

341 Science Park Road | Suite 103 | State College, PA 16803 | 814.238.8138 | www.wildlifeforeveryone.org

June 20, 2019

Our 2019 summer membership drive is in full swing and I am excited to tell you about a few of the year's highlights! The Seedlings for Schools program enjoyed another successful year! We introduced pollinator gardens to schools throughout Pennsylvania and the bundles of pollinator-friendly trees and shrubs were depleted on the first day! The decline in pollinators is a serious threat to our food supply. Educating youth on the crisis and presenting ways to rectify the problem is a challenge we gladly accept. We hope to expand the pollinator garden program and increase state-wide coverage of the Seedlings for Schools program next year.

We awarded five university students with financial support to advance their career interests in 2018/2019. The Scholarship Fund was established to inspire the next generation of conservationists and present opportunities for students to deepen their connection with nature and wildlife. The future of our natural resources depends on equipped and inspired leaders. We will continue to support the career paths of our future conservationists.

The Nature Center project has advanced in Centre County with the hiring of a project manager, and we anticipate shovels in the ground in early 2020. The Nature Center will encompass 135 acres of land that includes wetlands, open water, wooded stream sides and brushy fields. This natural area will provide ample passive recreational opportunities including light hiking, birdwatching, wildlife observation, fishing and picnicking. A fully-accessible mile-long trail, pavilion, wildlife viewing platforms and interpretive signage will draw nature lovers. Attention to design and materials will make the outdoors a viable getaway for persons with physical challenges, ensuring that they too may receive the restorative benefits that nature offers.

Your membership gift supports initiatives such as the Seedlings for Schools program and the Scholarship Fund which are rooted in our mission to promote wildlife conservation and education throughout Pennsylvania. We are grateful for each and every one of our members, and we have expanded our membership benefits to thank you for your ongoing support which keeps the Wildlife for Everyone Foundation going and growing! All members will receive the full-color, bi-annual magazine, *Pennsylvania Wildlife*, as a token of our appreciation.

Yours in Conservation,

Susan Hawthorne Executive Director



Promoting Wildlife Conservation and Education in Pennsylvania

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