

## General Information

Join us for monthly evening field trips and socializing, May-October, to learn from experts and each other about land and water conservation topics.

Events are on Thursday evenings, **6:00-8:00pm**, at locations in and around the Lowery Creek watershed, south of Spring Green.

Hear what others are doing on their land and find new resources to achieve your own goals. See Driftless-friendly conservation and agricultural practices in action.

**These events are free**, but donations are encouraged and appreciated. All sessions are outdoors.

**Registration is required and details will be sent to those who sign up. To register go to:**

[driftlessconservancy.org/events](https://driftlessconservancy.org/events)

For more information:

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[driftlessconservancy.org/lowery-creek-watershed](https://driftlessconservancy.org/lowery-creek-watershed)

# Lowery Creek Watershed Initiative 2025 Evenings Afield



## May 22

### Restoring and Protecting Aldebaran Farm

Aldebaran Farm has a fascinating history: both Frank Lloyd Wright and Svetlana Stalin lived there for brief periods. The current owners completed a conservation easement with the Driftless Area Land Conservancy (DALC) last year and their son recently bought adjacent land. They will touch on the property's history, then walk us through their process and their prairie as they describe restoring and protecting the 17-acre homestead. DALC staff will explain easement basics.

Location: Aldebaran Farm, County T

Leaders: Mary Williams, Mike Lenahan, Jack Lenahan, Steph Judge

## June 26

### Bats Bouncing Back: Updates on the Surface and Subterranean

Wisconsin is home to more than 40% of the nation's little brown bats! Four of the state's eight bat species continue to experience stress from White-nose Syndrome (WNS), but there is some good news to share. Join us to learn about local bats, citizen monitoring, WNS research in WI, and how you can help. Big brown bats and tricolored bats that hibernate on the Taliesin property have been monitored for 10 years. We will offer a tour of underground sites after the indoor presentation. Stick around after sunset to observe, count, and listen to bats emerging from summer roosts. **This event will be from 6:30-8:30 pm.**

Location: Hillside Theater at Taliesin, Highway 23

Leader: Jennifer Redell

## July 24

### Be a Good Ancestor - Build Good Soil

Whether you tend a farm, a garden, or a yard, this wisdom from Native American ecologist Robin Wall Kimmerer should be taken to heart. Nurturing soil health has benefits far beyond your piece of ground, and far into the future. Soil experts will use soil cores, a rainfall simulator, and a trip to a perennial crop field and blueberry patch to describe interactions between soil health, water quality and movement, and plant life. Learn the basics of carbon sequestration, taking and interpreting soil tests, creating healthy soil, and soil-stream dynamics.

Location: Twin Crix Farm, Highway 23

Leaders: Patrick Michaels, Dick Cates, Katie Abbott, Joe Stapleton

## August 21

### Monitoring Invasive Species: The Power of Apps, Maps, and Collaboration

A number of plant and animal identification and reporting tools help to paint a valuable picture as invasive species spread across the landscape. The Upper Sugar River Watershed Association plays a leading role on this front in our area. They will show us books and apps for identifying and reporting invasive plants, which we will use in the field so charge your phone before you come! They will also explain how to share data you collect on invasive species in your area to statewide community science programs.

Location: Twin Crix Farm, Highway 23

Leader: Jasmine Wyant

## September 11

### Restoring Taliesin Dam and Pond: Lessons Learned

Visit the Taliesin dam and learn of its storied history, as well as its connection and importance to the Lowery Creek watershed. Hear and see what management practices are at work and what is planned for pond and wetland restoration. Participants can expect some easy walking along the way. **This event will be from 5:00-7:00 pm.**

Location: Taliesin, County C

Leader: Mike Degen

## October 16

### Protect the Night: Enjoy and Preserve Dark Skies

Experience the nocturnal world under dark, starry skies and learn how to conserve them. Light pollution threatens not only our “right to starlight”, but can affect energy consumption, wildlife, and health. Discover how you can become a citizen-scientist by identifying familiar constellations and measuring night sky brightness (with a phone app) through the Globe at Night campaign. In case of clouds, the date will be October 23.

Location: Savanna Institute South Farm, County Z

Leader: John Heasley

**The Lowery Creek Watershed Initiative** believes in the power of community when it comes to conserving our natural and agricultural resources long-term. We work together to keep farmland in farming; protect and manage agricultural, natural, and cultural resources; use science to guide us; and grow community around conservation.

Our watershed, or drainage basin, runs from the Lower Wisconsin River south to Pleasant Ridge, six miles as the crow flies. It is a small watershed packed with a Class I trout stream that hosts a rare heritage population of brook trout, a UNESCO World Heritage Site (Frank Lloyd Wright’s Taliesin estate), a Ramsar Wetland of International Importance (the Lower Wisconsin State Riverway), and landowners who are creating a promising future for our land, water, and economy.

Individually and together, we are working to promote Driftless-friendly values and practices in and around our watershed.

#### Watershed partners

Cates Family Farm  
Driftless Area Land Conservancy  
Friends of the Lower Wisconsin Riverway  
Frank Lloyd Wright Foundation  
Future Fruit Farm  
Iowa County Conservation Department

Savanna Institute  
Stapleton Family Farm  
Taliesin Preservation  
Town of Wyoming  
Twin Crix Farm  
Local residents and land managers