

# Sanctuary celebrates Arbor Day in big way at restoration Project

NORTHWEST HERALD

WOODSTOCK – Arbor Day began early at The Sanctuary of Bull Valley.

The National Arbor Day Foundation recognized the 200-acre subdivision developer in 2003 for tree protection and restoration policies.

Recently planted species include maple, ash, basswood, and butternut hickory.

Developers Jack Porter and Knickerbocker Properties worked with local, state, and federal agencies and environmental groups to develop an environmental plan for conservation reasons.

Rebuilding native woodlands is one part of the ecological restoration and management plan.

It began in the fall of 2002 with the thinning and removal of non-native and weedy vegetation to allow enough space and light for native trees to grow.

An historic oak savanna dominates the site and will be restored with a canopy of burr, red, and white oak (the Illinois state tree) in spring 2005.

“The Sanctuary relies on traditional and environmental fundamentals, and we are committed to moving forward wisely,” Porter said. “The result will be a truly eco-friendly community for people who are interested in taking care of the land.”

The Sanctuary includes a number of environment considerations.

Grass swales replace curbs and gutters, improving groundwater filtration and runoff quality. Roads and building pads are carefully placed to maintain mature trees and open vistas.

Architectural and environmental standards allow owners to design and build their own unique homes



Photo provided

Jack Porter of Knickerbocker Properties, Woodstock, wants to preserve as many mature trees as possible at the Sanctuary of Bull Valley subdivision. He is also planting maple, ash, basswood and butternut hickory.

while ensuring protection of the area's natural habitats and resources.

There are 105 home sites planned for the 200 acres are under development. Lot prices start in the low \$100,000s. Sewer and water

service are provided by Woodstock.

For information, visit [www.sanctuaryofbv.com](http://www.sanctuaryofbv.com).

Knickerbocker Properties is a subsidiary of Wells Manufacturing Co. of Woodstock.