 or send an email to masters2001@comcast.net

ANNUAL NORTH BRANCH

SEED PROCESSING DAY

Saturday, November 22, 2008

Emily Oaks Nature Center

Skokie, IL 60077

9:00 am until mid-afternoon

Join us as we process the vital seeds that have been collected over the summer and fall. Carefully gathered by knowledgeable volunteers, the seed of over a hundred native species will be readied for return to the Forest Preserves, where populations of native grasses, sedges and wildflowers will be reestablished.

Drinks are provided, but many of us also bring a dish to share during breaks from the work. The activities start at 9:00am and continue until the seed has been processed, usually by mid-afternoon.

Directions to Emily Oaks Nature Center: from Skokie Blvd/Cicero Ave, go east on Howard St. to Knox Ave. Turn north on Knox, go two blocks to Brummel St. Turn west and go one block to the parking area at the Nature Center, on the north side of Brummel. Follow the signs to the processing area.

National Public Lands Day is the nation's largest hands-on volunteer effort to improve and enhance the public lands Americans enjoy. In 2007, 110,000 volunteers built trails and bridges, planted trees and plants, and removed trash and invasive plants.

www.publiclandsday.org



NBRP Workday Schedule - Fall 2008

SEPTEMBER

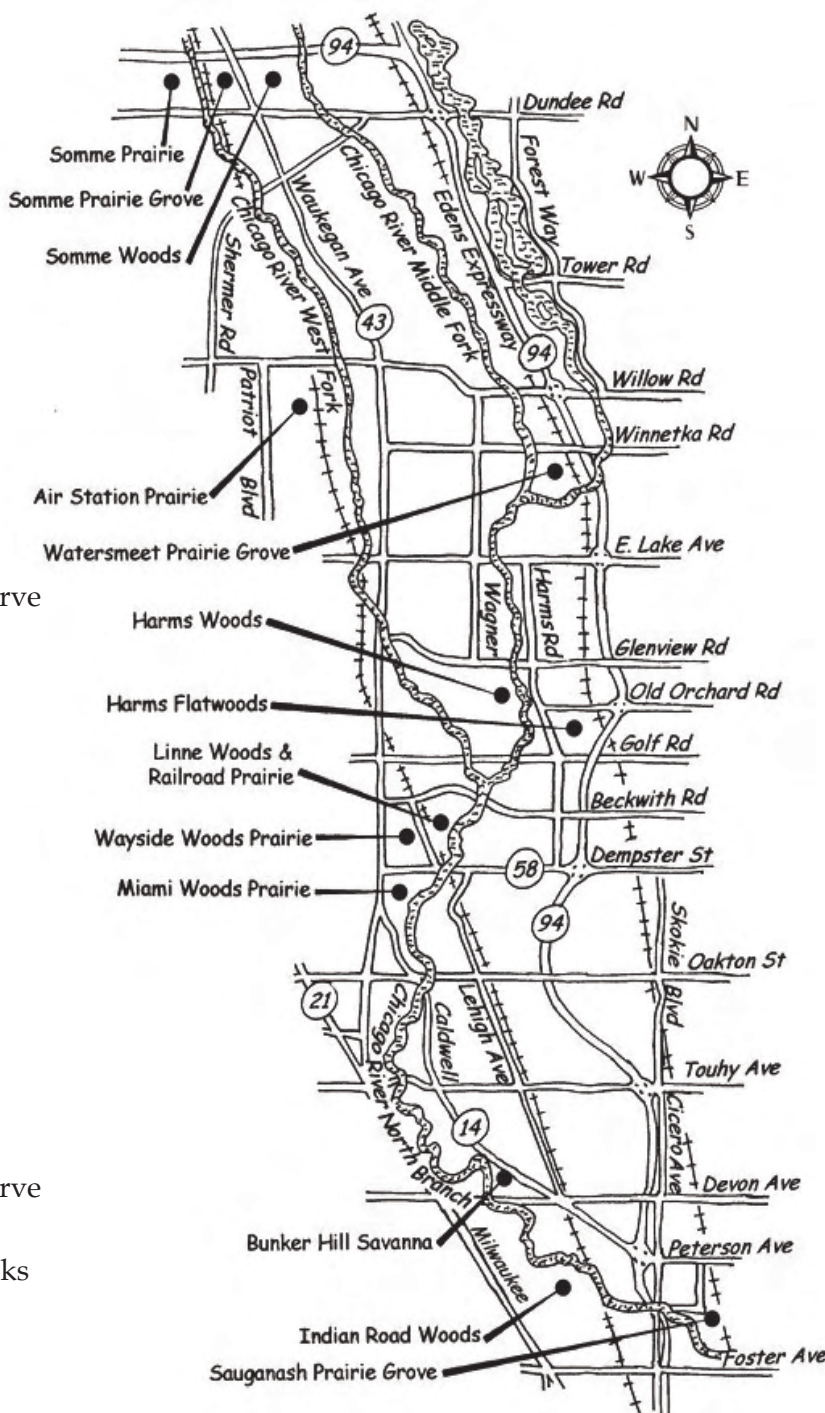
Sat	6	9:00-noon	Somme Woods
Sun	7	9:00-noon	Harms Woods
Sat	13	9:00-noon	Linne Woods North
Sun	14	9:00-noon	Sauganash Prairie Grove
Sat	20	9:00-noon	Somme Prairie Grove
Sat	20	9:00-noon	Watersmeet Prairie Grove
Sun	21	9:00-noon	Harms Flatwoods
Sat	27	9:00-noon	Somme Woods (National Public Lands Day)

