

RIDGES LITES News from the trailhead

An update of Ridges Activities • September 2013

We're So Close! Help Put Us Over the Top!

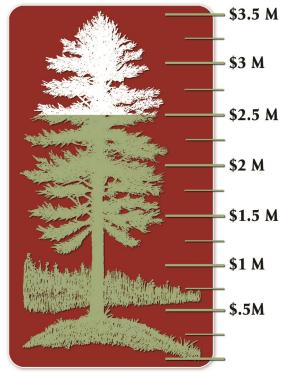
Will you help us reach our goal?

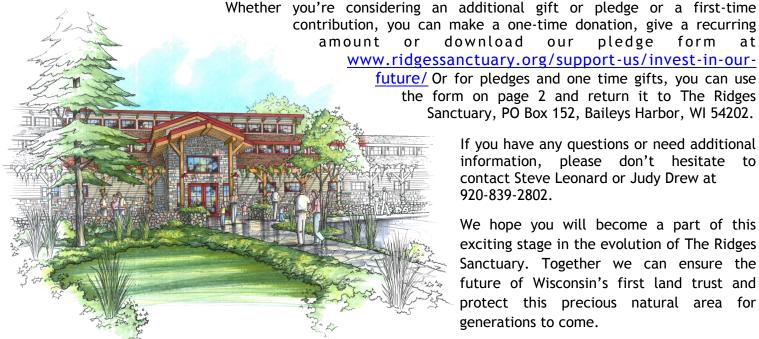
As we announced in late May, we have set an ambitious goal to complete our capital campaign by the end of September. We have already raised \$2,532,170 - over 72% of our overall objective of \$3.5 million. And of that number, over 75% of our support has come from members, including our \$1 million lead gift. Our strength has always come from the hard work and dedication of our members across the country. Right now, we're calling upon you to help us reach the finish line.

Our capital campaign represents the transition from a productive history to an exciting, viable future for The Ridges. The new building and site improvements that are part of this project bring with them a whole new level of community benefit. We are committed to increasing informed nature appreciation by providing expanded access to our learning campus and educational programming -- for everyone from school children to seniors, residents to visitors. commitment not only has value to the citizens of Door County, but will also serve to increase the number of people who appreciate the value and importance of protecting natural environments.

If you haven't already donated to this important project, please consider making a tax deductible contribution now. Any donation or

pledge, regardless of size, brings us closer to this important goal. If you have already donated or pledged, we thank you for your support.





If you have any questions or need additional information, please don't hesitate contact Steve Leonard or Judy Drew at 920-839-2802.

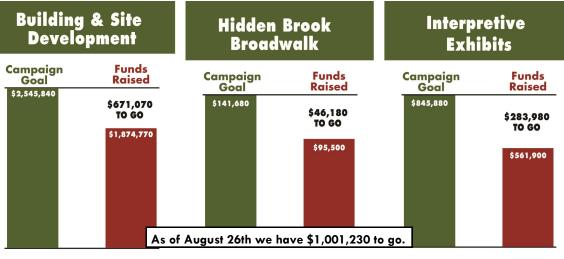
pledge

our

We hope you will become a part of this exciting stage in the evolution of The Ridges Sanctuary. Together we can ensure the future of Wisconsin's first land trust and protect this precious natural area for generations to come.

Where We Stand

With roughly a million left to go, the graphs at right illustrate the ways that funds raised to date have been allocated to the main components of the project. Of that remaining amount, \$46,180 will complete funding for the boardwalk, \$283,980 will be dedicated to the interpretive exhibits; and, only \$671,000 is needed to fully fund the



cost of the building and site. This amount is particularly time sensitive, in that we must obtain bids this fall in order to stay on schedule and break ground in the spring.

Invest in Our Future

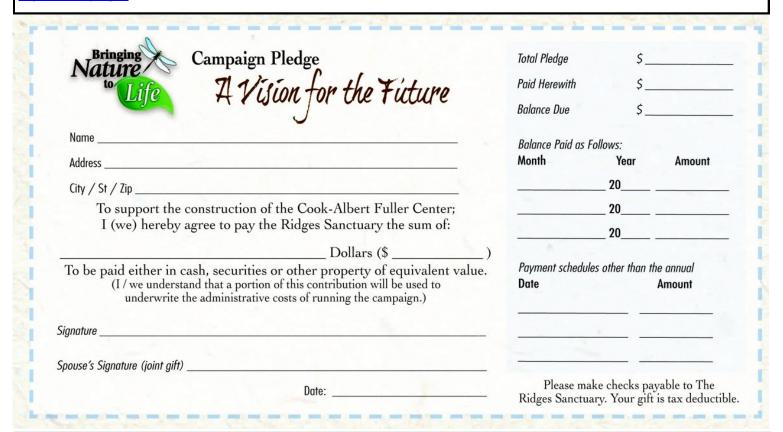
There are a number of ways that you can help secure the future of The Ridges Sanctuary for generations to come. You can make a one-time donation, give a recurring amount or download our pledge form at http://www.ridgessanctuary.org/support-us/invest-in-our-future/. Or you can use the form below for your pledge or one time gift and send them to: The Ridges Sanctuary, PO Box 152, Baileys Harbor, WI 54202.

