

2024 ANNUAL NONPROFIT REPORT

October 1, 2023 - September 30, 2024



**NORTH LAKE LAND
DISCOVERY CENTER**
inspire - discover - connect

Photo courtesy of Richie Dollhopf

FROM THE DIRECTOR'S CHAIR

This summer marks my first full year as Executive Director of the North Lakeland Discovery Center. Over the past twelve months, I've come to appreciate just how special this place truly is. The kindness and support I've received from the staff, volunteers, members, and the greater community have meant more than I can say. I'm deeply grateful to be part of a team and a mission that brings people together through a shared love of nature, learning, and conservation.

While there have been many exciting developments since our last annual meeting, it's important to note that this Annual Report reflects the 2023–2024 fiscal year, covering the period from October 1, 2023 through September 30, 2024. What you'll see in the following pages is a snapshot of a vibrant year in the life of the Discovery Center. A year filled with meaningful programs and services, steady growth, and the continued dedication of our team and supporters.

This year also marked our first full fiscal year with Discovery Hall open to the public, and it's been incredible to see how this new space has enhanced the visitor experience. During the 2023–2024 fiscal year, we welcomed more than 7,500 visitors to the Nature Center! Whether they came to explore the exhibits, attend a program, or simply learn more about what we do, Discovery Hall has become a vibrant and welcoming hub for connecting people with nature.

Over the past year, we've made important strides in both our programming and conservation work. With

the addition of several new staff members, we've been able to expand our capacity to serve, offering more educational programs, deeper engagement with local schools, and a stronger presence throughout the region. On the conservation side, we've taken on more habitat restoration projects and increased our ability to care for the land and water we love. A key highlight this year has been the continued development of the Northwoods Forest History Experience. This exciting collaboration with the Manitowish Waters Historical Society will celebrate the ecological and cultural history of our region and provide visitors with a deeper understanding of the forested landscapes that define the Northwoods.

None of this would be possible without your support. Whether you gave your time, renewed your membership, made a donation, or simply visited the property to enjoy a quiet walk in the woods, you played a part in our success. Your belief in our mission fuels everything we do, and I am humbled by the trust and encouragement you've shown.

As we look to the future, I am excited for what's ahead. We'll continue building on our strong foundation, while seeking new ways to connect people with nature and with one another. With your support, I know we can continue to make the Discovery Center a place where wonder, learning, and stewardship grow year after year.

Don Anderson, NLDC Executive Director



STAFF MEMBERS

- Don Anderson, Executive Director
- Colette Anderson, Administrative Assistant
- Richie Dollhopf, Lead Conservation Specialist
- Lisa Fossum, Finance Manager
- Hannah Gargrave, Naturalist & Residential Liasion
- Megan Graffius, Facilities & Volunteer Coordinator
- Licia Kuckkahn Johnson, Education Director and Naturalist
- Jenna Richardson, Naturalist
- Jamie VandenLangenberg, Woods and Water Director
- Ryan Wahlgren, Facilities Manager
- Aidan Witthoff, Naturalist and Conservation Specialist
- Samantha Wolter, Membership & Development Coordinator



One of the greatest privileges and pleasures of my life has been volunteering at the Discovery Center. Seeing the joy in the eyes of children as they work with NLDC staff, exploring, learning and having fun is a great motivator for me. I would encourage all who can to donate their time (and some financial donations too, if you can!) to advance the cause. Over the last half dozen years we have grown greatly both in staff and physical plant - but there is so much more we could accomplish with additional volunteers and the funds to hire another naturalist, for example. The Discovery Center inspires thousands each year and makes the world a better and happier place.

-Richard Phillips, Board Chair

BOARD MEMBERS

- Richard Phillips, Chair
- Stephen Russell, Vice Chair
- Gary Engstrom, Secretary
- Doug Scott, Treasurer
- Eric Koster, Immediate Past Chair
- Steve Budnik, Member
- Rolf Ethun, Member
- JoAnn (Jody) Miller, Member
- Nick Newton, Member
- Russ Schroeder, Member
- David Schultz, Member
- Lori Shepherd, Member
- Brent Jelinski, NLS Liaison
- Beth Feind, WDNR Liaison



SEASONAL STAFF

- Landon Books, Conservation Technician
- Julianna Duerst, Conservation Technician
- Carly Guido, Land Restoration Technician
- AJ Johnson, Conservation Technician
- Blake Olson, Conservation Technician



DISCOVERY VOLUNTEERS

More than 6,400 hours dedicated
by volunteers this year!



