We are sad to say goodbye to Haley Briel! As the first-ever Outreach Coordinator for the Goodall Center, part of the Thinking Like a River initiative funded by the MAC Foundation, Haley started with a blank slate and filled it with wonderful and imaginative activities.

Haley established relationships with local schools, hosting their field trips to the Center with curricular activities that she designed to meet their needs. She created all kinds of events to bring families to the Center, embedding environmental education into every opportunity -- including an amazing annual Halloween event. For the general public, she found creative ways to draw a variety of people to the Center – a hammock-a-thon, drum circles, and a photo contest, for example, working with students to make it all happen.

Haley adapted curricular materials to fit our Piedmont environment, and made that information publicly available on our Thinking Like a River website. She kept the kiosk at Glendale Shoals bright and exciting with the plant and animal of the month. Haley also worked with a one of our TLAR Community Fellows, Peyton Howell, to develop a week-long after-school camp focused on environmental education. Haley hosted a variety of groups visiting the Center including leadership development groups, gardening clubs, and conservation organizations.

While generating this swirling activity, Haley maximized her personal development. She made time to develop her field skills with Dr. Rayner, and to deepen her understanding of environmental policy with Dr. Brewitt. She also took great advantage of Interim opportunities -- assisting on Dr. Kusher’s trip to Bonaire and on Drs. Thurmond and Rayner’s trip to the Okefenokee Swamp and Everglades. Haley’s personal experiment in local eating led her to discover both pleasures and challenges as she met a variety of local farmers and food suppliers, and blogged about her experiences.

Haley, we will miss you! You’ve brought ideas we had never imagined, and laid the groundwork for the future. We are deeply grateful and wish you all the best in your studies of Urban and Regional Planning at the University of Wisconsin, and whatever follows.
Congratulations to our ENVS Majors & Minors

Class of 2015
Lizzie Bishop
Hunter Bradshaw
Michael Comer
Jillian Cothran
Rags Coxe
James Daly
Madison Daly
Lauren Dunbar
Michelle Green
Jessica Jones
Jackson Keith
Sara Frances Koontz
Hunter McGahee
Savannah Paige Murray
Taylor Neal
Sam Parrott
Jordan Pope
Hayden Raabe
Elizabeth Rhee
Jacob Strehl
Prescott Tweedy
Chris Underwood