Our Changing Ecosystems
Restoration, Climate Change, and Biodiversity,
grades 9–12

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: 9–12
Season: All
Student to naturalist ratio: 15:1

PROGRAM ACTIVITIES

• Collect and research ecosystem data to understand community dynamics.
• Compare restored to non-restored lands.
• Observe consequences of climate change on natural systems.
• Discuss scenarios in which weather changes can change the landscape.
• 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 (long day component).

STANDARDS ADDRESSED

Wisconsin Standards for Environmental Literacy and Sustainability
ELS.EX2.B.h
ELS.EX3.B.h
ELS.EX5.B.h
ELS.EN7.C.h
Wisconsin Standards for Science
SCI.LS2.C.h
Next Generation Science Standards
HS-LS2-6