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Eagle River, WI  
54521

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Please send editorial comments and suggestions to :  
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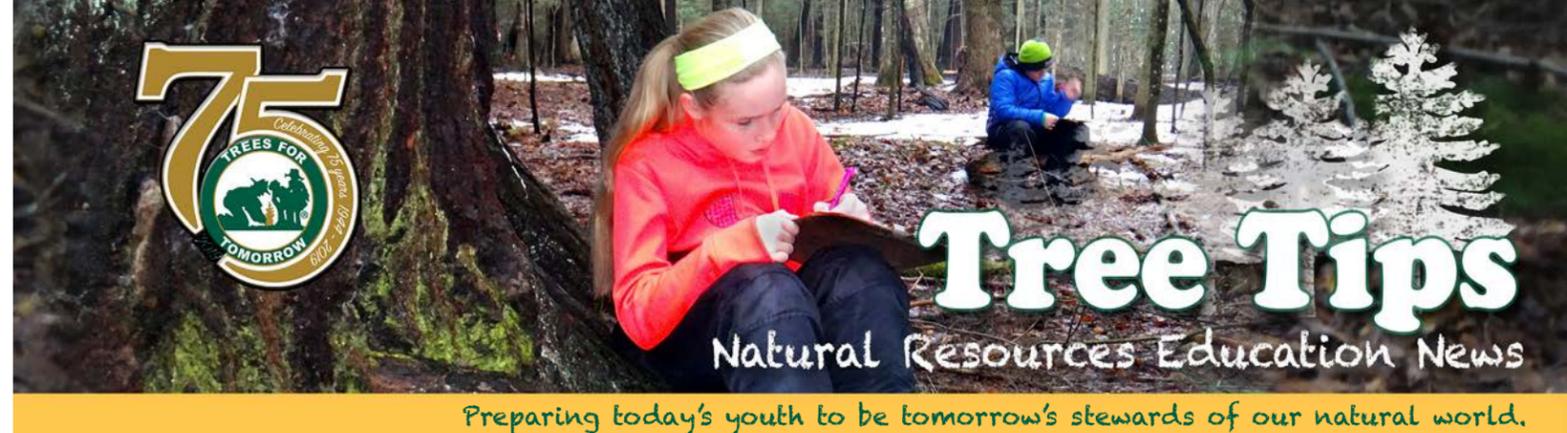
**Special Thanks**  
to Wisconsin Public Service (WPS) for printing this newsletter. Thank you so much!



**Wisconsin Public Service**

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Eagle River, WI 54521

ELECTRONIC SERVICE REQUESTED



# Tree Tips

Natural Resources Education News

Preparing today’s youth to be tomorrow’s stewards of our natural world.

Volume 5, Issue 3 Fall 2018

## Accreditation Sets Us Apart!



*From the desk of*  
**Robin Ginner,**  
Executive Director

On a snowy day in mid-April, Trees For Tomorrow’s Operations Manager, Education Manager and I sat down with two representatives from AdvancEd’s accreditation audit team to share all of the improvements to our program and operations over the past few years. We had a lot of great news to share with them.

It’s no secret that we’ve done a lot of work the past three years on our curriculum, starting with our middle school lessons in 2015-16, progressing to elementary last year, and in 2018, redeveloping our



*Good for you. Good for our forests.™*

high school courses. With the support of the Wisconsin Sustainable Forestry Initiative Implementation Committee (Wisconsin SIC), our entire educational framework received an upgrade. These are changes we’re proud of, and changes that are receiving accolades from the teachers and students who participate in our programs.

Accreditation sets Trees For Tomorrow apart from interpretive nature centers or naturalist programs that visit schools to conduct activities about wildlife and nature. Like your neighborhood school district, TFT is accredited, which means we are held to a higher standard. Our

programs must meet benchmarks of quality and content, and be continually subject to improvement and development. Our operations are also scrutinized, including financial sustainability, board support and strategic planning. All of this under the watchful eye of our accrediting body, AdvancEd. What that means is parents and school administrators can rest assured when their students are turned over to TFT’s staff that they will be receiving the highest quality education in natural resources and environmental science, based on Next Generation Science Standards (NGSS), and meeting or exceeding the requirements set forth for all schools across the country. The accreditation audit team agreed that our programs and management met the standards, and Trees For Tomorrow received its accreditation certification for the next five years.

