

Landings *News Splash*

Winter 2019-2020 Newsletter from the Door County Land Trust

“When we see land as a community to which we belong, we may begin to use it with love and respect.”


-Aldo Leopold

Thank you for helping to protect Door County's wild things and wild places.



Door County Land Trust

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

A photograph of a dense forest. The trees are tall and thin, with a canopy of green leaves. The forest floor is covered in fallen leaves, some of which are pinkish-red, suggesting autumn. There are several large logs lying on the ground, some of which are covered in moss. The lighting is soft and natural, filtering through the trees.

“To solve the future, we must save the past. ... My whole life, I’ve been an outsider. But many others have been out there with me. We found that trees could communicate, over the air and through their roots. Common sense hooted us down. We found that trees take care of each other. Collective science dismissed the idea. Outsiders discovered how seeds remember the seasons of their childhood and set buds accordingly. Outsiders discovered that trees sense the presence of other nearby life. That a tree learns to save water. That trees feed their young and synchronize their masts and bank resources and warn kin and send out signals to wasps to come and save them from attacks.”

**Excerpt from “The Overstory,”
by Richard Powers**

Cover Photo: Pebble Beach in October
Photo by Joe Taylor

Gibraltar-Ephraim Swamp Natural Area

OVERSTORY, OUTSIDERS, AND OUR OUTDOOR FAMILY

Dear friends,

I recently read “The Overstory,” a Pulitzer Prize winning novel by Richard Powers told from the perspective of the trees and forest. One character’s personal fascination launches a career focused on the communication between trees. The scientific community initially discredits her ideas, casting her as an outsider. But, later in the novel, researchers confirm and expand upon her ideas, making this ‘outsider’ a leader—and lending truth to fiction by including discoveries which are actually real.

“Outsiders discovered how seeds remember the seasons of their childhood and set buds accordingly. Outsiders discovered that trees sense the presence of other nearby life.” To preserve the knowledge of the trees, she begins to save seeds for the predicted, imperiled future. “To solve the future, we must save the past.”

Here’s my takeaway: the Door Peninsula is awash with ‘outsiders’ who sense the deep truth of nature, whether guided by science or intuition, and I take great comfort in that fact. From volunteer preserve stewards, to the Chambers Island conservation heroes, to people just like you, our community of ‘outsiders’—our *outdoor family*—is a force and together we are making a difference.

As the days in our ‘Year of Discovery’ shorten, for me, the discovery of the year remains the overwhelming power of our community. From belief in the Land Trust’s mission to protect lands and waters, to unprecedented generosity, you, our community, stepped-up to swiftly protect Pebble Beach in perpetuity. Call us ‘outsiders’ or ‘insiders,’ we’re all part of this outdoor family, and our hearts are right where they belong.

Solving the future by saving our past is what we do. And, it’s what you do by supporting Door County Land Trust. Thank you.



Tom Clay, Executive Director
Door County Land Trust



Chambers Island conservation heroes (seated, front row; see page13) with past and present Board of Directors and staff.



Photo by Dan Eggett

PROTECTING A GEOLOGIC GEM

Pebble Beach is iconic in many ways, but its biggest claim to fame lies in its namesake – the smooth, long, wide (dolomitic limestone) pebbles that cover the beach. As loved as the shoreline is, the real geologic value of the property rests not in today’s beach but in the ancient shoreline ridges. The property shows thirteen post-glacial shorelines created by changing water levels in the Green Bay basin during and after the retreat of the last continental ice sheets. From Little Sister Cemetery down to today’s shoreline, one can see the receding lake levels of ancient Lakes Algonquin and Nipissing. The historic beach shows how the Niagara Escarpment crumbled to form the fragile shorelines, and is one of a few remaining examples of what formed over thousands of years.

WAVES OF SUPPORT FOR PEBBLE BEACH

Door County Land Trust met the first milestone to protect Pebble Beach thanks to hundreds of supporters contributing to protect the beloved shoreline and land. The Village of Sister Bay with help from the Land Trust met the second milestone for the project when they received \$1 million in funding through the Wisconsin Department of Administration via a National Oceanic and Atmospheric Association (NOAA) Coastal and Estuarine Land Conservation Program grant and completed the purchase of the property on September 18, 2019. The next project milestones include applying for a grant through the Wisconsin Knowles-Nelson Stewardship Program and the completion of a conservation easement agreement which will permanently protect the land and shoreline for generations to come. The Village of Sister Bay continues to raise funds for the project through the Door County Land Trust website at DoorCountyLandTrust.org/PebbleBeach.



