Welcome to
The Cook-Albert Fuller Nature Center

We’re delighted to announce that, after years of discussion, planning and fundraising, the Cook-Albert Fuller Nature Center opened its doors to the public on June 13!

How does that change what you’ll find when you visit The Ridges? We believe you’ll experience the best of the old with a touch of the new. You’ll still see all the familiar things that have made this place special for almost 78 years - extraordinary forests and wetlands, miles of scenic trails lined with rare wildflowers and nature programs for all ages. You’ll still be greeted by friendly volunteers, guided by naturalists and instructed by specialists on birding, botany, geology and more. We’ve added a few things that we believe will enhance your experience, so here’s what you need to know:

• At the top of the list – we’re easier to find! Our new Nature Center is located at 8166 State Highway 57 at the north end of downtown Baileys Harbor.
• Both the Center and our Nature Store are open daily, 9 AM – 6 PM.
• Our business office is also housed at the Center and is open Monday – Friday, 9 AM – 5 PM
• Guided Sanctuary hikes now begin at the new Hidden Brook trailhead (soon to be the handicapped accessible boardwalk) located on the northeast side of the Center. Sign up at the front desk!
• A $5 Day Pass includes access to Hidden Brook, the Sanctuary, the Family Discovery Trail and Logan Creek. Members and children under 18 hike free.

We look forward to seeing you this season – and all year-round!
In the News

It’s been an exciting year for The Ridges already on several fronts!

In February, we learned that the Door Peninsula Coastal Wetlands had been designated a Wetland of International Importance under the Ramsar Convention, making it only the 37th such wetland in the United States. The Ramsar designation includes key coastal wetlands along the Lake Michigan side of the peninsula, beginning north at Newport State Park and continuing south to include the following State Natural Areas: Mink River Estuary in Rowleys Bay, North Bay, Baileys Harbor Boreal Forest along Lake Michigan, Mud Lake, Toft Point and Bedrock Beach in Moonlight Bay, and The Ridges Sanctuary.

The site is comprised of 11,443 acres and includes land owned and managed by: Door County (54 acres), Door County Land Trust (461 acres), The Nature Conservancy (3,192 acres), The Ridges Sanctuary (1,409 acres), UW-Green Bay (686 acres), the Wisconsin DNR (5,508 acres), Ed & Sandy Miller (110 acres) and George & Sharon Cobb (23 acres). Congratulations to all the stewards of the Door Peninsula Coastal Wetlands on this important achievement!

On May 12, 40 volunteers planted more than 1,500 ram’s-head orchid seedlings in an area visible from the Hidden Brook trail. This restoration effort represents the largest outplanting of this Wisconsin State-Threatened orchid species in the world. The outplanting was supervised by orchid restoration program manager Melissa Curran, an environmental scientist and botanist with Stantec, who also provided instruction on monitoring protocols.

On June 2, USA Today’s article “Quiet Retreats Help You Relax and Reset” had this advice for stress-worn travelers: “Trek among 25 species of orchids that bloom in the silent oasis of The Ridges Sanctuary on the Door County peninsula of Wisconsin.”

Bringing Nature Closer

Nest & Trail Cams

The male osprey in this photo was just passing through, but if we’re lucky enough to attract a nesting female in the future, we’ll be able to observe her and her nestlings on video thanks to donations from Kriss Schorer and from John Fulkerson also designated gifts made in memory of his wife, Edith, to be used for the cameras. Their generosity will enable our visitor to share in the magic of nature for years to come.

While we’re waiting for an osprey to move in, our trail cameras are capturing the after-hours antics of our resident deer. Check our Facebook page for some recent photos.

Jewelry Designer Teams Up With The Ridges

For the second year in a row Patricia Shoppe of Egg Harbor has commissioned a piece of jewelry commemorating Door County nature and raising funds for local organizations. In 2014, international jewelry artist, Sophia Forero designed a necklace evoking the water, rocky shores and cherry blossoms of Door County to benefit Write On, Door County. This year The Ridges has been selected as the beneficiary.

The Hine’s emerald dragonfly is the inspiration in this exclusive limited edition necklace, created by Sophia Forero Designs of Naperville, IL. Forero and her husband hand crafted the piece to give homage to Door County, a place that has created lasting memories for the artist couple and their children. The pendant is created by first carving out of wax, hand casting into fine silver, then finished with Afghani turquoise, lapis, emeralds, and pearl. This year matching earrings are available as well.

