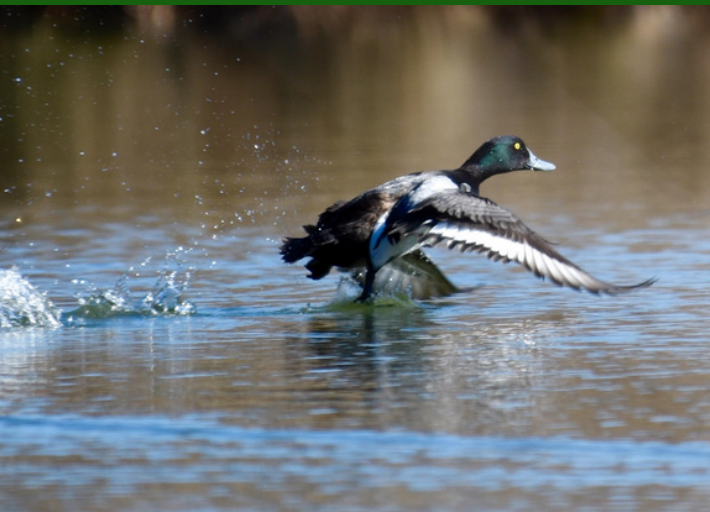


# ENSURING THE FUTURE

The Institute's Nature Education Center and Living Classroom



## A Case for Support

### The Institute

Tracy Holliday, Executive Director  
(717) 762-0373  
[NatureAndCultureInstitute.org](http://NatureAndCultureInstitute.org)



# SOWING THE SEEDS OF STEWARDSHIP

Guiding the people of the Cumberland Valley region to become stewards of their natural and cultural worlds.

The Institute exists to educate, inspire and unite people around shared interests. Since 1990, we've provided valuable experiences to learners of all ages in the natural world and historical settings.

Our programs at The Institute include science-based environmental education and cultural history experiences for elementary and secondary school children, research in natural and cultural history for all ages, as well as rich hands-on learning opportunities. We create programs that entertain and inform the community.

*Ensuring the Future* is The Institute's campaign to create an independent nature education center and living classroom, providing a hub to serve the community with valuable experiences and programs. This project will not only ensure our ability to fulfill our mission into the future; it will also help to preserve both wild and historic places.

Since 1990, The Institute has engaged learners of all ages. A new nature and educational center will allow us to continue and expand our vital work.

**244,590**

SCHOOL STUDENT VISITS

**77,500**

EVENT ATTENDEES

*Each year, The Institute hosts several free signature events.*

**46,500**

PARTICIPANTS

*Community Learning Series*

**9,600**

HOURS BY 80 INTERNS

*University/College/High School Students*



"The Institute's offerings are designed to foster wonder and curiosity, ignite learning and plant the seeds of stewardship for our shared natural and cultural heritage. As learners, first we wonder...then we learn and understand...and then we care. Stewardship feelings grow." – Tracy Holliday, Executive Director

# BRING OUR VISION FOR A NEW NATURE AND CULTURAL EDUCATION CENTER TO LIFE.

## WHY NOW?

### SUDDENLY UPROOTED

After 30 years, The Institute left the Renfrew Museum and Park property in order to preserve our mission. We made a commitment to establish an independent nature center that will serve as an organizational headquarters *for the next 30 years and beyond.*

### NEW PARTNERSHIPS

During the past year, The Institute maintained existing and established new partnerships with local parks, recreational areas, and historic sites throughout the region.

