

Greetings-

I am writing to express my support for allowing the Mt. Pleasant cemetery in Primrose to be kept and nourished as a prairie remnant. This is an important natural heritage. It is respectful to the veterans and others that are buried in the Mt. Pleasant cemetery to envision the site as a native Wisconsin home for plants and pollinators.

“There’s something magical about being at those places. You start thinking about how long it’s been there, about the history of that place. Remnant prairies have a way of bringing us back, of reminding us where we are.”

The intrinsic value of treating the cemetery as a natural area adds to its significance and history. It does not disrespect it. It could also provide an important seed source for additional prairie restoration projects in Primrose.

If money is saved on mowing, perhaps those funds could be reappropriated for an informational sign about prairie restoration so that there is a context provided to visitors.

From Prairie Botanist blog: “Much of the problem is that the public doesn’t register the differences between an old field and a prairie or an oak woods and a buckthorn thicket. They live in a world where green is green, gray is gray, and brown is brown...a world that is mostly seen out the window or through a screen. Others of us live in a degraded landscape, where through determination and effort one might still find the odd hidden treasure. More of the broader public needs to share in that experience. How that happens in contemporary society is tricky, because it is a matter of perception rather than a matter of providing directions to a location. As the first step and at the very least, we can strive to ensure that remnant natural areas continue to exist, so there remains hope.”

Thank you for allowing the cemetery to be a safe, protected resting place for our natural world.

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