



The Fox River Trustees support the long-term recovery, protection, and enhancement of the Lower Fox River and Green Bay ecosystem. This e-newsletter highlights several recent projects and provides partner updates. Visit [foxriversnrda.org](http://foxriversnrda.org) for more information.

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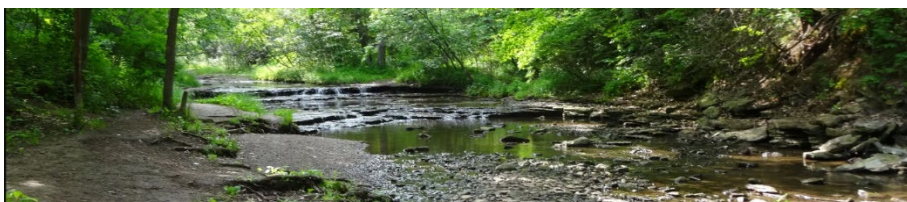
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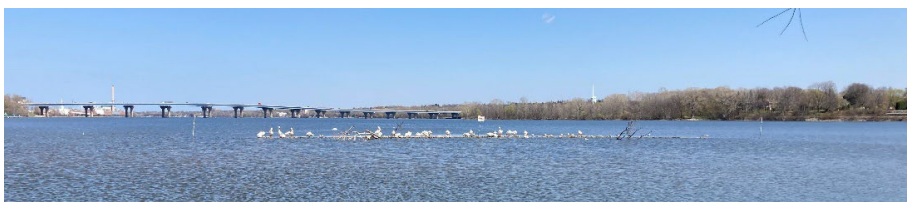
### Oconto River Fishing Access

Through a partnership including the Fox River Trustee Council, Oconto County’s Land & Water Conservation Department, Healthy Waters program, and Lakes and Waterways Association, The [Oconto County Sportsmen’s Club](#) was able to enhance public access to the Oconto River. 1,250 feet of shoreline was protected and improved for shoreline fishing access, in addition to the placement of an ADA accessible fishing pier and parking. The Sportsman’s Club worked closely with experts from the Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources (WDNR) to identify and place the preferred rock material for fish species in the area. Shortly after the area was reopened, the site supported over 100 individuals for the Sportsman’s Club Youth Day, which facilitated youth fishing and canoeing on the Oconto River.



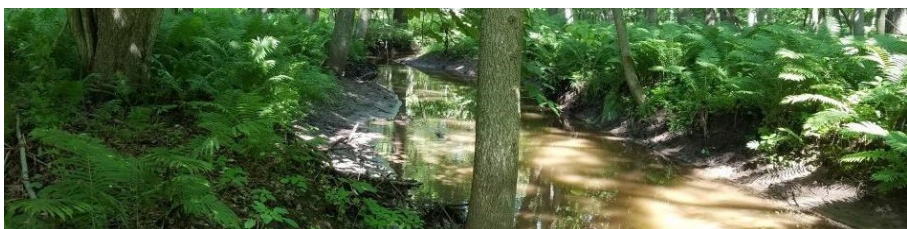
### A Greater Greenway

The [Baird Creek Preservation Foundation \(BCPF\)](#) owns and manages over 500 acres of greenway for the public, within the Baird Creek Watershed. This area protects important habitat for a variety of species and serves as an incredible area for hands on environmental education and passive recreation, including hiking and cross-county ski trails. Through this partnership with BCPF, the Fox River Trustees have helped support the acquisition of over 185 acres in the Baird Creek watershed. Placing these parcels under BCPF stewardship creates more opportunities to restore degraded land back to preferred habitat. The Trustees have offered additional support on nearly 30 acres for restoration and water quality improvements, including: aquatic habitat restoration, invasive species control, and wetland and upland habitat enhancements.



### A Tale of Two Shorelines

The Village of Ashwaubenon has been working hard to increase fish and wildlife habitat around [Ashwaubomay Park](#). The park is situated between Ashwaubenon Creek and the west bank of the Fox River; therefore, stewardship over this park provides them with a unique opportunity to make a big difference for aquatic and shoreline habitats. With support from the Fox River Trustees and the [Great Lakes Restoration Initiative](#) (GLRI), they were able to clear buckthorn on 10 acres, providing ~ 1,400 ft of improved shoreline habitat. Once cleared of invasive species, native trees were planted and 5 heron rookery platforms were placed through a partnership with [American Transmission Co. \(ATC\)](#) and [M.J. Electric LLC](#). Off-shore fish habitat was created through the placement of two stone shoals with woody material anchored throughout. Led by the [Area of Concern Program](#), the Trustees are now supporting planning and design efforts for continued habitat improvements at the site including concepts for additional shoals, fish sticks, native vegetation, and shoreline fishing enhancements.



### A Better Brook for Brook Trout

The Trustees helped support the acquisition and protection of a 17 acre parcel within the Oneida Reservation. Protecting this parcel is significant as it contains a 1,950 foot reach of Lancaster Brook, a Class II brook trout stream, along with approximately 7 acres of adjacent wetland habitat. Protection of this important area also facilitates the ability to enhance habitat to a preferred state through restoration projects. As a result, fish passage impediments have been addressed and woody habitat has been added to the stream - adding log structures to this reach of stream creates feeding habitat and refugia for brook trout.

#### Does your organization have a project idea?

The Trustees support projects that restore, acquire, or enhance natural resources and their supporting habitats injured by the release of PCBs in the Lower Fox River & Green Bay ecosystem through settlement funds provided by Responsible Parties. If your organization has a project concept that matches with Fox River Trustee goals, please contact us. View the [Restoration Plan](#) and [instructions to submit](#) a project at [foxriversnrda.org](http://foxriversnrda.org)



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[FoxRiverNRDA.org](http://FoxRiverNRDA.org)

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