

update

KICKAPOO VALLEY RESERVE NEWSLETTER

Protecting Even More

BY JASON LEIS - KVR EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

Conservation efforts take patience, persistence and perseverance, especially when considering multi-agency involvement. The protection of an additional 16 acres along the Kickapoo River, north of Hay Valley Road, took almost five years to accomplish. This land protection project involved a landowner with a conservation mindset and several conservation organizations coming together to get this piece of property protected. Many probably didn't know that when they paddled from Bridge 5 to Bridge 6 that they were mostly going through private property. Now, that section is part of the Kickapoo Valley Reserve thanks to the Mississippi Valley Conservancy (MVC). Abbie Church, Conservation Director with the MVC, is tenacious in her resolve when it comes to conserving lands. Abbie found grants and donations and just plain willed it to happen. MVC purchased the property from the private landowner and then transferred the ownership to the Kickapoo Valley Reserve officially on February 18th, 2025. Many thanks to Mississippi Valley Conservancy for their continued conservation efforts in the Kickapoo Valley and beyond.



Photo by Jackie Yocum



Above L to R Jason Leis, KVR Executive Director, Travis Downing, KRMB Chair, Connor Kotte MVC Stewardship Specialist, Abbie Church, MVC Conservation Director, Carol Abrahamson, MVC Executive Director





GOOD TO KNOW

A Kickapoo Valley Reserve day or annual pass is required for anyone 16 and over. State Park passes do not apply on the KVR.

[GET A 2025 PASS HERE](#)



Pussy willow along Old Hwy 131 Trail

Directors Discourse

BY JASON LEIS EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

It seems that we have turned a corner, and it looks like spring may be here to stay. Looking at the long-range forecast there is no snow in sight...but I wouldn't be surprised if we saw a little more. With the warm days and freezing temps at night, the sap is flowing, and the maple syrup producers are going full tilt right now. The ice has mostly come off our ponds and the spring migrating birds have begun to show up. Just this morning I saw a couple pairs of swans, many ducks, Canadian geese and 3 Sandhill Cranes.



Sunrise over Visitor Center Pond

This is also a time of year that as the frost comes out of the ground, everything is soft. Be sure you keep vehicles on solid ground and utilize parking areas. Trying to park on the side of the road right now may lead to you being stuck. Our trails are closed to bikes and horses until May 1st when they may open, weather permitting. You can hike on the Reserve at any time and anywhere and you don't have to stay on the trails while hiking. It may be best right now to stick to the hard surfaces like the Old 131 Trail since our natural surface trails are going to be soft as well. Once things start to green up on the KVR, we will be conducting some prescribed burns on our areas of native grasses. These burns help invigorate the native species and also set back the non-native or less desirable species. If you would like to help with doing burns and have some training in prescribed fire, please contact me and we will put you on the list to notify when we plan to burn. Soon after or during the burn season will be the start of wild turkey hunting season. I have seen plenty of turkeys out strutting their stuff already. There are "learn to hunt" events on the Reserve starting the first Saturday in April and then a youth season before the regular seasons start on April 16th. Enjoy spring!



Hepatica along West Ridge Trail

Spring Ephemerals

BY AMY DVORAK - KVR STAFF

Every year, as the weather warms, our forests come to life with spring ephemerals. These are plants that are only visible for a short period of time before the larger shrubs and trees grow their big shade-producing leaves. They gather all the energy they need over a few short months and then patiently wait until next spring. Since spring ephemerals flower so early, they are primarily pollinated by bees as opposed to butterflies and moths.



Emerging blood root along Bailout Trail

Here are some common native spring ephemerals and where to find them in the woods of the Kickapoo Valley Reserve:

- common blue violet (*Viola sororia*) visit Bailout Trail
- sharp-lobed hepatica (*Anemone acutiloba*) visit Ice Cave Trail
- bloodroot (*Sanguinaria canadensis*) – the flower opens in full sun and closes at night. Visit Blackhawk Rock Trail
- May-apple (*Podophyllum peltatum*) visit West Ridge Trail
- Spring beauties (*Claytonia virginica*) visit Big Valley Trail
- Skunk cabbage (*Symplocarpus foetidus*) visit Wintergreen Bluff Trail
- Dutchman's breeches (*Dicentra cucullaria*) Visit Bailout Trail
- Jack in the pulpit (*Arisaema triphyllum*) – this plant is easy to miss as the flowers are actually hidden within the fleshy green and maroon striped spathe. Visit West Ridge Trail