Trish Adams
Rollie Alger
Carne Andrews
Kathryn Angell
Ken Arvidson
Sue Austin
Merry Beckel
Sara Becklund
Penny Benson
Cathy Berch
Ardis Berhoff
Jeanne Berstrom
Barb Beutler
Linda Billhymer
Kevin Birschbach
Louise Birschbach
Jim Blum
Cheryl Bowen
Arlene Bozicnik
Tina Bradbury
Laura Bradshaw

Shannon Brimmer
Carl Brust
Pat Brust
Steve Budnik
Jeff Burke
Jon Cassady
Judy A. Cassady
Bill Cerny
Jay Christgau
Joan Christgau
Kathi Cristus
Becky Cole
Tracy Converse
Martin Coonen
Jack Cooper
Jeanette Danielson
Tryg Danielson
Susan Draskiewicz
Alan Drum
Diane Duffy
Barb Engstrom

Gary Engstrom
Susan Esslinger
Gee Esslinger
Rolf Ethun
Al Fairfield
Marsha Fairfield
Renee Feathers
Tim Feathers
Anita Flantz
Patsy Foley
Marilyn Gabert
Marta Gallagher
Joelle Gallagher
Katie Gargrave
Margaret Gargrave
Tom Gargrave
Carla Gerstenberger
Cindy Giesen
Sandy Goggin
Denise Goldsworthy
Amy Gustin

Our dedicated volunteers
contribute in many vital ways,
including:

Nature Guides (Front Desk):

Welcoming and assisting visitors at
the Discovery Center

Special Events:

Supporting various roles during
events throughout the year

Facilities Maintenance:

Helping enhance the aesthetics
and upkeep of our grounds and
buildings

Administrative Support:

Assisting with data entry and
keeping our databases organized
and up to date

169 volunteers added immeasurable value
to the Discovery Center this year!

Suzi Hammer
 Jerry Hawkinson
 Janet Hawkinson
 Rich Hawkinson
 Julie Hellwig
 Dani-Lynn Herreman
 Den Hill
 Joan Hill
 Sue Holloway
 Greg Holt
 Scott Howells
 Michele Jasik
 Mary Jenks
 Richard Jenks
 Izzy Johnson
 Nancy Johnson
 Jeanne Joseph
 Tom Joseph
 Lyn Kirschner
 Bobbi Kocim
 Tom Kocim
 Beth Kost
 Kelsey Kost
 Eric Koster
 Mary Koster
 Nancy LaCrois
 Kurt Landauer
 Connie Lefebvre
 Paul Lewandoski
 June Lewandoski
 Leah Loew
 Matt Loew
 John Maclean
 Jane Magyar
 Ed Marshall

Betsy Matz
 Eric Matz
 JoAnn Miller
 P Montgomery
 Cindy Moriarity
 Mike Moriarity
 Noelle Muceno
 Kim Nemacheck
 Erin Newton
 Harry Newton
 Colette Newton
 Nicholas Newton
 Tim Nickels
 Caroline Niemann
 Emmie Norton
 Otto Novak
 Diane O'Krongly
 Joe Osfar
 Lori Peterson
 Kevin Peterson
 Cheryl Petit
 Richard Phillips
 Mary Kay Plicher
 Marty Plutowski
 Kathy Podulka
 Wendell Podulka
 Mike Porter
 Tom Preston
 Cyndi Radant
 Charlie Ray
 Mary Ray
 Paul Rosenberg
 Judy Ruch
 Bob Ruch
 Nancy Russell

Stephen Russell
 Ellen Schlichting
 Russ Schroeder
 Cheryl Shultz
 David Shultz
 Mary Beth Shultz
 Cheri Shultz
 Todd Schultz
 Doug Scott
 Mary Shaffer
 Linda Sharken
 Amy Sheldon
 Lori Shepherd
 Gabby Stauber
 Elizabeth Stone
 Carol Stone
 Ted Tabbert
 Dick Theile
 Fred Theisen
 Terry Theisen
 Wally Thiel
 Wendy Thur
 John Thur
 Debby Thyssen
 Karen Turner
 Dave Vogt
 Tony Waisbrot
 Dave Werren
 Meg Werren
 Debby Wilson
 Kath Wilson
 Marilyn Wittry
 Betsy Wulff
 Cindy Zalewski
 JoAnn Zaumseil
 Jim Zedler

"The mission of the Discovery Center to instill appreciation of the natural world and to educate people of all ages regarding the importance of its protection and sustainability are very important to me. I am in awe of the knowledge, energy and dedication of the staff, and I enjoy being a part of this vibrant organization by volunteering as often as possible."

-Debby Wilson



"Our volunteers play an essential role in our mission. Their time, talent, and unwavering commitment allow us to reach more people, care for more places, and deliver more programs to inspire a deeper connection to nature. We are profoundly grateful for their service and the lasting impact they make throughout our organization."

