

FRIENDS OF BLUE MOUND STATE PARK AT A GLANCE

The Friends of Blue Mound State Park is a non-profit 501(c)(3) organization. We are a group of volunteers working together to enhance and preserve the park's natural resources while offering activities and projects to improve the visitor experience.



CURRENT OFFICERS

President
Greg Wiegand
Treasurer
Holly Sledge
Secretary
Tom Hawes

BOARD MEMBERS

Alyson McGinty
Dave Zoromski
Jim Reynolds
Justin Gleicher
Kyle Orlando
Sharon Baldwin
Willi Van Haren

RECENT ACCOMPLISHMENTS

- Weather station at Friends shelter, pushing live conditions to FBMSP website & Weather Underground every 15 minutes, with a display panel in the Friends shelter (additional funds from CORP, Blue Mound Nordic Club, and MadNorSki)
- Electric infrastructure upgrade at the top of mound, adding electrical event capacity, future EV charger capacity, and replacing the aging electrical panel
- Revamped firewood sales woodshed, with storage for a trackchair to improve trail accessibility
- \$94,000 donation to CORP to fund their Gneiss Mountain Bike Trail rebuild project
- Funding an Eagle Scout project to build updated kiosk signage within the park
- Fiber network infrastructure to Friends shelter, pool, top of mound and amphitheater, supporting park operations and providing visitor Wi-Fi access. (Sponsored by the Mount Horeb Telephone Company)
- Upgraded merchandise sales process to accept credit cards and better track inventory
- Water & sewer for Campground Host site

ONGOING INITIATIVES

- Establishing an endowment as a long-term financial commitment to ecological & prairie management
- Music on the Mound Concert Series - over 550 people attended the series over the summer of 2025
- Investment in social media growth, Digital Media Coordinator funded through 2026
- Summer naturalist program (matching grant from Friends of WI State Parks)

IN-PROGRESS PROJECTS

- Outdoor amphitheater rebuild, upgrades include new seating and stage, modernized electrical, full ADA compliance (partially funded by the Knowles-Nelson Stewardship Grant)
- 3rd year of a 3-year Swain and Upper Walnut prairie restoration program
- Dirk Racine memorial trailhead gathering shelter at Friends shelter parking lot mountain bike trailhead

FUNDRAISING ACTIVITIES

- The Horribly Hilly Hundreds challenge ride, established in 2003, has raised over \$1.5 million
- The annual Blue Mound Trail Run, part of the regional Savanna series of trail runs
- Recurring and annual memberships, in addition to firewood, ice, and merchandise sales at the park

POTENTIAL FUTURE PROJECTS

- Phase II mountain bike trail system rebuild with CORP (Capital Off Road Pathfinders - madcitydirt.org)
- Group campground
- Beginner ski trail

VOLUNTEER FOR THE FRIENDS OF BLUE MOUND STATE PARK

The Friends of Blue Mound State Park is an entirely volunteer run organization, and relies on volunteers to take up small slices of the work of managing the organization to spread the load. While we are always looking for Directors to take on the major efforts of the organization, and ensure the organization continues moving forward, we have a significant number of smaller areas an individual could make an impact at the park and with the organization.

Volunteer



Email List

VOLUNTEERS share their passion for Blue Mound State Park, over 200 volunteers provided 588+ hours at our various events in 2025.

We have a volunteer mailing list where we coordinate volunteer activities, so if none of the commitments below look appealing to you, join the mailing list to stay informed by scanning the QR code on the left and sending the email it generates, or email volunteers+subscribe@friendsofbluemound.org.

- **Directors (5-20 hours/month)** - Join the board to direct the organization and its efforts.
- **Membership and Volunteer Coordinator (5 hours/month)** - Send welcome letters, manage the membership and volunteer databases, and solicit volunteers for events like the HHH, candlelight ski/hike, and Blue Mound trail run.
- **Communications and Marketing (1-5 hours/month)** - Write and develop online content for the website and social media, bolster the digital presence and communications of the Friends.
- **Horribly Hilly Hundreds** - Everything from pre-event and day-of coordination, being a volunteer or the top-dog manager of a rest stop, merchandise sales, food serving, cheer squads, communication management, task runners, and just about anything an event might need.
- **Firewood Splitting (you set the hours)** - The Friends supply the firewood for use at the park, and using the gas log splitter to split logs offsets the pre-split firewood we otherwise buy commercially.
- **Prairie and Ecological Management** - Volunteers to help with prairie restoration and ecological management work throughout the growing season. This can include your level of interest from volunteering in the field for invasive management to prairie seeding, or even program management.
- **Grant Coordinator (3-10 hours/month)** - Manage annual grant applications for our naturalist funding in addition to grants for capital projects like new/updated structures or major park initiatives like prairie and woodlands restoration. Help in sourcing grants to expand initiatives or fund new activities for the benefit of the park.

JOIN THE FRIENDS OF BLUE MOUND STATE PARK

The largest impact you can make with the Friends of Blue Mound State Park is by becoming a member.

Use the QR code to join today - Takes less than 3 minutes

Individual Friend of Blue Mound State Park	\$25
Family Friend of Blue Mound State Park	\$45
Business Friend of Blue Mound State Park	\$100

