

FNA News May/June 2011



Website: www.fermilabnaturalareas.org

Blog: fermilabnaturalareas.blogspot.com

Contact us at fermilabnaturalareas@gmail.com or 630-840-4845

Fermilab Natural Areas (FNA), is a 501(c)(3) not-for-profit tax-exempt corporation formed in 2006:

* to study and restore Fermilab's unique combination of ecological communities

* to inform and enrich local residents' knowledge of Fermilab (FNAL), and

* to contribute to the preservation of global biodiversity.

A Message from FNA President Rod Walton fermilabnaturalareas@gmail.com or 630-840-2565

Now that winter is finally over, there are more & more activities underway in the Fermilab Natural Areas, as you will see in this issue. In addition to the many volunteer activities and scheduled walks in woods & prairie, our usual summer activities will soon begin. We are pleased to announce that the annual Robert F. Betz internship has been filled this year by Sioned Sitkiewicz, who will soon be a graduate of Hope College, Michigan. She will be out in the field this summer working & learning with Ryan Campbell, restoration ecologist. Part of her duties will be to communicate with FNA members on a regular basis on the doings in the field, so watch for her reports! We will also be implementing our grant from the Boeing Employee Community Fund to attack invasive weeds, including the funding of an additional "weed crew" member. Watch for updates!

FNA Calendar of Events



May 19 **"Third Thursday" Fermilab Lunchtime Clean-up**, 11:45 am (sharp!) to 1:30 pm. Meet outside Wilson Hall's east side; shuttle bus & cleaning gear provided, picnic lunch served afterwards.

May 21 **Habitat restoration work day**, 9 am to noon, and 1 pm to 3 pm. Meet in the [Lederman Science Center parking lot](http://www.fnal.gov/pub/about/campus/ecology/prairie/habitat_restoration.html). Details at http://www.fnal.gov/pub/about/campus/ecology/prairie/habitat_restoration.html. Celebrate Illinois Invasive Species Month by removing undesirable trees in the Big Woods, and garlic mustard around the site.



June 2 Fermilab [ELM Committee](#) meeting, Wilson Hall, One East, noon

June 12 Science Education Office [Family Outdoor Fair](#), Lederman Science Center, 1 - 4 pm

June 16 **"Third Thursday" Fermilab Lunchtime Clean-up**, 11:45 am to 1:30 pm. Meet outside Wilson Hall's east side; shuttle bus & cleaning gear provided, picnic lunch served afterwards.

June 18 **Habitat restoration work day**, 9 am to noon. Meet in the [Lederman Science Center parking lot](http://www.fnal.gov/pub/about/campus/ecology/prairie/habitat_restoration.html), work until noon. Please check the web page at http://www.fnal.gov/pub/about/campus/ecology/prairie/habitat_restoration.html

June 22 Butterfly Walk with Tom Peterson, noon, [Prairie Interpretive Trail](#), westbound Pine St.

June 26 **FNA 5-Year Anniversary Picnic** in the [Main Ring Prairie](#). See details on page 3.

June 28 Prairie Walk, Betz Prairie center of [Main Ring](#), noon. Parking available at the prairie, or take Fermilab taxi (x4225). Rain date is on Thursday June 30.

July 6 Butterfly Walk with Tom Peterson, noon, [Prairie Interpretive Trail](#), westbound Pine St.

July 7 Fermilab [ELM Committee](#) meeting, Wilson Hall, One East, noon

July 16 **Habitat restoration work day**, 9 am until noon.

July 19 Butterfly Walk with Tom Peterson, noon, [Prairie Interpretive Trail](#), westbound Pine St.

July 21 **"Third Thursday" Fermilab Lunchtime Clean-up**, 11:45 am to 1:30 pm

Aug 24 Butterfly Walk with Tom Peterson, noon, [Prairie Interpretive Trail](#), westbound Pine St.

All walks depend on cooperating weather, & availability of our expert guides. Please watch your email or the [FNA Blog](#) for last-minute announcements of changes in plans, or additional events.

FNA's Earth Week and Arbor Day activities; Paula Lambertz, Fermilab

Fermilab (FNAL) has had a [long tradition](#) of participating in Earth Day and Arbor Day; this year was no exception. Although the Director's Woods Planting and the Woodland Walk were rained out, the other activities carried on.



