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PRESERVE OUR PARKS LAUNCHES NEW WEBSITE: "A WEALTH OF NATURE"

New Site Designed to Showcase Parks with User-friendly Features and Appealing Photos

Preserve Our Parks, a local non-profit advocacy group, announced today that it has launched a website called "A Wealth of Nature," designed to be an interactive experience allowing the public to discover recreational opportunities and freely explore subjects, themes and visuals related to parks in the six-county region on a variety of digital devices. [Url: www.awealthofnature.org](http://www.awealthofnature.org)

The new website covers parks and preserves in Kenosha, Milwaukee, Ozaukee, Racine, Washington and Waukesha counties. It highlights the recreational value of parks in Southeastern Wisconsin and promotes the need for preserving and protecting these treasures.

"Southeastern Wisconsin has outstanding, award-winning parks and natural assets that positively impact the quality of life in the area," said Eddee Daniel, Project Director, Preserve Our Parks board member and editor of the upcoming companion book, *A Wealth of Nature: Parks and Natural Places in Southeast Wisconsin*. "We need nature and open spaces in our lives, especially in urban areas like Southeast Wisconsin. This website will help make our parks and open spaces accessible to the public."

The website includes a blog entitled "The Natural Realm," which will tell stories, provide an in-depth look at particular places and examine issues relating to parks and nature. Writers from diverse backgrounds will be invited to contribute to the blog. The website includes lush photographs that reflect the beauty of parks and open spaces in the region.

"We invite the public to visit the 'A Wealth of Nature' website not only to introduce them to our area's diverse, beautiful parks, but to allow people to explore places, themes and visuals involving parks on a variety of devices," Daniel said. "This is a showcase for our parks and preserves, and we invite everyone to visit the site, enjoy the photos, participate in the discussions, and get outdoors."

The website represents a partnership with several organizations. Partnerships are key to the goals of broad participation, preservation and promotion of parks and open spaces. Our growing list of partners includes: Caledonia Conservancy; Cream City Conservation Corps; Friends of the Hank Aaron State Trail; Gathering Waters Conservancy; Mequon Nature Preserve; Milwaukee County Parks; Milwaukee Environmental Collaboration Office; Milwaukee Metropolitan Sewerage District; Milwaukee Riverkeeper; Ozaukee Treasures Network; Ozaukee Washington Land Trust; River Revitalization Foundation; Schlitz Audubon Nature Center; Sweet Water Trust; Tall Pines Conservancy; The Water Council; and the Urban Ecology Center.

Founded in 1999, Preserve Our Parks is a non-profit organization devoted to the protection, maintenance and enhancement of parks and open space in the Milwaukee area.

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