

2025 Fall Fundraiser

Live Auction Item List



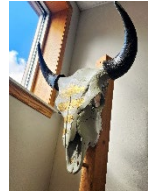
Morning Hike with the Early Birds – Gather 8 of your bird-loving friends for an early morning hike with Rob Tyser in May. (Donated by Rob Tyser)



Plein Air Commissioned Painting – Enjoy your favorite view of a natural area with a commissioned plein air painting by local artist Deb Conlon. (Donated by Deb Conlon)



Wanderlust Hand-painted Buffalo Skull – This bold, hand-painted buffalo skull will transform your space with a Western motif. (Donated by Cassie Everson-Martin)



Native Landscape Tour and Consultation plus Driftless Area Natives

Starters – Tour native gardens, get help creating a native garden, and receive \$250 toward native plants at Driftless Area Natives. (Donated by Betty Kruck)

Pasture-raised Whole Processed Lamb - ! Enjoy the savory goodness of lamb, pasture- raised here in the Driftless Area. (Donated by Keith and Lynne Valiquette)



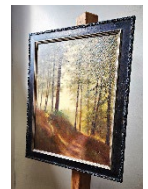
Birds and Brunch – Spend a morning spotting and identifying the birds of the spring migration at a 100-acre Vernon County property, followed by a delicious brunch at the Koerschner's home. (Donated by Krysten Zummo and Fred and Lou Anne Koerschner)

River Restoration Cruise – Learn about the Mississippi River's history, ecology and one of the world's most extensive river restoration projects on a guided tour with Gretchen and Joe Pfeiffer while enjoying delicious snacks and beverages along the way. (Donated by Joe and Gretchen Pfeiffer)



Get 'er Done – Full Day of Field Work – Think of the work that could get done at your property if you had a full day with our strong, young interns next summer! (Donated by Conservancy staff and the summer intern crew)

Painting: "The Hemlock Trail in the Heart of the Driftless" – Add a glimpse of the Driftless to your home when you win the bid on this painting created near the Kickapoo River. (Donated by artist Sara Lubinski)



Carol and Bill's Farm to Fork Dinner – The winning bid entitles six lucky people will enjoy a farm tour and entire farm-to-fork meal prepared from food grown at Carol and Bill's farm, including a decadent dessert. (Donated by Bill and Carol)

Fungi & Forests: A Guided Mushroom Hike – Choose 10-15 of your fungi-loving friends and explore a La Crosse area nature preserve in September of 2026 as your guide helps you spot and identify the region's incredible mushroom diversity. (Donated by guide Sadie Hickey)





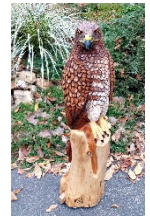
Nature Nooks Getaway - Relax to the sights and sounds of nature along the West Fork of the Kickapoo River, during your 2-night stay for two at Nature Nooks Retreat. (Donated by Nature Nooks Retreat)

Flying High - Soar over the beautiful Driftless area in a Cessna 172 in a 45 minute flight for two to take in what makes this area so unique or view a family farm from above. (Donated by pilots Carol Kratz and Drake Hokanson)



Let's Go On a Dragon Hunt! Join dragonfly expert Dan Jackson with a group of 5 for a half or full-day outing to learn the basics of dragonfly and damselfly life cycles and identification. (Donated by Dan Jackson)

Red-tailed Hawk Chainsaw Carving in Cedar – Carved with a chain saw from solid cedar, this 3' tall red-tailed hawk will serve as a sentinel either inside or outside your home. (Donated by local artist Keith Kohnert)



An Evening at the Rivoli – Host the party of the year with your own private movie screening evening at the Rivoli complete with pizza and beer for 15-20 people. (Donated by the Rivoli Theatre)

"Conservation Plots" Quilt – Wrap yourself in the beauty of nature with this 64x72" quilt complete with delicate leaves, graceful birds, and soft florals woven through shades of dark and light blue, turquoise, tan, brown, and soft gray. (Created and donated by Susan Carpenter)



Private Tour of Kickapoo Caverns – Experience the magic of the underground cave system at Kickapoo Caverns and learn all about the rare bats which call it home during the winter months on your private guided tour for 8 next summer. (Donated by Conservancy staff)

Soup for Three Seasons (including tureen and ladle) - Stay warm from the inside out with a variety of made-from-scratch soups crafted from the freshest seasonal ingredients. Receive 9 batches of ready-to-heat soup with enough to feed six people. (Made from scratch and donated by Sue Dillenbeck)



Ten Mile Ranch Retreat – Savor some time with family or friends with this 2-night stay for up to 12 guests at this 5,000+ sq ft cabin on 150 peaceful acres in Stoddard, WI, including a game room, deck, trails and basketball court. (Donated by Ten Mile Ranch Retreat)

Only in the Driftless – Spoil yourself while supporting small businesses found only in the Driftless Area with gift certificates and goods donated by 11 local stores owners who believe in the importance of keeping conservation close to home.



Driftless Sweetness Basket

Stay warm and cozy this winter while you delight in local sweetness. This artistically arranged basket is sure to satisfy your sweet tooth, or it would make a great gift at the holidays. Available to preview at the auction. (Made and donated by Jon and Ann Rigden)

Fund the future

This final auction item is your chance to give at whatever level you can. Think about what your dollars could do for conservation in the next year, and raise your hand to make restoration possible across our region.



When you give, you're investing in clean water, climate resilience, and healthy places for people and nature—right here at home. You're standing with families who've chosen to conserve their land for the benefit of all, and helping others who are ready to do the same. This work takes time, resources, and commitment—and your gift makes it possible. Every bid matters. Please bid what you can. Thank you from all of us at Mississippi Valley Conservancy!

** Bids for Fund the Future may be paid with Donor Advised Funds, retirement accounts, and gifts of Appreciated Stock. Just let Tiffany know your intention at check out! Thank you!*



BUY TICKETS: Online at MississippiValleyConservancy.org/events or by phone at (608) 784-3606