Unlike public schools across the country, Trees For Tomorrow does not receive government or municipal funds to keep our programs going. All of our programs are developed and maintained through the generous sponsorship of organizations like the Wisconsin SIC,



and corporate and private donors like you. Without the support of our donors, Trees For Tomorrow would just be another run-of-the-mill nature center. It’s our accreditation, and our supporters, who set us apart! Thank you!

Notes from the  
**OUTDOOR CLASSROOM**  
Danielle Christensen, Educator



Students use a cross-cut saw while Learning about Wisconsin’s Logging history. (Photo Source: TFT)

Using a crosscut saw. Lighting a match with a hatchet. Tossing a tree cookie further than your peers. These are all activities that Trees For Tomorrow participants will experience in our Logging Days and Lumberjack Lore classes.

In these courses, students start in the classroom by learning a brief history of the logging days of Wisconsin. Then, they go outside to try their hand at some of the competitions that loggers would have engaged in to pass their time in camp.

Students come to TFT to experience what makes the Northwoods so unique and special. One of those things is its logging history. Teachers are often delighted to learn that their experiences at TFT are cross categorical—not only are they learning hands-on science, but they are learning hands-on history.

As a former history teacher, one of the struggles I faced was making my classes relevant to students on a daily basis. While

*(continued on page 6)*

## YES! I Want to Support Trees For Tomorrow

*As a private, nonprofit natural resources specialty school, we rely on donations from people like you to support our educational efforts. Please consider making a financial contribution.*

**I want to become a member of Trees For Tomorrow**

*(For a list of benefits for each membership level, go to [TreesForTomorrow.com](http://TreesForTomorrow.com))*

- \$35 - \$49 Hemlock
- \$50 - \$99 Balsam
- \$100 - \$249 White Pine
- \$250 - \$499 Yellow Birch
- \$500 - \$999 Tamarack
- \$1,000 or more Red Oak

**I want to make a donation to Trees For Tomorrow**

- General: \$ \_\_\_\_\_
- Scholarships: \$ \_\_\_\_\_
- Endowment: \$ \_\_\_\_\_
- Birds of Prey Care & Food Fund: \$ \_\_\_\_\_
- 75th Anniversary Fund: \$ \_\_\_\_\_

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

City \_\_\_\_\_ State \_\_\_\_\_ Zip \_\_\_\_\_

Phone \_\_\_\_\_

Email \_\_\_\_\_

Payment Method:  Check  Visa  MasterCard

Credit Card # \_\_\_\_\_ Expiration date: \_\_\_\_/\_\_\_\_

Please complete this form and return it with your donation to:  
**Trees For Tomorrow, P.O. Box 609, Eagle River, WI 54521**

# On Campus



From *the desk* of...

**Cheryl Todea,**  
Operations Manager

We had a fun summer at TFT and I can't believe it is over already! We had plenty of warm days and sunshine as we explored the natural world. Summer is always busy for our staff as they worked with almost 90 groups and more than 3,300 program participants!



Dear Georgia-Pacific,  
Thank you for the opportunity to be able to experience this amazing trip. I was lucky enough to be invited in the first place, and got to bunk with two of my friends who now have become two of my closest friends. We shared so many memories all three of us will never forget. From falling in snowshoes to silent sitting and enjoying the pure, untouched beauty of nature. This trip has shown me that every moment was a memory I'll never forget. One of the coolest moments of my trip was when a group of chickadees followed us through the woods, and one actually landed on my finger. I was in awe of how tame and trusting they were of us humans and it made me truly realize what a miracle nature and wildlife are. Being away from my phone and being able to experience things I normally wouldn't was really special. Spending the night laughing and doing Mad Libs with my roommates is something I'll always remember about this trip and how close we became through it all.