OCTOBER

Sat	4	9:00-noon	Linne Prairie
Sun	5	9:00-noon	Miami Woods Prairie
Sat	11	9:00-noon	Linne Woods North
Sun	12	9:00-noon	Somme Prairie Nature Preserve
Sat	18	9:00-noon	Air Station Prairie
Sat	18	9:00-noon	Somme Prairie Grove
Sun	19	9:00-noon	Bunker Hill Savanna
Sat	25	9:00-noon	Somme Woods
Sat	25	9:00-noon	Watersmeet Prairie Grove
Sun	26	9:00-noon	Air Station Prairie

NOVEMBER

Sat	1	9:00-noon	Linne Prairie
Sun	2	9:00-noon	Wayside Prairie
Sat	8	9:00-noon	Sauganash Prairie Grove
Sun	9	9:00-noon	Somme Prairie Grove
Sat	15	9:00-noon	Linne Woods North
Sat	15	9:00-noon	Somme Prairie Nature Preserve
Sun	16	9:00-noon	Watersmeet Prairie Grove
Sat	22	9:00-noon	Seed Processing at Emily Oaks
Sun	23	9:00-noon	Harms Flatwoods
Sat	29	9:00-noon	Somme Woods
Sun	30	9:00-noon	Somme Prairie Grove



BUFFALO GROVE PRAIRIE

Sundays, 9:00 am - Noon
Sep 7, Oct 5, Nov 2, Dec 7
Bev HANSEN, 847-272-6211

Meet on Hastings Road off Lake-Cook about a mile west of Milwaukee. Turn north on Hastings, then right into the second parking lot. The prairie is under the ComEd power lines.

SKOKIE LAGOONS

Saturdays, 10:00 am - 1:00 pm
Sep 13, Oct 11, Nov 8, Dec 13
Jerry GARDEN, 773-545-4632, jerrygarden@sprynet.com

Meet at the Tower Road parking lot (east of the lagoon bridge - not the boat launch). There will be a sign with directions to the work site in the picnic field adjacent to the parking lot.

NBRP Site Directions and Stewards

Air Station Prairie, Glenview

Kent & Jerry Fuller

From the Edens Expressway; go west on Willow Road, past Waukegan Road and over the RR overpass. Turn left (south) at the traffic signals for Patriot Blvd. Turn left on Compass Road (second light from Willow). At the end of Compass, park along Lehigh Avenue or in the METRA lot. Meet at the Tyner Interpretive Center on the south end of the prairie. Patriot Blvd. is also accessible from Lake Avenue.