Seasonal Field Notes

GOOD TO KNOW

Ephemeral -
something
that lasts a
short time



Jack in the pulpit Ma & Pa's Trail

Education Corner

GOOD TO KNOW

**We are taking
reservations for spring
school field trips! Book
your class soon! Spots
fill quickly.**

[REACH OUT HERE](#)



Nature Bound

BY AMBER BURCH - KVR STAFF

During Nature Bound this winter, we enjoyed getting to spend some time outside learning about how the weather affects nature and how the plants and animals have adapted to it. We watched bubbles freeze, watched the birds at the feeder (sometimes up close!), competed in the Deer Olympics, and made some neat discoveries in the ice and snow! Our Nature Bound Spring semester has begun. We got to experience rain in our first class and explore what spring rains do for nature. There's still time to sign up if you'd like to join us! You can find more information on our website under: [Nature Bound](#).



Nature Bound Book Donations

A big thank you to the following donors who provided books to the education program:

Driftless Books & Music

Lawton Memorial Library

Friends of the Hillsboro Library

These books are available for instructors to incorporate into programs and also allows each of our Nature Bound students to go home with a free book at the end of the semester! If you or someone you know would like to donate to the Reserve's Nature Book Program, please contact Amber at 608-625-2960 or email amber.burch@wisconsin.gov.



NATURE BOUND

Kickapoo Valley Reserve
ENVIRO-EDVENTURE
PROGRAMS



Summer Camp - Black Ghost Fly Fishing

Summer Adventure Camps

BY AMBER BURCH - KVR STAFF

Summer Adventure Day Camp registration is well on its way! Whether your student is an active adventurer, artist, scientist, or still figuring that out, we've got a camp for that! The Kickapoo Valley Reserve is offering 17 camps in 2025 for anyone from 2-years-old through 17-years-old. Each camp will have hands-on activities and outdoor adventures. Camps fill fast – in fact several have already filled! But don't worry! If there is enough interest, we will make every effort to schedule an additional opportunity for camps with waitlists.



Summer Camp - Kinder Camp

2025 Summer Adventure Camps

- Ages 2-3 Forest Friends
- Ages 4-5 Kinder Camp
- Ages 6-7 Wonder Wanderers, Trail Trekkers
- Ages 8-10 Where the Wild Things Are, Art Sprouts, Nature Nuts, Four Elements
- Ages 11-14 Wild World of Plants, Wilderness Adventure Camp
- Ages 11-17 Camp Inspire
- Ages 13-17 Leadership Trail Camp, Black Ghost Fly Fishing, Waterways Camp



Education Corner

GOOD TO KNOW

Summer Camp registration is open. Camps fill quickly. Register your child today!

REACH OUT HERE



Summer Camp - Leadership Trail Camp



Prescribed burn in Star Valley Prairie

On 8600 Acres

GOOD TO KNOW

Spring Recreation Reminders

- Leave No Trace
- Stay on solid surfaces
- All dogs must on leash April 15- July 31
- Horse & bike trails open May 1 weather permitting



KVR Burn Boss

Prescribed Fire - Perfect Timing

BY JASON LEIS

How do you know when to conduct a prescribed burn? The answer is... it depends. Prescribed fire is a management tool that we utilize on the Kickapoo Valley Reserve to keep competing and undesirable species from getting established in the native communities. Because we want to set back those undesirables, we wait until things start to green up. In a prairie, those cool season grasses, plants and invasives are the undesirables that are the first to green up. Once things start to get green, but not too green, we burn. There is a narrow window when there is enough dry fuel to carry a hot enough fire to kill or set back the undesirables and too green to burn. Safety considerations are a factor as well. We mow firebreaks around the areas we plan to burn. As the burn boss of our crew, I like those mowed breaks to get green so that they stop the fire when it gets to them. Controlled burns that breach a firebreak can turn scary in a hurry. Native grasses are adapted to a fire environment. They have very deep root systems. If the grass is 5 feet tall, it has at least that deep of roots. Burning the top of the plant off doesn't hurt it at all. Invasives on the other hand usually have very shallow root systems and when you burn, you have a good chance of completely killing the plant.