The necklace will retail for $160 and the earrings for $70. It will be available for special order exclusively at Patricia Shoppe or at the Nature Store at The Ridges, May through September 2015. 20% of sales will be donated to The Ridges Sanctuary.
Meet: Ridges Cabins.
Beginners and families are welcome. Bring binoculars if desired.

JULY 4, 11, 18 & 25, SATURDAYS AT 6:30 AM
Join fellow birding enthusiasts for a morning excursion into the woods, fields and waters around Baileys Harbor. All members of our group collaborate to identify the birds we see. Both beginners and experienced birders are welcome. Bring binoculars if desired. Meet: Ridges Cabins.

Free – Members • $5 – Public • Under 18 Free

JULY 18, SATURDAY AT 9:00 AM
Interested in birding but not an “early bird” yourself? Join us for this relaxed outing. We will car pool to several different habitats to find a variety of species. Beginners and families are welcome. Bring binoculars if desired. Meet: Ridges Cabins.

Free – Members & under 18 • $5 – Public

JULY 5 & 19, AUGUST 2 & 16, SEPT 6 & 20 – SUNDAYS AT 2 PM
Enjoy a different kind of hiking experience. Explore this 170-acre parcel on Clark Lake with a Ridges naturalist. Owned and managed by The Ridges, the Logan Creek property is comprised of a variety of habitats, including upland hardwood forest, lowland cedar-hemlock forest and frontage along Clark Lake and Logan Creek. Bring binoculars. Meet at trailhead: 5724 Loritz Road.

$5 – Members • $8 – Public • Under 18 Free

Meet: Cook-Fuller Center.

JULY 9 & 23, AUGUST 13 & 27, SEPT 10 & 24 – THURSDAYS AT 10 AM
Join a naturalist and explore this newly acquired property that features ledges, a hardwood forest, open fields and opportunities to see birds and blooms of different habitats. Moderately easy hike. Meet: Cook-Fuller Center.

$5 – Members • $8 – Public • Under 18 Free

Guided Hikes at the Sanctuary
DAILY AT 9:30 AM & 1:30 PM
Join a Ridges naturalist for a relaxing 90-minute walk on the trails. Learn a little about the history of The Ridges and a lot about the wildflowers, insects and other features of Wisconsin’s first land trust. Includes access to the Upper Range Light lantern room. Appropriate for all ages. Meet: Cook-Fuller Center.

$5 – Members • $8 – Public • Under 18 Free

Guided Kayak Trips at Logan Creek
July 1, 8, 15, 22 & 29 and August 5, 12, 19 & 26
Wednesdays at 8 AM
Owned by The Ridges, the 170 acres located at the north end of Clark Lake is comprised of a variety of habitats. With the help of a Naturalist from the Ridges and a guide from Bay Shore Outfitters, you can enjoy all of it from the water!
Call Bay Shore Outfitters at (920) 854-7598 for reservations.
Meet: Mr. G’s Logan Creek Grille.
$55 – Per person Fully refundable if canceled due to weather.

Guided Kayak Trips on Kangaroo Lake
July 1, 8, 15, 22 & 29 and August 5, 12, 19 & 26
Wednesdays at 1 PM
Experience the unspoiled areas of one of Door County’s Wetland Gems, from the water. With the help of a guide from Lakeshore Adventures and a naturalist from The Ridges, your tour of the north end of Kangaroo Lake promises to be filled with opportunities to see birds, wildlife and plants native to this very diverse community.
$55 – Per person Fully refundable if canceled due to weather.

Photo Ops Hike
JULY 15, AUGUST 19 & SEPTEMBER 23 – WEDNESDAYS AT 1:30 PM
Grab your camera or camera phone and let our naturalist lead you to some of the beauties of the season here at the Ridges. This hike will differ from our daily nature-led hikes by allowing extended time to photograph a few locations rather than being an interpretive outing. Easy hiking. Beauty everywhere!
Meet: Cook-Fuller Center.

$5 – Members • $8 – Public • Under 18 Free

Walking Tour of Baileys Harbor
Sediment Transport Study
JULY 16 – THURSDAY AT 3 PM
This field trip is provided in conjunction with the Thursday night Lake Lesson offered on the evening of July 16. Representatives from W.F. Baird & Associates will lead a walkabout in the Baileys Harbor area that will focus on the study and subsequent report on management of the Baileys Harbor Town Marina.
Meet: Baileys Harbor Town Marina, 8132 Hwy 57. Free

Free – Public • Under 18 Free

Dragonflies of The Ridges Sanctuary
JULY 17 – FRIDAY AT 9 AM
Venture outdoors with Dr. Paul Burton to learn about the dragonflies that make their home in the Sanctuary. You’ll capture and identify different dragonfly species and have an opportunity to see Door County’s federally-endangered Hine’s emerald dragonfly up close! Great family activity with lots of photo opportunities. Meet: Cook-Fuller Center.

