

Dear Neighbors,

June 1, 2020

Greetings from our [Biological Station](#)'s campus on Douglas Lake's South Fishtail Bay. First, I'd like to inform you that after serving 18 wonderful years as "Bug Camp" Director, this position will be filled by a new Director as of September 1 of this year. I will continue on as a Professor in the U-M Department of Ecology & Evolutionary Biology until my full retirement at the end of December 2020, after which I will assume the title of Emeritus Professor. Among the many pleasures I've experienced since arriving in June 2003 are the opportunities to work with and meet you and other residents of communities surrounding Douglas and Burt Lakes. Thank you for your support and partnering with the Biological Station over the years!

As for this year, the COVID-19 pandemic has led to changes in our programs that will dramatically reduce the number of people living at and working at the Biological Station. Neither students nor course instructors will be in residence on our Douglas Lake campus. Rather, all 215 enrolled students will engage online with their instructors and will conduct their field research from wherever they are living off-campus. This is new "territory" for our resourceful and talented faculty and staff who have developed [virtual field courses](#).

Researchers in residence this summer will be few in number. They and our staff will follow strict health and safety protocols. Unfortunately, we cannot accommodate public visitors at our South Fish Tail Bay campus. Entry, whether by private vehicles, biking, or walking, will not be permitted. Access to our campus and buildings (including offices, rest rooms, the lecture hall, as well as labs) will be limited to pre-registered researchers and staff. Outlying trails on Biological Station properties, however, will be open for use, including the new bike trail extension along the south side of Riggsville Road.

In addition to using our outlying trails this summer, we invite you to explore scientific topics on-line with our UMBS annual Summer Lecture Series. Our virtual lecture series is free and open to the public. The [2020 line up](#) includes fearless evolutionary biologist [Dr. Patricia Brennan](#), pediatrician/activist (and Bug Camp alumna!) [Dr. Mona Hanna-Attisha](#), and botany legend [Dr. Anton Reznicek](#). These virtual presentations will use the same [Zoom link](#) and will be available for viewing afterward on the [UMBS YouTube](#) channel. You can test this by viewing Professor Richard Rood's May 14 presentation, [Framing Approaches to Climate Change Problem Solving](#).

I will be in residence at our Douglas Lake campus in July through mid-August. I hope to see you outdoors on the lake, on our trails, or elsewhere "up north" this season. Until then I wish you

All the best,

Knute Nadelhoffer

Director, UM Biological Station