



10K Conservation Challenge

Upham’s 10K Conservation Challenge aims to put 10,000 hours of conservation projects into the land by the end of 2020. As of March 2020, we are at 2,134 hours. Join us remotely to continue this mission!



We want to measure your success!

Report any hours of conservation you do by calling Upham Woods 608-254-6461 or completing this survey:
https://uwmadison.co1.qualtrics.com/jfe/form/SV_cPepiSpnSDzhPSZ

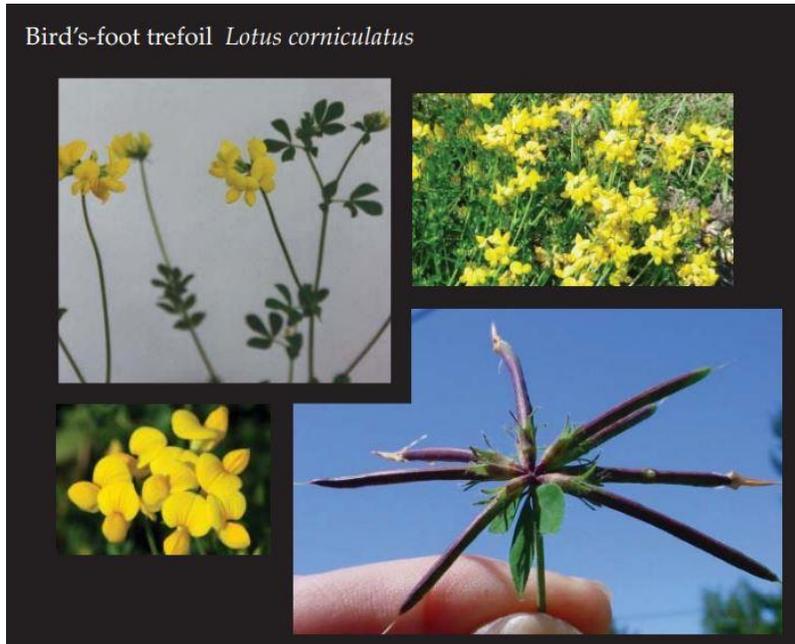
Complete 10 hours or more on any conservation project or combination of projects and get an Upham Woods camp t-shirt!

Bird’s Foot Trefoil

Are you ready to be a **nature detective**? There is a plant called bird’s foot trefoil that has been taking over the homes of other plants! We must get to the bottom of this! Bird’s foot trefoil is considered an invasive plant species. It invades prairies, roadsides, barrens, fields, and open disturbed areas. This plant found its way from Eurasia and North Africa to help control erosion and as food for livestock.



Photos courtesy of Wisconsin DNR



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This plant has bright yellow flowers that are sometimes streaked with red. The flowers are found in flat-topped clusters on long stalks. This plant remains in flower from the first of June until the first frost. The leaves consist of 3 oval leaflets and two smaller leaf like stipules that grow at the base of the leaf stalk. The seeds of the plant develop in to 1-inch long seed pods. The cluster of pods resembles a bird's foot which is where it gets its name. The seed pods turn a dark purple to brown as they mature.

Why is Birds Foot Trefoil a problem? This plant can form dense mats that can choke and shade out native vegetation. Prescribed burns increase seed germination which makes it especially hard to control in native grasslands and prairies.

What can you do to help? You can pull this plant. To pull it, reach all the way down to the bottom of the plant and pull up the full root. Make sure you put it in a garbage bag and throw it away. By doing this you ensure that the plant won't turn to seed and continue to spread.

This could be part of your career! There are many different career opportunities in natural resources including conservation warden, land steward, wildlife biologist, and much more.

Try to get the whole root



Photo by Ed Shelby