



Grindstone Lake Foundation

Driven to Preserve A Natural Treasure

During the Summer 2018 Grindstone Lake Association Annual Picnic, members discussed concerns about the future of a 57-acre tract of land along the southwestern shore of Grindstone Lake, known as “the Bog.” The group decided to take action to protect and preserve the land from development.

With that goal in mind, the Grindstone Lake Foundation was established in July, the same time during which the owner of the property listed the land for sale through an online auction company. Association members, who weren't able to bid on the property, awaited the outcome anxiously.

“We were concerned the property might have gone to a developer. So we were excited to learn that a benefactor won the bid on our behalf;” said Cynthia Parker, president of the foundation. *“We need to repay that loan, but we're committed to realizing our vision for this beautiful area.”*

It's been several years since cranberry farming ceased on the shoreline of Grindstone Lake. Since that time, the land has been slowly recovering from the effects of cranberry-production practices, which elevate phosphorus levels in freshwater lakes. High phosphorus levels stimulate algal growth and deplete the dissolved oxygen (DO) content, which reduces native populations of fish and other aquatic life.

Foundation members have crafted a clear vision to protect the historic wetland that spreads along 1790 feet of lake frontage. The parcel represents a unique opportunity to protect water quality and create a community-supported nature area to be treasured and enjoyed by anyone in the Northwoods of Wisconsin. The foundation's objectives include gaining clear title to the land, pursuing permanent protection through conservation easements, creating trails for hiking, snow-shoeing, and cross-country skiing, restoring native species and wetland functions, and establishing opportunities for residents and visitors to learn about the history and stewardship of the land.





Fundraising to realize these goals is underway, with the foundation working to raise at least \$1,200,000 for the balloon payment on the property, to clear and clean-up the site, and improve buildings, and create sustainable trails.

In cooperation with its affiliated association, the foundation is actively seeking and contacting potential partners at the state, regional, and local levels to address funding, technical expertise, and outreach and education

“Good stewardship does not occur in isolation, but in community through the momentum of shared values and pursuit of shared vision,” said Parker. *“This is an investment in the quality, future, and beauty of our community and the region and benefits all—humans and wildlife—for generations to come.”*

The Foundation’s Board of Directors

The foundation’s board of directors includes:

Cynthia Parker, President
Bruce Miller, Vice President
Michael Warden, Treasurer
I. Reed Parker, Secretary
Donna Carlson
Cheryl Contant
Karen Mumford

Those interested in advancing foundation goals can sponsor or contribute funds to the foundation, volunteer at upcoming fundraising events, and share the story on social media channels (#byebyebog #preservegrindstonelake #grindstonelakeforall).



For questions or more information, contact
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