



*Learn more* about wildflowers, geology, birds and insects through field trips and hands-on programs. Our field trip leaders will guide you through pristine and unique natural areas in the county, some of which are not typically open to the public. And, along the way, you'll have an opportunity to share your love of the natural world with other conservation-minded participants from all over the Midwest.

### Highlights of the 2010 Festival of Nature

- **Ten new field trips**, including photography workshops and canoe/kayak outings
- All-day **pre-Festival bus tour** of Niagara Escarpment sites
- **All-day trip** to Washington Island's natural areas
- Keynote presentation by **Dr. Roger Kuhns**, "The Niagara Escarpment: Its Natural History and Preservation."
- Evening program **"Things That Go Flap in the Night."**
- Old-fashioned **Barn Dance and Social** to wrap up the weekend's activities

**Online registration** for the Door County Festival of Nature in 2010 is expected to be ready by April 1st. You will find up-to-date information on field trips that are filled and be able to reserve trips immediately. (<http://RidgesSanctuary.org/festival.aspx>)



## MEMORIES OF THE RIDGES

The Ridges Memory Project is a story project, the goal of which is to collect and preserve stories (*planning for the 75th anniversary in 2013*) that evoke the spirit of The Ridges Sanctuary. All who have ever felt a deep connection to this special place, who have been touched by its beauty or harbor heartfelt gratitude for awe and wonder experienced here, we invite you to submit a favorite memory or story.

*If you have a story or you know someone with a story, about earlier days of The Ridges and don't feel comfortable writing, please call Carol ((920) 839-2802) and we will contact you. Volunteer Cathleen Haskins is compiling the stories.*



On April 22 (Earth Day), Sevastopol

High School students will join with Ridges' volunteers to work at our Logan Creek property. Come out to help or plan an Earth Day activity at home.



### Signs of Spring—BIRDS, BUGS, & BUDS • Saturday April 17, 10 AM - Noon

Be the first to sight a sign of Spring. Look high and low and in-between to catch the creatures and plants as they come out of their winter sleep. Watch for returning birds, or maybe listen for the quack of Wood frogs or

the shrill "peep" of Spring peepers, or dig in the leaf litter for scurrying bugs as they welcome warmer weather.

### The Roar of Love—FROG WALK • Friday May 14, 6:30 PM - 8:30 PM

All the male frogs in the Sanctuary are proclaiming their love for some little green cutie. Listen to their deafening chorus and learn a little about their watery lifestyle during this early evening hike.

### Explore—SKITTERING CRITTERS • Saturday June 12, 1:00 PM - 3:00 PM

Use nets, buckets, hands, or feet to scoop up some macroinvertebrates at Peil Pond. It's shallow, warm water so don't be afraid to get your feet wet! Once you start looking, you'll notice polliwogs, caddis fly larvae, whirligigs, diving beetles, and all manner of tiny skittering critters.

*All programs will be held at The Ridges Sanctuary, but you must register with the Northern Door YMCA in Fish Creek (920-868-3660). Fee for each program is \$10 per family.*

# BIRDS

An activity for all ages and activities. Birds are everywhere so start your 'life list' or come for the fun and beauty of these colorful and lively neighbors to everyone. Kids are thrilled when they sight and can name a new bird for their list.

Experienced and novice birders welcome. Saturday mornings at 6:30 AM from May 8th through July. (*No regular hike May 29—but bird hikes will be offered through the Festival of Nature.*)



## Coming Up!

**April 17 • Birds, Bugs & Buds—Signs of Spring**

**April 17 • Midwest Crane Count—Counters needed!**

**April 22 • Earth Day—Sevastopol students help at Logan Creek**

**May 1 • Spring Fun/Work Day—Put it on your calendar!** A wonderful time to be outdoors. *Great lunch included.*

**May 8, 15, 22 • Discovery Bird Walks**

**May 12 • Frog Walk—The Roar of Love. An evening family program.**

**May 19 • Catching up time at 2 PM for Nature Center volunteers**

**May 21 • Nature Center opens for the season**

**May 27 • Geologist led tour of the Niagara Escarpment (well, part of it).**

**May 27-29 Door County Festival of Nature—see the rare side of Door County**

**June 12 • Skittering Critters—Explore the Underworld**

**June 19 • Ridges' Ride for Nature—Bike ride fundraiser**

*For more information call The Ridges or visit our website [www.RidgesSanctuary.org](http://www.RidgesSanctuary.org)*

