



Updates from 50th Year and Plans for Future Site Improvements

2025-2030 | Wehr Nature Center



We are excited to share our 5-Year Site Improvement Plan, which was generated with inputs from a committee made up of staff, Friends of Wehr volunteers, and Milwaukee County Parks representatives, as well as a survey of Wehr visitors.

The plan was created to proactively address the needs of the nature center which has grown in its programming, visitation, and rentals significantly throughout the last several decades.

Included in the plan are new infrastructure projects such as a Land Stewardship Garage/Service Yard, Outdoor Classroom, and Amphitheater Shade Cover.




50th Anniversary Year - Highlights



First ever gala
**Pollinator
Brunch**

24K 
Students, youth,
families, and adults

200K 
Trail Goers
(New Record!)

**Second all-
terrain
wheelchair** 

**Celebrating
Wehr's 50th Year
2024**

**New websites and
welcome kiosk** 

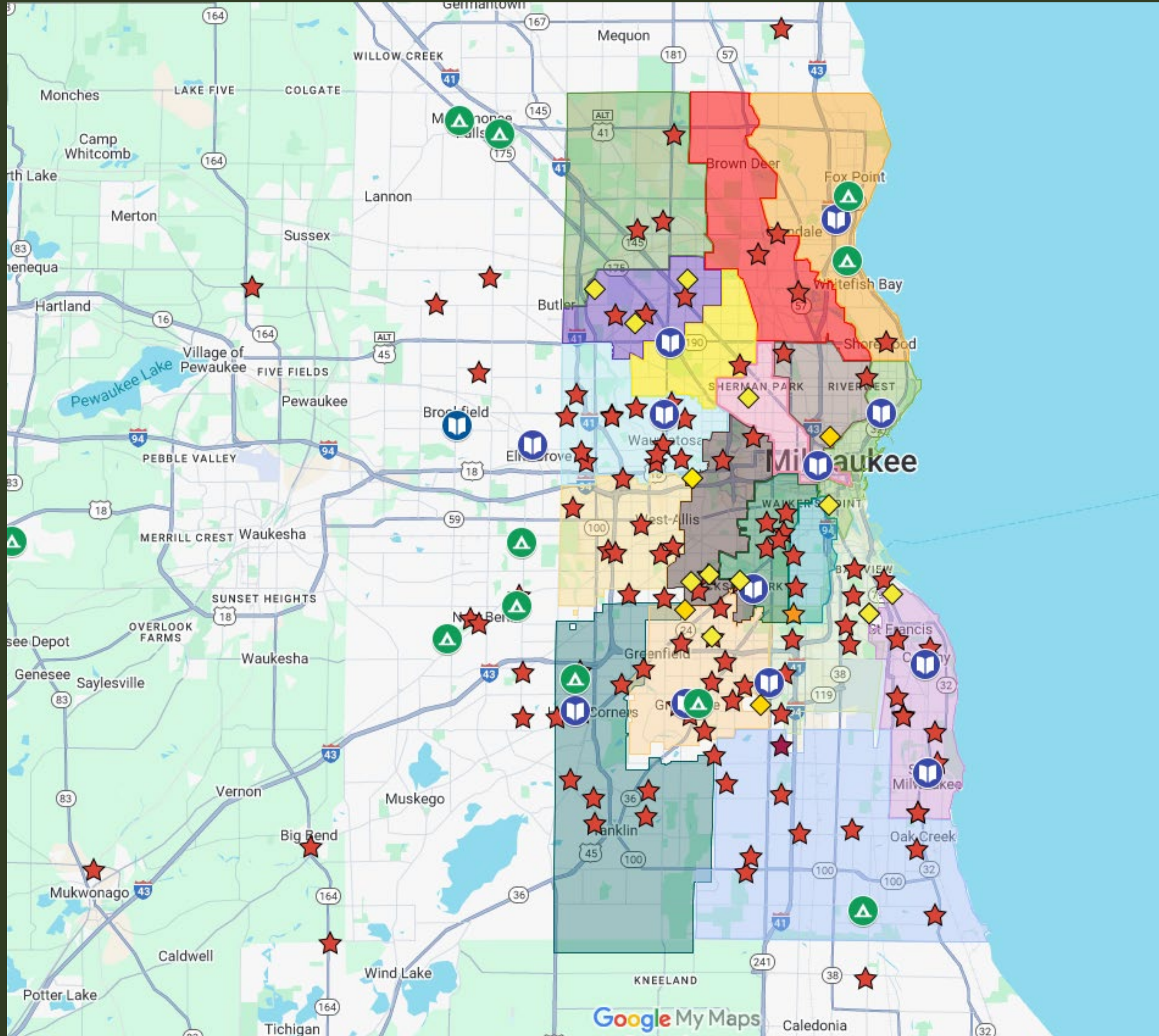
100+ 
Trees & Shrubs
planted

**A gathering of former
staff, community
members and leaders** 



**Broke records
in all events**

50th Anniversary Year – Geographic Impact



Map Description:

This map shows the school, youth group, and library programs participating in Wehr Nature Center programs in 2024. These programs impacted ~24,000 people.

Adult programs not included.

Icon	Key
★	Schools participating in field trip at Wehr, in a Milwaukee County Park, or at school
◆	Home school of MPS Students participating in day camps at Wehr
▲	Scout and youth group
📖	Library programs

Stewardship Garage & Service Yard

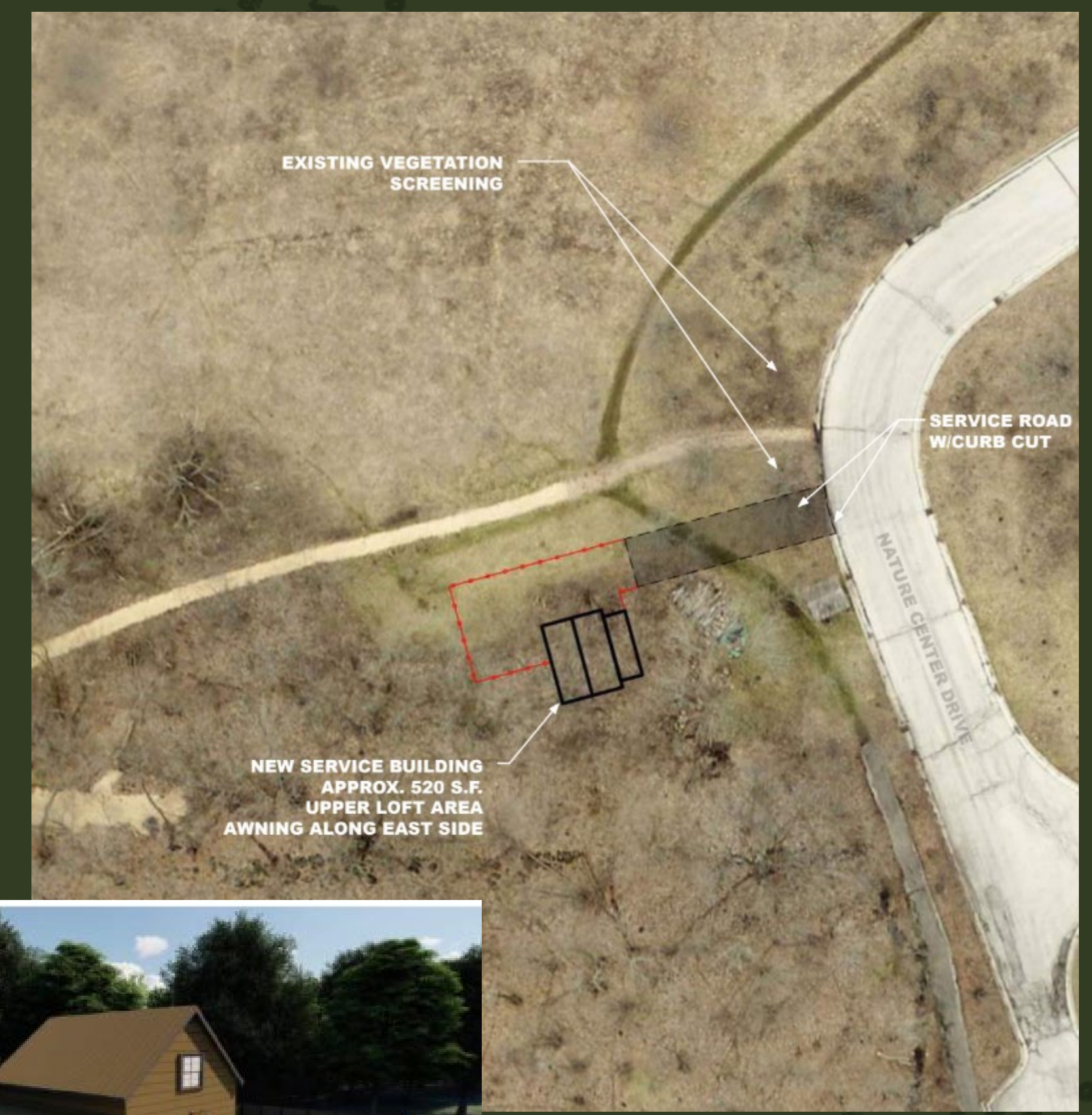
Purpose:

- Secure equipment storage
- Positioned discreet of the Visitor Center
- Provides a gathering area for volunteers

