

TAKE ACTION & MAKE A DIFFERENCE

It's easy to create a personalized postcard to show your support for Wisconsin's Knowles-Nelson Stewardship Program.



The Knowles-Nelson Stewardship Program is a vital source of state funding for land and water protection. The program helps land trusts and communities purchase and protect working forests, natural areas, and wildlife habitat. It supports the creation of parks, trails, and boat landings so people can enjoy nature.

Join Team Knowles-Nelson and visit gatheringwaters.org/postcard to create your personalized postcard today.

- 1. UPLOAD YOUR PHOTO!**
Simply upload a photo of you enjoying your favorite outdoor place or your favorite view in Wisconsin. Tell us where the photo was taken.
- 2. ADD YOUR MESSAGE!**
Write a short message supporting land and water protection or use the sample message. Enter your name and address.
- 3. WE MAIL YOUR POSTCARD!**
And you're done! We'll print your postcards. Then, when it will make the most impact, we'll mail your postcards to your lawmakers and Governor Evers.

Thank you for taking action! Sending a postcard with a personalized photo and a positive note is a great way to show the governor and your elected officials you care about protecting Wisconsin's land and water.

Receive updates from Gathering Waters about Wisconsin Land Trust Days and other happenings.

Request a Wisconsin Nature Guide and enter to win a YETI Cooler.

HaveFunOutside.org



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MEET THE

2020 LAND CONSERVATION LEADERSHIP AWARD WINNERS

Gathering Waters is delighted to announce the 2020 Land Conservation Leadership Award Winners. We will present awards at local events around the state as the public health situation allows.



LAND TRUST OF THE YEAR

Geneva Lake Conservancy protects and preserves waterways, natural areas, and working lands throughout Walworth County. The organization also engages local residents in creative conservation projects. From introducing children to nature at the Helen Rohner Children's Fishing Park to helping homeowners create ecologically friendly yards through Conservation @Home, Geneva Lake Conservancy adds benefit to their community.

CONSERVATIONISTS OF THE YEAR



Charles and Dianna Colman of Williams Bay have a deep personal commitment to the environment. Charles has held leadership roles with Geneva Lake Conservancy, Friends of Kishwaukee Nature Conservancy, and the Southeastern Wisconsin Regional Planning Commission. Dianna has served as President of Lake Geneva Fresh Air Association, which operates Holiday Home Camp. Most recently, she led the Yerkes Future Foundation to protect the Yerkes Observatory. The Colmans also protected their 28-acre oak forest with a conservation easement.

ROD NILSESTUEN AWARD FOR WORKING LANDS PRESERVATION



The Making Allies for Healthier Communities Partnership protects farmland and provides livelihoods and land ownership opportunities for immigrant or beginning farmers near the urban center of Milwaukee. Farmers grow fruits and vegetables to sell at local farmers' markets in Milwaukee's underserved communities. The sustainable farming practices build healthy soils and help improve the water quality in the Milwaukee River watershed and Lake Michigan.

HAROLD "BUD" JORDAHL LIFETIME ACHIEVEMENT AWARD



Peter McKeever of Monona has a passion for land protection. For 30 years Peter has used his skills as an attorney to help people understand and apply the laws and regulations guiding land use, real estate, and environmental protection. He has worked with over 20 Wisconsin land trusts and many other conservation organizations, offering sound legal advice to permanently protect thousands of acres in Wisconsin.

LAND LEGACY AWARD



The Franciscan Sisters of Perpetual Adoration (FSPA), La Crosse, generously support Mississippi Valley Conservancy's efforts to protect land and water resources in La Crosse and the Driftless Area each year. In addition to annual support, the Franciscan Sisters contribute to special projects that enable Mississippi Valley Conservancy to care for the land in the region. FSPA models stewardship, sustainable management practices, and healthy lifestyles. They are dedicated to the care of creation through advocacy and social change.

Learn more about the award winners and their impact on conservation at gatheringwaters.org/awards2020.

crosscurrents

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IT'S TIME FOR

LAND TRUST DAYS

HaveFunOutside.org

ADVENTURE!

Land Trust Days will look a bit different this year, with fewer in-person events, but we invite you to discover, explore, and enjoy the beautiful places that Wisconsin land trusts have helped protect.