Thank you,  
Aubrie of Lombardi Middle School

## Trees For Tomorrow Attendance Second Quarter 2018

School	Town	Sponsor*
Berlin Elementary School	Berlin	Trees For Tomorrow
Central Elementary School	Rhineland	Trees For Tomorrow
Christ Lutheran School	Eagle River	Trees For Tomorrow
Forest Park Elementary School	Kenosha	We Energies Foundation
Goudy Elementary School	Chicago	Trees For Tomorrow
Green Bay East High School	Green Bay	Procter & Gamble
Green Bay Preble High School	Green Bay	Procter & Gamble
Green Bay Southwest High School	Green Bay	Procter & Gamble
Green Bay West High School	Green Bay	Procter & Gamble
Land O' Lakes Elementary School	Land O'Lakes	Trees For Tomorrow
Laona Elementary School	Laona	Trees For Tomorrow
Milwaukee Academy of Science	Milwaukee	We Energies Foundation and Baden Powell Board of Directors
Northland Pines Elementary	Eagle River	Trees For Tomorrow
Phillips Elementary School	Phillips	Mead Witter Foundation and Arndt Family Fund
St. Germain Elementary School	St. Germain	St. Germain Fish & Wildlife Club
Sugar Camp Elementary School	Sugar Camp	Trees For Tomorrow
Waupaca Middle School	Waupaca	Mead Witter Foundation and Bock Foundation

### Other Groups

Boulder Junction Recreation Youth Camp
USFS New Employee Orientation
Fond du Lac Fishing Has No Boundaries
Forest County Potawatomi Youth
Forest Fest
Future Fur Trappers
Great Headwaters Trail
Junior S.E.E.K. / S.E.E.K. / Evening Lecture Series / Family Programs
Michaelis Family Reunion
Natural Resources Careers Workshop
Teacher Workshops
WI Newspaper Association
WI Outdoor Communicators Association

### Off-Campus

Crandon Library
Demmer Library
Eagle River Elementary Conservation Fair
Elcho School District – School Forest Program
McDonald Lake Association
Walter E. Olson Memorial Library
Phelps Public Library
Sunset Lake Association
Vacationland Resort

\*To sponsor a school or group of students, please contact Cheryl Todea, Operations Manager. Sponsorships can range anywhere from \$10/person up to \$300/person.

### Looking Ahead September - December

We are looking forward to welcoming several schools from now to December as well as Road Scholar Hiking in September, and our brand new fundraiser, Cranberry Crush Casino Night & Music Fundraiser!

Even though we will be busy, we just might have room for your school or group! To schedule a day or overnight meeting or education program at Trees For Tomorrow, please contact Cheryl Todea.

# Corporate Spotlight

Wisconsin County Forests Association (WCFA) represents the forestry interests of 29 member counties with lands enrolled under Wisconsin's County Forest Law (State Statutes Sections 28.10 & 28.11). Collectively, their members manage nearly 2.4 million acres of forests, the largest public ownership in the state. County forests are managed for timber production, recreation, wildlife, watershed protection and stabilization of stream flow giving full recognition to the concept of multiple-use.



## Wisconsin County Forests Association

Providing leadership to the county forest program ensuring long-term forest health and sustainability

WCFA has been a supporter of Trees For Tomorrow since 2012 because their organization has placed a high priority on educating the public about sustainable forestry and respon-

sible resource management. WCFA also shares the values of responsible and sustainable management of renewable resources and our forests, while protecting the important ecological and social opportunities our forests provide.

