

Landings

Journal of the Door County Land Trust

*Nature's Puzzle
Balancing Humans in Nature*



Door County's Nature Offers its Unending Hope

After the darkest night, the sun is sure to rise. After the harshest, coldest winter, spring's sunshine and summer's warmth are destined to arrive. There's a rhythm to the cycle of days and seasons—and despite all the world's uncertainties, we can rely on these steady cycles of nature to give our souls strength, calm, and connection.

Weeks ago, we planned the annual theme of this issue not knowing its significance. We aimed to thank all those who've given so very generously and recognize the community that makes possible our conservation work. Community conservation is not just a catchphrase—it's how we are protecting Door County's lands and waters for each other, for our whole community.

Thanks to you, our community, the lands that you've helped protect are here now to offer fresh air, solace, and a connection to nature's rhythm. You've given generously to help protect Door County's nature; now Door County's nature offers its unending hope for you. The restoration of body, mind, and spirit through these lands and waters gives new meaning to a vision of life thriving on the Door Peninsula, its islands, and its waters.

As you take care of yourself, you care for your health, body, and mind. Please take care with nature, as she cares for you. Breathe. Listen. Observe. Feel. Reflect. Whether you're enjoying the rhythm of spring from your backyard, reading the words of those who embrace nature's rhythm like Aldo Leopold, John Muir, and Bob Luke, or watching the photos and videos on our website and social media, allow nature's restorative power to give you hope.

While the healing process will take time and will include uncertainty, you can rely on the land and its protected places, open to our whole community. Forever Trees will soon begin their trip, birds will migrate to their nesting sites, fish will journey to streams to spawn, and spring flowers and new leaves will burst at every level, from the ground beneath us to the forest canopy.

Just as spring pushes forward, so too does our community-focused conservation work. We invite you to reach out to us and stay connected. We heal stronger together.

Be well and stay safe.



Tom Clay
Executive Director

Cinnamon Rossman
Director of Charitable Giving

P.S. Join us in celebrating the rhythm of the days and seasons by sharing photos, observations, and reflections from nature on our website at DoorCountyLandTrust.org/DoorNature.



Door County Land Trust

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



On the cover...

This aerial photo of Washington Island shows the contiguous canopy of Richter Community Forest and the Detroit Harbor Nature Preserves. Big and Little Susie Islands, donated in 2019, are circled. Read more on page 7.

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NATURE'S PUZZLE

Dear Friends,

My wife is a voracious jigsaw puzzler and my dogs are equally adept at carrying puzzle pieces into the dark of night. The end result is frustration and confusion. The angered puzzler's work will never be complete and the carrier, just doing what carriers do, mopes about feeling all scolded and confused.

I think our relationship with nature is a lot like the puzzle and the pups. The natural resources on which we rely followed a natural course of evolution for billions of years, creating complex, interconnected systems of lands, waters, air, and dependent life. However, our incredibly rapid emergence as a species, coupled with our cognitive capacity to build and expand, has resulted in the alteration of Earth's natural order. We have lost, and continue to lose, natural puzzle pieces and we grapple with the fact that nature's puzzle shall never be the same.

But, at Door County Land Trust, we believe that it is not too late for life to thrive on the Door Peninsula, its islands, and surrounding waters. We understand that our actions on land fundamentally impact the quality of our water, and we know that healthy lands and waters improve the quality of our lives.

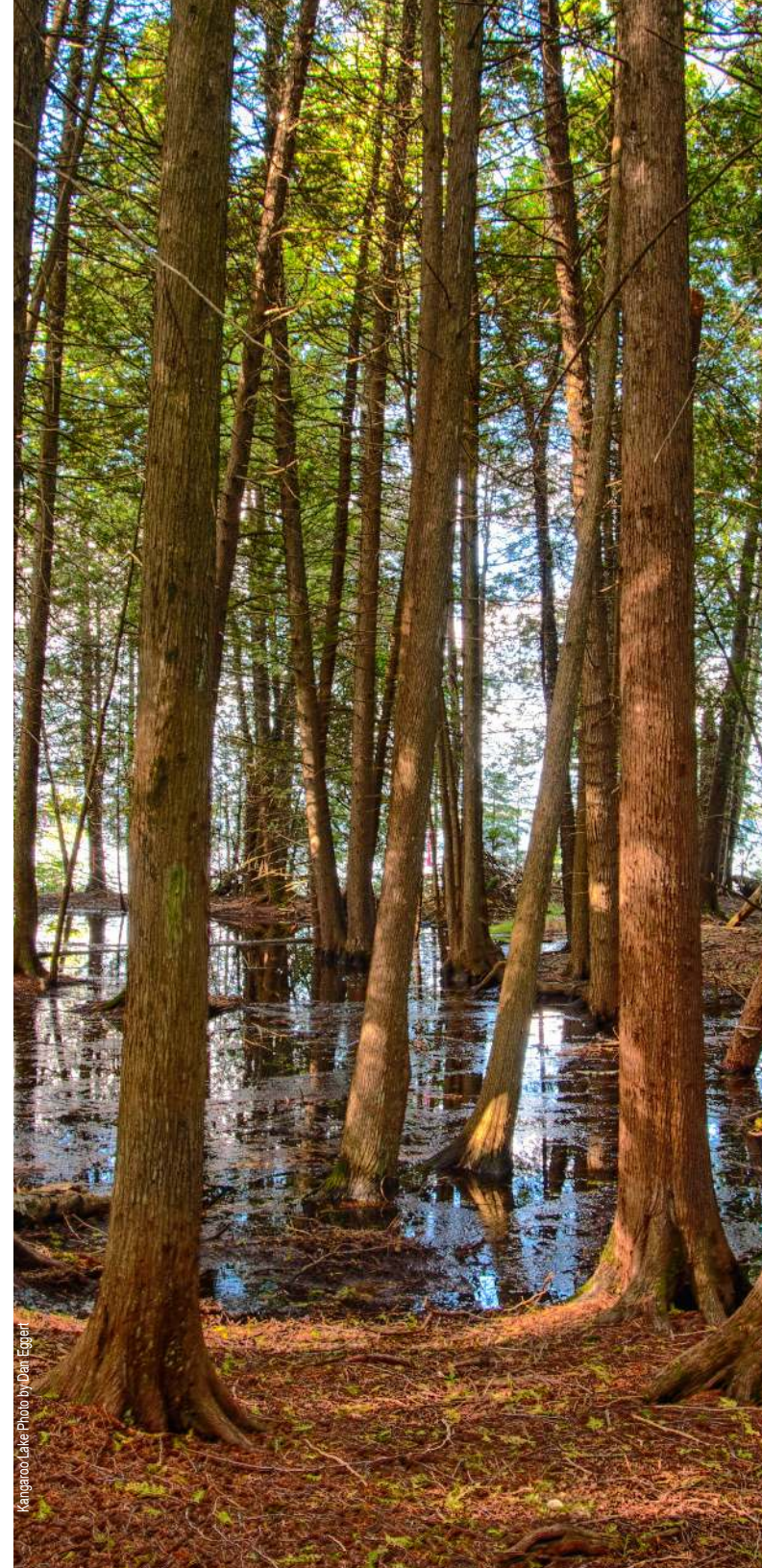
That is why we protect and nurture our lands and waters and work to connect native landscapes that strengthen the diversity of our ecosystems. We recognize that we have altered nature forever, but we believe that we can strike a new balance and forge new relationships with natural communities, not as a species above the rest, but instead as a single interconnected puzzle piece dependent upon other puzzle pieces such as clean water, healthy landscapes, and a rich diversity of organisms.

Thank you for believing in the mission and vision of Door County Land Trust and thank you for supporting our work. Together, with your help, we will continue to find ways to live within nature's fragile network of interconnected systems.

Yours in conservation,



Tom Clay
Executive Director



Kangaroo Lake Photo by Dan Egbert

Our Conservation Family Story

Notes and photos received in support of the effort to protect Pebble Beach

September 15, 2019



PEBBLE BEACH, circa 1920s

This is where our family's Door County connection began.
Lynn Budzak

Thanks for all your effort and work. "Someone's sitting in the shade today because someone planted a tree a long time ago."
George Luvisi

The most peaceful, wonderful way to start each day. I would be heartbroken to lose it after over 40 years of visits there. Please save this beautiful corner of Door County!!
Julie Bromley

Thank you for protecting this beach. It is my favorite spot on Earth.
Adam Biver

Thank you for your efforts protecting Pebble Beach! We have gone there for 4 generations! Our kids and their friends raised money at a lemonade stand they ran this summer and I matched their donation. All the cousins made signs in Ephraim that we used at the lemonade stand. Glad we could all work together to help protect such a cherished place!

Cheers, Emily, Pete, and Izzy

Dear Door County Land Trust,
As with so many families, Pebble Beach is truly a special place and holds countless precious memories for our family. I and my three sisters, spent many summers paddle-boarding around the waters off Pebble Beach. My wife, Mary, and I would bring our three children, Michael, John, and Jennifer, to the beach where they would spend hours digging for crayfish, hunting for the perfect round pebble, and stacking those fascinating rocks into the tallest towers they could construct. My father would drive a car full of his grandkids and his Golden Retrievers, Sam, Caruso, and later Julio, to that beach where they could throw sticks and rocks into the bay and the dogs would joyfully chase the treasures enthusiastically tossed by the grandkids. We have brought our children and Golden Retrievers, Chelsea & later Ellie, to Pebble Beach to enjoy the natural splendor and wonder of this precious hidden gem in Door County. Pebble Beach was a paddle-boarding haven and a dog-friendly beach before those terms were even a "thing" like they are today! It has always been a special place for the kids, parents, grandparents, cousins, aunts, uncles, and, perhaps most importantly, our four-legged family members to bond, play, and relax. It brings us great joy knowing we have helped continue the legacy of this wondrous and magical place. We hope the images might help others catch a glimpse of the deep sense of connection our family has for Pebble Beach. As I'm sure you are well aware by the stories pouring forth during this important preservation time, Pebble Beach brings families together and connects families generation after generation, and our family is no exception to this phenomenon.
I wish you all the best in your preservation efforts.

