

Daniel J. Shadduck Memorial Trail - 1.4 miles      September 14, 2009

Deep Marsh Trail - 1.2 miles

Preserve Boundary      P Parking

Lake      Transmission line

River / Stream      Building

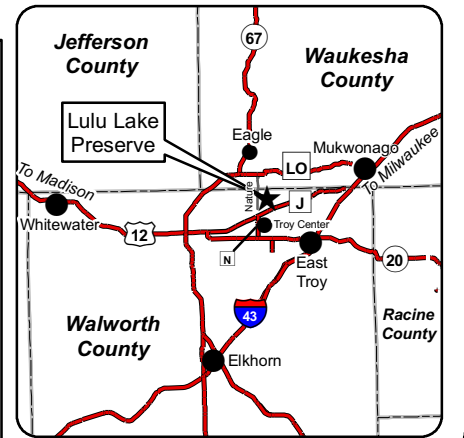
Old Railroad Bed

Highway      Local Road

County Boundary

Directions from Milwaukee (a 35-minute drive): Take I-43 south to East Troy, then take State Hwy 20 west to Cnty Hwy N. Take Cnty Hwy N north to Troy Center, where it will change to Nature Rd. Take Nature Rd 1.5 miles north and turn right at a driveway marked N9564.

From Madison (a 75-minute drive): Take US Hwy 12 about 8 miles past Whitewater to the junction of 12 and State Hwy 20. Go straight onto 20. At the intersection of 20 and Cnty Hwy J, continue straight on J to Nature Rd at Troy Center. Turn left and take Nature Rd 1.5 miles north. Turn right at a driveway marked N9564 - this is a private road leading to the preserve.



# Lulu Lake Preserve

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## Why You Should Visit

Lulu Lake glitters amidst the rich marshes of the upper Mukwonago River watershed. When viewed through the lens of species richness and water quality, this 86-acre kettle lake (a lake created by the glaciers) and its watershed comprise one of Wisconsin's highest quality small river systems.

## Hours

Open year round, dawn to dusk. Volunteer work parties are held from 9:00 a.m. to 12:00 noon on the second and fourth Sundays of each month (except November and December). Visit the Volunteer section of our Web site for more information. For more information about the preserve contact the Conservancy's local office at N8957 Pickerel Jay Road, East Troy, WI 53120; Tel: (262) 642-7276.

## What to See: Plants

Surrounding the lake and along the river are various types of wetlands including sedge meadows, fens and bogs. On the higher ground, you will find prairie remnants and oak openings. In early summer, shooting stars and other wildflowers are abundant. The northern kittentail is this preserve's most endangered plant. In the spring, this plant produces foot-high flowering stems resembling - you guessed it - the tail of a young feline.

## What to See: Animals

- Fish: Of the 150 fish species native to Wisconsin, 59 can be found in Lulu Lake and the Mukwonago River! The river is home to several rare fish species, including the longear sunfish. The clear, deep lake water provides habitat for glacial relict fish such as the blackchin shiner and the Iowa darter.
- Birds: Significant species are Cooper's hawks, ospreys and nesting pairs of sandhill cranes.

Lulu Lake has yet to be thoroughly inventoried, so other rare species may be present.

## Why the Conservancy Selected This Site

Because of the high quality river surrounded by wetlands and oak openings this site provides habitat for rare fish, reptiles and amphibians, mussels and plants. It is so distinctive and special that the Wisconsin Wetland Association has designated Lulu Lake Preserve as a "Wetland Gem," one of the top 100 wetlands in Wisconsin. The upland oak openings are dominated by clustered, open-grown bur oaks and white oaks, and shagbark hickory. The ground is covered with prairie and forest plants. Before agricultural settlement there were more than 5.5 million acres of oak openings in Wisconsin. Today only about 500 acres remain. Around 50-80 of these acres are found nearby Lulu Lake. The Conservancy is using fire and removal of invasive species to restore and maintain them. Scientific researchers interested in several topics - oak openings; the hydrology of sedge meadows and fens; and rare species of fish, amphibians, reptiles and butterflies - have used the preserve as an outdoor laboratory.

## What the Conservancy Is Doing

We have an office and staff in the East Troy area and are working cooperatively with many different public and private partners to accomplish the following:

- Protect the river and wetland's water quality and quantity and the many unique natural areas within the Mukwonago River Watershed.
- Manage our preserves to maintain rare natural communities and provide habitat for wildlife.
- Work with individuals and organizations concerned with the health of the watershed to help balance watershed protection with human needs and economic health.
- Provide nature sanctuaries for the public to hike and enjoy.