"Trees for Tomorrow plays an important role in educating our youth, and the public in general, regarding responsible management and use of our natural resources," said Jane Severt, WCFA Executive Director. WCFA is proud to be a supporter of Trees For Tomorrow's Natural Resources Careers Exploration Week for high school students. Thank you, Wisconsin County Forests Association, for your support! 🌲

# THANK YOU!

The BEST FEST in the Midwest

## FOREST FEST

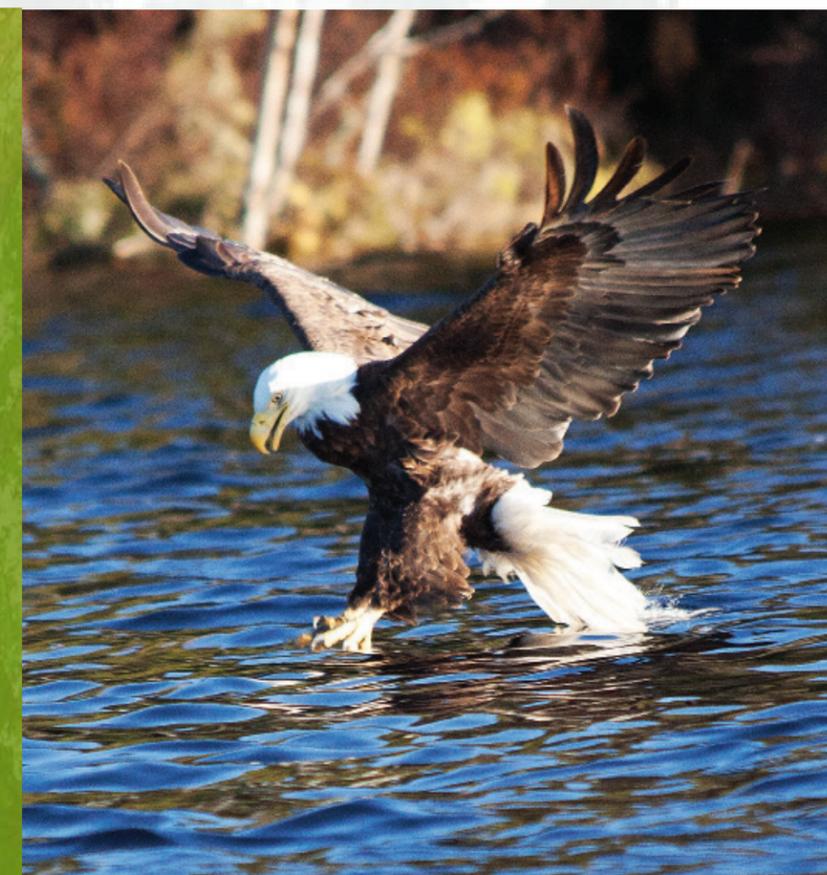
Celebrating all the forest has to offer

**Held July 28th at Trees For Tomorrow**

**Record attendance! More than 1,300 visitors attended!**

Save the Date **Saturday, July 27, 2019**

**Sponsors**



Bald eagles have made a remarkable recovery in Wisconsin the past 35 years, since certain pesticides were banned and nesting sites were better protected. In 2017, a modern-day record of 1,509 nest sights were active. There are now occupied nests in 69 of the state's 72 counties. No other area of the state holds more eagles than the lake country of Vilas, Oneida and Forest counties. You can see more more wildlife and scenic photos with a subscription to the Vilas County News-Review (Photo Source: Kurt Krueger, Vilas County News-Review)

(continued from page 1)

using a cross-cut saw does not make a student proficient in the history of Wisconsin, making those physical connections as they learn the history of logging is very powerful. When they return to their classrooms and read about the role that logging played in Wisconsin's history, they will remember what it felt like when they dragged the cross-cut saw across a pine log and the smell of a freshly cut pine log. Their experience puts them in the mind of loggers of the past.

The conversations students have while trying the cross-cut saw can be very satisfying to overhear as a teacher. In one Logging Days class I recently led, one student noted "this is harder than it looks! I can't imagine doing this all day." Another asked their peer "can you imagine doing this all day in the snow?" It is wonderful to see students making real connections to history based on their experiences.

As we educate the youth of today to be environmental stewards of tomorrow, it is important they understand the history of logging in Wisconsin. It is important they make the connection that how we manage our natural resources today will determine the health and vitality of our natural world tomorrow.

President Theodore Roosevelt famously said "I recognize the right and duty of this generation to develop and use the natural resources of our land; but I do not recognize the right to waste them, or to rob, by wasteful use, the generations that come after us." When students learn how very close we were to losing our forests in the Northwoods, they have a greater appreciation for the field of natural resources management.