## We Wish ...

- Office Supplies
- \$\$\$ for a riding lawnmower
- Underwriter for taxidermy cost for one or all of our frozen zoo!
- Large plastic covered tubs/bins
- Small garden tiller
- A roofing fork
- Underwriters for our newsletter "sanctuary"
- 1-Gal Shop Vacuum for the Nature Center
- Cedar wood chips
- Boot/shoe stationary brushes for trailheads
- Canister vacuum for the Range Light

## Wishes Do Come True!

Special thanks to Francha Barnard for the stacking plastic chairs. We will use them a lot for our summer bar-b-ques! For a list of our many wonderful benefactors, go to the "Donors" link at [www.RidgesSanctuary.org](http://www.RidgesSanctuary.org).

### Notes from the Range Light

**2/2/10** Our wily weasel (couldn't find a cooperative groundhog) didn't see his shadow so you know what that means!

**2/13/10** Seven families enjoyed finding large & small geocaches at The Ridges. Watch for more Geocaching workshops this summer.

**3/1/10** Pine siskins and House finches are finding our feeders again.

**3/12/10** A brilliant red cardinal sang his love song high atop the cedars.

**3/15 /10** Spring arrives at The Ridges with the first bloom of the season noted on Sandy Trail—Dwarf mistletoe.

**3/15/10** A diving beetle was swimming valiantly (but slowly) in the ice-cold water on cedar swale.

## Trail Talk at The Ridges

- **Staff Changes** Marne Kaeske (the summer naturalist last year) will be starting at The Ridges as a part time Stewardship Coordinator. Our awesome techie, Marc Demoly, has moved to San Francisco to find faster internet service. We sincerely thank him for all he's done for The Ridges.
- Steve Leonard has volunteered as chef for the **volunteer bar-b-ques** this summer. Come and enjoy lunch with the staff and other volunteers (or want-to-be volunteers).
- The Peninsula Pacers (the group that runs the Door County Half Marathon) will help with the promotion and organization of **The Ridges Ride for Nature** this year. This 22-year fundraiser for The Ridges will still feature the same family-friendly atmosphere, the familiar faces of Ridges' volunteers and great food from Weisgerber's. Register online at [www.ridefornature.com](http://www.ridefornature.com)
- If you volunteer for the Nature Center or would like to, come to a **little mixer** at 2 PM - 3 PM on Wednesday, May 19. We'll ply you with cookies and refreshments and catch you up on what happened this winter. New volunteers are warmly welcomed!
- A painless (or nearly so) way to **donate to The Ridges!** Have a set amount taken from your debit card or charged to your credit card each month through PayPal. Go to The Ridges' website and click on the "Monthly Donation" link on the left. □
- Watch for **No Family Left Inside** programs this summer. A series of collaborative events with the YMCA and the McArdle library to get families out exploring nature.
- There's still time to catch the art show **Reading The Ridges** at the Link Gallery in Fish Creek (at the Door Community Auditorium). The wonderful display of local artists' interpretations of aspects of The Ridges runs until April 12.

### Roundy's (Pick 'n Save, Cops, & Rainbow Foods)



The Ridges Sanctuary is registered in Roundy's "We Care Charity Program." If you are registered with our code, each time you show your **Advantage** card at the checkout, a percentage of the receipts are donated back to our organization. Take this code # with you if you want to sign up (or change) to donate to The Ridges, but live (and shop) outside of Door County. (If you are signing up in Door County, they have the number on a list at the Pick 'n Save store.)

Our Roundy's  
charity code is  
**# 666750**

Those of you who shop at the Sister Bay **Piggly Wiggly** store, drop off your register tapes either in the 'Ridges' bin at the Sister Bay Piggly Wiggly or drop them off at The Ridges.

**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 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: [RidgesSanctuary.org](http://RidgesSanctuary.org))