-Emily Koester

Marketing/Facilities/Volunteer Coordinator

NATURE CENTER UPDATE

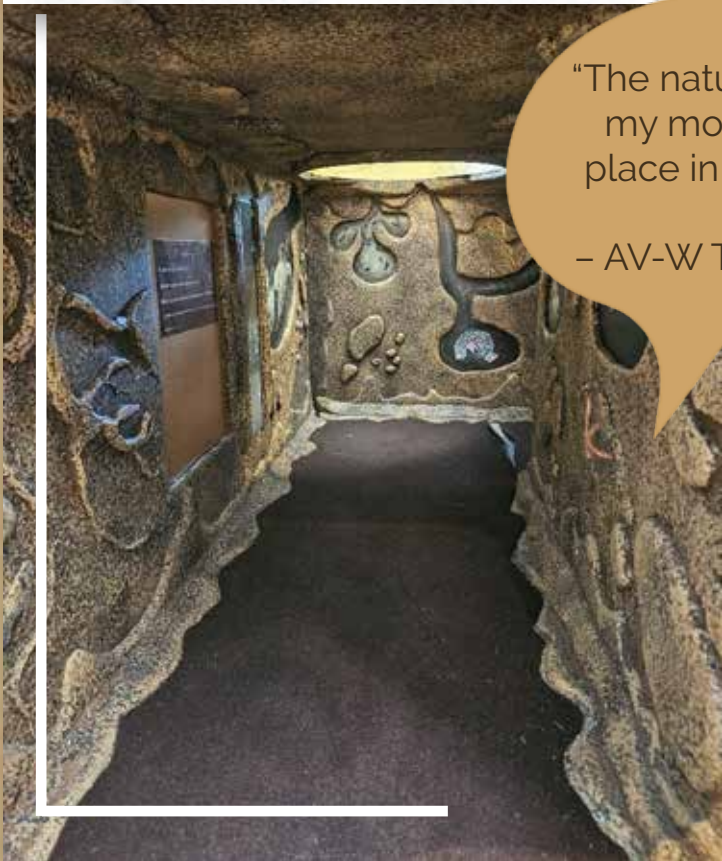


On May 11, 2024, we celebrated the one-year anniversary of the Discovery Hall grand opening. The first full year of the new building has been a huge triumph for NLDC. The front desk has welcomed many new families, program participants, members, volunteers, and donors into the beautiful building. From Oct. 1, 2023 to Sept. 30, 2024, more than 7,600 visitors were welcomed to the Nature Center.

Many exhibits have been upgraded since the grand opening, including the Research Station and the Monarch Rearing Station, both built by volunteer Dave Donaldson, and the Underground Tunnel built by the local American Vintage Manufacturing Company. Each of these exhibits encourages patrons of all ages to connect with the natural world in different ways, like looking at crystals under the microscope,

watching monarch butterflies emerge out of their chrysalis, or crawling through an underground habitat like a badger!

We care deeply about providing an enriching environment for our animal ambassadors here at NLDC, so in July 2024, we built a fenced-in pond habitat for our turtles to explore during warm summer days. Turtles are cold-blooded, meaning they rely on external sources like the sun to warm their bodies. Sunshine also helps them produce vitamin D3, which is crucial for bone health and calcium absorption. With the help of the Woods and Water team, program staff, and volunteers, we were able to install a self-sustaining pond for our critters to enjoy! Since construction, we've counted many frogs, snakes, and insects utilizing the pond as a natural habitat – if you build it, they will come!



"The nature center is
my most favorite
place in the world!"

– AV-W Third grader



MASTER NATURALIST

The Master Naturalist Program of 2024 cultivated an array of amazing volunteers that have supported us in a variety of ways, such as assisting with leading hiking trips, helping out in the kitchen at programs at events, providing support with school groups, and doing handiwork around campus. our Executive Director, Don, even took the course in 2024 to deepen his knowledge and understanding of Northwoods ecology! Our volunteers' dedication further reflects our ongoing commitment to environmental education and conservation, inspiring the community to take the Earth's future into their own hands.



NATURALIST PROGRAMS

- 270+ Public programs served 3,360 participants
- More than 15 new programs, ranging from pontoon tours to Naturally Creative workshops and children's programs
- 19 Eco Series Programs served 142 children ages 4-11
- 44 field education days, serving 1,600+ students ages preK to high school
- 43 Traveling Naturalist programs served 1,460 participants





RESIDENTIAL SERVICES

In 2024, we developed necessary infrastructure in order to ensure the success of future Residential Programs, including:

- Completed an overhaul of NLDC's emergency plan in accordance with the new buildings and our Recreational and Educational Camp License
- Program staff became certified in Wilderness Water Safety to ensure the wellbeing of program participants during canoe trips and other water-related activities
- All staff participated in a training course for preventing child abuse in youth-serving organizations after which NLDC received a CampSafe® certificate
- Developed a marketing plan for promoting our Residential Programs across Wisconsin, Minnesota, Illinois, and Michigan
- Promoted residential programs as exhibitors at the Madison Green and Healthy Schools Conference and the Wisconsin Association for Environmental Education Conference



