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2018 Annual Report Enclosed

Landings

Journal of the Door County Land Trust



**A Year of
Discovery
Ahead**



Door County Land Trust

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

**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



Photo by Rob Watson

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

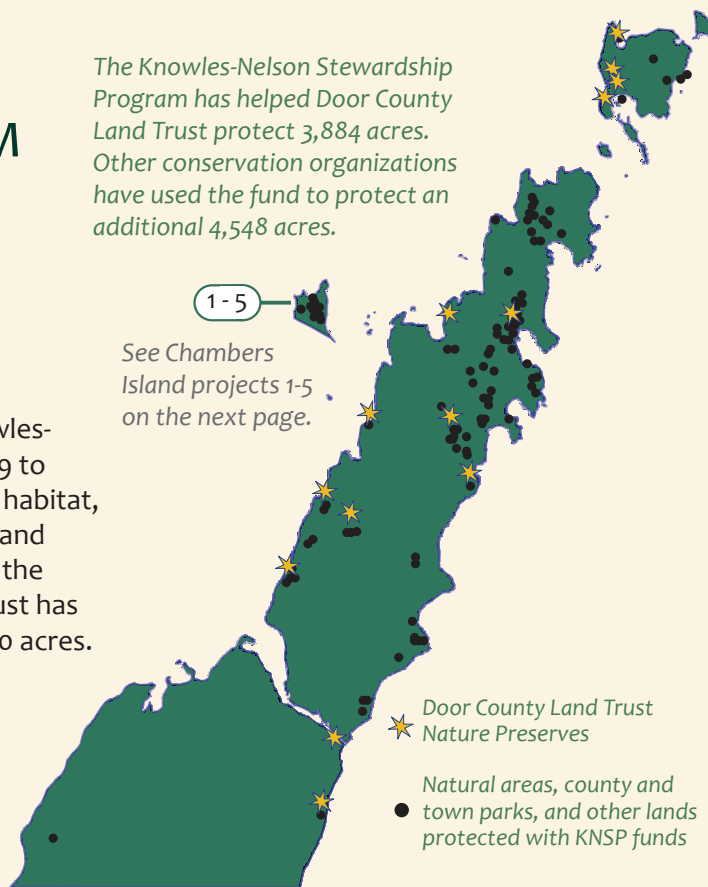
Ahnapee Trail, Baileys Harbor Boreal Forest, Baileys Harbor Marina, Brussels Town Park, Brussels Town Picnic Area, Cana Island Park, Cave Point County Park, Door County Fair Park, Egg Harbor View Park, Ellison Bluff County Park, Ephraim Village Wetland Park, Garrett Bay Town Park, Grand View Scenic Overlook 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.

