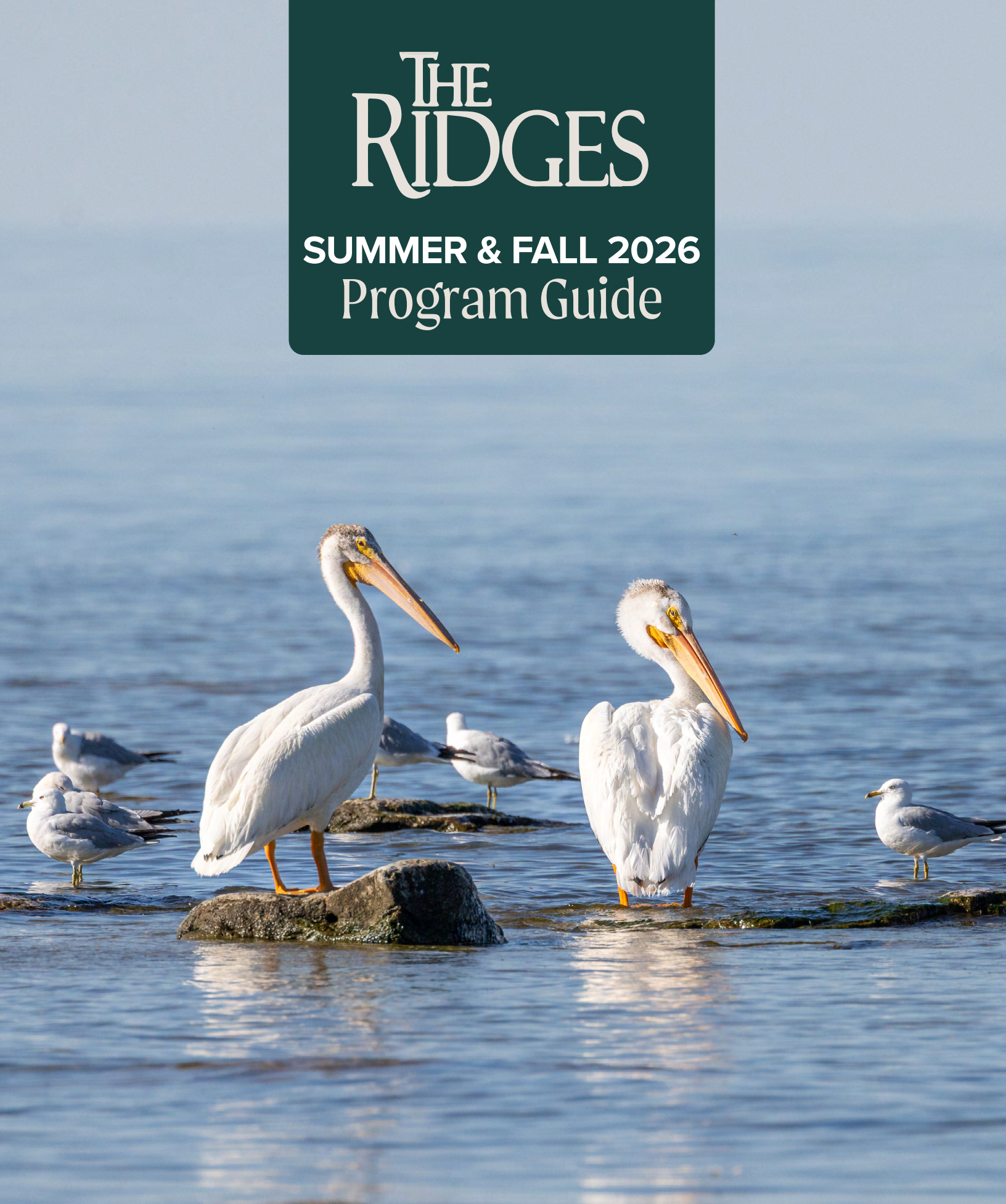


THE RIDGES

SUMMER & FALL 2026
Program Guide



Preservation | Education | Research

HELLO AND HAPPY SUMMER!

Summer and fall at The Ridges are a beautiful time, and truthfully these seasons encompass some of my favorite times of the year. These months include two beautiful seasons that so many of us enjoy here on the peninsula, from the warm, sunny days on the beaches to the cool breezes happening in the forests. It's a period of transition. Transitions from cold, short days, to warm, long days. From snow and water covered wetlands, to flowers blooming and colors exploding everywhere you look. As we progress to fall, we will see the transition in the trees and in the blooms. It's a time of transition at The Ridges as well. We are growing as an organization and stretching in so many different ways.

As I have transitioned into my new role of Director of Programming at The Ridges, it has brought about a time of reflection and excitement for myself. It's hard to believe how many different programs I have had the chance to be a part of and how many I have seen grow, even in just a short period of time. Each year, we are trying new things and learning as we go, which is so special and exciting.

At The Ridges, we are continuing to grow, and this summer I am so excited to share some of these new ways of growth with you. We are continuing our accessible Free Fridays program, which allows visitors free admission to the Sanctuary on Fridays in June, July, and August. This is our third year of offering Free Fridays in the Sanctuary! We are also expanding our interpretive program offerings by having Naturalist Chats four times a week. As you hike through the Sanctuary this summer, you may see our interpretive cart along the boardwalk, offering hikers fun facts and pointing out blooms as you walk past. Our summer staff has expanded, and we will have so many new faces to say hi to at the front desk and out on the trails over the next few months.

I hope you take these next few months of transition in stride and join us at The Ridges. There are so many different programs and experiences to try out. Try something new this summer and you might just surprise yourself and really enjoy it. I hope I see you here at The Ridges, and if you see me on the trails or in the Cook-Albert Fuller Nature Center, make sure to say, "Hello"!

Best,



Amy Shook

Director of Programming & Interpretive Naturalist



Summer & Fall 2026 Program Guide cover photo by nature and wildlife photographer and featured Festival of Nature artist Jacob Loyacano. Stop by the Cook-Albert Fuller Nature Center to view more photographs by Jacob during the Summer 2026 season.



Yellow Lady's Slipper, Douglas Sherman

Featured Programs | Exploratory Hikes

Sanctuary Guided Hikes

Tuesdays – Fridays, 10 – 11:30 am

Fee: Public \$10 | Members receive 20% discount | 16 & under free

Meet: Cook-Albert Fuller Nature Center

Join a naturalist for an exploration of The Ridges Sanctuary. Head out on the trails to learn about the history of The Ridges, the unique features of the Sanctuary habitats, and what makes the Sanctuary the most biologically diverse area in Wisconsin!

These 90-minute guided hikes include a tour of our Upper Range Light, which has been restored to the period of the last Range Light Keeper.

Each month's guided hike follows a theme focusing on unique aspects of the Sanctuary:

■ June:

Orchid Observations

See a few stars of the 29 species of documented orchids that bloom in the Sanctuary in June. In addition to learning about the Sanctuary, learn about why orchids love the ridge and swale habitats, and current research efforts at The Ridges.

■ July:

Swales of the Sanctuary

The Ridges is part of a Ramsar Wetland of International Importance. This hike will include opportunities to learn about critters that call these wetlands home and what makes them so special.

■ August:

Ridges Pollinators

Pollinators are a crucial part of our ecosystems! Learn about a few pollinators of The Ridges and the importance of pollinator habitats like The Ridges.

■ September:

Fall Flowers

Explore the last of the season's blooms on this guided hike, featuring plants like goldenrod and aster.

■ October:

Boreal Forest

October hikes will feature the forest itself! The Ridges has a distinct forest type from anywhere else on the peninsula - a boreal forest. Learn all about the boreal forest and why we protect it.

Suitable for all ages.

In June, July, and August, we will have an additional 1 – 2:30 pm Sanctuary Guided Hike on Fridays

Get to Know The Ridges Hikes

Mondays & Saturdays, 10 – 10:45 am

Fee: Included with \$5 trail fee. Donations appreciated!

Meet: Cook-Albert Fuller Nature Center

Are you interested in learning about The Ridges but don't have time for a 90-minute guided hike? Get an introduction to the Sanctuary from one of our Guided Hike leaders! Get a taste of the history and ecology of the Sanctuary on a stroll down Hidden Brook Boardwalk. Suitable for all ages.

Woods & Water: Exploring Logan Creek

**Wednesdays, June 17, July 22, August 26,
10:30 am – noon**

Fee: Public \$15 | Members receive 20% discount | 16 & under \$7

Meet: Logan Creek Trailhead

Get to know a hidden gem of The Ridges Sanctuary on this hike at our Logan Creek Preserve. Explore an upland beech forest, a coniferous forest, and the shoreline of Clark Lake, one of three inland lakes in Door County. This wooded 170-acre property is sure to become your next favorite hiking destination. Moderate to easy hiking. Wear appropriate footwear and bring binoculars if desired. Suitable for all ages.

Rocks & Ledges: Appel's Bluff Geology Hikes

**Wednesdays, June 3, July 8, August 19,
10:30 am – noon**

Fee: Public \$15 | Members receive 20% discount | 16 & under \$7

Meet: Cook-Albert Fuller Nature Center

Ever wonder what Door County looked like 5,000 years ago? 10,000 years ago? What about 450 million years ago? Discover ancient shorelines of the Door Peninsula at The Ridges Appel's Bluff property! Learn about the geology, plants, and habitats of the surrounding landscape and current Ridges research efforts on the property. Suitable for all ages.



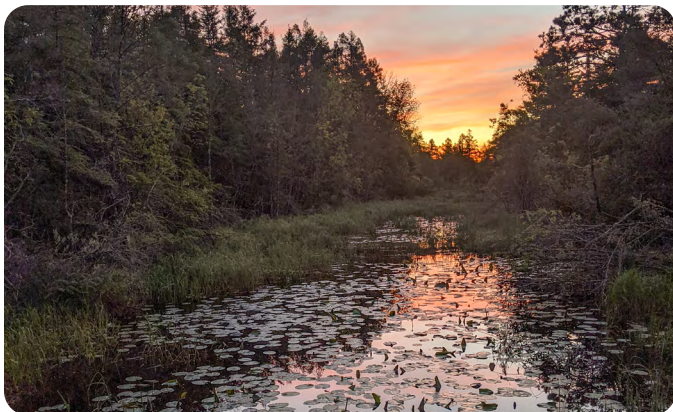
Appel's Bluff Hikes, Lexi Seubert



Registration Required

Register at ridgessanctuary.org

Featured Programs | Exploratory Hikes



Swales at Sunset, Andrew Pirrung



Night Hike, Jackie Rath



Summer Tiny Trekkers, Jackie Rath

Evening Hikes

Fridays in August, September, October, & November, 7 – 8:30 pm in August, 6 – 7:30 pm in September, 5 – 6:30 pm in October, 4 – 5:30 pm in November

Fee: Public \$15 | Members receive 20% discount | 16 & under \$7

Meet: Hidden Brook Boardwalk entrance at the Cook-Albert Fuller Nature Center

Like our Night Hikes but earlier! Join us for an evening hike to learn all about dusk happenings at The Ridges and walk our trails during the golden hour. We will learn about the creatures that become active around sunset. This program is perfect for families and those who don't want to stay out too late. Please do not bring any flashlights, light-up shoes, etc. as we want our eyes to adjust to the dark and to be able to see just as the animals do at night. Suitable for all ages.

Night Hikes

Fridays in August, September, October, & November, 8 – 9:30 pm in August, 7 – 8:30 pm in September, 6 – 7:30 pm in October, 5 – 6:30 pm in November

Fee: Public \$15 | Members receive 20% discount | 16 & under \$7

Meet: Hidden Brook Boardwalk entrance at the Cook-Albert Fuller Nature Center

Owls, bats, and range lights, oh my! Come explore The Ridges at night! We will learn about the creatures that become active after the sun goes down and check out the Range Lights at work as a navigational aid. Please do not bring any flashlights, light-up shoes, etc. as we want our eyes to adjust to the dark and to be able to see just as the animals do at night. Suitable for ages 8 & up.



Registration Required

Register at ridgessanctuary.org

Programs | Events

Storybook Trail Hike & Read

Saturday, June 20, 10 – 11 am

Fee: FREE program. Donations Appreciated!

Meet: Family Discovery Trail North Trailhead

Explore our new Storybook Trail with local author Sally Collins! Her latest book, *Sloane the Gnome Bakes a Cherry Pie*, will be the first featured story on our newly redone Storybook Trail. Listen to Sally read pages as you hike along, then join us for a Sloane the Gnome-themed activity. Suitable for all ages.

Free Fridays

Fridays in June, July, & August, 9 am – noon

Fee: FREE Program. Donations appreciated!

Meet: Cook-Albert Fuller Nature Center

Free Fridays are back! Join us every Friday in June, July, and August for FREE admission to the Sanctuary. Enjoy family-friendly activities on the boardwalk and front lawn, exploring a different theme each week.

Each week will include a Free Fridays themed Sanctuary Story Hour at 9:30 am!

Free Fridays are suitable for all ages.

Themes Include:

- 6/5 - Life Inside a Tiny Forest
- 6/12 - Fish of Lake Michigan
- 6/19 - Color Outside the Lines
- 6/26 - Life Below the Swales
- 7/3 - Everybody Eats
- 7/10 - Incredible Journey of Water
- 7/17 - Flying Dragons
- 7/24 - Sensing Nature
- 7/31 - Carnivorous Plants
- 8/7 - Guess Who Lives Here
- 8/14 - Do Animals Eat Plastic
- 8/21 - Fantastic Fungi
- 8/28 - Migrating Monarchs

Naturalist Chats

Tuesdays, Thursdays, & Saturdays in June, July, & August

Tuesdays, Thursdays, & Saturdays,

11 am – noon | Thursdays, 2 – 3 pm

Fee: Included with \$5 trail fee. Donations appreciated!

Meet: Rotating positions along the Hidden Brook Boardwalk
Have you ever wondered if a plant can be carnivorous or if there are any rare birds at The Ridges? Every week, a Ridges naturalist will be stationed along Hidden Brook Boardwalk with a mobile learning station to help you explore and learn something new about the Sanctuary. Our mobile learning stations will have cool animal and nature artifacts like bones, feathers, fur, and animal tracks. Stop by our Naturalist Chats to learn more! Suitable for all ages.

Themes Include:

- Birds of The Ridges
- Fossils and The Niagara Escarpment
- Ridges and Swales
- Pollinators of The Ridges
- Omnivorous Mammals of The Ridges

Summer Tiny Trekkers



Thursdays in June, July, & August, 9 – 10 am

Fee: \$8 per Trekker

Meet: Cook-Albert Fuller Nature Center

Take your Tiny Trekker to The Ridges to explore nature. Create a foundation of love and respect for the natural world through active play in nature between caregivers and children. Join a Ridges educator in gentle hiking, songs, and endless possibilities for exploration and experimentation.

This program is suitable for caregivers and children walking through 3 years old. Walk in registrations are welcome if a class is not full. Limit of 12 Trekkers per class. Each month explores a different theme.

Monthly Themes: June – Bouncing Bunnies | July – Teeny Tadpoles | August – Busy Bugs

PAY IT FORWARD

NEW This Year:

When paying for a trail fee or completing a transaction in the Nature Store, you can participate in our “Pay It Forward” initiative by donating a \$5 trail fee! Your donation directly supports free trail access for visitors who might otherwise miss out on the natural beauty of the Sanctuary. When you contribute \$5 as an adult visitor, you’re helping families, students, and nature enthusiasts of all backgrounds experience the trails without financial barriers. You can also contribute to the Pay It Forward initiative online using the QR code.



Free Fridays

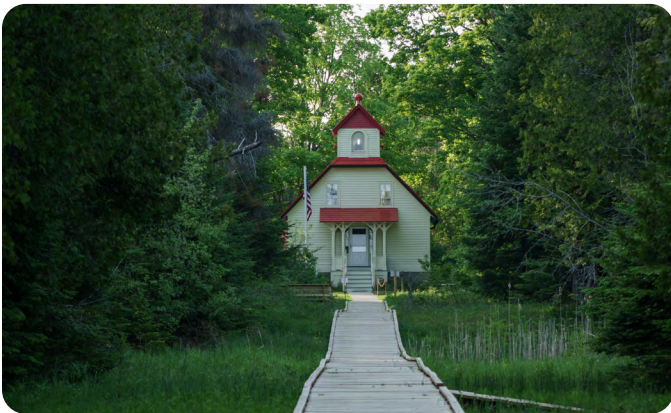
Programs | Events



Lower Range Light, Kimberly Mackowski



Range Lights at The Ridges, Luke Collins Photography



Upper Range Light, Kimberly Mackowski



Eagle Bluff, Ed Miller

LAKE LESSONS

Third Thursdays of the month in June, July, & August, 6 – 7:30 pm

The Ridges honors its history of accessible and impactful conservation education through Lake Lessons. These evening programs will highlight three different lighthouses around Door County and how their history has shaped the Peninsula. Pre-registration is requested due to limited space. Suitable for all ages.

Lighthouse of the Lake

Thursday, June 18, 6 – 7:30 pm

Fee: FREE program. Donations appreciated!

Meet: Cook-Albert Fuller Nature Center

Join The Door County Maritime Museum's Collections Coordinator, Brennan Christianson, and Education Programs Coordinator, Andrea Stromeyer, for an exploration of the rich history of lighthouses in Door County, with special attention given to the renowned Cana Island lighthouse. Curators will share insights into how these remarkable landmarks have played a significant role in shaping the Peninsula's history and continue to have a lasting impact on our culture today.

Range Lights & The Ridges

Thursday, July 16, 6 – 7:30 pm

Fee: FREE program. Donations appreciated!

Meet: Cook-Albert Fuller Nature Center

Have you ever wondered what makes a range light different from a lighthouse? Or how these iconic buildings helped create and shape The Ridges Sanctuary as it is today? Join Ed Miller for a lively discussion about the iconic Range Lights that call The Ridges home. Since the founding of Bailey's Harbor to present day, this pair of buildings has shaped how we conserve, protect, and interact with this unique ecosystem.

From Vision to Reality: Restoring Eagle Bluff Light Station

Thursday, August 20, 6 – 7:30 pm

Fee: FREE program. Donations appreciated!

Meet: Cook-Albert Fuller Nature Center

Join Chuck Baum, Eagle Bluff Light Station's "Chief Engineer," and Amy Frank, Executive Director of the Door County Historical Society, for an inside look at the restoration and reconstruction of this iconic site.

From early planning and fundraising to the final details, this program explores how the lighthouse, oil house, and privy were restored, and how the barn and summer kitchen were reconstructed. Chuck will share insights into the technical work and challenges, while Amy highlights the community support and vision behind the project.

Discover what it takes to bring history back to life—and preserve it for future generations.

PHOTOGRAPHY THROUGH THE SEASONS SERIES

Photography Through the Seasons explores Door County in all four seasons. Join us for our Summer and Fall sessions exploring the different parts of what makes Door County special throughout the year, photography style!

Photography Through the Seasons – Part 3

***Chasing the Unexpected:
Summer Wildlife Photography***
Friday, July 10, 7 – 10 pm

In the third of our seasonal nature photography workshops, we move into summer—where things get a little wilder. We'll focus on environment, composition, light, and those small artistic choices that turn a moment into a photograph worth keeping.

Wildlife will be our main subject, but we'll stay flexible. Around here, you never know what might show up—and we'll take full advantage of whatever the landscape offers.

Join Len Villano, a man who has spent more hours in the field than most creatures he photographs. He'll share practical techniques, field-tested instincts, and a lifetime's worth of stories—along with a few lessons learned the hard way—so you can improve not just your images, but your experience of being out there in the first place.

A camera and tripod are recommended. Suitable for ages 18 & up.



Registration Required

Register at ridgessanctuary.org

Photography Through the Seasons – Part 4

***When the Colors Hit:
Fall Photography in Door County***
Friday, October 9, 6:30 – 9:30 am

In the fourth of our seasonal nature photography series with Len Villano, we take a breath to enjoy fall – the time when Door County holds nothing back.

This is the season of color and contrast. Landscapes light up, wildlife prepares for winter, and birds are migrating through in waves. The sun sits lower in the sky, softening and stretching the light, which gives us some of the best conditions of the year for photography.

We'll head out onto the landscape in search of those iconic autumn scenes, but as always, remain open to what might unfold. Some moments will be familiar, others might be easy to miss if you're not paying attention, and that is where good photographs tend to live. Along the way, we'll focus on using light, color, and the environment to create images that feel like more than just peak fall, they will feel like your experience of fall. Come ready to explore, experiment, and chase whatever the season decides to show us.

A camera and tripod are recommended. Suitable for ages 18 & up.



