

## Green DuBois 2021 Annual Report

The Green DuBois task force came out of hibernation in Spring 2021. We held two workdays where we removed bush honeysuckle around the Rustic shower house. The area is now clear all the way to the lake and for some distance from that point to the east and the west. Previously worked areas looked good and had very few individual plants, showing our efforts are starting to pay dividends. Carpenter bees moved into many wood buildings during the fallow 2020 year at camp, and they are going to be addressed with simple jar traps that use no chemicals.

A Time To Replenish



I will satisfy the weary, and all who are faint I will replenish. Jeremiah 31:25

A group of volunteers took tree tissue samples again this year and had them tested for herbicidal residue. We are finding and documenting progressive damage, particularly to the larger oak trees in the center of camp.

We tragically lost our two initial beehives to American foulbrood disease in the winter of 2020. All equipment was replaced, the hives were moved, and different strains of bees were purchased. We now have three hives in two locations at camp, and they are happily producing a lot of honey in their first year, which is a good sign of their health. We plan to offer honey and beeswax candles at Fall Festival, with donations going to fund future Green DuBois projects.

St. Paul UCC in Freeburg completed their work on the Deer Run Cabins, and they did a fantastic job restoring all three of them. Special thank you to Tami Hughes for the additional time she volunteered on the environmental education and meditation cabins, providing barn wall boards, paint and furnishings.

We were lucky to have Tom Krueger chose to do his Eagle Scout project at camp. Tom and a large group of volunteers built three ADA compliant ramps in a single day in July, to make all the cabins accessible. Dave Hoffmann then painted each of the cabins to complete their fresh look. With just a few more displays and additions, the cabins will soon be available for use.

We plan to add a few workdays throughout winter 2021 into spring 2022 for invasive species removal and controlled burns on specific areas. We have an eye on finishing the shade garden in front of the office, and finally getting to install a pollinator sun garden between the office and the road. We also plan to start sprucing up trails with better signage and plant identification cards. If it's safe to do so, we will reschedule activities that were cancelled in 2020, including a Conference-wide start gazing party and a nature photography retreat.

The Green DuBois initiative was started in 2018, and it highlights and protects our natural resources through three branches of work: 1) the flowering branch, where we show people what we have; 2) the woody branch, where we focus on active forest management and take care of what we've got; and 3) the leafy branch, where we expand our sustainable practices and lower our impact on the environment.

Submitted by  
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