

Explore Our Mission

The Nature Institute's 2016 Year in Review





"In the spring, at the end of the day, you should smell like dirt." -Margaret Atwood

Director's report

If you are receiving this "Year in Review" you have probably visited us, participated in one of our fabulous environmental education programs, volunteered at the prairie or greenhouse, or hiked our trails. Whatever the reason we are thankful for you.

Do you have any idea how lucky we are to have this type of place in our community? Having grown up with The Nature Institute (literally) in my backyard, I understand firsthand how we have earned the reputation as one of the best hidden gems in the state of Illinois. Our family-friendly dwelling has dramatically changed, but also remains so much the same for the past 40 years.

I am so impressed with our vast nature; now I want to impress visitors in the same way that TNI has so graciously done for me. Every day as I drive into work, I reflect on how lucky I am to have this job. The peace at TNI is genuinely soul soothing. As I drive down the lane to the Mississippi Sanctuary office, animals scamper out of my way and trees wave in the wind like my own giant guardians. This is truly a harmonious place.

On the days that I am lucky enough to get outside and be on the trails, I am always amazed at how anxious I am for the secrets of the forest to be revealed. The further I get into the woods the more tranquil and mystical it becomes. In the summer, foliage is so thick and lush that the branches of leaves form arches above my head. TNI grants me a place of seclusion to decompress from my everyday crazy life.

TNI is a blessing to this community. Ask any kid who has been here. They may not see it as the tranquil setting I see; they see it as a place of adventure. Hundreds of children come to TNI and have fun learning. TNI teaches them a ton about science, nature and animals. We teach them to preserve our precious planet, how to be sustainable, and how to get a fresh perspective on the impact they are making in the world. And they LOVE it! Kids love to be outside! They love to get dirty! They love to play in the streams, build castles out of mud, and play with bugs.

TNI is a different experience for everyone. I encourage you to take a break from your everyday life and find out what TNI means to you. Run away and find the "Hidden Gem" in our community. We look forward to seeing you and hearing about your experience at TNI.

Angela Moan,

Executive Director of The Nature Institute

Education and Research

Ramona Puskar, Education Director

Patti Brown leading a Project WILD educator workshop at The Nature Institute



Last year was a big year for the education department at The Nature Institute. Some of our highlights include creating new programs, expanding and improving existing programming, and partnering with local experts to bring excellent education opportunities for children and adults. This year we met over 14,000 environmental lovers through our school programs, home school group trips, public education opportunities and scout visits. We also saw 400 plus campers this summer camp season.

The new programs implemented in 2016 included archery at camp, Adult Nature Club and Discovery Nature Club. Ramona, our newly promoted TNI education director, completed her certification to teach archery and that program was implemented into our summer for Discovery Day Camp. Our overall goal is to expand in the future and have an archery program throughout the school year as well. Adult Nature Club is a new offering, targeting adults that want to learn more about how they can live a more sustainable life. Special guests came in and talked about their topic of expertise, such as solar power, conserving energy, prairie restorations, and pollinators. We went on a bird hike and also learned about astronomical happenings during a night hike. Our Discovery Nature Club really came into its own. We held three sessions between Fall of 2016 and Spring of 2017 and every session was sold out! This program is offered to children in first through fifth grade. We covered topics ranging from what lived in a pond to how birds find food in the winter. These were really great programs this year and we are looking forward to continuing them in the future.

In addition to adding new programs to our lineup, we have worked diligently to continue and expand some of our old favorites. Enchanted Forest underwent a

huge makeover in 2016. We moved from walking the Olin Nature Preserve Trail to walking through the Mississippi Sanctuary Arboretum. We recruited the Southern Illinois University Edwardsville Softball team to come out and dress up in costumes for us while families experienced activities out on the trail that highlighted how an animal's nocturnal senses really come in handy. We also continued our Living History Program. In its premiere year (2015), we had a snowy, cold day; however, last year's weather was definitely our friend. We invited more characters to round out our historical periods. One of the more notable additions was Benjamin Godfrey, played by a local reenactor. He came out, hiked the trails, and enjoyed telling everyone what he saw when he first came to the area we now call Godfrey.

