



Friends OF THE
LAKESHORE NATURE PRESERVE

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Field trips

In 2019, the Friends organized 32 field trips. A wide range of natural resources were covered including fungi, wildflowers, trees, insects, birds and canids. Additionally other trips show-cased cultural resources, citizen science projects and geology. We are thankful for the broad range of experts who volunteer to lead these trips.

With two field trips remaining, the year-to-date count of participants is about 550 and is about the same as last year.

Heritage Marker

The topic of bringing the “Our Shared Future” heritage marker to the Preserve was discussed at the Friends’ board meeting on December 4. The board is fully in support of this project, although many details need to be worked out. A small team from the Friends will start working with the staff to pull together a plan.

We envision a temporary, secure post to hold the marker near the entrance to Picnic Point for a week or so, along with one or two coordinated events. Assuming the cost of the post is only a few hundred dollars, the Friends would cover that, and would also find a speaker for a field trip. Certainly the time for this display would have to be negotiated, but it would need to be in good weather. September was suggested since the Preserve often looks quite nice then, and most students are on campus.

Member Communication Survey

The Friends will conduct a survey early next year to assess how we connect with our members. In January all members will get a mailing with the survey and a return envelope for anonymous responses. An online version will also be available. Once we have the replies and have processed them, we will be acting on them during the remainder of 2020.

Newsletter

As I write this, the Winter 2019 newsletter, *Preserve!*, is at the printer. It will likely have been published by the time of the Committee meeting. Copies are available at our web site, <https://www.friendslakeshorepreserve.com/>.