We were thrilled to welcome students from Vanguard School in Arlington Heights, Illinois for their second annual visit to the Discovery Center. This year, they explored the Nature Center and met our animal ambassadors — new experiences since they had not seen the new addition the year prior. Although snow was scarce, our Naturalists led engaging hikes focused on Wisconsin's ecology and wildlife. Highlights included a scenic tour of the Black River Harbor Byway, their first glimpse of Lake Superior's waterfalls, and an unforgettable ice fishing outing on Statehouse Lake — where some students even caught fish! Their enthusiasm and curiosity made a lasting impact.



"The NLDC PDP program was probably one of the best decisions I have made in my life. Whether it was doing invasive plant surveys and removal, starting and finishing my own personal project or going to community outreach events I can honestly say I enjoyed every second of it.

Jamie, Richie and Aidan were fantastic in teaching me the ropes of a future career in the Natural Resources field. I also made lifelong friends and made countless memories in my time in the Northwoods knowing we were making a difference."

-Landon Books, Conservation Technician for NLDC 2024



PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT PROGRAM

"The PDP program is such a big part of the Discovery Center, and especially our Woods & Water team. These positions have become highly competitive, and for good reason. PDP staff bring fresh energy, new ideas, and a deep commitment to conservation that leaves a lasting impact on our work and our community. It's one of the most rewarding parts of my job. We're not just building resumes, we're building confidence. From teaching team members how to back up a trailer or drive a boat, to watching

them conquer public speaking and lead workshops, it's incredible to see their growth. Many are doing these things for the very first time, and we get to support them as they step into their own as professionals. In turn, we're helping shape the next generation of leaders in natural resources and environmental education."

- Jamie VandenLangenberg, Woods and Water Director

WOODS AND WATER

Turtle Flambeau Flowage: Aquatic Plant Survey & Research Partnership

Project Highlights:

- Launched a collaborative research project with the Burke Center for Ecosystem Research
- Prompted by the 2023 discovery of a new Eurasian Watermilfoil (EWM) invasion on the Turtle-Flambeau Flowage
- Conducted full-scale quantitative aquatic vegetation surveys across multiple zones
- Documented 48 different species of aquatic plants
- Field crews camped at a remote, off-grid cabin to maximize time on the water
- Data will help inform long-term monitoring, AIS response, and flowage-wide conservation planning



The First North Lakeland Woods & Water Conference

On May 3, 2024, we launched what we hope will become a lasting tradition: the inaugural North Lakeland Woods & Water Conference. With more than 100 people in attendance, the day brought together lake residents, natural resource professionals, and local leaders for a full schedule of learning, conversation, and connection. Fifteen expert speakers from multiple agencies shared insights on lake health, invasive species, and shoreline stewardship. The energy and enthusiasm in the room made it clear — this community is ready to protect what matters, together.



"The Woods & Water program is rooted in connection — connecting people to place, and neighbors to solutions. Whether we're pulling invasive species, restoring shorelines, or helping folks rethink their waterfront landscaping, it all comes back to protecting the woods and water we love. Our AIS work especially brings us face-to-face with passionate lake residents, and those conversations are just as important as the fieldwork."

- Jamie VandenLangenberg, Woods and Water Director

"My time at NLDC was transformative! I was able to learn so much and have the opportunity for many useful experiences.

Some of my favorites included conducting wetland vegetation surveys, planting native plants on both the campus and shorelines, diving for curly-leaf pondweed, and camping with the rest of the woods and water team!"

- Carly Guido, Land Restoration Technician, NLDC 2024



MEMBER COMMUNITY

We are deeply grateful to our members for their steadfast support. Your commitment plays a vital role in enriching lives and nurturing a strong ethic of care for Wisconsin's Northwoods by strengthening the connections between people, nature, and community.

DISCOVERER \$10,000+

Liz and Dick Uihlein

GUIDE \$5,000

Penny Benson
Pat and Robert Buenz
John and Mary Gehl
Jeanne and Tom Joseph
John and Vicki Langer

PATHFINDER \$2,500

Micki and Dave Rause

VOYAGEUR \$1,000

Diane Muri and John Aldridge
Barbara Annan
Dan Arndt
Amy Jo and Richard Aylward
Paula and Steve Bell
Darlene and Bob Berdan
Kay and Steve Budnik
Lisa and Steve Carter
Kelley and Frank DiLeonardi
Karen and Mike Dixon
Margaret and Daniel Donoghue
Therese and Patrick Donoghue
Eilene and Peter Dybvad
Gregg and Sheri Eichelberger
Gary and Barb Engstrom
Rolf Ethun
Bob Fuller
Joyce and Dan Gavronski
Carol and Otto Gebhardt
Velma and David Geraldson
Janet and Richard Hawkinson
Cathie and Scott Hernandez
and Family
Anita and Jim Hornbrook

