



From Weeds to Wild Flowers On Gobbler Ridge

A Power point presentation by Tim Eisele

Tim Eisele, freelance outdoor writer/photographer from Madison, shows how he and his wife, Linda, restored prairie on their land in Crawford County.

The Eiseles own 100 acres in the Town of Seneca in Crawford County, about one mile east of the Mississippi River. This part of the state, known as the Driftless Region, was not covered by glaciers during the most recent Ice Age, and is characterized with steep ridges, wooded hillsides and deep valleys.

At one time the land had been a cornfield and prior to Eiseles' ownership was cool season grasses, goldenrod and shrubs, but now is restored to prairie. The goal was to restore warm season grasses, forbs and increase the bio-diversity of the land.

This 45-minute PowerPoint presentation, uses photographs to show what the land was like originally when the Eiseles purchased it in 1990, how the vegetation was changing and the process of spraying with Roundup, a controlled burn and disking the soil. The seed was then hand



sowed, and the results are shown in color photos with many close-up photos of flowers and grasses. Viewers will see the required upkeep along with the insects, birds and wildlife that use the prairie.



In 2005, Tim and Linda Eisele were selected for the Wisconsin Chapter of the National Wild Turkey Federation's Wild Turkey Woodland Owners of the Year Award, and in 2011 they received the Forestry Award from the Crawford County Land Conservation Department. In 2011, Tim received the Madison Audubon Society's James Zimmerman Award for Excellence in Environmental Communication.

Sit back and enjoy these unique color photos of Gobbler Ridge. For information, contact Tim Eisele, 129 South Segoe Road, Madison, Wisconsin 53705; telephone (608) 233-2904 or teisele@chorus.net.