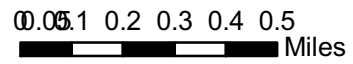


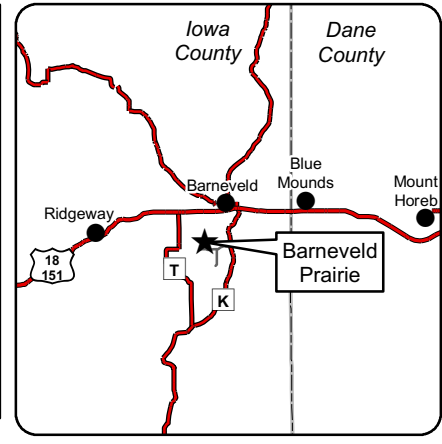
Barneveld Prairie

-  Preserve boundary
-  Lake
-  River / Stream
-  Highway
-  Local Road
-  Parking
-  Trail



Directions to the west tract from Madison: Drive west on US Hwy 18/151 for about 28 miles; go through the village of Barneveld, and go 1 mile to Cty Hwy T; go south (left) on T approximately 0.75 miles, then look for The Nature Conservancy sign. Park along the eastern side of the road near the sign. There is a small lot or you can drive to gated entry on access lane.

Directions to the eastern Muehlechner Addition from Barneveld: Take Cty Hwy K south; cross US Hwy 18/151 and travel 1.5 miles to the junction of K and Langberry Rd; go west on Langberry 0.5 miles to the junction of Lee and Langberry. Visitors should pull their vehicles off to the side of the road at the junction of Langberry and Lee Roads. There is a small parking lot along Cty Hwy K. Walk north to the area of the preserve that is not in row crops or being grazed. There is a long mowed trail on the Muehlechner Addition. The trail is not marked but is pretty easy to follow.



Barneveld Prairie

A Remnant of a Once-Widespread Habitat

Why You Should Visit

This is a great place to see a remnant of the vast prairies and savannas that once covered most of southern Wisconsin. Surrounded by an agricultural landscape, the hilltops and valleys at Barneveld Prairie provide habitat for colorful butterflies and uncommon birds that thrive in large, open, treeless landscapes.

Hours and Conditions

Open year-round, dawn to dusk. The primitive, unmarked trail traverses steep terrain. Good hiking shoes are an absolute must.

Note that hunting for white-tailed deer, wild turkey, and pheasant is allowed at Barneveld Prairie during the regular posted seasons, with no prior permission from the Conservancy required. Dogs are allowed off-leash for pheasant hunting during pheasant season. Dogs must be on-leash the rest of the year, especially during the breeding bird season.

What to See: Plants

Several rare plants: woolly milkweed, Hill's thistle, prairie bush clover, Indian plantain
Others: prairie dropseed, shooting stars, violets

What to See: Birds

Uncommon birds that need large, open, treeless landscapes to thrive do well here.

Why the Conservancy Selected This Site

Once common throughout southern Wisconsin, prairies are very rare today. The Conservancy is working to conserve and restore some of the few remaining remnants.

In July, 1997 the Conservancy bought the 79 acre Thomas Pasture off of County Highway T. This section of the preserve offers excellent opportunities for hiking and observing native prairie flowers.

In October, 2002 the Conservancy bought 892 acres at Barneveld Prairie. The property contains a diverse mix of prairie remnants, prairie pastures*, oak savanna, alfalfa fields, wetlands, row crop fields, and wooded draws. It provides important habitat for grassland birds like meadowlarks, bobolinks, vesper and grasshopper sparrows, dickcissels, and upland sandpipers, whose populations are declining worldwide. Loss of suitable habitat and the fragmentation of surviving grasslands are two of the major reasons for these declines. This parcel of land has been named the Muehlechner Addition to Barneveld Prairie in honor of Ursula and Gerd Muehlechner who made a generous donation to cover almost half of the acquisition cost.

Like much of the remaining prairie remnants, the absence of fire at Barneveld has allowed non-native plants and native shrubs to overtake native grasses and flowers. Conservancy volunteers are helping restore the prairie by: removing buckthorn, honeysuckle, prickly ash, and other invading trees and shrubs; mending and removing old fences; and collecting the seeds of native wildflowers for use in future prairie plantings.

* Some of the land at this preserve is in crops and grazing is possible; gates will be posted. For your own safety please do not scale fences or open gates, and stay out of pastures that are currently being grazed.