# Landing S Journal of the Door County Land Trust





# Protect the lands you love... forever.

Our commitment to protecting Door County's exceptional lands and waters is forever.

You can help protect the land you love by making a gift that will last forever.

Make a gift through your will, trust, retirement accounts, or life insurance



#### The Legacy Circle

When you inform the Door County Land Trust of your intent to make a planned gift, you will be welcomed into the Legacy Circle, a group of benefactors who have indicated that the Land Trust has been included in their estate plans.

For more information, contact Development Director Cinnamon Rossman or Executive Director Tom Clay at giving@doorcountylandtrust.org or (920)746-1359.

DoorCountyLandTrust.org/PlannedGiving



# **Door County Land Trust**

Protecting Door County's Exceptional Lands and Waters...Forever



The Staff of the Door County Land Trust From left: Drew Reinke, Tom Clay, Mary Van Dyke, Cinnamon Rossman, Julie Schartner, Amy Dwyer, Amanda Pyke, Terrie Cooper, Jesse Koyen, and Kristi Rice.

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#### A YEAR OF DISCOVERY AHEAD

Dear Friends,

I wonder how many of us sip our morning coffee and consider our relationship with nature. If you strategically place copies of Aldo Leopold's A Sand County Almanac around your home (bedside and kitchen table for starters), you may well begin thinking about what keeps you warm on frozen winter mornings or why geese arrive in March carrying "the conviction of a prophet who has burned his bridges."

This year, the world celebrates the 70th anniversary of the publication of A Sand County Almanac. And here at Door County Land Trust, our work follows in the spirit of Leopold's land conservation ethic, "That land is a community is the basic concept of ecology, but that land is to be loved and respected is an extension of ethics."

Acting on our ethics every day could change the world—beginning with the lands and waters we know personally—our beloved Door County.

Land Trust staff has declared this the 'Year of Discovery' in anticipation of new research and work that will set the stage for stronger conservation. But, the theme carries through all our work, and extends into the community as an invitation to **join us on the journey to discovery**.

Within these pages, you'll find ways that you can bring your land ethic to life—show your love and respect for our lands and waters by putting your land ethic in action. Discover your citizen science niche. Discover the conservation value of your land. Discover the value of your membership contribution. Discover your legacy...and pass it on to the next generation.

Join us on this exciting journey. And, let's work together—as a community of plants, animals, and people dependent on healthy soils and clean waters—to bring our land ethic to life.

Yours in conservation,

Tom Clay
Executive Director



Aldo Leopold near his Baraboo shack in 1946



Not only are the bright chirps from the spring peeper an early indicator of warmer weather, they are also an indicator of the health of our lands and our community—the audible extension of our ethics in action. As Aldo Leopold wrote, "...land is a community..." As all of us—you and the Land Trust—work together, we ensure all life thrives on the greater peninsula, our islands, and our waters.

# THE KNOWLES-NELSON STEWARDSHIP PROGRAM



# Knowles-Nelson is for Wisconsin's water, wildlife, and our way of life.

The Wisconsin Legislature created the Knowles-Nelson Stewardship Program (KNSP) in 1989 to preserve valuable natural areas and wildlife habitat, protect water quality and fisheries, and expand opportunities for outdoor recreation. Since the inception of the fund, Door County Land Trust has received funding to protect more than 3,800 acres.



Grand View Scenic Overlook and Park

# The Knowles-Nelson Stewardship Program has helped Door County Land Trust protect 3,884 acres. Other conservation organizations have used the fund to protect an additional 4,548 acres. See Chambers Island projects 1-5 on the next page. **Door County Land Trust** Nature Preserves Natural areas, county and town parks, and other lands protected with KNSP funds

#### The fund has helped to protect Door County's most special places...

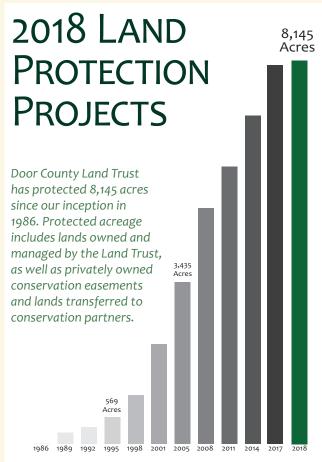
Ahnapee Trail, Baileys Harbor Boreal Forest, Baileys Harbor Marina, Brussels Town Park, Brussels Town Picnic Area, Cana Island Park, Cave Point County Park, Door County Fair Park, Egg Harbor View Park, Ellison Bluff County Park, Ephraim Village Wetland Park, Garrett Bay Town Park, Grand View Scenic Overlook and Park, Jacksonport Lakeside Park, LaSalle Park, Meridian Park, Mink River Estuary, Murphy Park, North Bay Natural Area, Otumba Beach, Shivering Sands Natural Area, Sister Bay Waterfront Park, Sturgeon Bay Festival Waterfront Park, and many more!

#### Help Renew the Knowles-Nelson Stewardship Program

The governor and state legislature must act to renew and strengthen the Knowles-Nelson Stewardship Program in their 2019 budget or the fund will soon expire. Now is the time to act! Please ask your legislators to renew this important program. Wisconsin residents—just like you—can ensure that we have the tools to care for Wisconsin's land, water, wildlife, and way of life by advocating to protect the Knowles-Nelson Stewardship Program. Our partners at Gathering Waters: Wisconsin's Alliance for Land Trusts invite you to join Team Knowles-Nelson today. Visit teamknowlesnelson.org for more information.









Lake Mackaysee Islands, Chambers Island
Nature Preserve The two islands, just over two
acres, protect critical habitat for migratory birds, and
have played host to nesting bald eagles for many years.

Door County Land Trust thanks the Town of Gibraltar for their partnership to protect these islands.

Northern Mesic Forest, Chambers Island
Nature Preserve \* 35-acre purchase of high
priority wildlife habitat and forested uplands
adjacent to protected lands in the northern area of the
nature preserve.

3-4 Hemlock Forest and Muskeg Bog, Chambers Island Nature Preserve \*

50-acre addition includes a hemlock forested property adjacent to the north end of the nature preserve and a key parcel adjacent to the southeastern section of the leather-leaf muskeg bog.

Northern Mesic and Hemlock Forest, Chambers Island Nature Preserve

9-acre donation of land near the western shore of the island connects two larger areas of the nature preserve and is known to be a nesting area for bald eagles.

\* Protected in part with funds provided by the Environmental Protection Agency's Great Lakes Great Lakes RESTORATION

# Vision Becomes Reality at Chambers Island Nature Preserve

With the five new additions at the Chambers Island Nature Preserve completed in 2018 and approximately 100 acres planned for protection in the coming year, almost all of the island's most important areas of interior forest and inland lakes are protected.

The Chambers Island Nature Preserve began with conversations among island landowners about the future of their beloved island. Their concern was the possibility of division and development as land was passed along from one generation to the next. In 2013 these conversations led to a shared vision among islanders and the Door County Land Trust to create a nature preserve on Chambers Island in order to 'Save—Sustain—Study.' The work toward these ends has been significant, and the Door County Land Trust is proud to partner with a group of individuals who have such a strong conviction to protect the lands they love.

**Save** Over the past year, 96 acres were protected, bringing the nature preserve to 690 acres. Key wildlife habitats have been protected, including significant areas of contiguous forest, Door County's only leather-leaf muskeg bog, portions of Lake Mackaysee shoreline, and its two interior islands. Islanders have played a lead role in raising the private funds necessary for the preserve, far exceeding other projects which rely more heavily on grant funding. Just over 62% of the total cost of the acquisition has been donated or pledged by islanders to date! State and Federal grants have funded the remaining 38%.