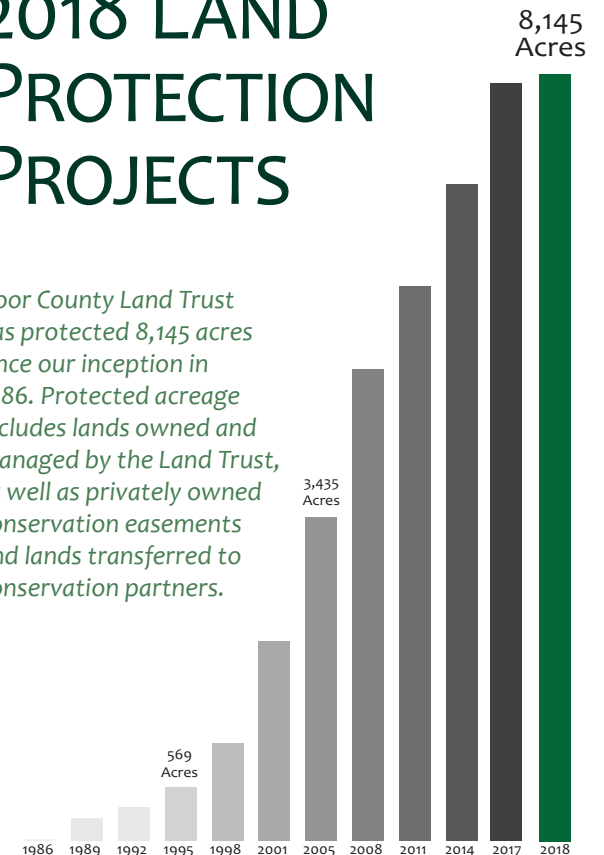


The Knowles-Nelson Stewardship Program has helped Door County Land Trust protect 3,884 acres. Other conservation organizations have used the fund to protect an additional 4,548 acres.



2018 LAND PROTECTION PROJECTS

Door County Land Trust has protected 8,145 acres since our inception in 1986. Protected acreage includes lands owned and managed by the Land Trust, as well as privately owned conservation easements and lands transferred to conservation partners.





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.

- 1 **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.

- 2 **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.

- 5 **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 Restoration Initiative.



Photo by Mary Breward



Photo by Dan Eggert



Photo by Dan Eggert



Photo by Dan Eggert



Photo by Dan Eggert

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

Door Peninsula Coastal Wetlands



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 biotic indexes.



PROTECTING LAND AND WATER, PLANTS AND ANIMALS

Protected Forests of Chambers Island Nature Preserve

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 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.

Photo by Dan Eggert

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 strengthens 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.

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. Wind-swept 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.



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

Denise Hubbard (center) and Ken Hubbard (right) with Land Trust staff Cinnamon Rossman, 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 Denise Hubbard, restoration of the greater neighborhood is possible.

CARING FOR THE LAND

Photo by Julie Schanner

Richter Community Forest Nature Preserve

Arni Richter, a visionary landowner on Washington Island, donated the largest, undeveloped parcel of land on Washington Island to the Door County Land Trust, thereby gifting the land to the communities of Washington Island and Door County.

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.

Photo by Amanda Pyke



Photos by Carl Cochran

Winning the Battle on Multiple Fronts

In 2015 the Door County Land Trust began an intensive, large-scale 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.



STRONGER
TOGETHER

Citizen Science at Every Age

Gibraltar Fourth Graders made two impressive discoveries during their Spring 2018 field trip to the conservation easement protected property of Nancy Aten and Dan Collins. The central newt was a new discovery for the neighborhood. And, they also found freshwater sponges—never before documented in Door County!

Photo by Grace Rossman



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 ¹	\$	303,202
Funds restricted or designated for legal defense ²	\$	215,781
Land stewardship endowment fund ³	\$	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

¹The Land Acquisition Fund is set aside for use in covering costs associated with land purchases.

²The 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.

