

Friends of Lapham Peak

W329 N846 County Highway C, Delafield, WI 53018 www.laphampeakfriends.org



Friends of Lapham Peak Newsletter Vol. 34, No. 2, September 2026,
by Rita Keber & John Hillmer

WOMEN & WINE IN THE WOODS

Melissa Jarecki, event coordinator



Our third annual **Women & Wine in the Woods** takes place on **Thursday, September 17th, from 6:30 PM to 8:30 PM** (VIP Early Access begins at 5:30 PM), with all proceeds directly benefiting the Hausmann Nature Center.

Last year's funds helped cover the Friends' share of the resident naturalist position, funded stage one of our educational display upgrades, and supported floor refinishing efforts.

Tickets are available now on laphampeakfriends.org:

- **Individual Tickets:** \$75
- **Flight of 5 Tickets:** \$300 (Save \$75—get 5 tickets for the price of 4!)

Upgrade to **VIP Early Access (\$100)** from 5:30–6:30 PM to enjoy a glass of sparkling wine, hand-passed appetizers, and exclusive first views of our silent auction and raffle items!

Evening Highlights Include:

- Wine tastings courtesy of Waterford Wine & Spirits
- Charcuterie spread
- Live music from the Jason Thomas Band
- A candlelight stroll along the Accessible Trail at Lapham Peak
- Cork pull, silent auction, and raffles

How You Can Help: We are seeking wine donations for our cork pull! Our goal is to collect 40 bottles in the \$40 price range. If you own or represent a business, we will attach your business card to every bottle you provide so the lucky winner knows who supported the cause.

Bottles can be dropped off at the park office before **September 10th**, or we can arrange a pickup. To schedule a pickup or ask questions, contact Melissa Jarecki at 847-867-2251.

Thank you for your generous support—we couldn't do this without you!

HAUSMANN NATURE CENTER



A picture from the raptor show in April.

We are open from 10 am - 4 pm on September 5, 6, 7, 12, 13 and October 3, 4, 10, 11. Visit our

website for details on all our upcoming programs including:

9/5/2026	11:00 AM - 12:00 PM	Glaciation and the Kettle Moraine with Naturalist John Ward
9/12/2026	10:30 - 11:00 AM	Storytime at HNC: Fletcher and the Falling Leaves
9/12/2026	10:00 - 11:30 AM	Guided Fall Forest Walk and Tea with Megan Bollen
9/12/2026	1:00 - 3:00 PM	Girl Scouts: Nature Navigator
9/13/2026	1:00- 2:00 PM	Increase Lapham with Naturalist John Ward
9/17/2026	5:30- 8:30 PM	Women & Wine in the Woods
10/3/2026	10- 11:30 AM	Flora Hike with Meg Shad
10/4/2026	11:00 AM - 12:00 PM	Phenology with Linden Reid

10/10/2026	AM - TBA	Arts Cameras Plus - TBA
10/10/2026	10:30 - 11:00 AM	Storytime at HNC: Owl Moon Read by Mayor Tim Aicher
10/11/2026	11:00 AM - 12:00 PM	Live raptor show

37th ANNUAL COLORAMA RUN/WALK

Kris Maki, Race Director



The 2026 Colorama Run/Walk and Smokey Bear event on Saturday, **October3rd** at Lapham Peak is fast approaching! Run the 5K/10K course or walk the 1.4-mile paved accessible trail suitable for wheelchairs and strollers or the 5K route. Smokey Bear Fun Run (10 & under) course circles the pond at Homestead Hollow. Registration and additional details available [online](#). Register early to avoid late fees.

If you are able to volunteer for this worthwhile fundraising event, please contact **Kris Maki** at jmaki4@wi.rr.com. Volunteers are needed for the registration desk, parking, water stop at Evergreen, finish chute staffing, awards and door prize distribution. The registration desk in Trecker Lodge at Homestead Hollow Picnic area opens at 8:30am, with the run/walk starting at 10am.

Fruit such as apples, grapes or mandarin oranges are appreciated as well as delicious homemade cookies or bars. Contact [Rita](#) if you assist with baking or providing fruit. Thank you for helping with this great fundraiser for the park!