**Sustain** Following the initial land protection, efforts shift towards the long-term care of the lands. The vision to sustain the Chambers Island Nature Preserve includes caring for the island's unique plant and wildlife communities to promote healthy land and water. Sustainable forest management, detecting and eradicating invasive species, and protecting sensitive habitats like the muskeg bog, inland lake, and contiguous forest canopy, ensures a natural balance on the island to sustain native plants and wildlife. Last fall, the Land Trust continued the work of islander Debbie Feirer to remove *Phragmites* along the shoreline of Lake Mackaysee with financial assistance from USFWS Partner Grant and Cellcom Green Gifts Grant.

**Study** Inspired by their love of nature, landowners are actively collecting, recording and contributing to the study of the island. Islanders helped coordinate and host a four-day BioBlitz during the summer of 2018 to document the plant and animal species of the island, adding to the wealth of scientific information collected over the years. Islanders are leading multiple ongoing research projects, including photographic documentation of island bird, butterfly, and insect species, a study of island breeding birds, a small mammal study, and Monarch butterfly propagation.











# A YEAR OF DISCOVERY AHEAD

## Citizen Monitoring Projects Across Door County

Wisconsin's history with citizen science began with a single Wisconsin birdwatcher who participated in the Christmas Bird Count in 1900. The Wisconsin Citizen-Based Monitoring Network was born in 2004 to house the growing number of projects in the state. In celebration of their 15th anniversary, we invite you to become part of a citizen science project.

Learn how to count birds or monitor frogs and contribute to Door County's citizen science projects. Your help is essential for these projects that propel research and land protection. The data and information we can collect in Door County will tell the success story of our conservation efforts—and will show changing environmental factors including climate, invasive species, and water quality.

Contact us to become a part of Door County's skilled citizen scientist group so we all may learn from the land!



#### **Bat Roost Monitoring**

A single little brown bat can consume up to 1,000 mosquito sized insects in one hour! Three Springs Nature Preserve is home to a large colony of little brown bats-and it's no wonder! Wetlands at the nature preserve provide a plentiful diet for bat mothers and their young. The Wisconsin Bat Program is key to understanding the effects of White Nose Syndrome which has had a devastating impact on Wisconsin bat populations.



#### Wisconsin Frog and Toad Survey

A healthy frog and toad population is a sign of healthy wetlands, so declines in frog population can be an early indicator when something has gone wrong. Frog counts at Ephraim Preserve at Anderson Pond and Three **Springs Nature Preserve** are included with other statewide data. The study began in 1984—making this one of the longest running amphibian monitoring projects in North America.



# Sucker Migration Monitoring

Is climate change affecting the migration of spawning fish? Shedd Aquarium researcher Karen Murchie is coordinating efforts at sites around Lake Michigan to help answer the question. Heins Creek Nature **Preserve** is among three Door County sites in the study.



#### Wisconsin Breeding Bird Atlas II

**Chambers Island Nature** Preserve, Three Springs Nature Preserve, Bay Shore Blufflands Nature Preserve, Sturgeon Bay Ship Canal Nature Preserve, and the **Legacy Nature Preserve** at Clay Banks are four Door County sites to be included in this four-year, statewide study of nesting and breeding birds. Using a combination of observation data and point counts, the collected data track important regional trends.

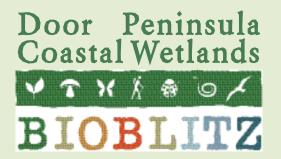


#### Pitcher's Dune Thistle Monitoring and Research

Chicago Botanic Garden tracks the federally threatened plant at a number of sites around the Great Lakes and has shown the **Sturgeon Bay Ship Canal Nature Preserve** is home to the healthiest population of the thistle at any of the sites they study. Researchers track the population, bloom time, and native pollinators at the site. The data tells the story of how this plant provides a critical food source for pollinators at a time when no other plants on the dunes are blooming. Without the thistles, dune pollinators are in jeopardy too.



#### **Discover Your Love of Science**



June 21, 2019

## Three Springs Nature Preserve

Conservation partners join together to research and inventory lands protected by University of Wisconsin-Green Bay at Toft Point, The Ridges Sanctuary, and the Door County Land Trust's **Three Springs Nature Preserve.** 

These lands are tied by common features: low-lying wetlands and cedar swamps, cool lake temperatures, and a remnant boreal forest that advanced with the cool micro-climate of slow-moving glaciers 10,000 years ago. The landscape is known as the *Door Peninsula Coastal Wetlands*—one of only 38 sites in the US designated by the Ramsar Convention of Wetlands of International Importance.

Volunteers are invited to participate in BioBlitz research! Become a scientist for a day and work alongside staff and researchers to document the species found here. The collected data will be used as a baseline for future studies, which may show changes over time. Visit doorcountylandtrust.org/BioBlitz

# Discover Your Land's Conservation Value

In our 'Year of Discovery' we invite you to discover your conservation vision and the potential of your land. Private landowners can partner with the Land Trust to protect their property with a conservation easement.

Conservation easements can protect a variety of lands, including wild places, undeveloped spaces, and even farmland. Conserving your land with Door County Land Trust may even have a charitable contribution benefit.

For more information, visit doorcountylandtrust.org/CE

# Discover Your Volunteer Niche

Volunteers contribute their unique time and talent to the Land Trust in so many ways! Contact us to find your niche. Here are just a few of the ways volunteers help make our work possible:

- Maintain trails, monitor invasive species, collect litter, and other outdoor work.
- Become a Hike Leader.
- Office work and mailings.
- Take photos or write stories about special projects.
- Host or volunteer for an event.
- Donate an item for our auctions.

Learn more at doorcountylandtrust.org/volunteer

# Celebrating Open Spaces and Wild Places

#### **Discover Your Door County Land Trust**

Join us for a hike or hands-on activity at a protected wild place and discover Door County lands anew. Staff, hike leaders, and guest experts lead explorations on a variety of themes, each with a balance of science, observations, and hands-on experiences. Details may be found on our website. Registration will begin May 29. Look for your booklet in the mail around mid-May.

- Explore the Door Guided hikes.
- Wild Adventures Science discovery activities.
- **Special Events** Unique events for a cause.
- **Dining for Open Spaces** Fundraising events. To be announced! Look for your booklet in the mail mid-May.

Date	Time	Day	2019 Highlight Events			
4/20	1-3pm	Sa	Earth Week Geology Walk			
4/27	7-8:30pm	Sa	Nature's Opera: Frog Chorus Hike			
5/4	9-11:30am	Sa	Water Discovery Adventure *			
5/11	9-11am	Sa	Spring Flowers at Gilson-Peterson			
5/16-19	All Day	Th-Sa	Washington Island Bird Festival			
5/18	9-11am	Sa	Birding at Ship Canal			
6/8	9-11am	Sa	Vernal Pond Aquatic Inventory *			
6/15	9-11am	Sa	Niagara Escarpment Geology Hike			
6/21	All Day	Fr	BioBlitz at Three Springs *			
7/26	All Day	Fr	Washington Island Land Tour			
8/17-18	All Day	Sa-Su	Annual Gathering Weekend Tours			
8/18	3-6pm	Su	Annual Gathering Event/Presentation			
9/20	9-11am	Fr	The Fungus Among Us Hike			
9/28	8:30-10:30p	Sa	Deep Sky Astronomy			
10/4	5:30-7pm	Fr	Sandhill Crane Migration			
10/12	1-3pm	Sa	Strawberry Creek Hatchery Tour			
12/14	1-3pm	Sa	Gibraltar-Ephraim Swamp Stomp			
• • • • • • • • •	* Participants will help collect data using highic indexes					

<sup>\*</sup> Participants will help collect data using biotic indexes.

