



**WOLDUMAR**  
NATURE CENTER

*Educating People about the Natural Environment*

*Woldumar Nature Center*

*Re-introducing  
the  
Lifetime Endowment Membership*

*Have you ever considered  
leaving a legacy of long-term  
financial support for Woldumar?*

*Read on to see if this  
opportunity meets your needs.*

Mailing & Physical location:  
5739 Old Lansing Road, Lansing, MI 48917  
Tele: 517-322-0030, Fax: 517-322-9394  
[www.woldumar.org](http://www.woldumar.org)

# Woldumar Nature Center

## Lifetime Endowment Membership

### Questions and Answers

1. I have already renewed my membership for the current year. May I pay the difference between the amount I've already paid for a membership and the \$177 to begin my commitment for participation in the Lifetime Endowment Membership program?

Answer: Yes. You can begin participating in the Lifetime Endowment program anytime.

2. If I do so, will I immediately become a Lifetime Endowment Member?

Answer: No. You become a Lifetime Endowment member as soon as you complete your nine-year pledge obligation. Your first payment begins your pledge which you can fulfill on an annual basis or pay the balance anytime before the nine year completion schedule.

3. What happens if I am unable to pay according to the nine-year payment tract?

Answer: You will be allowed to miss a payment as long as you catch up the following year. This missed payment option can be employed only once without a loss of the *free admission benefits* of the membership category. You may catch up later and get on the original track with restored benefits; however, to retain your Lifetime Endowment membership you must complete the pledge within the nine years per the schedule.

4. If I become a Lifetime Endowment member, will I be asked to contribute during the Woldumar Annual Appeal?

Answer: Yes. However, whether you choose to participate is entirely up to you. The reason you will be asked during the Annual Appeal is that the funds derived from this campaign are used to support current operations of Woldumar. The funds derived from the Lifetime Endowment Membership are *invested* with Woldumar receiving earnings from the investments on an annual basis. Thus, you may want to participate in both endeavors.

5. When will my name be placed on the Woldumar Legacy Tree if I become a Lifetime Endowment member?

Answer: Your name will be placed on the Tree soon after your total pledge commitment is fulfilled.

6. Will my Lifetime Endowment membership end when I die?

Answer: Benefits will continue to be valid through the annual membership period. However, your name will remain on the Woldumar Legacy Tree forever.

7. What are the advantages of making a one-time payment of \$1,000?

Answer: You save \$391.50 by using this option as opposed to the nine-year option. Your one-time contribution helps Woldumar earn more interest quicker as the result of the compounding of interest on the larger investment.

8. Is there an advantage of becoming a Lifetime Endowment member this year?

Answer: Yes. Once you make your initial payment toward your nine-year pledge, you are "locked in" to the amount outlined in the payment schedule. If the cost of a regular membership were to increase in the future, the schedule of payments for the Lifetime Endowment membership would increase. By becoming a Lifetime Endowment member now, you are guaranteed the lowest rate for this membership category.

9. Is there a tax advantage for becoming a Lifetime Endowment member?

Answer: Inasmuch as Woldumar Nature Center is a 501(c)(3) non-profit organization, amounts contributed to an endowment fund may be (and usually are) tax deductible. You should consult your tax advisor for a definitive answer in your particular situation.



# WOLDUMAR

NATURE CENTER

*Educating people about the natural environment*

## **Lifetime Endowment Membership**

Yes, I/we want to become a Lifetime Endowment Member/s that will provide support for Woldumar Nature Center and its Mission in perpetuity.

NAME: \_\_\_\_\_

ADDRESS: \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

PHONE: \_\_\_\_\_

E-MAIL ADDRESS: \_\_\_\_\_

This gift will be in the following form:

\_\_\_ One-time Endowment Gift of \$1,000 (enclosed)

OR

Other Endowment Gift toward program \$ \_\_\_\_\_

Annual installments of \$135 for 9 years

Beginning date \_\_\_/\_\_\_/\_\_\_ (annual billing in August)

1<sup>st</sup> endowment gift of \$135 \$ \_\_\_\_\_

1st year LEM Membership dues of \$42.00 \$ \_\_\_\_\_

Total enclosed \$ \_\_\_\_\_

Check LEM information for more details.

