



04737 Fuller Rd | East Jordan, MI 49727
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Raven Hill Discovery Center, incorporated in 1991,
is a 501(c)(3) tax-exempt corporation.

Open 10am-4pm weekdays, 12-4pm Saturdays and 2-4pm Sundays.
Open holidays and other times by appointment.

MISSION: to provide a place that enhances hands-on and lifelong learning for all ages by connecting science, history and the arts.

WHERE SCIENCE HISTORY AND ART CONNECT

To: Raven Hill friends
From: Cheri
Date: July 13, 2024
Re: Lemons to Lemonade

For the past four years, Raven Hill Discovery Center has been collaborating with the Conservation Resource Alliance (CRA) on the **Deer Creek Project**. The project will improve the environment in and around the Deer Creek watershed for the better by replacing an aging infrastructure at the Deer Creek site with a timber bridge. This will restore the creek to its original state. Raven Hill has partnered with CRA and other entities during the design and permitting process in preparation for the construction phase of the new bridge on Deer Creek at Fuller Road. That construction phase has begun and **Fuller Road will be closed for about 16 to 18 weeks, starting August 12, 2024.**

With this road closure, Raven Hill is making “lemons into lemonade.” This proverb was coined in 1915 by American writer Elbert Hubbard. It encourages people to turn a challenging situation into something good. Once the road closes, a **pop-up Main Museum** will be set up in the Open Space, which is located near C-48 and **before** the bridge construction site. Raven Hill can then offer museum and summer class experiences at a temporary and more accessible site. This will create added exposure along C-48 that may even increase

attendance. Visitors can choose to visit the **pop-up Main Museum** and/or travel around a country block to access extensive outdoor exhibits and limited facilities at the top of the hill. The actual Main Museum will be closed, whenever the **pop-up Main Museum** is open and vice versa. Reservations can be made to visit the Main Museum by calling or emailing. Thanks to the Charlevoix County Community Foundation for their support of “Lemons to Lemonade” which will allow for inflatable tents to function as our temporary “main museum.”

Deer Creek at Fuller Road



Imagine a beautiful timber bridge on Fuller Road to replace the old culvert and restore Deer Creek to its natural state.

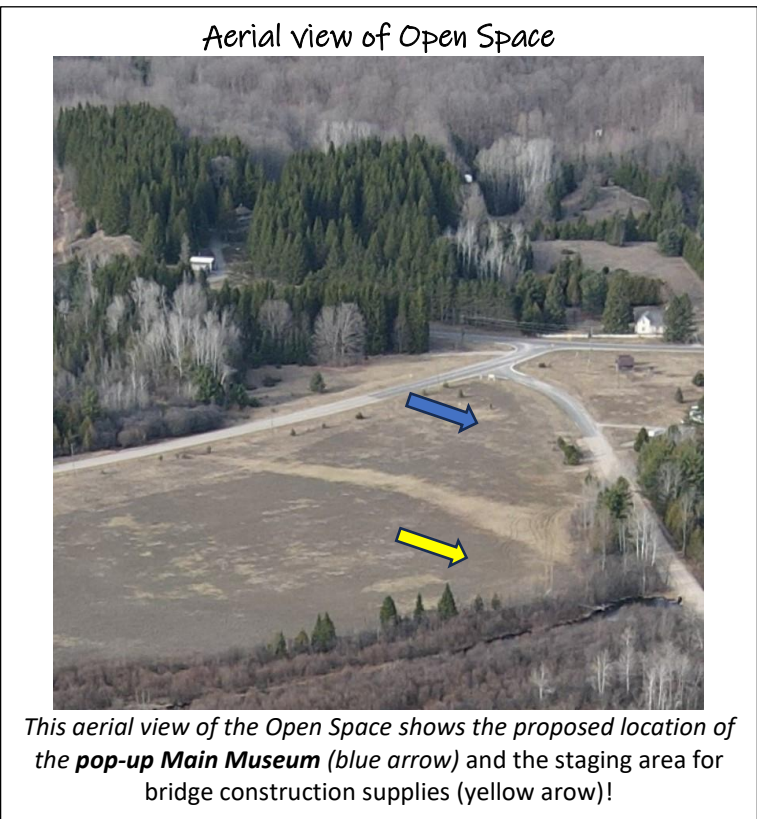
Staging area for bridge construction



The bridge construction company is currently stockpiling supplies in anticipation of the bridge replacement! **Note:** no pilfering rocks for Raven Hill's Labyrinth project, however tempting that may be!