There are other reasons to use prescribed fire, and you may see it around the area. Some people just burn to get rid of the dead grass. It does do a good job of cleaning things up, especially if you are thinking of planting something new, but it doesn't do much for setting things back if they haven't started growing yet. As always, safety is foremost on our mind when doing this activity. Having the proper PPE, fire-resistant gear and protective equipment along with enough water and people trained to conduct the burns is imperative. We try to notify all neighbors in the area and also notify the Sheriff's Office and local Fire Department prior to any planned burning activity. If you are interested and have some training and experience conducting prescribed burns, please contact us to get on a list to call when the conditions are right. We may also take a limited number of people who would like to volunteer to learn and be trained while helping out.



Garlic mustard – invasive species

Garlic Mustard - an eco-invader

BY JACKIE YOCUM - KVR STAFF

Garlic mustard is like a cuss word around these parts. One of the first plants to emerge in the spring, garlic mustard is an aggressive, and troublesome invasive species that exists on the landscape of the Kickapoo Valley Reserve and many other woodlands throughout the Midwest, Northeast and Northwest. It was originally brought to the US from Europe and Asia in the 1800's as an herbal/medicinal remedy for treating anything from bronchitis to gangrene. There is also claim it can be useful to remove the itch of a bug bite when a leaf is crushed and rubbed on the bite. As scary a thought as it is, it was also once used as erosion control.



Garlic mustard in a woodland

On the Kickapoo Valley Reserve (and many natural spaces), garlic mustard is an enemy to be dealt with each spring. It is a threat to the biodiversity of a native ecosystem. The two photos show spring ephemerals along Little Canada Trail without garlic mustard on the right and a woodland (not on the KVR) that has been taken over by the invasive plant above. Garlic mustard takes over an area, crowding out native plants that are important to insects and other species that are part of the food chain. The roots of garlic mustard also release chemicals that change the soil ecosystem, inhibiting growth and suppressing native species, including trees. With effort and persistence, garlic mustard can be controlled. Pulling the plant and root before it goes to seed, bagging it and putting it in the trash is one method. For large scale infestations, herbicides are often used.



On 8600 Acres

GOOD TO KNOW

A single garlic mustard plant can produce 7000 seeds in its beinnial lifetime. The seeds can remain viable in the soil for up to 10 years.

[VOLUNTEER TO HELP!](#)



Spring beauties on Little Canada Trail



Creative Communities Canvas Project

Featured Events

GOOD TO KNOW

Online Canvas Auction
ends March 23rd! Bid
High Bid Often!

[VIEW THE AUCTION](#)

Creative Communities Art Programs

Student Art Experience

On March 12th, 65 high school students joined 7 local artists to share in a day of art exploration. Mediums included printmaking, 2D drawing, alcohol ink, watercolor, natural material landscapes, repurposing plastic containers as art, and colored pencil and pen drawing. As they say, a good time was had by all.



2025 Student Art Experience

Ephemeral Art Series

Adults are enjoying the Ephemeral Art Series during the month of March. Each week a different artist guides participants through exploring new mediums and cultural art. Mediums include printmaking, colored pencil and pen drawing, copper embossing, Mexican folk art, and cake decorating. [Learn more here](#)



Ephemeral Art Series - Printmaking



Creative Communities Canvas Project Exhibit

Creative Communities Canvas Project & Online Auction

Over 250, 6x6 inch canvases were distributed to local communities at libraries. Artists of all ages were asked to use the word Resilient as it pertains to nature for their inspiration. Canvases are on display at the KVR Visitor Center through March 22 and will be sold to the highest bidder on an online auction that closes on March 23rd at 5pm CST. [Click here to view canvases & bid.](#)



La Farge Schools Stewardship group

Celebrating Earth Day - All Week

We celebrate Earth Day all week April 19-April 26th at the KVR. Volunteer stewards arrive from all around the community and beyond to help with spring clean-up, check trails and attack invasive species. This year we are looking forward to welcoming school groups, Organic Valley employees and community members. Friends of Kickapoo Valley Reserve will host their annual Youth Poetry Contest and work to clean-up the adopted section of State Road 131 just north of the Visitor Center. If you are interested in learning more about our Earth Day Celebration and volunteering, visit our website.

