

# Welcome to Riveredge Nature Center!

## 2024 Symposium Sponsors



Dennis Miller Lakeshore Chinooks

Great Waters Group Sierra Club

Southeastern Wisconsin Trout Unlimited

## Schedule of Day

8:00 am – 8:30 am	Registration, Poster Set-Up (Visitor Center)
8:30 am – 8:55 am	Opening Remarks & Orientation (Barn)
9:00 am – 9:45 am	Student Presentations, Session I <i>15 minutes each, see next page for details</i>
9:45 am – 9:50 am	Break
9:50 am – 10:35 am	Student Presentations, Session II <i>15 minutes each, see next page for details</i>
10:35 am – 10:40 am	Break
10:40 am – 11:15 am	Student Presentations, Session III <i>15 minutes each, see next page for details</i>
11:15 am – 12:00 pm	Lunch (Barn)
12:00 pm – 1:00 pm	Keynote – Dr. Gary Casper (Visitor Center)
1:00 pm – 2:30 pm	Student Poster Session (Visitor Center) <i>Please see back page of program for details</i>
1:15 pm – 2:15 pm	Guided Hikes (Depart from Visitor Center) <i>Hikes begin at 1:15 and 1:45pm</i>
3:00 pm – 3:30 pm	Awards (Barn)

## Presentation Times and Topics

Session I: 9:00 am – 9:45 am

15 minutes per presentation

**Thermal, Spatial, and Foraging Ecology in Eastern Garter Snakes**

Angela Mish, UW-Milwaukee (graduate)

**Investigating The Function of teosinte branched1 and grassy tillers1  
in Tillering Regulation of Sorghum**

Loghan Holland, UW-Madison (undergraduate)

**Hidden signals: Tiny Bugs and Big Repertoires**

Drew Little, UW-Milwaukee (graduate)

Session II: 9:50 am – 10:35 am

15 minutes per presentation

**On the Function of Male Genitalia in Sepsis Flies: Evolutionary  
Insights from Behavioral Detail**

Hossein Asgari, UW-Milwaukee (graduate)

**How Animal Behavior Proves The Naturalness of Homosexuality**

Finley Peller, UW-Milwaukee (undergraduate)

**Polystyrene Nanoplastics Elicit Morphological Perturbations at  
Sublethal Concentrations in Rainbow Trout Gill Epithelia**

Lissett Diaz, UW-Milwaukee (graduate)

Session III: 10:40 am – 11:15 am

15 minutes per presentation

**Ecofeminism, Performativity, and Teacher Education at the  
Early Childhood Level**

Jana Schwai, UW-Milwaukee (graduate)

**Saving the World, One Layer at a Time**

Nailah Jones, Lakeland University (undergraduate)

**Life in the Pitcher: Prey Decomposition and Depletion of Dissolved Oxygen in *Sarracenia purpurea***  
Emmanuel Divinagracia, UW-Milwaukee (graduate)

**Population Connectivity and the Occurrence of Emerging Oral Disease in Sharp-shinned Hawks (*Accipiter striatus*)**  
Danny Erickson, UW-Green Bay (graduate)

**Silicon Growth Dependence of *Synechococcus elongatus***  
Temitope Temenu, UW-Milwaukee (graduate)

**Analyzing Populus Associated Microbial Community Changes across Natural Environmental Stress Gradients**  
Justus Smith, UW-Madison (graduate)

**Patterns of Crayfish Autotomy in Relation to Body Size and Species at Four Locations in Southeastern Wisconsin**  
Emmie Elliot Leservoisier, Carroll University (undergraduate)

**How does a Textured T-maze Arm Impact Escape Performance of Healthy and Parasitized Amphipods?**  
Sophia Ruppell, Carroll University (undergraduate)

**Impacts of an Invader on Sediment Flux and Chemistry in a North-Temperate Lake**  
Aletta Bergman, UW-Madison (undergraduate)

**Antibiotic Bacteria Presence in Houseplant Soil**  
Brittany Webber, UW-Green Bay (undergraduate)

***Heliophora pulchella* Intraspecific Comparative Micromorphology**  
Jonathan Martin, UW-Madison (undergraduate)

**A Global Analysis of the Impacts of Free-ranging Dogs on Native Wildlife**  
Ally Cobern, Auburn University (undergraduate)

**Assessment of Riveredge Nature Center's Farm Pond**  
Colin Staley, UW-Stevens Point (undergraduate)



### Featured Keynote

## Adventures in Studying the Diversity of Life

**Dr. Gary S. Casper**

Director of Biodiversity Programs, Mequon Nature Preserve



Dr. Gary S. Casper was involved with the initial creation of the Mequon Nature Preserve (MNP) through the Ozaukee Washington Land Trust, and continues to direct wildlife studies at MNP. He has over 40 years' experience in

wildlife ecology and biodiversity studies. After twenty years at the Milwaukee Public Museum, he continues to focus on wildlife conservation in the western Great Lakes region through the UWM Field Station, Great Lakes Ecological Services, and local land trusts. Gary has over 100 publications; his latest book is *Field Guide to the Amphibian Eggs and Larvae of the Western Great Lakes*.