Merrill and Bob Horswill
Mary and Richard Jenks
Ellen and Peter Johnson
J Sterrett and Jeff Johnson
Bill Kauffman
Carolyn and John Keeler
Mary and Eric Koster
Kris and Raulf LaMarche
Kurt and Kathleen Landauer
and Family
Manitowish Waters Lakes
Association
Ed Marshall
Pamela Maxson-Cooper and
Jack Cooper
John McFarland
Margery Mead
JoAnn Miller
Ann Milne
Barbara and Tom Olson
Carol and Richard Phillips
Judy and Robert Prentiss
Nancy and Stephen Russell
Carrie Ryan
Judy and Bob Schell
Mary and Bill Schwartz
Libby and Doug Scott
Pat and Jay Smith
Terry and George Smith
Kendyl and Jim Truettner
Troy and Jennie Van Beek
Robert Von Holdt
Sally von Zirngibl
Kim and Ed Weide
Neil Weinke
Deborah and Andrej Zajac

EXPLORER \$500

Cathy Berch
Louise and Kevin Birschbach
Bob Duckart
Susan and Gee Esslinger
Katie Foley
Marilyn and Bill Gabert
Colleen Gorrilla

Diana and John Grimmer
Julie and Al Hillery
Cheryl and Walt Hobbs
Marilyn and Bill Hopper
Donald and Synthia Joseph
Bob and Judy Klauer
Patricia Klein
Sharon and Dave Lukas
Margo and Bill Perkins
Anthony Pogodzinski
Lori Remeika and Craig Wolfe
Marti Sande
Mary Beth and David Schultz
Karen and Tom Van Etten
Christopher Weller and Cathy Small
Chris and Carl Wolter

TRAILBLAZER \$250

Susanna and Clark Albert
Julie and Ken Alix
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Patty and Steve Brink
Barb and Si Cartland
Annette and Tom Cole
Rebecca Cole and Michael Porter
Patti and Bob Criscione
Pam and Richard Dodge
Roberta and Rich Dollhopf
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Susie and David Fondrie
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Peter Hatch
Cathy and Jay Huff
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Jill and Helen Joswiak
Sheila and Harland Klagos
Bonnie and Greg Kruckenberg
and Family
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Mary Jung and Family
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Noreen and David Lull
Kathy and Thom Mansur
Marilyn and Jim Martingilio
Carrie and Ed May
David McMurray
Nancy McMurray and Trevor Caldwell
Mary and Steve Miller
Brenda and Mike Nelson

Kim Nemacheck and Diane Linn
Gale and Timothy Nickels
Justin Niebank
Sheryl Pethers and Clair Carty
Amy and Daniel Rayala
Jeanne and Steve Regnier
Holly and Jeff Schmaling
Russ Schroeder
Emily Shannon
Maymee and Cory Siegner
Roberta and Andrew Sisler
Kathlyn and Robert Smith
Tom Spitzfaden
Susan Stephenson
Steen and Dee Traxler
Jim and Jean Volke
Meg and Dave Werren
Emily and Rob Wixson
Suzanne and Mitchell Wolf
Cindy Zubowski

ADVENTURER \$100

Trish and Kurt Adam
Tom and Patsy Ahonen
Karen Anderson
Margaret and Buckshot Anderson
Carne Andrews and Tim Schumann
Angela and Gregg Apostoloff
Sarah and Howard Bass
Ann and Eric Benn
Jeanne and Andy Bergstrom
Susan and John Biedron
Linda and Mark Billhymer
Lydia Bouffiou
Sherry and Mark Boushelle
and Family
Cheryl Bowen
Christine Bremer Muggli and Rachel Bradley
LaVergne and Ed Brodsky
Richard and Carolyn Brown
Jess Brown
Hallin and Mary Burgan
Nancy and James Burger
Mike and Sally Carey
Patty and Joel Ceille
Patricia and Mark Christensen
Scott Christopher
Enid Cleaves
Kitty and Bob Cook
Rachelle Cota and Jerry Conklin

