

The University of Wisconsin-Madison Arboretum

# Restoration & Management Notes

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The time has come for science to busy itself with the earth itself. The first step is to reconstruct a sample of what we had to start with.

Aldo Leopold at the dedication of  
the University of Wisconsin  
Arboretum, June 17, 1934

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**Cover:**

Civilian Conservation Corps workers break ground in the early stages of prairie restoration at the University of Wisconsin Arboretum, November 5, 1935. This apparently was the first large-scale attempt anywhere to restore a tallgrass prairie, and may well have been among the first attempts to restore a high quality ecosystem of any kind for scientific and esthetic purposes. The result was creation of the 24-ha John Curtis Prairie, centerpiece of the Arboretum's extensive collection of restored plant and animal communities described in a fifty year retrospective beginning on page 4.