DISCOVER AND EXPLORE SOME OF OUR FAVORITE WILD AND PROTECTED PLACES

Enjoy self-guided hikes  through Wisconsin's forests and prairies,  Paddle Lake Katherine in the Northwoods, Soak in the scenic beauty  from the bluffs of the Mississippi River to the shores of the Great Lakes,  Bike  through farm country and enjoy the sights and sounds of Wisconsin's countryside.

MAKE A DIFFERENCE WHILE YOU #HAVEFUNOUTSIDE

Build a segment of the Ice Age National Scenic Trail,  Add your discoveries  to citizen science projects, Share your #HaveFunOutside photos  on Facebook and Instagram, Volunteer  to collect seeds or remove invasive plants.

SHARE YOUR ADVENTURES!

Post photos of you and yours having fun outside in nature and tag **@WisconsinLandTrustDays** and **#HaveFunOutside** and we'll enter you in the YETI Cooler Drawing. The more places you visit, the better your chances of winning. Learn more at HaveFunOutside.org



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LAND TRUST DAYS ARE HERE!

HaveFunOutside.org

Photo by Gayle Nielsen

Presented by:



Sponsored by:



PLAN YOUR WISCONSIN LAND TRUST DAYS ADVENTURE

gathering waters
wisconsin's alliance
for land trusts

Make summer a memorable adventure. Explore some of our favorite protected places. Use the waypoint numbers to find more details on an interactive map at gatheringwaters.org/Places.



Hike the Plover River Segment of the Ice Age Trail

Aniwa
Protected by: Ice Age Trail Alliance
Experience 5.9 miles of the Ice Age National Scenic Trail in Marathon County. Breathe in the scents of hardwood and cedar forests, explore lowlands and spring pools. Hike, run the trail, or take a stroll and watch the birds and wildlife.



Explore the Yawkey Forest Reserve*

Hazelhurst
Protected by: Northwoods Land Trust
Paddle and explore the natural shoreline of Lake Katherine as seen on Discover Wisconsin. Stop for a picnic on Tigertail Point. For more adventure, make it a weekend and hike or bike the nearby Bearskin Trail.

EVENT!

Build part of the LaBudde Creek Trail Segment

August 20 - 23
Elkhart Lake
Host: Ice Age Trail Alliance
Join the Ice Age Trail Alliance in Sheboygan County and help build 150 feet of new boardwalk, maintain existing trail, upgrade signage, and more. Registration required. (This event is subject to cancellation based on the public health situation.)



Discover Tyler Forks Community Forest

Ashland County
Protected by: Landmark Conservancy
Discover the treasures of the 590-acre Tyler Forks Community Forest next to Copper Falls State Park. Called the Everglades of the North, this internationally recognized wetland is part of the Bad River Watershed and upstream from the Kakagon Slough estuary. A visit is sure to delight.

EVENT!

Celebrate at an Open House

August 22
Stevens Point
Host: North Central Conservancy Trust
Join the Conservancy for a ribbon-cutting ceremony, special presentations, and outdoor theater presentation, including the showing of Discover Wisconsin's Land Trust Days episode. Registration is free but required for social distancing.



Stroll through historic Tewksbury

Osceola
Protected by: Standing Cedars Community Land Conservancy
The 50-acre Tewksbury property offers beautiful views of the St. Croix River. Imagine the lives of early settlers who tried to farm this sandy, rocky piece of land as you explore the quarry remnants and old stone foundations. You'll also find plenty of native prairie plants, an oak savanna, and an old-growth forest on the property.



Take in the scenic views of Sugar Creek Bluff State Park

Ferryville
Protected by: Mississippi Valley Conservancy
Enjoy the bluffs rising from the banks of Sugar Creek, near the Mississippi River in Crawford County. In summer, the 440-acre preserve is open for hiking, wildlife observation, and fishing.

EVENT!

Discover Botany at the Bog

September 12
Hatley
Host: North Central Conservancy Trust
Spend Saturday afternoon discovering plant life at Rice Lake with Bob Freckmann, UWSP emeritus professor of biology. He will lead hikes and answer questions. Bring your kayak or canoe and paddle Rice Lake. Registration is free but required for social distancing.