Our local partners always assist us in bringing programming to TNI that is enjoyable and fantastic. Treehouse Wildlife Center came to the Owl Prowl in March. They brought four owls and talked about the adaptations that make owls so special. We partnered with Crystal and Eric Stevens, formally of La Vista CSA Farm, for the Maple Syrup Program. It is always fun to learn about a topic you can eat. Fox 2 News invited Eric and former TNI education director, Patti Brown, to do a short segment on their morning show about maple tapping and sugaring. Crystal also used the lodge for a widely popular herbal workshop in the spring.

Our ability to host programs and expand our sphere of influence in the region is directly related to your continued support of The Nature Institute. We can only do what we do because of our passion for nature and nature education. We hope to continue expanding our current programs and offering new programs in the future. One of the ways we hope to expand our sphere of influence is by mentoring and training new environmental educators through an internship program. Your continued support of TNI will help us to bring in some new young educators and give them a meaningful start in the world of conservation and education.



Farewell to an Environmental Education Staple

Now more than ever, we need environmental warriors; Citizens that stand up for their community's eco-health and give back when they can. Patricia Brown, former education director of The Nature Institute, cultivated generations of environmental warriors through her enthusiasm for education and her passion for volunteerism. On March 31, 2017, Patti said her final goodbye to The Nature Institute after 14 years of service.

Patricia (Patti) started her career with the Illinois Department of Natural Resources and the Illinois Natural History Survey as a technical scientist. After several years, Patti began working as volunteer coordinator for TNI in 2002 and, after a year, she began working as education director. Since then, TNI has doubled its Discovery Day Camp attendance from only a couple of hundred campers to 400 campers attending each year.

Patti was an environmental advocate, hosting and facilitating development workshops on our behalf, including the National Projects Curriculum, RiverWatch, Leave No Trace, and National Association Interpretation Certified Guide. She also served as the past president of the Environmental Education Association of Illinois (EEAI). Patti was rightfully awarded EEA's 2016 non-formal "Environmental Educator of the Year Award" and we couldn't be more proud of her accomplishments.

Although Patti has passed the torch to Ramona Puskar, TNI hasn't seen the end of her. Patti will continue to volunteer for our mission as she searches to find her dream job in a warmer climate. Patti shaped and molded The Nature Institute to where it is today. She has expanded our organization from a great place to hike into a center for environmental education.

We are all fortunate to have had the pleasure of working with Patti and we are looking forward to hearing about what her future accomplishments. Thank you, Patti for all that you have done for The Nature Institute. You are the true environmental warrior.

Go Native with TNI's Greenhouse Gang

Amy Curry, Director of Outreach

It takes a very dedicated person to run a greenhouse. Spending multiple hours in a day to collect, separate, and plant seeds; watering and tending to plants. The Nature Institute is fortunate to have several volunteers to help us get our greenhouse up and running. Dubbed the "Greenhouse Gang", our volunteer group works hard to ensure our community has local access to native plants.

In 2014, goals were met when funds were raised for the purchase of our greenhouse. Our stewardship team erected the structure near Cypress Pond and over the next year our volunteers began collecting seed from the Hutchinson Bird Sanctuary and the Heartland Prairie, both managed by TNI. Last year, we finally produced enough plants for a few community plant sales. Thousands of native prairie plants found homes and all proceeds raised went straight back into our mission of preservation, restoration, and education.

So, what's the big deal on going native? Native plants offer tremendous value for our local fauna, providing a much-needed food source for our monarchs, bluebirds, American goldfinches, bees, and more. Native plants are also extremely low maintenance. They are sustainable and live longer than their non-native rivals. They are adapted to local conditions and develop extensive, deep root systems; which helps them conserve water and prevent erosion. Native plants are naturally resistant to drought, diseases and most pests. They do not require additional watering, artificial fertilizers or harmful pesticides. Native plants save people time and money and help to build and strengthen our natural ecosystem.

As we enter a new year, expect to see more native plant sales from our greenhouse. Switching your garden to host native plants is a piece of cake. To offer guidance, our team has put together a quick conversion guide. All of the native plants listed below are some offered from our greenhouse. This quick and easy change to your yard is a big step toward saving our pollinators.

