President’s Report
Myrna Krueger

Photo: Myrna Krueger
Focused on Delivering Nature Education and Experiences

Photo: Bruce Ellingson
2019 Friends Hire Part-time Naturalist

- Enable Friends to sustain nature education programs and experiences for children and adults
- Coordinate Partner School program for youth
- Develop self-guided and interpretive experiences for all ages

Photos, Video: Mitch Elness, Bruce Ellingson
2019-20 Welcome Station
Get Ready to Explore

• Funded by NFWF & Friends of Sherburne
• Thanks to Sue Hix, Dean Kleinhans, Steve Chesney for leading, and to donors!
• Still to come: interpretive signage, picnic tables, bike rack
• Stay tuned for GRAND OPENING in 2020!

Photos: Bruce Ellingson, Lee Johnson, Dean Kleinhans
2019 Wildlife Festival

• Supporting festival goers with live animal presenters and booths, interpretive wagon rides, tents, food trucks, portable restrooms and more

Photos: Michelle Raph, Myrna Krueger
2019 Friends Support

- Spring Celebration speaker – Wildlife Rehabilitation Center
- Bur oak sapling planting, serving lunch to volunteers; providing growth tubes
- Bur oak tree planting by second graders
- Youth Game Warden Camp
- Youth Photography Contest
- Outreach at area expos

Photos: Bruce Ellingson, Myrna Krueger
2019 Ambassador Workshop

- Received NFWF grant for training board members & Friends advocates
- Resulted in outreach toolkit for promoting the refuge

Photos: Myrna Krueger, Randy Baum, Bruce Ellingson
What’s Ahead 2020

Photo: Bruce Ellingson
2020 – Wildlife Observation Blind

To be located at the Oak Savanna Learning Center

• Interest in photography at refuge has taken off since formation of Sherburne Photography Club

Photo: Michelle Raph
2020 – What’s Ahead – Trail Signage

Friends will fund new directional trail signs for Mahnomen and Blue Hill Trails, and for trails at the Oak Savanna Learning Center.

Photo: Bruce Ellingson
Rhythm & Brews

• Mark your calendars – April 4, 2020, 7 pm
• Joint fundraising event with Sherburne History Center
Friends Read

- Thursday, April 23, 2020
- *Hidden Life of Trees* by Peter Wolleben
- Come and join us in the discussion!
Thanks, Deb and Lee

• Deb Sorenson served on the board 2017-19, serving as expo coordinator and advocacy lead
• Lee Johnson served on the board 2008-19, serving as VP, president, editor, photographer and Friends policies and procedures advisor
Eagle’s Nest Nature Store

Thanks to store volunteers Diane Stroschein, Sue Hix, Dean Kleinhans, Darlene Antinozzi, Rosanne Fischer, Brad & Su Johnson, Jeanette Priess

Big thanks to Sharon Kolstad, store manager, who is ending her 3 years as store manager. We appreciate Sharon’s management skills and hard work

• Introducing Sheri Olson as Sourcing Manager
• Diana Shonyo as Business Manager
Shifting focus to new ways to give

• Shaping approach to legacy giving

• Organizing outreach to community and hunting groups

Thanks to Members

• Matt Finn, chair

• Carol VanHeel

• Mike Rajala

• Bill Kolbinger

• Sue Hix

• John Riebel

• Myrna Krueger
Membership & Marketing

Member & Community Outreach through:
- Mailed newsletters
- E-news
- Website
- List updates
- Member & donor letters
- Year-end Campaign
- Social media

Thanks to Members
- Sue Hix
- Carol VanHeel
- Bruce Ellingson
- Steve Chesney
- Tanya Piatz-Sandberg
- Myrna Krueger
- Susan Julson
- Marilyn Danielson
Thanks to Friends Committees & Champions

Advocacy Committee
• Deb Sorenson, Emy Minzel, Steve Chesney
Rhythm & Brews
• Mike Brubaker, Carol VanHeel, Bill Kolbinger, Emy Minzel
Friends Read
• Nancy Howard & Susan Julson
Nominations Committee
• Deb Sorenson, Bill Kolbinger, Mike Rajala

