



## VAN DER BROHE ARBORETUM AND BIRD SANCTUARY Spring Update • March 2021

### SPECIMEN TREE SALE!

True to the Arboretum's mission of having more trees—and a broad range of trees—planted throughout the area, we have partnered with Johnson's Nursery to conduct our Annual Tree and Shrub Sale. The sale is open now on our website and trees will be delivered to the Arboretum parking lot on the weekend of May 21st for pick-up. Contractors will be available for those wishing assistance with delivery and/or planting.

This sale is a great opportunity to obtain plant material otherwise not readily available, and larger size trees, at a 20% discount, while supporting VDBA. The selection of trees is extensive, but contact VDBA with special requests should you not find what you are looking for. And please, tell your friends and neighbors about this sale!

# VDBA SPRING TREE & SHRUB SALE

## 20% DISCOUNT

on high quality trees from Johnson's Nursery

Many varieties • Many sizes • Tell your friends!

**Proceeds go toward installations at the Arboretum**

Order online, pick up May 21-23 at the Arboretum  
[vanderbrohearboretum.org](http://vanderbrohearboretum.org)

### OSPREY NEST BUILT AND INSTALLED

Board member Karen Steingraber, with Julie and David Larson, built a nesting structure of branches, sticks, twigs, and nesting materials on a steel platform to create an Osprey nest.

Typically, the male Osprey delivers such items to the chosen tree, and the female Osprey builds the nest. There remains the opportunity for the homemaker to finalize the construction. We hoped that pre-stocking the platform with materials will make adoption of the artificial nesting site more attractive to any home-seeking fish hawks.

The Osprey platform was graciously sponsored by Steve Lankton and generously erected by Two Rivers Water & Light on a 55' pole. The pole is located near the East Twin River and is visible from Riverview Drive. Within hours of erection, neighbor Gloria Juntunen shared photos of a Bald Eagle surveying the nest's amenities. We await to see if the Osprey nest is mis-named.

Previous housing efforts have shown some success. Last spring, Dave Villeneuve installed 19 cavity nest boxes and two Wood Duck houses on the grounds. Late winter cleaning showed that except for one nest box and one duck house, all had been successfully occupied, some hosting multiple broods. We anticipate warmer weather will soon bring back the residents.



*Karen Steingraber, right, creates an Osprey nest with David and Julie Larson, left.*



*Eagle photos by Gloria Juntunen*

*An osprey nest, built by board member Karen Steingraber, is installed on the grounds by Two Rivers Water & Light. Within hours of installation, neighbor Gloria Juntunen photographed a Bald Eagle perched near the nest.*

## ■ ENTRY SIGN ERECTED ON HIGHWAY 42 (N. LINCOLN AVE.)

The Van der Brohe Arboretum entry sign at 3800 North Lincoln Avenue was erected on February 18, after the cold snap had finally dissipated. Board members John Durbrow and Ron Schaper, with Mike Knotek, David Larson, and Chuck Vraney, tackled the wintery conditions to mount the sign atop its berm. The laser cut sign is internally lighted with programmable LEDs, and powered by photovoltaic panels.

## ■ PATHS (ALMOST) INSTALLED

This winter's conditions favored the installation of the gravel to finish filling the pathways. Upon the ground thawing and drying out, the paths will be graded and compacted. The completion of the walking trails will make the Arboretum open for the public, even as the grounds are being prepped for planting as pollinator meadows.

## ■ RADIO APPEARANCE

John Durbrow, Director of Van der Brohe Arboretum and Bird Sanctuary, is scheduled to appear on the WOMT Radio broadcast of Be My Guest on Wednesday, April 28th from 9:30 to 10:00. The interview will be conducted by Lee Douglas. We hope that members of the many groups who had their presentations canceled by the COVID-19 shutdowns will have a chance to listen. We thank Lee for the opportunity to help people understand the activities and intents of VDBA as we develop the project site. If you can't tune in, [podcasts are available online](#).

## ■ THE MOTORPOOL GROWS

Karen Steingraber has donated a new UTV to Van der Brohe Arboretum and Bird Sanctuary. The "buggy," which was purchased from the helpful team at Harbortown Harley Davidson, has seating for four to five, to better accommodate small groups on tours and inspections. When the Arboretum becomes operational, it will be very beneficial in bringing access to the site for those with mobility limitations. Don Schweiger, Director of Grounds at VDBA, says that while it will be great for making the grounds more readily accessible, it is primarily a work vehicle. It will be invaluable in the tending and maintenance of the property.

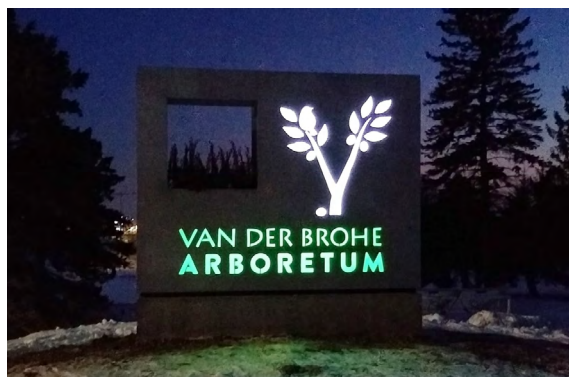
## ■ FRANCISCAN GARDENS TO BE INSTALLED THIS SPRING

Master Gardeners of Manitowoc County members Bernie Zimmer, Carol Lallensack, Eileen Kummer, Linda Brandel, Marilyn Starzewski, and Steve Lankton have been very active researching plant materials appropriate to the Franciscan Gardens and designing the composition and layouts for a spring installation.

To date, eight of the nine gardens available have been sponsored. The designers have been working with the sponsor's interests and within the dictate that all plants selected will provide forage and habitat for birds and wildlife. That selection criteria favors the use of native plantings and requires a marked shift in gardening ethics.

For example, whereas gardeners usually are trying to eliminate insects from garden plants, the Master Gardeners are selecting plants that host the broadest array of them. Bugs are food for birds, and many insects are essential pollinators. Plants are also selected for their berry and mast production, and the nectars which feed hummingbirds and pollinators. Typical to most gardener's intents, all plant selections will be favoring those of the highest aesthetic qualities.

When the gardens have been installed and are available as displays, each will be featured on the [VDBA website](#). The site will make available the plan, the plantlist, and a statement of the designer's intent. It is hoped that visitors to the Arboretum will be inspired to create similar installations on their own properties throughout the Western Great Lakes Flyway.



Installation of the new laser-cut LED entry sign.



The newly donated VDBA Utility Terrain Vehicle.



### **Van der Brohe Arboretum Board**

John Durbrow, Chairperson  
Diane Lupke, Vice Chairperson  
Karen Steingraber, Treasurer  
Hanna Edelglass, Secretary  
Jerome Fox  
Katherine Reynolds  
Ron Schaper  
Don Schweiger

**VAN DER BROHE ARBORETUM.ORG**

3800 Lincoln Ave., Two Rivers, Wisconsin 54241

---

*It is only through the passage of the seasons, the recurrent rhythms of light and dark, reflections in states of repose, and the glories of regeneration that individuals connect to the pattern and structure of living in a sentient world.*

*Johann van der Brohe*

---