



Boardman River Nature Center

On September 20, we officially broke ground for the Boardman River Nature Center! We celebrated with approximately 100 of our supporters, three of whom (Buzz Long, Dr. Bill Scharf, and Dr. Joe & Ann Gadbow. See photo at right) were drawn randomly to break the ground by digging a young Spruce tree to be re-planted next year once construction is complete.

Dr. Bill Rose, President and CEO of the renowned Kalamazoo Nature Center gave a keynote address on the movement to "Leave No Child Inside." Dr. Rose encouraged those in attendance to reconnect with nature. He asked that we all make an effort to be a positive role model in a child's life in order to inspire future conservationists.

Sonny Wheelock, GT County Chairman addressed the crowd and voiced the ongoing support of the County for Conservation District programs, especially with the recent \$100,000 challenge grant from the County for the Nature Center campaign. GTCD Chairman, Joe Elliott thanked all the donors in attendance, as they are truly the ones who have made the Nature Center possible.



Special thanks to our event sponsors: National City, Templeton Properties, Traverse Area Chamber of Commerce, Oryana Natural Foods, Gourdie Fraser, Inc, Great Wolf Lodge, Bowers Harbor Inn, Gillison's Variety Fabrication, Fischer Insurance, Jennifer Jay, Maple River Direct Mail, Black Star Farms, Chateau Chantal, Northwestern Bank, Oleson's Food Stores, Higher Grounds Trading Co., Grand Traverse Container, Hooper's Farm Gardens, and Olive Creek Furniture.

We're nearing the finish line in our capital campaign for the construction of the nature center, but we still need your help. Now, your gift will be matched dollar for dollar by Grand Traverse County! Scroll down for information on our "Walk to the Wild Side" program or give online at www.gtcd.org.

R.W. Summers Fly Rod Raffle

This year's prize of a 7' Model 75 Deluxe Fly Rod went to Dr. Nathaniel (Nate) Rowe of Ann Arbor, who has been purchasing tickets since the raffle began eleven years ago. Dr. Rowe is an oral pathologist who taught our own local river rat, Dr. Pat Kelly, at the U of M Dental School. Over the past ten years, the annual R.W. Summers Fly Rod Raffle has raised approximately \$60,000 for the restoration and protection of the Boardman River. Raffle license #R91191



Shop Your Community Day

I know it's hard to believe, but we are approaching the holiday season already! Join us downtown Traverse City November 10 to get a head start on your holiday shopping. Ask participating stores to donate 15% of your purchase price to the Grand Traverse Conservation District!



Happy Fall!

Enjoy the fall season by hiking the trails at one of our many local parks to see spectacular fall color, or picking a Halloween Pumpkin at a local farm. Find maps of the Natural Education Reserve at <http://www.gtcd.org/parkland.shtml>



MAKE A WALK TO THE WILD SIDE

with our Paver Program!



The Scott
Family & Friends

THE WILD SIDE WALKWAY

We have raised over 75% of the total costs to build the Boardman River Nature Center. Now we are turning to the community for the final steps. Each paver purchase will not only help us reach our financial goal, but will also create a beautiful walkway to the Nature Center. We encourage you to be a part of our final steps... and **MAKE A WALK TO THE WILD SIDE!**



4 x 8 brick = \$100 each including 3 lines of engraving

CUSTOMIZE YOUR ENGRAVED PAVER.

Name: _____ Phone: _____

Line 1 _____
Each space between words is counted as a character.

Line 2 _____

Line 3 _____

Payment Form: Check Visa MasterCard

Credit Card # _____ Exp Date _____

Signature _____

Send payment to: GTCD • 1222 Veterans Dr • Traverse City, MI • 49684

For more information contact: Rebecca Teahen at 941-0960 or rteahen@gtcd.org