



GRAND PRAIRIE FRIENDS

Fall 2021 Newsletter



Get to Know...Jill Maes

Warbler Ridge Natural Areas & Operations Tech

Grand Prairie Friends is excited to welcome Jill Maes as the newest staff addition. Jill moved into the Warbler Crossing home in mid-August to assume the onsite staff role. She is the first employee in this position and works alongside five-year veteran GPF Land Manager, Jeff Peyton.

Ten Questions with Jill Maes

1. **What is your current role?** Natural Areas and Operations Technician for Grand Prairie Friends.
 2. **What were you doing before you joined Grand Prairie Friends?** I was a Trail Maintenance Worker for the National Park Service in Flagstaff, AZ.
 3. **What is your favorite place?** I really love hiking to the summit of a mountain.
 4. **Do you have any hobbies?** When I have free time, I love to hike somewhere new and listen to podcasts.
 5. **Do you have any pets?** Yes, I have one cat named Ellie.
 6. **What is your all time favorite show?** Seinfeld.
 7. **What is the weirdest thing you have eaten?** When I was in culinary school, I had to try bone marrow.
 8. **If you could be another living thing, what would it be?** I would like to experience the life of a bird of some sort, but not a duck.
 9. **What is a memorable trip you have been on?** Going to the Strings n Sol music festival with my mom four years in a row.
 10. **What is your go to dance move?** The Elaine Dance from Seinfeld.
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Celebration of Life, Terry Rathgeber

Grand Prairie Friends lost a true friend to conservation in April 2020 with the passing of Terry Rathgeber (middle). As a longtime member and past Board Member to GPF, Terry always had a story and a smile for almost every situation. Terry's family invite you to his Celebration of Life Memorial on Sunday, October 3rd from 2 to 4pm at the Urbana Country Club; 100 E.

Country Club Rd., Urbana. The family has requested memorial [donations be made to Grand Prairie Friends](#) or the University of Illinois College of Vet Med.



Grand Prairie Friends is hiring!

We are looking for a Administrative Project Manager to support these conservation efforts. Visit the website soon for details.

WARNING!



GRAND PRAIRIE FRIENDS

PARTIAL TRAIL CLOSINGS

OCTOBER 1-31

CONTROLLED ARCHERY DEER HUNT
SITE PERMIT REQUIRED

Warbler and Cemetery Ridge Trails Open



GRAND PRAIRIE FRIENDS
INFO@GRANDPRAIRIEFRIENDS.ORG



Annual Appeal Time is Here!

Check your mailbox for this year's campaign letter and [invitation to donate](#).

UI EMPLOYEES: Donate by November to your Campus Charitable Fund Drive—simply select Grand Prairie Friends (909-0207).

Upcoming Events!

In the interest of health and wellness, visit GPF's website and Facebook for event changes or cancellations as our communities navigate COVID-19.

Questions? Email volunteer@grandprairiefriends.org

RSVP for all events below at [Events](#) | [GrandPrairieFriends](#)



Stewardship Saturday at Warbler Ridge

Saturday, October 2, 9-11 am

Join us for habitat management work to maintain and enjoy Warbler Ridge Conservation Area: all ages welcome, equipment provided, and COVID safety measures observed. Meet at the Red Barn Trailhead; 17161 Daileyville Road, Charleston.



Stewardship Saturday at Warbler Ridge

Saturday, November 6, 9-11 am

Join us for habitat management work to maintain and enjoy Warbler Ridge Conservation Area: all ages welcome, equipment provided, and COVID safety measures observed. Meet at the Red Barn Trailhead; 17161 Daileyville Road, Charleston.



Rattlesnake Master Run for the Prairie

**Sunday, November 7, 9 am@
Meadowbrook Park, Urbana**

The 23rd Annual Rattlesnake Master Run for the Prairie includes a 10K and 5K run and 5K walk using chip timing.

[Register by Oct 28 for T-shirt!](#)



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