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262-646-3025



## **Friends of Lapham Peak**

**W329 N846 County Hwy C, Delafield, WI 53018**

August 2, 2010

Dear Friends of Lapham Peak:

This letter is to inform you that the Friends of Lapham Peak Board of Directors approved the establishment of an endowment fund. On May 17, 2010, the Friends of Lapham Peak (Friends), a 501(c)(3) charitable organization, established an Endowment Fund with the Greater Milwaukee Foundation(GMF). Establishing an endowment fund is the first step in providing long term funding for the many needs and programs at the Southern Kettle Moraine State Forest, Lapham Peak Unit that are not funded by the State of Wisconsin.

The Endowment Fund is a means for individuals to donate to this very special place, with the annual earnings (interest) used to support the Park. Since only the earnings are provided to the Friends, the gift continues into perpetuity. The earnings may be used to help fund a variety of items, including preservation of the nature center, invasive species control, wildlife management, school programs, cross country skiing, prairie and blue bird restoration, etc.

The GMF was selected to manage the Endowment Fund because of its size, history, and experience. The GMF is a community foundation with over 1,000 individual charitable funds serving the Metropolitan Milwaukee area. The GMF is one of the oldest (almost 100 years) and largest community foundations in the world with assets of over \$500 million. It has a professional staff, several choices of third party professional financial management and the Board of Directors consists of leaders in the greater Milwaukee area.

The Endowment Fund was established with an original commitment of \$15,000 from the Friends, with additional annual funding of at least \$1,000. Once the Endowment Fund totals \$25,000, earnings may be returned to the Friends to provide support for the many needs and programs of the Park, as well as to preserve and develop the beautiful natural resources of the Park.

If you would like to consider making a donation, donations to the Friends may be made in any of the following ways:

- 1) **Gift to the "Friends of Lapham Peak"**, by cash, check, or contribution of other assets, to be used for general purposes of the Friends in support of the Park. A specific purpose may be designated. Contributions should be sent to : Friends of Lapham Peak, W329 N846 Hwy C, Delafield, WI 53018 c/o President.
- 2) **Gift to the Endowment Fund**, by cash, check, or contribution of other assets, with annual earnings to benefit the Friends in support of the Park. Contributions should be made to "The

Friends of Lapham Peak Endowment Fund” and sent either to the Friends of Lapham Peak at the above address or to: The Greater Milwaukee Foundation, 101 W Pleasant St. Suite 210, Milwaukee, WI, 53212.

- 3) **Establishing a Charitable Gift Annuity** whereby a donor gifts at least \$25,000 to the Greater Milwaukee Foundation. The donor(s) receive a fixed income annuity for life from the GMF. Upon the death of the donor, the gift is used to benefit the Friends. Donors may be allowed a tax deduction for part of the gift.
- 4) **Estate planning designation.** Either the Friends of Lapham Peak or the Friends of Lapham Peak Endowment Fund may be designated as a beneficiary under the donor’s estate plan. This type of gift is a chance to support the Park and provide a legacy for the donor. It may be the easiest way to give and have the least impact on your lifestyle today. Estate plan gifts have the potential to have the greatest impact and are strongly encouraged. Legal advice is available from the GMF regarding estate plan gifts.

Your contributions to either the Friends of Lapham Peak or the Friends of Lapham Peak Endowment Fund may be deductible according to current tax law; however, this determination should be made in consultation with your tax advisor.

Please contact Rick Von Haden, Friends of Lapham Peak spokesperson (262-646-4178), Rafael Acevedo at the Greater Milwaukee Foundation (414-336-7067) or email the Lapham Peak Board of Directors at [rkeber@milwpc.com](mailto:rkeber@milwpc.com).

Sincerely,

Louise Borzynski, President