Butterfly



Len Villano

Summer & Fall 2026 | Calendar

SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THUR	FRI	SAT
JULY NATURALIST CHATS: June, July, & August Tuesdays, Thursdays, & Saturdays 11 am – noon Thursdays 2 – 3 pm			Guided Hike 10 AM 1	Tiny Trekkers 9 AM 2 Logan Creek Workday 9 AM Guided Hike 10 AM	Free Fridays 9 AM 3 Guided Hike 10 AM & 1 PM	4
5	Get to Know The Ridges 10 AM 6	Barberry Pirates Workday 9 AM Guided Hike 10 AM 7	Guided Hike 10 AM 8 Rocks & Ledges: Appel's Bluff Geology Hike 10:30 AM	Tiny Trekkers 9 AM 9 Guided Hike 10 AM	Free Fridays 9 AM 10 Guided Hike 10 AM & 1 PM Photography Workshop 7 PM	Get to Know The Ridges 10 AM 11
12	Get to Know The Ridges 10 AM 13	Guided Hike 10 AM 14	Guided Hike 10 AM 15	Tiny Trekkers 9 AM 16 Logan Creek Workday 9 AM Guided Hike 10 AM Lake Lesson 6 PM	Free Fridays 9 AM 17 Guided Hike 10 AM & 1 PM	Get to Know The Ridges 10 AM 18
19	Get to Know The Ridges 10 AM 20 Walk & Talk 1 PM	Barberry Pirates Workday 9 AM Guided Hike 10 AM 21	Guided Hike 10 AM 22 Woods & Water: Exploring Logan Creek 10:30 AM	Tiny Trekkers 9 AM 23 Guided Hike 10 AM	Free Fridays 9 AM 24 Guided Hike 10 AM & 1 PM	Get to Know The Ridges 10 AM 25
26	Get to Know The Ridges 10 AM 27	Guided Hike 10 AM 28	Guided Hike 10 AM 29	Tiny Trekkers 9 AM 30 Guided Hike 10 AM	Free Fridays 9 AM 31 Guided Hike 10 AM & 1 PM	

AUGUST MONARCH MADNESS August 17 – 22 Daily Tag Talks 1:30 PM						Get to Know The Ridges 10 AM 1 Annual Meeting 4 PM
2	Get to Know The Ridges 10 AM 3	Barberry Pirates Workday 9 AM Guided Hike 10 AM 4	Guided Hike 10 AM 5	Tiny Trekkers 9 AM 6 Logan Creek Workday 9 AM Guided Hike 10 AM	Free Fridays 9 AM 7 Guided Hike 10 AM & 1 PM Evening Hike 7 PM Night Hike 8 PM	Get to Know The Ridges 10 AM 8
9	Get to Know The Ridges 10 AM 10	Guided Hike 10 AM 11	Guided Hike 10 AM 12	Tiny Trekkers 9 AM 13 Guided Hike 10 AM	Free Fridays 9 AM 14 Guided Hike 10 AM & 1 PM Evening Hike 7 PM Night Hike 8 PM	Get to Know The Ridges 10 AM 15
16	Get to Know The Ridges 10 AM 17 Walk & Talk 1 PM	Barberry Pirates Workday 9 AM Guided Hike 10 AM 18	Guided Hike 10 AM 19 Rocks & Ledges: Appel's Bluff Geology Hike 10:30 AM	Tiny Trekkers 9 AM 20 Logan Creek Workday 9 AM Guided Hike 10 AM Gardening for Pollinators 1 PM Lake Lesson 6 PM	Free Fridays 9 AM 21 Guided Hike 10 AM & 1 PM Evening Hike 7 PM Night Hike 8 PM	Get to Know The Ridges 10 AM 22
23	Get to Know The Ridges 10 AM 24	Guided Hike 10 AM 25	Guided Hike 10 AM 26 Woods & Water: Exploring Logan Creek 10:30 AM	Tiny Trekkers 9 AM 27 Guided Hike 10 AM	Free Fridays 9 AM 28 Guided Hike 10 AM & 1 PM Evening Hike 7 PM Night Hike 8 PM	Get to Know The Ridges 10 AM 29
30	Get to Know The Ridges 10 AM 31					

JULY / AUGUST / SEPTEMBER / OCTOBER

SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THUR	FRI	SAT						
September		1	Guided Hike 10 AM	2	Logan Creek Workday 9 AM Guided Hike 10 AM Swales & Ales 3 PM	3	Guided Hike 10 AM Evening Hike 6 PM Night Hike 7 PM	4	Get to Know The Ridges 10 AM	5		
6	7	Barberry Pirates Workday 9 AM Guided Hike 10 AM	8	Guided Hike 10 AM	9	Guided Hike 10 AM	10	Guided Hike 10 AM Evening Hike 6 PM Night Hike 7 PM	11	Get to Know The Ridges 10 AM	12	
13	Get to Know The Ridges 10 AM	14	Guided Hike 10 AM	15	Guided Hike 10 AM	16	Logan Creek Workday 9 AM Guided Hike 10 AM Swales & Ales 3 PM	17	Guided Hike 10 AM Evening Hike 6 PM Night Hike 7 PM	18	Citizen Science Symposium 8:30 AM Get to Know The Ridges 10 AM	19
20	Get to Know The Ridges 10 AM Walk & Talk 1 PM	21	Barberry Pirates Workday 9 AM Guided Hike 10 AM	22	Guided Hike 10 AM	23	Guided Hike 10 AM Bat House Workshop 2 PM Bat Chats Hike 7 PM	24	Guided Hike 10 AM Roost Report 1 PM Bat Chats 7 PM	25	Fall Workday 9 AM Get to Know The Ridges 10 AM	26
27	Get to Know The Ridges 10 AM	28	Guided Hike 10 AM	29	Guided Hike 10 AM Color Me Calm 12:30 PM	30						