List created by TNI Greenhouse Liaison, Ann Osburn

Don't Plant This

Yellow Flag Iris
Japanese Honeysuckle
Maiden Grass
Orange Day Lily
Rose of Sharon
English Ivy
Butterfly Bush
Bradford Pear
Tree of Heaven or Princess Tree
Burning Bush
Euro Cranberry/Japanese Barberry
Ox Eyed Daisy
Purple Loosestrife



Switch to This

Swamp Rose Mallow
Lead plant
Little Blue Stem
Butterfly Milkweed, Royal Catchfly
Swamp Rose Mallow
Violets, Wild Ginger, Virginia Creeper
Butterfly Weed, Cardinal Flower, Royal Catchfly
American Plum
White oak, Pecan
Fragrant Sumac, Blueberry
False Indigo, Wahoo, Nannyberry
Native Columbine, Black or Brown Eyed Susan
Wild Bergamot, Swamp Milkweed, Prairie Blazing Star

Stewardship and Maintenance

Timothy Schofield, Stewardship Director



Olin Nature Preserve

As the largest unit of The Nature Institute, most of the stewardship work is performed here. 2016 was the culmination of many years hard work with prescribed burns, invasive treatments, and plantings. The 75-acre area to the east of Beaver Falls will open to the public in 2017 with a new trail being built by an Eagle Scout and volunteers. The three quarter of a mile loop will encompass a great natural area, a wide forest valley, and a sinkhole. The trail highlights our restoration efforts as well as showing the future efforts needed. A prescribed burn, herbicide treatment of bush honeysuckle, and native plantings were three of the large scale restoration techniques the staff employed in this area. The other area of improvement is in an area by Mullin Lane and Fairmont subdivision. Prescribed fire and invasive plant treatment was the main focus of our attention. A large concentration of mustard garlic has been largely contained since 1999. A relatively easy to control invasive, early monitoring and hand pulling are the only strategies needed to control the plant. All of this work will allow another trail to be opened to the public at a later date.

Mississippi Sanctuary

Small prairie plantings have really taken off, and started to show the makings of a nice pollinator area. The forb count is up, resulting in a prettier prairie. The plantings have helped the stewardship staff cut down on mowing times and this, in return, allows us to perform other stewardship tasks. In 2017 or 2018, we hope to increase these prairie habitats by more than fifty percent. Bush honeysuckle was making a comeback in the east and west natural areas of the sanctuary. A campaign of treating with herbicide greatly reduced this problem. A continuation of the treatment in the fall of 2017 should further impact this insidious invasion.

Freeman, Metzger, Larson Savanna and Nursery

Our savanna restoration area has seen remarkable improvement over the first part of 2016. We eliminated most of the invasive Johnson grass, removed and treated the stumps of a large number of black locusts, and sprayed a large area of bush honeysuckle. The bur oaks and pecans have responded well and continue to increase in size. These savanna areas continue to be the most difficult to restore or recreate. With the help of a tree grant from the Modern Woodmen of America, we were able to improve and start our most recent savanna area, located in the three-acre field on Levis Lane next to the Oblate Father's Novitiate. We have started with the trees, then the prairie planting will come later. Freeman, Metzger, Larson Savanna started with a prairie planting, then continued with savanna related trees. The results will be a good comparison of savanna recreation techniques.

Hutchinson Bird Sanctuary

A year of rest was the main order for the bird sanctuary. Prescribed fire on the front half along Levis Lane was the main focus of our restoration efforts. After many years of burning the whole prairie unit, we made a concerted effort to only burn one half of the unit. The Green Valley area along South Levis Lane will be burned in 2017. Varieties of insects, ground nesting birds (including wild turkeys), small mammals, and reptiles will all benefit from this burn cycle. Two years of fuel allows the fire to burn at a slightly hotter temperature, which causes more damage to the susceptible invasive species.

Cypress Pond

2016 was a good year for the Cypress Pond. As with the prairie plantings at Mississippi Sanctuary, the two plantings at the at Cypress have shown nice improvement over the last year. In addition, the two plus acres of prairie help to cut our mowing time by one third. Visitors have also noticed the clearing out of the dead trees and bushes on the east side of the restored pond. This has allowed the area to host a whole different set of bird species. Cooper's hawks, green herons, and kingfishers are a few of the species that have been spotted in the area.