<http://kickapoovalley.wi.gov/Events/Annual-Events/>



Garlic mustard

Driftless Dialogue Leave No Trace on Shared Use Public Land

As spring begins calling everyone back outside, it's important to remember the Leave No Trace principles. We invite you to join us on April 19th at 10am as we host Kristy Brown, a Leave No Trace (LNT) Master Educator/Level 2 Instructor to discuss LNT principles and how to apply them in your outdoor pursuits. Kristy grew up in a family that was centered on farming and outdoor recreation. "We learned from a very young age to pick up after ourselves, leave the outdoors better than you found it, no one should know we were here type of ethic." Kristy discovered the Leave No Trace organization as an adult and works to help mentor the importance of outdoor ethics. It seems like common sense and intuitive, yet unfortunately, not everyone grew up with mentors to teach outdoor ethics. Leave No Trace is more than a set of Principles, it is a CHOICE, and is the goal for outdoor activities and truly, daily living. Socializing and brunch refreshments will begin at 9:30am with the talk at 10am. Driftless Dialogue is a free program and open to the public.



Kristy Brown - Leave No Trace Master Educator Level 2

Featured Events





Naturalist Notes

GOOD TO KNOW

Learn more about dark sky lighting and take action to protect the night sky.

LEARN MORE HERE

Dark Sky Lighting - Going for Gold

BY SCOTT LIND - KVDSI PRES. & KRMB MEMBER

The KVR is taking action to further reduce contributions to increasingly bright local night skies by replacing nearly all of the outdoor fixtures and adding controls to minimize when they are on. Lights we use to navigate at night are available in various colors. We talk about lights being “warm” or “cool”.

Look at the six images (above) of the lights showing each color in the table to understand what that means. At night, we want low or “warm” color temperature lights. Low color temperature dramatically benefits in reducing light pollution and species disturbance. With any lighting, shielded is always best.

Color Temperature	Skyglow Compared to 1800K
1800K	1
2200K	1.85
2700K	2.21
3000K	2.53
4000K	3.30
5000K	3.92

You can read the work of Travis Longcore to appreciate the sensitivity of vision to various colors of light for the species we share the planet with, but the table above shows you in numbers how much better lower color temperature lights are than the very blue 4000K (or even 5000K) LEDs which are what we find in stores. None of this has anything to do with the amount of light, only the color. The amount of light is the same in each case.

The outdoor lighting is being replaced at the buildings on the KVR. Lights are currently 2700K and 3000K colors with the exception of the short walkway lights near the entrance which are 5000K. New 1800K fixtures for outdoor wall and parking fixtures will be installed to reduce the light pollution by half to two-thirds. For the walkway lights, we are going to experiment with photographic films to filter that 5000K light to create a more golden color with one-fourth the light pollution and adding shields to reduce it even further. We will also be adding motion sensor controls to these lights, so they aren’t on when not needed.

Because humans aren’t nocturnal, the only obvious impact of these changes for us is seeing more stars and less glare. But we know that all of the nocturnal species will be better cared for because we’ve done it.



Outdoor lighting at the KVR



THE KICKAPOO VALLEY DARK SKY INITIATIVE OBTAINED 501(C)(3) STATUS TO CONTINUE THE WORK NEEDED TO BRING DARK SKIES BACK TO THE KICKAPOO VALLEY. WATCH FOR UPDATES ON HOW TO JOIN, DONATE AND GET INVOLVED IN PROTECTING OUR DARK SKIES



Sandhill cranes Photo by Jackie Yocum

Spring Bird Migration

BY BARB DUERKSEN - KVR NATURALIST

Robins and blackbirds singing, cranes calling and geese honking are a welcome change from the short, frigid, quiet days of winter. Birds are on the move! Thousands of ducks and geese stop in our area on their way north. Some are present for just a few days or weeks, others will stay to nest in the Reserve or nearby ponds and wetlands.



