



A 501c3 corp. Tax ID #35-1459569

August 19, 2023

Dear Sponsor:

We are enthusiastically working on plans for the best Running Wild ever! Now in its 11th year, Running Wild has become a “can’t miss” event for hundreds of participants who mark their calendars for this race every year. Individuals and families look forward to our 5K trail run and 3K walk/nature scavenger hunt because of the unique nature-centered atmosphere and family-friendly fun for all ages!

During the height of the pandemic, our Parks saw a surge in attendance that underscores how important our public lands are to our community. And now that visitors have discovered the benefits of the parks, they keep coming back. Every year, the St. Joseph County Parks host more than 300,000 visitors and provide the backdrop for outdoor recreation and gatherings. Area schools rely on the parks for education programs that introduce many children to nature. Parents use 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 to enjoy it.

Our public parks play a vital role in the quality of life in St. Joseph County. We offer a family-oriented, nature-focused destination for area residents to enjoy. We provide well-maintained, affordable recreation spaces and rental facilities for year-round community use. Yet, we know that there are needs for facility upgrades and new programs that often go unmet because of increasing operating expenses and limited budget dollars. Running Wild and other events and programs help us raise funds through the St. Joseph County Parks Foundation (SJCPF) to enhance the programs we provide to the entire community.

*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 19, 2023, the SJCPF will be holding our 11th 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. We are looking forward to hosting the hundreds of enthusiastic runners and walkers who look forward to Running Wild every year.

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 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 2023!

Joel Bowers
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



| | BIG BUCK | MIGHTY MONARCH | SOARING OSPREY | CLEVER COYOTE |
|---|-----------------|-----------------------|-----------------------|----------------------|
| Contribution Level | \$1500 | \$750 | \$500 | \$250 |
| BENEFITS | | | | |
| Listing as Donor of Distinction on Parks' website | ✓ | | | |
| 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 25 th to be included) | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ |
| Yard sign with your logo displayed in Red Barn Courtyard at Running Wild | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ |
| | | | | |
| FUN STUFF! | | | | |
| Free Gate Passes to St. Joseph County Parks | 8 | 6 | 4 | 2 |
| Complimentary Running Wild Registrations | 8 | 6 | 4 | 2 |
| Complimentary Wild Herd Registrations | 4 | 3 | 2 | 1 |
| Free Canoe/Kayak Rental Passes | 3 | 2 | 1 | |
| Winter Innertubing Family Packs | 2 | 2 | 2 | 2 |
| Cross-Country Ski Rental & Trail Passes | 3 | 2 | 1 | |
| Disc Golf Passes | 5 | 4 | 3 | 2 |

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





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St. Joseph County Parks FOUNDATION

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2023 Running Wild Sponsorship/Donation Commitment Form

- Big Buck \$1,500 Mighty Monarch \$750 Soaring Osprey \$500 Clever Coyote \$250

Sponsors at \$250 and above will have a yard sign featuring their logo displayed in the Red Barn Courtyard at Running Wild.

Contact Name Phone /

Company Name Email

Address

City State Zip

Enclosed is my check payable to the St. Joseph County Parks Foundation in the amount of \$

Please charge my credit card (fill out the following information)

Name as it appears on the card (please print)

Address (if different from above)

City State Zip

Credit Card number Exp

CVV code from back of card Signature

Please invoice my company at the address provided above.

For in-kind donations, please contact Leslie Witkowski at 574/277-4828 to confirm we have a need for your item/service (e.g., fresh fruit, bottled water). Indicate below when/where your donation can be picked up and its estimated value.

value (est.)

By completing this form and signing below, you agree to become a sponsor of Running Wild 2022. In return, the St. Joseph Parks Foundation agrees to provide you the sponsorship benefits associated with the level indicated.

Sponsor representative date

Handwritten signature of Joel Bowers, President, St. Joseph County Parks Foundation, a 501(c)3

Email completed form to: kherrera@sjcparks.org or return by mail or fax to: