

RIDGES LITES

A monthly update of Ridges' Activities • March 2012

News from the Trailhead

Thanks to volunteer Jim Tyndall, The Ridges will soon have a beautifully handcrafted sign which identifies the property at Hwy 57 & Ridges Road as the **Future Trailhead and Interpretive Center for The Ridges Sanctuary**.

With spring fast approaching, you can expect to see more activity on and around the site. For the next two months, we will be focused on **recycling of the existing buildings**. Several contractors are interested in helping take apart the buildings to obtain material that can be put to immediate use on other existing construction projects. As much of the remaining material as possible will be recycled, with a number of items going to the Habitat for Humanity ReStore. **Our goal is to build awareness in Door County on options for recycling building construction material.**

Trail clearing for the new handicapped accessible boardwalk will take place in March and April with construction to begin this summer, assuming funding is available.

Watch this space for future updates and, of course, always feel free to call or stop in if you have any questions.



FROG WALK!

Take a walk with the naturalist to find out what all the noise is about. Finish up with marshmallows & hot cocoa around the fire!

Friday & Saturday

April 13 & 14 • 6 PM

\$20/family for Ridges' Members

\$25/family for non-members

Pre-Registration REQUIRED!

CellCom's Green Gifts provided partial funding for this program

75 Reasons

to purchase a **Gift Membership** to The Ridges

25 Native Wisconsin Orchids grow here

13 Threatened & Endangered Species are protected

5 miles of trails beckon the wanderer

1 Federally endangered dragonfly flourishes here

30 unique ridges and swales provide a diversity of habitat

AND you will receive a special 75th Anniversary hat!

Call today—we'll send your friends a special gift card!

The Ridges' Outreach

The Ridges Sanctuary (TRS) coordinated the Door County Invasive Species Team (DCIST) education and outreach activities during the 2010 and 2011 seasons. We reached more diverse groups by educating them on **how to identify and control invasive species in their backyards**. In 2012, TRS will continue invasive species outreach by sharing our knowledge of local environmental resources to participants through our *Landowner Stewardship Program*.

This season we are also working to meet a **critical need on the Door Peninsula** by working with the US Fish and Wildlife Service in developing better methods of protecting groundwater areas that feed Hine's Emerald dragonfly (HED) habitat.

Eleven groundwater contribution areas and the correlating HED larval sites exist on the Door County Peninsula, and one of them happens to be the future home of **our new interpretive center**. By implementing one or more of these best management practices and educating landowners and local governments, TRS will be an active leader in setting a positive community example.

An adult male Hine's Emerald dragonfly and one-, two-, and three-year old larva (nymphs).



Wish List

Cedar wood chips (always!)	Large plastic (covered) tubs/bins for storage
Black sunflower seed for the birds	AA batteries
Copy paper/laser labels/office supplies	Digital camcorder
A plastic sled to haul stuff in the winter	Weather station (talk to Karen)
Roofing fork (for digging invasive shrubs! ~\$35 at hardware stores)	Energy efficient refrigerator
1-gal shop vacuum for the Nature Center	Copy of the Baileys Harbor Range Lights log book
	Volunteers to staff the Nature Center Spring - Fall

Trail Talk at The Ridges

- **Volunteer at The Ridges!** We are looking for volunteers in our Nature Center this summer and various other activities essential to the smooth running of the Sanctuary. Call us to talk about how YOU might help. Training will be provided and we would love to have you volunteer for a few hours, days, weeks or whatever!
- **Folk Art Quilt Silent Auction** A benefit for The Ridges Sanctuary sponsored by Base Camp Coffee Bar in Sister Bay and Green Roof Farm Quilts. Visit Base Camp behind Ecology Sports. Auction starts April 20 and goes until mid-May!
- **TimeLine of The Ridges** will be displayed as often as possible this year. Be sure to see it and enjoy Marilyn Mahlberg's wonderful watercolor art produced especially for the Time-Line.
- **Bring in a new Member—or give a membership as a gift!** It seems that everyone who enjoys The Ridges' trails, feels the need to protect this special spot. Invite your friends to hike the trails. If they want to become a member—stop at the Range Light and we'll give them AND you a free Celebrating Door County's Wild Places book. *You decide who gets the Anniversary Hat!*
- **a'Round for The Ridges** on Sunday, July 8th at the Alpine Golf Course and Resort. This big fundraiser is a 9-Hole Scramble overlooking Green bay.
- **Celebrate 75 Years of History, Reflection & Discovery!** on Saturday, July 28th. Under the tent at the Baileys Harbor Town Hall! Our *Celebrate75! event*.
- **Restore the Range Lights!** We have raised over \$22,500 to restore the Lower Range Light. Work on the foundation will begin this spring. Any donation over \$50 receives a free Phil Austin Range Light poster.
- **Building Bridges at The Ridges** Watch for the volunteer days to help build the new boardwalk for The Ridges. Donations of cedar logs are 'piling' up and will be used to build the handicapped accessible walk between the new property at Ridges Road and the Highway and the Range Light boardwalk.
- **Memories Are Made for Sharing!** Thanks to everyone who shared their memories of The Ridges Sanctuary and the special things that inspired them. The book will be published in late Spring 2012. *Reserve a copy for \$8 plus \$3 shipping.*

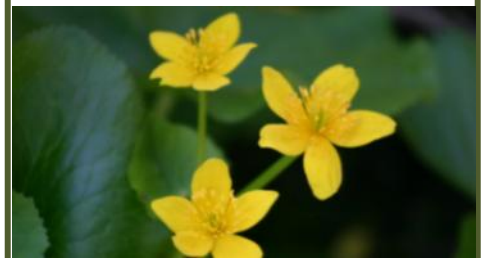
Learn more on any of these items at
<http://RidgesSanctuary.org>

Coming Up!

- April 13 & 14 • Frog Walks** at The Ridges. 6 PM • Registration **REQUIRED!**
- April 14 • Early Birders** meet at Havegård south of Sturgeon Bay. Birding at Gardner Marsh. 10 AM
- April 14 • Midwest Crane Count** Call Karen about helping with this early morning count.
- April 18 • Sevastopol School kids** come to The Ridges as part of their Earth Day activities.
- May 5 • Spring Volunteer Day** at The Ridges. Time for fresh air and sprucing up! 8:30 AM
- May 18 & 19 • Festival of Nature Hike** to special spots with special guides!
- June 11-18 • Bruce Peninsula trip** Visit special spots on our sister peninsula.
- June 16 • Ride for The Ridges** Bicycle the backroads of Door County. www.ridefornature.com
- June 16 • Pedaling Partners** Sign up to be a Pedaling Partner.
- July 1-31 • Reading The Ridges II** Art show at The Link Gallery at the Door Community Auditorium.
- July 8 • a'Round for The Ridges** at The Alpine Golf Course & Resort in Egg Harbor Time. A 9-hole Scramble, fundraiser for our education programs.
- July 9 • Cockroach Monologues** A special Funday Monday with author Shelly Clarke. 2 PM
- July 28 • Celebrating 75 Years!** Special events to celebrate The Ridges' mission and direction!

For more information call The Ridges or visit our website

<http://RidgesSanctuary.org>



Bruce Peninsula Trip! June 11—18
 Visit Door County's counterpart on the Niagara Escarpment!
 Eight days of woodlands carpeted with wildflowers, limestone caves, forested trails, and incredible geology. All transportation, meals, tour guides, fees, and more.
Time is running short—call soon if you are interested!
 Call Karen at The Ridges for more information (920) 839-2802
 (Offered through Door County Nature & Travel)



Check your mailing label for an expiration date for *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: _____ Send a gift card? Date: _____

Address: _____

City, State, ZIP: _____ Phone () _____

Email address: _____

Second Address from ____/____ to ____/____

Address _____

City, State, ZIP _____

Membership: Individual __\$40 Family __\$65 Family Plus __\$95 Business __\$150 New? or Renewal?

Additional Donation: __\$25 __\$50 __\$100 __\$150 __Other \$_____

Check enclosed Credit Card # _____ Exp date ____/____

Signature _____

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

Pedaling Partners



Educational Programs

for Kids, Families, & Adults at The Ridges Sanctuary

- Register for the Ride for Nature at www.rideformature.com
- Ask people to sponsor your ride (raise \$250 or more for a free bike jersey)
- Send form (& funds) - Raise \$250 or more to receive a free (limited edition Ride for Nature) bike jersey



The three top fundraisers

Win a Saris Bike Rack

Contact The Ridges for information & a form. carol@ridgessanctuary.org • (920) 839-2802

RIDGES' BUSINESS MEMBERS

We thank them for their support

- | | |
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www.WisconsinPublicService.com</p> |
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A Preview of Spring



Call: (920) 839-2802 • or visit our website for more information: <http://RidgesSanctuary.org>



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1937

- Mar 24—National Gallery of Art established by Congress
- Mar 25—Quaker Oats reveals it pays Babe Ruth \$25,000/year
- Mar 26—Joe DiMaggio replaces his 40 oz bat with a 36 oz
- Mar 26—Spinach growers in Crystal City Texas erect statue of Popeye

“Frank Oldenburg, who is taking the lead at Baileys Harbor in creating the refuge, states that there are a number who believe a campsite would be more valuable.”
Door County Advocate, 3/5/37

‘Wildflowers Blooming’ & ‘Birds Returning’ in Door County! 10th Annual Door County Festival of Nature

Wildflower hikes • birding trips • canoe outings • an old fashioned barn dance
• *Expert guides to pristine & unique areas • “Door County Islands National Wildlife Refuge”*
May 18th & 19th

A cooperative effort of The Ridges Sanctuary, Door County Land Trust, The Nature Conservancy, Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources, The Clearing, and Crossroads at Big Creek.

Due to the delicate nature of Festival sites, attendance is limited, and preregistration for trips is required. For more information, email karen@RidgesSanctuary.org, visit our website (<http://RidgesSanctuary.org/?cat=5>), or call us at (920) 839-2802. Registration will open in early April.



VOLUNTEER

MEET THE NICEST PEOPLE!

Our volunteers are the nicest in the County! — we checked! Our dedicated volunteers enable us to offer a variety of programs to children, adults, and families. If you have some time to spend amid the spruce, hemlock and wildflowers, and want to meet more nice people, call 839-2802. Training is provided! and we have special perks for our volunteers.

Training Dates: May 8th-10a • May 9th-1p • June 12-1p • Jun 13-10a Come to one or all!

Looking

For our 75th Anniversary, we are looking for:

- The Baileys Harbor Range Light Keeper’s log—last seen at the 50th Anniversary celebration.
- Names and addresses of relatives of the Founders of The Ridges back in 1937. Also former board members.

Founders: *Frank Oldenburg, Mrs James J McArdle, Olivia Traven, Emma Toft, Jens Jensen, Albert Fuller, George Sieker, John Matter, William E Sieker, Mrs W C Sieker (Emma), Mertha Fulkerson, A.B. (Arthur Burchard) Gochenour*

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