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.

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!

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.

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!
Comfrey (Symphytum officiale) 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 Hamlin was made from the magical elderberry.
# Membership Levels

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

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## Membership and Donation Form

**Thank you for your support!**

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

   Total: ____________________________

4. Choose payment type

   - [ ] Cash
   - [ ] Check
   - [ ] Card

5. Complete billing information

   Same as member information

   Name: ____________________________

   Phone: ____________________________

   Address: ___________________________________________________________________

   Street | City | State | Zip |
   ------- |------|-------|-----|
   __________ | ______ | ______ | ___ |

6. Complete payment information

   Check #: ____________________________

   Card #: ____________________________

   Exp. Date: ____/____

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☐ This is a gift membership

Visit the membership page of our website at woldumar.org

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