Plant Sale
• Sue Hix, Marv Ziner, Carol VanHeel
Champions
• Expos – Deb Sorenson
• Food Trucks – Emy Minzel
• Silent Auction – Carol VanHeel
Wildlife Circle

• Huge thanks to the 2019 donors to the Friends of Sherburne NWR. Without donor support, the work of the Friends in support of the refuge would not be possible

Photo: Mary Karlie Carlson
Wildlife Circle – Bluebird

• Tom & Clare Larkin
• Lauren Young & Peter Sovik
• Darlene Antinozzi
• Marilyn Bina
• Sharon Woolcott & Marsha Froehle
• Mary Kay Harris
• Cathy Hegg
• Mike Kennedy
• Betsy Kerr & Roberta Steele
• Delton Krueger
• Van Misko

• Kathleen & Jim Palmborg
• Bill & Charlotte Strei
• Tom & Vicki Tyler
• Barb & Dave Bode
• Jason & Bethany Jablonski
• Craig Mandel
• Arlene Fenning
• Ashley Jozelic
• Becky Pollard

Photo: Randy Baum
Wildlife Circle – Bluebird

- Sara Laning
- Janet Leslie
- Kris Spaeth
- Susan Julson
- Marilyn Danielson
- Lynette DesChamps
- Mark & Debra Thurlo
- Eric & Selena Schmidt
- Rachel Leonard
- Robert & Andrea Pearson
- David & Sheryl Larsen
- Bruce Galer

- Shirley Eggersgluss
- Bob & Michelle Bengson
- James & Lucille Mallery
- Rita Davis
- Don & Mary Leaon
- William & Marilyn Yueill
- Eric Nystrom
- Les & Joan Larson
- Carol & Steve Howe-Veenstra
Wildlife Circle – Bluebird

- Marv Ziner
- Robin & Scott Suhsen
- Dante Moreira Gilbert Fund
- Dave & Jan Fesenmaier
- Alex and Rico Fraboni

Photo: Myrna Krueger
Wildlife Circle – Monarch Butterfly

- Lee Johnson
- Rea Holmes
- Patty & Cliff Crockford
- Mike & Marca Brubaker
- Dale Hennek
- Mary Steinbicker
- Bill Kolbinger
- Jim & Diane Stroschein
- Deb Sorenson
- Suzanne Angstman
- Robert & Barbara Hoeft

- Leroy Brown
- Dave Martin
- Myrna Krueger & Florian Keller
- Edward Dayton
- Kathleen Gill
- Tim Metcalf
- Kevin & Susan Brady
- Delton Krueger
- Chet Meyers
Wildlife Circle – Monarch Butterfly

- Dan and Nancy Howard
- Jim & Ann Pasch
- Steve & Becky Karel
- Marliss Bock
- Michael Janke
- Angie Nelson
- Kit & Al Ferber
- Katrina & John Pierson
- Ken Brennen
- Joseph & Diana Felix
- Sandra Ackerman
- Mike Rajala

- James & Erma Cabak
- Doug & Gail Hanson
- Steve Chesney
- Terry’s Trees Fund
Wildlife Circle – Blanding’s Turtle

- Sue Hix & Dean Kleinhans
- Jim & Gail Nystrom
- C Harris Mallory
- Robin DeLong
Wildlife Circle

Sandhill Crane
• Judy Hidde
• John Riebel, Sr.
• Gene & Mary Lou Seipp
• Glen Helgeson Foundation
• Robert Morgan

Bald Eagle
• Carol & Dan VanHeel

White-tailed Deer
• Andreas Foundation

Photo: Randy Baum
2019 Memorials & Honorariums

Memorials
• Ernest Mathison
• Cathy Hegg
• Norman Metcalf
• JoAnn Stark
• Yvonne Palka

Honorariums
• Diane & Jim Stroschein
• Sue Hix & Dean Kleinhaps
• Carol VanHeel
• Linda Harambasic
Non-cash Donations from Individuals

