CROSSROADS

A newsletter for Crossroads at Big Creek

Photo by Rich Propsom

Crossroads at Big Creek, Inc. - Scientific, Historical & Environmental Learning Preserve Vol. 17, Issue 1 - Spring 2019

CROSSROADS AT BIG CREEK inc.

Crossroads at Big Creek *is a preserve which offers education, conducts research and provides outdoor experiences to inspire environmental stewardship in learners of all ages.*

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920-746-5895
CrossroadsAtBigCreek.org

Turning the Corner at the Crossroads

We are turning the corner at the Crossroads, transforming our visions into realities. I am pleased to share that this spring, we are increasing our staff, extending our hours, and expanding our programs.

I'd first like to thank and recognize the incredible efforts of two very important people who recently departed from the board at Crossroads. Both Dick Weidman and Richard Hauser have given a tremendous amount of time, wisdom and service. Having gotten to know these two gentlemen rather well the past several years, I know they won't appreciate any recognition, but please help me extend to them a warm gift of gratitude should you see them on the property or out around town. I feel their legacy and influence has been woven into the fabric of this great preserve and know we are better for having had their leadership.

So now might be a good time to introduce myself. I am Matt Luders, the incoming Board President at Crossroads at Big Creek, but more importantly, a proud and enthusiastic user of this wonderful preserve since I moved to Sturgeon Bay nearly 20 years ago. My family, and especially my English Labradors love this place and we try to get out for a hike nearly every day. I have had the privilege to serve on the board at Crossroads the past 4 years, and I want you to know I am thrilled to be a part of what lies ahead!

And with the future in mind, I am proud to welcome two new members to the Crossroads staff. Laurel Hauser will serve in the role of Assistant Director. Laurel brings tremendous experience and passion in environmental preservation and education, having spent 10 years working at the Door County Land Trust and in various civic roles in Sturgeon Bay. We are also excited to welcome Yanela Herrera Quipse, who in her role as housekeeper, will provide our visitors a great place to gather and learn. Please help me welcome both Laurel and Yanela!

There is far more to share about all the wonderful things happening. It's my hope that you will trust that we will lead and always be driven by our mission, to inspire environmental stewardship in learners of all ages. And with that in mind, if ever you have ideas or something to share, please let me or Coggin know. We could even meet and take a hike.

In Crossroads,
Matt Luders
President, Board of Directors

Crossroads Trail Run

Be part of the 10th year anniversary of running green for Crossroads.

Door County's first and only trail run that welcomes all runners and walkers.

CROSSROADS Trail Run 2019

10 Years Running Green

The Skinny:

- In celebration of our 10th year running green, all finishers will receive a birch 10th year anniversary medallion, plus a native white cedar or native larch tree, donated by Evergreen Nursery.
- All participants receive a Green Layer performance shirt.
- Proceeds from the event support the Crossroads Ski-for-Free program and the Crossroads general fund.
- Race promotes wellness and healthy living, cross-generational recreation and increases awareness of 'green' living in our community.

Saturday

JUNE 22

Start Times:
10K @ 8:00 am
5K @ 8:05 am
2K @ 8:05 am

RUN THE DOOR

For more information and online registration, visit www.CrossroadsRun.com

Donors 2018

Through January 31, 2018.

* A fund of the Door County Community Foundation

$50,000
Don and Coggin Heeringa
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$5,000 - $14,999
Door County Medical Center
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Troy and Connie Zak

Special Thanks!

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Celebrate Water Door County
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Door County Astronomical Society
Door County Beekeepers Club
Door County Daily News.com
Door County Environmental Council
Door County Libraries
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Ask about this great giving opportunity

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$100 Level
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Jim and Valerie Maki

Hank Dittmer
Jim and Valerie Maki

Lee Finnerty
Peggy Spangler

June Haines
Robert and Jean Haines

Dolores "Dee" Hawthorne
Traci Bournoville
Barb Zastrow
Joy Jimo Anderson

Gretchen Montee
Sue Eliason
Coggin Heeringa
Suzanne Wagner

Patricia Remy
Coggin Heeringa
Jim and Valerie Maki

Steve Schmelzer
Deb and John Kiedrowaki

Donald & Giles Tlachac
Nancy Mattke

Celebrating Water Together

Goal #2 from the Crossroads Board's Strategic Planning Retreat is
"Seek out and maximize opportunities to collaborate with the community."