Hooded Merganser Photo by Sharon Swiggum

My favorite ducks are Hooded Mergansers. The males have elegant plumage - black and brown with striking white markings. They have a large crest, or hood, which is white bordered by black. It can be raised or lowered, changing the shape of the white spot. In courtship mode, the crest is raised making their heads look very large. Females are very plain, with a grayish brown body and a smaller crest that is a soft reddish brown color. These small ducks spend the winter south of us, where the water is ice-free. They nest in Wisconsin (generally farther north than here), and into southern Canada. Like Wood Ducks, they nest in holes in trees.

Look for Hooded Mergansers and other visiting waterfowl along the Old 131 trail. Check the ponds at the south end, and also Schroeder pond and the wetland pool across the trail to the west. Enjoy the sights and sounds of these and other birds including geese, cranes, kingfishers, and eagles.

Naturalist Notes

GOOD TO KNOW

“Birds are on the move!”

[IDENTIFY BIRDS HERE](#)



Blue winged teal Photo by Jackie Yocum



Volunteer Spotlight



Stewardship Activities All Around

Volunteer opportunities on the Kickapoo Valley Reserve are plentiful. From stewardship, hands on work to folding brochures, there are opportunities for nearly everyone.

Springtime volunteering is the best! What a wonderful opportunity to get outside in nature, do good for the environment and watch spring unfold, right before your eyes! Interested in helping with education programs at the Kickapoo Valley Reserve? We can hook you up! We have a full spring schedule and can use extra hands. Reach out to us for more information 608-625-2960



Volunteer project Photo by Tom Fuzard



Stewardship Volunteers Photo by Jackie Yocum

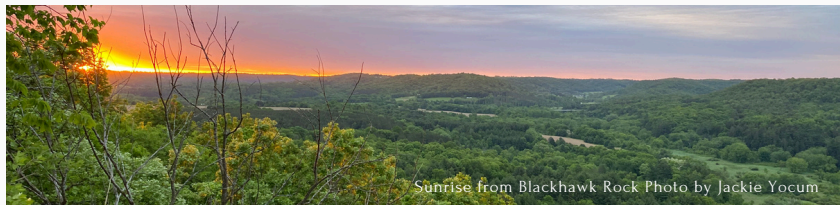
One of Wisconsin's most destructive and aggressive woodland invaders is garlic mustard (*Alliaria petiolata*). In its first year of growth, there are only a few small kidney-shaped green leaves. In its second year, it grows to a 12" to 40" tall forb. But there is hope! Garlic mustard can be treated by pulling second year plants in areas that can be visited often and re-pulled frequently. This makes it a perfect project for our volunteer army. Interestingly, garlic mustard must be bagged and disposed of because the plants will set seed even after being pulled. We have multiple sites throughout the Reserve where our volunteers have been diligently working on removing this invasive plant species.

If you're interested in volunteering for this project or any others, send us an email at Kickapoo.reserve@krm.state.wi.us or visit our Volunteer page <http://kvr.state.wi.us/Get-Involved/Volunteer>

25 Years of Preserving and Protecting

For many years, the Kickapoo Valley suffered devastating floods. As part of the 1962 Flood Control Act, the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers was directed by Congress to create a flood control dam just north of the Village of La Farge. The Corps bought 8,569 acres comprising 140 properties and removed the houses and buildings. Soon after, they began building a large earthen dam. The project was 39% complete when it was halted in 1975 due to environmental and economic concerns. For the next 25 years, the land lay in limbo.

In 1996, Congress directed the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers to return up to 1,200 acres of the 8,569 acres to the Ho-Chunk Nation and the rest to the State of Wisconsin. The 1996 Water Resources Development Act also required the Ho-Chunk Nation and State to manage the land for low-impact tourism and education.



Sunrise from Blackhawk Rock Photo by Jackie Yocum

On December 28, 2000, 7,369 acres were officially transferred from the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers to the State of Wisconsin. The remaining 1,200 was transferred to the Bureau of Indian Affairs five months later. The Reserve is now owned by the State of Wisconsin and Bureau of Indian Affairs – in Trust for the Ho-Chunk Nation.

