



# Door County Land Trust

*Protecting Door County's Exceptional Lands and Waters...Forever*

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April 12, 2021

Mr. David J. Ward, Mayor  
City of Sturgeon Bay  
421 Michigan Street  
Sturgeon Bay, Wisconsin 54235

Dear Mayor Ward,

On behalf of its board of directors, staff, and membership, Door County Land Trust (DCLT) wholeheartedly supports your effort to bring a National Estuarine Research Reserve (NERR) to Sturgeon Bay. With more than 8,500-acres of DCLT-protected lands throughout the peninsula, we heavily rely upon conservation partners to further our mission and ensure that we are following best-practice management on all our holdings. Simply put, having a NERR site located in Sturgeon Bay would greatly enhance our work and understanding of this globally significant and fragile place that we call home.

Why should Sturgeon Bay be considered as a leading candidate for the Green Bay Ecosystem NERR site? Because its surrounding natural systems make Sturgeon Bay and the Door Peninsula like nowhere else in the world. The peninsula hosts the Door Peninsula Coastal Wetlands RAMSAR site; The Ridges Sanctuary-Toft's Point-Mud Lake Area National Natural Landmark, Five State Parks, 29 State Natural Areas and more than 26,000 permanently protected acres that include the Niagara Escarpment's rocky cliffs, surrounding islands, sandy beaches, bays, fertile wetlands, and conifer forests.

Please know that you have Door County Land Trust's full support to establish a NERR center in Sturgeon Bay and if there is anything we may do to help, do not hesitate to ask. Thank you very much for inviting this letter and especially for your support of this exciting prospect.

Sincerely,

Tom Clay  
Executive Director