How each student interprets their experience at TFT is completely unique. While for many, their experience is fun and enjoyable in and of itself, others will come to TFT and find their future career path. How many have come to TFT and decided they wanted to become a forester, or a game warden, or a scientist? Only time will tell... 🌲

**ALUMNI SPOTLIGHT**

**Cheryl Todea, Operations Manager at Trees For Tomorrow**

**1. When did you attend Trees For Tomorrow?**

It was in the winter of 1995. I was a junior at West Allis Central High School.

**2. How did your experience at Trees For Tomorrow change your life and/or career aspirations?**

The biggest impact that experience had on me was on my career path. I knew at that time I wanted to become a teacher, but couldn't see myself in a traditional brick and mortar school. So I was somewhat lost. My experience at TFT opened up an entirely new opportunity — non-formal education! After I earned my B.S. in Environmental Education, I was hired as an intern at TFT, then a full-time educator, and now the Operations Manager. I love my job and I love the Northwoods!

**3. Why do you continue to support Trees For Tomorrow?**

I genuinely believe in Trees For Tomorrow's mission and understand the impact a once-in-a-lifetime experience can have on a student.

**4. What are some of the values that you took away from your visit?**

I walked away from my visit with a stronger respect for nature and a stronger awareness of how everything in our world is connected — trees, wildlife, people, water, etc. I also had many great conversations with Trees For Tomorrow education staff about career pathway options to help meet my new goals.

**5. Anything else you would like to add about your experiences at Trees For Tomorrow?**

I will never forget when we were snowshoeing and I tripped. When I put my hand down on the ground to help me stand up, my hand just kept on going into the snow. My hand never actually touched the ground as the snow was too deep! I never experienced anything like that. 🌲

**5 FACTS**



**Todd Starling, Educator**

**Favorite thing to do in the Northwoods:** Fishing

**Favorite meal to make at home:** Pancakes/Waffles with Maple Syrup

**What do you like most about working at TFT:** Giving youth a chance to get outdoors

**Favorite Snack:** Pickled Pike

**Favorite holiday and why:** The Winter Solstice because I love to go ice fishing.



**Trees for Tomorrow presents Cranberry Crush Casino Night & Music Fundraiser**

Fundraiser festivities begin at 5:30 p.m. with casino night — *fake money, real fun* — until 8:30 p.m. The evening continues with live bluegrass music by Miles Over Mountains from 9-11 p.m. All festivities held on Trees For Tomorrow's campus in Eagle River, WI.

**crash** Casino Night & Music Fundraiser

**Oct. 6, 2018**

- ♥ \$35/ticket for casino night only.
- ♣ \$45/ticket for casino night and live music.
- ♦ \$20/ticket for music only. See bluegrass band, Miles Over Mountains.

Stop by our office and pay by cash or check to avoid online fees. Tickets also available at the door.

Tickets can be purchased online at **TreesForTomorrow.com**

519 Sheridan St. E  
Eagle River, WI 54521  
(715) 479-6456

**Recipe: Trees For Tomorrow's BEST pumpkin bars with cream cheese frosting!**

**From the Kitchen of:** Mandy Gingerich, Hospitality Manager

**BARS:**

- 4 eggs
- 1 2/3 cups granulated sugar
- 1 cup vegetable oil
- 15-oz can pumpkin
- 2 cups sifted all-purpose flour
- 2 teaspoons baking powder

**ICING:**

- 2 teaspoons ground cinnamon
- 1 teaspoon salt
- 1 teaspoon baking soda
- 8-oz cream cheese, softened
- 1/2 butter, softened
- 2 cups confectioners' sugar
- 1 teaspoon vanilla extract

1. Preheat oven to 350 degrees.
2. Using an electric mixer at medium speed, combine the eggs, sugar, oil and pumpkin until light and fluffy. Stir together the flour, baking powder, cinnamon, salt and baking soda. Add the dry ingredients to the pumpkin mixture and mix at low speed until batter is smooth. Spread the batter into a greased 13- by 10-inch baking pan. Bake for 30 mins. Cool completely before frosting. Cut into bars.
3. To make the icing: Combine the cream cheese and butter in a medium bowl with an electric mixer until smooth. Add the sugar and mix at low speed. Stir in the vanilla and mix again. Spread on cooled pumpkin bars.