October						Guided Hike 10 AM	1	Guided Hike 10 AM	2	Get to Know The Ridges 10 AM	3	
								Natural Dye Workshop 12:30 PM				
								Evening Hike 5 PM				
								Night Hike 6 PM				
4	Get to Know The Ridges 10 AM	5	Guided Hike 10 AM	6	Guided Hike 10 AM	7	Guided Hike 10 AM	8	Photography Workshop 6:30 AM	9	Get to Know The Ridges 10 AM	10
								Guided Hike 10 AM				
								Evening Hike 5 PM				
								Night Hike 6 PM				
11	Get to Know The Ridges 10 AM	12	Guided Hike 10 AM	13	Guided Hike 10 AM	14	Guided Hike 10 AM	15	Guided Hike 10 AM	16	Get to Know The Ridges 10 AM	17
								Boos & Brews 3 PM		Evening Hike 5 PM		
										Night Hike 6 PM		
18	Get to Know The Ridges 10 AM	19	Guided Hike 10 AM	20	Guided Hike 10 AM	21	Guided Hike 10 AM	22	Get to Know The Ridges 10 AM	23	Get to Know The Ridges 10 AM	24
								Walk & Talk 1 PM		Halloween Hike 4 PM		
25	Get to Know The Ridges 10 AM	26	Guided Hike 10 AM	27	Guided Hike 10 AM	28	Guided Hike 10 AM	29	Guided Hike 10 AM	30	Get to Know The Ridges 10 AM	31

Mark your calendar for another summer of Free Fridays, where admission to the Sanctuary is free on Fridays in June, July, and August! Educational activities will be available during Free Fridays from 9 am – noon.

Programs | Events

MONARCH MADNESS

August 17 – 22

Have you ever seen a butterfly chrysalis or found a Monarch caterpillar munching on a milkweed plant? Join us for this year's Monarch Madness event, where you can learn all about this important migratory butterfly species! This year, Monarch Madness will span a week in August to raise awareness of decreasing Monarch populations. We'll discuss the threats Monarchs face and how we can help support the populations we have in Wisconsin!

Tag Talks

August 17 – 22, 1:30 – 2 pm

Fee: FREE program. Donations appreciated!

Meet: Cook-Albert Fuller Nature Center

Stop by the Cook-Albert Fuller Nature Center during Monarch Madness, where Ridges staff will be on hand to answer questions and teach visitors about Monarch caterpillars and butterfly migration. Each day from 1:30 pm – 2 pm, we'll be available to answer your questions about the tagging process and tag butterflies that are ready to head out on their journey. The Ridges receives tags from the non-profit organization Monarch Watch, which we apply to the migrating Monarch butterflies before they are released at the end of August. Tag or sponsor a Monarch for \$5 per tag. Suitable for all ages.



Milkweed, Karen Smith

Planting for Pollinators



Thursday, August 20, 1:30 – 3 pm

Fee: Public \$25 | Members receive 20% discount

Meet: Cook-Albert Fuller Nature Center

Are you interested in restoring and improving the land surrounding your home? Do you desire a beautiful native environment that attracts birds, bees, and butterflies? Are you looking to conserve or restore your property and create a low maintenance, ecologically stable environment? Then this could be the program for you! Participants in this session will review the essential elements for pollinator garden success, including garden design, soil management, plant selection, plant nutrition, and general plot maintenance. Participants will also tour the Cook-Albert Fuller Nature Center front gardens and receive pollinator plant seeds collected from the property to start a home pollinator garden. Suitable for ages 16 & up.



Registration Required

Register at ridgessanctuary.org

SPONSOR A MONARCH!

With a donation of \$5, you can support Monarch research and conservation efforts! The Monarch you sponsor will be tagged and released prior to its migration to central Mexico. Monarch tagging is a decades-long research project aimed at protecting monarch butterfly populations across North America. Visit The Ridges during Monarch Madness to learn more!



Swales & Ales



**Thursday, September 3 &
Thursday, September 17,
3 – 6 pm**

Fee: Public \$35 | Members
receive 20% discount

Meet: Cook-Albert Fuller Nature

Explore The Ridges Sanctuary with our Naturalists and discover what plants in and around Door County might be used to create different flavor profiles when brewing beer. After walking the Sanctuary trails and discussing some nature-inspired brews, we will head over to Sway Brewing to learn about the beer making process. Program fee includes a Ridges Pint Glass and Brewery pour. Must be 21 or older to participate.



Swales & Ales

WISCONSIN BAT WINGDING

Roost Report: All About America's Bats

Friday, September 25, 1 – 2:30 pm

Fee: Public \$8 | Members receive 20% discount

Meet: Cook-Albert Fuller Nature

Want to learn more about bats from the Americas? Come join Dr. Gerald Zuercher from the University of Dubuque as he offers an informative program about bats that will hopefully inspire you to think a little more fondly of them! Learn about the different sounds a bat can make and other facts that might just make you excited to see one swooping by in the evening. Suitable for ages 12 & up.

Bat Chats

**Thursday, September 24 & Friday, September 25,
7 – 8:30 pm**

Fee: Public \$15 | Members receive 20% discount | 16 & under \$7

Meet: Cook-Albert Fuller Nature Center

Let's chat about Wisconsin Bats! Join Ridges staff on a hike through the Sanctuary, stopping to learn about the unique adaptations and life cycle of bats. Stop along the way to capture bats on an acoustic monitor.

This program will meet outside of The Ridges Sanctuary Cook-Albert Fuller Nature Center. Ridges staff will provide all hikers with a red flashlight for the duration of the hike. Restrooms are not available on or prior to the hike. Suitable for ages 14 & up.

Bat House Building Workshop

Thursday, September 24

2 – 3 pm

Fee: \$45

Meet: Ridges Workshop

Build your own bat house to hang on your property! We'll help you assemble your own bat house and give you instructions on hanging and maintenance so you can provide important shelter for native bat species!

*This workshop will be in an indoor space with hammering and power tools.



Bat Chats, Jackie Rath

ART WORKSHOPS

Color Me Calm at The Ridges

Wednesday, September 30, 12:30 – 4:00 pm

Fee: \$50 | Members receive 20% discount

Meet: Cook-Albert Fuller Nature Center

Enjoy a calming, relaxing, and stress-free coloring experience for grown-ups at The Ridges! During this class, Jane Tomich will share techniques, tips, and pointers to help you become a coloring expert. Learn how to blend, build layers of color, and how to mix colored pencil colors to achieve a beautiful, realistic appearance to your nature photography coloring pages for adults! In addition, Jane will show you how to turn your own nature photography into a coloring page using an app for your phone.

A portion of the class time will be spent walking down the Hidden Brook Boardwalk at The Ridges and capturing nature photos to gain experience using the app to convert photos to coloring pages. Workshop supplies will be provided. Suitable for ages 18 & up.

Natural Dyes: Marigold & Indigo

Friday, October 2, 12:30 – 4:30 pm

Fee: \$60 Public | Members receive 20% discount

Meet: Cook-Albert Fuller Nature Center

Learn to layer colors using natural dyes! In this four-hour workshop, you will learn the basics of building an indigo vat. Then learn the process of making a dye bath using marigold flowers! You will create shades of green on silk through over dyeing. All experiments will be done on provided silk swatches. Leave with a silk scarf of your own design! Suitable for ages 18 & up.



Marigold on Cotton, Rachel Davis

Programs | Events



Boos & Brews



Halloween Hike

HALLOWEEN EVENTS

Boos & Brews

Thursday, October 15, 3 – 6 pm

Fee: Public \$35 | Members receive 20% discount

Meet: Cook-Albert Fuller Nature

Think Swales & Ales, but Spooky Edition! Explore The Ridges Sanctuary with our Naturalists and discover what plants in and around Door County might be used to create different flavor profiles when brewing

beer. After hiking the Sanctuary and discussing some nature-inspired brews, we will head over to Sway Brewing to learn about the beer making process. Program fee includes a Ridges Pint Glass and Brewery pour. Must be 21 or older to participate.

Halloween Hike

Friday, October 23, 4 – 6 pm

Fee: Adult \$8 | Child \$5

Meet: Cook-Albert Fuller Nature

Have you ever wondered what might be lurking around The Ridges once the trails close for the night? Halloween themed stations along the Hidden Brook Boardwalk will highlight the creepiest critters that call The Ridges home. After you've explored the trail, join us for treats and maybe even a spooky story around the campfire. This Halloween Hike is the perfect event for all ages (including adults!). Adult and child treat tables will be stationed on the front lawn to enjoy after your hike.

Pre-registration is not necessary but encouraged. Tickets can be purchased at the Cook-Albert Fuller Nature Center upon arrival. Suitable for all ages.

Costumes are encouraged!



Registration Required

Register at ridgessanctuary.org



CITIZEN SCIENCE

Citizen Science Symposium

Saturday, September 19, 8:30 am – noon

Fee: FREE Program. Donations appreciated!

Meet: Baileys Harbor Town Hall (2392 Cty Rd F, Baileys Harbor, WI 54202)

Save the date for our annual Citizen Science Symposium! We will provide the opportunity for our volunteer Citizen Scientists along with the public to gather in celebration of a successful field season. With a mix of social time and a light breakfast, the focus of the Symposium is on the great research that our Citizen Scientists are conducting. Brief reports from The Ridges Sanctuary, Crossroads at Big Creek, Climate Change Coalition of Door County, and Door County Land Trust volunteers will highlight this event. A call for presenters from our various Citizen Science programs will be forthcoming. Contact Tony Kiszonas at tony@ridgessanctuary.org for more information. Suitable for ages 18 & up.



Showing Pollinating



Citizen Science in the Field, Tony Kiszonas



Walk & Talk with Ridges Research Team

Mondays, June 22, July 20, August 17, September 21 & October 19, 1 – 2 pm

Fee: FREE Program. Donations appreciated!

Each month, join us to explore a different aspect of research at The Ridges Applied Research Ecologist Victoria Holderer and Director of Research Tony Kiszonas will take you on an educational hike at various locations in The Ridges property. Please check the meeting location for each date. Suitable for ages 18 & up.

■ June 22

Meet at the Cabins at The Ridges to stroll down the Range Light Corridor Boardwalk to discuss ongoing research initiatives, focusing on research for restoration work with the dwarf lake iris and lady's slipper orchids. Another program explained in-depth is the Boreal Climate Survivability Project. Numerous other collaborative research projects will be discussed.

