Isle La Motte Preservation Trust

Protecting our Natural and Cultural Heritage

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Autumn 2026

2026 Isle La Motte Preservation Trust Update and "Vision 2027" Fund Drive

Dear Friend and Supporter,

Thanks to your past generosity and the tireless hands of our volunteers, the Isle La Motte Preservation Trust (ILMPT) brought history, science, and community to life in the summer of 2026! The preserves at Goodsell Ridge and Fisk Quarry are publicly accessible conserved lands, and the Isle La Motte Preservation Trust relies entirely on your donation to maintain and protect the grounds, keeping them open for visitors to enjoy year-round. As you read our updates and vision for 2027, we ask you to keep in mind that we receive no regular federal, state or municipal funding to support our conservation efforts.

This season, we achieved a major goal that has been six years in the making. Our dedicated volunteers repaired and fully re-installed the nearly mile-long "Walk Through Time" exhibit at the Goodsell Ridge Preserve. Once again, visitors from near and far could walk this seasonal path and marvel at the chronological story of life on Earth.

The restored dairy barn at Goodsell Ridge continues to serve as a bustling hub of discovery. The Visitor Center doors were open as often as possible staffed with our small but dedicated volunteer docents. Over the summer season our docents welcomed hundreds of individual guests, and many school and tour groups who explored 480-million-year-old Chazy Fossil Reef outcroppings, watched an informative video produced by Isle La Motte Preservation Trust and to see our indoor fossil displays. Beyond preservation, we were awarded a grant from a supporter to add a handicap accessibility ramp to provide access to the Visitor Center and we expanded collaboration with community partners through several of this season's events:

- **May**: Provided a site for the Kraemer & Kin Wildflower Event at the Fisk Quarry, led by Dr. Jordan Tourville of the Appalachian Mountain Club.
- **July**: Collaborated with the Isle La Motte Community Organization to provide a venue for the Isle La Motte Music in the Park event.
- **August**: 250th American Independence Commemoration - The Visitor Center proudly hosted historian Jonathan C. Lane's special presentation, "Independence Upon the Water," honoring Isle La Motte's unique role in the making of our nation.
- **September**: Musical Celebration - A festive evening of chamber music featuring some original compositions of longtime Musical Director Michael Waters that he and three professional musicians performed in addition to classical pieces and showtunes to celebrate the efforts of both Waters and ILMPT's Founder, Linda Fitch.
- **October**: ILMPT was selected to be one of the teacher in-service options for Grand Isle Supervisory Union. This day allowed teachers from the Grand Isle district to hike and learn about this important site and how it may fit into the curriculum as they teach students in our district.

But our work is far from finished. We cannot protect this irreplaceable landscape alone! We need your financial support to fund our 2027 vision: maintaining and expanding the preserve trails at both Goodsell Ridge and Fisk Quarry, creating educational packets for guests, increasing concert offerings and community collaboration as well as expanding the hours that our historic Visitor Center can be open and free to the public.

Whether it is $50, $100, or $500, every dollar directly sustains the protection of the world's oldest known biologically diverse multi-species reef and keeps our community programs thriving. You can return your gift in the enclosed envelope or donate securely online at www.ilmpt.org/donate or by scanning our Venmo QR Code below.

Thank you for being a vital guardian of our island's deep history and bright future!

With deepest gratitude,

The Isle La Motte Preservation Trust Board of Directors

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venmo

@ILMPT

Please detach this portion of the letter and return with your contribution.

Yes - I will support the Isle La Motte Preservation Trust's "Vision 2027"!

Enclosed is my contribution: $_____
Please make the check payable to Isle La Motte Preservation Trust

This is a gift in honor/memory of _____

My employer _____ will match this gift.

- ☐ Please send me a receipt for my donation, which is tax-deductible as permitted by law.
- ☐ Please contact me about volunteer opportunities.
- ☐ Please contact me about guided tours and special events.
- ☐ Please contact me about planned giving.

Names (s):

Address:

Town/City, State, Zip:

Email:

Thank you for your generous support!