**2018 Adult SKILL BUILDERS Workshops**

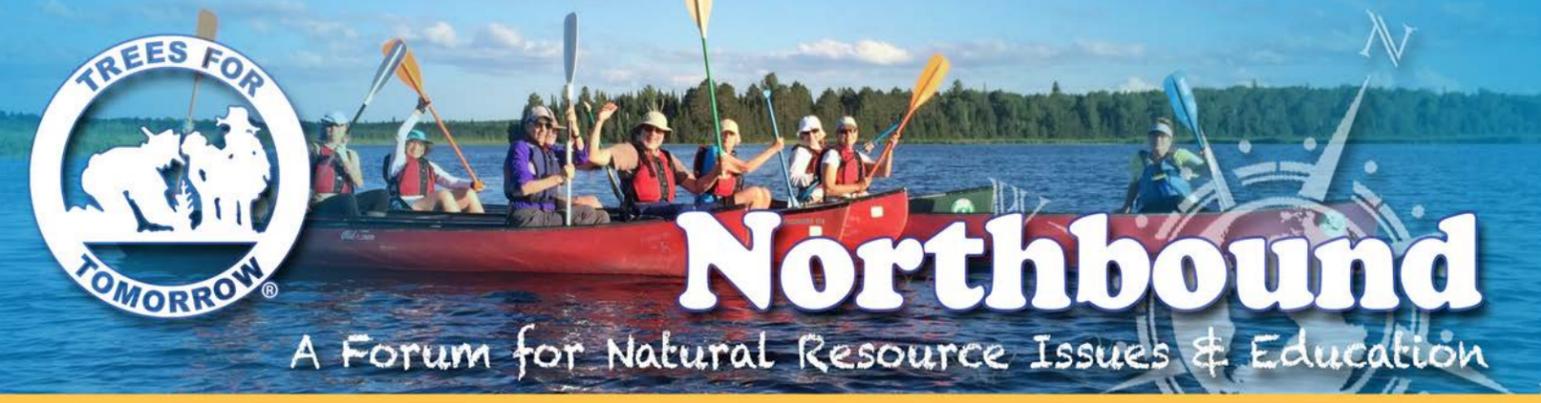
**SNOWSHOE WEAVING**  
October 27-28  
commuter \$250  
non-commuter \$300

**WREATH MAKING**  
November 10  
\$40

Includes instruction & all supplies

Call to register  
715-479-6456  
519 Sheridan St.  
PO Box 609  
Eagle River, WI

For more information, visit  
**TreesForTomorrow.com**



## Citizen Science

# How Can You Get Involved?

**Vern Gentle,**  
Environmental Science Educator

"This is really cool," Ben says as he digs in the dirt looking for bugs.

"I didn't know that there were so many different types of butterflies," Ellen replied after she visited a butterfly enclosure.

These are some responses you might hear from young children who have been exposed to the outdoors. When given the opportunity to disconnect from technology, there is a whole world to explore. New things are waiting to be discovered.

Hopefully this excitement does not end with youth. As people enter adulthood, they can still experience the excitement of discovery. How is this possible? People of all ages can be involved in Citizen Science.

What, Who, Where, How and Why Citizen Science you ask? Let me fill you in!

### What's Science Citizen?

Citizen Science is a way to explore your surroundings and then record what you have encountered. There are multiple categories for Citizen Science, including water quality, weather, animals, invasive species, rare plants and phenology to name a few. Topics for observation range from worm watching to large carnivore tracking in the snow. While these topics are fascinating, some people may not understand the importance of observing and recording their findings. For example, how can earthworms affect an ecosystem?

By recording the number of earthworms in your backyard, you might find an answer. Citizen Science is a way to help researchers cover large areas. Citizen Science is also a way to make a difference in your community.