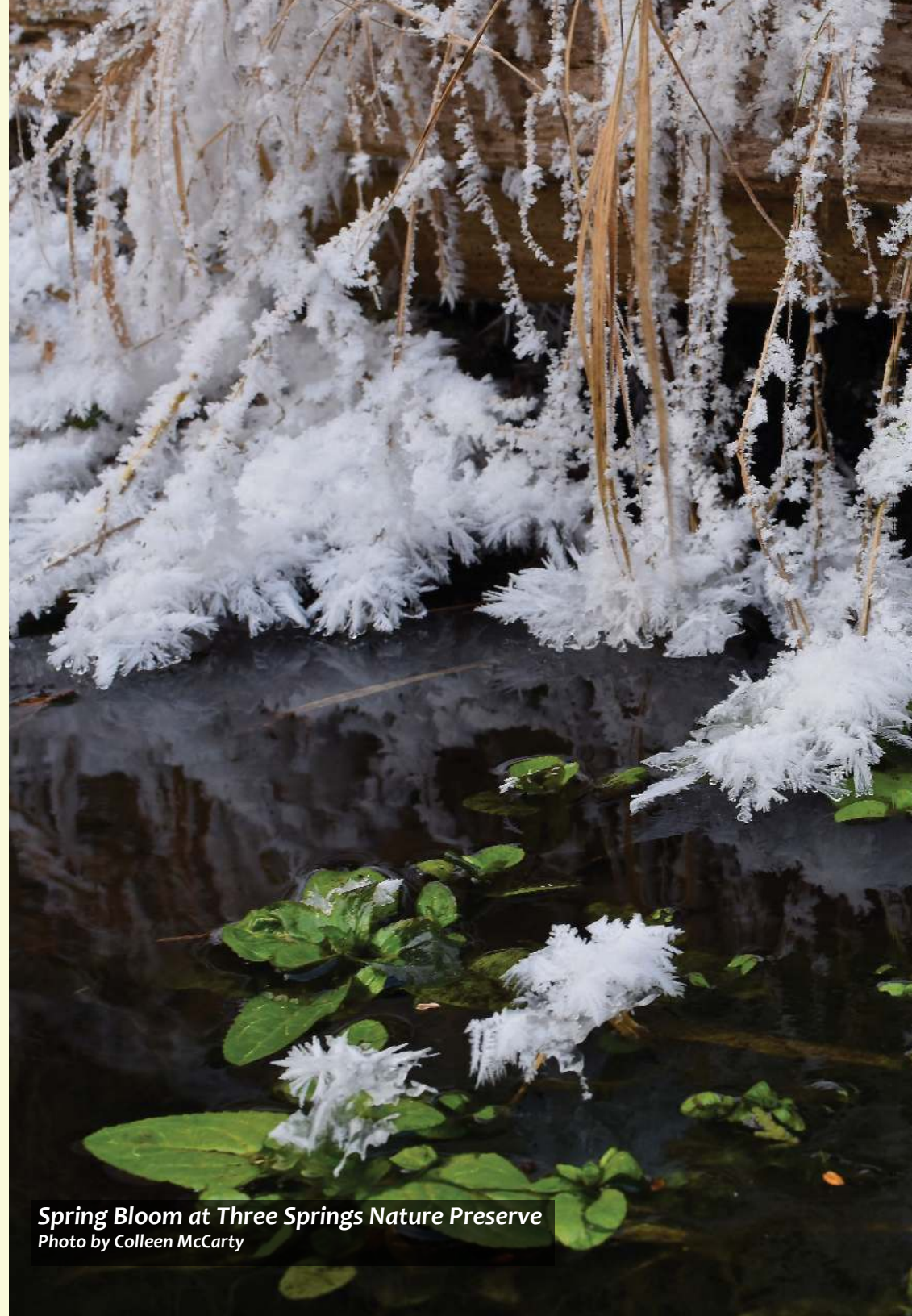
³The Stewardship Endowment Trust is a segregated fund designed to provide a long-term stream of income through use of accrued interest for monitoring, stewarding, and restoring Door County Land Trust protected properties.

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.



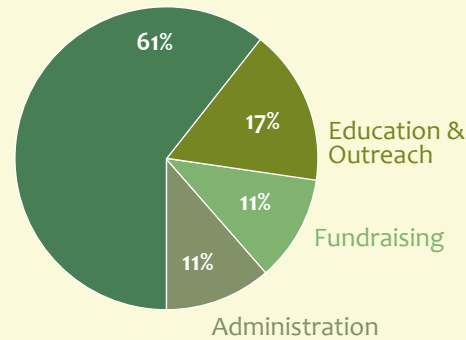
Spring Bloom at Three Springs Nature Preserve
Photo by Colleen McCarty



2018 Annual Operating Revenue and Expenses

USES OF FUNDS

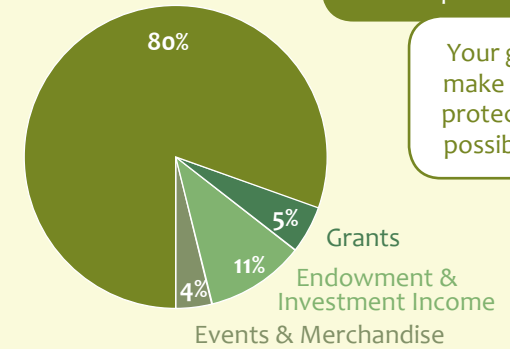
Land Stewardship & Protection Costs



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

SOURCES OF FUNDS

Donor & Member Contributions



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

Did you know that donor and member contributions were so important?

