

WLCAMM Day of Service Press Release

WLCA Day of Service to Build Outdoor Classroom and Butterfly Garden for Magee Elementary School

Genesee Depot, WI — April 22, 2025 — In a powerful display of community collaboration and environmental stewardship, members of the Wisconsin Landscape Contractors Association – Metro Milwaukee Chapter (WLCA) will come together for their annual Day of Service to transform the grounds of Magee Elementary School into a vibrant learning environment—complete with an outdoor classroom and a pollinator-friendly butterfly garden.

On October 1, 2025, volunteers from WLCA member-companies from across the region will donate their time, tools, materials, and talent to create a space where students can learn, grow, and connect with nature. The project will include the construction of an outdoor classroom surrounded by pollinator-friendly plants, stone paths, and countless spaces for students to discover the natural world.

The new outdoor classroom will provide Magee Elementary teachers with a flexible, nature-based setting for lessons in science, art, reading, and more. The adjoining butterfly garden will feature Wisconsin-native plants selected specifically to attract monarchs, swallowtails, and other native pollinators, offering students hands-on learning opportunities about ecosystems and biodiversity.

“Beyond its scientific and ecological benefits, the butterfly garden will continue to create a serene and inspiring space for students to engage in sensory learning, observance, and artistic expression,” said Dr. Justin Nies, Principal of Magee Elementary School.

The WLCA Day of Service is an annual initiative where professional landscapers across Southeastern Wisconsin volunteer to give back to their communities through meaningful outdoor projects. This year’s collaboration with Magee Elementary reflects WLCA’s mission to promote environmental education, sustainable landscapes, and the power of community partnerships.

To learn more about the Outdoor Classroom and Butterfly Garden Design, Contact Paul Heding (Landscape Designer at Piala’s Nursery and Garden Shop, Inc.) - paul@pialasnursery.com.

About WLCA

The Wisconsin Landscape Contractors Association is a statewide organization dedicated to advancing the landscape industry through education, advocacy, and community service. Through initiatives like the Day of Service, WLCA members demonstrate their commitment to beautifying and enriching the places where we live, learn, and grow.