

**TO:** DEER PARK VILLAGE BOARD  
**FROM:** PAT WINKELMAN/VEHE FARM FOUNDATION  
**SUBJECT:** MONTHLY REPORT  
**DATE:** AUGUST 2009

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**Action Item:**

Follow-up from June and July's request for appointment of Village Board trustee to fill the empty position on the Vehe Farm Foundation board.

Fee waiver: The Foundation continues to represent the Village as a member of the Lake-McHenry Historical Alliance and requests a rental fee waiver for the October 21 meeting at Vehe Farm Barn. In addition to the Foundation taking part in the meeting, a tour of the barn, outbuildings, grounds, and brief historical overview will be provided for the village by the Foundation.

**Grounds Stewardship**

*Prairie/Wetland Restoration*

Prairie and wetland restoration continues beyond the normal work period with volunteers concentrating on yellow and white sweet clover, phragmites, Canadian thistle, curly dock, and Queen Anne's Lace.

*Betty McLaughlin Memorial Butterfly Garden*

The garden is quite beautiful right now. Many butterfly species have been seen in the garden along with Monarch eggs on the milkweed. Weeding and deadheading is taking place to keep the garden looking its best for the visitors who continue to enjoy the garden. The Foundation adjusted the garden gate so it would close more easily.

*Pillars*

The pillar signage has been installed.

*Transfer of Responsibility:*

Regarding the butterfly garden, non-LNCI events, and prairie/wetland maintenance.

*REI Grant*

The Foundation was applauded for its efforts at Vehe Farm, but unfortunately was not awarded the grant to continue the accessible path into the prairie.

**Community Service and Education Programs**

*Eagle Scout Projects for Deer Park/Vehe Farm*

The five Eagle Scout projects continue to make progress. Reconstruction work on the bobsled began on August 12<sup>th</sup>.

*Outbuilding Restoration*

Discussions continue with potential donor.

*Indian Princess Community Service Day*

Details of the November 8<sup>th</sup> community service day are being worked out between a local Indian Princess Tribe to have approximately 50 fathers and their daughters perform grounds services. Event flyer will be completed shortly.

## **Vehe Farm's Leave No Child Inside (LNCI) Activities**

### *LNCI children events*

Thanks to the interest of a Deer Park resident who feels strongly that the LNCI children's programs are "class acts", a very generous donation of over 300 one gallon butterfly attracting perennials for the children to plant at home were provided by Hampshire Farms. Both "Butterflies for Children" and "Butterfly Fun at Vehe Farm" were successful. "Ice Cream in the Woods" with naturalist, April Anderson, will take place on August 29<sup>th</sup>.

### *District 220 Field Trips*

Teachers met at Vehe Farm to discuss the field trip curriculum and were very pleased with the barn's classroom facilities, the quality of the prairie, wetland area, and butterfly garden for the second grade classes this fall. The prototype fieldguide for the children to use has been completed and is in print.

### *LNCI website*

Updates to [www.funoutside.org](http://www.funoutside.org) continue and event publicity maintained at websites, newspapers and magazines. Please see the attached recent Pioneer Press articles.

*LZ Children round table discussion???*

*Update on August Stakeholder and Steering Committee LNCI meeting*

**Accounting of Village Contributions Spent July 2009 -August 2009**

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