



**WINNEBAGO
LAKES
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April 13, 2006

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Donna VanBuecken
Wild Ones Natural Landscapers
P. O. Box 1274
Appleton, WI 54912-1274

Dear Donna,

We are pleased to offer our support for the creation of the West Shore Preserves Environmental Center by Wild Ones Natural Landscapers upon acquisition of the property at 2285 Butte des Morts Beach Road in the Town of Menasha.

This center will help us achieve our mission of protecting and improving the ecological health and scenic beauty of the Winnebago lakes through citizen involvement in research, communication, cooperation and education. While our main focus is on the lakes upstream from the West Shore Preserves, our members and communities overlap significantly in the Fox Cities area.

Thus we are very interested in your development of support facilities that might serve our needs for specific or ongoing projects in the Fox Cities area. For example, we work with the University of Wisconsin Oshkosh to promote and establish citizen-based monitoring of lakes in streams in communities adjacent to the Winnebago Pool Lakes. We also have a new project, funded by WI-DNR through Winnebago County, to establish a regional management plan for aquatic invasive species. This project will include nearby sources such as the Little Lake Butte des Morts and the Lower Fox River. Given the Wild Ones leadership in restoration projects and public education on aquatic invasive plants, we are confident that our groups and members will be active collaborators by opening day!

Sincerely

LuAnn Bird
Winnebago Lakes Council Chair