To commemorate the 25th anniversary of this momentous event, the Kickapoo Reserve Management Board, who is responsible for managing the property on behalf of the State of Wisconsin and Ho-Chunk Nation, invites the public to attend a rededication ceremony on June 7, 2025, at 1:00 PM at the Visitor Center. We will celebrate accomplishments made, including building the Visitor Center, creating more than 50 miles of shared use trails for public use, hosting community events and serving thousands of students with nature-based education programs. We will also recognize the unique and important relationship between the State of Wisconsin and the Ho-Chunk Nation through the continued work of the Kickapoo Reserve Management Board. Most importantly, we will rededicate our commitment to preserving and protecting the cultural and natural resources within the Kickapoo Valley Reserve.

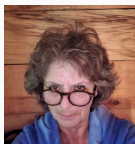
Special Event



Blackhawk Rock KVR Photo

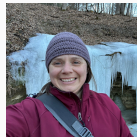
Working to Preserve and Protect

ROSE BOYAJIAN - PROGRAM ASSOCIATE



I've been at KVR since fall of 2024. I have been blessed to be involved with the Nature Bound Program and assist with the littles, ages 3 to 5. I have enjoyed all the amenities of the KVR, including hiking, kayaking, bird watching and all that nature offers since 2005. I have truly found my happiness here, the extra benefits of friendship and great leadership are a bonus!

AMBER BURCH - EDUCATION COORDINATOR



I began as the Education Coordinator in November 2024. My grandma has always said, "You learn something new every day," and my hope is to inspire people to seek those lessons out from the natural world around us! I enjoy hiking, camping, kayaking, and applying the inspiration I find from nature in writing and crafting.

AMY DVORAK - EXECUTIVE ASSISTANT



I am the executive assistant at the Reserve. I started in October 2024. When I moved to the area in 2017, I immediately looked for a job at the Reserve, but alas, there were none. When this position opened up, I had to apply. Even though I liked my job at the time, I couldn't miss the opportunity to work for a place with a mission that I could wholeheartedly get behind. I am excited to learn all there is to know about the Reserve and to help preserve this wonderful place. When I'm not at work, I enjoy spending time outdoors with my husband, two daughters, and dog. I am also a member of the Kickapoo Valley Rescue Squad and La Farge Area Ambulance and actively participate in my community through volunteering.

DIANE GLOEDE- OFFICE ASSOCIATE



I began working here in July 2024 part-time as an Office Associate. I grew up in the area and moved back after many years to work at Organic Valley. Now, semi-retired, it's great fun to meet people of all ages from all over who come here to enjoy the natural world. Nothing is as renewing as spending time in nature listening, smelling and observing the beauty of our precious earth. The Reserve offers limitless opportunities to recreate for all ages.

COLENE GREFE - FIELD CREW



I started in May of 2023, so this will be my third summer working here at the KVR. I grew up around the KVR as well as attended many events through school programs, and when I saw this position available, I wanted to give it a try knowing I knew the area well. In my time working here I have seen amazing wildlife, learned many life skills, and met a lot of great people. When I'm not working at the KVR, I enjoy working out, learning more about nutrition, being outdoors, and spending time with my family.

JASON LEIS - EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR



I grew up in Cashton and graduated college from UW Stevens Point with a Natural Resource Management Major and an Environmental Law Enforcement Minor. I have worked at the KVR for 21 years. First as the Property Manager and Police Officer and now as the Executive Director. I have enjoyed working with great people who have contributed to the Reserve and am proud of what we all have accomplished. I like to spend time with family and friends camping, hunting, fishing and enjoying the outdoors.

JANA MUEHLENKAMP - OFFICE ASSOCIATE



I have been an Office Associate at the KVR, since November 2023. What I like about working here are the education programs for the children. I am an assistant for the educators who teach the programs, and I am able to learn more about nature while spending time with the children. This is something I enjoy very much.

Meet the Staff

JIM SANFORD - FIELD CREW - MOWING



I grew up about 5 miles outside of La Farge and was just a little in the late 60's early 70's. I graduated from Kickapoo in '84 and went into the Marine Corp for 4 years. In 2000 I started working with landscaping and tree removal/ trimming with the city of La Crosse. In 2021 I moved back to the area and stopped to purchase a pass and left with a job application. I have worked at the KVR since 2022.