Bluebird
- Dave Halmgrimson
- Clare Larkin
- Carol VanHeel
- Nancy Howard
- Polly Class
- Bruno Gad
- Marliss Bock
- Gretchen Martin
- Angie Nelson
- Dave Martin
- Cathy Hegg

Monarch Butterfly
- Therese Cacek
- Jim & April St Aoro
- Jim & Gail Nystrom
- Rob Bullis
- Patty Crockford
- Diana Shonyo

Blanding’s Turtle
- Jim & Diane Stroschein

Photo: Mary Karlie Carlson
Community Supporters

Bluebird
- Coborn’s
- K-Bob Café
- Jim's Market
- Becker True Value
- Reynolds Balloon & Party
- Everlasting Love of Flowers
- Thai1on Kitchen
- Kracklin’ Rosies
- Chili Lime
- Chuck Hartell Realty
- Rocks and Things

Bluebird
- Bailey Ray’s Roadhouse
- Nelson Nursery Garden Center
- P&A Liquor
- Prairie Restorations, Inc.
- Princeton Floral
- Rockwoods
- Sand Dunes Spirits
- Uptown Offsale
- Zimmerman Floral

Photo: Michelle Raph
Community Supporters

Monarch Butterfly
- Bremer Bank
- Big Lake Lions Club
- Sherburne State Bank
- Bolt Hoffer Boyd Law Firm
- Firehouse BBQ
- Phillips Distilling
- Diamond City Bread
- Cub Foods
- Ace Solid Waste
- Stoneworks Architectural
- Norwegian Wood Retreat
- JT Construction

Monarch Butterfly
- Papa’s Italian
- Minzel Massage
- Slims Painting
Community Supporters

Blanding’s Turtle
• Becker Lions Club
• The Bank of Elk River

Sandhill Crane
• D & V Commercial Repair
• Crystal Cabinet Works
• Elk River Lions Club

White-tailed Deer
• Connexus Energy

Photo: Michelle Raph
Treasurer’s Report
Carol VanHeel

Photo: Bruce Ellingson
# 2019 Actual vs. Budget

January 1–December 31, 2019

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>EXPENSE</th>
<th>ACTUAL</th>
<th>BUDGET</th>
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<td>MCN Dues</td>
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<td>Lobbying expense</td>
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<td>Outreach supplies</td>
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<td>OSLC phone, kitchen sup</td>
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<td>Refuge printing</td>
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<td>Ed programs, training</td>
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<td>Bus transportsation</td>
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<td>Non-cash donations used</td>
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<td>Event expenses</td>
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<td>Naturalist ed contractor</td>
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<td>Interpretive dev contractor</td>
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<td>Misc exp, bird seed</td>
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<td>Brick and plaque expense</td>
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<td>Signage, ed supplies</td>
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<td>Refuge projects</td>
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<td><strong>TOTAL EXPENSE</strong></td>
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<td><strong>NET CHANGE/INCOME</strong></td>
<td>$20,469.09</td>
<td>$(600.00)</td>
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# 2019 Balance Sheet

As of December, 2019

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>ASSETS</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>Current Assets</strong></td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>Checking/Savings</td>
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<tr>
<td>Operating Fund</td>
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<tr>
<td>Photo Club Fund</td>
<td>215.00</td>
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<td>Memorial Fund</td>
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<td>Education Fund</td>
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<td>Building Fund</td>
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<td>Events Fund</td>
<td>614.17</td>
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<tr>
<td>Total Checking/Savings</td>
<td>83,072.53</td>
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<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Other Current Assets</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Inventory</td>
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<tr>
<td>Cash on Hand</td>
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<tr>
<td>Total Current Assets</td>
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<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>TOTAL ASSETS</th>
<th>96,075.86</th>
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<tr>
<th>LIABILITIES &amp; EQUITY</th>
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<tr>
<td>Equity</td>
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<tr>
<td>Unrestricted Net Assets</td>
<td>75,606.77</td>
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<tr>
<td>Net Income</td>
<td>20,469.09</td>
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<tr>
<td>Total Equity</td>
<td>96,075.86</td>
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| TOTAL LIABILITIES & EQUITY | 96,075.86 |
## 2020 Budget