Your gifts make land protection possible!!!

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!



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

BEQUESTS

Carpenter, Joe

TRIBUTES

In Honor Of A Great Nature Walk!

Martin, Gary

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 Gracz

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 McCoy

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 Osadjan

Jordan, Raeona

In Honor of Jeff and Barb Ottum

Ottum, Brad

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

PEO Chapter AI

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

MEMORIALS

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

Wernecke, Bill and Sue

Widman, Ruth

Wilcox, Thomas and Nancy

In Memory of Frank Baker

Fontaine, Mary M

In Memory of Bill Benson

Luvisi, George

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

In Memory of Darwin Bork

Bork, Jerry and Julie

Galloway, Deane and Joan

Krautkramer, Jim and Cindi

Schaefer, Gary and Janie

Schenck SC

Schiro-Digney, Debra

Sweet, Carol

Sweet, Cindy

Sweet, Tim and Cindi

Weber, Eugene

Weber, Lois

White, Richard

In Memory of John Brogan

Bednarowski, Keith and Mary

Brogan, Bob

Bungener, K Christian

Cristall, Peter 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

Quinlan, Anna

Schmitz, William and Adrienne

Schober, Thomas

Stone, Brett and Amy

Wagner, Terry

Zachariasen, Christina

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

Governors Woods Property Owners Assoc

Hunt, Mary

Koenig, Al and Sherry

Kowalski, Mary and Jamie

Lange, Jeff and Brenda

McLeRoy, Laurie

Minteer, Stephanie and Jack

Rosenbeger, Herbert and Sandra

Thompson, Mark and Barbara

In Memory of Richard and Dorothy Burkhardt

Burkhardt, Jon and Karen

In Memory of Joe Carpenter

Mahoney, Mike and Liz

In Memory of John Cebuhar

O'Meara, Megan

In Memory of Barbara Craig
Brevard, Mary

In Memory of Bob Davis
Kubicz, Agnes
Lukes, Charlotte

In Memory of Joan Deardorff
Anonymous
Beimborn, Janet
Brophy, Michael and Debra
Caelewarts, Carol
Johnson, Raymond and Mary
McVey, Ed
Oleary, Nancy and Lindberg, Lois
Schneider, Erik
Schneider, Mike and Cindy
Swearingen, Susan

In Memory of David Townley Debenham
Debenham, Barb

In Memory of Harold Deutsch
Deutsch, Regine
Friedl, Mike and Carolyn

In Memory of Amanda DeWitt
Franze, Eric, Bob, and Nanette

In Memory of Robert and Jean Diehl
Diehl, Scott and Cheryl

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

In Memory of Russ Heyer
Abbott, Edward and McFadden, Susan
Augustine, Kay
Babula, Eric and Deborah
Balestrieri, Cynthia
Boyle, Joseph and Ann
Dubord, John and Plunkett, Annette
Fieber, Paul and Susan
Goeldner, Alice
Heyer, Kay
Kirchman, Genevieve
Koneazny, Kathleen
McClutchy, Jim and Judy
Mersberger, Peter and Marilyn
Mersberger, Jacob and Jeanne
Murtaugh, John and Lucia
Ost, Mitchell and Sonia
Rebro, Lawrence and Jane
Reeves, Theresa
Schneider, Karen
Thorson, Shawn and Kelly
Trokan, Michael and Tenorio, Rita
Tweed, Terry and Susan
Spaeth Werner, Liz