The **pop-up Main Museum** will be unique, colorful and attract attention, as well as being usable after the bridge project is complete. By planning ahead, Raven Hill can successfully navigate the challenges of relocating the museum during the bridge construction and ensure a seamless transition to the temporary location. The entire experience will also provide an opportunity to gauge the effect of increased exposure due to the proximity to County Road-48. This will be a kind of dry run for a possible building at the base of the hill that would be a more visible and accessible part of Raven Hill, increasing winter usage of the Center's facilities!

As mentioned, the road closure for the bridge replacement is scheduled for **August 12 and will be in effect for about 16 to 18 weeks thereafter**. There will be a three-mile detour that will allow access to Raven Hill from the south. **See attached map showing detour**. Although the road closure is a month away, there are a couple of reasons for giving our visitors a "heads up." First, people may decide to visit **BEFORE** the road closure for ease of access to the Center. Second, the Center is trying to make sure that everyone understands what is happening and reduce any confusion. We plan to have Raven Hill's open hours **REMAIN THE SAME**—10am to 4pm weekdays, noon to 4pm Saturdays and 2pm to 4pm Sundays through Labor Day and then be open weekends and by appointment. This early announcement will provide time to clarify details and address questions that anyone might have. The Center is committed to building trust and goodwill by being proactive in their communications about the coming road construction. By announcing



the road closure early and providing clear, consistent and current information, the Center can help ensure an enjoyable experience for our visitors even during the bridge replacement.

While the road is closed, admission will be discounted to **half price** (\$5 per person) for those wanting to be part of the adventure by visiting and supporting the Center during this time. Be sure to stop and check in, before you head up the hill to explore, so that we can keep accurate attendance numbers. These next few months will be a learning experience for Raven Hill and a time to improve and grow. The Center remains focused on its long-term goals and is excited to have a future Deer Creek bridge crossing that is safer for visitors and better for the environment. Considering everything, Raven Hill is turning challenges into opportunities and creating positive outcomes from difficult situations, aka turning lemons into lemonade.



Hope to see you here before, during **and** after the bridge replacement! Meanwhile, don't forget to visit the new **Under Michigan & Beyond** exhibit. When you come, bring a rock and help build a legacy—the new Labyrinth in the Ancient World. Once again, we are open 10am to 4pm weekdays, noon to 4pm Saturdays and 2pm to 4pm Sundays, as well as other times by appointment through Labor Day. After Labor Day, we are open weekends or by appointment. Call 231.536.3369 or email info@miravenhill.org for reservations or if you have any questions.

Cheri

Labyrinth layout



To complete the Labyrinth, there are 500+ flags to replace!

Labyrinth Builders Club



Bring a rock, replace a flag and get your Club bracelet!

Under Michigan & Beyond exhibit



*Raven Hill's **Under Michigan & Beyond** exhibit facilitates visitor understanding of Michigan & Earth resources, how they are extracted and then used in our daily lives.*



Detour map during bridge replacement

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DETOUR

PEARSALL ROAD
DEER CREEK
FULLER ROAD
BERGMAN ROAD
ROGERS ROAD

pop-up Main Museum
OPEN SPACE 14
Bridge Construction Site

N
W
E
S

CONNECTIONS TRAIL
MAPLE
PINE
JURASSIC PARK
ROSE
TAXI TRAIL

WETLANDS BOARDWALK
PARKING
MAIN MUSEUM
ANCIENT WORLD
MAYAN BALL COURT
WORKING FACTORY SITE
CEMETERY
RAVEN RIDGE NATURE PRESERVE

1 Picnic Pavilion
2 Earth Tones Music Garden
3 Jurassic Park
4 School House
5 Treehouse
6 Pyramid
7 Roman Arch
8 "DumDum" Easter Island Head
9 Obelisk
10 *Fiber Studio
11 Watershed Model
12 *Energy House
13 *Print Shop
14 Open Space/Viewing Platform
15 Artesian Well
16 *Evolving Technology Building
17 Labyrinth
18 Pond Platform

Raven Hill
DISCOVERY CENTER

*
Outbuildings
Open By
Request

TRAIL LENGTHS

Main Campus	.5 miles
ET & Ancient	350 feet
Pond	.1 miles
T & C Trails	.5 miles

3 Mile Detour Route

Thank You For Coming!
info@miravenhill.org
www.miravenhill.org

Please:

- Stay on trails and paths
- Stay off flowers, rocks, and sculptures
- Leave sticks and stones on the ground
- Do not pick flowers, leaves, or bark
- Catch and release only at pond
- Be gentle with things in school house and elsewhere

STOP