Children learn to fish and enjoy nature at the Helen Rohner Children's Fishing Park.



See nature through a child's eyes at Helen Rohner Children's Fishing Park and Kishwaukee Nature Conservancy

Williams Bay
Protected by: Geneva Lake Conservancy
Grab your fishing poles and teach the children to fish in Southwick Creek. Go frog hunting at the amphibian pond. Learn about Native American history along the nature trail, and walk the boardwalk through the wetlands.

EVENT!

Talk, walk, and learn about ecological restoration

September 12
Two Rivers
Hosts: Glacial Lake Conservancy and Van Der Broeke Arboretum
Learn how restoration transforms a golf course into an educational arboretum and valuable habitat for birds and wildlife. Join professional ecologists, Steve Apfelbaum and Susan Lehnhardt as they guide you through the 65-acre Arboretum. Registration is required. \$25 per person. This fundraising event helps protect and restore land.



Discover Kratzsch Conservancy

West Bend
Protected by: Ozaukee Washington Land Trust
Discover what this 73-acre former farm has to offer. Arrive by land or by kayak and enjoy grassland, wetland, and woodland along the north bank of the Milwaukee River. Hike the two-mile trail through the marsh and explore the glacial eskers, kettle depressions, and kames.

EVENT!

Build part of the Ice Age Trail

September 17-20
Washington County
Host: Ice Age Trail Alliance
Join the Ice Age Trail Alliance and work on the West Bend, Kewaskum, or Holy Hill segments. You'll help expand and improve the trail. (This event is subject to cancellation based on the public health situation.)



Explore the Yawkey Forest Reserve and enjoy paddling on Lake Katherine.

SPECIAL EVENT!

Road Rally to Geneva Lake Preserves

(Social Distancing Approved)
August 29
Walworth County

Host: Land Trust of the Year - Geneva Lake Conservancy

Enjoy a drive through countryside as you visit five nature preserves. Take in the view from your car or get out and hike. Pick up a playing card at each stop to build your poker hand for a prize. Enjoy a gourmet picnic box dinner with wine at the Fontana Mill House.

Land Conservation Leadership Awards Presentation

Gathering Waters will present the Land Trust of the Year and Conservationists of the Year awards. Registration is required. Cost \$100 per person. This fundraising event helps protect land in Walworth County.

You can help protect land, water, and wildlife that make Wisconsin special. Your one-time gift of \$100 or more, or your gift of \$5, \$10, or \$15 each month will help protect vital environmental areas, provide resources for advocacy efforts, and give people places they can visit for generations.

gatheringwaters.org/donate



Special Places to Visit

We've shown you a few here. 1 You can find more on our online interactive map. 1 Find details and directions at gatheringwaters.org/Places. Pick a place and go #HaveFunOutside



Explore Kangaroo Lake Nature Preserve*

Baileys Harbor
Protected by: Door County Land Trust
Enjoy a self-guided tour of a hidden gem in Door County. Feel the temperature changes as you hike through the boreal forest, cedar swamp land, and upland hardwood forest. Use the Seek or iNaturalist app to identify mushrooms and plants that you see along the way. Look for fossils in the rock outcroppings beside the lake. Kangaroo Lake Nature Preserve is a Discover Wisconsin destination.



Hike the Mecan River Trail Segment

Waushara County
Protected by: Ice Age Trail Alliance
Enjoy the 7.5-mile segment that crosses a variety of natural landscapes from wetlands to grasslands to forests. You'll see exclusive views of the Mecan Springs and Mecan River.



Discover Patrick Marsh

Sun Prairie
Protected and/or managed by: Groundswell Conservancy
The 340-acre wetland area near Madison is an inviting place to visit. Patrick Marsh is home to abundant wildlife and is open to the public for hiking, nature study, and other activities.



*Watch Discover Wisconsin's Land Trust Days episode to learn more. Visit gatheringwaters.org/WatchDW

Volunteers of all ages and abilities can help build the Ice Age National Scenic Trail.

ENTER TO WIN A YETI COOLER!

visit gatheringwaters.org/YETI

Photo by Mindy Petersen

Photo by Dave Calleba, courtesy of the Ice Age Trail Alliance