

Summer 2019

# Horizons

## The Voice of Friends of Havenwoods

### From the President

**WPR comes to Havenwoods.** The Havenwoods staff and members of Friends were fortunate to host Wisconsin Public Radio's (WPR) Listener Appreciation Event 2019—Milwaukee on May 4. WPR has been hosting these events to meet with their many listeners all across the state. Over 150 visitors came to Havenwoods to meet the WPR staff and have a selfie taken with Larry Meiller. Larry is host of the very popular Larry Meiller Show that airs on FM 90.7 from 11 to 12:30, Monday through Friday. It turned out to be a beautiful, sunny, warm day so everyone could enjoy coffee and pastries provided by WPR at the entrance to the nature center and then take a hike around the property. Events like this are always great because they bring new people to Havenwoods! We hope these new visitors return many times in the future now that they know what the Forest has to offer.

**Friends and Sierra Club support Wisconsin Parks.** On May 11, Friends along with members of the Great Waters chapter of the Sierra Club hosted a "Wisconsin Loves Our Parks" day at Havenwoods, one of five events at state parks. Visitors could take a hike on the property, learn about the rich history of the forest, and get information on how to contact your legislators to let them know that you value all our state park facilities. With the legislature

and governor working on the biennial state budget, now is the time to make your voice heard for increased support of our parks, forests, trails, and recreation areas.

Don't forget a couple of special events coming up at Havenwoods this summer. The Summit Players are back with two performances of Shakespeare's Romeo & Juliet on June 21 and July 29. Check the newsletter insert or the calendar on the [friendsofhavenwoods.org](http://friendsofhavenwoods.org) website for details and more events coming up this spring and summer.

### Nature is a Gift, Use it Often

Judy Dollhausen ([fohpresident@gmail.com](mailto:fohpresident@gmail.com))



Remember to follow happenings at the Forest on Facebook at [www.facebook.com/HavenwoodsStateForest](http://www.facebook.com/HavenwoodsStateForest)

When you "like" and "share" our posts, it helps others find out about our hidden gem!

# From the Staff

by Beth Mittermaier and staff

We are off to a great start with our teaching season and thankful to have returning and new teaching staff. In case you haven't met them yet, here is a little information about our regular teaching staff:

**Andy:** *I'm a UW Stevens Point graduate with a degree in wildlife ecology. While I love all animals, I specialize in herpetology and bats. And I want to be Steve Irwin when I grow up. (Except alive? Right, Andy?)*

**Kali:** *I also work at Hawthorn Glen Nature Center. I own a cat and a hedgehog, and I've lived in Milwaukee my whole life :)*

**Becky:** *I'm a recent graduate from UWM where I studied Conservation and Environmental Sciences. I'm passionate about bumblebees and love finding cool things out in nature. I hope to one day obtain my PhD in entomology!*



Teaching staff (left to right): Andy Brawn, Kali Hoefert, Beth Mittermaier, Becky Holt, and Doug Krysiak. Christee Reince and Sam Haack (not pictured) help out with big groups and on weekends.

**Doug:** *I'm very excited to join Havenwoods. I have been in environmental education for almost ten years throughout the Great Lakes region. I enjoy going hiking and biking and I am looking forward to a great summer here in Milwaukee.*

Jesse is back several days a week to head up our land crew! He will have the help of Park and Recreation Specialists from Hank Aaron State Trail and Lakeshore State Park throughout the summer. He will also continue to rely on volunteers to keep on top of all of the landscape care around the building, trail maintenance, invasive management, litter patrol, and other daily tasks. If you have a few extra hours, give a call or stop by. We will try to have a TODO list and tools ready for you.

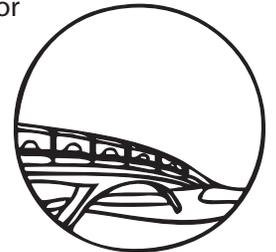
## Lakeshore State Park!

We have been thrilled to have Angela Vickio on our team. She is handling a lot of the administrative and financial aspects of running Havenwoods. She has taken this on while also being responsible for almost everything at Lakeshore State Park! Thank you, Angela. Fortunately, there is also a friends group at Lakeshore. . .

The Friends of Lakeshore State Park sponsor monthly Beach Bonfires and the annual Urban Island Beach Party, in addition to raising funds for park improvements and a future visitor/education center for Lakeshore State Park.

This year they are also donating some fish habitat hotels for the site, in collaboration with Harbor District Inc. These habitat hotels are constructed by students in welding classes at MPS schools and aim to provide nesting, feeding, and resting areas for fish moving through the Milwaukee Harbor and Lake Michigan.

For more information about Lakeshore events or to sign up for their electronic newsletter, visit [<friendslsp.org>](http://<friendslsp.org>)



## Supporting the Forest

**Endowment Fund:** FOH has joined other state parks friends groups in establishing Wisconsin Conservation Endowment funds with the Natural Resources Foundation of Wisconsin. To learn more about contributing a gift of cash and/or other assets, visit [www.wisconservation.org](http://www.wisconservation.org)

**AmazonSmile fundraiser:** When ordering from Amazon, don't forget to use our FOH fundraising account, which enables us to receive a percentage of the purchase price. Access the account by logging into [smile.amazon.com/ch/39-1223748](http://smile.amazon.com/ch/39-1223748)



### Friends of Havenwoods

## Board of Directors

President: Judy Dollhausen

Vice President: Diane Warner

Secretary: Rachel Jones

Treasurer: Dale Yerkes

Board Members: Dan Buckler, Jim Goetz, Stephanie Harling, Cathy Harrison, Dennis Kaehny, Sheryl Meyer, George Morrison, Gaylord Yost

The next board meeting will be held on July 9 at 5:30 pm. All members are invited to attend Board meetings.