### Citizen Science is for Everyone, Regardless of Age, Location or Ability Level

People of all ages can participate in Citizen Science. Families and individuals spend time exploring nature. One example of a Citizen Science activity for young people is the Fledging Birders Challenge (FBC). In this activity, students, scout groups, and other youth groups work together to observe, identify and record various bird species in their area. The objective of FBC is to get young people outside and exploring nature through bird watching. (Environmental Education in Wisconsin) Adults can also watch birds and add the information to databases such as the Christmas Bird Count, Crane Count, and Breeding Bird Atlas, to name a few.

People of all ability levels can also participate in Citizen Science. Citizen Science is not just observation, but the recording of information and identification of hundreds of thousands of photos. In Snapshot Wisconsin, a trail camera is placed at a location to photograph anything that passes. Once a week, or maybe once a month, the memory card is pulled from the camera and the photos are viewed in order to identify the animal. Some of the photos are easy to identify and some are not.



Figure 2: A child collects snails as part of a TFT's summer S.E.E.K. program. (Photo source: TFT).

Figure 3: On July 17, DNR conservation biologist Jesse Weinzinger, TFT staff and teachers collected freshwater mussels in the Wisconsin River as part of a citizen science project. (Photo source: The Nature Conservancy).



Blurry, dark, or partial body images make identification more difficult. Several people can view the photos and guess what the animal might be. Several opinions are used to help in the identification process. This can be done by anyone who has a computer and the ability to sign in and view photos.

### Opportunities Lie in Your Backyard

All a person has to do is Google search "Citizen Science Opportunities" and the list is amazing. There are opportunities to participate all over the globe. From the remotest parts of the world to your own backyard, there is something scientific to observe. A certain species may be located in a specific place, while others are wide spread. Birds, for example, have nesting areas, home ranges, and migratory routes. People in different parts of the world may see and record the same bird and not even know it. Banding migratory birds helps to follow the life of the bird or general species. In this activity, birds are usually netted, carefully handled and identified with a small band on their leg. Volunteers assist researchers in identifying the species, and recording vital information about the bird such as age, sex, health, location, date captured etc.

Whether you live in a city or the country, you can participate in any number of studies. Involvement can range from brief observation to lengthy studies with many hours clocked.

First, the person identifies an area of personal interest. This may be followed by research on the computer to find out if a study is being done. If a study is being conducted, the person would contact the group or individual facilitating the study.

Second, some training may be required. It may be as basic as learning calls of a given animal or bird to aid in identification. Further training may be required to learn how to record and submit the information. The purpose of the training is to set standards, ensuring that information gathered is consistent and relevant, even though it's being collected from various locations.

### Report Your Findings in the Name of Science

You may have heard the phrase, "many hands make light work." This is also applicable to research. Researchers from many different agencies face several limitations. Money is a huge limiting factor. Usually, there is not enough money to send a researcher all over the world to gather the amount of data needed to support a study. One researcher may be limited by the area that he/she can cover. Volunteers or citizen scientists can help gather data, record it, and then allow the researcher to make sense of it. Data from volunteers is gathered for a period of time, from a variety of locations, giving the researcher a larger amount of data for his/her study.

At Trees For Tomorrow, our staff is involved in a number of Citizen Science projects.

Some of these projects include Wisconsin Master Naturalist, Snapshot Wisconsin, Muscle Monitoring, and Frog and Toad Survey. Our involvement, like so many others, is based on the interests of the staff. The data we collect is recorded in the larger databases.

In the past, we have also offered Teacher Workshops with the theme of Citizen Science. During this week, participants went out to several streams and lakes to identify native and invasive muscle species. These species were counted and the data was recorded in a national database.

I have merely scratched the surface to the possibilities of Citizen Science. Thousands of people participate in Citizen Science at one level or another. I encourage you to go out and explore our great state — or beyond — in the name of science. 🌲



Figure 4: Kids participate in citizen science at TFT. (Photo source: TFT)



Figure 1: A child participates in citizen science during a summer program for the public at TFT. (Photo source: TFT)