



HERITAGE HILL
STATE HISTORICAL PARK

Heritage Hill State Historical Park
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PRESS RELEASE
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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

CYCLIST RIDING WISCONSIN TRAILS IN SUPPORT OF KNOWLES-NELSON TO STOP AT HERITAGE HILL ON SATURDAY, OCTOBER 10

Sarah Widder will ride through Heritage Hill Saturday to highlight the impact of Knowles-Nelson funding cuts on Wisconsin's public lands and historic places.

(Allouez, WI) When cyclist Sarah Widder rides through Heritage Hill State Historical Park on Saturday, October 10, she will be bringing attention to more than just the difficult goal of riding thousands of miles of Wisconsin state bike trails. Widder is participating in the Great State Trails Adventure to highlight the importance of the Knowles-Nelson Stewardship Program and what the loss of funding means to the places it helped support. The Knowles-Nelson Stewardship Fund was created in 1989 to preserve important natural communities, protect water quality and fisheries, and expand opportunities for outdoor recreation. In June, Wisconsin legislature voted to cut the program's funding, which helped protect more than 750,000 acres of land statewide for over 30 years.

As part of Saturday's route, Widder will meet riders at 11:30 a.m. at the north end of the Fox River Trail at Porlier Road and Adams Street and ride south with them, including a loop through Heritage Hill. This is significant for the park, which was directly affected by the loss of Knowles-Nelson funding. "Heritage Hill isn't just a collection of historic buildings: it is a place where people can experience Wisconsin's history, connect with their community, and pass those stories on to the next generation.," said Elizabeth Jolly-Haslitt, Director of Development. "Heritage Hill is operated, managed and funded by a local non-profit entity. Less than 4% of our operating budget comes from state contribution. But that number, by and large, was from Knowles-Nelson funding. Not to mention, the projects funded by Knowles-Nelson are not exciting or enticing to most donors but are often critical to infrastructure and safety. This higher-level state cut trickles down and affects our ability to preserve and share our local history."

Media are invited to gather at Heritage Hill at 11:30 am and meet Widder and the group as they ride through. Heritage Hill board, Friends of Wisconsin State Parks, and Friends of the Fox River Trail members will be riding with Widder.

Heritage Hill State Historical Park is a unique living-history museum dedicated to enriching the lives of others by sharing Northeast Wisconsin's diverse cultural and historic ties that bind our communities together. With 56-acres and 27 historic buildings the park strives to be regarded as the leading interpreter of Northeast Wisconsin's historical and cultural legacies using innovative interpretive techniques that engage, entertain, and educate the public. Heritage Hill is open year-round with most of the programming from May through October. Although Heritage Hill has the term "state park," in its name, the park is managed and funded by the Heritage Hill Corporation with the Heritage Hill Foundation, local 501(c)3 non-profit entities that lease land from the Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources.

Heritage Hill State Historical Park is located at 2640 S Webster Ave in Green Bay, WI. For more information on other Park initiatives, news, and events, call (920) 448-5150 or visit www.heritagehillgb.org

For more information on Widder's journey: <https://knowlesnelson.org/great-state-trails-adventure/>

Heritage Hill State Historical Park: Where history moves us.

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