



WOLDUMAR nature center

Mission: "To Educate People About The Natural Environment"

2017-18 Annual Report

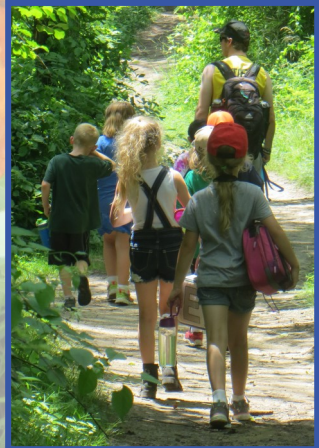


Letter from Board Chair, Irene Bashore

About 3.5 years ago, I was introduced to the Woldumar Nature Center through my work with the General Motors water monitoring events with local schools. Through these experiences, I quickly learned how wonderful this organization is and how meaningful their mission is to me personally. I was fortunate to join the Board shortly thereafter. As this year's Chair of the Board of Directors, I have had the privilege and honor of overseeing tremendous growth at Woldumar.

Under Kevin's leadership and the dedication of his staff, the volunteers and members, Woldumar Nature Center has set forth and achieved many goals in 2018. We have continued to grow our grant applications as an additional funding source and have implemented and grown many educational programs.

Please join me in congratulating the Woldumar staff, Board Members, volunteers and yourselves on another successful year. I am excited to see what accomplishments we can make together in 2019!





Letter from the Executive Director

2018 has been a year of great mission success for our small nonprofit, and I'm happy and proud to have been part of it. There is little doubt now that Woldumar is a growing organization doing tremendous things in our Greater Lansing community!

We were able to engage over 5000 students in guided environmental study this year through camps, school programs, and community outreach. We reached thousands more with passive engagements at events throughout the community, walk-in events here at Woldumar, and though self-guided education, wildlife viewing and recreation. Our festivals and fundraising events were likewise well-attended.

Our success can be attributed to a number of factors. First and foremost, Woldumar is blessed with seasonal and year-round staff members who are passionate about our mission: *"to educate people about the natural environment."* These are individuals whose enthusiasm for education, outdoor recreation, nature and wildlife is evident in their personal and professional lives.

Second, our board of directors and members have demonstrated a commitment to growing our mission reach, and growing Woldumar into the preeminent organization for environmental education in the Greater Lansing Region. They are enacting plans, organizing campaigns, and "putting their money where their mouth is" to make Woldumar a more modern, effective, and impactful organization.

Finally, we are engaging a corps of volunteers and community partners to affect change here at Woldumar and throughout the community. Corporate and nonprofit partners as well as individuals have committed funds and sweat equity toward stewardship and capital improvements at Woldumar. They're helping us engage the community during programs, and helping get the word out about our efforts. Woldumar is a community organization, and the community has rallied around our efforts this year.

This is an exciting time to be involved at Woldumar as we set sights on even more impact in the coming year! I am truly fortunate to lead this organization and continue to grow it in 2019.

Kevin Wernet
Executive Director

2017-18 Stewardship



*MSU Engineers
Without Borders
Dock Project*



*Emergent Biosolutions
Gardens and Trails*



*Invasive Species Project
Mid-Michigan CISMA*



Pheasants Forever Prairie Burn



Teen Camp River Cleanup



Thank you to these volunteers and many more!

*For information about volunteering as a group or individual,
Please email director@woldumar.org*

Volunteering

Total Volunteers:

118

205 in 2017

Total Volunteer Hours:

1683.6

1462.5 in 2017

Online Presence



Email Subscribers: 2,765

Facebook Followers: 5,070

Twitter: 330

Instagram: 544

Google Searches: 6,500+


Membership

**322 members as of 9/30/2018,
up 17% from 2017!**

Thank you to our supporters!






WOLDUMAR
for the naturally curious





Letter from the Program Director

I want to start with the reason we are all here at Woldumar, our mission statement: "To educate people about the natural environment". This is our foundation and what we work towards every day. Our staff and members work tirelessly to grow this mission in

the Greater Lansing area. Mission fulfillment is why we work so hard every day.