I have included Woldumar in a planned or deferred gift as follows:  will  insurance  trust

\* \* \* \* \*

Indicate your volunteer interests:

- \_\_\_\_\_ Education Assistance
- \_\_\_\_\_ Maintenance & Gardening
- \_\_\_\_\_ Gift Shop & Greeting
- \_\_\_\_\_ Clerical & Mailings Assistance
- \_\_\_\_\_ Special Events & Fundraising Assistance
- \_\_\_\_\_ Board & Committee Work
- \_\_\_\_\_ Historical Interpretation (Docents)

Make checks payable & send to:

Woldumar Nature Center

5739 Old Lansing Road, Lansing, MI 48917

(517) 322-0030, [www.woldumar.org](http://www.woldumar.org)

*Woldumar is a 501 (c) 3 non-profit.*

*All contributions to Woldumar are tax-deductible.*

# WOLDUMAR NATURE CENTER

## LIFETIME MEMBERSHIP CATEGORY REINTRODUCED

The Board of Directors of Woldumar Nature Center has approved the recommendation of the Membership Committee to introduce a new membership category, Lifetime Endowment Membership. This new membership category is intended for those who wish to maintain their annual membership while at the same time invest in Woldumar's future. It uniquely addresses both the current and future financial needs of Woldumar Nature Center.

The concept is not new to non-profit organizations. Woldumar's Lifetime Endowment Membership would work as follows: A pledge is made to contribute \$1,391.50 to Woldumar Nature Center over a nine (9) year period. At the end of the nine year period, \$1,215 would have been invested in the Endowment Fund and \$176.50 would have been paid in annual membership fees. The annual *earnings* from the Endowment Fund are used as a source of funding for Woldumar's annual operating budget. The \$1,215 remains in the Endowment Fund in perpetuity. Alternatively, a person can contribute \$1,000 in one payment and become a Lifetime Endowment Member with the entire \$1,000 going to the Endowment Fund. In either case, after the total amount has been paid, there are no further annual membership fee obligations.

The 2009 schedule for the nine-year pledge option is as follows:

YEAR	ENDOWMENT	MEMBERSHIP	TOTAL
1	\$135.00	\$42.00	\$177.00
2	135.00	34.50	169.50
3	135.00	28.00	163.00
4	135.00	23.50	158.50
5	135.00	19.00	154.00
6	135.00	14.50	149.50
7	135.00	9.50	144.50
8	135.00	4.50	139.50
9	135.00	1.00	136.00
10	-	-	-
<b>TOTAL</b>	\$1,215.00	\$176.50	\$1,391.50
		<b>OR</b>	
1	\$1,000.00	-0-	\$1,000.00

In addition to the benefits of membership that accrue to all membership categories, there is a special benefit which accompanies the Life Endowment Membership. A Life Endowment Membership entitles the holder of such a membership to *two free admissions* for any Woldumar sponsored event. An additional benefit is the incalculable one of knowing that you are helping to assure the future of Woldumar for the benefit and enjoyment of generations to come. One cannot leave a better legacy than that!

At one time, life memberships were awarded to individuals and families who contributed a qualifying designated amount to Woldumar. It then was discontinued in favor of a more aggressive annual financial appeal. In today's world, the Woldumar Board believes that the two fundraising methods are not in conflict with each other. We believe – and it is our hope – that Woldumar friends and supporters will participate in both fundraising efforts. Remember, the annual appeal which is held in the spring of each year provides funds for *current* operational costs while the Life Membership concept is intended to enhance the Endowment Fund to assure a permanent *future* base of support.

At the 2005 Annual Meeting, the Woldumar Legacy Tree was dedicated in honor of all previous Life Members. Please consider becoming among the first of the Lifetime Endowment Fund members to have your name added to this prestigious group of names on the Tree in recognition of your affection for and support of Woldumar Nature Center.