- Make a Pledge for Future Gifts
- Give a Gift Now

Make a one time donation using the form below

- Make a Scheduled Recurring Donation
 - Submit online at www.RidgesSanctuary.org via PayPal
 - Arrange a scheduled payment through your financial institution

For the most up-to-date campaign totals as we approach September 30, visit http://www.ridgessanctuary.org/support-us/capital-campaign/



RIDGES SANCTUARY

Visitor Center

Campaign Update: The Family Discovery Trail

Work has begun on the new Family Discovery Trail on the west side of Hwy 57. This area has received full funding thanks to the Cordon Family Foundation and a 2012 Scenic Byways grant.

With the parking area completed (Thank you, Parent Construction!), the project now moves into the design phase.

Based on the concept of more deeply connecting children and families to the world around them, the Family Discovery Trail will enhance the experience of The Ridges Sanctuary for younger visitors and their parents.

Research has shown that children need opportunities experience with their parents in order to develop positive environmental values. attitudes behaviors as adults. This self-guided trail will introduce the natural features of the Sanctuary in an engaging voyage of discovery for children



and their families. The new trail, situated in the woods on the west side of Hwy 57, will teach children about trees, plants, landscape, and animals that are common to The Ridges through a series of interactive discovery

stations that encourage children to play, explore, imagine, ask questions and seek additional information on the environment around them. Families can choose to travel the trail on their own or use The Ridges Discovery Trail Guide to enhance their outdoor adventures.

The development of the Family Discovery Trail is an important part of our ongoing dedication to environmental education. By providing natural experiences for all ages, we can inspire every generation to commit to conservation, stewardship and responsible enjoyment of natural resources.

Fall at The Sanctuary

Guided Nature Hikes

Sept 4 - Oct 12, Wed thru Sat at 9:30 AM
Enjoy the late summer and early fall beauty of
the Sanctuary with an expert naturalist as your
guide. Hikes depart from The Ridges Nature
Center. Fee: \$5 Members • \$8 General Public

Harvest Moon Walk

Friday, Sept 13 at 7:30 PM (If skies are cloudy, alternate date is Saturday, Sept 14)
Take a walk when the moon is not-quite full.
This hike is designed for all ages and is non-scary in nature. Bring your night eyes and your curiosity, and explore with all your senses!
Fee: \$10/Family

Logan Creek Fall Colors Hike Friday, Sept 27 at 1 PM

Explore the trails of The Ridges' Logan Creek property and enjoy the fall colors and wildflowers of this beautiful hardwood forest. Meet at the Logan Creek parking lot, 5724 Loritz Road, south of Jacksonport.

Fee: \$5/Person

Fall Colors Paddle Tours
Sat, September 28, 8 - 11 AM and 3 - 6 PM
Relax on the water and enjoy the spectacular
colors of the season from a glass bottom kayal

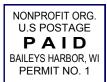
colors of the season from a glass bottom kayak. See migrating song birds and waterfowl, turtles and freshwater mussels. This tour is conducted by Lakeshore Adventures with a Ridges naturalist as guide. Register with Lakeshore Adventures at 920-493-3474.

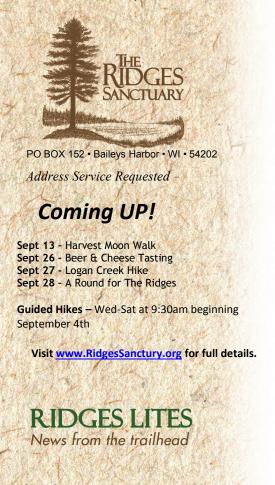
Fee \$55/Person

A Round for The Ridges
Sat, Sept 28, 9:30 AM Shotgun Start
Our 6th annual golf outing. Enjoy a 9-hole
scramble at Maxwelton Braes followed by lunch
at Maxwelton Lodge. \$75 includes golf, cart &
food. Extra guest tickets for lunch - \$15.

Apples, Cider & Colors on the Coastal Byway Saturday, October 5, 1 - 5 PM
Join naturalists Paul Regnier and Karen
Newbern on a fall road trip with plenty of stops
along the way to sample fall fruits and
ferments! Transportation and colorful
commentary included. Space is limited and
advance registration is required. Fee: \$30/
Person - Members • \$40/Person - General
Public

Going Coastal Shoreline Walk
Saturday, October 12, 1 - 4 PM
Naturalists Paul Regnier and Karen Newbern
take you for an off-the-beaten-path
exploratory walk along one of Door County's
most famous landscapes - the shoreline of Lake
Michigan. Space is limited and advance
registration is required. Fee: \$15/Person Members - \$20/Person - General Public





Mark Your Calendars for Saturday, October 5!

The Ridges Sanctuary will be abuzz with activity on Saturday, October 5. First up is our Fall Volunteer Work Day. Come at 9 and help us prepare the Sanctuary for winter. Volunteers of all ages are invited to help with a variety of indoor and outdoor projects -- hauling wood chips, raking, organizing,

washing

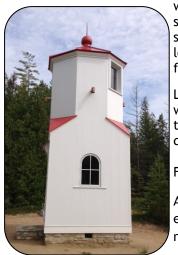
windows, sprucing up the cedar signs and posts-there's a lot to do before the snow flies!

Later in the morning,

we'll be holding a brief re-dedication ceremony at the Lower Range Light. A full restoration of the beloved Baileys Harbor icon was completed earlier this year. During the ceremony, the descriptive plague installed by the Door County Historical Society in 1981 will be reaffixed.

Following the re-dedication, everyone's welcome to join us for a cookout!

After lunch, take some time to visit the Nature Store and take advantage of our storewide, end-of-season sale. It's a great opportunity to get some early holiday shopping done for the nature lovers on your list!







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