

Lisa Carlson

In the spring of 2015, Lisa Carlson's friend suggested that she contact Lake Forest Open Lands to learn about volunteering opportunities. Until this point, Lisa's relationship with Lake Forest Open Lands had been one of an observer. Having lived most of her life in Lake Forest, she was familiar with a couple of LFOLA's nature preserves but she was unaware of the robust programming and outreach that LFOLA provided.



Lisa began volunteering by distributing event posters to businesses throughout the community. Lisa's enthusiasm and eagerness to promote LFOLA's events spilled over to her social media posts and she readily shared LFOLA news with her church community and at her day job located on Market Square. It wasn't uncommon to see new visitors in LFOLA's preserves or to see new members attend events thanks to Lisa's welcoming and inclusive nature. Her volunteer role could pivot from stuffing and stamping hundreds of letters to manning the checkout desk at the spring and fall native plant sales in warm weather or even, in snowy blustery conditions. Regardless of the assignment, Lisa arrives early with a smile and happily assists wherever she is needed. Lisa's volunteer help has been key to many successful events, especially *Bagpipes & Bonfire*. She adds smart thoughtful feedback and never asks for accolades or recognition. The steadfast dedication, commitment and kindness she has shown to LFOLA has been greatly appreciated by all.