$10 – Members • $13 – Public • $5 – Under 18

Programs continued on next page
**Northeastern Wisconsin Land Trust**

**Meet: Cook-Fuller Center.**

**Ladies Craft Night**

**SEPTEMBER 19, Saturday at 5 PM**

Looking for a fun-filled evening with the girls? Get crafty with objects that are easy to find in nature. Supplies for the arts and crafts will be provided, as well as wine and cheese! RSVP by September 17.

*Meet: Ridges Cabins*

*15 – Per person*

**Backyard Birding – Species and Habitat ID**

**AUGUST 8, Saturday at 10 AM**

This hands-on workshop covers the basics of birdwatching in your own backyard to prepare you for everything from fulfilling personal curiosity to participating in citizen science efforts. We'll walk you through the things that you need to know about the basics of bird shape, flight, size and habitat. Bring your own field guides or borrow one of ours, and we'll help you mentally narrow down the choices before you scour through them.

*Meet: Cook-Fuller Center.*

*10 – Members • 13 – Public • 5 – Children under 18*

**Monarch Magic**

**AUGUST 28 & 29, Friday & Saturday at 1 PM**

There's no question that the Monarch butterfly is magical. This hands-on program will examine the different stages in the monarch's life cycle, and instruct on how to raise them from egg to adult. We'll also discuss the amazing fall migration to their wintering areas in Mexico, and their multi-generational return in the spring. We'll finish by capturing and tagging as many butterflies as we can, in order to track them on their migration routes. The same program will be presented both days. Suitable for all ages.

*Meet: Cook-Fuller Center.*

*10 – Members • 13 – Public • 5 – Children under 18*

**Breeding Bird Atlas II Workshop**

**SEPTEMBER 5, Saturday at 10 AM**

The Breeding Bird Atlas workshop will feature a recap of the Breeding Bird Atlas, its importance and The Ridges’ role in doing the necessary research to establish a baseline for future studies. George Cobb and Ed Pentecost have been collecting data in The Ridges for this effort and will share their findings.

*Meet: Cook-Fuller Center.*

*10 – Members • 13 – Public • 5 – Children under 18*

**Lake Lessons Speaker Series**

**Thursday at 7 PM, Baileys Harbor Town Hall. Admission Free.**

**Wildlife Wizardry**

**JULY 2**

Master Taxidermist Mike Orthober is well known in his field and has won many national and international awards. He also judges World Taxidermy Championships and teaches others his methods. Join Mike in a discussion and display on the ins and outs of bringing wildlife to life through taxidermy.

**Baileys Harbor Sediment Transport Study**

**JULY 16**

Beginning in July of 2014, W.F. Baird & Associates developed a study and subsequent report on management of the Baileys Harbor Town Marina. This effort studied and mapped bathymetry, currents and sediment movement in the harbor, with special focus on the near vicinity of the marina. Join Baird representatives in a presentation and discussion of their findings. There will be a walk-through and on-site discussion of the project at 3:00 on the same day of the presentation.

**The Wild Potato**

**JULY 30**

Charlotte Lukes photographed her first mushroom in 1971 and has since explored most of Door County in search of new species. She and her husband Roy have spent decades in the protection and conservation of Door County’s resources. Enjoy an evening with Charlotte and learn about her passion in studying and exploring the world of mushrooms in Door County.

Programs continued on next page
Native Pollinators in Wisconsin Agriculture
AUGUST 6
Jeremy Hemberger is a graduate student of entomology whose studies include entomology, ecology, conservation and evolution. His current research focuses on bumblebee foraging, and he will join us this evening to discuss the role and importance of native pollinators in Wisconsin agriculture.

Wisconsin Breeding Birds Atlas II
AUGUST 13
The Wisconsin Breeding Bird Atlas is a comprehensive field survey that documents the distribution and abundance of birds breeding in an area. Information gathered in this survey will allow researchers to see changes in bird populations since the last survey, conducted from 1995 to 2000, and to measure future changes. Erin Giese, of the UW-Green Bay Cofrin Center for Biodiversity, will present on the status of the project as well as how to get involved in this great opportunity for citizen science.