# Mystery Photos!

by Beth Mittermaier, Conservation Biologist

## Mystery Photo #37 (the new mystery)

We have not been thrilled to find this critter in the Forest the last few years. However, I believe it is possible to simultaneously dread encountering an animal AND admire it for its adaptations for survival. If you have a close encounter, take care and consider how this mystery critter fits into the web of life.



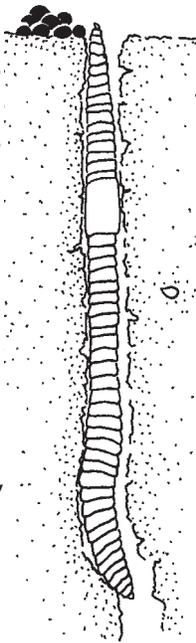
## Answer to Last Issue's Mystery

If you guessed that the small hole in last month's mystery photo was made by a nightcrawler, you are right. And if you guessed that the nearby pile of small soil balls were worm poop, you are also correct!

At night, nightcrawlers crawl out of their deep burrows and search for dead leaves. They collect the leaves and pull them into their underground homes. During the day, they munch away on the dead leaves . . . safe from predators.

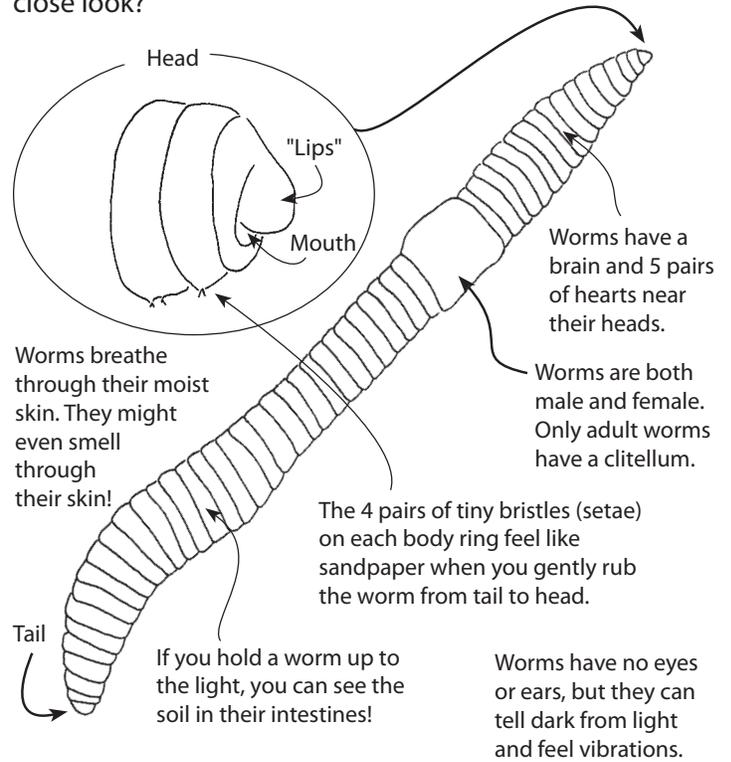
When we are hiking with kids, we love to show them these leaf-packed worm holes. Of course, we always stuff the leaves back in the holes for the worms!

At this point, I could take this article several different directions. I could talk about the impacts of invasive worms on Wisconsin's forest. Yes, you read that right, all the worms in Wisconsin are non-native species. You can read about how jumping worms (and other species) harm forests by visiting [dnr.wi.gov/topic/invasives/fact/jumpingworm/index.html](http://dnr.wi.gov/topic/invasives/fact/jumpingworm/index.html)



I could also talk about how much gardeners love worms. Worms aerate the soil, loosening it so that rain can infiltrate easily. They are great at consuming dead plant parts and recycling the nutrients back into the soil.

But, since I love the details of nature, I want to focus on the actual worms! Have you ever picked one up for a close look?



When worms mate, they lie side-by-side facing in opposite directions with their genitalia aligned. They exchange sperm. Then each worm crawls off to form a cocoon filled with eggs. Watch for worm cocoons and baby worms as you play in the soil this summer!



Sometimes you can guess which animals made holes in the ground by looking at the sizes of the holes. How many holes can you find?

ant ●

really big holes!  
woodchuck  
red fox  
badger  
coyote  
skunk

chipmunk

earthworm ●

mole & vole

cicada

wolf spider

shrew



Friends of Havenwoods, Inc.  
 6141 North Hopkins Street  
 Milwaukee, WI 53209-3565

## Nature Center Hours

Due to reductions in staffing and our need to stay within our budget, the nature center will be open 8:30 am – 4 pm on Mondays through Saturdays (closed Sundays). However, there may be times when we have to lock the building. If access to the nature center is important for your visit, we suggest that you call ahead. We will be checking voice (414-527-0232) and email (friendsofhavenwoods@gmail.com) daily. We are looking for volunteers to help staff the nature center. Think about if you might be interested in doing this for a morning or afternoon as needed.

## Sponsors & Memberships

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 Wm. K. Walthers, Inc., Model Railroad Equipment  
 Friends of Wisconsin State Parks  
 Natural Resources Foundation of Wisconsin

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### Individual Memberships

- Single..... \$15
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- Annual..... \$100

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