

**TO:** DEER PARK VILLAGE BOARD  
**FROM:** PAT WINKELMAN/VEHE FARM FOUNDATION  
**SUBJECT:** MONTHLY REPORT  
**DATE:** NOVEMBER 2008

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### **Additional Information Items**

#### ***Public Relations and Partnerships***

Foundation members continue to donate time to Citizens for Conservation's prairie restoration efforts in exchange for CFC's continued donations/partnership.

Foundation members continue ongoing prairie restoration/maintenance efforts on Saturday afternoons. Work continues to expand beyond the 12:00 to 2:00 periods.

Due to the recent Junior Duck Stamp display newspaper articles (Daily Herald and November Barrington Lifestyles), Yvonne has stated that people are visiting the barn, these visits are leading to barn tours, and the free advertising is appreciated.

Chicago Wilderness, of which Deer Park is a member, highlighted the Betty McLaughlin Memorial Butterfly Garden and the new granite path at Vehe Farm in their November newsletter. Please read attached.

The Foundation's website [www.vehefarmfoundation.org](http://www.vehefarmfoundation.org) continues to be updated and expanded. The most recent addition is that of the *Leave No Child Inside* link highlighting local children activities to provide nature-based outdoor play.

Visit the Barrington Area Library during November to view the five west display windows completed by the Vehe Farm Foundation focusing on the Vehe Farm municipal center, the farm's amenities and the Vehe Farm Foundation's *Leave No Child Inside* tri-community initiative.

#### ***Community Service and Education Programs***

The IDNR trunk-lending program at Vehe Farm continues to provide a wonderful addition to local school and home school curriculums. They are also bringing additional teachers, parents, and their children to the farm.

On November 12<sup>th</sup>, Brownie Troop 895 from St. Anne's held a field trip at Vehe Farm. The Vehe Farm Foundation discussed the birds found at the farm and the afternoon was completed with a nature-based craft activity in the barn's museum space.

The Foundation and local organizations continues to map and develop the *Leave No Child Inside* initiative for Deer Park, Barrington, and Lake Zurich.

Thank you to all who supported Greg Frech's Eagle Scout fundraiser at Deer Park's Jamba Juice on October 9, 2008. Over \$500 in sales provided over \$100 to help fund the cost of materials for the footprint stands at Vehe Farm.

Daniel Guarnieri has chosen Vehe Farm for his Eagle Scout project. Daniel will clean a portion of the old farm implements, determine what they were used for, write a brief description of the tool, and make displays for the artifacts so all may view and learn about farming at Vehe Farm. In support of Daniel's project, his fellow Scouts have helped Daniel clean out a portion of the machine shed and organized the tools in preparation of cleaning the tools.

Jonathon Coath has also chosen Vehe Farm for his Eagle Scout project. Jonathon will refurbish the late 1800 to early 1900 snow sleigh runners, make the base and sides for the sleigh, and write a description of the sleigh for educational purposes. Both the sleigh and the old farm implements are very important artifacts of the farm and it is a goal of the Foundation to preserve these items for future generations of our communities.

If you would like to make a contribution towards any of the Eagle Scout projects, please mail to the Vehe Farm Foundation, 23570 West Cuba Road, Deer Park, IL 60010. Or you may drop off your contribution at the Vehe Farm Foundation's mailbox in the Village Hall. Make it out to the Vehe Farm Foundation and be sure to add, "Footprint Stand Project", "Farm Tools", or "Sleigh" on your check. Your contribution is tax deductible.

Vehe Farm's first school field trip on November 21<sup>st</sup> will include approximately 50 first and fourth graders from Quest Academy. The importance of the prairie and plantings around the wetland will be discussed and the children will sow prairie seeds on the farm property.

### ***Prairie and Butterfly Garden Update***

Seed harvesting in the prairie is completed. Seeds will now be cleaned on November 15th and then sown in areas that were cleared of invasives. The garden has been prepared for winter and young trees at the farm are receiving winter deer protection. Stop by the farm during fall to see where the birds nested, see footprints in the wet soil, and the birds feasting on the remaining seeds in prairie and wetland area.