### Income

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Account</th>
<th>General and Administrative</th>
<th>Marketing and Communications</th>
<th>Advocacy &amp; Outreach Support</th>
<th>Refuge Support</th>
<th>Total</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Membership</td>
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<td>Donations</td>
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<td>Grants</td>
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<td>$ 4,960.00</td>
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<td>Store Sales</td>
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<td>$ 10,000.00</td>
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<td>Cost of product</td>
<td>$(6,000.00)</td>
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<td>$(6,000.00)</td>
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<td>Credit card fees</td>
<td>$(1,500.00)</td>
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<td>$(1,500.00)</td>
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<td>Store giveaways</td>
<td>$(100.00)</td>
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<td>Sales taxes paid</td>
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<td>Shipping</td>
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<td>Net store profit</td>
<td>$ 1,350.00</td>
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<td>Activities, silent auction</td>
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<td>Interest income</td>
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<td>Misc income</td>
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<td><strong>Total Income</strong></td>
<td>$ 40,644.00</td>
<td>$ -</td>
<td>$ -</td>
<td>$ 13,960.00</td>
<td>$ 54,604.00</td>
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# 2020 Budget

## Expense & Totals

<table>
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<tr>
<th>Expenses</th>
<th>$</th>
<th>$</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>MN Council Nonprofits dues</td>
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<tr>
<td>Bank charges, online fees</td>
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<td>Insurance</td>
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<td>Office supplies, Hotspot wifi</td>
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<td>Postage</td>
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<td>Chamber dues, expos</td>
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<td>Donation to NWRA</td>
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<td>Outreach materials</td>
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<td>OSLC phone, kitchen supplies</td>
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<td>Refuge printing</td>
<td>3,500.00</td>
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<td>Ed programs, training</td>
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<tr>
<td>Bus transportation</td>
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<tr>
<td>Non-cash donations used</td>
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<tr>
<td>Event expenses</td>
<td>6,000.00</td>
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<td>Naturalist youth educ contractor</td>
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<tr>
<td>Interpretive dev contractor</td>
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<tr>
<td>Misc expense, bird seed</td>
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<tr>
<td>Brick and plaque expense</td>
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<td>OSLC trail signage</td>
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<td>Swan taxidermy</td>
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<td>Crane taxidermy</td>
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<td>Viewing blind</td>
<td>7,000.00</td>
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<td>Blue Hill &amp; Mahnomen trail signage</td>
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<td><strong>Total Expenses</strong></td>
<td>2,120.00</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Net Income/Loss</strong></td>
<td>38,524.00</td>
<td>(3,834.00)</td>
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</tbody>
</table>

Questions?

Motion to approve?
New and Returning Board Members Elected in 2020

Three-year terms

- Carol VanHeel (returning)
- Susan Julson (returning)
- Scott Suhsen
- Randall Holt-Woehl
Refuge Report
Alaina Larkin

Photo: Mary Karlie Carlson
2019 Refuge Report
Staff Changes

Those that moved on...
Jessica Nelson
Volunteer Coordinator
Gretchen Venske
Visitor Services Intern
Don Lantz
Wildland Urban Interface Coordinator
Adam Muilenburg
Rice Lake Maintenance Worker
Charlie Blair
Chief of Refuges in Region 3

Charlie Wooley
Regional Director

Charlie Blair
Refuge Chief
....and the new faces
we welcomed to our team!
Rod Hansen
Federal Wildlife Officer
Samantha Lobdell
Visitor Services Intern
Jenny Hengel
Naturalist Contractor
Highlights
Invasive species treatments
Crown vetch, leafy spurge, cattail, Canada thistle and many others

Prescribed Fire
7120 Acres
Winter Cattail Burning: 287 Acres
3 Units
2500 Acres
300+ Cattle

Mahnomen Trail
49 Acres
200+ goats
Bur Oak Planting

250 saplings
70 protected with grow tubes
Record Peak Crane Count

2019: 14,578  2018: 11,194  2017: 11,286
Oak Savanna Learning Center
New Kiosks...Signage on the Way!