■ July 20

Meet at the Cook-Albert Fuller Nature Center to stroll down Hidden Brook Boardwalk to discuss ongoing research initiatives, culminating at The Ridges Sanctuary beach. Join us in learning about research for restoration work with the dwarf lake iris and lady's slipper orchids. Another program explained in-depth is the Boreal Climate Survivability Project. Numerous other collaborative research projects will be discussed.

■ August 17

Meet at the Cook-Albert Fuller Nature Center and carpool to Appel's Bluff to hike to a Boreal Climate Survivability plot, discuss Ram's head orchid restoration, along with other initiatives we are partnering on.

■ September 21

Meet at the Logan Creek Trailhead for a hike to some of our Boreal Climate Survivability plots to learn about the project, monitoring techniques we are utilizing, and other volunteer Citizen Scientist opportunities at The Ridges.

■ October 19

Meet at The Ridges Family Discovery Trail to discuss ongoing research initiatives at The Ridges Sanctuary. During this hike, we will be focusing on the science of fall color, and stop by one of our Boreal Climate Survivability plots.

Programs | Events

VOLUNTEER WORKDAYS

Barberry Pirates Workday

Tuesdays, June 9, June 23, July 7, July 21, August 4, August 18, September 8, & September 22, 9 am – noon

Meet: Cook-Albert Fuller Nature Center

Join Ridges staff and other volunteers in helping to preserve our native biodiversity by assisting in invasive species removal projects in the Sanctuary! Work will involve digging, cutting, and bagging of invasive plants by hand. Wear appropriate footwear, pants, long sleeves, and gloves. Tools provided. Suitable for ages 18 & up.



Barberry Pirates Workday, Invasive Removal

Logan Creek Stewardship Workdays

Thursdays, June 4, June 18, July 2, July 16, August 6, August 20, September 3, & September 17, 9 am – noon

Meet: Logan Creek Trailhead

Join staff and volunteers to help with various projects at The Ridges' Logan Creek Preserve located on the shore of Clark Lake. Assist staff and other volunteers with activities like trail and boardwalk work, invasive species control, and general site maintenance. Come dressed appropriately for moderate hiking and the potential of working in wet conditions. Tools provided. Suitable for ages 18 & up.

For more information and to participate in volunteer workdays, contact Ridges Land Manager Sam Hoffman at sam@ridgessanctuary.org or call (920) 839-2802, ext. 108.

Fall Workday

September 26, 9 am – noon

Meet: Cook-Albert Fuller Nature Center

Do you love fall and spending time outdoors? Join us at The Ridges for our annual Fall Volunteer Workday! Our fall workday is open to volunteers of all abilities, ages, and skill sets. Activities include front garden maintenance, organization of storage space, and general cleanup and preparation for the winter season. The workday will begin at 9 am and end with a lunch around noon. Suitable for ages 18 & up.



Fall Workday

ANNUAL MEETING

**Join us for the 89th
Ridges Sanctuary Annual Meeting!
Saturday, August 1, 2026
4 – 8 pm
About Thyme Farm,
8245 Cty Rd F, Baileys Harbor**

Schedule of Events:
4 pm Member Mix & Mingle
*Silent Auction Opens
5 pm Business Meeting of The Ridges
& Year in Review Presentation

Ridges Members:

Join us for a celebration of our past year's accomplishments and socialize among peers and neighbors in conservation. Our membership remains at the center of our operation, and we truly cannot do what we do without you. We hope to see you there and look forward to celebrating with you!

Details for the board and member election and meeting resources can be found at ridgessanctuary.org/event/89th-annual-meeting-of-the-ridges-sanctuary/ or scan the QR code below.



How To Register

REGISTRATION DETAILS & CONTACT INFORMATION

Program sizes are limited and fill quickly. Our new online registration system is fast and easy! We highly encourage online registration as early as possible to ensure your spot in the program of your choice. You may register online at ridgessanctuary.org or by calling (920) 839-2802.

Discounted program rates are available for members.

To learn more about membership, visit ridgessanctuary.org/membership.

Making Nature Accessible for Everyone

Hearing Accessibility: For guided hikes held between May 1 and October 31, we offer a portable hearing loop system. This system can be worn around the neck and connects with the t-coil in hearing aids. For those without t-coil enabled hearing aids, headphones are also available. The hike leader's voice is transmitted via a microphone, allowing for clear, amplified sound through either device.

If you would like to use the t-coil system during a guided hike or access the dedicated hearing loop in the Nature Center, please inform our front desk staff upon arrival.

Wheelchairs are available for use in the Nature Center and on Hidden Brook Boardwalk during our hours of operation. In addition, The Ridges has an all-terrain wheelchair, called a Trackchair, available to reserve for use on designated trails. To reserve the Trackchair, email anna@ridgessanctuary.org.

For accessibility details for specific events, please visit ridgessanctuary.org/events.

General accessibility information for The Ridges is available at ridgessanctuary.org/accessibility.

THE RIDGES SANCTUARY



Cook-Albert Fuller Nature Center:
8166 Highway 57, Baileys Harbor, WI



Appel's Bluff:
8523 Cty. Q., Baileys Harbor, WI



Ridges Cabins:
8288 Cty. Q., Baileys Harbor, WI



Family Discovery Trail:
8297 Hwy 57, Baileys Harbor, WI



Logan Creek:
5724 Loritz Rd., Jacksonport, WI



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Electronic Service Requested



SUMMER & FALL 2026 Program Guide

Preservation | Education | Research