Heartland Prairie

Under the direction of the Friends of Heartland Prairie, the volunteers planted many trees in the restoration area of the 60-acre woodland-prairie complex. Invasive species have been cut and stacked and native tree and plants were planted in their space, continuing a multiple decade recreation of a forest-prairie complex. A demonstration planting at the entrance continues to educate and inform people of the prairie location and the beauty of using native plants.



Help Our Mission with Eco-Friendly Home Improvements

Amy Curry, Director of Outreach

Sure, everyone knows about turning off the faucet in-between scrubbing the dishes or flipping that light switch when you leave the room, but what about more tips to lower your family's impact? Below are some solutions to reduce waste, reap some benefits, and give back to Mother Nature.



Bring the Outside In- Plants inside the home have a variety of health and home living advantages. Aside from lowering background noise and reducing stress, plants can also lower levels of pollutants and airborne dust, stabilize humidity, and regulate home temperature.

Reduce levels of air pollutants- Ever heard of a phenomenon known as, "Sick Building Syndrome"? It's where the occupants of a building feel unwell for no apparent reason, sighting symptoms like headaches, eye and nose/throat irritation, fatigue and more. Most attribute this to heightened levels of carbon dioxide and other air pollutants. Many household appliances and other coal burning items release emissions. Plants intake carbon dioxide and release oxygen during photosynthesis. Humans take in oxygen and release carbon dioxide during respiration, thus creating a symbiotic relationship. NASA recommends having one plant for every 100 square feet of your indoor space due to the benefits of lower carbon monoxide and formaldehyde.

Stabilize humidity- Plants can also stabilize your home humidity levels through a process known as transpiration. Transpiration is a process in which moisture is carried through plants from the roots to small pores on the leaves. Moisture can then be evaporated into the air evening out humidity levels.

Reduce airborne dust levels- For reasons that are still quite unknown to scientists, plants can reduce the levels of airborne dust within your home. A NASA study proves that household plants can reduce dust levels by 20%.

Regulate temperatures- According to a study done by the University of Vermont Extension, when plants release moisture into the air, they can reduce the room's temperature, sometimes by 10 degrees.

Take Up Composting- Composting is a natural process of recycling organic matter, such as leaves and food scraps, into rich soil that can be used in gardens as fertilizer. Compost energizes soil and creates a rewarding partnership between bacteria and plant roots, acting as plant food. Compost can also enhance a plant's ability to stand up against certain diseases. All you need is to pick out your size of container, add your table and kitchen scrapes, add mow clippings or leaves, and let nature handle the rest. Worried about your compost bins stinking up the neighborhood? Simply add coffee grounds and citrus fruits to cover the odor.

Recycle as Much as You Can- This one may seem easy enough, but there is a whole other level to reducing, reusing, and recycling. Certain numbers of plastic, paper, glass bottles and similar items will be picked up by your local trash and recycling expert, but what about electronics, plastic shopping bags, batteries, medications, and more? These items may require a little more effort, but trust us, there's someone out there to take your junk.

Some Madison County community resources include CJD-E Cycling in Edwardsville, Batteries Plus in Glen Carbon, and more. Be sure to save your plastic shopping bags and bring them with you on your next trip. Most larger grocers and department store chains have a recycling receptacle near the entrance. Remember not to discard your old or unwanted medications in your waste can or dispose of them in the sewer. Those medicines still contain chemicals that can be harmful to our eco-system. Before pitching them, call your local police department for available drop-off bins.

For a complete list of recycling options visit the Madison County Recycling and Resource list at: www.co.madison.il.us.

Plan, Shop Local and Seasonal for Your Meals- According to the EPA, the United States threw away 38 million tons of food waste in 2014. Aside from saving your family some money, meal planning with local foods can

reduce methane emissions in the landfill, lower your carbon footprint, and support community business. Keep a list of what you need and when you need it. When shopping, keep in mind how many times you'll be eating out that week. The more you eat out, the less you buy at the grocery to avoid wasted food.

By jumping on the meal planning bandwagon, you'll only get foods that you know you will prepare for your family. Be sure to store foods properly and in reusable tubs. Stick extra meals in the freezer when you know they won't be eaten in time. If you still bought too much, place your food scrapes in your new compost bin or donate safe, untouched foods to your local pantry.

