

Upcoming Events

Mid-Michigan Bluegrass & Folk Jam

May 15 2-6pm

Join us for the last Bluegrass jam of the season! This (weather dependent) outdoor event features jamming, open mic, and scheduled performances. For more details, call Henry at (517) 482-2382.

Be A Tourist!

June 4, 10am-5pm

This one day event treats residents and tourists alike to all the best of Greater Lansing for just \$1! Woldumar will participate with guided nature walks and a take-home craft. More information is available at: www.lansing.org/events/be-a-tourist/

Pheasants Forever Youth Day

June 4 10am-2pm

Since 2014, Eaton County Pheasants Forever has partnered with Woldumar to restore our prairie habitat. On June 4, PF will host a youth day at Chief Okemos Sportsman's Club offering safe firearms instruction, raffle, lunch, and more! Contact Alan Goschka at (517) 512-0978 for registration and more information.



An Evening to Help Area Kids

Each year, thousands of local families benefit from their Woldumar experience — whether they enroll in summer camp, participate in school field trips, join us for a festival, or just visit the nature center for a walk in the woods.

While we endeavor to keep our program and admission fees as low as possible, there will always be some in our community who cannot afford to participate.

For many years, Woldumar has offered camp scholarships to families who demonstrate need for financial assistance. In 2015, we expanded our scholarship program, offering assistance to area schools for field trips. Later this year, we will offer scholarships to bring our “Traveling Naturalist” program to area schools too.

On May 24 from 6-10pm, The Lansing Brewing Company is hosting a dinner to benefit the Woldumar Scholarship Fund. This will be our first ever fundraising event specifically intended to grow scholarship opportunities.

The Lansing Brewing Company will donate \$1 back to Woldumar for every pizza and appetizer sold in their “Stockhouse” room that night. We will accept additional contributions at the event, and the first 20 people to attend will receive a free piece of Woldumar gear! If you are not able to attend, but would like to contribute to the fund, please feel free to donate via mail or on our website, indicating “scholarships” somewhere on your donation.

We’re looking forward to another great summer of Camp Discovery, and hope to see you at this event! See below for a preview of what’s in store!

Register Now — Camp Discovery 2016!

Wild and Free

June 20 - 24
July 27 - July 1



Scholarships Available!

Camp scholarship applications are due by 5/31/16 with awards announced the first week of June. Email programs@woldumar.org for more information.

Survival

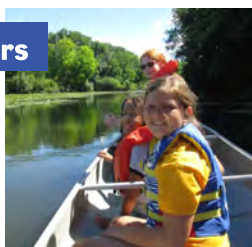
July 18 - 22
July 25 - 29
August 1-5
August 15-19



Since 1963, Camp Discovery at Woldumar Nature Center has been a safe place for campers to make friends, learn about nature, and participate in structured and unstructured play. Campers experience the excitement of science through pond dipping, bug catching, shelter building, bird watching, and fishing in an environment where questions are encouraged and curiosity is celebrated.

Water Wonders

July 11 - 15
August 8 - 12



Each week of camp explores a different nature theme. Sessions run 9am-4pm each day with extended care available before and after camp.

Detailed session descriptions and more information are available in the camp brochure, which you can download at woldumar.org or give us a call and we will mail one to you!

Woldumar Nature Center
5739 Old Lansing Rd
Lansing, MI 48917

Nonprofit Rate
 U.S. Postage
PAID
 Lansing, MI
 Permit No. 824



**Camp
 Registration
 is going on
 now!**



Blossoming in the Moon Herb Garden right now!

Comfrey (*Symphytum officinale*) has a pink bud that turns into a beautiful blue flower. Traditionally used to heal broken bones, it is no longer used medicinally. It is a garden thug that needs a firm hand to keep it from taking over the garden.

The elderberry (*Sambucus*) blossoms are just starting. The generic name *Sambucus* may come from the Greek sambuke, a musical instrument, supposedly made from elderberry wood. In the folk story, the Pied Piper's pipe, which he used to lure the children from Hamelin was made from the magical elderberry.