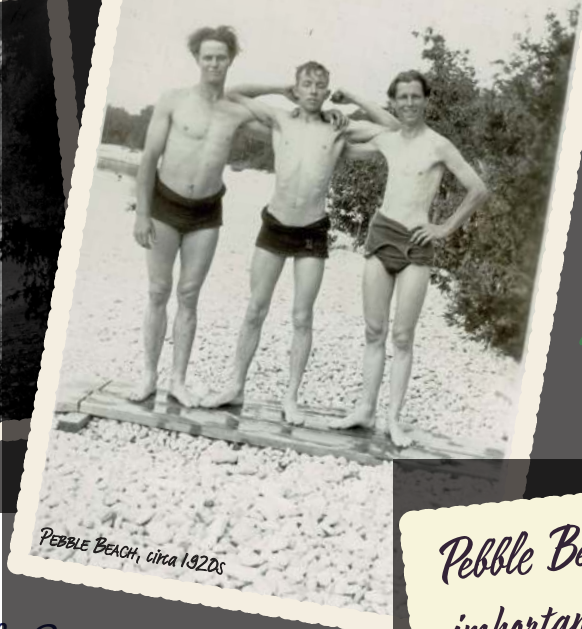
Kind Regards,
Mary and Bob Wiley



PEBBLE BEACH, circa 1930s

What a spot!! Been loving the beach for 60 years. Thank you Do. Co. Land Trust and Sister Bay. Peggy Cardiff

Thank you for helping to preserve this significant coast line!!!
Cathy Grier



We often took our boat to Pebble Beach and anchored off the shore to swim and just enjoy the beauty of not only the shore, but also at times the sunset.
Marianne Diekmann

Thank you for your efforts in preserving a very important treasure. Pebble Beach is very special to our family & we must save it for the next generation to enjoy. Cynthia Krautkramer



Pebble Beach holds a special place in our family's heart.
Kirsten Bungener

Pebble Beach is the most important place on the planet to me. Thank you for your vision, perseverance and efforts to protect Pebble Beach.
All the best, Anne Hart

Pebble Beach and Little Sister Bay is a treasured, sacred spot to our family. Many happy memories of boating, fishing, swimming and vacationing there.
Nancy Stott

I grew up in Little Sister Bay. My aunt and uncle Bernice and Winfield Anderson had been part owners of Little Sister Resort. I grew up believing Pebble Beach was Heaven on Earth with the clear water, smooth stones that didn't hurt your feet, and acres of woods to explore as a child..Many family picnics were held at Pebble Beach...(and to those who remember, the epic water fights). A heart-felt thank you to all who stepped up to protect this gem of a place, and look forward to meeting many of you on the Beach.
John Johnson



I'm thrilled that we are taking steps to protect this precious land! Gus Carlson

I have a lot of memories of landing there with our little sailboat 48 years ago, having a picnic lunch, and swimming (or waiting till mom said that 30 minutes were up and I could go swimming). Gosh, maybe I DON'T actually remember swimming...just waiting!!!
Dr. Sharon J. Anderson



For years, when our children were little, Pebble Beach was a port of call when we sailed our little family sailboat around Little Sister Bay. We would look forward to having a picnic on the beach. I remember wearing old tennis shoes to walk over the rocks from the sailboat. There was always peace and beauty for us at that beach.
Stefan Anderson

Spent many, many hours swimming at Pebble Beach as a kid. I remember hiding my cherry pail under a tree and ducking out to the beach. Years later my engagement ring was lost at the beach and found 3 days later under 8 to 10 inches of rock. Have so many memories!
Ken & Charlotte Rouske

Thank you!

PROTECTING LANDS AND WATERS, PLANTS AND ANIMALS

Simply counting acres, Door County Land Trust has much to be proud of. But, there's so much more than acres protected. Species of greatest conservation need, the Red-shouldered Hawk and Brewer's Blackbird...Significant wetland, springs and streams that define a watershed and a community...Annual migration points for birds and monarchs...Coastal wetlands, freshwater estuaries, and harbors that provide fresh, clean water for spawning fish...Protecting these interconnected pieces of nature's puzzle is paramount to fulfilling a vision for life to thrive on the Door Peninsula, its islands, and waters. In 2019, working toward this vision resulted in 263 acres protected!

- 1-2 Coastal Wetlands and Cedar Swamp, Gibraltar-Ephraim Swamp Natural Area**
41-acre and 80-acre purchases of mature white cedar swamp, a fragile and vital ecosystem that supports many rare or endangered plant and animal species, such as the dwarf-lake iris, red-shouldered hawk and bald eagle. Both properties are within the core of the larger wildlife corridor that includes the headwaters of several creeks which drain westward into Ephraim's Eagle Harbor and the bay of Green Bay.
- 3 Lake Mackaysee shoreline and forest, Chambers Island Nature Preserve**
25-acre property containing mature forests, coastal wetlands, and 2,265 feet of Lake Mackaysee shoreline serves as a land corridor to the larger Chambers Island Nature Preserve.
- 4-6 Mixed forest lands, Chambers Island Nature Preserve** Three properties, totaling about 81-acres, forested with a mix of sugar maple, red oak, hemlock, American beech, red maple, white pine, and basswood, protect high-quality migratory bird habitat.
- 7 Forest, stream and meadows, Schmidtke Conservation Easement**
21-acre conservation easement protects productive stream habitat, working forest, and monarch migration point in Southern Door conservation priority area.
- 8 Big Susie Island and Little Susie Island, Detroit Harbor Nature Preserve**
15-acre land donation consisting of 2 islands lying just offshore from the Detroit Harbor Nature Preserve. The islands and shoreline form a freshwater estuary known for its exceptional fish habitat.

We thank the following partner organizations and agencies for their support of our current land acquisition and stewardship projects:

Environmental Protection Agency,
Great Lakes Restoration Initiative Funds

Fox River & Green Bay Natural Resource Trustee Council

The Nature Conservancy, Sustain Our Great Lakes Grant

U.S. Fish & Wildlife Service, Partner Program

WI Department of Natural Resources, Knowles-Nelson
Stewardship Program



FOX RIVER
GREEN BAY
Natural Resource
Trustee Council



The Nature
Conservancy
Protecting nature. Preserving life.



2019 LAND PROTECTION PROJECTS

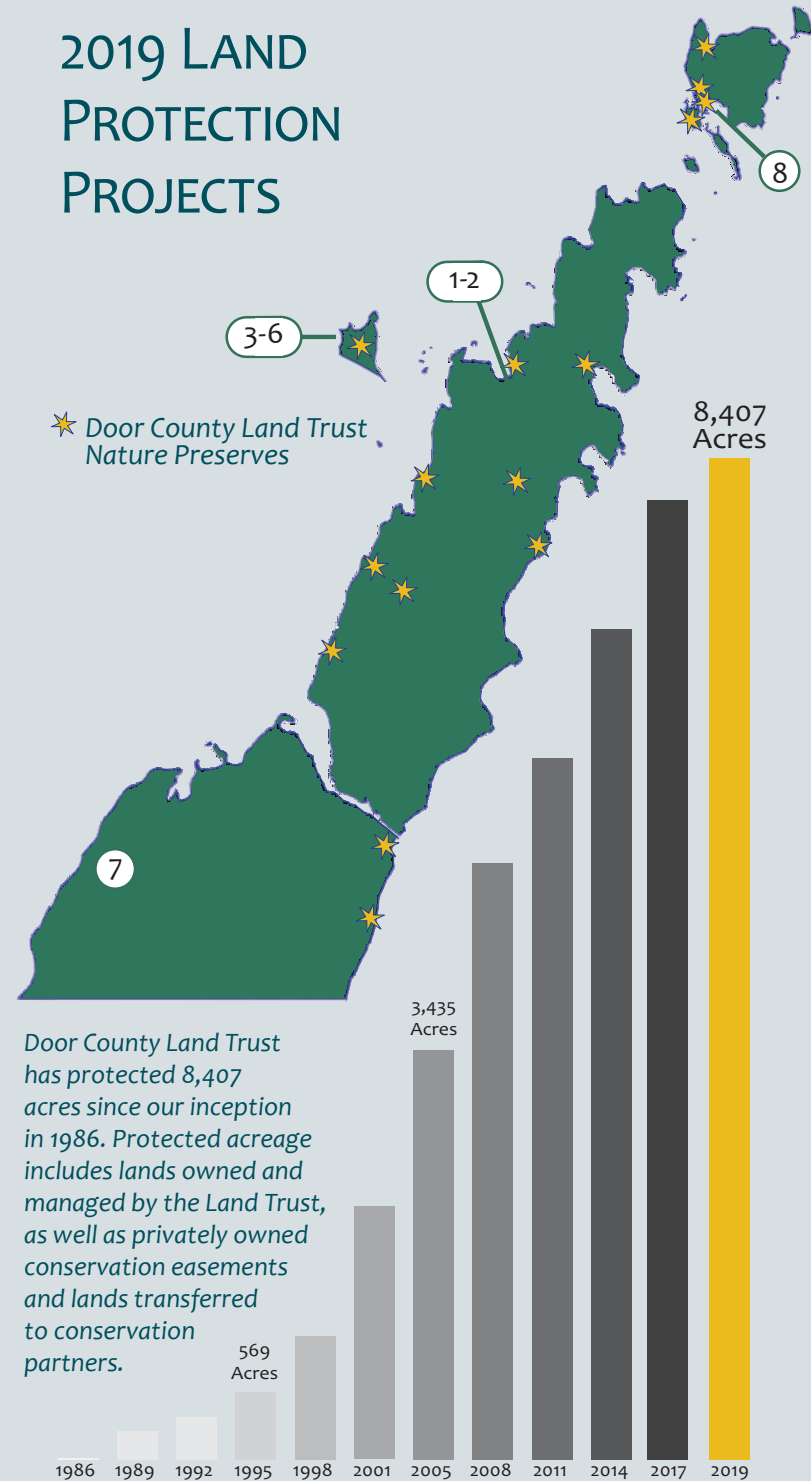




Photo by Julie Schartner

Photo by Julie Schartner

Photo by Julie Schartner

Four Generations of Land Legacy: Susie Islands Donated to Detroit Harbor Nature Preserve

In 2019, thanks to a generous and visionary land donation, the two Susie Islands became the Door County Land Trust's newest addition to the 165-acre Detroit Island Nature Preserve on Washington Island. "Named after Susie, the daughter of the Kalmbach family, Susie Islands' first European settlers, the islands have been a part of the extended Richter family history, off and on, since the 1870's," according to Hoyt Purinton, Arni Richter's grandson, who has served on the Land Trust's Washington Island project committee for 14 years.

Kaye and John McClaren, also grandchildren of Arni Richter, generously gifted the Susie Islands to the Land Trust. "These islands have been in our family for four generations," shares Kaye McClaren. "In 1968, my granduncle Paul Richter gave the islands to my mother and father, Adele Richter and Bruce McClaren, for their wedding gift." Adele's father, Arni Richter, perhaps jokingly as he loved to do, had plans to build a bridge to the islands in hopes his daughter and her new family would live there. Of course, that bridge never was built and in the late 1970's Kaye's parents divorced and her mother kept the islands until 1992 when she passed away. Kaye's father, Bruce McClaren, held the islands in a trust until Kaye and John made the decision to donate them to Door County Land Trust.

"Having grown up spending our summers on Washington Island, paddle boarding and kayaking amongst the lily pads and around the islands discovering bald eagles, egrets, sandhill cranes, kingfishers and great blue herons, we imagined building a cabin there someday," Kaye said. As that dream faded, Kaye and John were inspired by their grandpa Arni. Arni Richter's conservation legacy on Washington Island began when he donated 10 acres along Lobdell Point Road to the Town of Washington in 1996 to create the Washington Island Heritage Nature Trail, and in 2001 donated the adjacent 160-acre Richter Community Forest Nature Preserve to the Door County Land Trust.

Kaye and John wanted to further Arni's legacy of protected lands in Detroit Harbor and after talking with other extended family members, decided to donate the Susie Islands to the Door County Land Trust as part of the Detroit Harbor Nature Preserve. "Our entire family couldn't be more pleased with Kaye and John's decision," shares Hoyt Purinton, "and best of all, with these past few years of high water, the islands are once again truly two islands!"

The Big and Little Susie Islands together total approximately 15 acres and are located off the northwestern shore of Detroit Harbor on Washington Island. Between the Susie Islands and the shoreline of the nature preserve lays a freshwater estuary, known locally as the Richter Bayou, which is a significant and productive smallmouth bass nursery for northern Green Bay and Lake Michigan. The Susie Islands are undeveloped with an exterior ring of white cedar and an interior northern mesic forest which includes hardwood species such as sugar and red maple, American beech, white and yellow birch, and boreal conifer species such as black spruce and balsam fir. These island forests provide habitat for migratory and breeding birds.

Big and Little Susie Islands are an essential part of a larger conservation plan to protect the wetlands, forests, water quality, migratory and breeding bird habitat, and fisheries within Detroit Harbor. Since the Land Trust's first purchase at Detroit Harbor in 2004, the Door County Land Trust now owns and manages nearly 165 acres as part of the Detroit Harbor Nature Preserve on Washington, Detroit, and Big and Little Susie Islands.

The Door County Land Trust thanks the Richter and McClaren Families for their generous gift to further conservation of Detroit Harbor and the surrounding lands.



Photo by Dan Eggert

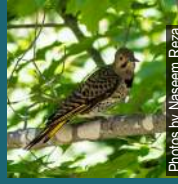
Gibraltar-Ephraim Swamp Natural Area: Where Land and Water Meet

Door County's 300 plus miles of shoreline are nearly the same as Lake Michigan's 307-mile stretch from north to south. In fact, Door County's shoreline accounts for 20% of the total Lake Michigan shoreline! Our actions on land here have a significant impact on the quality of water in Green Bay and Lake Michigan. Coastal wetlands, lakes, rivers, creeks, marshes, fens, and the low-lying swamps found near Door County's shorelines, provide a buffer that filters run-off from fields and pavement, as well as any surface waters that have run through our karst bedrock and eventually appear as groundwater springs. Coastal wetlands also absorb great amounts of rain and release them more slowly, reducing flooding events.

As a coastal wetland, the Gibraltar-Ephraim Swamp Natural Area provides these benefits while additionally preserving habitat for a plethora of plant and animal species. Among species observed here are the Red-shouldered hawk, which selects habitat consisting of shoreline and bluff areas with nearby wetlands—exactly the habitat found within Gibraltar-Ephraim Swamp Natural Area! Notably this bird is listed as endangered, threatened, rare, or of special concern in 13 states, meaning protected habitats, like this one, provide essential breeding grounds.

During 2019, Door County Land Trust protected two properties totaling 121 acres and in early 2020 added an additional 30 acres, bringing the total protection of Gibraltar-Ephraim Swamp Natural Area to 307 acres. More than 1,600 acres have been identified as contributing to the health of the watershed and Ephraim's Eagle Harbor. The Land Trust will continue conservation efforts to protect this exceptional wildlife habitat and the health of recreational, drinking, and fish spawning waters.

Funding for the purchase of these conservation lands was provided by the Great Lakes Restoration Initiative (GLRI) through grant awards from the Environmental Protection Agency and WI Department of Natural Resources, as well as Migratory Bird Joint Venture, US Fish and Wildlife Service, Knowles-Nelson Stewardship Program, and the Bock Foundation. Funding for additional acquisition costs and the long-term care and management of these lands is provided through Land Trust membership support. Thank you!



Island Resort or Island Retreat?

During the roaring 20's, Chicago developers planned, and even began building, a grand golf resort on Chambers Island. They intended to cut the wooded dunes on the interior of the island and surround the golf course with hundreds of vacation cottages. Developers had just cleared and constructed the first greens when the stock market crash of 1929 put a halt on development plans.

Construction never resumed and over the past 90 years the golf greens transitioned back into forest. In fact, the interior of Chambers Island provides contiguous forest cover, save for the muskeg bog and inland lakes (Mackaysee and Krause).

But, for 178 species of birds, the Chambers Island Nature Preserve is a five-star resort that provides a non-stop buffet of insects, seeds, and berries, as well as shelter in forested canopies, grassy dunes, and open shrublands. Combined with the all-you-can-drink inland lake and shoreline, birds of all feathers are flocking to Chambers Island. Over the past 12 years, sporadic but ongoing efforts to document birds revealed the discovery of several birds that are listed as species of concern. In 2019, seven new species were documented: Bay-breasted Warbler, Bonaparte's Gull, Bufflehead, Veery, Northern Parula, Whimbrel, and the Brewer's Blackbird, which is listed as a Species of Greatest Conservation Need.

Last year Door County Land Trust added four parcels to the preserve, connecting previously protected lands within the nearly 800-acre Chambers Island Nature Preserve. Thanks to the tireless efforts of the Nature Preserve's executive committee (island summer residents Mary Brevard, Suzanne Fletcher, Mary Jane Rintelman, and Barbara Frank) the five-year effort to protect the interior of the island is a resounding success and very near completion. These island leaders received the 'Conservationists of the Year' award from Gathering Waters: Wisconsin's Alliance for Land Trust's in September 2019. We thank these islanders for building support for the vision of the nature preserve and for their efforts to raise funds to make the Chambers Island Nature Preserve a reality.

Photos by Naseem Reza



Photo by Mary Van Dyke



Photo by Drew Reinke

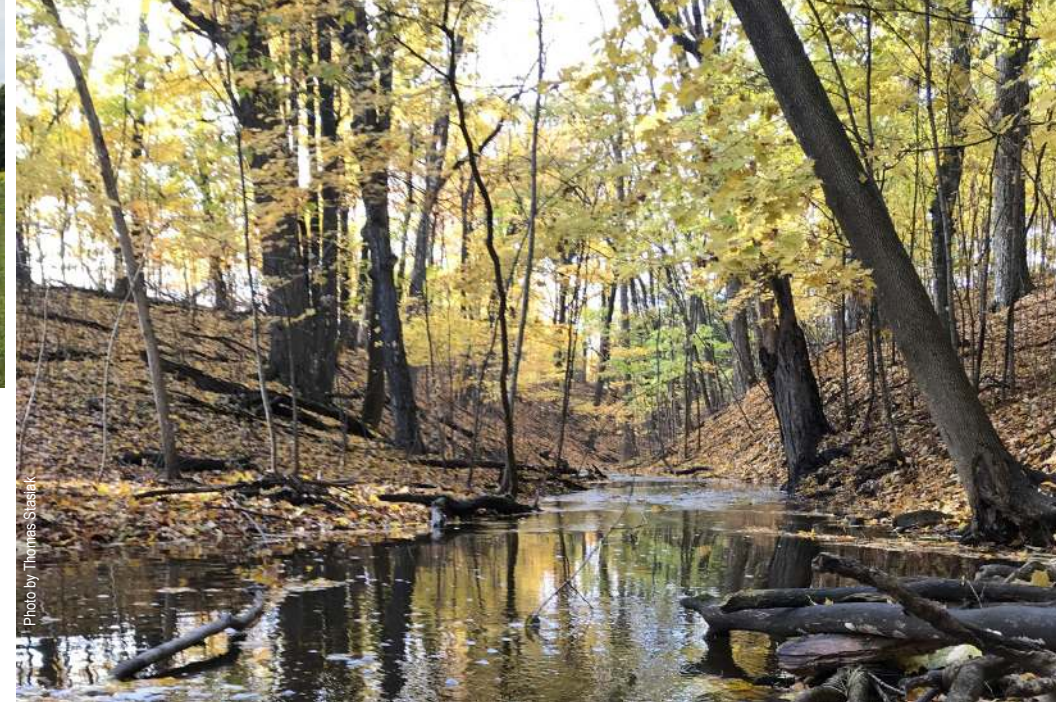


Photo by Thomas Susarik

Connected and Protected: A New Conservation Easement in Southern Door

Among the Door County Land Trust’s suite of protected nature preserves and natural areas, all lands have one thing in common—they are undeveloped, wild places. But oftentimes, privately owned lands, even those with homes and businesses, can also provide significant conservation value. Protecting larger landscapes ensures that nature preserves are not isolated islands of green, but that wildlife will benefit from diverse and connected wildlife habitats. Greater range to roam and forage, seek mates and raise young, and space for territorial animals means that populations of birds, insects, and other animals will be less affected by the impacts of habitat loss.

How can privately owned lands contribute to the ecological health of Door County? Landowners of all types can make a positive contribution by learning more about conservation and managing their land according to best practices. Some private landowners go a step further, and protect their land from future development through a conservation easement agreement with the Land Trust. In these cases, landowners retain private ownership and manage their property in a way that is consistent with protecting conservation values, while Door County Land Trust monitors to ensure the terms of the conservation easement are upheld in perpetuity.

In 2019, brothers Erich and Peter Schmidtke began the process to protect their 20-acre forest, with two small meadows and a meandering stream near the Gardner Swamp in Southern Door. The forest and meadows provide important natural habitat for wildlife, while the stream provides spawning and rearing habitat for a variety of fish species. In addition to providing wildlife habitat, the brothers also recognized the value of their property as an important monarch migration stop-over point and wished to protect the land forever by removing any possibility for future development.

The property fits well within the Land Trust’s Southern Door conservation efforts. Located on the edge of the Niagara escarpment, near the Gardner Swamp State Wildlife Area and another 460-acre Land Trust conservation easement, and less than 325 feet from the Bay of Green Bay, the Schmidtke property is one of a handful of protected properties in this area so far. The brothers hope that protecting their property will inspire other neighbors in the area to conserve their lands as well.

Door County Land Trust will continue to work in this area, as well as the neighboring Little Sturgeon and Sawyer Harbor watersheds to add to the overall protected and connected landscape. On-the-ground land protection here greatly benefits the robust natural fish spawning habitats found in these bays and streams. Door County Land Trust thanks Erich and Peter Schmidtke for donating the conservation easement agreement on their property. Funding for costs associated with creating the easement agreement was provided, in part, through membership support.



Submitted by Erich Schmidtke

Conservation easement donors,
the Schmidtke family

CARING FOR THE LAND

Bay Shore Blufflands Buckthorn Blast

Summer 2019 marked an exciting new chapter for Bay Shore Blufflands Nature Preserve, with the reintroduction of native plants following a three-year effort to battle buckthorn and other invasives. In 2019, conservation champions Ken and Denice Hubbard coordinated efforts on behalf of the Bay Shore Property Owners Association to partner with Door County Land Trust and Landscapes of Place, owned by neighbors Dan Collins and Nancy Aten, to create a new planting near the trailhead.



A braided hedge row and native pollinator garden demonstrate which native plants and shrubs would be beneficial replacements for non-native plants. Over twenty volunteers and preserve neighbors helped plot and plant near the lower parking area on Bay Shore Drive. Their work will serve as an oasis for butterflies, birds, bees, and other pollinators as the plants mature over the next several years. The demonstration garden's native species include butterfly milkweed, prairie blazing star, and wild bergamot, which were selected to provide habitat for wildlife and pollinators, as well as their beauty. As the garden grows, it will continue to be an educational tool for anyone hoping to learn about invasive species control, while serving as a symbol of successful community conservation. Membership support makes pollinator plantings possible. Thank you!



Volunteers gathered at Bay Shore Blufflands Nature Preserve to plant the native pollinator garden.

About the Buckthorn Blast

Buckthorn Blast efforts began in 2017 by engaging neighbors to be active stewardship partners. By assisting with efforts on the nature preserve, neighbors learn about invasive and native plants, have a chance to try tools and methods of removing invasive plants, and become enthusiastic champions for the restoration of the greater Bay Shore Blufflands landscape. During 2017, 2018 and 2019, the Land Trust managed professional contractors who removed the majority of

the invasive buckthorn and exotic honeysuckle. Volunteers now help to manage for newly sprouted and recurring invasive plants, allowing native plants to re-grow in the understory.



Land Management is ‘For the Birds’

Should former farm fields be planted with trees? Which native shrub species enhance the native habitat on a nature preserve? Breeding bird surveys help to answer questions like these by monitoring the status and trends of bird populations over time, which when combined with information about ecology and habitat, can inform land management practices. Door County Land Trust conducts these surveys to establish local population and species trends, which influence how the properties are managed. Many of the bird species that breed in Door County migrate from wintering grounds in Central and South America. The quality and quantity of protected lands in Door County directly influence the populations of these birds on a global level.

The Door County Land Trust continued to conduct breeding bird surveys at a number of nature preserves in 2019. Staff, volunteers, and researchers observed birds in June and July to determine if they were breeding at the preserves. Depending on the bird’s behavior, the observation was coded to assign the likelihood that bird was breeding. For example, a male bird singing was recorded as “Possible” breeding, while a bird carrying nesting material was recorded as “Confirmed” breeding.

These survey efforts dovetailed with the final year of the Wisconsin Breeding Bird Atlas II. The Atlas is a comprehensive field survey documenting the distribution and abundance of birds breeding across the state. More than 2,000 volunteers participated during the five-year period of Atlas II. The Door County Land Trust will continue to do bird surveys in 2020 and beyond. If you have birding experience and are interested in helping with either migratory or breeding bird surveys, please email Jesse Koyen at volunteer@doorcountylandtrust.org.

At left, a mating pair of sandhill cranes nests near the Coffey Swamp Natural Area on Washington Island. Coffey Swamp and nearby Big and Little Marsh Natural Area is one of three priority conservation areas in 2020, along with Gibraltar-Ephraim Swamp Natural Area and Southern Door’s Little Sturgeon and Sawyer Harbor watersheds.

News from the Trails

Exploring your favorite Land Trust nature preserves is now even more enjoyable thanks to improvements made over the past year. Lautenbach Woods Nature Preserve and Three Springs Nature Preserve received fresh gravel on driveways and parking areas last year. Fourteen nature preserve trailheads received new boot-brush stations with informative new signage on the way come springtime. Give invasive species the “brush off” every time you hike by removing unwanted seeds from the soles of your shoes and boots. Help stop the spread of non-native invasive plant species such as common buckthorn and garlic mustard.

This winter, staff built a new “cordwalk” for Sturgeon Bay Ship Canal, made of outdoor lumber and rope. The new 200-foot “cordwalk” will help prevent shoreline erosion, keep the sand on the dunes, and improve the overall preserve accessibility. Email volunteer@doorcountylandtrust.org to help install the new “cordwalk” this spring!

Photo by Melody Walsh

Photo by Thomas Susiak

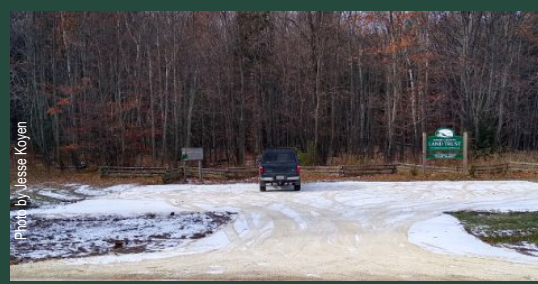
Photo by Jesse Koyen

Photo by Amanda Pyke

Photo by Mary Van Dye

Photo by Jamie Palmer

Photo by Amanda Pyke



STRONGER TOGETHER: COMMUNITY CONSERVATION

Many Hands Make Light Work

With more than fourteen nature preserves across the county, thousands of acres of protected land are in need of management. The Land Trust relies on volunteers, preserve stewards, and members to help care for these protected nature preserves. Last summer, the Prince of Peace Church youth group joined staff and fellow volunteers at Bay Shore Blufflands Nature Preserve to water the demonstration garden and learn about the Land Trust's work. The Wisconsin Lutheran College women's basketball team also came to help with trail maintenance and invasive species removal at Sturgeon Bay Ship Canal Nature Preserve. One group of volunteers meets regularly to assist with land management activities as part of the Door Stewardship Alliance, which started in 2001 when the Land Trust and The Nature Conservancy partnered to create a volunteer land management group to work at permanently protected properties. Through pooling of volunteers and equipment, both organizations are able to effectively protect and manage their preserves while engaging a larger audience than one organization may reach alone. Visit doorcountylandtrust.org to learn more about volunteering on the land and how you can get involved!

Which of the following things have volunteers helped with recently?

- A. Keeping visitors from falling into Sturgeon Bay Ship Canal
- B. Cutting down hundreds of trees
- C. Watering the nature preserves when it does not rain
- D. Collecting creepy spiders to inspect with microscopes

Answer: All of the above!

Highlighting Citizen Science

2019 marked the 20th anniversary of Wisconsin's Citizen-Based Monitoring Program which has been helping to monitor the health and populations of birds, bats, frogs, bees, and more. Door County Land Trust protected properties provide the wild habitats needed for data collection for these state-wide citizen-based monitoring programs, as well as the Wisconsin Breeding Bird Atlas II, Shedd Aquarium sucker monitoring, Chicago Botanical Garden Pitcher's dune thistle surveys, the Coastal Wetland Monitoring Program collaboration through Central Michigan University and the Institute for Great Lakes Research, all of which work with volunteers to collect data. Additionally, conservation partners at The Ridges Sanctuary, UWGB Cofrin Center for Biodiversity and the Friends of Toft Point, joined Door County Land Trust to hold a four-day BioBlitz aimed at documenting the variety of species found within the Door Peninsula Coastal Wetlands complex. The BioBlitz results aid in providing information needed for the care of the wetlands, and a starting point for comparisons of data over time. The data collected and observations made, whether by professional researchers or by citizen scientists, will help guide the Land Trust's conservation priority planning. To learn more about citizen science opportunities, contact us at volunteer@doorcountylandtrust.org.

Celebrating Volunteer Accomplishments

Last year, 226 individual volunteers contributed their time, talents, and efforts. Whether projects take the staff out to the trails, to a special event, or just to the team work table, you can bet volunteers are right along for every step of a project. Volunteers helped guide the public at the Sturgeon Bay Ship Canal Nature Preserve during the Tall Ships Festival, chainsaw-certified volunteers cut down invasive Scots pine trees, watered the new pollinator planting at the Bay Shore Blufflands Nature Preserve, and collected spiders to be documented as part of the Door Peninsula Coastal Wetlands BioBlitz. Overall more than 2,600 hours of time was contributed to the Land Trust for the mission of preserving and protecting Door County. That's the equivalent of a full-time staff member working 62 full work weeks. Thank you!



Photo by Amanda Pyle



Photo by Jim Perry

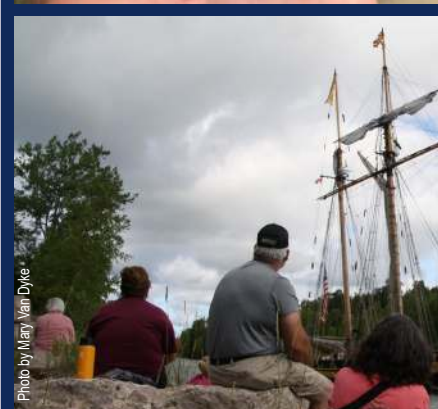


Photo by Mary Van Dyke



Photo by Amanda Pyle



Photo by Jamie Palmer

Explore the Door Hike Program Celebrates 20 Years!

In 2020, *Explore the Door* celebrates 20 years of outdoor adventures on Door County Land Trust protected lands. Thanks to our talented core of volunteer hike leaders, staff, and natural resource professionals, thousands of folks have joined us on the trails, in the water, on the snow, in the swamp, under the forest canopy, along the Niagara Escarpment, out on the islands, around the fens, in the creeks, beneath the moonlight, through fields. We've been out paddling the waters, catching frogs, calling owls, discovering birds, sweeping for insects, gazing at stars, identifying trees, walking back in time, celebrating conservation easements, exploring karst and caves, discovering spring wildflowers, and celebrating together the beauty of these places we love and have protected forever.

Check out our website and see what exciting spring field trips await you, and keep your eye out in late May for our *Celebrating Open Spaces* brochure announcing the rest of 2020's exciting offerings of hikes and events. If you'd be interested in joining our team of volunteer hike leaders, please contact Terrie Cooper, Community Conservation Director, at volunteer@doorcountylantrust.org.



Photo by Jamie Palmer



Photo by Mary Van Dyke

Date	Time	Day	Upcoming Hikes, Field Trips, and Special Events
5/13	1-3 pm	W	The Ways of Spring Wildflowers at Bjorklunden
5/16	10 am-Noon	Sa	Spring Wildflowers at Gilson-Peterson Forest Natural Area
5/14-17	All day	Th-Su	Washington Island Bird Festival
6/12	9-10:30 am	Fr	Ancient Shorelines and Geology at Pebble Beach
6/20	9-11 am	Sa	With Love from Nature: Forest Immersion at Solitude
7/16	9-10:30 am	Th	Birds & Bees at Bay Shore Blufflands Demonstration Garden
7/17	7pm	Fr	Benefit Concert: Last Man Standing at Woodwalk Gallery
7/18	9-11 am	Sa	Woods at Monument Point: Protected Lands Field Trip
8/15	All Day	Sa	Annual Gathering Weekend: Field Trips and Land Tours
8/16	4-7 pm	Su	Annual Gathering: Celebrating 34 Years of Conservation
8/28	1-3 pm	Fr	Forest, Stream, & Meadow: Schmidtke Conservation Easement
9/5	9-11 am	Sa	With Love from Nature: Forest Immersion at Legacy Preserve

Event information may be found at DoorCountyLandTrust.org/events



Photo by Jamie Palmer



Photo by Mary Van Dyke



Photo by Amanda Pyke

2019 Financial Report

As a community service 501(c)(3) organization, the Door County Land Trust depends on the generosity and contributions from members and supporters to finance our conservation work. 2019 audited financial statements and our Federal Form 990 are available by request.

Net assets as of December 31, 2019 (pending audit)

Stewardship Endowment Fund ¹	\$	3,416,269
Land Acquisition Fund ²	\$	349,408
Legal Defense Fund ³	\$	242,976
Cash restricted for current land acquisition projects	\$	516,694
Working capital and operating reserve	\$	889,670
Investment in property and equipment	\$	187,467
Net assets excluding land	\$	5,602,484
Value (at time of purchase) of land held for conservation	\$	26,847,610
TOTAL NET ASSETS	\$	\$32,450,094
Change in net assets versus 2018	\$	1,435,033

^{1 2 3} The *Stewardship Endowment Fund*, *Land Acquisition Fund*, and the *Legal Defense Fund* consist of donor contributions restricted by the donor, or restricted or designated by the Board of Directors.

¹ The *Stewardship Endowment Fund* provides annual revenue to the Land Trust to care for its lands, while at the same time growing to provide sustained funding to fulfill the obligation of caring for the lands long into the future.

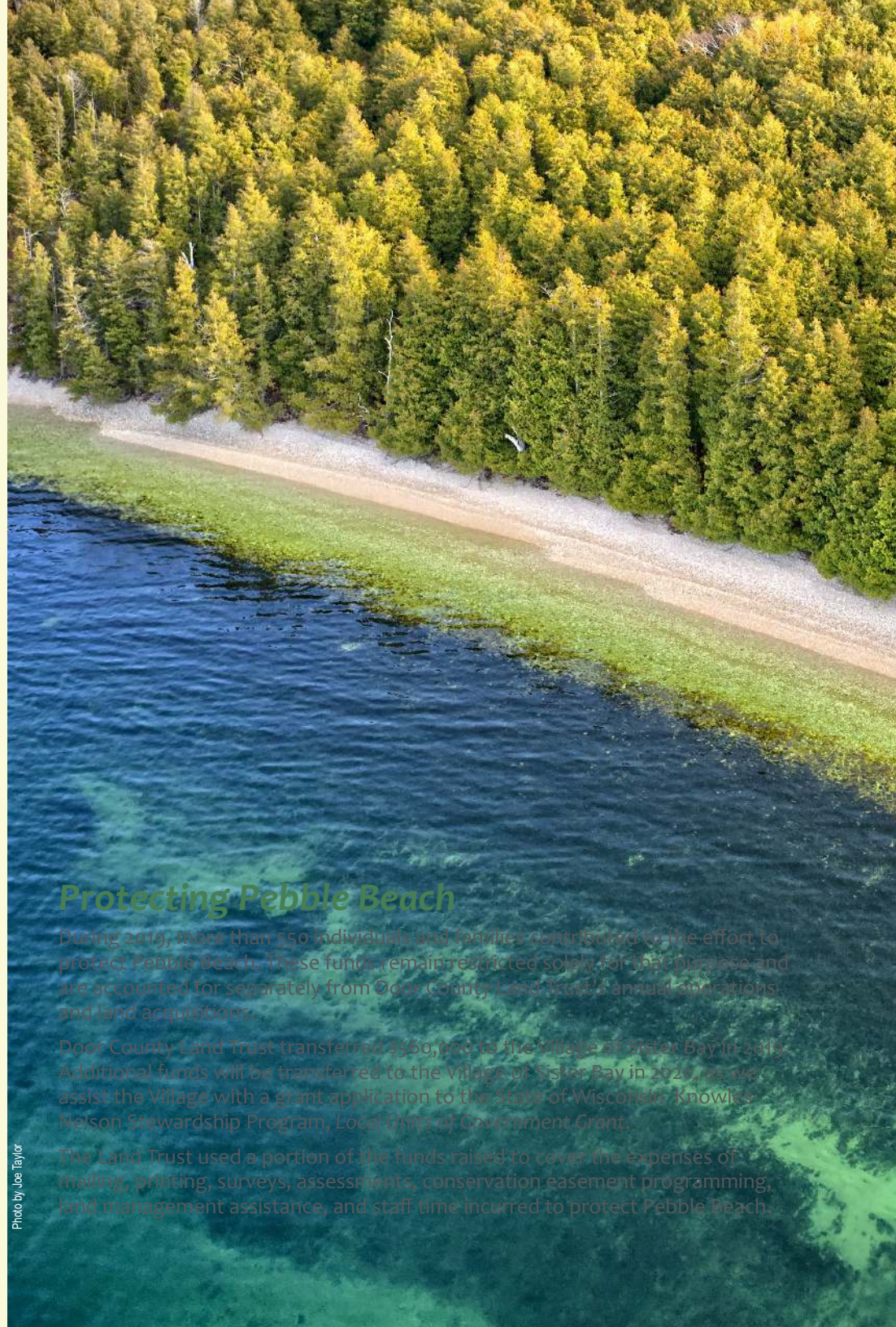
² The *Land Acquisition Fund* provides a ready source of dollars to respond quickly to opportunities to purchase and protect properties of high ecological and scenic value. The fund supports the acquisition of lands at times when grant funding is not available or grant funding is delayed.

³ The *Legal Defense Fund* provides funding as needed for use in defending and enforcing Land Trust conservation easement agreements and in resolving encroachments or vandalism issues that may arise on protected properties.

Stewardship Endowment Fund Trustees

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

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



Protecting Pebble Beach

During 2019, more than 550 individuals and families contributed to the effort to protect Pebble Beach. These funds remain restricted solely for that purpose and are accounted for separately from Door County Land Trust's annual operations and land acquisitions.

Door County Land Trust transferred \$560,000 to the Village of Sister Bay in 2019. Additional funds will be transferred to the Village of Sister Bay in 2020, as we assist the Village with a grant application to the State of Wisconsin Knowledge-Nelson Stewardship Program, Local Units of Government Grant.

The Land Trust used a portion of the funds raised to cover the expenses of mailing, printing, surveys, assessments, conservation easement programming, land management assistance, and staff time incurred to protect Pebble Beach.

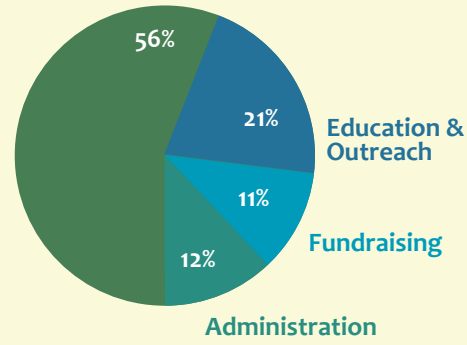
Photo by Cec Taylor



2019 Annual Operating Revenue and Expenses

USES OF FUNDS

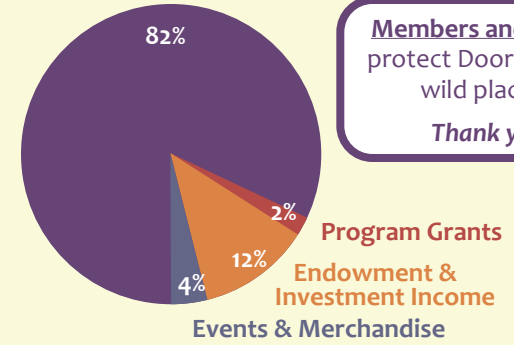
Land Stewardship & Protection Costs



The Door County Land Trust spent \$1,052,141 on the activities listed above.

SOURCES OF FUNDS

Donor & Member Contributions



The Door County Land Trust raised \$1,198,038 from the sources listed above.

Did you know that your contributions were so important?

Members and donors protect Door County's wild places!!!

Thank you!

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 households and individuals contributed to the mission to protect and care for Door County's exceptional lands and waters in 2019. **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. \$145,897 was invested in the operating reserve fund to cover potential future conservation obligations.

2019 Land Acquisitions *(Purchases, Bargain Sales, and Donations)*

SOURCES OF FUNDS FOR OWNED LAND ACQUISITIONS COMPLETED IN 2019

In 2019, \$957,400 was expended to acquire 7 properties, totaling 241 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. In most years, 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 2019, we used contributions from our supporters to help pay for a record 60% of 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.

A vision for Door County...

2020 Land Protection Priority Areas

A mixed forest of deciduous and conifer trees covers the Gibraltar Peninsula Swamp Natural Area, with cedar dominating the wetlands and deciduous trees found at higher and drier elevations along the Niagara Peninsula and Eagle Bluff's jagged cliffs towering over Horsehoe Island along the horizon.

This area, along with Washington Island's Big and Little Marsh and nearby Coffey Swamp natural areas, as well as Little Surgeon and Sawyer Harbor watersheds, are the three focus areas for Door County Land Trust's conservation work during 2020.



Life thrives on the *Door Peninsula, its islands, and surrounding waters.*

Healthy lands and waters give rise to all life and enrich our lives in Door County. Balancing the impact of our vibrant human community and the health of our extraordinary lands and waters, plants and animals, is one of the most profound challenges—and rewarding endeavors—that the Door County community must dare to confront.

Each of us can make a difference in the future of our peninsula and islands. The efforts we take today will have significance far beyond our lifetimes.

Door County Land Trust has adopted a set of principles that will guide conservation efforts as we strive to protect our exceptional lands and waters for future generations.

We invite you to adopt these principles and share in the collective vision:

Life thrives on the Door Peninsula, its islands, and surrounding waters.

- We believe Door County is like nowhere else on earth. It is our obligation to defend and steward Door County's lands and waters.
- We believe healthy lands and waters improve the quality of our lives and that of future generations.
- We believe our actions on land fundamentally impact the quality of our water.
- We believe Door County's economic viability is directly related to its environmental health.
- We believe well-cared for lands and waters are essential to support the diversity of Door County's native plant and wildlife communities.
- We believe connected native landscapes strengthen the diversity of our ecosystems.
- We believe Door County must be valued and cared for by the community to withstand future threats to the environment.

Let's work together to ensure that life thrives on the Door Peninsula, its islands, and surrounding waters. Together, we will protect our lands and waters, and dare to leave a healthy environment for future generations.

BEQUESTS, MEMORIALS AND TRIBUTES

Gifts received between January 1, 2019 and February 15, 2020

BEQUESTS

Mendius, Barbara

TRIBUTES

In Honor of John and Betty Ames

Hockenberry, James and Cindy Slugg, Elizabeth

In Honor of Robin Baliszewski

Wilson, Sara

In Honor of Robert J Bartlett

Ristow, Thomas and Wenzel, Judith

In Honor of Bert Becher

Nelson, Tess

In Honor of Jo Beno

Scattergood, Kirk and Donna

In Honor of Chuck and Leanne Bither

Bither, Philip and Gavin, Kathleen

In Honor of Margaret Briggs

Lauter, Charles and Estella

In Honor of Frank and Mary Brotz

Brost, Tricia

In Honor of Bonnie Cady

Runquist, Mark and Sonya

In Honor of F Melius Christiansen

Anonymous

In Honor of Dee and Kirsten Cravens

Caple, Louis

In Honor of Tonya Crowell

Scattergood, Kirk and Donna

In Honor of The Cushman Family

Cushman, Betsy and Preston, Barb

In Honor of The Mighty Jean Damrow

Damrow, Amy

In Honor of Kevin and Carol DeVault

Pfarr, David and Sarah

In Honor of Jim and Karen Ebbeson

Schudson, Charlie and Karen

In Honor of Explore the Door Hike Leaders

Newkirk, Martha H

In Honor of Jessie L Fiedler

Fiedler, William

In Honor of Martin and Hilary Ford

Ford, Chris, Ali, Will and Nick

In Honor of Bud and Karen Gaston

Savolt, Julie

In Honor of Van and Hildy Gathany

Andrews, Kristen
Shea, Adrienne

In Honor of Mark and Anne Hansen

Krent, Nancy and Harold

In Honor of Mick and Lisa Hatch

Hatch, Gillian

In Honor of The Barbara and Douglas

Henderson Family

Henderson, Doug and Barbara

In Honor of Giz and Linda Herbst

Herbst, Alicia

In Honor of Lisa Hintz

Capital Credit Union

In Honor of Joe and Mary Houser

Keast, Kim

In Honor of Inger's Birthday

Anonymous
Dean, Eileen
Merline, Emily
Merline, John and Wilkerson, Inger

In Honor of John and Mary Jelinek's 50th Anniversary

Mayer, Irene

In Honor of Martha and Bill Johnson

Classen, Peter and Barbara

In Honor of Lars Johnson

Anonymous
Brauer, Rick
Door County Board Of Realtors
Ehlers, D Todd and Cynthia
Frey, Fred and Barb
Goode, Mariah
GSU, LLC

Jorns, Doug and Sonya

Kangaroo Lake Resort

Nelson, Monica

Pinkert Law Firm LLP

Schley, Allen and Joanne

True North Real Estate

Young, John

In Honor of TC Johnson

Kolb, John and Mary Jo

In Honor of Margaret Ketterer

Ketterer, Andrew

In Honor of kindgoods' Be The Change Program

kindgoods

In Honor of Melissa Henderson Koenig

Martin, Gary

In Honor of Don and Brigid Krutek

Krutek, Paul and Fran

In Honor of Gregg and Kathy Kuehn

Brevard, Mary

In Honor of Bob Ling, Jr

Johnston, Richard and Charlotte

In Honor of Thomas and Beverly Lisle

Rowland, Paul

In Honor of Steve Lyons

Westfall, Anna

In Honor of Marty and Dorita Malecki

Malecki, Maribeth

In Honor of Jim McAninch

Crampton Planning Partners

In Honor of Colette and David McDonough

McDonough, Emilie

In Honor of Dan Miller's Kind Heart of Service

Perrine, Bess

In Honor of Dick and Judy Neiman

Wilcox, Jock and Karen

In Honor of Ralph and Mary Paul

Mulvey, Gary and Carla

In Honor of Paula's Birthday

Bermdsen, Jon

Busby, John

Latta, Paula

Schoettlin, Lindsay

In Honor of David and Sarah Pfarr

DeVault, Kevin and Carol

In Honor of Rich and Ann Piehl

Krahn, Amy

In Honor of Sandra Place

Harrer, Bernie and Schab, Lisa

In Honor of Tecla Reklau

Cross, Andy

In Honor of Sid Bremer and Jerry Rodesch

Lauter, Charles and Estella

In Honor of Julie Roenigk's Birthday

Fritz, Cooper and Katie

In Honor of Bob and Sue Ryan

Cushman, Susan and Quimby, Charlie

In Honor of Ali Scheig's Birthday

Scheig, Katie

In Honor of Robert Schoof's 92nd Birthday

Schoof, Tamara Su

In Honor of Sue Seeberg

Cera, Eric

In Honor of Ruby Shemanske

Worrell, Jenny and Wicklund, Joel

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Skahen, Kara

In Honor of Nathan Slovin

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Kostadinchev, Yavor

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In Honor of Steven and Laura Umentum

Umentum, Paul and Theresa

In Honor of Bill and Barbara Urbrock

Urbrock, Stephen

In Honor of Anne Hart and Andy van Duym

van Duym, Dirk and Siegner, Katherine

In Honor of the Marriage of Katherine Siegner and Dirk van Duym

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In Honor of Will Wentland

Cox, Erin

In Honor of Jerold Winzenz

Hagemeister, Annelies

In Honor of Jerold and Karon Winzenz

The Noffke Family

In Honor of Jane McKie and Dave Zuhlke

McKie, Eldon and Kathryn

MEMORIALS

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In Memory of John Ames

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Bodi, Paul and Stacey

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Forbes, James and Nancy

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Howard, Donald and Virginia

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Krueger, Ray and Barb

Lewis, Lloyd

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Mathys, Ken and Shawn

Oates, Dick and Carolyn

Parshalle, Donna

Robertson, James

Stanley, Mary

Wernecke, Bill and Sue

Wilcox, Thomas and Nancy

In Memory of John Robert Asher

Asher, Barbara M

In Memory of Nancy K Baumgarten

Baumgarten, N B C T

In Memory of Bruce Blietz

Finger, Jack and Diane

In Memory of Cal Bonnavier

Brogan, Gisela

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In Memory of Keith Bridenhagen

Meyer, William and Barbara

In Memory of Lyle Brundige

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In Memory of Jordyce Bryntessen

Perrine, Bess

In Memory of Gary Buerstatte

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Furay, Cate

Gale, Kathleen

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McLeRoy, Laurie

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Rosenbeger, Herbert and Sandra

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Stoll, Jo

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Hall, Kevin

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 Madden, Michael and Barbara
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In Memory of Shirley Honold

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 Francisco, Karen
 Goldberg, Patricia

In Memory of Jeffrey Kant

Kant, Karen

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Kapolnek, Jean

In Memory of Robert Kaufman

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 Bastian, Kevin and Ronda
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 Holschbach, Neil and Debbie
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 Pankratz, Perry
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 Protz, John and Joyce
 Quester
 Scheis, Ed and Joyce
 Schuler, Ken and Karen
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 Shebesta, Tom and Ann
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 Steber, Jim and Jan
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 Zimmer, John and Bernie

In Memory of Inge Keith

Keith, Annie and Hurst, Mark
 Keith-Drake, Kenzie and Meleri

In Memory of Dottie Klepp

Bacon, Lee and Inge
 Buckley, Linda
 Callsen, Dave and Vonnie
 Chomeau, Dave and Betty
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 Delcarson, Rich and Jane
 Ferdon, Don and Sylvia
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 Rush, Emily
 Stone, Tim and Sue
 Theisen, Mary E
 Trellue, Ron and Patty
 Welter, Dawn

In Memory of Reiny Krause

Krause, Jeff and Terri

In Memory of James Kress

Brogan, Gisela

In Memory of Bob Larsen

Finger, Jack and Diane
 Klimaitis, Ron and Dougherty, Gloria
 Lokken, Ron and Judy

In Memory of Suzanne A Lindsay

Lindsay, Bill

In Memory of Paul Mahlberg

Hollingshead, Judy

In Memory of Gretchen Maring

Turriff, Tom and Jo Ann

In Memory of Julie Sara and Gary Martin

Schaulis, Dan and Cindy

In Memory of Michael O'Callaghan

Goodman, Dawn

In Memory of Yvonne Bevry Olson

George, David and Zelon, Laurie

In Memory of Barby Patronski

Luvisi, George

In Memory of Colleen Person

Gesme, John
 Paffenroth, Steven and Deb

In Memory of Floyd and Shirley Popour

Popour, Lyle and Nancy

In Memory of Richard W Presnell, PhD

Brice, James
 Madden, Michael and Barbara
 Merline, Robert and Linda
 Rousseau, Edward

In Memory of Stephen Reinke

Lindstrand, Keith and Katherine

In Memory of James Rock

Kelly, Peter and Morris, Ruth

In Memory of Jim Romanshek

Kosky, Judy

In Memory of David Rothwell

Purtell, Dennis and Judy

In Memory of Mary Ellen Rothwell

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 Dittberner-Jax, Norita
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 Kluessendorf, Jerry and Lucy
 Purtell, Dennis and Judy
 Rivard, Douglas and Kathleen
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 Worst, Karen
 Worst, Susan

In Memory of Lois Seiler

Klink, Cathy
 Petersen, Chap and Betsy

In Memory of Annette Shaffer

Andrae, Dan and Marjorie

In Memory of Vincent Sherrick

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In Memory of Chester Shevey

Frey, Fred and Barb

In Memory of David Speerschneider

Lawrence, Joan

In Memory of Tom Stamos

Happ, Madeline

In Memory of Mary Jo Stock

Adlam, Robert
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 Boyce, James
 Brennan, John and Suzy
 Bye, Mike and Kathy
 Callahan, Paul
 Craig, Jay
 DePue, Rodney and Sharon
 Dragisic, John
 Duffy, Bob
 Falk, Scott and Wendy
 Foley, JR
 Gehl, Michael and Kathleen
 Graff, Stephen and Bernadine
 Hentzen, Michael and Dawn
 Hume, Janet
 Jonas, Frank and Karen
 Kisinger, John
 McLees, Pat and Amy
 Meister, David and Sandra
 Morgan, Edward and Jeannine
 Peirce, Roger and Liz
 Preston, Jeff and Sandy
 Rosenmertz, Ira
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 Schmidt, Robert
 Skelton, Ronald and Carol
 Torkko, Dennis and Patricia
 Weber, Peter
 Wenzler, Joe and Ann
 Wittig, Paul and Deborah

In Memory of Bruce and Evie Thomas

Brumder, Robo and Kathy

In Memory of Otto Thilenius

Thilenius, Stephen

In Memory of Jerry Viste

Merline, Robert and Linda
 The Family of Jerome Viste
 Wilson, Karen

In Memory of Pauline Wesley Wanderer

Fischer, Gail
 Fuhrmann Clark, Kristin and Clark, Stephen
 Morgan, Bryan and Axson
 O'Nan, Larry and Faye
 Wanderer, Matthew

In Memory of David W White

White, Lynn

In Memory of Ron Wiecki

Lubbers, Sara

In Memory of Steve Wilkie

McGrath, Linda

In Memory of Larry and Bonnie Willkom

Cance, John and Iris

Protect the lands and waters you love... forever.



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

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 Director of Charitable Giving 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

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, Julie and John
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
Ellis, Karen and James
Ficken, Millicent S
Friedl, Mike and Carolyn
Fundingsland, Donald W
Gerrits, Lloyd R and Dorothy J
Hake, Donna
Hansotia, Phil and Marilyn
Herndon, Carol and Richard
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
Kokes, Dan and Jeannie
Koutnik, Dr Ed and Cindy
Kress, Billie

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

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New members of the Legacy Circle are listed in bold type.

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



Photo by John Van Den Brandt

NOTES FROM THE FIELD...

I'm a professional wildlife photographer (see Golden-winged Warbler at right) living in Appleton, Wisconsin along with Jean, my wife, field assistant, muse and co-conspirator in plotting an adventurous life. The pursuit of wildlife takes us to some of the world's most beautiful and diverse environments, from the stark grandeur of the high Arctic to the fertile, sprawling grasslands of Equatorial Africa. Yet, when asked to name our favorite spot on the planet, we are quick to reply "Door County." Door County's wild places have brought us years of cherished memories; we married on its moody shores, explored its cool dark cedar forests, and wandered its glorious rolling meadows. So when we developed our will and estate plans, providing for the well-being of these lands seemed as natural as providing for the welfare of our loved ones. It's said that nothing lasts forever, but land is perhaps the closest thing to an exception. It's a great comfort to us that our planned gift through the Door County Land Trust *Legacy Circle* will help ensure that these places will remain forever wild and will provide future generations with the joys, comfort and wonder that we've been privileged to enjoy.



John Van Den Brandt
See *John's photography of wildlife from around the world* at wildwindimages.com

John and Jean joined the Legacy Circle in 2014. John's photographs from Door County Land Trust nature preserves appear throughout our publications. Thank you, John and Jean!



Photo by John Van Den Brandt

Golden-winged Warbler, male *Vermivora chrysoptera*

Photographer and *Legacy Circle* member John Van Den Brandt (pictured at left with his wife Jean), observed this rare bird and a female partner in the act of nest-building at the Bay Shore Blufflands Nature Preserve, which offers an ideal nesting habitat with an open scrubby area adjacent to mature forest. The Golden-winged Warbler breeds in areas around the Great Lakes and south to the Appalachian mountains, and migrates south to winter in southern Central America and northern South America. The Golden-winged Warbler is under threat from habitat loss throughout its summer breeding regions, so the sight of this bird on a Land Trust protected nature preserve is a sure sign of the high-quality habitat protected at Bay Shore Blufflands.

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Total contributions received during 2019

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 2019.

Many thanks to those who contributed to protect Pebble Beach. Donor names listed **in blue type** made contributions to protect Pebble Beach.

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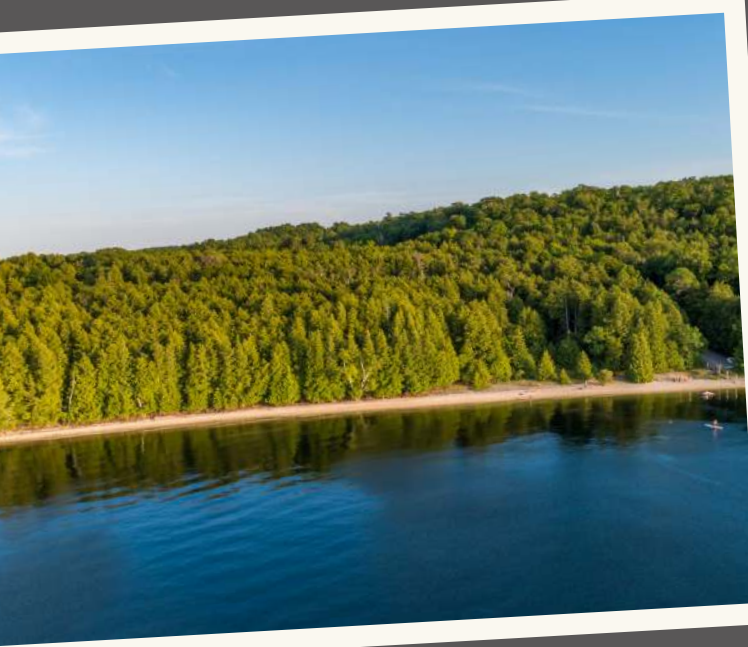
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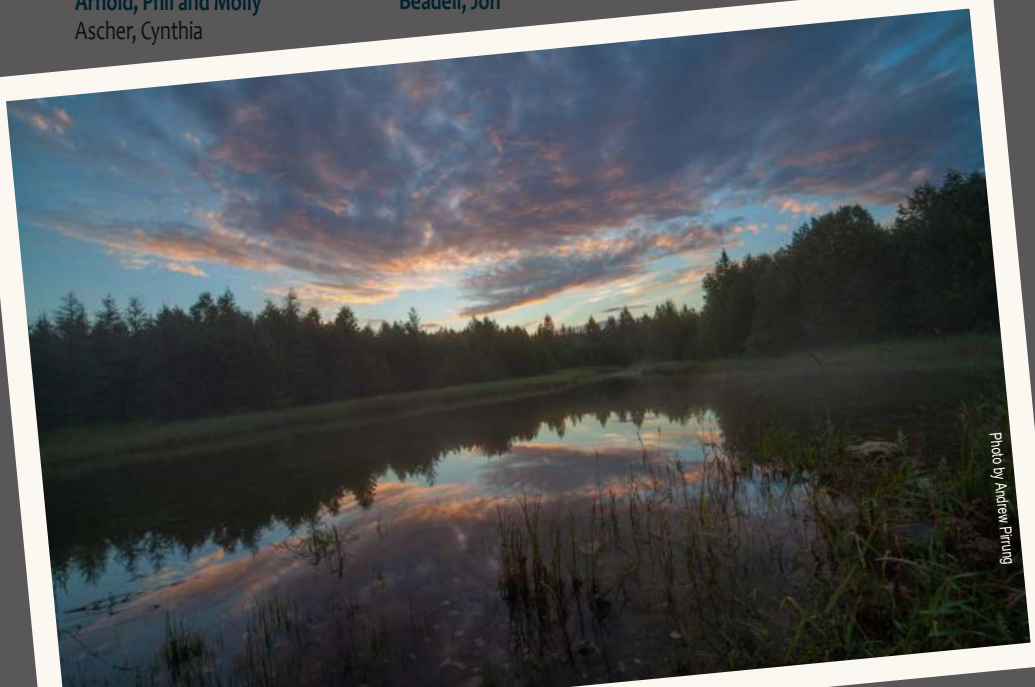


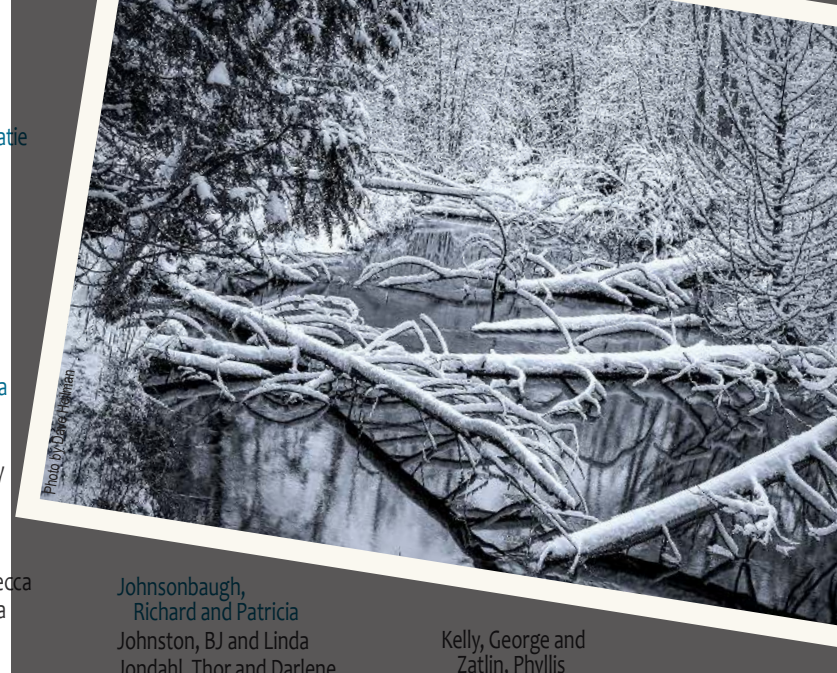
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A WALK ON THE WILD SIDE

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. We thank volunteer Jim Perry, who is a photographer, stewardship volunteer, and mentor for fellow photographers.

Jim Perry is an avid photographer and Land Trust volunteer who records on average over a hundred volunteer hours per year. An expert on the Land Trust trails that he hikes regularly, Jim is incredibly knowledgeable about the plants and animal species he photographs.

Capturing the feeling of movement through short lines of poetry, haikus, and expressions of feelings is often part of the process for Jim. When asked about his favorite preserve Jim says "Hiking each property is always a new adventure. The light has it's own unique filtering and changes constantly. Clouds roll by and something new shines through. Seasonal changes are especially unique." As an avid student of philosophy, meditation, and yoga, Jim enjoys exploring nature preserves and connecting with the land through his unique lens. The healing spiritual elements of being in nature is a central theme to Jim's work and an important aspect of connecting with Door County's exceptional lands and waters. "There's so much to experience when we take our time to observe with mindfulness" says Jim, "Stand still for 5-10 minutes along the trail and you'll find more things flying around you."



Jim Perry "hangs out" between pictures at Kangaroo Lake Nature Preserve.

Follow us on Facebook and Instagram to be inspired by his remarkable images of the peninsula. Almost all of the pictures you see in this publication, newsletters, and online come from our amazing volunteers. If you're an avid hiker or amateur photographer, join our photography group and start shooting. Photographing in nature can be a great lesson in patience and observation, while making a big difference for members who live out-side of the county. Thank you, Jim, for helping share the wonders of Door County through your photos!

Join us in thanking our Annual Business Members!



- | | | |
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Door County Land Trust

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

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- Sound Finances
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Following our Trails?

Follow us on Facebook & Instagram!

Find links at DoorCountyLandTrust.org

“When one tugs at a single thing in nature, he finds it attached to the rest of the world.”
- John Muir

2020 Land Protection Priority Areas

Washington Island's Big and Little Marsh and nearby Coffey Swamp natural areas, Gibraltar-Ephraim Swamp Natural Area, as well as Little Sturgeon and Sawyer Harbor watersheds, are the three focus areas for Door County Land Trust's conservation work during 2020. Pictured here is the Richter Community Forest Nature Preserve on Washington Island.