

Ridges Lites

A monthly update of Ridges Activities • September 2010



Help Plan The Ridges' Center for Environmental Stewardship

The Ridges is in the initial phase of planning a new facility to support our programs, tell our unique story and expand our stewardship mission. To ensure that the facility meets our needs and those of the community, we are developing an interpretive master plan

which will guide us through the development and design of the facility, site, trail systems and media.

Our Team of Experts

Schmeeckle Reserve Interpreters, a consulting team based at UW-Stevens Point, will facilitate focus groups, interviews and community meetings to gather member and community input. This is a tremendous opportunity for members to help identify the audiences we will serve and the significant stories we will tell as we develop the conceptual design for our new facility.

In addition, Boldt Construction has agreed to help us with the site analysis for

the new facility location and provide guidance with setting sustainable building goals.

How You Can Help

Give us your feedback! Stop by, call, e-mail or visit www.uwsp.edu/schmeeckle/ridges and go to The Discussion Forum to share your thoughts, ideas and concerns.

Donate! We need your financial contributions as we reach out to our membership and our community – as we <u>all</u> plan *The Ridges Sanctuary's Center for Environmental Stewardship*, honoring one of the greatest stories in Wisconsin conservation history.

One can donate on line, one time or a monthly contribution, at *RidgesSanctuary.org* or mail in your donation filling out the form on the back of this flyer.



When the Chips are Down— The buffalo is empty

In our case—the trails are ready for winter. Come help us batten down the buildings and the trails before the snow flies. Hauling wood chips, raking, organizing, washing windows, sprucing up the cedar signs and posts—there's lots to do!

And there's always that famous Ridges' chili to warm you up on a cool Fall day.

9 AM-Noon • October 2

Bring a friend and you'll each get a copy of Celebrating Door County's Wild Places.

Coming Up!

Aug 27&28 • Monarch Mania

Sept 6 • Midsummer's Music benefit at Birch Creek

Sept 18 • Flea Market—rent a space for your stuff or donate items to The Ridges' booth

Oct 2 • Fall Volunteer Day at The Ridges. The famous chili will be on the menu!

Oct 7 • A full moon—come for an evening hike at The Ridges!

Nov 6 • A full moon—come for an evening hike at The Ridges!

Dec 5 • A full moon—come for an evening hike at The Ridges!

Dec 11 • An afternoon of oldfashioned Christmas fun— The Ridges' Natural Christmas

> For more information call The Ridges or visit our website www.RidgesSanctuary.org

We Wish \dots

Laser or inkjet mailing labels
Copy paper
Cedar wood chips
Clippers & loppers for the Barberry Pirates
Dehumidifier
Garden gloves, rakes, tools, etc.
Blank CDs & DVDs
Digital cameras
Black sunflower seeds
Canoe or kayak
Donations for the Flea Market
Chocolate for the staff
Shelving units

Wishes Do Come True!

For a list of our many wonderful benefactors, go to the "Donors" link at

www. Ridges Sanctuary.org.

Monarch Mania at The Ridges

Fri & Sat Aug 27 & 28 10 AM—Noon

Enjoy a beautiful day at The Ridges. Learn how you can help in the study of these winged wonders. Capture, tag, and release butterflies to help in Monarch research. During this hands-on program, participants will learn many details about this fascinating butterfly. We will look at the different stages in the monarch's life cycle, and learn how to raise them from egg to adult. We'll also discuss the amazing migration of monarchs from Wisconsin to their wintering areas in Mexico, and their multigenerational 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. *Call to pre-register. Same program each day.*



EDGE SE LEDGE

No Family Left Inside Raffle

A tandem skydive, kayak outing, cave tour, Escarpment art, and lots more prizes! (42½ prizes!) We're trying to get people outside enjoying nature. Join us outdoors!

Buy a raffle ticket from a volunteer or at the Nature Center for a chance to win wonderful prizes from Door County friends and businesses. Just \$2 and the proceeds benefits The Ridges' No Family Left Inside program to get families outside exploring and learning about the Niagara Escarpment. PO BOX 152 • Baileys Harbor • WI • 54202-0152

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Notes from the Range Light

To say this summer's weather was unusual is an understatement! Almost seven inches of rain in June, then several weeks of hot, humid weather with little rain from to mid-August. Average temp in July was 69°, compared to an average of 63° in July 2009.

7/22/10 Visitors reported seeing two "skunkettes" on the trail.

Wildflowers continue to bloom about two weeks ahead of their usual dates.

7/10/10 Slender Ladies' Tresses 7/28/10 Grass of Parnassus 8/17/10 Fringed gentian

8/12/10 Door County experienced an

explosion of Sulphur butterflies in early August.

A doe and her fawn have been sighted frequently along the boardwalk by the Marshall Cabin.



Trail Talk at The Ridges

- *DCIST Exotic Mapping* Help get your invasives counted on the county-wide map. Schedule a training with Marne for your friends group or neighbors! 839-2802
- Come and enjoy lunch with the staff and other volunteers (or want-to-be volunteers) at our next **Volunteer Thank You Cookout**. Tuesday, Sept. 21.
- The Barberry Pirates have been fighting fiercely against the many invasive plants that are threatening the Sanctuary. Join them Tuesday mornings from 9 AM-11:30 AM.
- Farmer Bruce's Vegetable Garden has had a banner year. The tomatoes are bursting out all over the place! And the beans, carrots, herbs, zucchini, cucumbers, etc.
- Be our Friend on Facebook! We try to post all the latest events and happenings.
- Check out the **Butterfly Garden** between the log cabins! The Lighthouse Keepers have been busy preparing and planting. All the plants are courtesy of the Native Nursery at Door Landscape *(note the labels on each!)*.

Monday September 6



Labor Day benefit celebration of Human Services, Arts, and Environment at Birch Creek Music Center! Enjoy a Midsummer's Music classical music concert at 3 PM followed by wine and heavy hors d'oeuvres catered by Alexander's! \$85 per person. Proceeds benefit The Ridges Sanctuary, HELP of Door County, and Midsummer's Music Festival. Advance reservations required: Call 920.854.7088 or visit www.midsummerSMusic.com.

DONATE 'STUFF'

The Ridges is again accepting donations of items for its booth. No large furniture, clothes or electronics. Books went VERY fast last year. A beautiful canoe was donated also! Think creatively.

Please call before you donate—NO white elephants!



Clean out your attic, cupboards, closets or under the bed!

FLEAMARKET

Space is Available!

Reserve a space at The Ridges' Flea Market on September 18

and make some money on your 'stuff'!

Check your mailing label for an expiration date for <u>your</u> 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:	
Email address:	
Second Address from/ to/ Address	
City, State, ZIP	
Membership: Individual\$40 Family\$65 Family Additional Donation for Planning:\$25\$50\$100	Plus \$95 New? or Renewal ?
Check enclosedCredit Card #	
Mail to and make checks payable to: The Ridges Sanctuary • PO Box 152 • Baileys Har	rbor • WI • 54202 (or signup/donate online: <i>RidgesSanctuary.org</i>)