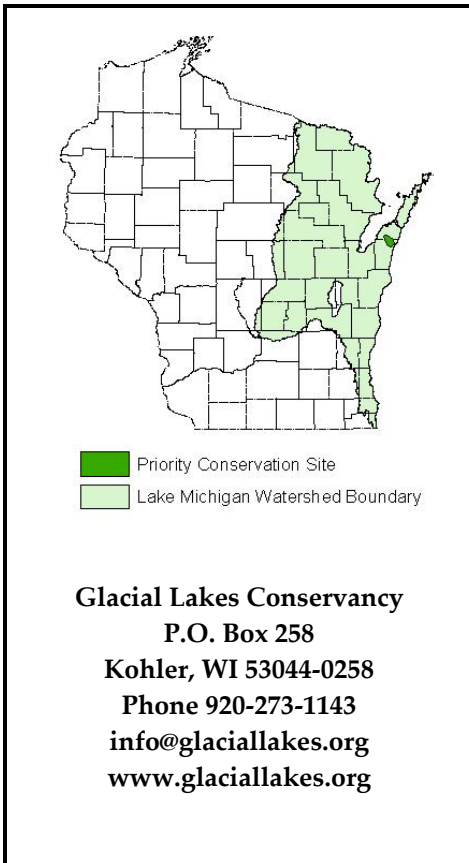


Black Ash Swamp

A harbor for wildlife



Black Ash Swamp is situated on an old glacial lake five miles inland from the Lake Michigan coast at the southern end of the Door Peninsula. The site is composed of a large lowland forest, and includes species represented in both northern and southern forests. This block of contiguous, high-quality habitat within a fragmented landscape represents a vital harbor for numerous species of plants and animals.



Ecological Significance:

Black Ash Swamp lies at the intersection of northern and southern forest types, and includes species from both forest types. This intersection of communities provides a varied habitat, such as an inland swamp, and supports rare species such as the small yellow lady's slipper and the Hine's Emerald Dragonfly.



Emergent marsh next to forested wetlands.

Photo credits: Patrick Robinson

Potential Threats:

The primary threat to Black Ash Swamp is the invasion of exotic species such as reed canary grass. The importance of the site for recreational activities and forestry practices presents an avenue for invasion, and reed canary grass is already prevalent at the site. Black Ash Swamp would benefit from ecological management to mitigate invasive species damage and prevent further spread.

Current Activities:

Black Ash Swamp has been designated a *Conservation Priority Site* by Glacial Lakes Conservancy because of its many outstanding qualities. As one of the Door Peninsula's hardwood swamps, it's also a WDNR Land Legacy place. Glacial Lakes Conservancy is available to work with willing landowners in this area who wish to engage in land conservation practices while keeping the land private.