FRIGHT HIKE

By Angela Meyer, event coordinator



Our annual Fright Hike will take place Friday, October 23rd & Saturday, October 24th at 6pm. For 2 nights only, the moonlit paths of Lapham Peak State Forest will turn scary as 4000 guests enjoy a haunted hike, concessions & live music with a bonfire. Our community looks forward to this festive tradition every year. Fright Hike is one of the park's largest fundraisers; proceeds will benefit the Friends of Lapham Peak's projects in the park including snowmaking and habitat restoration. Fright Hike is an extremely large event that requires many volunteers:

Sign up to help:

www.signupgenius.com/go/10C0549AAA-D23A75-62939494-fright#/

Get tickets while prime times are still available:

frighthike.ticketspice.com/2026-lapham-peak-fright-hike

Questions? Visit frighthike.org or contact Angie at frighthikepeak@gmail.com

FRIENDS ANNUAL MEETING

Our Friends of Lapham Peak Annual Membership Meeting will be held **Nov 18th**. Come and socialize with treats at 5:30 pm, meeting at 6 pm at Lapham Lodge. Agenda:

- a short business meeting
- Tall Pines Conservancy will share info about the **K. Redmond Family Preserve**, land purchased south and adjacent to Lapham Peak
- **The Hobby Farm** will share info about their organization, recently purchased on the northwest corner of Lapham Peak.

WORK MORNING

Keep **Saturday, November 14th** from 9 am to noon open on your calendar to help with projects around the park. Some projects already planned are clearing in the Butterfly Garden, trail maintenance, and digging and pulling of buckthorn in the circle drive area of the Hausmann Nature Center and along the driveway. All abilities of help are welcome. A chili lunch will be served at noon. More information will be coming at a later date.

LAPHAM PEAK MERCH AVAILABLE

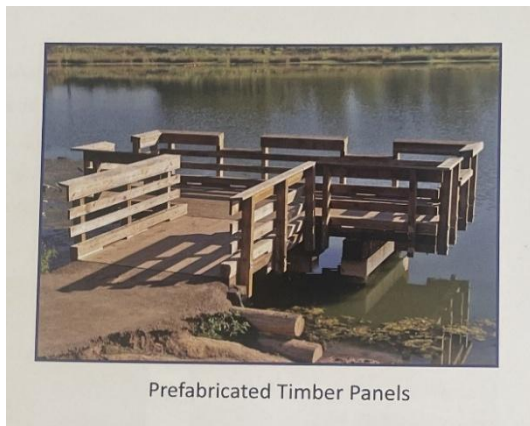


We have new colorful logos on our merchandise! Stop by the park's front office and see shirts, pull over or zip up sweatshirts, caps, and water bottles, etc., even native prairie flower seeds. All proceeds benefit the prairie and woodland restoration work that we do here in this park.

HELP US BUILD A NEW ASSESSIBLE FISHING PIER FOR LUPO POND

The Friends have received several very generous donations in addition to a Knowles Nelson Stewardship Grant from the DNR for the new accessible fishing pier on Lupo Pond and the connecting accessible path. Donations, including those from the Kettle Moraine Southern Forest Alliance and Luella Lupo will be used for Phase 1 of the project – the pier. The pier will meet ADA/ABA Guidelines for accessibility. It will be located on the south side of the pond, so that an accessible path (Phase 2) can be provided from the Evergreen parking lot.

We are closer to being able to start the project, but additional fundraising will be required to provide the Friends' match to the grants and pay for the total estimated cost of \$65,500 – likely to increase.



Here's an example of what the pier could look like.

If you have an interest in improving accessibility to park amenities such as the Lupo Pond – designated as an Urban Fishing Pond –



please consider a donation towards the pier project. More information is available on the Friends website –

Use the QR Code. Please contact John McCarthy with any questions on the project or to offer your help. Use the following e-mail address:
fishingpier@laphampeakfriends.org.

FREE FIREWOOD AT LAPHAM PEAK*

(*we just request a small donation to help us with the Prairie & Woodland restoration work that we do)



We have split and dried hardwood firewood at Lapham Peak that we'd love for you to have! All wood comes from dead hardwood trees in the park that we harvest, split, and dry for a year. It's easily available at the Evergreen parking lot, or next to each of the fire-rings / shelters in the park, including at our backpack campsite.

If you'd like a larger load, such as a truckful or trailer load, we can direct you to our dried split wood sources and stacks, just email or call John Hillmer for directions (414-333-6337 or JHillmer@gmail.com)