Plant a Pollinator Garden- The U.S. Fish and Wildlife estimated that 20 million acres of national landscape is maintained as mowed grass. We do love our yards; however, those single-note yards tend to offer nothing or little value for pollinators and other wildlife. As highlighted before (Go Native with the Greenhouse Gang on page 5), native plants have economic value by saving you time and money, but they also cut emissions from fuel down due to a reduction of mowing. They also tend to need less pesticide and fertilizers, which can contaminate our water supply.

Butterfly milkweed, golden rod, and grey-headed coneflowers are just a few perfect examples of what to plant in your pollinator garden. As butterflies, bees, flies, beetles, hummingbirds and more visit these native plants, you are providing a much-needed food source for them as they assist in growing the yield of your backyard vegetable garden or our local farmer's produce.

Find an Alternative Energy Source that Works for Your Home-

Changing your home's energy source can be a little scary, and sometimes costly. Whatever your means, there are a few different options and even some local initiatives to help you get to where you want to be.

Switching out CFLs with LED bulbs is a quick and simple way to save you energy costs and cut down emissions. Roughly one LED bulb will minimize your gas emissions by roughly half a ton as they do not contain hazardous mercury like CFLs. LEDs are nearly 85% more efficient and as simple as heading to your local home improvement store for conversion items. All bulbs cause damage in landfills, so be sure to dispose your bulbs correctly.

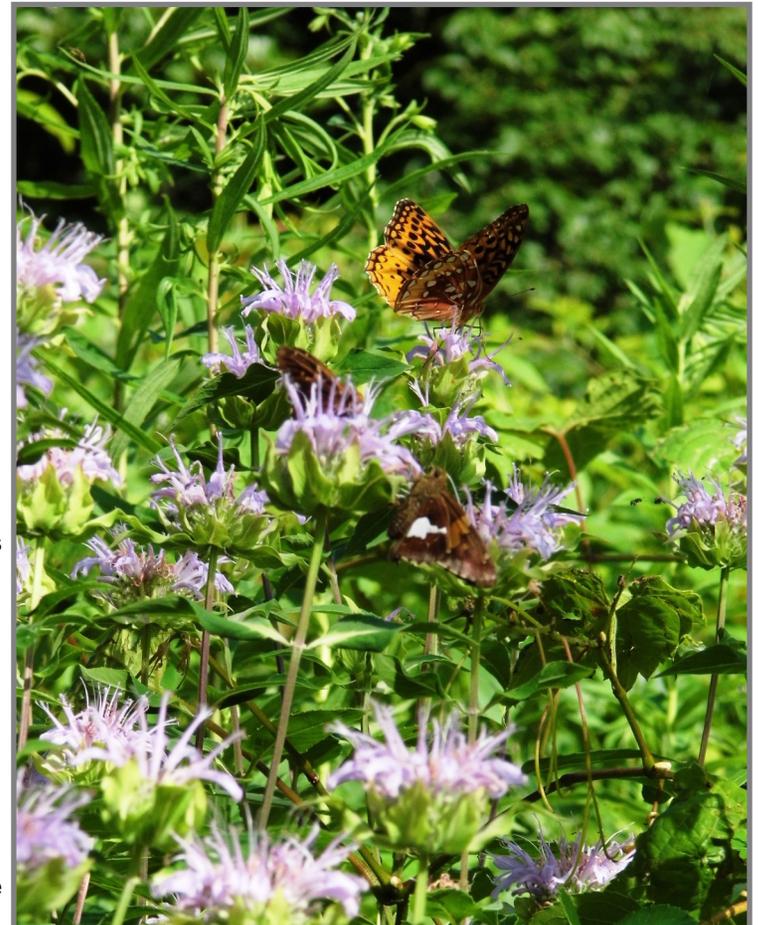
Solar panels are becoming more affordable and accessible to local residents and businesses thanks to initiatives like Solarize Madison

County/Glen Carbon. Solarize Madison County/Glen Carbon is a local group purchasing plan in conjunction with StraightUp Solar and is designed to keep cost down near wholesale levels. According to StraightUp Solar, utility rates have gone up 40% in the past 5 years, while solar costs have dropped 50% during that same time. Solarize Madison County/Glen Carbon recently installed solar panels on 22 homes and have surpassed their second benchmark goal allowing their participants to receive a larger rebate. If you are interested in learning more, visit SolarizeMCGC.com for more information, or call StraightUp Solar directly at (314) 218-2663.