A handful of people spread bucketsful of prairie seed between east- and west-bound Pine Street on a drizzly Weds April 20, but twenty-six trash cleaners were rewarded with fine lunchtime weather on Thursday. Also that day, FNA participated in the Fermilab ES&H Earth Day Fair, selling rain barrels (see page 3) and t-shirts, and proudly distributing the new FNA/FNAL recreation map. At the Friday lecture, Ryan Campbell shared his vision of FNA and ecological restoration at FNAL. To watch his presentation online, find the link at



<http://fermilabnaturalareas.blogspot.com/2011/04/online-viewing-fna-as-restoring-force.html>.

Arbor Day May 3 saw about sixty people planting 156 native shrubs & trees, making it the "biggest year for shrubs ever", according to Martin Valenzuela of FNAL Roads & Grounds. He adds that 64 of the trees were harvested from around the FNAL site, including shagbark hickory from the buffalo pasture, and 59 native shrubs were purchased. Among the shrubs chosen were species missing or sparsely found on the site such as [Eastern Wahoo](#), American Plum, [Spicebush](#), and [Maple-Leaved Viburnum](#). All trees & shrubs were planted in specific locations to enrich the biodiversity of the Fermilab site, and create a continuous forest from the Big Woods to the Director's Woods. After 18 years of Arbor Day activities, this area is now fully planted and will need to be closely maintained to keep invasives such as buckthorn and honeysuckle away from the young trees and shrubs.



Going on a Plant Rescue; Robert Liva

Sunday, March 13th was one of the scattered, few blue-sky days of this spring. But it is for additional reasons that I will remember that day, as it was my first participation in a rescue party. Ryan Campbell, Bob Lootens, John Johnson, Denis Bowron, and I set out to rescue a part of our community that is often overlooked. This part, under not immediate but imminent danger, hid quietly in a fragment of woodland along a bustling stretch of Kirk Road.

That Sunday, I assisted in a plant rescue of an uncommon spring flower, [Hepatica acutiloba](#). The plants grew in a small island of trees among corn and pavement, and when we arrived they were the only green to be seen. Although appearing content, these Hepatica were not to remain after the development that is planned for the land they occupied. Our goal was simple: dig around the plants to include their roots, and transport them in plastic bags for replanting in places more certain to remain wooded.

With a few shovels and many bags, we preserved more than two dozen of these plants. While holding a bag open for Ryan to add another clump of soil, roots, and leaves, Ryan said he could almost hear the plants thanking us (he is a botanist after all). Later that day, while transplanting the flowers into the refuge of Fermilab, more than one hundred sandhill cranes rang loudly overhead leaving me for a moment speechless. It wasn't until then that I shared Ryan's feeling of being appreciated, although I couldn't hear the plants, the calls from above were confirmation enough.



T. Peterson

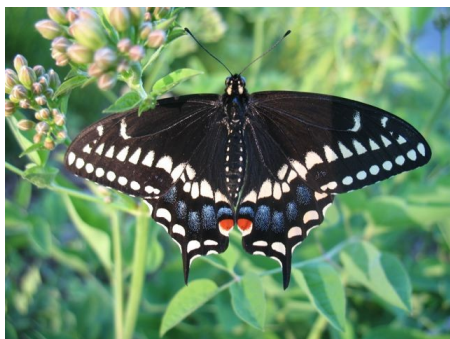


Spring Prescribed Burns; Mike Becker, Fermilab

This spring's weather allowed us to get 10 Fire Management Areas (FMA) burned, which comprised 550 acres in all. Historically speaking, that is about an average spring burn season. The one scheduled FMA that we did not get a chance to burn was FMA 6. This is the Margaret Pearson trail area on Pine Street. We had hoped to get a late burn in there to help control an expected outbreak of White Sweet Clover (*Melilotus alba*). There's always next year! All in all, a good spring season.



Late Spring/Early Summer Butterflies; Tom Peterson, Fermilab



T. Peterson

The very first butterflies seen flying in early spring are typically those which hibernate as adults. Next out are those which overwinter as a chrysalis. Hibernating chrysalises need a few warm weeks in which to complete their metamorphosis to adult butterfly. [Spring azures](#) are often among the first of those to emerge from a chrysalis in the spring. But by late April and early May, several species of swallowtails may be seen. Swallowtails hibernate as very well camouflaged brown or gray chrysalises. [Tiger swallowtails](#) and [black swallowtails](#) are our two most common swallowtail species in suburban Chicago, but here at Fermilab we also have the less common [giant swallowtails](#). In May, watch for these large yellow or black butterflies. Shown at left is the black swallowtail.

