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discover the nature of life

March 1, 2021

Dear Neighbor,

The Forest Preserves of Winnebago County will be conducting spring prescribed burning from now through the end of April. Fall prescribed burning will be conducted the beginning of October through the end of November. A prescribed burn is a management technique used by trained and experienced professionals to control unwanted vegetation. Burning is a very economical and efficient management tool in maintaining and preserving our natural plant communities. We have met all guidelines and training required by the State of Illinois Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) and possesses the required permits.

A prescribed burn is an intentional set fire used as a management tool too:

1. Recycle nutrients back into the soil.
2. Stimulate and promote native plant communities.
3. Reduce accumulation of forest debris.
4. Control unwanted plant species.
5. Promote seed production and viability.

Through the use of prescribe burning we can restore, preserve and better manage our beautiful forests and prairies.

If anyone receiving this letter has medical issues, and or any other concerns regarding prescribed burning please contact me in advanced so we can address those concerns. Our website will also have notifications of when and where we are burning each day.

To better notify and communicate with our neighbors and users if you go to our website at [www.winnebagoforest.org](http://www.winnebagoforest.org) and give us your contact information we can send you emails of management activities being conducted. Your information will not be shared with anyone else and is only used to inform you of forest preserve management activities.

Thank you for you cooperation. If you have any questions please feel free to contact me at 815-877-6464 x12671 or call our office at 815-877-6100. You may also contact us through our website.

Michael Groves  
Natural Resource Manager