County Rd 5 (South)
County Rd 9 (East)
County Rd 5 (North)
Wildlife Drive
Mahnomen Trail
Wildlife Drive Welcome Station
New Roads and Water Structure

New asphalt pavement on Sherburne County Roads 9 and 16, important roads providing access to the refuge.

Upper Roadside Pool along CR 16 received a new water control structure. This was funded with DNR CPL grant in cooperation with Sherburne County.
Snowmobile training
Nature Education

- **1570** Partner School Visits
- **520** Self-Led Visits
26th Annual Wildlife Festival
New Asphalt - New Look!

1250 Participants  80 Staff & Volunteers
Sherburne National Wildlife Refuge
2020 Events Calendar

**Winter**

**Snowshoe Checkout**
Winter months; 8 am – 4 pm Monday - Friday
Refuge Headquarters
Snowshoes of all sizes are available.
A minimum of 4” of snow is required.

**Afternoon Snowshoe**
Saturday, February 22
1 pm – 4 pm
OSLC
Snowshoes provided. Event to be cancelled if inadequate snow.

**Spring**

**Bird Tour**
Saturday, May 9
8 am – 10 am
Mahnomen Trail
Binoculars provided.

**Bird Tour**
Saturday, May 16
8 am – 10 am
Blue Hill Trail
Binoculars provided.

**Spring Celebration**
Saturday, May 16
10 am – 1 pm
OSLC
No minimum experience or equipment necessary.

**Photography Hike**
Saturday, May 30
8 am – 11 am
Wildlife Drive
No minimum experience or equipment necessary.

**Summer**

**Wildflower Tour**
Saturday, June 13
10 am – 12 pm
OSLC
Car caravan from the OSLC.

**Bird Tour**
Saturday, August 22
8 am – 10 am
Mahnomen Trail
Binoculars provided.

**Bird Tour**
Saturday, August 31
8 am – 10 am
Blue Hill Trail
Binoculars provided.

**Fall**

**Wildflower Tour**
Saturday, September 12
10 am – 12 pm
OSLC
Car caravan from the OSLC.

**Wildlife Festival**
Saturday, September 26
10 am – 3 pm
OSLC
A fun-filled family friendly day full of activities.

**Sandhill Crane Tours**
October 17, 22, 24, 28
6:30 am – 9 am
OSLC
Reservations required \& open on September 9th.

**Ongoing**

**Youth Photography Contest**
K-12 students are encouraged to submit one photo that they’ve taken on the refuge. Entries are due by October 9 and winners will be announced in November (prizes for top 3).

**Sherburne NWR Photography Club**
Monthly meetings. Second Wednesday 6:30 pm social, 7 pm meeting
Oak Savanna Learning Center
All experience levels welcome.

All events are FREE and pre-registration is suggested.
Sherburne Staff Sharing Time within the Complex

Alaina providing visitor information at Crane Meadows Habitat Day

Nikki and Greg assisting Duane with state threatened common tern nesting grids at Mille Lacs Refuge

Gretchen leading a program at Rice Lake Refuge
What’s around the corner in 2020?
Staffing

- Visitor Services Intern (January-December)
- Career Pathways Wildlife Refuge Specialist Intern (May-August)
- Biology Intern (May-August)
- Permanent Career Seasonal Fire Tech - Jason Fergusen
- Permanent Administrative Officer (early summer)
- Permanent Maintenance Worker at Rice Lake (early summer)
Projects in the Works

• New wildlife observation blind on Oak Savanna Trail  (Friends Project)
• Completion of the Wildlife Drive Welcome Station (Friends Project)
• Completion of kiosk signage
• Trail improvements, including directional signage
• Refuge water control structure repairs
• Continue habitat management projects: prescribed fire, conservation grazing, invasive species control, seed collection
...those that help make it possible!
From the refuge staff to the Friends of Sherburne: **THANK YOU** for all of your support in 2019.

We look forward to working together in 2020 to continue to fulfill the FWS mission!
Stay Wild My Friends!

Photo by Mary “Karlie” Carlson
Thank you!

Photo: David Halgrimson