For more photos and details about Fermilab butterflies, follow these links:
<http://tdserver1.fnal.gov/peterson/tom/butterflies/FermilabButterflyTable.html>
http://ed.fnal.gov/lasso/butterfly_search/

FNA Five-year Celebration - Sunday June 26; Marlene Rosecrans, FNA Board

FNA will host a 5-Year Anniversary Celebration Picnic to thank members and supporters. Join in on the fun-in-the-sun at the beautiful Betz Prairie in the [Fermilab Main Ring](#) on Sunday June 26th from 1pm to 4 pm. Enjoy the native plants and wildlife that you have supported through your membership and volunteering! A picnic lunch will be provided including beverages and dessert. Here are some of the fun, family-friendly activities that we have planned:

- Ryan Campbell will guide you on a prairie walk.
- Martin Valenzuela will give a presentation (at the Greenhouse) about the importance of the prairie.
- BYOB - *Bring Your Own Bike* and take a ride around the campus.
- Bocce, croquet, bean bag toss, and children's activities will be available in the picnic area.
- A bird and/or butterfly walk is also being planned.

See you then - Sunday June 26, 1 - 4 pm. Parking will be available at the Betz Prairie, follow the signs.

If you aren't currently an FNA member (see page 4), you can still come and we'll sign you up at the picnic!

Please RSVP by June 19 and let us know the number of people in your party. Email fermilabnaturalareas@gmail.com or phone 630-840-4845. Inquiries can be sent to Marlene at: marlene240z@gmail.com.

For Sale by FNA

Perfect for any season, FNA has long-sleeved and short-sleeved tee-shirts for sale. Both sport the FNA logo on the front, and our website on the back. Short-sleeved shirts are \$15 and long-sleeved are \$18. Order yours by calling us at 630-840-4845.



FNA Rain Barrels! We recycled them ourselves, and are selling 'em! FNA has taken once-used food barrels, cleaned them, done the appropriate cutting, drilling, gluing, and assembling, and are now offering them to you, ready to use. Members get a discount, and every purchase comes with three - count them, 3! - cement blocks to use as a stand. Call us at 630-840-4845 to buy one. Not only are rain barrels a great idea for diverting downspout water from storm sewer or sewer systems, proceeds from their sale help our FNA efforts. (We'll gladly supply you with a statement for income tax purposes).

FNA members can buy their barrel for \$80, non-members for \$90. You get a choice of colors: black, brown, or terra cotta. All come ready to use with an overflow connection on top, a spigot with hose connection on the bottom, and sturdy metal mesh mosquito screening on top of that big hole in the lid. Lid and screen are removable for cleaning. Barrel can be repainted with proper plastic paint. Remember, call now and get three free cement blocks! Don't delay - call 630-840-4845 today!



Fermilab Natural Areas Donation Honor Roll

FNA greatly appreciates the donations it has received in 2010 and 2011 to date.
Thank you to the following people and organizations:

\$2000 or more

Eleanor Betz

\$500 - \$1000

Kent Collins
Steven Dixon
Robert Lootens
Jolie Macier

\$200 - \$499

Ruthanne Baird
Marilyn Dixon
Kathleen Michael
Randy Ortgiesen
Sue Sheehan
Rod Walton

\$100 - \$199

Evalyn Campbell
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Susan Dumford
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Joanna M. &
C. David Livengood
Louise Lee Reid
Dick Untch
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Denis Bowron
Kay Campbell
Ryan Campbell
Jon Cooper
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Adrienne & Rocky Kolb
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Memorial Donations received in honor of

Jeanette Anderson
Catherine Konen
Ed Konsbruck

Membership/Donations

<http://www.fermilabnaturalareas.org/membership.html>

Help us enhance Fermilab's ecology. Members receive the FNA Newsletter via email, are invited to special events such as our anniversary picnic, and get a discount on rain barrel purchases.

FNA is a 501(c)(3) not-for-profit charitable organization. All donations to FNA are tax deductible. Donations can be made in memory or honor of a friend or loved one.

Fermilab employees can donate online via the [Employee Self Service website](#).

| | | | |
|------------|----------------|---------------|-------|
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| Supporter | \$500 | Member | \$25 |
| Donor | \$250 | Student/Youth | \$15 |

Name: _____

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Donation \$ _____

Please mail your check or money order to:

Fermilab Natural Areas
P.O. Box 500, MS 444
Batavia, IL 60510

Thank you!