Amanda and Isaac Cowart
 Carol and Tom Crowley
 Maureen and Kent Dahlgren
 Jeanette and Trygve Danielson
 Terry Daulton and Jeff Wilson
 Monica Donahoe and Daniel Lynch
 Laurie and Timothy Douglas
 Beth and Dorothy Douglass
 Jane and Bill Duckert
 Jackie and Paul Duerst
 Joanne and Dan Dugenske
 Stephen Eager
 Jill and Stephen Eckel and Family
 Karen and Jack Edelbrock
 Ann and Patrick Egan
 Katy and Matt Ellingson and Family
 Matt and Amelia Ellsworth
 Pam and Al Eschenbauch
 Christine Fairchild and Jim Cosby
 Carmen and John Farwell
 Anita Flantz
 Barbara and Gary Fowler
 Robin and Michael Franks
 Joanne and Robert Fredberg
 Deborah and Richard Galaty
 Tom and Linda Gannon
 Margaret and Tom Gargrave
 Barbara Bowman and Robert Gerritsen
 Sally and Todd Gessner
 Tracy and Mark Ghiloni
 Aliza Gilbert and Martin Coonen
 Char and Jerry Glashagel
 Megan and Peter Glashagel
 Karen and Mark Gleisner
 Jenny and Glenn Goldschmidt
 Renee and Frank Groh
 Linda and Bob Growney
 Corrie and Steve Grummon
 Judy and Jerry Gryttenholm
 Vanessa and Christian Hahn
 Mary Hart and Kenneth Cuatt
 Katherine and James Head
 Kelli and Marty Heindel
 Nellie and Dick Hemming
 Denise and Stephen Herzberg
 Paula and James Holden
 Dawn and Greg Holt
 Paul and Emma Holtan
 Larry Hopkins and Deborah Daniels

Sue and Dan Horton
 Lisa and Kevin Hughes
 Amy and Bob Jackson
 Lora and Steve Janak
 Michele Jasik and Lyn Kirschner
 Dena Jersild and Carl Deste-fano
 Andrew Johnson
 Marsha Johnson
 Mary and Barry Johnson
 Sally and Jack Kaiser
 Mary and Tim Kamp
 Cassandra and William Keeler
 Tammy and Jeff Kennedy
 Lauren and Ryan Kieckhaefer
 Shirley Klapperich
 James and Patricia Koelbl
 Beth and Keith Kost
 Karl Kost
 Ramona Kubica
 Nancy and Doug Lacey and Family
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 Cindy and Fred Lawton
 Barbara Fabry and Cynthia Lee
 Sharon and Steve Lefeber
 Mark Lehman and Vanessa Haese-Lehman
 June and Paul Lewandoski
 Michele and Chuck Lippert
 Susan Loeffler
 Denise and Richard Logan
 Patricia and James Logan
 Candace Kling and Daniel Looney Sr
 Mary and Allan Manteuffel
 Charles Mara
 Patricia Marinac and Sterling Strathe
 Cheryl Martin
 Colleen Matula
 Lisa and Sean McCaleb
 Kippy and Jeff Meessmann
 Mary Melrose
 Debra and William Mennell
 Joyce and Dan Meyer
 James Moore
 Jean and Don Motsinger
 Nancy and James Naylor
 Jonel and John Near
 Victoria and Walter Nelson
 Marcia Obukowicz
 Jeanann and Dan Oliva
 Carolyn and Jim Opitz
 Holly and John Orwin



Barbara and Gregory Otwell
 Carole and Peter Paquette
 Barb and Richard Parker
 Pat Passo
 Mary Ann and Richard Pedtke
 Pam and John Peters
 Ruth and Bruce Peterson
 Cheryl and Ross Pettit
 The Pfeiffer Family
 Barbara and Randall Phelps
 Presque Isle Chamber of Commerce
 Mary Lou and Lewis Holmes
 Raker
 John Randolph
 Judy Ranney and Robert Latchaw
 Jan and Don Rayala
 Paula Marquardt and Jerry Rayala
 Nancy Rebholz
 Marshall Reckard Sr.
 Ann and Craig Recob
 Steve Reinhardt
 Janelle and Frederic Robinson
 Patience and Charlie Rockey
 Helen and John Rossmiller
 Darcy Lanz-Sage and Scott Sage
 Sandra Sanborn
 Ed and Jean Sattersten
 Judy and Carl Sattersten
 Janet and Mark Schermeister
 Teresa and Rob Schmidt
 Carol and Terry Schott
 Patti and Donald Schroeder
 Lynn Schroeder
 Tom and Susan Schroeter and Family
 Marjean and Mark Schuelke
 Margot and Ronald Sersen
 Mid and Parker Sharpe
 Mid and Parker Sharpe
 Lori Shepherd and Scott Howells
 Pat Christie and Mike Should-ice
 Deb and Robert Silvis