In Memory of Thomas Daniel Hodge, Sr
Urbrock, Bill and Barbara

In Memory of Jon Hollingshead
Andrae, Dan and Marjorie
Arendt, Stephen and Janet
Birger, Jim and Susan
Bunning, Jim and Barbara
Congdon, Mary
DeNardo, Tony and Donna
Dull, Charles and Joanne
Elliott, Rob and Colleen
Finger, Jack and Diane
Hansen, James and Barbara
Henrichs, Mel and Ruth
Hermann, John and Dolores
Hollingshead, Judy
Johnson, Darrell and Dianne
Johnson, John
Johnson, William and Kristine
Klimaitis, Ron and Dougherty, Gloria
Korte, Joe
Krapf, Wiley and Roselyn
Kuftrin, Bob and Lainie
Lhost, Lee and Jill
Lisle, Tom and Bev
Lokken, Ron and Judy
Lukes, Charlotte

Maloney, Ron and Pam
Maples, Larry and Nancy
Moellenberndt, Bob and Carol
Moss, Glen and Mary Ann
Moss, Susan and Himmelstein, Hal
Mutchler, Keith and Sherry
Neuman, Juliana
Ottum, Jeff and Barb
Ray, Diane and Ken
Richards, Jim and Marianne
Samuels, Lynne
Scholz, Carl and Ruth
Siebel, Barbara
Slobe, Thomas
Stone, Tim and Sue
Swanson, John and Deanna
Sweeney, Michael and Barbara
Tuch, David and Barbara
Wall, Cliff
Wilkie, Joan
Wilson, Tom and Barb
Wolf, Duane and Bonnie
Wolff, Bill and Kathy
Youngsteadt, Duane and Leslie

In Memory of Shirley Honold
Noland, Karin

In Memory of Phyllis Ingwersen
Cady, Bonnie

In Memory of Larry Kaufman
Bauer, Constance
Butkovich, Susan
Caldwell, Susan

In Memory of Larry Kaufman
(Continued)

Dahlin, Timothy
Fagans, Douglas
Flader, William and Joan
Frohlichstein, David
Frohlichstein, Harvey and Julie
Gesmer, Jason and Louise
Hatch, Leslie
Hogan, Liza
Johnson, Kathy
K Source, Inc
Kane, Barbara
Kaufman, Sam and Liza
Kennett, Kendra
Levine, Bernard and Judith
Levine, David and Kaufman, Laura
Lorenz, William and Janice
Mann, James E
Mann, Thomas
Pigati, Bill and Connie
Pirri, Frank and Lucille
Rapaport, Mike and Michelle
Satin, Joanne
Sheehan, Tom
Weber, Ned and Susanne
Wolfberg, Lynne

In Memory of Carol Lentz
Benson, Nicholas

In Memory of Suzanne A Lindsay
Lindsay, Bill

In Memory of David Linsky
DeLisle, Becky

In Memory of Christine Lokken Kelley
Davis, Nancy
Davis, Rob
Finger, Jack and Diane
Greene, Tad and Debbie
Swanson, John and Deanna
Wilkinson, Karen

In Memory of Paul Mahlberg
Faugust, Michael and Ikeda, Jennifer
Hollingshead, Judy
Rogers, Franklin and Elisabeth

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

In Memory of Mark Perry
Perry, Kerry

In Memory of Colleen Person

Anderson, Neil and Patricia
Bay Point Inn
Bismark, Michael and Mary
Bonde, Robert and Catherine
Calewarts, Kenneth and Jeanne
Creative Health Care Management
Gesme, John
Hagemann, George and Barbara
Havill, Joshua and Sharpe-Havill, Alison
Hokanson, Richard
Hormann, Penny
Kueppers, Mark
Paffenroth, Steven and Deb
Riester, Paul and Anna
Robertson, Pat and Jerry
Sharpe, Leslie and Marilyn
Sprecher, Nancy
Steinbach, Elaine T
Victorsen, James and Rohanda