# PROTECTING LAND AND WATER, PLANTS AND ANIMALS

#### Seven miles of water separate Chambers Island from the Door Peninsula. During the 1920s, real estate developers planned a golf resort with hundreds of cottages. After the stock market crash of 1929, the plan was abandoned, leaving the island wild and natural. The connected forest, the leather-leaf-muskeg, inland lake, and other features make it a high quality nesting

Protected Forests of Chambers Island Nature Preserve

and stop-over site for more than 172 documented bird species.

Door County Land Trust is protecting these forests as part of the growing Chambers Island Nature Preserve.

#### **How We Work**

Door County Land Trust's conservation success to date is nothing short of remarkable. More than 8,000 acres... protected. Habitat for countless plant and animal species. Wetlands, streams and groundwater. Iconic scenic views. Undeveloped open space. Contiguous forests. And, the sometimes overlooked reasons for land protection—family legacy, a landowner's vision for the land, a love of place.

To achieve lasting conservation results, the Land Trust relies on several land protection methods: land purchases, land donations, or conservation easement agreements with private landowners.

Together, these methods allow for the Door County Land Trust to build connected—protected—landscapes. A love of place may lead landowners to donate their land for protection, leaving a legacy for future generations to enjoy. A conservation easement may be the perfect way to permanently protect a landowner's vision and family legacy. Door County Land Trust may purchase land at appraised value, or in a bargain sale, to expand a nature preserve.

# **Laying the Foundation for Land Protection**

As an accredited land trust, Door County Land Trust follows best practices to ensure permanent protection. The process includes evaluating the conservation purposes of the land, recommending lands for protection by the Land Trust's Land Policy Committee, and a review and final approval by the Board of Directors. Considerations for securing grant funding, raising donations from members, and planning for the long-term care of the property help shape the process.

Launching a land protection project takes time, usually more than a year and often several years from beginning to end. Securing funding is a major factor that influences the project timeline—especially when factoring in deadlines and timetables for state and federal grant sources. A "typical" grant application may take over two months to prepare, and another six to nine months for notice of approval, rejection, or partial funding.

What's the good news in all this? Door County Land Trust has a long history of working on important land protection projects that align with the priorities of grant funders and has a proven track record of successfully completing these projects, one at a time, toward a larger vision of interconnected natural areas.

Several years ago, the Land Trust began laying the groundwork for new land acquisitions at Chambers Island, Gibraltar-Ephraim Swamp Natural Area and Washington Island's Big and Little Marsh State Natural Area. If all goes as planned, we look forward to being able to announce new acquisitions in the coming years.

#### Land Donated to Chambers Island Nature Preserve

Chambers Island is recognized by Door County conservation partners as a high priority wildlife habitat primarily because of the number of species of birds which migrate and nest on the island, forests, and wetlands. The Chambers Island Nature Preserve has expanded, thanks to generous land donations. A partial donation/bargain sale from Moss and Sharon Busch helped establish the preserve. In December 2018, Pete and Fawn Rogers, long-time summer residents on the island, made a wonderful gift of land at the Chambers Island Nature Preserve. Their 9-acre wooded parcel connects other protected lands within the contiguous interior forest on the island.

The Rogers and Busch families were among the islanders who began discussions about protecting the island in 2013. "The Door County Land Trust is a great organization for preserving land in its natural state for everyone to enjoy," says land donor Pete Rogers. "We're happy to see wild lands protected from development."

The Rogers and Busches have both helped to bring the nature preserve vision to reality. Pete and Moss both served on the Chambers Island Nature Preserve committee assisting with landowner outreach and Fawn served on the committee assisting with fundraising, events, and outreach activities. Door County Land Trust thanks the Busches and the Rogers for their gifts of land and their commitment to the nature preserve.

# Protecting Wildlife Corridors with Conservation Easements

Does the Door County Land Trust need to own all exceptional lands and waters in the county in order to protect them forever? No! The Land Trust can still conserve unique places without owning them. Conservation easements can protect the lands located between nature preserves. Partnering landowners can protect their property with a conservation easement, retaining their ownership of the property, and the Land Trust ensures the landowner's conservation vision is upheld... forever.

Door County Land Trust protects 72 conservation easements, ranging in size from a few acres to hundreds of acres and totaling more than 3,300 acres. During 2018, Conservation Easement Program Manager Drew Reinke began the work for several new properties to be protected, which strenthens the ecological value of other conservation easements.



Door County Land Trust nature preserves (green parcels on the map above), are enhanced by partnerships with conservation easement landowners (yellow parcels), and connect forest and wildlife corridors with lands protected by other conservation partners like The Nature Conservancy (red parcels).

# Land Protection Efforts Gaining Momentum at Gibraltar-Ephraim Swamp Natural Area

The Door County Land Trust's land protection efforts are gaining momentum at the Gibraltar-Ephraim Swamp Natural Area. During 2018 the Land Trust laid the groundwork to secure funding for future acquisitions. "Many people are surprised when we tell them an average land purchase takes longer than a year," said Land Program Director Julie Schartner.

The Land Trust currently owns 132 acres and protects another 25 acres through a conservation easement agreement within the Gibraltar Ephraim Swamp State Natural Area, and 2018 efforts will be rewarded with 120 more acres set to purchase in spring 2019. The project area focuses on the headwater wetlands in order to protect the water quality of Hidden Springs and Ephraim Creek that flow into Green Bay.

The spring purchase of 120 acres is supported through funding from two grants—the Environmental Protection Agency's Great Lakes Restoration Initiative and the State of Wisconsin Knowles-Nelson Stewardship Program.

"We've been working on these parcels since fall of 2017," said Schartner. "Securing funding can be a process. Grant applications were submitted in late 2017, and the tentative funding awards were just announced recently. Now we're finally preparing to close on the purchase. And in the meantime, we've identified other priority parcels in the neighborhood, and we've applied for grant funding for future purchases."

With a growing preserve and additional land purchases on the horizon, Door County Land Trust will continue to raise funds to further land protection efforts and for the long-term care of the Gibraltar-Ephraim Swamp Natural Area.

Landings, Journal of the Door County Land Trust—Spring 2019

#### **Bay Shore Blufflands Buckthorn Blast**

Stretching above the shores of Green Bay between Egg Harbor and Sturgeon Bay, the Bay Shore Blufflands Nature Preserve is known for its scenic views and variety of habitats for plants and animals. Windswept fields, towering pine forests, ephemeral wetlands and springs, and exposed Niagara Escarpment all contribute to the beauty of this special place.

The Bay Shore Blufflands Buckthorn Blast is a community conservation project to control invasive shrubs with two priorities: first, to inform and inspire neighbors to remove or replace invasive plants on their land, and second, to control invasive plants and restore habitat at the preserve.

Program y. Miles Scharles

Denice Hubbard (center) and Ken Hubbard (right) with Land Trust staff Cinnamon Rossman, Tom Clay, and Amanda Pyke. Ken and Denice Hubbard, longtime supporters of the Land Trust and members of the Bay Shore Property Owners Association (BSPOA) helped conceive the project and built support for the effort. Working in partnership with the Bay Shore Property Owner's Association and other neighbors, significant progress has been made to remove invasive shrubs including buckthorn, honeysuckle, autumn olive and others from the nature preserve. During the June 2018 kick-off event, Land Trust staff and Door County Invasive Species Team coordinator Karilagenow demonstrated plant identification and

Hagenow demonstrated plant identification and control techniques to participants who pledged to remove the invasives at their property.