Current Phase: Design, bids

Estimated Completion: 2025

Cost: \$150,000
(Funding secured by Friends of Wehr Nature Center)



Nature Explore Area

Purpose:

- Provide off-trail area to engage with nature
- Compliments early-childhood play space
- Encourage outdoor skills for lower/upper elementary

Current Phase: Design, bids

Estimated Completion: 2025

Cost: \$10,000
(Funding secured by
Friends of Wehr Nature Center)



Trail Improvements

Purpose:

- Increase accessibility for hikers of all abilities
- Minimize compaction and erosion
- Improved wayfinding signage

Current Phase: Design, Planning (#1)

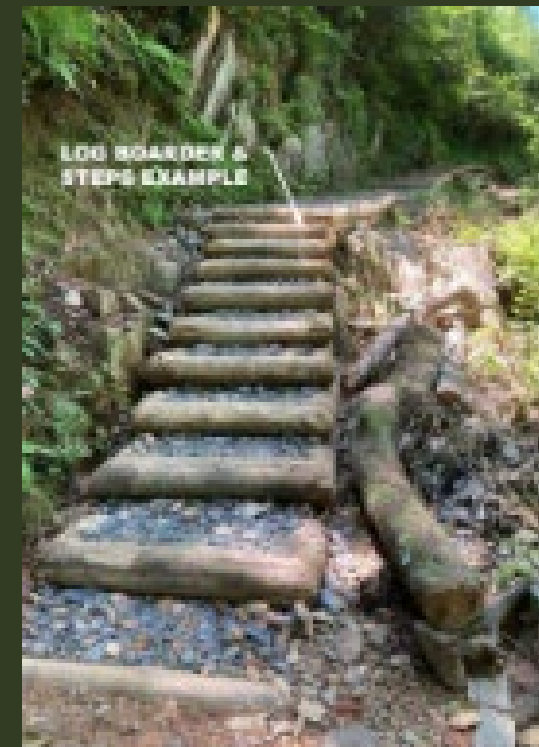
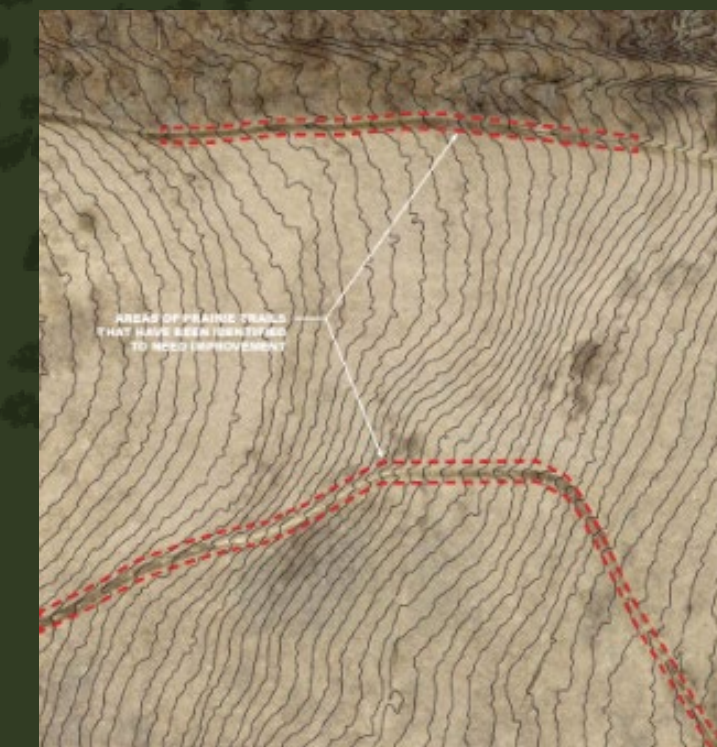
Estimated Completion: 2025 (#1), 2026 (#2), 2027 (#3)

Cost: \$10,000
(Funding secured by Friends of Wehr Nature Center)

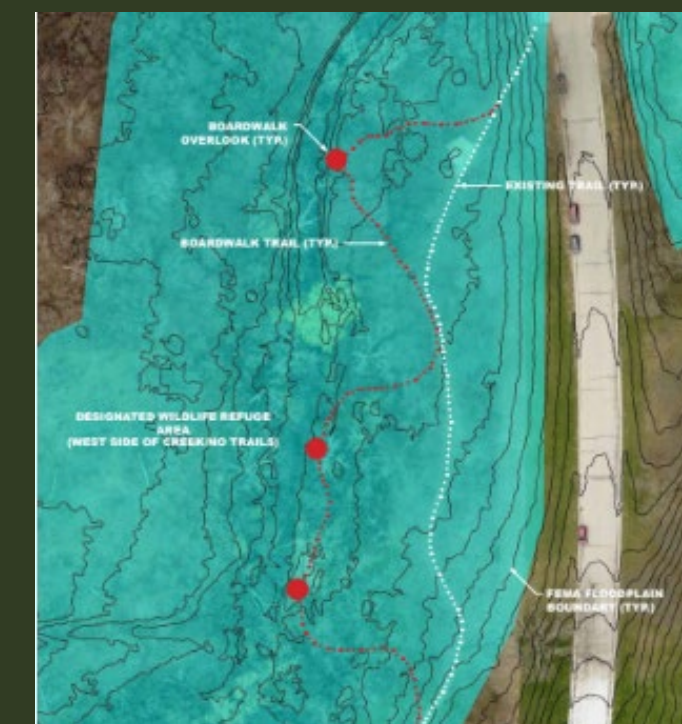
1. All Abilities Trail



2. Prairie Trail



3. Lake Loop Trail @ Creek Corridor



Outdoor Classroom

Purpose:

- Grow capacity for programmable space
- Increase fees from rentals

Current Phase: Conceptual design

Estimated Completion: 2027

Estimated Cost: \$100,000



Amphitheater Shade Cover

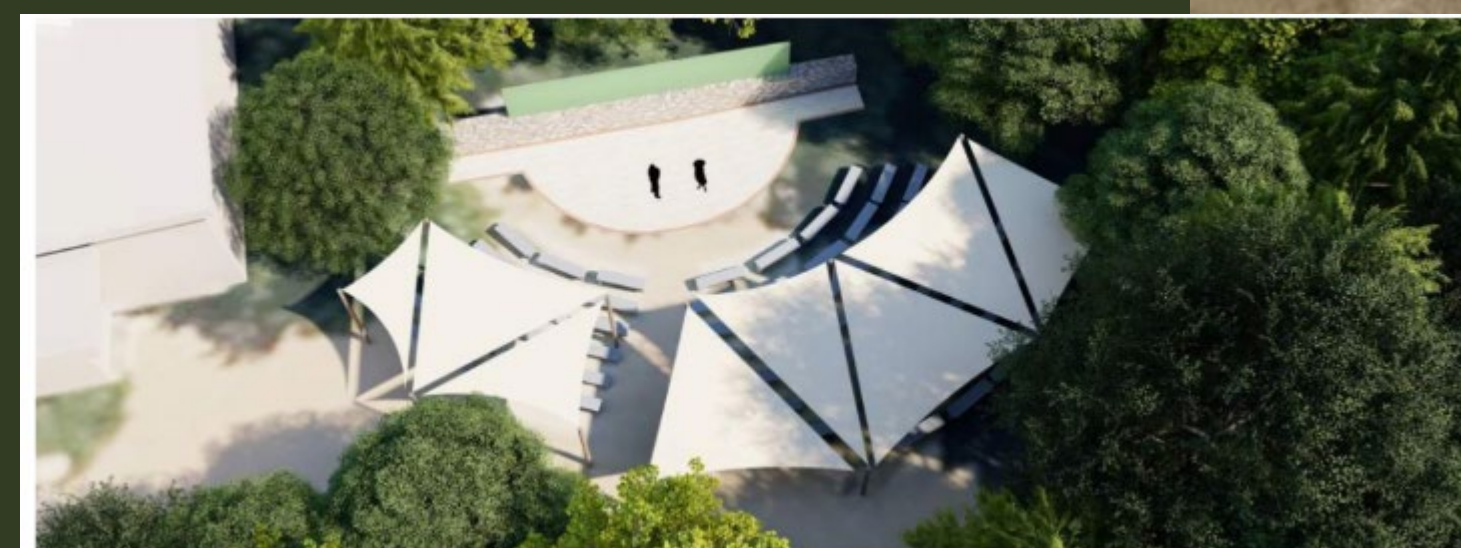
Purpose:

- Protection from sun over seating
- Protection over stage
- Increase fees from rentals

Current Phase: Conceptual design

Estimated Completion: 2028

Estimated Cost: \$175,000



Erosion Control

Purpose:

- Reduce volume of water and sediment from entering Mallard Lake (flowing into Root River)
- Protect infrastructure assets such as accessible boardwalk

Current Phase: One channel has underwent conceptual design

Estimated Completion: 2028

Estimated Cost: TBD



Owl Habitat

- Protection from sun over seating
- Protection over stage
- Increase fees from rentals

Current Phase: Conceptual design

Estimated Completion: 2029

Estimated Cost: \$150,000





Thank you Milwaukee County Board of Supervisors!

Stay apprised of our progress by visiting:

[Friends of Wehr Nature Center](#)

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