Final Report

Wildlife Preservation Fund Grant #07-004 Interpretive Educational Signs on the Trails of the Douglas-Hart Nature Center

Douglas-Hart Nature Center 2204 DeWitt Ave East Mattoon, IL 61938 Attn: Kimberly Ross (217) 235-4644 douglashartnc@consolidated.net

Project Objectives include:

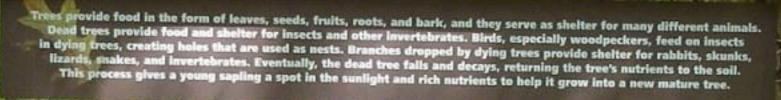
- 1. Prepare information and digital photographs that signs will be designed with.
- 2. Correspond with sign manufacturer on final sing layout and design.
- 3. Choose final design locations and mark for post to be set in the area.
- 4. Purchase lumber for frames and post, prepare and set posts at sign location.
- 5. Build sing frames and install complete signs on posts.
- 6. Advertise with local media on special news of state funded signs.
- 7. Utilize signs into programming such as nature hikes and field trips.
- 8. Include survey on our program evaluation to find out how people respond to interpretive signs.
- 9. Maintain quality of sings as needed.

Project Description

The purpose of this project was to enhance the educational experience for visitor and students by placing 3 interpretive signs on the trails of the Douglas-Hart Nature Center. There is a sign for the forest, pond and prairie; each with a narrative description of the habitat and its importance, as well as key species dependant on it. Signs are 3' X 5'; cedar framed high pressure laminate material called "Enviroreaders," able to withstand UV light, graffiti and breakage. Each sign is fixed to a treated 4x4 post set in gravel. Local media was notified and a story was run in the regional newspaper. The signs will be

used as a learning tool for visitors and students to learn more about habitats native to Illinois, and what species can be identified. Timeline for this grant was from July 1, 2006 to August 31, 2007.







American Redstart



Red-headed Woodpecker



Red Bellied Woodpecker

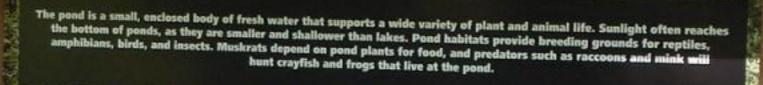




Spicebush Swallowtail



Red-Spotted Purple





Green Heron

Bullfrog



Painted Turtle



Raccoon



Muskrat



Mink