

# ***Our Changing Ecosystems Restoration, Climate Change, and Biodiversity, grades 6–8***

## **PROGRAM OBJECTIVES**

- Students will learn how ecological restoration increases biodiversity in managed ecosystems and how climate change influences our restoration practices.
- If a long day component is added, students will participate in the practice of land care management.

## **PROGRAM DETAILS**

**Length:** 1.5–4 hours

**Grade level:** 6–8

**Season:** All

**Student to naturalist ratio:** 15:1

## **PROGRAM ACTIVITIES**

- Collect ecosystem data to understand community dynamics.
- Compare restored to non-restored land.
- Observe consequences of climate change on natural landscapes.
- Observe and discuss human interactions and relationships to the land.
- Analyze Arboretum phenological records, past and present.
- Create a systems map, identifying how parts of the system are connected.
- Remove invasive species, collect seeds, and/or seed a site (longer day component).

## **STANDARDS ADDRESSED**

[Wisconsin Standards for Environmental Literacy and Sustainability](#)

ELS.EX2.B.m

ELS.EX3.B.m Examine the relationships among resource use, environmental quality, and human health and well-being.

ELS.EX5.B.m

ELS.EN7.C.m

[Wisconsin Standards for Science](#)

SCI.LS2.C.m

SCI.LS2.D.m

[Next Generation Science Standards](#)

MS-LS2-4