AL URBANEK - MAINTENANCE



I mow the yard at the Visitor Center and everything I am told to do. I weld and do woodworking projects. Basically maintenance. I have been working at the KVR for a year.in May. I am retired and just wanted some part time work a couple days a week. I have been married for 49 years. I love to hunt and fish but am slowing down because of my age.

JOE VETTER - FIELD CREW



This will be my second summer at KVR. I came to KVR after I retired from my career in Hospitality Management. I was looking for an opportunity to work outside, learn more about conservation management and to become a better steward. My wife and I enjoy RVing, hiking, and spending time with our 5 kids and 4 grandsons. I'm an avid gardener and hunter and look forward to another season working with the great team at KVR.

MACEY WOOD - FIELD CREW



I have been part of the field crew here at the KVR, since May 2024. I grew up in the area and have always looked forward to spending time at the KVR. I enjoy the natural habitat the KVR has to offer, along with the welcoming staff and the friendly community. Outside of working at the KVR I like traveling and exploring new places, as well as going on hikes with my dogs.

JACKIE YOCUM - OUTREACH, EVENTS & NATURAL RESOURCES TECH



I grew up on my family's century farm in the Kickapoo watershed. I started volunteering at the KVR on the trails in 2003. After the flood of 2008, I did contract work on the damaged trails. I moved from contract work to working at KVR in 2010, and with great crews along the way, worked to create 50 miles of shared use sustainable trails. I take great pride in preserving and protecting the KVR. I've met some amazing humans along the trails, trail jewels you might call them. They know who they are. When the wind blows that way, I also organize events and outreach for the KVR. I enjoy spending time with my family, especially spending time in the outdoors with my grandsons.

What's Happening - Clip it to your fridge!

MARCH



- 20 - KRMB Meeting
- 23 - Creative Communities Online Auction closes
- 31 - Ephemeral Art Series - Cake Decorating

APRIL



- 1-11 - Youth poetry due to the Visitor Center
- 7- Finance Committee Meeting
- 7 - Ephemeral Art Series Mexican Folk Art 6-8pm
- 8 - KRMB Land Management Meeting
- 10 - KRMB Education & Tourism Meeting
- 17 - KRMB Meeting
- 19 - Driftless Dialogue - Leave No Trace
- 19-26 - Earth Week! Garlic Mustard Gathering
- 19-26 - Earth Week! Annual Roadside Cleanup
- 22 - Earth Day - Volunteer!
- 26 - KVR Earth Day Celebration & Youth Poets of Merit

MAY



- 1 - Equestrian and bike trails open - weather permitting
- 15 - KRMB Meeting

JUNE



- 7 - KVR 25th Anniversary Rededication and Reception
- 9-19 - Summer Camp Ages 2-3 Forest Friends
- 11-13 - Summer Camp Ages 11-17 Camp Inspire
- 16-20 - Summer Camp Ages 8-10 Art Sprouts
- 19 - KRMB Meeting
- 23-26 - Summer Camp Ages 4-5 Kinder Camp
- 23-27 - Summer Camp Ages 8-10 Where the Wild Things Are

JULY



- 4 - Old Hwy 131 Trail Vehicle Tour Noon - 4pm
- 7-11 - Summer Camp Ages 4-5 Kinder Camp
- 7-11 - Summer Camp Ages 6-7 Wonder Wanderers
- 7-11 - Summer Camp Ages 8-10 Four Elements
- 14-18 - Summer Camp Ages 8-10 Nature Nuts
- 14-18 - Summer Camp Ages 11-14 Wilderness Adventure
- 21-25 - Summer Camp Ages 6-7 Trail Trekkers
- 21-25 - Summer Camp Ages 11-14 Wilderness Adventure
- 21-25 - Summer Camp Ages 13-17 Black Ghost Fly Fishing
- 21-24 - Summer Camp Ages 13-17 Leadership Trail Camp
- 28-Aug 1 - Summer Camp Ages 13-17 Black Ghost Fly Fishing

AUGUST



- 4-7 - Summer Camp Ages 11-14 Wild World of Plants
- 4-7 - Summer Camp Ages 13-17 Waterways
- 21 - KRMB Meeting

What's popping up!



Red-winged Blackbird seen on March 13



Skunk cabbage seen on March 19



Woodcock seen on March 17