Geothermal energy heating and cooling systems are another alternative energy source for your home. The system absorbs heat from your home, transfers it to an underground unit, and then is cooled and pumped back inside. The EPA shows homeowners save 30-70% on cooling costs over conventional systems. One downside to geothermal systems is that they are an expensive upfront cost and are costly to repair if they go out.

Collect Rain

Water- Although rain water isn't as clean as it may seem, it is clean enough to assist you in watering your garden or lawn or washing your car. Using a rain barrel to collect water can save on water bills and cut back on yard flooding and erosion. Be sure to do your research before you collect. Although we are able to collect in Illinois, it is illegal in some states like Oregon and Utah.

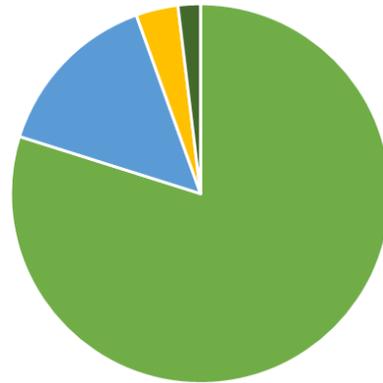


2016 Financials

Based on 12-month financial calendar: January 1, 2016 through December 31, 2016

Income by Source

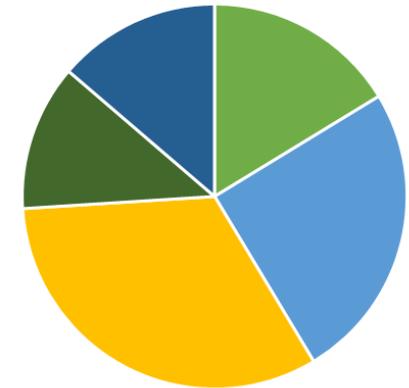
Grants	\$469,358
Program Fees	\$85,972
Donations/Sponsorships	\$20,783
Memberships	\$11,245
Total	\$587,638



■ Grants ■ Program Fees ■ Donations/Sponsorships ■ Memberships

Operating Expenses

Stewardship	\$191,751
Education	\$147,572
Buildings and Structures	\$95,781
Administration	\$80,699
Outreach	\$72,228
Total	\$588,029



■ B&S ■ Education ■ Stewardship ■ Outreach ■ Admin

2017 Events

Be sure to check www.TheNatureInstitute.org for more details

September

- 9/1– Nature Brews Release at Old Bakery Beer Co.
- 9/13– Knee-High Naturalist
- 9/16– Volunteer Day at TNI
- 9/21– Astronomy Meeting
- 9/23– Foraging for Fungi
- 9/25– D.E.E.R Nature Group
- 9/28– Discovery Nature Club

October

- 10/2– Heartland Prairie Walk
- 10/5– Moonlight Hike
- 10/7– Heartland Prairie Restoration Day
- 10/7– Walk Through Time: Living History
- 10/19– Astronomy Meeting

- 10/20– Enchanted Forest
- 10/21– Volunteer Day at TNI
- 10/23– Heartland Prairie Walk
- 10/30– D.E.E.R. Nature Group

November

- 11/1– Discovery Nature Club
- 11/4– Moonlight Hike
- 11/8– Knee-High Naturalist
- 11/16– Astronomy Meeting

December

- 11/27– Nature Creations: Winter Wreath Making
- 12/3– Moonlight Hike
- 12/4– D.E.E.R Nature Club
- 12/13– Discovery Nature Club
- 12/21– Astronomy Meeting

Think you know your animal tracks? Test your knowledge below!

ANIMAL TRACKS

Match the tracks with the correct animal:

Bear	Coyote	Deer	Fox	Skunk
Cat	Crow	Dog	Raccoon	Squirrel

Answers: Answers are from left to right, starting with the top row.

Fox, Crow, Bear, Squirrel, Dog, Skunk, Coyote, Deer, Raccoon

The Nature Institute's staff and board of directors would like to thank you for your support. You are the reason our mission continues each and every year.

