Outlook

**Greenspace Newsletter**

**From** Jennifer Erena <steward@bobolink-greenspace.com>
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The Neighborhood Chronicle #12

BOB O LINK GREENSPACE

## THIS IS NEWSLETTER #12!

That means an entire year has passed - wow. wow! Many foundational things have been built over this past year, and I've paid more attention to the greenspace through the seasons. What naturally grows where & pondering locations of future projects. I'd love to have it all happen at once, but I keep saying, slow down! This is a long game, do it right!
I do look forward to this fall. I'd love to see these three things happen.
1. Symbolic Monarch Migration project (September 19 Saturday workday) - learn more here.
2. Tree Planting (October 17 Saturday workday will celebrate Tree Week) - learn more here.
3. "Harvest Party" - celebrating our labor of love with a potluck lunch / greenspace gathering on November 14 at noon.

## KEN COOKE SPEAKS OUT ABOUT INCREASED FLOODING

So, Ken pays close attention to the watershed and water quality. He has been following the massive construction around UK and has brought up concerns. He sticks to facts and third party reviews and vows to follow this through. If you didn't see it, please check out this article.
https://www.kentucky.com/news/local/counties/fayette-county/article316533373.html

## ARBORETUM WANTS YOUR INPUT

A survey of Arboretum visitor experience and perceptions continues under the direction of Dr. Lauren Cagle, director of UK's Tracy Farmer Institute for Sustainability and the Environment and a faculty member in Writing, Rhetoric and Digital Studies. Dr. Cagle is a longtime collaborator and advisor for The Arboretum. If you haven't already participated, they want to hear from you.
Complete the Survey

*Stay green, stay kind, stay connected - Jennifer Erena*

## STEWARDSHIP SUPPORT

## Celebrating 2027!

FY 2027 Water Quality Incentive Grant has been fully funded! All grants, like ours, that are administered through Friends of Wolf Run have been fully funded. Next steps - it goes to the Urban County Council for approval, then we will get a Notice to Proceed later this year.

# USDA UPDATE

We applied for the USDA NRCS Conservation Stewardship Program (CSP) along with EQIP.  No ruling yet for EQIP, but we were informed that the "conservation practices or activities you want to implement do not meet program or funding requirements".  It probably has more to do with the history of crops on the land, but the implementation of the program seems to be broader based on the USDA personnel rather than clear eligibility.  I worked with Ken (FoWR) and Heather from Fayette Co Conservation District office to request more information to better understand the decision.  I met with Heather Silvanik for consultation. Heather and Eric Allness, our State Conservationist, also did a site visit last week.  No revelations, but awesome that they took the time to visit and get to know what FoWR is doing all over the watershed.  The support we are getting from FCCD is amazing and we are trailblazers for USDA engagement in Lexington for urban greenspaces. 😉

## FIELD NOTES



I received a native plant catalog from Prairie Nursery in Wisconsin this week. I really liked how it laid out the plants based on soil and sunlight needs. Let's pick out what we'd really like to see in the greenspace! Review the catalog HERE and send your ideas to steward@bobolink-greenspace.com or come by my porch anytime. The catalog stays on the front porch so I can look at it every day!

There was a little side box about boosting diversity and I'd like to share their words with you. It's about the mighty tree – not mighty because of its height or trunk width, but in its important role in the circle of life.

> It takes thousands of caterpillars to raise one brood of chickadees.

As key members of a complex food web, native trees and shrubs can sustain the lives of countless inhabitants, including caterpillars, insects, birds, small mammals and more. In many ways their lives, along with the stability and success of their food web, are linked to the plants growing beneath the tree. Caterpillars and moths feed on the leaves of the tree and spend the winter hunkering down in the leaf litter beneath the tree, wrapped in their cocoon, or burrowed into the soil. Insects and others take winter harbor in the plant material on the ground and the insulation that it provides. Spring comes, birds raise their young on the caterpillars and insects living in and beneath the tree. Turtles, toads and salamanders reside in the dense undergrowth too, and rely on nature's rich variety for food, shelter and nesting material. In contrast, trees that are surrounded by lawn create a precarious setting. One that disrupts these natural life cycles. You can increase the ecological impact of trees in your landscape by "underplanting" – creating a dense planting or garden beneath the tree canopy. In synergy with the tree, an

underplanting creates a rich habitat that supports biodiversity and successful lifecycle completion.

- Page 31, Prairie Nursery 2026 Catalog

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## STEWARDSHIP STEPS

## Group Workdays

Steve, Jennifer, Carolyn and Bob will all miss Aug 1 & 8 Saturday workdays. Feel free to work on your own or wrangle up a group.

Here's what you could work on - WATCH THE VIDEO OF JENNIFER SHOWING SOME (relatively) EASY GREENSPACE TASKS

### Symbolic Monarch Migration - September 19

Bring your children, grandchildren! Invite our young neighbors!

We will make beautifully colored monarchs to send to kids in Mexico near their winter destination in the oyamel fir forests of central Mexico.

Sign up at https://bobolink-greenspace.com/blog/symbolic-monarch-migration-2026

## SEASONAL SNAPSHOT







📷 Walking past Wheeler's Pharmacy, I questioned why someone would throw pancakes under the shrubs! 😂
📷 I have been excited to see more dragon flies in the greenspace - eat the mosquitos! 😍
📷 Have you noticed all the Brown-eyed Susans in the greenspace? 🌻

## Past Newsletters - Chronicle of Activities

🎓 **Learn more** about our beautiful planet and greenspace from our talented neighbors at https://bobolink-greenspace.com/

📩 **Want to write an article?** Or have a topic you want to learn more about? Send your article/ideas to jennifer.erena@me.com.

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