



2023 National Conference: The Olmsteds in Wisconsin

Celebrate our national awardees, meet “Big Head Fred” and explore the history and contemporary challenges of Olmsted parks and places in Milwaukee and Lake Geneva.

WHAT: The Olmsted Network is heading to Wisconsin for its annual conference. The conference will include expert lectures, locally led tours and photo opportunities with the [iconic 7-foot-tall Big Head Fred](#). While in town, the Olmsted Network will also host an [awards dinner to recognize park groups and Olmsted advocates](#) from Milwaukee, Chicago, Riverside and across the country.

WHO: Local and national speakers include Virginia Small, Michael Carriere, Brad Bernard, Emma Rudd, Patricia O’Donnell, Supervisor Peter Burgelis, Milwaukee County Parks Deputy Director Jim Tarantino, Anne Hamilton, John Schmid, Rebecca Stoner, Dennis Kois, Julia Bachrach, Roy Diblik, Jens Jensen and more.

WHEN: The event will take place from September 20-22, 2023. **Annotated agenda attached.**

WHERE: Conference locations include Milwaukee and Lake Geneva. In Milwaukee, we’ll tour Lake Park, Washington Park, Riverside Park and Newburry Boulevard. In Lake Geneva, we’ll see the iconic Yerkes Observatory— home of astrophysics— and [“House in the Woods”](#), an Olmsted residential property.

WHY: Since Olmsted’s bicentennial celebration in 2022, Milwaukee and Lake Geneva have witnessed a resurgence of community interest in nearby Olmsted parks and places. This conference will provide insight into the rich history of these landscapes and what it takes to preserve, protect and steward them.

HOW: Further inquiries can be directed to Victoria Vanhuss, Communications Manager, Olmsted Network: vvanhuss@olmsted.org or (478) 501-0613.

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The Olmsted Network (formerly the National Association for Olmsted Parks) is the only organization in the country dedicated to protecting, preserving and championing Olmsted parks, places and principles. Its network of parks and places is international and includes the Emerald Necklace Conservancy, Biltmore Estate, Bok Tower Gardens, Olmsted Linear Park Alliance, the Midway Plaisance Park Advisory Council, Birkenhead Park and more.