Tom Clay, and Amanda Pyke. Capitalizing on the progress made in previous years, the Land Trust partnered with BSPOA volunteers and professional contractors to improve 232 acres of plant and animal habitat. Annual support from the Bay Shore Property Owners Association, the Land Trust's Stewardship Endowment Fund, Door Stewardship Alliance, and other private donations have helped fund the first round of invasive species treatment. As the Buckthorn Blast continues, the Land Trust will encourage neighbors to support the effort by working on their private property, volunteering at the nature preserve, and contributing funds to support the effort.

With the support of BSPOA and conservation champions like neighbors Ken and Denice Hubbard, restoration of the greater neighborhood is possible.



## Forest for the People

The largest parcel of undeveloped land on Washington Island, the Richter Community Forest Nature Preserve, features a diverse mix of northern hardwoods, numerous tip-up mounds (uprooted trees), bedrock ridges, and an abundance of spring wildflowers. In 2001, Arni Richter donated the 160-acre forest so the community could enjoy the trails and use the forest as an outdoor classroom. To honor Arni Richter's vision for the forest, the Land Trust continues occasional timber harvests to promote species diversity.

Before timber harvests occurred, Land Trust staff and volunteers worked to remove an incredibly tough invasive plant—garlic mustard. Easily spread and difficult to remove, garlic mustard seeds would contaminate the equipment and spread quickly to new areas if not treated first, out-competing the native plants for necessary resources. The first step for a successful winter timber harvest is to stop the spread of garlic mustard and prepare the preserve for forest activity.

In 2018 Land Trust staff and volunteers gathered to tackle this tough invasive, working in the field all day. Volunteers hand-pulled twenty-one bags of garlic mustard from the forest, readying the preserve for future forest management activities. Ultimately, stopping the spread of invasive garlic mustard and opening the forest floor will allow for new native seeds to sprout and saplings to grow. Arni's original vision—a forest for the community to experience and learn from—lives on at the Richter Community Forest Nature Preserve.



Stewardship volunteers removed nearly half a ton of garlic mustard from the forest understory. helping to stop the spread of the invasive plant. From left, Land Protection and Stewardship Specialist Jesse Koyen, Judy Samida, Bonnie Burnham, Bobbie Doerr, and Mike Berger.











## Winning the Battle on Multiple Fronts

In 2015 the Door County Land Trust began an intensive, largescale effort to remove invasive species from 399 acres at the Sturgeon Bay Ship Canal Nature Preserve. Monumental in its acreage, four-year time span, and financial commitment, the completion of this project in 2018 signifies a victory in habitat restoration at the nature preserve and a major milestone in Door County Land Trust history. It is the largest restoration project completed by the Land Trust to date.

Ship Canal Nature Preserve is bounded on the east side by nearly a thousand feet of sandy Lake Michigan shoreline. The preserve contains Strawberry Creek, the largest and most important Chinook salmon egg collection and fingerling stocking site in Wisconsin. A ridge swale complex, sand dunes, and wetlands can all be found within the preserve. The variety of landscape features hosts an array of threatened plant and animal species. One of the largest populations of federally-listed threatened Pitcher's dune thistle thrives at the preserve along with the federally-listed threatened dwarf lake iris, state-listed threatened dune goldenrod, and state-listed special concern Mingan's moonwort fern. Unfortunately, invasive plants were often out-competing native plants. With woody shrubs such as honeysuckle and buckthorn invading forests, spotted knapweed on the dunes, and invasive plants like reed canary grass, purple loosestrife, and Phragmites creeping into the wetlands, the Land Trust launched a battle on multiple fronts.

Since beginning the restoration efforts, native plants like the threatened Pitcher's dune thistle are now flourishing. Other native plants, like Canada blue grass, Canada yew, and spring ephemeral wildflowers such as trillium and Hepatica, are beginning to grow. This will help to reestablish a healthy and diverse ecosystem over time.

Funding for the initial 3-year phase of the project was provided by a North American Wetland Conservation Act (NAWCA) grant and an additional year was funded through the US Fish and Wildlife Service Partner Program Grant. As the preserve enters a phase of diligent monitoring and regular follow-up to maintain the work completed, the Land Trust will rely on volunteers to help at the preserve, as well as members and donors to fund the ongoing restoration.

# For the Birds! Hike Leaders and Preserve Stewards Train Together for Bird Count

Nearly 50 hike leaders and preserve stewards gathered in May 2018 at the Björklunden campus in Baileys Harbor to learn from staff and peers about nature preserves, trails, and upcoming hikes. But, the main agenda was training to participate in ongoing bird monitoring projects taking place at several nature preserves. Bird point counts and bird breeding information has been collected at multiple Door County Land Trust nature preserves over the past several years, and collecting data at the same points is critical for comparison in future years. Naturalist Paul Regnier took the group out to three different habitat areas to teach bird count methods. Volunteers from the group participated in gathering data at the Kellner Fen Natural Area, Sturgeon Bay Ship Canal Nature Preserve, and Three Springs Nature Preserve. The information will be included in Wisconsin's Breeding Bird Atlas II, which is a four year study to be completed at the end of 2019. Bird populations respond quickly to positive changes in their habitat areas, and data may show the positive impacts of restoration and stewardship efforts. Thanks to help from hike leaders and preserve stewards, Door County Land Trust is able to track the success of habitat improvement for migratory and nesting birds.

### 'Year of the Bird' at the 2018 Annual Gathering

Members and friends gathered at the Stone Harbor Resort in Sturgeon Bay to celebrate the 'Year of the Bird' with guest speakers Craig Thompson from the Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources and researchers Patti Vitt and Kayri Havens from the Chicago Botanic Garden. Our guest speakers shared stories putting our local conservation work in a global context. Thompson's presentation, entitled "SOS—Saving Our Songbirds," showed how Door County's protected lands are key to the success of hundreds of species of birds. According to Thompson, Door County's location along the Great Lakes migratory bird flyway makes this an ideal rest stop for birds on their 2,000 mile journey—but only if we continue to protect and restore natural habitats.

Five ways that you can help 'Save Our Songbirds':

- 1. Drink bird-friendly coffee
- 2. Make your yard an oasis for birds
- 3. Plant native species
- 4. Keep cats indoors
- 5. Mark your windows with a bird-saver material

Video highlights of the event may be found at DoorCountyLandTrust.org/Gathering18

**Save the date!** The 2019 Annual Gathering Weekend Land tours (Sat. August 17 and Sun. August 18) at privately protected conservation easement properties. Annual Gathering (Sun. August 18) with guest speakers.

#### **Bird-Friendly Coffee for Sale**

Buy your **Smithsonian-Certified Bird-Friendly Coffee** at the Door County Land Trust's Sturgeon Bay office. This coffee is not just shade-grown—it's grown in the rainforest, among the native vegetation, leaving rainforest ecosystems intact for birds. It's organic... and delicious! Available in French Roast, Morning Blend, Dark Guatemalan, or Decaf for \$10 per 10 oz. package. Drop by the office Monday through Friday, 9-5, or call us at (920)746-1359.





## Girls Scout Day at the Kangaroo Lake **Nature Preserve**

What is a cuesta? Ask Girl Scout Troop #4356! Girl Scout leaders from several troops led a May 2018 day of activities at Girl Scout's Camp Cuesta, adjacent to the Kangaroo Lake Nature Preserve. About 60 girls ages 5-14, representing all five Door County public schools, spent the day helping with camp clean-up, nature-based art activities, and wildflower hikes on Door County Land Trust's adjoining property, Kangaroo Lake Nature Preserve. Land Trust hike leader Sarah Freyman and fellow volunteer Grace Rossman led the hikes. Each girl received a Land Trust activity kit and nature journal, colored pencils, and newfound knowledge of the native wildflowers in bloom at the preserve. And, what is a cuesta, anyway? The cuesta is the sloping bedrock and exposed escarpment cliff that's visible from the hiking trails on the preserve.

