

Our groundwater:

Where it comes from and where it goes

By Jan Axelson

Did you know that nearly all of our drinking water in Dane County comes from the ground? Even much of the bottled water in stores and restaurants originated as groundwater.

In March, the Friends of Cherokee Marsh sponsored a talk about our groundwater by Kenneth Bradbury of the Wisconsin Geological and Natural History Survey and UW Extension.

We learned that groundwater is water stored in soil or rocks beneath the earth's surface. Under the surface of southern Wisconsin is a layer of ancient sandstone. At Madison, the layer is over 600 feet thick.

The sandstone is riddled with tiny holes that easily absorb and release water. Water that filters down into the sandstone fills the holes, creating an underground reservoir. Some of the water under southern Wisconsin has been there for thousands of years.

Dane County's water utilities and wells pump 50 million gallons of groundwater per day. (Most of the water used by Madison's Northside comes from Well 13 on Wheeler Road.) Pumping has caused the groundwater level under Madison to drop 60 feet. Because of the low-



Photo by Jan Axelson

ered levels, some of the springs that once provided clean groundwater to the Yahara River are now dry.

As development increases, water use increases. To conserve groundwater, don't waste it! Water lawns and gardens only when needed. Lawns can survive on as little as one fourth of an inch of rain per month. Plant varieties of trees, shrubs, flowers, and grasses that can tolerate periods of drought. Consider installing water-conserving faucets, showers, toilets, dishwashers, and washing machines.

Conservation efforts like these will help preserve the groundwater supply we depend on.

Lake View Hill Park annual Earth Day clean-up

By Nelson Eisman

Earth Day clean up of the Dane County Lake View Hill Park will be held on Sat., Apr. 19, 10 am-12 pm. The group will meet at the water tower behind the Dane County Department of Human Services Building. This annual event has been held for over 15 years and continues to be an exciting time of the year in the park. With the snow melt gone and Dutchman's Britches poking through last year's leaves, it is a time of wonder to see what has been hiding for the past several months. There are always a fair share of beer and pop bottles and cans and other treasures abound like a spare shoe, a rusty

can, and of course the old tire or hunk of concrete that makes you wonder how it was missed last year.

Yes, the old hill and woods cough up something new every year, maybe from the reported hidden caves below! Don't miss the excitement. It is a great activity for a scout troop, or just to get out and meet a few neighbors or make up for dropping that candy bar wrapper that the wind took off with and you've felt guilty about ever since! Whatever the reason, we will have some treats and water to keep you going, and of course good will to go around. If you have any questions, contact Nelson Eisman at 244-2055 or neisman@yahoo.com.

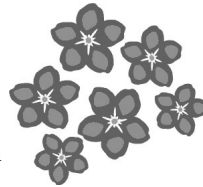
Upcoming activities in Cherokee Marsh

Spring thaw hike

Sat, April 12, 12-2 pm

Cherokee Marsh Conservation Park, 6098 N. Sherman Ave.

Join naturalist Emily Steinwehe on a "Spring Thaw" hike in Cherokee Marsh. Seek out spring wildflowers, sandhill cranes, and great blue heron. Sponsored by the Friends of Cherokee Marsh.



Marsh bird survey

The Department of Natural Resources has chosen the Cherokee Marsh Fishery Area as a monitoring site in a statewide survey of marsh birds this spring. The survey will count secretive wetland birds such as bittern and rail.



Friends of Cherokee Marsh

For news and updates about marsh activities, visit www.CherokeeMarsh.org.

Project Home Seeks Volunteers for Hammer with a Heart - Sat, May 3

Project Home, coordinator of the Hammer with a Heart home repair event for lower-income families in Dane County, is seeking unskilled to moderately skilled volunteers to help repair and/or beautify ten area homes on Saturday, May 3, 8 am - 5 pm. Each house will have two leaders, skilled crew, unskilled crew, donated building materials, food and refreshments.

Project Home is partnering with the following house sponsors: J.H. Findorff & Son, Sweeney Construction Corporation, NARI of Madison, North Central States Regional Council of Carpenters, Madison Area Builders Association,

Wauunakee Remodeling, CUNA Mutual Group, American Family Insurance, and many other in-kind supporters who help to make this event possible.

Through these critical renovations, participants help individuals and families in need with health, safety and comfort concerns, and

projecthome

also help Project Home carry out its mission to

improve the quality and affordability of housing for low- to moderate income residents in Dane and Green Counties.

Call Susan Buzby at 608.246.3737 or email outreach@ProjectHomeWI.org for information and volunteer registration forms.

Lakeview Cooperative Preschool

Children, Parents, Teachers Learning Together, Since 1959



Flexible, Affordable Morning Programs For Your 3 to 5 Year Old.

Now Accepting Registrations! No Waiting List!

To maintain our low student/teacher ratio, class sizes are limited.

3705 North Sherman Avenue (Inside Sherman Avenue United Methodist Church, no affiliation.)

Phone 246-2040

www.LakeviewPreschool.org



Dolly Warren
Tammy Krez



Lakewood
REALTY
welcomes you home

(608) 249-5644
www.lakewoodrty.com



Ted Krez

Featured Listing



Expansion Possibilities

420 New Castle Way ... \$459,000

- 3 bdrm, 2 bath Cape Cod
- First floor den
- 3 season sun room
- Circular floor plan
- Finished lower level

702 Herndon Dr #204

- 2 bdrm, 1 3/4 bath, 1098 sqft condo \$135,500

4409 Elgar Lane

- 3 bdrm, 1 1/2 bath, 1439 sqft Ranch \$179,000

308 Laurel Lane

- 3 bdrm, 1 1/2 bath, 2028 sqft Ranch \$350,000

260 Kensington Drive

- 3 bdrm, 2 1/2 bath, 2785 sqft Cape Cod \$445,000

821 Magdeline Drive

- 4 bdrm, 2 1/2 bath, 3906 sqft Colonial \$670,000

 Full Access & Information to All Homes on the Market
24 hours a day-7 days a week!



Anyone who buys or sells a home with us in 2008 will receive 3 hours of personal design service from Silver Leaf Design Gallery.

www.silverleafdesigngallery.com

