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.

---

**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!

Be a Part of this Good Work! Become a Member or Donor!