2016 Members and Donors

Newly added Lifetime Member (\$1,500)

Woody, Carol

Olin Observation League (\$250+)

Albers, Dale

Freer, Margaret & Mike

Mississippi Sanct. Society (\$100+)

Albers, Dale

Breen, Felicia

Curry, Steve & Cynthia

Darr, Mark & Terri

Davis, Mildred

Dixon, Craig

Kamler, David L

Maggos, Mark & Meladee

Maher, Brad

Massey, Donna

Mollet, Valerie

Roney, Maggie

Rull, Stanley & Carla

Stinson, Lewis & Cynthia

Taylor, Jan & Michael

Weiner, Jennifer & Scott

Family Member (\$60+)

Baggio, Sara & Nicholas

Belchik, Jennifer & Brian

Blackwell, Donna K.

Blasa, Dianne

Boley, Lauren

Bosoluke, Marcy

Brown, Earl & Susan

Bruns, Michael

Chapman, Jason

Chelboun, Steffany

Cope, Jim & Mary

Copple, Christa

Culiberk, John

Darr, Sara

Davis, Jon

Dixon, Amelia

Dooling, John & Ann

Dooling, Terry & Nency

Durham, Ryan

Elliot, Gary & Kris

Fitzgerald, Stephanie

Gelsthorpe, Cindy

Gillean, Alicia

Hampton, Shane & Erin

Hanebutt, Sara

Hanneken, Bernard &

Theresa

Hill, Laura

Hoagland, William & Annie

Holbrook, Randy & Tara

Honke, Maleana & Robert

Hooker, Jennifer

Hornsey, Sheila

Jamison, Michelle

Kane, David

Keith, Angela

Keith, Elizabeth

Lackey, Tammy

Larner, Nathalie

Lopez, Courtney

Malenic, Matthew & Christina

Marburger, April

Marquis, Mandy

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Individual Family (\$30+)

Abbajay, Stephanie

Alexander, Edna

Arbeiter, Linda

Audubon Society- Great Rivers

Baird, Kathy

Barton, Jocelyn

Batz, Roger & Gretchen

Brown, Larry

Burns, Victoria

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Crivello, R. J. & Julia

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River Bend Yoga

Donor (\$200+)

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Mottaz, Steven

Rayburn, Ted & Elayne

Donor (\$100+)

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Brammer, Larry and Margaret

Dixon, Bob & Mary

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Freer Auto Body

Fosha, Jon & Sandy

King Air Conditioning

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Klope, Linda L

Kuhn, Marilyn

Langenwalter, Eric

Larson, Richard

Luly, Keri

Massey, Donna

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Neudecker, Dale & Carol

Norman, Anna Louise

Norman, Robert & Mary Sue

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Poehlman, Gayle

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Schmitt, William Red

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McDonald, Michael

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Paetau, Marcia & Holger

Provenzano, Nolen & George

Ridder, Dorothy

Susan Ruckman

Taylor, Ann & Sonja Furiya

Vize, Henry & Gail

Webber, Bill & Donna

Whitten, Nita and Tom

Wiebusch, Roger

Donors (\$30+)

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Browning-Needmad

Buckhannon, James & Patricia

Carter, Robert and Tammy

Coleman, Lisa

Connelly, Patricia

Cooke, Rita

Dailey, Pat

Davis, Mildred

Delawder, David

Gray, Edmond

Helden, Renae

Hurley, Carol

Lehman, Michael & Victoria

Roberts, Sam & Sharon

Sinclair, Jim & Sue



THE NATURE INSTITUTE

The Nature Institute works to foster an awareness and appreciation of the natural world through preservation, restoration, and education.

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Tina Murphy, Secretary

Matt Brown

Victoria Burns

Meredith Elliot

Steve Mottaz

Scott Weiner

Charles Norman (2016)

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Amy Curry, Director of Outreach

Tim Schofield, Stewardship Director

Scott Logan, Land Steward

Ramona Puskar, Education Director

Jacob Clendenen, Education Assist.

Patricia Brown (2016)

We would like to thank all of our volunteers for their hard work throughout the year.



The Nature Institute works to foster an awareness and appreciation of the natural world through preservation, restoration, and education.

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