Debbie and Steve Simek and Family
 Ronald Skala
 Thomas and Gunilla Skonie
 Christine Slauson
 Krista and Caleb Slemmons and Family
 Philip and Kathy Sobocinski
 Bonnie and Bill Spear
 Amy and Alex Squitieri
 Kristin Mundt and Michael Statz
 Kay and Jack Stellpflug
 Elizabeth Stone and Richard Theile
 Chuck Stonecipher
 Joy and Chip Stringer
 Terry and Ray Sullivan
 Shelly and Dan Susina
 Linda and Rick Talentowski
 Tom Romstad and Janice Taylor-Romstad
 Sue Templin
 Mike Theisen
 Terry and Fred Theisen
 Bryon Thornburgh, Hillary Joseph and Family
 Laura and David Michael Thorp and Family
 Pam Thul-Immler
 Susan Sheridan and James Tucker
 Joseph and Carol Valaitis
 Jody and Mike Wagner and Family
 Ken and Julie Welsh
 Dianne Wichmann and Gerhard Becker
 Jean Wiencek and Bill Williams and Family
 Nancy and Phil Williams
 Deborah Wilson and Wes Doak
 Ann and John Wilson
 Reid Wixson and Family
 Walker and Susan Young
 Phyllis Zeiss
 Donna and Mike Zierdt

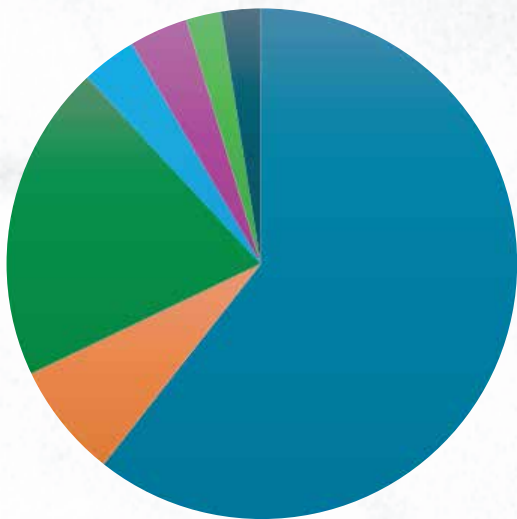
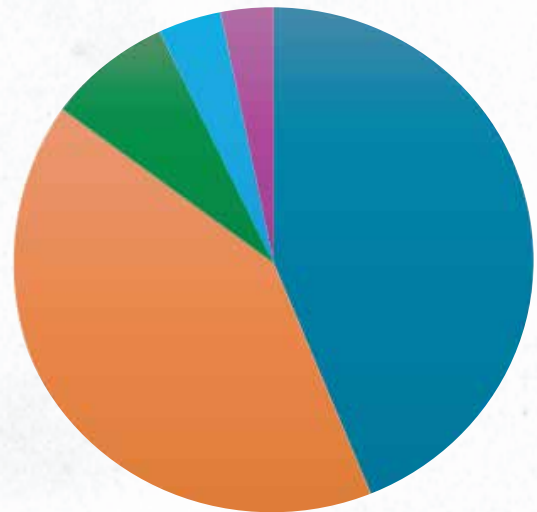


FINANCIAL SNAPSHOT

Oct. 1, 2023 - Sept. 30, 2024, unaudited results

OPERATING REVENUE \$983,269

- Membership & Donations \$428,215
- Programs, Events, & Grants \$406,293
- Facilities & Trails \$75,980
- Fundraisers \$39,377
- Other \$33,377



OPERATING EXPENSES \$904,732

- Payroll, Benefits, & PR Taxes \$548,171
- Administration \$66,058
- Programs, Events, & Grants \$182,695
- Facilities & Trails \$31,328
- Insurance \$33,744
- Fundraisers & Sales \$20,054
- Program & Membership \$22,682

We're pleased to report that, thanks to the dedication of our hardworking staff and the incredible generosity of our members and donors, our total operating revenue for the 2023-2024 fiscal year exceeded operating expenses by nearly \$80,000. This positive result strengthens our ability to serve our mission, but it's only possible because of your continued support. Philanthropy plays a critical role in everything we do, from maintaining our trails and caring for our animals to keeping programs affordable and accessible to all. Simply put, we cannot do this work without you. Your generosity ensures the Discovery Center remains a place where learning, wonder, and connection to nature can thrive for everyone.

DONOR COMMUNITY

443 generous donors
contributed to the
Discovery Center this year!

\$5,000+

The Bruning Foundation
Chryst Family Fund
Sue and Richard Clack
Eilene and Peter Dybvad
Barbara Fabry and Cynthia Lee
Fotsch Family Foundation
Betty and Jerry Fuller
Carol and Otto Gebhardt
Mary and John Gehl
Cestjon McFarland and Thomas Goodlin
Mary and Richard Jenks
Jeanne and Tom Joseph
John and Vicki Langer
Kris and David Lenz
Carol and Richard Phillips
Lori Shepherd and Scott Howells
Trig's Village Market
Deborah Wilson

\$1,000+

Ken Alix
Bob Shadur and Julie Anixter
Sarah and Roger Becklund
Cathy Berch
Darlene and Bob Berdan
Jeneane and Don Blom

