**ADVOCACY UPDATE**

Gathering Waters extends a heartfelt **THANK YOU** to the thousands of Wisconsinites who wrote letters, made phone calls, looked face-to-face with legislators, and/or made financial contributions in support of Wisconsin’s state funding for land and water protection. Your efforts won the two-year renewal of the Knowles-Nelson Stewardship Program, allowing land trusts to continue their work for Wisconsin, and for future generations.

**SIGN UP FOR IMPORTANT ADVOCACY UPDATES AT**

TeamKnowlesNelson.org

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**KNOWLES-NELSON RENEWAL**

and take home a weatherproof, pocket-size Wisconsin Nature Guide.

- **CHECK OUT ALL THE EVENTS AT**
  - HaveFunOutside.org

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**LAND TRUST OF THE YEAR**

**Landmark Conservancy**, serving 30 counties in western and northwestern Wisconsin, was born of a merger between two nationally accredited land trusts: West Wisconsin Land Trust and Bayfield Regional Conservancy, in 2018. The birth of Landmark Conservancy is a beautiful example of what teamwork and collaboration can achieve. This and all the organizations doing so much to protect and preserve clean water, healthy soils, habitat for wildlife, sustainable food sources, and the space to enjoy nature’s gifts, is worthy of celebration.

**CONSERVATIONISTS OF THE YEAR**

Chambers Island Nature Preserve Executive Committee is made up of a team of four women who first purchased, on Door County, Chambers Island: Mary Brevard, Suzanne Fletcher, Barbara Franke, and Mary Jane Bratmiller. Recognizing what a truly unique ecological gem the island is, they set out to create a sustainable and protected island. With a clear vision and unmatched resolve, they have demonstrated their commitment and leadership. By the end of the year, nearly 600 acres will have been permanently protected as a direct result of their extraordinary efforts.

**LANDLEGACY AWARD**

**Yawkey Lumber Company of Oneida County** made an incredible gift in 2016. Company shareholders, all great-grandchildren of the late Cyrus C. Yawkey, donated 431 acres to Northwoods Land Trust, including woodlands, wetlands, islands, wildlife habitat, and 4.4 miles of natural shoreline on a highly scenic, clear-water lake in the town of Hazelhurst. The total appraised value of the property was over $13 million at the time of the donation, resulting in one of the most valuable and sizable outright gifts of land to a land trust in Wisconsin. The property’s natural shoreline and old-growth forests will now be protected and available for all of us to view, explore, and enjoy forever.

Learn more about the award winners and join us in celebrating their achievements at gatheringwaters.org/awards

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**2019 LAND CONSERVATION LEADERSHIP AWARD WINNERS**

Gathering Waters is thrilled to formally recognize the accomplishments of these leaders. Join us for the Awards Celebration on September 26, 2019 at the Monona Terrace in Madison

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**MEET THE**

Paddle Lake Katherine in the Northwoods, learn about wildcrafting, and appreciate the artistry of nature at ARTservancy. Tag monarch butterflies, learn about native plants on a prairie tour, help build part of the scenic Ice Age Trail, enjoy guided hikes, gaze at the stars, tour a farm, hike the bluffslands, collect seeds during a prairie walk, or go on a cycling adventure with farm-to-table refreshments along the way, and more.

Enter to win a YETI® cooler; the more events you attend, the better your chances! Learn more at HaveFunOutside.org

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**JOIN US FOR**

**LAND TRUST DAYS**

AUGUST – SEPTEMBER 2019

Mark your calendar. Call your friends. Summer is here and it’s time to # HaveFunOutside during Wisconsin Land Trust Days! With over 30 events and activities throughout August and September, there’s something for everyone!

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Presented by:

Sponsored by:
EVENTS

Gathering waters: Wisconsin's Alliance for Land Trusts and their member land trusts are pleased to invite you to join us at the following events. For more details, please visit the hosting land trust. Most events are free, but some require registration and participation fees.

AUGUST

Be An Eco-Adventurer
August 5
Green Bay
Host: Blaisdell Preservation Foundation
Spending a day exploring your inner child at the park, you can enjoy all of nature’s activities in your own urban wild park.

Kelly Creek & Ice Cream Social
August 4
Hebard Falls
Host: Kinnickinnic River Land Trust
Explore the Kelly Creek Preserve and treat yourself to a free Ice Cream Social at the Kinnickinnic Church. The ice cream is free.

Prairie Days
August 10
Dekoven Center
Host: The Prairie Enthusiasts - Chippewa County
Celebrate and learn from prairie plants and animals! Enjoy workshops, speakers, hikes with experts, a potluck lunch, and music.

Your Food and the Land: A Farm-to-Table Potluck Lunch and Walk.
August 22
Amherst Junction
Host: Northern Wisconsin Conservation Trust
Enjoy a locally sourced outdoor potluck on a farm and learn about the connection between your food and the land.