Spending time outside benefits the mind, body and spirit especially for youth. Overwhelmingly, studies show that kids are spending more time in front of a screen, missing out on benefits like increased fitness, improved vision, lowered stress levels, improved critical thinking skills, and developing a sense of place—a love of Door County! These girls will be the next generation to help protect and care for these exceptional lands and waters.

## Meet the Staff...Call? Coffee? Or, Hike!

With more than 2,200 member households, meeting members face-to-face may be a lofty goal, but that's just what Executive Director Tom Clay and Development Director Cinnamon Rossman set out to do. During 2018, we offered to meet loyal annual supporters for coffee or a hike to get to know better their vision for the Door County Land Trust. In the process, we had some great laughs and some wonderful encounters with wildlife. An eagle took flight just as our group came around the bend—right on cue. Conversations like these inform our strategic planning, underway now. We invite you to join us this year to share your dreams for Door County. Call us to set a date on the calendar. We'll book the eagles in advance.

# **Protect What You Love** Welcome! Thank you, **New Members**

Last fall we invited the community to "Help Protect What You Love" by making a donation to join the Door County Land Trust. More than 185 new members joined the Door County Land Trust in 2018—and we thank you! The mission to protect our incredible peninsula and islands is stronger, thanks to you.

The 'Protect What You Love' campaign kicked off with great success on #GivingTuesday with fundraisers on the Land Trust's Facebook page and website. #GivingTuesday is a national day of charity that aims to promote charitable giving on the Tuesday that follows Thanksgiving—and some of the biggest shopping days of the year.

The campaign was such a success, we're going to do it again. Mark your calendars! #GivingTuesday is December 3, 2019.

#### **Double Your Donation**

Matching donors helped double donations last fall. Look for your



invitation to make a challenge gift to the campaign this spring. With your help, we'll inspire new members to join and double their donation!

## 2018 Financial Report

As a 501(c)(3) organization, the Door County Land Trust depends on the generosity and contributions from members and supporters to finance our conservation work. 2018 audited financial statements and our Federal Form 990 are available by request.

#### Net assets as of December 31, 2018

Funds restricted or designated for future land acquisition <sup>1</sup>	\$ 303,202
Funds restricted or designated for legal defense <sup>2</sup>	\$ 215,781
Land stewardship endowment fund <sup>3</sup>	\$ 2,814,353
Cash restricted for current land acquisition projects	\$ 848,831
Working capital and operating reserve	\$ 741,225
Investment in property and equipment	\$ 201,459
Net assets excluding land	\$ 5,124,851
Land held for conservation	\$ 25,890,210
TOTAL NET ASSETS	\$ \$31,015,061
Change in net assets versus 2017	\$ 366,799

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup>The Land Acquisition Fund is set aside for use in covering costs associated with land purchases.

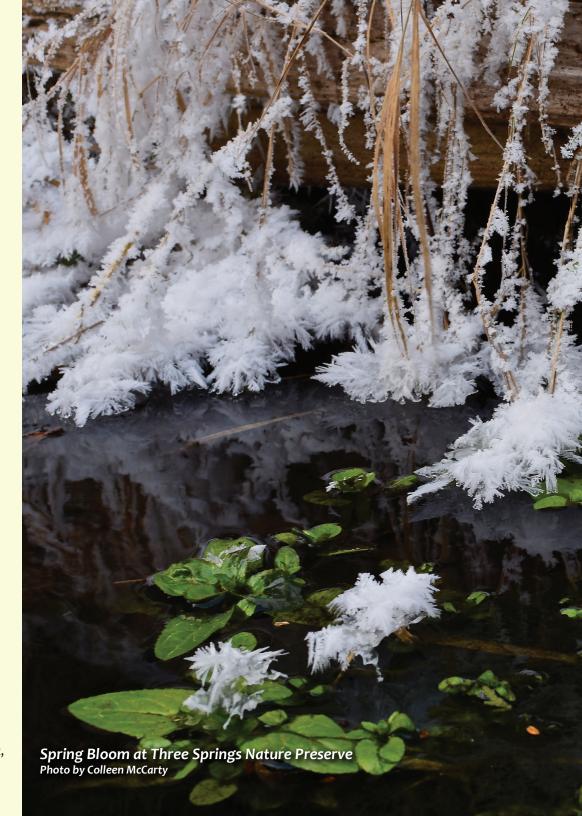
#### **Stewardship Endowment Trust**

The Endowment is managed by Nicolet National Bank and is governed by the following Board of Trustees:

Peter Deschler	Jim Lester	Al Radtke	Roy Thilly
Tony Fiorato	Bob Ling	Bill Schaars	

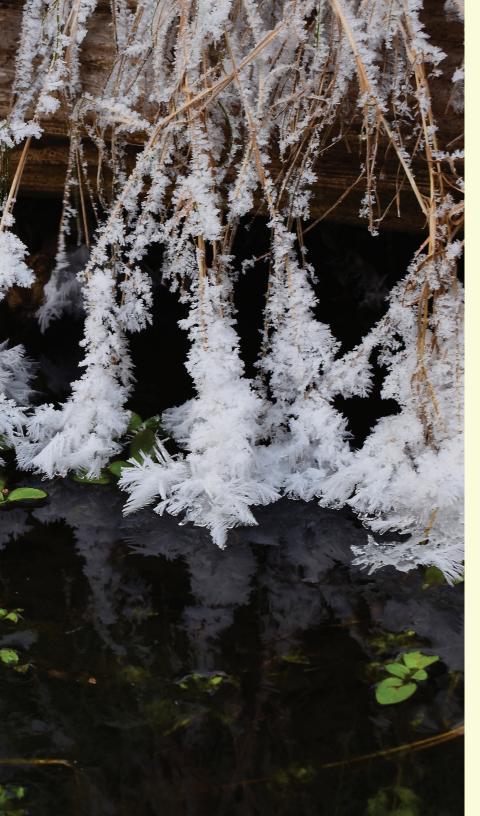
If you are interested in making a tax-deductible donation to the Endowment, please contact Cinnamon Rossman at the Land Trust office, (920) 746-1359.

14 Landings, Journal of the Door County Land Trust—Spring 2019



<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>2</sup>The Legal Defense Fund is a segregated fund for use in defending and enforcing Land Trust conservation easement agreements and in resolving encroachments or vandalism issues that may arise on Door County Land Trust owned properties.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>3</sup>The Stewardship Endowment Trust is a segregated fund designed to provide a long-term stream of income through use of accrued interest for monitoring, stewarding, and restoring Door County Land Trust protected properties.



## **2018 Annual Operating Revenue and Expenses**

**Fundraising** 



The Door County Land Trust spent \$996,547 on the activities described above.

Administration

The Door County Land Trust raised \$1,115,101 from the sources described above.

Grants **Endowment &** Investment Income

Events & Merchandise

Door County Land Trust's annual operating budget includes the programs, supplies, and administrative costs to carry out the mission to protect and care for our protected lands. From funding simple things like light bulbs to carrying out landscape-wide land restoration, the largest portion of our annual revenue comes from donor and member contributions. More than 2,200 member households contributed to the mission to protect and care for Door County's exceptional lands and waters in 2018. Thank you!