Emily and Jim Bokern
Lisa and Steve Carter
Annette and Tom Cole
Pamela Maxson-Cooper and Jack Cooper
Joanne and Dan Dugenske
Karen and Jack Edelbrock
Gary and Barb Engstrom
Rolf Ethun
Bob Fuller
Barbara and Bruce Gabrielse
Janice Gehrke
Sandra and Jack Goggin
Diana and John Grimmer
Cathie and Scott Hernandez
Amanda and Dan Hiatt
Bob and Judy Klauer
Maribeth Kolarchek
Kay and Jeff Krans
Lynette Lancor and Ron Krueger
Patricia Lambrecht
Kurt Landauer
Last Wilderness Alliance, Inc.
Manitowish Waters Alliance Foundation
Kathy and Thom Mansur
Ed Marshall
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Doug Moericke Family
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Judy and Robert Prentiss
Pukall Lumber Foundation, Inc.
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Mary Nell and Bill Reif
Sue and Tom Rodell
Nancy and Stephen Russell
Sayner - St. Germain Fish & Wildlife Club
Mary Beth and David Schultz
Cynthia Clarke and Dave Sugar
Bob Twelmeyer
Karen and Tom Van Etten
Christopher Weller and Cathy Small
WoodTrust Bank

\$500+

Ace Hardware - Woodruff
Aquatic Plant Management LLC
Ken and Anice Arvidson
Paula and Steve Bell
Kay and Steve Budnik
Joan and William Byram
Karen and Mike Dixon
DOCKshop
Jackie and Paul Duerst
Julie Engels

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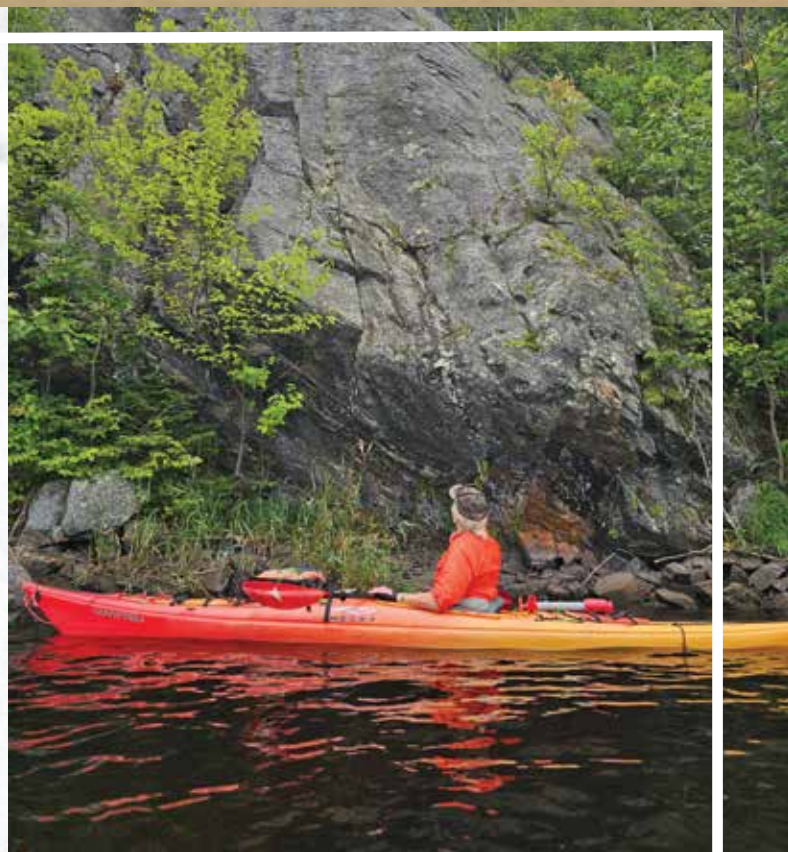
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We are deeply grateful to our generous donor community for their steadfast support. Your contributions empower youth environmental education, safeguard the treasured Northwoods, and help our Nature Center thrive as a vital educational resource for all. Thank you for making a lasting difference.

NLDC'S LICIA JOHNSON RECEIVES OUTSTANDING INSTRUCTOR AWARD 2024 AT MASTER NATURALIST SUMMIT

Education Director/Naturalist Licia Johnson and Executive Director Don Anderson attended the Wisconsin Master Naturalist Summit in Madison on Sept. 26-28, 2024, where Licia received the Outstanding Instructor Award. Congratulations, Licia! We are grateful to have such esteemed educator on our staff at NLDC.

"Over the years, you have consistently excelled in providing top-quality programs on various subjects. Your contributions are invaluable to the Center. You possess a remarkable talent for educating while keeping topics both engaging and entertaining."

-Bob and Judy Schell, Voyagers



Licia Johnson pictured here with WI Master Naturalist director Becky Sapper.

Thank you for all
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