SEPTEMBER

You may have a chance to meet Wisconsin’s Land Legacy Award Winners! This special place was donated by Wisconsin’s Land Legacy Award Winners.

Door County Land Trust Annual Gathering
August 18
Sturgeon Bay
Host: Door County Land Trust
Join Door County Land Trust at their Annual Gathering event to celebrate 33 years of conservation success. Every land has a story. Enjoy talks from the trail, dinner, bluegrass music, an art exhibit, and more. Seats are limited. Please register.

Land Trust Conservation Easement Open House
August 17 & 18
Multiple locations in Door County
Host: Door County Land Trust
Tour a property protected by a Land Trust Conservation Easement and learn from landowners about their decision to leave a legacy of land. This is your chance to choose which tours to join with options throughout the day Saturday as well as Sunday morning. This event is free and open to the public.

West Dane Conservation Tour and Dessert August 23
Host: West Dane Conservancy
Enjoy a late-summer evening hike through the prairie at various stages of restoration: from new plantings to high-quality habitat that has been managed for over 40 years. You can bring dinner and eat at the tables in the shade from 5-6 PM if you’d like. The tour begins at 6 PM. After the tour you’ll enjoy dinner in twilight.

Fitzhumos Woods Ecology and Restoration September 15
Franklin
Host: Milwaukee Area Land Conservancy
Come explore Fitzhumos Woods, a habitat that is important for southeastern Wisconsin. Landscapes will talk about the important links between the unusual wildlife and the rare pattern of wetland pools and mature hardwood forest. During this field day event, you will meet rare plants, learn how woodwind vernal pools support wildlife diversity, and enjoy healthy snacks and refreshments courtesy of the Milwaukee Area Land Conservancy.

Three Row Falls: Exploring & Celebrating the Mammoth Fall
September 14
Lake Mills
Host: North Central Conservancy Trust
Join NECTA for a hike through 860 acres of forest, wetlands, and experience the magnificent Eau Claire River. This landscape has never been open to public before. We’ll celebrate this remarkable gift with a cookout after the hike.

Mobile Skills Crew Trail-building Project September 18 – 22
Host: Ice Age Trail Alliance
Help extend a favorite hiking trail in Central Wisconsin on the Ionian-Bohemian Ice Age Trail Segment. If you’ve never been involved in an Ice Age Trail building event, we encourage you to try it out for a day. The experience is necessary but registration is required.

Monarch Tagging September 18
Dodgeville
Host: South County Land Conservancy
Evelyn E. Moore Nature Preserve. Every fall, volunteers log thousands of migrating monarch butterflies through citizen-science programs to promote monarch research and conservation efforts. You can participate first-hand in catching and tagging monarch butterflies to learn about their amazing migration. Come dressed to chase butterflies through tall prairie grasses.

Fall Prairies in Faville Grove September 22
Lake Mills
Host: Madison Audubon Society
The prairie is just as beautiful as the iconic northern ferns in fall. On this trip you will immerse yourself in the prairie in all its colors, sounds, and smells of fall at Faville Grove. We will tour the Prairie Landing restorations and take note of the fall colors, hear blooming wildflowers (such as gentians, asters, and goldenrod), talk about the role of seed restoration in our collections, and more.

Wilk Creek Preserve Celebration September 28
Sheboygan
Host: Glacial Lakes Conservancy
Help us celebrate Glacial Lakes Conservancy’s acquisition of the 112-acre Wilk Creek Preserve in the City of Sheboygan. Restorations projects are underway to improve water quality and fish habitat. This property is open to the public.

The Fungus Among Us: Fall Fungi and Mushroom Hike September 20
Host: Wisconsin’s Land Trust of the Year
Eau Claire County’s forests transform into a wonderful world of color. For those who know where to look, the appearance of ephemeral and important fungi can be a spectacular sight. The 4th Annual Fall Mushroom Hike presented by Door County Land Trust and Kangaroo Lake Nature Preserve during the 1.5-mile stroll.

Calla bottles Bottom Tran Rail September 21
Dundas
Host: Prairie Enthusiasts – Chippewa Sauvage Chapter
Ride a train through a beautiful and unique Wisconsin landscape. Experts will speak during stops on our hike through prairies in Full Moon. Join the fun. The train leaves at 6:45 AM.

OCTOBER

The Fungal Treasury with My Gift of: Land Conservation Leadership Award
October 1
Host: Gathering Waters
Join us as we celebrate the work of 25 years of conservation success. Every land has a story. Enjoy talks from the trail, dinner, bluegrass music, an art lottery, and more! Speakers include: Restorations, and more.

Three Rivers Falls: Exploring & Celebrating the Mammoth Fall
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Landmark and Town of Union Conservancy Tour September 29
Sau Claire
Host: Landmark Conservancy
Learn how the partnership model builds community connections, protects beautiful prairies, and creates a cool place to hike!