### EXPANDED OFFERINGS

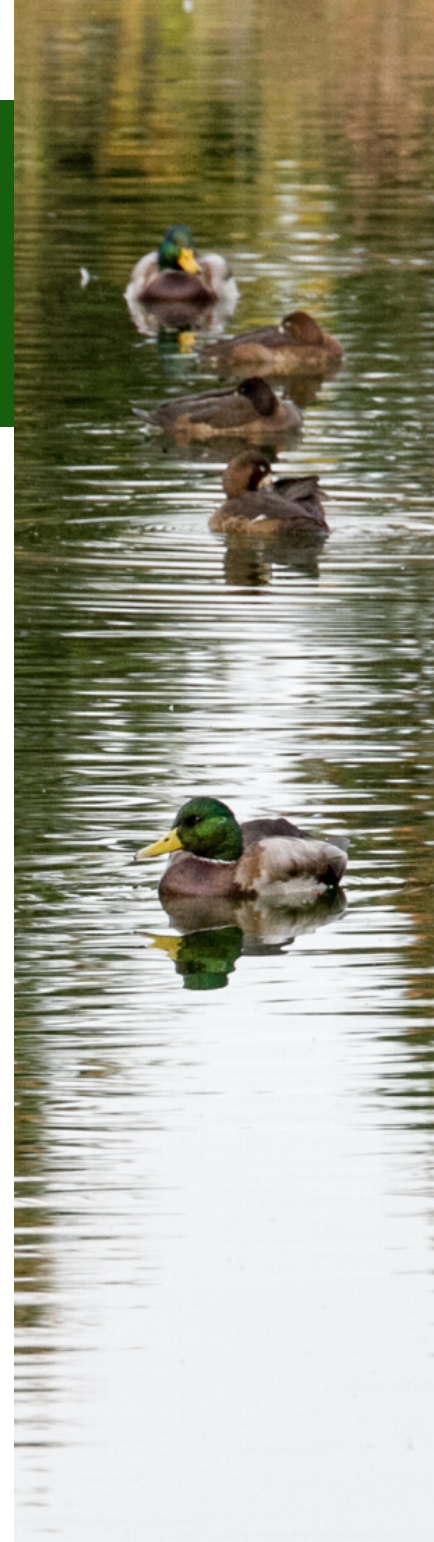
Through a turbulent and disrupted year, The Institute maintained a full roster of engaging community events and educational offerings, and even established new experiences for people of all ages.

### STABILITY & SUSTAINABILITY

An organizational headquarters is essential to the sustainability of our work. Many Institute happenings that are currently “on the road” in varying locations will benefit from relocating to our new campus.

### COMMUNITY INVESTMENT

So many in our community have invested so much in The Institute’s work. Now is the time not only to sustain, but to elevate our ability to serve in ways that will be transformative, both for The Institute and for our community.



*“If we want children to flourish, to become truly empowered, let us allow them to love the earth before we ask them to save it.”*

*– David Sobel, Faculty  
Antioch University  
New England*



# JOIN US IN REALIZING OUR VISION.

The Institute has purchased a 40-acre property through which Red Run Creek flows. The landscape boasts a large pond, rolling meadows, and existing woodland trails. This park-like setting will serve as an immersive living classroom. It will also be a place for families to enjoy outdoor recreation, quiet contemplation, and the arts.

## Property needs include:

- Complete renovation of a century-old barn, the future home of our year-round education center
- Modifications to our future welcome center and administrative offices
- Construction of an outdoor pavilion for gatherings
- Enhancement and expansion of nature trails
- Construction of a new bridge allowing access by school buses and large vehicles
- Infrastructure improvements, including but not limited to, outdoor lighting, sustainable pervious parking surfaces, and accessible outdoor restroom facilities

**SIGNIFICANT INVESTMENT IS NEEDED TO TRANSFORM THIS NEW SPACE THAT WILL TAKE US INTO THE NEXT 30 YEARS AND BEYOND.**

Property purchase/related expenses .....	\$750,000
Renovation of historic barn .....	\$750,000
<i>(future home of our state-of-the-art Education/Visitors Center)</i>	
Bridge and access road construction .....	\$500,000
Modifications to future headquarters .....	\$250,000
<i>(includes future Welcome Center)</i>	
Construction of an outdoor pavilion .....	\$150,000
<i>(equipped with enclosure)</i>	
Enhancement and expansion of trails/grounds .....	\$100,000
Other infrastructure/recurring capital expenses .....	\$500,000
<i>(including but not limited to parking, lighting, restrooms, auxiliary buildings)</i>	

**TOTAL PHILANTHROPIC NEED ..... \$3,000,000**