In Memory of Floyd and Shirley Popour
Popour, Lyle and Nancy

In Memory of Barry Quinnies
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

In Memory of Dr William Rock
Forsberg, Bob
Gorchynsky, George and Natalie
Heidel and Family, Randy and Amy
Larson, Jennifer
Nelson, Rita
Norsetter, John and Rhonda
Rock, Maryellen
Walsh, Michael B and Beth

In Memory of Steve Schmelzer
Anonymous
Heeringa, Don and Coggin
Knutson, Jerrold and Melinda
Quale, Ann
Skahen, Dennis and Marguerite
Skahen, Kara

In Memory of James Schimp
Rose, Richard and Carolann

In Memory of Chester Shevey
Frey, Fred and Barb

In Memory of Mary Stevens
Stevens, Bill

In Memory of David Speerschneider
Bonk, John and Eileen
Gleason, Lloyd and Nancy
Heiser, Ted and Ellen
Kellstrom-Ray Agency, Inc
Lawrence, Joan
Mathews, Susan

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
Askins, Caryl
Bradley, Jim and Libby
Bryntesen, Jordyce
Debenham, Barb

Dull, Charles and Joanne
Elliott, Rob and Colleen
Hallahan, Bill and Natalie
Harding, Ruth and Jeff
Heeringa, Don and Coggin

Hollingshead, Judy
Jarosh, Joe and Sue
Klinefelter, Dorothy
Kluessendorf, Jerry and Lucy
Madden, Michael and Barbara
Maloney, Edward and Elizabeth
McAvoy, Bill and Kathy
Milske, Jodi
Murdoch, Joan

Murphy, John and Dorothea
Ottum, Jeff and Barb
Parrish, Todd and Shelley
Ritzma, Craig and Hahn, Jean
Rosecky, Mary
Schmidt, Betty Lou
Travis, Jack and Morgan, Diane
Utley, Bill and Phyllis
Walston, Mike and Mary
Watkins, Norman and Mabel
Weiss, Mareda
Werner, Jack and Hester
Williams, Eleanor
Youngsteadt, Duane and Leslie
Zechel, Daniel

In Memory of Jim Wilkinson
Lokken, Ron and Judy

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. I invited 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. I 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

We thank the following donors who, in partnership with the 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
Diekman, Don and Marianne
Fiedler, Jessie
Frank, Rick and Barbara
Friedl, Mike and Carolyn
Geyer, 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
Vanderson, William and Gehrke, Christina

\$1,000-\$9,999

Al Johnson's Swedish Restaurant
Alexander, Duncan and Keane, Kit
Ambuel, Helen
Ames, John
Anderson, Ernest
Anderson, Mary
Anderson, Stefan and Joan
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Land Protection and Stewardship Specialist Jesse Koyen, right, led a group from The Clearing for the annual winter 'Pubs, Parks and Preserves' class.

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 Diehl, Scott and Cheryl
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 Drey, Robert and Cynthia
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Fasciano, Susan Nicholas
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Photos by Dave Hellman

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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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Thank you!

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.

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.



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

A Land Trust member for twenty-three 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 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!

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Door County Land Trust

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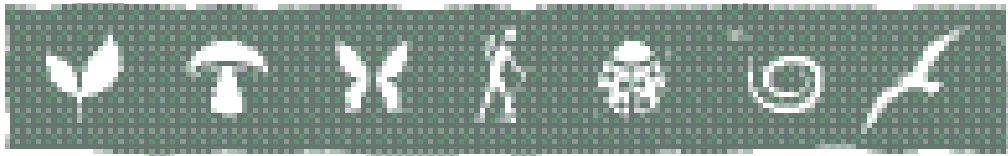


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Door Peninsula Coastal Wetlands



BIOBLITZ

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:

