

# RIDGES LITES

## *News from the trailhead*

*An update of Ridges Activities • March 2013*

### **The Lower Range Light is on the Move...**



It was truly a move of historic proportions on Tuesday, February 12, when the Lower Range Light was transferred to its newly constructed foundation. The new location, 15 feet north of the original foundation, was chosen to address a public safety issue presented by the Range Light's proximity to Ridges Road. Schuette Movers of Wausau, experts in structural relocation, handled the specialized process. The new location also will help alleviate the build-up of snow that previously occurred alongside the structure when plowing Ridges Road.

The move is the first step in implementing a total restoration of the iconic lighthouse. With the structure in place, work can proceed according to the recommendations contained in the Historic Structures Report. The report was issued by Restoric, LLC and commissioned by The Ridges in 2010. The restoration will include replacement of the

siding and roof, as well as venting and vapor barriers to protect against moisture and high humidity. Because the Lower Range Light is on The National Register of Historic Places, the restoration will adhere to specific guidelines delineated by the Secretary of the Interior.

We anticipate that work will be completed in time for the Door County Maritime Museum's Annual Lighthouse Festival the weekend of June 7 - 9.



### **And So Are We ...**

#### **New Logo**

For over three-quarters of a century, The Ridges has been known for its incredible diversity of flora and fauna, especially the orchids. This diversity is supported by its distinctive ridge and swale formations. As we enter our 76th year, we have updated our logo to better reflect the holistic management approach to our ecosystems and community connections to protect the orchids and sustain the stunning array of species protected within our boundaries.



Thanks to member and Wednesday Crew volunteer **Jim Tyndall** for working with us to develop the new artwork. This is not the first time that Jim's background in commercial design has come into play at The Ridges. Jim also designed and handcrafted the sign for our building site, as well as the signage for our business offices in the Upper Range Light.

#### **Watch for Our New Website**

We're delighted to tell you that our website is getting a makeover. We're working with Boettcher Communications in Sturgeon Bay on a redesign that will make our website easy to navigate and incorporate a number of exciting new features, including an integrated blog and both photo and video galleries.

We're looking forward to an April launch, and we can't wait to share it with you!

preservation | education | research

THE RIDGES SANCTUARY

GET INVOLVED • OUR IMPACT • HOME

### Welcome to the Ridges

The Ridges Sanctuary is a 4,600-acre pristine natural area located in Door County, Wisconsin. Formed in 1927, it's the oldest private nature preserve in the state. The Ridges is designated as a State Natural Area, a National Natural Landmark, an Audubon Important Birding Area, and a Wisconsin Wetland Gem.

OFFICE: 920-839-2802 • PO Box 152, Baileys Harbor, WI 54202 | SEE MAP  
TRAILS: Open daily • \$5 adult (free if under 18) • Free for members | DOWNLOAD TRAIL MAPS  
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FEATURED EVENTS

- JAN. 31ST  
SED UT PERISCIPTS
- MAR. 1ST  
SED UT PERISCIPTS
- APR. 20TH  
SED UT PERISCIPTS

FULL CALENDAR

Information

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NATURE CENTER: Mon-Sat: 9 AM - 4 PM Sunday: 12 PM - 3 PM 920-839-2802  
Email The Ridges Newsletter Sign Up

TRAILS: Opens daily • \$5 adult Free for members and if under 18 Download Trail Map

EXPLORE THE RIDGES PHOTO GALLERY



## The Ridges Earns Travel Green Wisconsin Certification

In 2006, Wisconsin became the first state to promote environmentally sustainable tourism with its Travel Green Wisconsin program. We're pleased to announce that The Ridges has received its Travel Green certification, joining the ranks of over 345 businesses and organizations which have been certified for taking steps to reduce their overall environmental impact.

Certification requires a business earn a minimum of 35 points in categories including waste reduction, reuse and recycling; energy efficiency, water conservation and wastewater management; air quality; wildlife and landscape; transportation; purchasing and local community benefits.



### Volunteers – Citizen Science

Each year one week is set aside to celebrate the extraordinary things people do through service. This year **National Volunteer Week** will be observed **April 21 - 27** and will once again focus national attention on the impact and power of volunteerism and service as an integral aspect of our civic leadership.

For over 75 years, our members and volunteers have formed the backbone of The Ridges, supporting and supplementing our efforts in research, education and preservation. You can be sure that we will be celebrating our volunteers during National Volunteer Week and every week throughout the year. This month, we're highlighting one of our Citizen Scientists and her contribution to important field work.

**Citizen Scientist:** Marilyn Hansotia

**Monitoring program:** Stream Monitoring (Level 2)

**Location monitored:** Three Springs Creek, at Harold C. Wilson Three Springs Nature Preserve (Liberty Grove)

**Length of participation:** Since May 2009

**What is monitored:** Water temperature, pH, dissolved oxygen, turbidity, and notes on phenology/nature observations, once a month from May to October

**How the data is used:** Level 2 stream monitoring data is saved to the State **SWIMS** database (surface water integrated monitoring system). Data is submitted and used by both citizen scientists and natural resource management professionals in current (and potential future) water quality compliance programs.

**Why monitor:** It connects people with exciting efforts to understand the environment. There are a multitude of benefits to the community and local wildlife. With the assistance of volunteers, natural resource management professionals are able to set management priorities and evaluate needs, educate the public, and solicit for support.

Thank you Marilyn, and all the Citizen Scientists, for keeping an eye on our watersheds, frogs, seasonal changes, indicator orchids, and impacts to our ecosystems! Stay tuned for opportunities through The Ridges to get deep into the field, or watch from your backdoor step.

### 2013 Ride for Nature

Registration is open for the Ride for Nature! This year marks the 25<sup>th</sup> year for the Ride. The ride features a metric century distance (62 miles), 100-mile, 50-mile, 25-mile and family ride (15-mile) options. Each of the routes will begin and end at the Baileys Harbor Town Hall, traversing the picturesque back roads of northern Door County. To register online or download a registration form, go to [www.RideforNature.com/register1](http://www.RideforNature.com/register1)



The Ride is our biggest fundraiser of the year, and we couldn't do it without our volunteers. If you'd like more information about the types of volunteer positions available, contact Kate LeRoy, [info@RidgesSanctuary.org](mailto:info@RidgesSanctuary.org) or 920-839-2802.

### It IS Easy Being Green, Subscribe by Email

Go green while you keep up-to-date with what's happening at The Ridges! Sign up to receive your full color copy of the Lites by email and help us save paper plus printing and mailing costs. The Ridges Lites is published 8 - 10 times a year. To subscribe by email, sign up on-line at [www.ridgessanctuary.org/newsletter](http://www.ridgessanctuary.org/newsletter) or send an email to [info@RidgesSanctuary.org](mailto:info@RidgesSanctuary.org)



Check your mailing label for the expiration date of your membership and support the oldest member based nature preserve in Wisconsin. Or consider a donation to support The Ridges. *Please let us know if you wish to remain anonymous.*

## Ridges Sanctuary Membership / Donation Form

Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

City, State, ZIP: \_\_\_\_\_ Phone: \_\_\_\_\_

Email address: \_\_\_\_\_

Second Address from \_\_\_\_/\_\_\_\_ to \_\_\_\_/\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

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Membership: \_\_\_\_ Individual \$40 \_\_\_\_ Family \$65 \_\_\_\_ Family Plus \$95 \_\_\_\_ Business \$150 New \_\_\_\_ Renewal \_\_\_\_

Additional Donation to our operating fund: \_\_\_\_\$35 \_\_\_\_\$50 \_\_\_\_\$75 \_\_\_\_\$125 \_\_\_\_\$250 \_\_\_\_ Other \$\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_ Check enclosed \_\_\_\_ Credit Card # \_\_\_\_\_ Exp date \_\_\_\_/\_\_\_\_

Signature \_\_\_\_\_

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Mail to and make checks payable to: The Ridges Sanctuary • PO Box 152 • Baileys Harbor • WI • 54202 or **signup/donate** online [www.RidgesSanctuary.org](http://www.RidgesSanctuary.org)

### The Great Waffle Breakfast

Frigid temperatures couldn't discourage people from coming out to enjoy our 5<sup>th</sup> Annual Great Waffle Breakfast. Our staff, members and volunteers served up waffles of all shapes and sizes for almost 200 appreciative and hungry folks on Saturday, February 2. Many thanks to the more than 30 volunteers who helped make this tasty event a success!



### Did you know...

...that guided hikes are available by appointment November-April for groups of 4 or more?

For more information contact Karen Newbern at 920-839-2802

### Wish List

- Black sunflower seed for the birds
- Copy paper/laser labels/office supplies
- Stamps
- AA batteries
- Donations to replace the Weather Station

## Ridges Business Members - We thank them for their support!

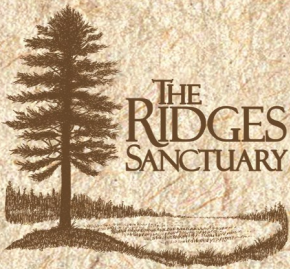
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## Coming Up!

April 12 & 13 - Frog Walks

May 11 - Signs of Spring

May 15 - Naturalist Guided Hikes Begin  
and the Nature Store opens for the season

May 24 & 25 - Festival of Nature

June 15 - Ride for Nature/Beer Festival

August 3 - Ridges Annual Jubilee  
*Watch for details!*

**RIDGES LITES**  
*News from the trailhead*

### **Adventure, Exploration and Education in Door County's BEST Natural Areas!**

#### **Registration opens April 1st**

The Door County Festival of Nature offers a great opportunity to join fellow nature enthusiasts in a rich array of activities. Over 40 field trips will be offered this year, including wildflower hikes, birding trips, geology tours, canoe outings, and much more. Professional staff and trained volunteers guide participants on tours of pristine and unique sites throughout Door County - including some private properties which are not typically open to the public.



**May 24-25, 2013**

**Keynote speaker Craig Thompson** is the coordinator of Southern Wings, an international program working to strengthen habitat protection for birds that winter in Latin America. Since 2006, Craig has led conservation birding tours to Costa Rica, Panama, Ecuador and Peru to raise awareness about the need to protect winter homes for Wisconsin's neotropical migrants.

This year we are especially excited to offer a **"Local Land and Lake Picnic"** as part of the Festival. This dinner is being prepared with organic, locally-sourced foods, including Lake Michigan whitefish and Waseda Farms grass-fed beef, a spring greens salad and rhubarb crisp.

The Festival of Nature is coordinated by The Ridges, with help from the **Door County Land Trust, The Nature Conservancy, Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources, and Crossroads at Big Creek**. Financial support is also provided by **Ministry Door County Medical Center, Waseda Farms, Door County Distillery, Baylake Bank, Blacksmith Inn on the Shore** and other local businesses.

Attendance is limited, and preregistration for trips is required. Registration will open April 1st. To receive more information, please email [karen@RidgesSanctuary.org](mailto:karen@RidgesSanctuary.org), visit our website (<http://RidgesSanctuary.org/festival-of-nature>), or call us at (920) 839-2802.

Visit our website for more information: [www.RidgesSanctuary.org](http://www.RidgesSanctuary.org)