



Friends of Lapham Peak Newsletter Vol. 30, No. 1, April 2022, by Rita Keber
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BIRD HIKES

Join fellow birders for Sunday bird hikes on **May 8, 15, and 22**. Meet at Evergreen parking lot at 7 am for two hours. Dress for the weather; bring binoculars and a bird book if you have one.

SPRING WORK DAY

Our annual spring Work Day will be Saturday, **May 7th** from 9:00 am to noon. The theme is **Work*Play*Earth Day**. Meet at the Homestead Hollow parking lot. Projects will include spreading woodchips on trails, finishing touches on the Ice Age Trail campsite, and invasive clearing. Have appropriate work clothes including sturdy footwear and gloves. Some tools will be provided; however, you may bring a garden rake or shovel. Please contact [Rita](#) by **Wednesday, May 4th** if you plan on attending so we can plan teams accordingly.

FREE FUN WEEKEND IN WISCONSIN

On **June 4-5**, all state park & forest property admission fees are free! The following are also **FREE**: trail passes for all bike trails such as the Glacial Drumlin Trail, fishing, and state trout stamps. Lupo Pond is now stocked with trout so come out and enjoy! Then picnic and grill out using one of the grills around the park.

SUMMER SOLSTICE CELEBRATION

The event will be back this year! Save the date for **Friday, June 24th** from 6:00 pm - 9:00 pm to celebrate summer. Join us at the Mike Fort Picnic Shelter by Homestead Hollow (follow the accessible trail) for music and food. Tom Klein and his band will again entertain us.

Admission is \$10.00 for adults and \$5.00 ages 12-18. Bring a chair if you wish or sit at picnic tables. Beverages and food available for purchase. Proceeds from the event will benefit the new [Lapham Lodge](#). If you or your company would like to be a sponsor, it would



be greatly appreciated, and we'd love to add your sponsorship to our flyer. Contact [Rita](#) for more information. Volunteers will be needed. More information will follow.

5K RUN/WALK FOR HABITAT RESTORATION



"Feel the Burn" is a new 5K Run/Walk fundraiser, through the prairies! **on Saturday, June 25**. Check out the [website & flier](#).

Colton Kelly, property manager shares the rationale for the prairie burns and need for fundraising. "Among Lapham Peak's most popular attractions are its many pristine prairies. The restoration efforts of the park's prairies go back a few decades involving an incredible amount of work done by DNR staff and dedicated volunteers. One of the most important parts of prairie restoration and

maintenance involves fire. Prescribed burning allows natural prairie grasses and flowers to thrive while suppressing invasive species like thistle, buckthorn, honeysuckle, box-elder, and crown vetch. These unwanted plants and shrubs are detrimental to our restoration efforts and threaten the prairies we have worked so hard to restore.

In recent years, work responsibilities have changed, and park staff no longer plan or conduct prescribed burns. The **Friends of Lapham Peak** have taken on the role of coordinating this work with the help of contracted services in partnership with the DNR. The cost of burning our prairies is roughly \$85/acre. With several hundred acres of prairie at Lapham, this quickly becomes an expensive venture. ***All of this is done with donated money and volunteers assisting!***

Therefore, we are excited to announce the new 5k run/walk fundraising event, "Feel the Burn!" with all proceeds going towards prescribed burning at Lapham Peak. We hope you will join us where you will enjoy a run or walk through the various prairies you are helping to restore & maintain. Come out to Lapham and Feel the Burn!" (You'll also see many areas that we've recently restored!)

GIFTS



Mugs are available for purchase at the office; call for availability: [262-646-3025](tel:262-646-3025).

Stickers, and other items may also be available!

Proceeds benefit the Friends of Lapham Peak!

The **Butterfly Garden Pathway** will be extended this summer. Bricks are [available](#) to add to the beauty of the garden.



Hike over to the Butterfly Garden to check out the new sections. New pathways have been created; many new bulbs were planted in fall & spring along with various plants last summer. Picnic tables in the shade have been added. Assistance with maintenance is always welcome. Contact [Rita](#) if you wish to assist.

HAUSMANN NATURE CENTER REOPENING TO PUBLIC



The HNC will soon be open on Saturdays and Sundays during select weekends this summer and fall. Stay tuned for grand reopening updates! Check the [website](#) for volunteer information and sign up to be a host!

COLORAMA 2022



Mark your calendar for the Colorama 2022 Run/Walk on Saturday, **October 1st**.



Get set for another scary evening with the return of **Fright Hike** on **October 28 & 29!** Fright Hike is produced by the Friends of Lapham Peak as a fundraiser for Lapham Peak projects.

MEMBERSHIP & VOLUNTEERING

Thank you for your 2022 membership renewal. The Friends of Lapham Peak is a 501(c)(3) charitable organization so your membership and donations are tax deductible, and that money stays at this park and support our projects. We have 233 paid and lifetime Friends members.

During 2021, volunteers logged **9,762.5** hours. Here are just some of the ways we contributed to this park: board meetings, accounting, insurance, website maintenance, Tuesday & Wednesday Night Ski Series, Lapham Loppet, Candlelight Hike & Ski, Work Days, Colorama, Butterfly Garden, Habitat Restoration, snowmaking maintenance, snowmaking committee, bluebird monitoring, and the new Lapham Lodge. We couldn't have done it without you! THANK YOU, THANK YOU!

Lapham Lodge – Update

Fundraising, planning, design, and architectural work is continuing on the new [Lapham Lodge](#) that will be located just east of the Evergreen Parking lot as a gateway to our many Trailheads into the Park there!

Architectural renderings have been updated to help you get a glimpse into the spectacular vision we have for this multipurpose facility.

To help us get this project built, your tax-deductible donations may be made [online!](#)

