

Dear Sponsor:

The past year has been one of challenges and sacrifice for everyone in our community. During this time, the St. Joseph County Parks have been more valuable than ever. Declared an “essential service,” the Parks remained open throughout the unprecedented ‘stay at home’ order in 2020 and have seen record attendance ever since. More people discovered the parks as a safe, serene place to go for exercise and stress relief while coping with the uncertainties of the Covid-19 pandemic. With improved conditions in 2021, we have seen people continue to take advantage of time outdoors and find even more to see and do while surrounded by nature.

Every year, the parks host more than 300,000 visitors and provide the backdrop for outdoor fun for all ages. Area schools rely on the parks for education programs that introduce many children to nature. Community members utilize the parks for regular exercise or to bring their children to the playgrounds for healthy outdoor play. Visitors often find a favorite activity and come back regularly for it.

**We know you recognize the role that our public parks play in the quality of life in St. Joseph County.** We offer a family-oriented, nature-focused destination for area residents to enjoy. We provide safe, well-maintained, affordable recreation spaces and rental facilities for year-round community use. We hear frequently that our county parks are among the best in Indiana.

While St. Joseph County is fortunate to have beautiful parks, challenging economic times in recent years have stretched our ability to continue offering new programs and to perform needed facility maintenance and upgrades. Faced with ongoing budget constraints, the Parks are constantly under pressure to do more with less.

*The mission of the St. Joseph County Parks Foundation (SJCPF) is to ensure that our county parks remain strong and vibrant despite the challenges we face. **On August 21, 2021, the SJCPF will be holding our 10th annual Running Wild event at St. Patrick's County Park.*** This outdoor gathering features a 5K timed run on park trails along with a 3K wacky scavenger hunt/nature walk perfect for families. Despite limitations brought on by the public health situation, we are forging ahead with a slightly modified Running Wild this year to accommodate the enthusiastic runners and walkers who look forward to coming out in support of the St. Joe County Parks.

Your support of Running Wild aligns your company with the “quality of life” attributes fostered by the St. Joseph County Parks such as family outdoor recreation, natural green spaces, protection of wetlands, facilities/space for community gatherings, education programs, and conservation of historic landmarks.

Thank you for your consideration and we hope we can count on your sponsorship of Running Wild 2021!

Michelle Kuehn  
President  
St. Joseph County Parks Foundation

Steve Slauson  
Director  
St. Joseph County Parks  
St. Patrick's County Park  
Ferrettie/Baugo Creek County Park  
Bendix Woods County Park  
Spicer Lake Nature Preserve



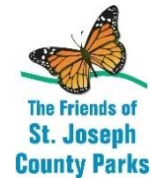
**P.S. In a tech-centered world, our County Parks provide a retreat for all ages to engage with nature and enjoy outdoor recreation. Please help us care for our parks and provide quality programs and facilities within them for generations to come.**

*Hosted by the St. Joseph County Parks Foundation (a 501c3 corp), the Friends of Bendix Woods & Spicer Lake (a subsidiary of the SJCPF), and the St. Joseph County Parks Department.*





**St. Joseph County Parks  
FOUNDATION**



	<b>BIG BUCK</b>	<b>MIGHTY MONARCH</b>	<b>SOARING OSPREY</b>	<b>CLEVER COYOTE</b>
<b>Contribution</b>	<b>\$1500</b>	<b>\$750</b>	<b>\$500</b>	<b>\$250</b>
<b>BENEFITS</b>				
Listing on Permanent Donor Plaque	✓			
Advertisement at Water Stations on Race Course	✓			
Logo in Print Advertising (For maximum exposure, submit commitment form right away)	✓	✓		
Logo on Event Website	✓	✓	✓	
Recognition in County Parks Activity Guide	✓	✓	✓	✓
Recognition in SJC Parks Foundation Newsletter	✓	✓	✓	✓
Logo on Running Wild T-Shirts (We must receive your logo by July 26 <sup>th</sup> to be included)	✓	✓	✓	✓
Yard sign with your logo displayed in Red Barn Courtyard at Running Wild; optional opportunity to display your banner inside Red Barn	✓	✓	✓	✓
<b>FUN STUFF!</b>				
Free Gate Passes to St. Joseph County Parks	10	8	6	4
Complimentary Running Wild Registrations	10	8	6	4
Complimentary Wild Herd Registrations	5	3	2	
Free Canoe Rental Passes	4	3		
Voucher for Shelter Rental	\$50	\$25		
Winter Innertubing Family Packs			2	2
Cross-Country Ski Rental & Trail Passes			2	2
Disc Golf Passes			4	

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Proceeds benefit park projects, trails, and bus transportation for school programs at the parks.