As a part of the ***Celebrate Water Door County*** initiative, we have been able to collaborate with businesses and organizations throughout the county through the year.

Spring events include:

Wild words
Celebrate the Lands and Waters of Door County

Monday, April 22 at 7:00 pm
A collaboration with **Door County Land Trust** and **Write-On Door County.**

Storytellers will use twenty pictures with twenty seconds per picture to share their love of the land and water of Door County. At the Lecture Hall of the Collins Learning Center. Free and open to the public.

DOOR COUNTY

Redefining "Living Life Well" Workshop

Tuesday, April 23 from 9:00 - noon
A collaboration with **Door County Visitor's Bureau** and **Celebrate Water Door County.**

Guest consultant **Amber Marie Beard** of **projekt hABitat** will offer people involved in the hospitality industry an introduction to sustainability and wellness tourism. For more information or to register for this workshop, contact yvonne@doorcounty.com

"National Weather Service Storm Spotter Training"

DOOR COUNTY EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT

Wednesday, May 8 at 6:00 pm
Sponsored by the **Door County Emergency Management** and **National Weather Station.**

Pariticipants will learn to recognize and report server weather conditions which occur in the Great Lakes Region. With Lecture Hall of Collins Learning Center.

Fish Tales

A lecture series about native fish of the Great Lakes

Sponsored by the **Lakeshore Natural Resources Partnership** and **Sturgeon Bay Sport Fishing Assn.**

Where Have All the Cisco Gone Part 2: Management of Cisco in the Great Lakes

Monday, April 29 at 7:00 pm

Presented by Dr. John Dettmers, Director of Fishery Management and Coordination for the Great lakes Fishery Commission.

"Pike Burst Swimming into the Future: The influence of landscape and climate change on northern pike population dynamics"

Wednesday, May 22 at 7:00 pm
Presented by Dr. Patrick Forsythe, Associate Professor of Biology and Chair of the Environmental Science and Policy Graduate Program (UWGB).

"All about Lake Sturgeon - Recovery efforts in Green Bay and across the Great Lakes"

Wednesday, June 12 at 7:00 pm
Presented by Rob Elliott, Fish Biologist, US Fish & Wildlife, Native Species Rehabilitation & Conservation.

Crossroads is proud to be a partner in conservation in these two Door County events:
The ***Door County Festival of Nature*** and ***2019 Water Summit***.
The Collins Learning Center will be closed Friday and Saturday, May 24 & 25 and Wednesday, June 5 & 6 so Crossroads staff can participate in these collaborative events.

Photo by Pete Schuster

Who are the *Friends of Crossroads*?

Crossroads has many friends. Those who visit our preserves and/or attend our programs are friends. People who support us with regular donations are valued friends, as are those who designate gifts from family funds, stocks, retirement disbursements or name us in their wills.

But when we talk about the **Friends of Crossroads**, we are referring to an organized group–our volunteers, whose mission is *"to promote and assist with programs through gifts of time, talent and financial resources for the benefit of Crossroads at Big Creek Inc."*

Though technically a committee of Crossroads, the **Friends** are an organization with officers, annual dues, and control over their own funds. But because they are generous friends, they often purchase needed items for Crossroads.

For more information about becoming a Friend of Crossroads, pick up a flyer next time you are at the Learning Center or visit the Crossroads website and select the Volunteer tab. Or just attend a meeting–the second Monday of each month at 6:30 PM. You'll meet some very nice ***friends***.