Wetland Restoration for the Birds
AUGUST 20
There is little dispute that native wetlands are essential for many species of both flora and fauna. What about restored wetlands? Those areas that may have been developed as residential or agricultural areas can be returned to a habitable community for natural life. Jill Hapner of GeoBotany Consulting Services has studied the characteristics that make a restored wetland good bird habitat. Join her in a discussion of how bird use of small created and restored wetlands can change over time and the ins and outs of wetland design and the land use surrounding wetlands.

Adult Workshops

Wild Wizardry Workshop
JULY 3, Friday at 9 AM
Join Master Taxidermist Mike Orthober for a mesmerizing session during which he will reassemble wildlife that has been preserved and ready for mounting. Mike will discuss methods as well as offer some tips and tricks to his arts. Meet: Cook-Fuller Center.
$30 – Members • $40 – Public

Fun With Fungi
JULY 31, Friday at 9:30 AM
Charlotte Lukes has spent the last four decades studying the mushrooms of Door County and sharing her knowledge. Attend this workshop to increase your knowledge of the mushrooms you see across our landscape. We’ll meet and do some “classroom” style learning, then head out on the trails in search of species here at the Sanctuary. Meet: Cook-Fuller Center.
$30 – Members • $40 – Public

Native Pollinators Workshop
AUGUST 7, Friday at 9 AM
Join entomologist Jeremy Hemberger in a hands-on look at the importance of maintaining the population of native pollinators in our landscape. Jeremy will share tips on identifying native bees, citizen science programs to help collect native pollinator data for research, as well as conservation strategies that can be applied at the home level. Meet: Cook-Fuller Center.
$30 – Members • $40 – Public

SPECIAL EVENTS

Living Green Tour of Homes
JULY 17 & 18, Friday & Saturday from 9 AM to 4 PM
This self-guided tour begins at our new nature center and spotlights 5 Door County examples of green living practices. Begin or end the circuit with a tour of the Cook-Albert Fuller Center to learn about the green design features that were incorporated in order to model responsible development in a sensitive environment and earn Leadership in Energy & Environmental Design (LEED) certification. Tickets are $25 and include a map and description of each home. Tickets available in advance or at The Ridges on tour dates.

Ramble Thru The Ridges
SEPTEMBER 26, Saturday at 9 AM
The Ramble returns for a second year! Take a ramble through the early fall beauty of the Sanctuary to raise money for The Ridges. Naturalists and interpretive stations along our scenic trails will add to your enjoyment and a special program will follow the walk. Entry fees for the Ramble are $25 for adults and $10 for children under 18.

For complete program info, visit RidgesSanctuary.org
George retired to Door County with his wife Sharon after 34 years as a school administrator, teacher, coach and counselor. Since becoming a full-time resident of Baileys Harbor, he has been active in a number of community activities including the Peninsula Chamber Singers, Peninsula Music Festival and the Doormen, a men’s double quartet. He also serves as a Stephen Minister at Shepherd of the Bay Lutheran Church where he serves on various committees and is a member of the church choir.

George has a long history of service with The Ridges. He first became active as a member of the Wednesday Crew, and was subsequently appointed to fill a vacancy on the Board of Directors in 2001. Since then he has served on many committees including Development, Education, Personnel and Budget. He is a past Board President and is currently serving as Board Vice President. He also chairs the Strategic Planning Committee. An active birder, George co-leads Discovery Bird Hikes and Not-So-Early-Bird Hikes. He and Sharon also volunteer in the Nature Store.

Nationally recognized and self-proclaimed Grillologists Mad Dog and Merrill entertain while cooking up a summer feast under the big tent behind the cabins! Enjoy appetizers, wine and beer at 4 PM while Steve Leonard and members of The Ridges Board share the Year in Review. At 5 Mad Dog and Merrill are front and center with some rib-tickling tips on grilling, followed by dinner. Eating has never been so much fun!

**Board Member Elections**

This year Rob Davis has been nominated to fill the vacancy on our Board of Directors left by departing board member Bill Hebal. George Cobb has completed Carol Williams’ term and has been nominated for his first full three-year term. Mark Martin has been nominated for a second term. Voting by the membership will take place at the Annual Meeting, 4 PM. Please review the biographies below in preparation for voting. This year’s meeting will be held under the big tent behind The Ridges cabins, 8288 Hwy Q, Baileys Harbor.

