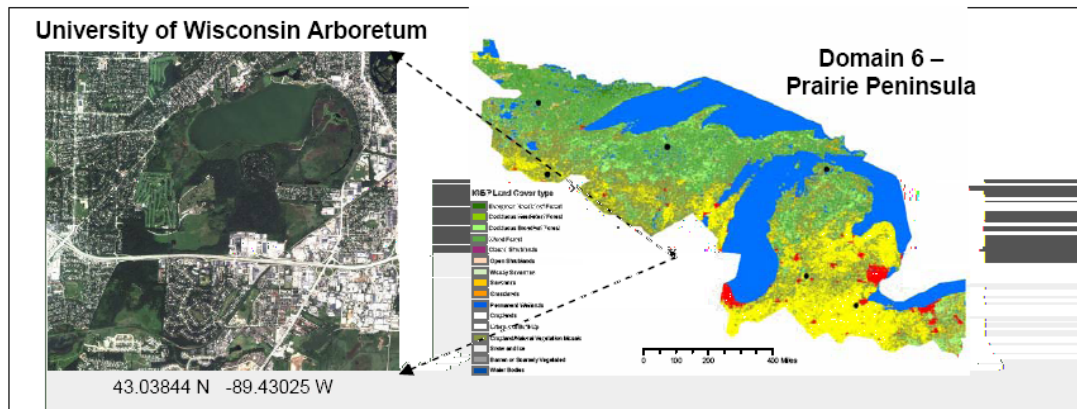


University of Wisconsin Arboretum (UWA)

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Web page: <http://www.uwarboretum.org/>

Location within Domain:



History: Established in 1930s for research and teaching on ecological restoration (see <http://www.uwarboretum.org/about/history/>), the UWA now contains the oldest and most varied collection of restored ecological communities in the world. The UWA lies in the Lake Wingra watershed, a core watershed of NSF's North Temperate Lakes Long-Term Ecological Research site, used for diverse hydrological, biogeochemical, ecological and social-ecological research projects (<http://lter.limnology.wisc.edu>).

Key Characteristics: UWA contains diverse habitats representative of the Prairie Peninsula and Great Lakes domains (5 and 6), including tallgrass prairie, oak savanna, dry and mesic deciduous forest, conifer forest, wetlands, springs, streams and Lake Wingra. The 510-ha UWA is embedded in the city of Madison, Wisconsin and is adjoined by urban and suburban lands. Existing resources can help address research themes of climate, land use and invasive species. Elevation range 258-311 m, precip 83.5 cm/y, mean daily temperatures -8.0 and 22.1°C in January and July, respectively.

Existing Infrastructure: National Weather Service meteorological station; routine monitoring of springs and groundwater; long-term data on Lake Wingra and nearby lakes; aerial photographs since 1937, 30 dates of Landsat imagery since 1984, new MODIS images from Terra and Aqua collected daily; Citizen Lake Monitoring Network (water quality data since 1986); most data online and accessible. UWA is supported by the public through Friends of the Arboretum and collaborates with a citizen's watershed association (Friends of Lake Wingra). Used by undergraduate and graduate classes, UWA also offers many other educational programs including classes for the general public, volunteer programs for public participation in restoration activity, Earth Partnerships for K-12 schools and families, Earth Focus Day Camp, and diverse tours for schools, organizations or gardeners.

Facilities: Six buildings on-site support offices, meeting rooms, greenhouse, laboratory, maintenance, repair, and storage; 22 FTE; modern utilities including high-speed internet. Year-round road access to buildings; gated fire lanes provide access to field sites. Fenced; open to the public, security provided by UWA Rangers and U.W. Security Dept. UWA is 4 km from the main campus of UW-Madison which provides extensive modern laboratories, cyberinfrastructure, and logistical support. Madison provides ready access to housing, businesses and an airport.