Photo by Jim Perry

Ancient shoreline ridge, Little Sister Bay



Photo by Mary Van Dyke

Pebble Beach, Little Sister Bay



Photo by Jim Perry

Cedar forest, Little Sister Bay

MACKAYSEE SHORELINE PROTECTED

This summer a 25-acre property was added to the Chambers Island Nature Preserve on the northern shore of Lake Mackaysee. The property contains mature forests, coastal wetlands, and more than 2,500 feet of Lake Mackaysee shoreline. Lake Mackaysee is a shallow lake with a sandy shoreline comprised of small ridges formed by wave action that closed it off years ago from Green Bay. Preservation of this land helps protect the ecology of Lake Mackaysee. The forested part of this property features mature red oak, sugar maple, white pine, big tooth aspen, and paper birch. Among Chambers Island’s unique ecological features is its diverse forest which attracts more than 170 species of birds during the year. Nesting bald eagles depend on Lake Mackaysee and its surrounding forests for food, habitat, and their young. In addition to the record number of bird species found here, the Chambers Island Nature Preserve is now Door County Land Trust’s largest nature preserve at 715 acres.



Photo by Dan Eggert



Photo by Dan Egger



Photo by Dan Egger

HEADWATER WETLANDS PROTECTED AT GIBRALTAR-EPHRAIM SWAMP

Gibraltar-Ephraim Swamp Natural Area is a large coastal wetland corridor in Ephraim that is the focus of a multi-year land protection effort by the Land Trust. In 2019 key headwater wetlands and stream corridors of two creeks flowing into Eagle Harbor and Green Bay were protected with two purchases totaling 120 acres. Now, more than 275 acres are permanently protected at the heart of a larger wildlife corridor that contains a mature white cedar forest, providing habitat for a variety of birds, plants and animals. Grant funding through the Environmental Protection Agency's Great Lakes Restoration Initiative and the Knowles-Nelson Stewardship Program supported the two purchases. Meanwhile, efforts to raise the necessary Stewardship Endowment Fund contribution for the long-term care of the newly protected lands continue.



Photo by Jim Perry



Photo by Jamie Palmer



Photo by Nancy Allen



Photo by Jamie Palmer

BAY SHORE BLUFFLANDS BUCKTHORN BLAST EFFORTS CREATE A BUFFET FOR THE BUTTERFLIES, BIRDS, AND BEES

The three-year community conservation effort to battle buckthorn and other invasive shrubs at the Bay Shore Blufflands has begun a new chapter as Door County Land Trust reintroduced native species this summer. The new garden incorporates many native plants, while also providing the neighborhood a teaching space highlighting sustainable gardening. Volunteers and preserve neighbors assisted by planting a demonstration pollinator garden and braided row hedge near the lower parking area on Bay Shore Drive. Their work now serves as an oasis for butterflies, birds, bees, and other pollinators. More than twenty volunteers participated in the initial planting and took turns over the dry summer months to water the young seedlings. The plants will mature over the next several years, providing the pollen, nectar, fruits, and seeds that native and migratory wildlife need for survival.





Photo by Jim Perry

CITIZEN SCIENTISTS IN ACTION

Along Door County's Lake Michigan shoreline, stretching from Baileys Harbor north to Newport State Park, lies the Door Peninsula Coastal Wetlands complex. It is designated a Wetland of International Importance under the Ramsar Convention, an intergovernmental treaty for protection of exemplary wetland systems around the world. One of only 39 sites in the US bearing this designation, more than 11,000 acres of land have been protected by Door County Land Trust and conservation partners including The Nature Conservancy, The Ridges Sanctuary, University of Wisconsin-Green Bay, Wisconsin Department of



Photo by Jim Perry



Photo by Mary Van Dyke



Photo by Mary Van Dyke



Photo by Jamie Palmer



Natural Resources, Door County Parks, and others. During June 2019, conservation partners worked together with Milwaukee’s Urban Ecology Center to host a “BioBlitz” to document species found here. The four-day study aimed to count as many plant, animal, insect, bird, spider, and other species as possible. Researchers and scientists worked in partnership with volunteer citizen scientists to collect and record the data. More than 500 documented species show the breadth of biodiversity on these lands. Research efforts such as these aid in providing information needed for the care of the wetlands.