**George S. Cobb**

George Davis

Rob grew up in Lake Bluff IL and graduated from Lawrence University in 1974. He received his MBA degree in finance from Washington University in 1976. Rob’s first career in commercial real estate development gave him exposure to sales, marketing, finance, acquisitions, dispositions, property management, and consulting. During the late 90s he decided he needed a change and ventured into the dot-com arena. Following the collapse of the dot-com movement, he changed careers and managed a publishing division that contracted with large textbook publishers to produce teachers’ editions and ancillary student materials. This type of project-based work required ramping up and down as many as fifty freelance crews of writers, editors, and production designers. Technology and market dynamics also ended that opportunity, so Rob rounded out his formal work career performing the less stressful part-time roles of bookkeeping and payroll administrator for the same publisher.

Rob’s recent retirement paved the way for consummating his dream of finally living in Door County full time. His family has been a part of Door County landscape for over one hundred years, beginning with his great-grandfather (and his name-sake) who “discovered” Ephraim as the chief passenger agent on the Goodrich Steamship Line that stopped in Ephraim to deliver passengers and freight. He liked what he saw so he left his family at Anderson Hotel. Rob’s grandfather, Warren, remembered those summers fondly and constructed a cottage in Ephraim in 1928. Rob’s father constructed another cottage nearby in 1965. So Rob is finally home.

In the six months Rob has lived in Ephraim, he’s already engaged as a volunteer and participant with The Ridges, Bjorklunden and The Clearing. He currently serves on The Ridges’ Finance Committee.
An Update of Ridges Activities

Wow! And may we say wow, again! What a Festival! Beautiful weather prevailed as over 350 participants enjoyed 2 ½ days of field trips that included tours on a 40 foot schooner, field trips to a meteorite impact site, birding on Washington Island, rare opportunities to visit outstanding private properties and much, much more – 67 field trips in all!

On Friday evening, we celebrated the exciting news that the Door Peninsula Coastal Wetland had been designated a Wetland of International Importance under the Ramsar Convention. Following a fabulous dinner (Thank you, Chives Door County!), we were treated to an entertaining and informative keynote presentation by Katie Beilfuss, Outreach Programs Director at the Wisconsin Wetlands Association and a member of the US National Ramsar Committee. Brava, Katie!

Thanks to our partners Crossroads at Big Creek, the Door County Land Trust, The Nature Conservancy and the Wisconsin DNR for collaborating on this memorable annual event and for the important work they do in Door County all year long. Thanks also to our outstanding field trip leaders and volunteers. You’re the best!

Finally, many thanks to our sponsors for their support of this event and throughout the year.

Volunteer Appreciation

Sunday, August 16th

We never tire of pointing out that our volunteers are the backbone of The Ridges. And we never cease to be amazed that, each year, you surpass yourselves! This year, the opening of the new Center has required enormous contributions of time, energy and expertise and you responded.

Please join us as we celebrate YOU on Sunday, August 16, 4 – 6 PM, at the Cook-Fuller Nature Center. Enjoy a light supper buffet surrounded by good friends and good music! RSVP by August 7th.

Backpack Adventure Camps

There’s still time to register!

Our day camp programs are designed to provide children with a safe, fun-filled experience in the outdoors. Camps are held each week in July, beginning July 6, and we still have availability in most sessions. Visit RidgesSanctuary.org for details. Register online or call 920-839-2802.
Ridges Business Members
Please patronize our business members.

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www.BHYCR.com
Baylake Bank
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Flanigan Distributing
920.743.2036
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www.StayAtTheHarborInn.com
Inge Alverson Bacon
www.ibaconcpa.com
Innovative Printing, LLC
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Journey’s End Motel & Cabins
www.JourneysEndMotel.com
LfpDesign! LLC
www.LfpDesign.com
Liberty Square
www.LibertySquareShops.com
Loc Haven Log Cabins*
www.LocHavenLogCabins.com
Ludwigsen & Tishler, DDS
920-854.6556
Main Street Market
www.DoorCountyGrocery.com
Maxwelton Braes
www.maxweltonbraes.com
Meissner Landscape
www.MeissnerLandscape.com
Ministry Door County Medical Center
www.ministryhealth.org/DCMH/home.nws
Ostrand Family Dentistry*
www.OstrandFamilyDentistry.com
Pinkert Law Firm
www.pinkertlawfirm.com
Sail Door County
www.SailDoorCounty.com
Sister Bay Bowl
www.SisterBayBowl.com
Staudemaier Chiropractic Wellness Center
www.BacktoWellness.org
Thomas/Pfeiffer Insurance
www.DoorCountyInsurance.com
Townline Timber Services, Inc.*
www.TownlineTimber.com
TR Pottery LLC
www.TRPottery.com
Trishann C Photography
http://trishacphoto.zenfolio.com
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* New in 2015