Door County Land Trust maintains an operating reserve fund designed to sustain core operations and uphold our commitment to land protection for perpetuity. \$118,554 was invested in the operating reserve fund to cover potential future conservation obligations.

### **2018 Land Acquisitions** (Purchases, Bargain Sales, and Donations)

Sources of funds for land acquisitions completed in 2018 In 2018, \$333,000 was expended to acquire 5 properties, totaling 96.43 acres! 63%

Funded by Grants Funded by Memberships and Other Contributions

As you might imagine, land conservation can be a very expensive endeavor. Three separate sources help the Door County Land Trust establish new nature preserves or expand existing preserves. The largest source of funds for the Door County Land Trust's acquisitions are obtained through grants that we applied for and secured from state, federal, and other agencies. In addition to grants, we use contributions from our supporters to help pay for land acquisition costs. This year we received one land donation from generous property owners. Donations of property may be used as a match for leveraging grant funds.

# BEQUESTS, MEMORIALS AND TRIBUTES

Gifts received between January 1 and December 31, 2018

BEOUESTS Carpenter, Joe

#### TRIBUTES

In Honor Of A Great Nature Walk! Martin, Garv

In Honor of Maureen Riopelle and Robin Baliszewski Wilson, Sara

In Honor of Jean Barrett Wolff, Bill and Kathy

In Honor of Dick and Joan Baudhuin Saunders, Jeremy and Melissa

In Honor of Kurt and Heidi Becker's 25th Wedding Anniversary Deschler, Peter and Gina

In Honor of Jo Beno Scattergood, Kirk and Donna

In Honor of Jeff and Ann Berner Classen, Peter and Barbara

In Honor of Spencer and Martha Bonnie Bonnie, Kristin

In Honor of Tisha Brown Hope Church

In Honor of Jim and Barbara Bunning Sunshine Charitable Foundation

In Honor of Dave and Vonnie Callsen's **60th Wedding Anniversary** Coleman, Beth and Wessel, Curt

In Honor of Deb Pace and Mark Carley, CA Wilson, Todd and Joan

In Honor of The Cushman Family Cushman, Betsy and Preston, Barb

In Honor of Charlie and Sarah DeNamur Franklin, Larry and Cissie

In Honor of Gina Deschler's Birthday Demaster, Larry and Sandy

In Honor of Peter Deschler's Birthday Margolies, Jonathan and Marjorie

In Honor of Robert and Liesbeth Fickes Fickes, Christopher

In Honor of Martin and Hilary Ford Ford, Chris, Ali, Will and Nick

In Honor of Rick and Barb Frank Brevard, Mary

In Honor of Jack and Marcy Fry Mielke, Tom and Vicki

In Honor of Van and Hildy Gathany Andrews, Kristen

In Honor of Michele Stenger and Mike

Dobyns, Alicia Stenger

In Honor of Scott Hansen Hope Church

In Honor of Mick and Lisa Hatch Hatch, Gillian

In Honor of Rick Hecker's 75th Birthday Frey, Fred and Barb

In Honor of Tom Hendrix Hendrix, Lisa

In Honor of Giz and Linda Herbst Herbst, Alicia

In Honor of Brad and Karol Hitt Malmquist, Susan

In Honor of Rich and Rose Hubbard Vandenberg, Kathryn

In Honor of Lloyd and Inge Keith Keith, Annie and Hurst, Mark

In Honor of Margaret Ketterer Ketterer, David

In Honor of Don and Brigid Krutek Krutek, Paul and Fran

In Honor of Jack Martin Needelman, Jerry and Margie

In Honor of Patricia McCov Cook, Jean

In Honor of Dave and Colette McDonough

McDonough, Emilie

In Honor of Rob and Sherry Moore Moore, Jeff and Julie

In Honor of The Morris Families Fields, Chuck and Carolyn

In Honor of Robert and Julie Mueller Urbrock, Bill and Barbara

In Honor of the Marriage of Jean Barrett and Paul Neuman Bramsen, John and Norma

In Honor of the Marriage of Pam Davis and Lou Osadian Jordan, Raeona

In Honor of Jeff and Barb Ottum Ottum, Brad

In Honor of Jeff Ottum's Presentation to PEO Chapter Al PEO Chapter Al

In Honor of Kristin Pagano Salesforceorg

In Honor of Johanna Parkes Gracz, Jeff

Stenger Dobyns, Alicia In Honor of Nature Lovers Marie Anderson and Margie Paul

Crass, Sue

In Honor of Sandra Place Harrer, Bernie and Schab, Lisa

In Honor of Bill and Carol Roche's 50th Wedding Anniversary Callen, Chris and Katie

In Honor of Ali Scheig's Birthday

Scheig, Mary Scheig, Katie

In Honor of Ali Scheig's Graduation Scheig, Mary

Scheig, Katie

In Honor of Gretchen Schmelzer Skahen, Dennis and Marguerite

In Honor of Robert Schoof's 91st **Birthday** Schoof, Tamara Su

In Honor of The Schuelke Family Schuelke, Lindsay

In Honor of Ruby Shemanske Worrell, Jenny and Wicklund, Joel

In Honor of Nathan Slovin Prager, Karen and Eric

In Honor of Mark Sprague Ketterer, Margaret and Robert

In Honor of Marvin and Sherry Strawn Luginbill, Kristin

In Honor of Virge Temme Hope Church

In Honor of Dr William Urbrock Hope Church

In Honor of Lynn Utesch Hope Church

In Honor of Jerry Winzenz Hagemeister, Annelies Noffke, Janice

In Honor of Jane McKie and Dave Zuhlke McKie, Eldon and Kathryn

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In Memory of Bruce Ambuel Davis, Nancy

In Memory of Betty Ames

Abendroth, Robert and Roberta Agnor, Millicent Anderson, Constance Trenholm Anonymous Anonymous Barr, Bruce and Maggie Birger, Jim and Susan Callsen, Dave and Vonnie Community Church Of Fish Creek Damon, Priscilla Davies, Colleen Flint, Pete Gibson, Phyllis B Howard, Don and Virginia Laudon, Mary

Mohr, Mark and Jane Oates, Dick and Carolyn Panning, Florence Parshalle, Donna

Prekosovich, Stephen and Megan Schmidt, Michael and Diane Slugg, Elizabeth

Stanley, Mary Stephens, Carolyn Thompson, Way and Jacquelyn Trenholm, Marcy

Wernecké, Bill and Sue Widman, Kuth Wilcox, Thomas and Nancy

In Memory of Frank Baker Fontaine, Mary M

In Memory of Bill Benson Luvisi, Géorge

In Memory of Sandy Betts Marsh, Dawn

In Memory of Terry Bolland Mcgaw, Jessica

In Memory of Cal Bonnivier

Birger, Jim and Susan Campbell, Kathy and John Glessner, Kay Hammerberg, Wally and Norma Hartmann, Bob and Bonnie Madden, Michael and Barbara Scholz, Carl and Ruth Smith, Jim and Kay Stone, Tim and Sue

Weber, Eugene Weber, Lois White, Richard

Sweet, Tim and Cindi

Schenck SC Schiro-Digney, Debra

Sweet, Carol

Sweet, Cindy

In Memory of John Brogan

In Memory of Darwin Bork

Bork, Jerry and Julie Galloway, Deane and Joan Krautkramer, Jim and Cindi Schaefer, Gary and Janie

Bednarowski, Keith and Mary Brogan, Bob Bungener, K Christian Cristall, Péter and Myra Dorsch, Aliece Fischer, Gail Frazier, Jay and Alison Gissell, George Glessner, Kay Henger, Gary and Jo Ann Horseshoe Bay Golf Club