Photo by Jamie Palmer



Photo by Jamie Palmer



Photo by Jamie Palmer



Photo by Jamie Palmer



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

LEGACY CIRCLE MEMBERS

Abbott, Ann
Anderson, Bob and Dorothy
Anderson, Robert C
Anonymous (6)
Aten, Nancy and Collins, Dan
Aufreere-Sebetic, Jacqueline
Aulabaugh, Norman and Carol
Baer, Charles and Stephanie
Barlament, Steve and Carolyn
Barrett, Jean and Nevalainen, David
Beadell, Priscilla and Anthony
Bell, Hugh and Joyce
Blankenburg, Ralph and Kathy
Blanton, James and Barbara
Burkhardt, Richard and Dorothy
Burton, Frances and Paul
Bussard, Ken
Cady, Bonnie
CaJacob, Claire and DuMont, Debra
Callsen, Dave and Vonnie
Carpenter, John and Julie
Cermak, Ardis
Coleman, Beth and Wessel, Curt
Conroy, Peter and Beverly Ann
Cooper, Terrie
Cosgrove, Michael and Julia
Cross, Jerry and Steffens, Jayne
D'Abbraccio, Deanna and Morgan, Barbara
Deschler, Peter and Gina
Diekman, Marianne
Dimberg, Lyn
Donegan, Sharon
Ficken, Millicent S
Friedl, Mike and Carolyn
Fundingsland, Donald W
Gerrits, Lloyd R and Dorothy J
Hake, Donna
Hansotia, Phil and Marilyn
Herndon, Richard and Carol
Heveran, Edward and Janet
Hoehn, James L and Goldberg, Nancy J
Holm, Barbara
Hunter, Fran and Laatsch, Bill
Jacobson, Rod and Jean
Klepp, Dottie
Klug, Karl and Lucy
Knox, Robert W and Schlott, Kathryn E

*Door County Land Trust welcomed several new households to the Legacy Circle this year. Their names are listed in **bold type**.*

Kokes, Dan and Jeannie
 Koutnik, Dr Ed and Cindy
 Kress, Billie
 Larson, Richard and Roberta
 Leavitt, Mitch and Jean
 Lester, Jim and Barbee
 Licata, Tony and Judy
 Lisle, Tom and Bev
 Luker, Donald R
 Lukes, Charlotte
 Madden, Michael and Barbara
 Miller, Ed and Sandy
 Miller, Kenneth and Glenda
 Moline, Ronald and Barbara
 Morris, Greg and Terry
 Nowak, Peter and Jean Ann
 Olsen, Lawrence and Lynn
Ottum, Jeff and Barb
 Perry, Kerry
 Propsom, Rich and Bruesch, Jane
Queenen, Allen and Karen
 Schultz, Craig and Sandy
 Schwengel, Jim and Judy
 Seagard, Tom and Kozma, Brigitte

Seville, Mr and Mrs Joseph Y
 Sherman, Gerald and Lipp, Carolyn
 Silberman, Ann Monteith
 Standish, Michael and Mary
Swanson, John and Deanna
 Traven, Lee
 Turner, John and Judy
 Turriff, Tom
 Van Den Brandt, John and Jean
 Vanden Houten, Dale and
 Scott, Richard
 Vervoren, Thora
 Walwark, James and Polly
 Warner, David and Rose
 Watson, Rob and Picken, Judy
 Wilson, John and Karen
 Wissink, Steve and Janet
 Wittenkeller, Al and Judy
 Yancey, John and Karen
Yeast, Gary and Barbara
 Yeomans, Robert and Charlotte
 Youell, Sylvia
 Zehr, Alison

Thank you!

UPCOMING MOONLIGHT HIKES AND MORE...

Reserve your spot today! Register at DoorCountyLandTrust.org/Hike

- 1/11 7-9pm Sat Full Moon Hike at Miller Conservation Easement, Baileys Harbor
- 1/11 7-9pm Sat Full Moon Hike at Legacy Nature Preserve at Clay Banks, Southern Door
- 2/9 7-9pm Sun Full Moon Hike at Neuman Conservation Easement, Baileys Harbor
- 2/9 7-9pm Sun Full Moon Hike at Sturgeon Bay Ship Canal Nature Preserve
- 4/11 10am-12pm Celebrate Spring Hike at Sturgeon Bay Ship Canal Nature Preserve
- 4/22 9:30-11:30am Earth Day Walk at Heins Creek Nature Preserve, south of Baileys Harbor

SAVE THE DATE! MIDWINTER GATHERING Saturday, February 8, 2020

Each winter we gather round to hear stories of the incredible lands and waters that together we are protecting—and to raise a glass to celebrate the success. Look for your invitation in the mail in January, but mark your calendars and plan on joining us for an evening of winter celebration!





Photos by Mary Van Dyke

DISCOVER, STEWARD, INSPIRE! VOLUNTEERS MAKE A DIFFERENCE

Volunteers contribute to every aspect of the Door County Land Trust. They maintain trails, monitor birds, advise committees, lead events, inspire our community of supporters, and so much more.

Thank you for making the Door County Land Trust mission a part of your lives.

Alesch, Karen
 Allen, Ross
 Andrae, Dan
 Andrae, Marjorie
 Aten, Nancy
 Barnard, Francha
 Barnes, David
 Barrett, Jean
 Basten, Susan
 Baumann, Galena
 Benson, Don
 Bero, Robert
 Bicoy, Nalani
 Billeaud, Lana
 Blackwood, Tom
 Bladholm, Ann

Bladholm, John
 Blahnik, Jim
 Blahnik, Judith
 Blanchard, Pam
 Blankenburg, Kathleen
 Blankenburg, Ralph
 Brevard, Mary
 Buege, David
 Buege, Susan
 Burnham, Bonnie
 Capp, Stephen
 Carmen, Vicky
 Chang, Robert
 Cochrane, Carl
 Collins, Dan
 Cramer, Judy

Cubar, Susan
 Czypinski, Rob
 D'Abbraccio, Deanna
 Degeneffe, Amy
 DeNardo, Donna
 DeNardo, Tony
 Deschler, Peter
 Desotell, Larry
 Di Iulio, Helene
 Doerr, Bobbi
 Dubick, Kris
 Dubick, Marc
 Eggert, Dan
 Erskine, Holly
 Erskine, Tim
 Evenson, Sarah

Fatke, Tay
 Finger, Jack
 Fiorato, Cathy
 Fiorato, Tony
 Fitzgerald, Judy
 Fitzgerald, Tim
 Fletcher, Suzanne
 Fortin, Guy
 Frank, Barbara
 Freyman, Sarah
 Friedberg, Gerri
 Friedl, Carolyn
 Glasser, Linda
 Glasser, Mark
 Goodner, Dale
 Goodner, Mary

Greene, Tad
 Grimm, Mike
 Groenfeldt, Keli
 Hagman-Shannon, Deb
 Hake, Bruce
 Hake, Donna
 Hanney, Roxanne
 Hansotia, Marilyn
 Harkaway, Jill
 Hartman, Mary
 Haus, Allison
 Haus, Nick
 Heilman, David
 Hein, Marilyn
 Herbst, James E
 Hermann, John

Holey, Mark
 Holm, Randall
 Hubbard, Denise
 Hubbard, Kenneth
 Hubing, Dan
 Hubing, Kathy
 Isensee, Karen
 Jacobson, Jean
 Jacobson, Rod
 Johnson, Donna
 Judd, Robert
 Keck, Krista
 Knox, Julie
 Kokes, Jeannie
 Kopec, Joe
 Krebs, Jean

Krebs, Jerry
 Krumenacher, Jamie
 Kruse, Christopher
 Laack, Debra Corrao
 Lester, Jim
 Lincoln, Eleanor
 Ling, Bob
 Ling, Heidi
 Lisle, Bev
 Lisle, Tom
 Livingston, Andy
 Lokken, Judy
 Lokken, Ron
 Lueking, Joel
 Lukes, Charlotte
 Maloney, Kevin

CHAMBERS ISLAND NATURE PRESERVE LEADERS RECEIVE CONSERVATIONISTS OF THE YEAR AWARD!

This year Mary Brevard, Suzanne Fletcher, Barbara Frank, and Mary Jane Rintelman, were awarded Conservationists of the Year by Gathering Waters. These four conservation heros, partnering with the Land Trust, have overcome incredible challenges to protect Chambers Island. By the year-end, nearly 800 acres will be permanently protected. The story of the group's tenacity and vision illustrates a commitment to protecting the lands, waters, wildlife, and ways of life that make Wisconsin so very special. The Land Trust is proud to highlight these leaders and to recognize their five-year effort to protect Chambers Island.



Maloney, Laura	Nelson, Kay	Purinton, Hoyt	Schultz, Sandy	Swanson, Deanna	Wessels, Bill	Yancey, Karen
Maloney, Ron	Nielsen, Laura Beck	Radtke, Al	Seefeldt, Andy	Swanson, Gerry	Wessels, Trudy	Youngsteadt, Duane
Martin, Mark	Olbrantz, Jennifer	Reynolds, Sheila	Seefeldt, Jillaine	Swanson, John	Whitney, Jane	Youngsteadt, Leslie
Maynard, Vicki	Ortinau, Jeff	Rintelman, Mary Jane	Seiler, Terrie	Taylor, Joe	WI DNR	Ziarnik, David
McCarthy, Mary Jo	Ottum, Barb	Rockway, Sheryll	Serrahn, Janet	Thilly, Mary	Wick, Tim	
McCutcheon, Mike	Ottum, Jeff	Rockway, Todd	Shadle, Neil	Thilly, Roy	Wilcox, Karen	
McCutcheon, Windsor	Palmer, Jamie	Rossman, Glen	Shannon, Dan	Troutman, Bryan	Wilder, Nick	
Miller, Ed	Paulson, Tom	Rossman, Grace	Sherwood, Debra	Troutman, Diane	Wilson, Karen	
Miller, Sandy	Pepelnjak, Anna	Samida, Judy	Sherwood, Peter	Utley, Bill	Wolff, Bill	
Minahan, Thomas	Perkins, Judy	Samson, Krista	Shields, Walt	Victor, Elisha	Wolff, Kathy	
Morgan, Barbara	Perry, Jim	Samson, Lydia	Siebel, Barbara	Walker, Bill	Wolter, Cindy	
Morley, Daniel	Peters, Glenna	Sauve, Bill	Simich, Val	Walsh, Melody	Wolter, Rich	
Mullaney, Gail	Peters, Stefan	Schaars, Bill	Spitzley, John	Watson, Rob	Wrede, Jan	
Mullaney, Pat	Petersen, Sandy	Schmelzer, Gretchen	Sterrenberg, Paul	Webster, Bobbie	Wright, Pat	
Mutchler, Keith	Pikas, Bruce	Schranz, Ann	Stiefel, John	Wehling, John	Wulle-Dugan, Kate	
Nelson, Bryan	Pikas, Joan	Schultz, Craig	Stone, Tim	Wenzel, Erich	Yancey, John	

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

Join us in thanking our Annual Business Members!

Please patronize these businesses that support land preservation. And, when you do, please thank them for contributing to the Door County Land Trust.



Photo by Dan Eggert

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- Sound Finances
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Your recipient will receive a one-year membership, including a gift package of our most recent newsletter, a Land Trust member decal, and a *Hiking Trails Map*, along with a letter informing them of your gift. DoorCountyLandTrust.org/Gift

EVERGREEN GIVING

Setting up a monthly donation from your checking account or credit card is simple, safe, and secure. Your monthly donation helps us care for trails, restore native plants, and protect Door County's special places. Whether you donate \$5, \$10, or \$50 per month, your donation adds up and makes a difference! To begin, visit DoorCountyLandTrust.org/Evergreen, click the button to 'Donate Online,' and select 'monthly.' **Door County's wild things thank you!**



Door County Land Trust

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

(920) 746-1359 • www.DoorCountyLandTrust.org

PO Box 65, Sturgeon Bay, WI 54235

*Protecting
Door County's
exceptional lands
and waters would
not be possible
without you!*

*Thank you to
our community,
members, and
volunteers who
love this land.*

