



**NEWSLETTER
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WETLAND PARK COMMITTEE

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THE STONE LAKE COMMUNITY WETLAND PARK IS
LOCATED ON STATE HIGHWAY 70 IN THE VILLAGE
OF STONE LAKE, WISCONSIN

**THE IMPORTANCE OF THE WETLAND
PARK**

The six-acre sphagnum moss wetland in the center of the Wetland Park is the filtering pond for the beautiful lake...Stone Lake. For many years, even before the Wetland Park was created, this strategically located wetland caught all of the sediment that would have eventually found its way into the lake. Because of this great filtering pond, Stone Lake has taken its place in Wisconsin as one of the clearest bodies of water in the state. Creating the Stone Lake Community Wetland Park now assures that this natural filter will always remain in place, providing this very important service for the town of Stone Lake's namesake.

We realize that everyone who receives this newsletter knows the Park is there, but not everyone has walked its trails, sat in the gazebo as a train roars by, picnicked in one of the picnic areas, or reminisced about old friendships while reading the inscriptions on the more than 300 engraved bricks on the Memory Walk. Won't you make one or more of these activities your goal in 2024?

IS BUCKTHORN A THING OF THE PAST?

As we wrap up this newsletter, we realized this is the first newsletter that does not mention buckthorn. This is because, after a seven-year struggle, we believe the buckthorn is finally under control! Now we must all remain vigilant and watch for any sign of its return to our beautiful Wetland Park!

PARK – A WINTER WONDERLAND!

For those of you who live or visit the Stone Lake area in the wintertime, remember that the Wetland Park is open all year round. While not open to snowmobiles or all-terrain vehicles, it is open to cross country skiers, hikers, and those who love to snowshoe. One and a half miles of trails will give you a great variety of scenery; and a trip to the gazebo overlooking the lake will become a special memory. Please come and visit our wonderful Park!

**THANK YOU TO OUR VOLUNTEERS AND
DONORS**

In our newsletters, you can see the many ways our volunteers work in our Wetland Park to keep it safe and beautiful. Also, many costs are associated with maintaining the Park, and we thank our donors for their generous cash donations.



Volunteers replaced 16 boards in the boardwalk.
Did you know the boardwalk is 17 years old already?



Norb and Darlene Gundry put another coat of preservative on the huge log laying in the parking lot. Its rings tell us that it was somewhere around 150 years old when it came down.



This is the most recent group of engraved bricks to be completed and added to the Memory Walk this fall.



Tom McDonnell and Steve Erickson meet at the flower garden at the Wetland Park entrance sign to discuss putting the flowers to bed for the season.



This is one of the new trail signs found at 16 strategic locations in the Wetland Park



Note the large beaver lodge at the top right and several large trees laying at angles on the western edge of the wetland. Two resident beavers were saving these trees for winter feasting.



Tom McDonnell working on the Wetland Park picnic tables to get them ready for spring. Some of them needed new boards; and some of them needed partial re-staining.



Tom McDonnell, Tony Lyne, and Gary Walter work hard to keep the waterway flowing freely under the covered bridge. At the same time they make it look as attractive as possible.



Tony Lyne is shown sanding one of the 14 park benches prior to a much-needed re-staining of all benches which must be done every three to four years.



Tom McDonnell's two sons, Tim McDonnell and Todd McDonnell, come to visit and lend Tom a helping hand replacing boards in the boardwalk.



Tom McDonnell and Tony Lyne take time off from Wetland Park to complete a final job at the Historical Museum.

MOVIE VIDEO

One of our friends of the Wetland Park surprised us recently by making a video of her time spent in the Wetland Park. For those of you who would like to view it, here is the link you may use: <https://youtu.be/RBzs94Mu0i8>. We want to thank Terry Duffy for doing this and for sending this link so everyone can enjoy it.

Stone Lake Community Wetland Park
N5779 Division Avenue
Stone Lake, WI 54876

MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION

I would like to become a member of the Stone Lake Community Wetland Park membership organization.

NAME: _____

ADDRESS: _____

PHONE: _____

- LIFETIME \$ 100.00
- FAMILY \$ 20.00/year
- INDIVIDUAL \$ 5.00/year

Please accept my donation to help with Park maintenance and I understand that my gift will be acknowledged upon receipt.

Mail to: Stone Lake Community Wetland Park
N5779 Division Avenue
Stone Lake, WI 54876.

Donations to the Stone Lake Community Wetland Park may be tax deductible

BRICK PURCHASE APPLICATION

We wish to purchase a brick to be placed in Memory Walk at the Stone Lake Community Wetland Park. Wording on the brick should be as follows (up to three lines, 14 characters per line maximum):

MY NAME: _____

ADDRESS: _____

CITY, STATE, & ZIP: _____

PHONE (in case of questions): _____

My check for \$55 per brick is included, made out to Stone Lake Community Wetland Park. Send to: N5779 Division Avenue, Stone Lake, WI 54876