Kasriel, Paul and Katy Kress, James Lulloff, Sarah

Lutsey Family Foundation, Inc Ottum, Jeff and Barb Ouinlan, Anna

Schmitz, William and Adrienne

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In Memory of Lyle Brundige Matthies, Suzanne D

In Memory of Gary Buerstatte

The Braga Family Canter, Sharon and Richard Constable, Thomas and Doreen Gale, Kathleen

Govérnors Woods Property Owners Assoc

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In Memory of Richard and Dorothy Burkhardt Burkhardt, Jon and Karen

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In Memory of John Cebuhar O'Meara, Megan

In Memory of Barbara Craig Brevard, Marv

In Memory of Bob Davis Kubicz, Ágnes Lukes, Charlotte

In Memory of Joan Deardorff

Anonymous Beimborn, Janet Brophy, Michael and Debra Caelewarts, Carol Johnson, Raymond and Mary McVey, Éd Oleary, Nancy and Lindberg, Lois Schneider, Erik Schneider, Mike and Cindy Swearingen, Susan

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Debenham, Barb

In Memory of Harold Deutsch

Deutsch, Regine Friedl, Mike and Carolyn

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In Memory of Bob Franden Martinez, Kathy Wolf-Franden, Cynthia

In Memory of Prof Edwin R Fitzgerald Mueller, Peter

In Memory of Ralph Herlache Herlache, Peggy

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Wilson, Tom and Barb Wolf, Duane and Bonnie Wolff, Bill and Kathy Youngsteadt, Duane and Leslie

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In Memory of Phyllis Ingwersen Cady, Bonnie

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In Memory of Larry Kaufman

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Levine, David and Kaufman, Laura

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Sheehan, Tom Weber, Ned and Susanne Wolfberg, Lynne

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In Memory of Suzanne A Lindsay Lindsay, Bill

In Memory of David Linsky DeLisle, Becky

In Memory of Christine Lokken Kelley

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In Memory of Gretchen Maring Turriff, Tom and Jo Ann

In Memory of John O'Gorman Hess, Steve and Laurie

In Memory of Emery Oleson Asher, Barbara

**In Memory of Yvonne Bevry Olson** Alt, Claudia J

Alt, George Caple, Louis Fine Line Designs Gallery Witt, Gene and Carmen

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In Memory of Colleen Person

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In Memory of Barry Ouinnies Witt, Gene and Carmen

In Memory of Toska Quinnies Alt. Claudia J Witt, Gene and Carmen

In Memory of Andrew Rice Allan, Mary and Terry

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Skahen, Kara

In Memory of Chester Shevey Frey, Fred and Barb

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In Memory of David Speerschneider

(Continued) Richgels, Dale R and Janice R Speerschneider, Marilyn Wochos, Nick and Courtney

In Loving Memory of Connie Squier Squier, Susan and Roper, Gowen

In Memory of John Squier Brevard, Mary

In Memory of Otto Thilenius Thilenius, Elsbeth

In Memory of Ralph Valatka Perrine, Bess

In Memory of Pauline Wesley Wanderer Fischer, Gail

In Memory of Penny Wawrzyniak Asher, Barbara

In Memory of Steve Wilkie

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Youngsteadt, Duane and Leslie Zechel, Daniel In Memory of Jim Wilkinson

Lokken, Ron and Judy

Werner, Jack and Hester

Williams, Eleanor

In Memory of Rita Wiltgen Davis, Nancy

# Protect the lands you love... forever.

### Plan to pass on your legacy.

The future of the peninsula and islands we love may be uncertain, but you can depend on the Door County Land Trust to protect the exceptional lands and waters we all love.

With your help, we can make a lasting difference for Door County's open spaces and wild places. Together, we can pass on a legacy of protected lands.

Consider making a gift that can last forever. Designate the Door County Land Trust as the beneficiary of your life insurance or retirement plan, or include a bequest provision in your will or trust.

Planning your gift today can make a lasting difference in Door County tomorrow...and forever.

Give us a call to start the conversation. No matter the size of your gift, we can help you create your legacy. Call Development Director Cinnamon Rossman or Executive Director Tom Clay at (920) 746-1359.

Door County Land Trust is accredited by the Land Trust Accreditation Commission. Their validation confirms Door County Land Trust operations meet the standards of sound finances, ethical conduct, responsible governance, and lasting stewardship.

# LEGACY CIRCLE MEMBERS

The Door County Land Trust thanks the following benefactors who have indicated that the Land Trust has been included in their estate plans.

Have you included the Land Trust in your planned giving? If so, please inform of us of your intent so we may thank you and include you in our Legacy Circle listing,





Door County inspires a love of place, and many members have strong connections–generations long–and love Door County like home. It is a joy to hear the memories and the desire to preserve the natural places here. For me, Door County is home. And it is a soul-fulfilling pleasure to work with members and the community to help protect these places—to bring people's land ethic to life.

Last spring, I took the call from Alison Zehr. She'd been thinking about planning a gift through her will... Could we meet and tell her more about our work? I got to know Alison that morning, and her questions prompted a great conversation about the Land Trust's vision for the future. Linvited Alison to tell her story, because she shared a Door County vision we can all agree on-love it like home. -Cinnamon Rossman, Development Director

# LOVE IT LIKE HOME

By Alison Zehr

Last year I finally wrote a will, which unexpectedly opened some surprising new doors. Like many, I'd been avoiding anything to do with a will for far too long. didn't have much money to leave and who would I leave it to? I surmounted the first hurdle by ignoring it-you don't have to be a millionaire to make a difference.

The second hurdle was harder but I finally got to it by asking myself, "What do I care about?" Well, family, of course. So they are in my will. But also, the environment, the arts, the humanities, and civic dialogue. And then, to help narrow my thinking, I asked, "What about them do I want to preserve for the future?" The answer came quickly-access. And now came the fun part, choosing the organizations.

#### The environment was my first decision. It had to be the Door County Land Trust.

Like many families, mine has been spending summers in Door County for generations (in our case, four). We have walked its woods and meadows, swum and sailed its waters, golfed and biked, and marveled at its amazing canopy of stars.

#### We have loved Door County like home and pined for it when we've been away.

With such a long history in the county, we've also seen many changes and have been both excited and concerned about the amount of new development. That's why I was so pleased when I first began to see Door County Land Trust signs. My professional life has

been spent working in and for nonprofits and I was aware of the important work land trusts do. So, I called Door County Land Trust and asked to talk about their work and their plans for the future, Cinnamon Rossman (whom I liked immediately just because of her name) said, "Of course, come on over!"

I had very specific questions to ask based on my experience. Is the group healthy and organized for sustainability? What are their plans for the future? Cinnamon was ready with positive answers to each, But the kismet part of it—the new door that opened—was the immediate feeling that I would be a part of two big, exciting things. First, a well thought-out vision to save key lands so future generations can learn, marvel at, and generally enjoy the diversity and beauty of Door County's amazing and distinctive landscapes. And also, a community of flora- and fauna-loving people who are committed to preservation.

I am looking forward to gatherings of Land Trust supporters and tours of the lands. I've even gotten two more families involved and plan on getting more signed up. I feel good about myself and better about the future of the county, and proud to play even a small role in ensuring that what I have loved about this land will be available to others long after I'm gone.

Tom and I invite you to give us a call to talk about the Door County vision and how you might make a difference in this place we all love like home. You may reach either of us, Cinnamon Rossman or Executive Director Tom Clay, at (920)746-1359. We'll put the coffee on.

