



Friends of Lapham Peak Newsletter Vol. 28, No. 3, October 2020 by Rita Keber

WORK DAY

CANCELED for Saturday, November 14th
due to park restrictions.

LAPHAM PEAK SNOWMAKING - 2020 UPDATE

The snowmaking project for cross country skiing at Lapham Peak, started by the Friends of Lapham Peak in 2004, will achieve a major milestone in 2020 with the acquisition of a new Pisten Bully 100 grooming machine. The Pisten Bully will be used to spread the piles of manmade snow on the trails and to regroom the trails after the thaw-rain-refreeze events that are so common in the region. It will also be able to set a double set of tracks for classic skiing, the likes of which have never been seen in southeast Wisconsin.

The Friends are also constructing a new garage to house the Pisten Bully and other snowmaking and grooming equipment



adjacent to the trails. The new Winter Recreation Storage Building (WRSB) will protect the Pisten Bully from the environmental and rodent damage that has caused so many problems with the 40-year old LMC snowcat. These new additions, coupled with an updated fleet of SMI Polecat snowguns, will provide an 'up-north' cross country skiing experience on the 2.4 Kilometers of snowmaking trails at Lapham Peak during the upcoming winter and beyond. John McCarthy of the Friends snowmaking committee will review the history and configuration of the snowmaking system at Lapham Peak, and provide an exciting update on the new Pisten Bully and the WRSB for 2020. (See Annual Meeting article)

Money to pay for the completion of the new WRSB and the new Pisten Bully 100 is still needed. See our Snowmaking site for info: laphampeaksnowmaking.org/donate



ANNUAL MEETING

Mark your calendar for the Friends Annual Meeting on **Wednesday, November 11**, 7pm for a Zoom meeting. After the business meeting and analysis of the past year (Oct. 2019 - Sept. 2020), John McCarthy will review the history and configuration of the snowmaking system at Lapham Peak, and provide an exciting update on the new Pisten Bully and the Winter Recreation Storage Building (WRSB).

You must register online by **Monday, November 9** if you wish to "attend" this free Zoom meeting to obtain the confidential link to the program. A link to the Zoom program will be sent to registered participants via e-mail the morning of November 11. Register here:

laphampeakfriends.org/zoom-registration

Annual reports will be available on our website: laphampeakfriends.org/about. Scroll down the page to Annual Reports 2020.

HABITAT RESTORATION

Starting Oct 2, our all-volunteer habitat restoration crews, also known as Buckthorn Busters, began our fall & winter work efforts. We volunteer most weekdays, in the mornings or early afternoons. We need people to help cut smaller invasives, mostly buckthorn or honeysuckle, using loppers, or to help pick-up and stack larger branches

and trees that our certified chainsaw crews will cut. When conditions are right, we will also burn these piles. We send out an email before each workday, to those interested, and if you are available to help that day, you can join us (if not, just ignore the message). To be added to our email distribution list, please send a note to John Hillmer:

John@JHillmer.com

AWARD FOR FRIENDS OF LAPHAM PEAK

Friends of Wisconsin State Park are pleased to announce that **Kettle Moraine State Forest - Lapham Peak** has won the **2020 Gold Seal Award** for "**Best State Park System Property to see Spring Wildflowers.**" What a great tribute of our prairie restoration through the guidance of the "founder" Mike Fort and continued efforts of our current leaders Holly Schmalig, Jack Abler, John Hillmer, all the Buckthorn Buster volunteers and supported by Anne Korman, Superintendent of the Kettle Moraine State Forest and Colton Kelly, Lapham Peak Property Manager. Awesome efforts and thanks for your votes! For more information on what we do, see laphampeakfriends.org/habitat-restoration

WEDNESDAY NIGHT SKI RACES

Kris Maki is set for the upcoming snow season with plans for the races! Racers, stay tuned for an update coming soon.

BUTTERFLY BRICK PATHWAY



A distinctive gift for the holidays...a brick for the Butterfly Garden pathway!

Design your own 4x8 brick is \$125 or an 8x8 brick is \$250. Check out the [website](#) for details.

The brick pathway will begin Phase III in fall of 2021 which will expand the rest of the pathway throughout the garden. Costs may increase so order your brick now!