



Mequon Nature Preserve Day of Service

by Kristin Gies, Manager,
Mequon Nature Preserve



Nineteen certified arborists from the Wisconsin Arborist Association donated their time to help us eradicate buckthorn as a way to give back to the community.

Companies represented were: Wachtel Tree Science and Service, Second Nature Landscaping, Crain Tree and Landscaping, Buckley Tree Service, Lied's, Natural Habitat, as well as We Energies, the Department of Natural Resources, Milwaukee

"As the chair of the ecological and restoration efforts at the preserve I can't tell you how important days like these are to the preserve.

These certified arborists are bettering their community with their area of expertise, and increasing public awareness of what we are trying to accomplish here at the preserve.

It also benefits us because we have a lot of needs in this particular area, and as a non-profit would not be able to pay for nineteen certified arborists for an entire day!

It is also an example of the kinds of partnerships we hope to nurture and grow!"

— Cheryl Brickman,
AB and Ecological Chair, Mequon Nature Preserve

Area Technical College–Mequon Campus, and Wisconsin Arborist Association.

WAA and MNP plan to make this an annual event and encourage more and more companies to participate!

With the help of students from Cedarburg High School and Concordia University, as well as volunteers from MNP, over 3/4 mile of buckthorn was eradicated.

"The average cost of a certified arborist is \$75 per hour. These nineteen arborists spent six hours apiece with us – that's \$8,550 dollars of donated manual labor, a wonderful gift that will keep on giving. Beyond the obvious generous donation and the assistance in our restoration project; as the MNP and Ozaukee Washington Land Trust work to receive grants, match dollars are a must in order to put us ahead of the competition. It's donations of match dollars like these that will help us receive those grants and continue to work towards our mission. We are forever grateful and I can't wait until next year! Thank you WAA!"

— Kristin Gies,
Manager, Mequon Nature Preserve