Friends of Crossroads:

- Extend eyes, ears & voice of Crossroads staff
- Serve as greeters
- Assist school groups
- Help with trail maintenance (wood chips, lopping)
- Operate the Ski for Free program
- Organize the Crossroads Trail Run
- Decorate for the seasons
- Host events
- Prepare Mailings
- Help with inside and outside upkeep
- Maintain the Library
- Generate ideas and serve as a focus group
- Fund worthwhile projects.
- And much, much more

Crossroads at Big Creek is a private 501(c)(3) organization.

Photo by Tina Gohr Photography

Yes! I (we) want to make a donation to Crossroads.

Donate on line: www.CrossroadsAtBigCreek.org

Please use my gift of $_____ to pay for day-to-day operations.

❑ $25 ❑ $50 ❑ $100 ❑ $250 ❑ $500 ❑ $1,000

Name _____

Address _____

Phone _____ E-mail _____
(if you would like to receive notes on upcoming events)

❑ Yes, you may list my name for donor recognition.
❑ Please do not list my name.
❑ Please do not send fund raising materials in the future.

Crossroads at Big Creek is a preserve for experiential lifelong learning focused on science, history and the environment.

Mail your check in the enclosed envelope:
Crossroads at Big Creek, Inc.
PO Box 608, Sturgeon Bay, WI 54235
920.746.5895

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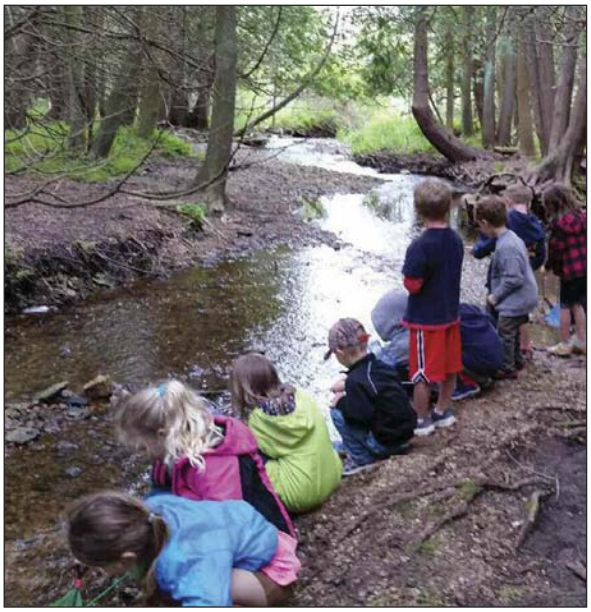

Crossroads at Big Creek, Inc. does not discriminate in any programs or activities on the basis of race, color, national origin, sex, religion, age, disability, political beliefs, sexual orientation, or marital or family status.

Celebrate Water
DOOR COUNTY
Together we can make waves

Celebrating Water Through Research

Few people think of the Collins Learning Center as a research field station but each summer since 2004, our lab and lower level have been used for Great Lakes studies by researchers from the University of Wisconsin-Oshkosh Environmental Research and Innovation Center (ERIC) in collaboration with the Door County Public Health Department, Door County Soil and Water, UW Sea Grant, US Geological Survey, Wisconsin Coastal Management and Healthy Water Door County.

These advanced students also monitor the water quality at 31 beaches on the Door Peninsula. Over the years, in addition to protecting the health of swimmers by posting warnings, they have developed trend data to identify the main sources of pollution and provided insight to pollution sources for each beach, which in a number of cases, has guided beach improvement projects. Over the years they have collected over 58,000 surface water samples in Door County that have been processed or analyzed at Crossroads.

Several years ago, using funding from Healthy Water Door County, ERIC tested private wells throughout the county free of charge. This summer, Door County residents can have their water tested for a minimal cost. The well testing service will be available from noon to 3 pm Monday through Thursday, May 29 through August 22 for kit pick-up, questions and sample drop off. Please use the Lower Level door of the Collins Learning Center.

Water Test Prices:

•**Coliform Bacteria** (*e. coli*) ($20) •**Nitrate** ($25) •**Arsenic** ($25) •**Lead** ($35) •**Homeowner's Package** ($65)