



LANDMARK CONSERVANCY

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SUCCESSFUL VOLUNTEER WORK DAY IN BAYFIELD'S BIG RAVINE

[Bayfield, Wisconsin] On Tuesday August 14th, an energetic crew of volunteers rolled up their sleeves to complete a variety of projects along the Gil Larsen Trail and Big Ravine in Bayfield. In support of the Landmark Conservancy's commitment to stewarding the City of Bayfield's backyard gem, the crew replaced decaying boards in the boardwalk, shored up timbers along the trail, replenished gravel in bare spots, removed graffiti, pulled weeds and trimmed vegetation encroaching onto the trail, and posted visitor information signs. The most challenging task was carrying out 15 wooden pallets and other debris that had washed down into the Ravine from the Bayfield school parking lot during a tumultuous downpour in June. Landmark Conservancy interns, Zach Solomon and Sean Malec, played a key role in cutting up and hauling out the pallets - more than one mile from the trailhead.

"We were amazed at how much we got done with a fairly small group. It just shows how some planning, teamwork, and personal passion about stewardship can make a big difference," said Genevieve Johnson, work day organizer and Landmark Conservancy board member.

Bayfield City Parks and Recreation Committee member, Kate Kitchell, was also happy with how the day went. "I'm so glad we were able to complete all of the projects. Not only did the volunteers work tirelessly, I also really appreciate the support from folks at the Bayfield School and Bayfield Public Works department. I hope we can sponsor many more successful volunteer work days in Bayfield's parks in the upcoming years."

Thanks and kudos to everyone who helped – including Genevieve Johnson, Mike Kinnee, Zach Solomon, Sean Malec, Gene Lemmenes, Jeff Garrett, Allyn Starr, and Kate Kitchell.

Landmark Conservancy is a non-profit organization serving 20 counties across western Wisconsin, born of a merger between two nationally-accredited land trusts: West Wisconsin Land Trust and Bayfield Regional Conservancy. The conservancy works with private landowners who wish to conserve their land in perpetuity, and also with local municipalities, state, and federal entities to create public preserves for all to enjoy. As of 2018, we have conserved over 30,000 acres in our combined 30 years of land protection work.