Our programming brought over 5000 students to Woldumar this year. We are excited to see growth in multiple school programs and a large growth in preschool age students attend our camp programs. Educational programs have also strengthened our partnerships in the community serving homeschool families, summer school with Lansing School District and Outdoor School, a full day of field study for Montessori Children's House of Lansing once a month.

With expanding interest in our programs, there is increase need for Woldumar's scholarship fund. Please consider contributing to the fund or even sponsoring a classroom to experience a wonderful program.

Community programs are growing and we look forward to continuing to offer high-quality educational programming for all our community members. If you know someone who would be interest in leading a community program here at Woldumar please contact me.

I would like to thank two staff members who moved on this year. Lori Wrobel, Program Coordinator and Lauren Miller, Camp Assistant Director. The Woldumar family thanks you for your service and dedication. Your leadership at Woldumar has helped programs grow and thrive to be stronger than when you started.

Every day that I am fortunate to take people of all ages out into nature to share my excitement and knowledge with them is a day that I am not merely working but truly living. I am excited for the opportunity to facilitate change and have an impact on environmental education in the Greater Lansing Community. Any day spent outside is immeasurably better than one spent inside!

To our members: *Be naturally curious and share Woldumar with an old friend this year or even someone new, and let me know how I can help along the way!*

Daniel Auer
Program Director

Woldumar Programs

BY THE NUMBERS

<u>Program Name</u>	<u>Description</u>	<u>Total Participation</u>
Field Study	On- and off-site environmental education programs with schools	3951 students
Camp Discovery	Nine weeks of summer camp, spring & winter break camps, and 2 contracted camp programs	634 campers
Annie's Big Nature Lesson	Five days of nature programs with schools	570 students
Teambuilding Ropes Course	Businesses, teams, and classes work on communication and creative problem solving	5 groups, 135 participants

Treasurer's Report

Summary of 2017/18 financial activity. Detailed reports and audited financial statements will be made available upon request.

Revenue

Donations & Membership	\$ 56,816.84
Trail Fees	\$ 1,802.97
Gift Shop	\$ 3,286.98
Camp	\$ 89,778.72
School Programs	\$ 23,392.25
Hospitality	\$119,834.25
Grants	\$ 22,252.91
Events	\$ 12,181.95
Misc	\$ 280.07
	\$329,626.94 *

Expenses

Operations	\$ 66,766.62
Wages	\$207,177.55
Program Expenses	\$ 9,156.88
Gift Shop	\$ 1,563.10
Events	\$ 5,040.19
Maintenance	\$ 16,516.62
Hospitality Expenses	\$ 3,620.00
Misc	\$ 219.12
	\$310,060.08 **

* Does NOT include Woldumar Endowment Charitable Trust contribution of \$31,750.00, which has been set aside for future use.

** Does NOT include depreciation (non-cash) expense of \$16,870.37

Woldumar Nature Association Board of Directors

Chairperson

Irene Bashore,
General Motors Co

Vice-Chairperson

Zachary Behler, JD,
Foster, Swift, Collins & Smith, P.C.

Treasurer

Julie Pfeifle, CPA,
Andrews Hooper Pavlik PLC

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Jason Wilkinson,
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Lisa Ermak
Delta Dental

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Gail Vander Stoep, Ph.D.,
Michigan State University

Anne Garwood,
*Michigan Department of
Environmental Quality*

Endowment Trustees:

Steve Cessna
Bank of America (Ret.)

JB McCombs
State of Michigan

Gary Pike
Multi Packaging Solutions

Woldumar Staff

Executive Director:

Kevin Wernet

Program Director:

Daniel Auer

Hospitality Manager:

Victoria Churchill-Barner

Bookkeeper:

Kathy Coffey

Groundskeeper:

Kevin Feldpausch

Naturalists:

Emma Campbell
Philip Stepnowski



2018 Summer Camp Staff

Membership Matters

The Woldumar Nature Association is a private, 501(c)3 non-profit organization managed by its members for the benefit Greater Lansing Community.

The staff and board of directors would like to challenge our membership to share Woldumar with a friend, family member or colleague this year. By inviting them to attend a program, volunteer their time, become a member, make a donation, or send a child to camp, you will help us achieve our strategic goals to help our community experience, understand, and appreciate the science of the natural environment.