Bunker Hill Savanna/Oxbow, Chicago

Jane & John Balaban, Marianne Kozlowski
(m.kozlowski@comcast.net)

Off Caldwell between Devon and Touhy; entrance located just opposite Tonty Street. For Bunker Hill Meet in first section of parking lot; for Oxbow, follow road until it turns north, then park along the west side.

Harms Flatwoods, Glenview

Neil Peck & Jette Thomassen

Meet at the Forest Preserve Grove parking lot on the west side of Harms Road, directly west of Old Orchard Road.

Harms Woods, Glenview

Jane & John Balaban

Meet at the Forest Preserve Grove parking lot on the west side of Harms Road, just south of Glenview Road and north of Old Orchard Road.

Linne Prairie, Morton Grove

Mary Busch & John Thill (847-966-0231)

Meet at the Wayside Woods Prairie parking lot on Lehigh Ave, a few blocks east of Waukegan Road and just north of Dempster.

Linne Woods North, Morton Grove

John & Marian Thill (847-966-0231, mjthill@icsp.net)

From Edens go west on Dempster street about 1.5 miles. The forest preserve entrance will be on the north side of the street directly across from McDonalds. Follow the winding road all the way back until it dead-ends at the turn-around circle.

Miami Woods Prairie, Morton Grove

Kent & Jerry Fuller

East of Caldwell between Oakton and Dempster. Meet in the parking lot two blocks north of Oakton.

Morton Grove Prairie Nature Preserve, Morton Grove **Kent Fuller**

From Dempster, 2 blocks east of Waukegan, turn north on Oak Park Ave. Turn left on Churchill and drive to the end.

Sauganash Prairie Grove, Chicago

Larry Hodak & Pete Leki (watersschool@yahoo.com)

Meet at the Forest Preserve parking lot at the Irene Hernandez Picnic Area off Foster Avenue across from Kilbourne Avenue. We will walk north along the railroad tracks and cross the river on the bridge.

Somme Prairie Grove, Northbrook

Stephen Packard (847-509-0431, spackard@audubon.org)

WE NOW PARK AT SOMME WOODS. Park on the left, near the entrance and follow the new trail. From the Edens Expressway, take Dundee Road two miles west and turn right into Somme Woods parking lot (just before the light at Waukegan Road).

Somme Prairie Nature Preserve, Northbrook

Laurel Ross (312-665-7432, lross@fieldmuseum.org) & Christiane Rey (773-478-2019)

From the Edens Expressway, take Dundee Road 2½ miles west (past Waukegan) to Western. Turn north and park in the post office parking lot.

Somme Woods, Northbrook

Linda Masters (847-509-0431, masters2001@comcast.net)

From the Edens Expressway, take Dundee Road two miles west and turn right into Somme Woods parking lot (just before the light at Waukegan Road).

Watersmeet Prairie Grove, Northfield

John Berg (815-919-4916, Kerg111@aol.com)

From Lake Avenue and Wagner Road, turn north on Wagner to Winnetka Road. Turn east on Winnetka for ¾ mile. Park on the north side of the street or a side street.

Wayside Prairie/Linne RR Prairie, Morton Grove

Gladys Bryer & Larry Hodak

Meet at Wayside Woods Prairie parking lot on Lehigh Ave, a few blocks east of Waukegan Road and just north of Dempster.

National Public Lands Day at Harms Flatwoods



Cook County Commissioners Larry Suffredin and Greg Goslin lent a helping hand at the Harms Flatwoods National Public Lands Day.

North Branch Restoration Project
P.O. Box 2154
Northbrook, IL 60062-3707

The North Branch Restoration Project is a cooperative effort involving the Nature Conservancy, the Audubon Society, and the Sierra Club. We manage the sites as volunteers for the Forest Preserve District of Cook County and other local agencies. The Project works to restore and manage the few remaining woodlands and prairies along the North Branch of the Chicago River. Our goal is to restore conditions that will allow these natural wild communities to flourish as a permanent part of the metropolitan area.

www.northbranchrestoration.org

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To contribute notes and photos to Brush Piles:

Email: masters2001@comcast.net

Snail Mail: P.O. Box 2154, Northbrook, IL 60062

Deadlines: November 1, February 1, May 1, August 1

Linda Masters, editor