**WELCOME
 NEW MEMBERS**

*New and renewed memberships from
 February/March 2016*

- Lori Friedlis
- Irene Bashore
- Scott & Peggy Lidgard
- Jacqueline Wood
- Jacklyn Federau
- Jared & Janis Becker
- Daniel & Sharon Wanderer
- Ou Ni
- Heidi Butler
- Larry Alber & Patricia White
- Jane White
- Veronica LaDuke
- Keri Jo Papranec

- Dawn Kettinger
- Shen Zhao
- Chandra Colaresi
- Marti Wahlstrom
- Jessy Gregg
- Nancy Nagele
- Herbert & Marilyn Sharples

**Members
 Make a
 Difference!**

**SPECIAL THANKS
 TO OUR DONORS**

*Donors and sponsors from
 February/March 2016*

- General Donations**
- Scott & Peggy Lidgard
 - Jacklyn Federau
 - RE Olds Foundation
 - Lisa Mead-In Memory of Scot Howell

- Scholarship
 Fund Supporters**
- Lori Friedlis
 - Kevin Goodwin
 - Jessy Gregg



Thank you to Schafers Landscaping and Rieth-Riley for their recent contributions of landscape supplies and paving service!

**Your Current Membership Status Is Printed On The Address Label.
Please Call (517) 322-0030 If You Have Any Questions.**

Membership Levels

Level	Annual Dues	Benefits
Trail Sponsor	\$30	Annual parking pass, newsletter
Student/Senior	\$35	+ Discounts on gift shop items and select programs
Individual	\$40	Same as student/senior
Household	\$50	+ Camp discount
Lifetime	\$1,000 to endowment	+ Never have to renew!

Membership and Donation Form

**Thank you
for your
support!**

Online Visit the membership page of our website at woldumar.org

Mail Please fill out the information below and return with payment to
5739 Old Lansing Rd. Lansing, MI 48917

This is a gift membership

1. Fill out member information

Name: _____

Address: _____
Street City State Zip

Primary Phone: _____ Secondary Phone: _____

E-mail: _____

2. Choose membership level*

- Trail Sponsor \$30
- Student/Senior \$35
- Individual \$40
- Household \$50
- Lifetime \$1,000 (to endowment)

3. Determine total payment amount

Membership Fees: _____
 Additional Gift: _____
 Annual Fund
 Scholarships
 Endowment

4. Choose payment type

- Cash
- Check
- Card

5. Complete billing information

Total: _____

Same as member information

Name: _____ Phone: _____

Address: _____
Street City State Zip

6. Complete payment information

Check #: _____

Card #: _____ Exp. Date: ____/____

A Message From the Director

By Kevin Wernet

The human mouth is an amazing thing. Critical to our survival, the mouth is where digestion begins: infusing food with digestive enzymes and preparing it for our stomachs. We rely on our mouths for respiration. We use it to display emotion and obviously to communicate.

On that last note, I have to say my mouth has gotten me into trouble from time to time. I'm not prone to insults, four letter words or otherwise distasteful speech, but throughout my youth my teachers frequently told my parents, "Kevin has a wonderful sense of humor, but needs to work on the appropriate times to use it." To this day, an untold joke eats at me. There's no worse fate for a bad pun than to go unspoken.

I can be long-winded. Although I'd like to think my philosophical pontifications and "great ideas" are appreciated by the staff at Woldumar, I know it's time to wrap things up when I see their eyes darting back to whatever they were working on before I started rambling. Words are powerful. They can be destructive or build people up. They can be inspirational. They can motivate action and change.

As a private nonprofit organization dependent on memberships, program fees, and the generosity of donors, Woldumar's advertising budget is minimal. In a recent survey of camp families, over 50% of respondents told us that they learned about Camp Discovery through a friend, family member or neighbor. That is a huge statistic that not only speaks to the power of word-of-mouth, but tells us that Camp Discovery is a program worth recommending!

So I'm writing today to enlist the power of YOUR mouth. Part of our strategy for long term sustainability and growth is to increase program participation by a modest 10% in 2016. There are some simple ways for you to help spread the word and promote Woldumar and our programs:

- Invite a friend to hike with you on the trails this spring.
- Take photos of your adventures while you're here, and share them on social media (don't forget to "check-in" and "tag" us!).
- Send your kids to school in last year's "Camp Discovery" t-shirt (grass stains and all!).
- When you're done with this newsletter, leave it in a common area at work.
- When you get our emails, forward them to friends and post them to social media.
- Make it a point to talk to friends and colleagues about their summer childcare arrangements and recommend Woldumar whenever you can!

Woldumar has weathered some troubled times in recent years, and while the future appears positive, it remains far from certain. As we enter our busiest season, working hard daily *to educate people about the natural environment*, we look forward to working with and for YOU-- a dedicated community of nature enthusiasts -- to reach more people and create positive environmental change in the Greater Lansing Area.

Sights of Spring at Woldumar



Great Blue Heron by Rodney Johnson



Daffodils by Amie Lucas Photography

We would love to feature your nature inspired writing, photos, and artwork in our newsletter, blog and social feeds! Please email your contributions to: director@woldumar.org



Rotary Barn by Joanne Tillotson



Invasive Plant Pull by Woldumar Staff