# 2018 FINANCIAL SUPPORTERS

Total contributions received during 2018

↑ /e thank the following donors who, in partnership with the **V** Door County Land Trust, help protect the special places of Door County.

Welcome to our new supporters! Donor names listed in bold type made their first financial contribution to the Land Trust in 2018.

#### \$10,000 AND ABOVE

Anonymous John C Bock Foundation Brevard, Mary Buege, David and Linda Callsen, Dave and Vonnie Carpenter, Joe Bernal T Chomeau Private Foundation Bero, Robert and Judy Diekman, Don and Marianne Fiedler, Jessie Frank, Rick and Barbara Friedl, Mike and Carolyn Gever, Phyllis Holm, Barbara Kessler, Dennis and Barbara Knowles Nelson State Stewardship Fund Lester, Jim and Barbee Tom and Bev Lisle Fund Olson, Ted and Lady Steffen, Michael Sunshine Charitable Foundation Trainer, Robert and Mary David V Uihlein Sr Foundation Uihlein, Lynde B Uihlein, Margery Robert A Uihlein Foundation Inc

#### \$1,000-\$9,999

Christina

Al Johnson's Swedish Restaurant Alexander, Duncan and Keane, Kit Ambuel, Helen Ames, John Anderson, Ernest Anderson, Mary Anderson, Stefan and Joan Anonymous (6) Augustian, Chris and Billina Baer, Charles and Stephanie Barrett, Jean Batzli, George and Sandra

Vanderson, William and Gehrke,

Bay Shore Property Owners Assoc Beadell, Priscilla and Anthony Becker, Bruce and Patty Becker, Carl and Susan Bednarowski, Keith and Mary Bell, Hugh and Joyce Bell, Steve and Susan Benson, Adam and Linnea Black, Jim and Patricia Blackburn, Robert and Kay Blacksmith Inn Blahnik Investment Group Blahnik, Jon and Christianna Blanchard, Pam Blanton, James and Barbara Board, Rich and Barb The OC and Pat Boldt Family Fund Of The Community Foundation For The Fox Valley Region Bramsen, John and Norma Brezan, Barry Bunning, Jim and Barbara The Richard W and Dorothy J Burkhardt Charitable Fund Bykowski, John and Rose Cady, Bonnie Cady-Kruse, Nell and Kruse, Steven Callén, Chris and Katie Capp, Stephen and Carol Carl, Rudy and Patricia Ciezki, Nancy and Kostecke, Diane Classen, Peter and Barbara Collins, Dan and Aten, Nancy Conner, Dick and Kit Connolly, Bonnie and Dennis Conroy, Peter and Beverly Ann Conta, Dennis and Deborah Cook, Andrew and Karen Cramer, Ward and Judy D'Abbraccio, Deanna and Morgan, Barbara Dagon, Russell and Sandy Daniel, David and Janet

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Harlan, Bob and Madeline Heim, Paul J and Watkins, Julie Hermann, John and Dolores **Hislop Family Foundation** Hitt, Brad and Karol Hoehn, James L Hoehn and Nancy Goldberg Hollingshead, Judy Ingwersen, Jim Jacobson, Rod and Jean Karges, Steven, Lynn and Kimberly Keller, Chuck and Carol Keller, Paula and Bob Kimbell, Alan and Anne Kimmel, Donald and Joan Klein, Michael and Maureen

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If you are more than 70 ½ years old, you are allowed to give up to \$100,000 as a Qualified Charitable Distribution (QCD) from your traditional IRA or Roth IRA with no tax on the transaction. If you are required to make a Required Minimum Distribution (RMD) to yourself that is taxable, you may donate all or a portion of your RMD to Door County Land Trust as a QCD.

To qualify as a charitable donation, it is essential for a QCD to be made directly from your IRA to Door County Land Trust or any other receiving charity. Please consult your financial advisor for more information and to direct your Qualified Charitable Distribution. And, if you do choose to make a gift in this method to the Door County Land Trust, please contact us so we may thank you and correctly acknowledge your gift. (920)746-1359

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# DEDICATED TO DISCOVERY MARILYN HANSOTIA

Door County Land Trust volunteers bring a breadth of experience, knowledge and creativity. Throughout the history of the Land Trust, volunteers have been integral in the research and discovery leading to a deeper understanding of Door County's protected lands. In our 'Year of 'Discovery' we thank volunteer Marilyn Hansotia, who is a hike leader, citizen scientist, and mentor for fellow volunteers.

A Land Trust member for twentythree years (and counting), a hike leader, and a Master Naturalist, Marilyn Hansotia can most often be found out in the field researching and exploring natural areas. After completing her Master Naturalist



Marilyn Hansotia (center) and fellow hike leaders share information during a peer-to-peer training hike held at Bay Shore Blufflands Nature Preserve.

course, Marilyn connected with citizen scientist programs. About a decade ago, she formed a team and began monitoring the frog and toad populations at ten Door County sites per year. Shortly thereafter, her research expanded to include stream quality monitoring.

"Perhaps the most dramatic experience has been monitoring the bat population at the Three Springs barn," says Marilyn. Marilyn's team was on the forefront of reporting white-nose-syndrome in bats when it was first documented in Door County in 2014. Her team continued monitoring during the decline that followed. Now, they are witnessing the bats' steady recovery. She also partnered with DNR bat biologists to identify the largest known surviving colony of little brown bats (Myotis lucifugus) in the state over 800 - on Plum Island.

Marilyn is passionate about citizen monitoring because it allows her continued curiosity to grow. She says, "Understanding how species adapt to changing circumstances is fascinating and humbling!" Marilyn's work is a testament to the idea that being outdoors sparks curiosity about the natural world and the interdependent nature of all creatures. She is committed to the idea that preserving habitat is the critical element for survival. Door County Land Trust thanks Marilyn for her commitment to discovery and for sharing her passion for nature with fellow leaders and hikers. Thank you, Marilyn!

Your volunteer service deserves to be acknowledged. If we have made an error or omitted your name, please notify us so we may correct it for future publications.

Lauter, Estella

Lester, Jim

# Let your land ethic live on... forever. You believe in the power of nature. So do we. We need your help to protect healthy lands and waters forever. Your gift will honor your land ethic and inspire the next generation. Make a gift through your will, trust, retirement accounts, or life insurance CACY CIRC The Legacy Circle When you inform the Door County Land Trust of your intent to make a planned gift, you will be welcomed into the Legacy Circle, a group of benefactors who have indicated that the Land Trust has been included in their estate plans. For more information, contact Development Director Cinnamon Rossman or Executive Director Tom Clay at giving@doorcountylandtrust.org or (920)746-1359. DoorCountyLandTrust.org/PlannedGiving

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# **Door County Land Trust**

Protecting Door County's Exceptional Lands and Waters...Forever

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# Door Peninsula Coastal Wetlands



DoorCountyLandTrust.org/BioBlitz

# June 21, 2019— Science all day! Three Springs Nature Preserve

Become a citizen scientist for a day! Discover and document the variety of species found at the Three Springs Nature Preserve—one of three sites in the 2019 BioBlitz!

Conservation partners from Door County Land Trust, UW-Green Bay Cofrin Center for Biodiversity, Friends of Toft Point, and The Ridges Sanctuary are working together to study the **Door Peninsula Coastal Wetlands**, lands designated by the Ramsar Convention of Wetlands of International Importance. One of only 38 sites in the US with this designation, more than 11,000 acres have been protected through the work of many conservation partners.

You can be a part of the fun—the science—and the research to better understand our place on this planet...A place like no other!

The Door Peninsula Coastal Wetlands BioBlitz is a partnership project brought to you by:







