



## ENHANCING YOUR OUTDOOR CLASSROOM

CAMPAIGN *for*  
THE NATURE CENTER  
*at* SHAKER LAKES

**YOUR PARK.  
YOUR FUTURE.**



## To our community,

Over the past few years, we have been working hard to reinvigorate and enhance YOUR PARK to ensure this precious place is here for you and future generations.

**Now is the time for you to join us as we invest in our beautiful nature preserve—for today and for the future. Will you help us to create more access, more educational opportunities and preserve the legacy at the Nature Center at Shake Lakes?**

The goal of this \$6 million campaign is bring nature to life for our visitors—to more deeply fulfill our mission, building upon our legacy to ensure we remain a welcoming and accessible asset to the community now and into the future.

We have many giving opportunities available, including the beautiful Legacy Pathway on the new All People’s Trail. All gifts of any size are fully deductible to the extent allowed by law.

I hope you will join me in celebrating the improvements at the Nature Center and support the future of YOUR PARK.

Sincerely,

*Kay Carlson*

Kay Carlson  
President & CEO

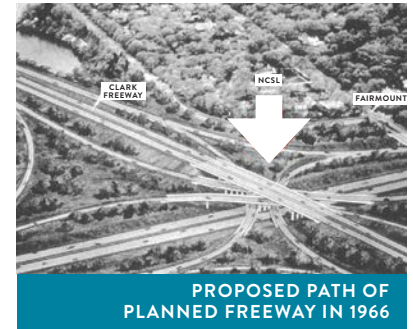


LEGACY PATHWAY ON THE ALL PEOPLE’S TRAIL

## A PAST ROOTED IN CITIZEN ACTIVISM AND NATURE ACCESS FOR ALL

What began as a freeway fight in 1966 is now your peaceful park and nature preserve welcoming over 140,000 visitors every year.

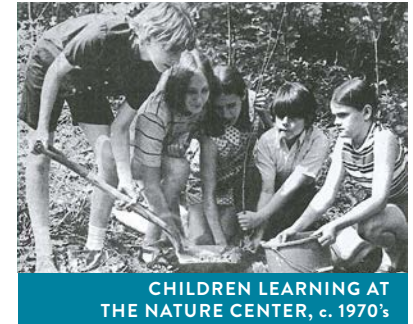
Our community saved this greenspace from the path of a planned freeway. It was a remarkable testament to citizen activism. Now, it is our time to carry on this legacy and invest in the future of this treasured place.



PROPOSED PATH OF PLANNED FREEWAY IN 1966



NEWSPAPER CLIPPING ABOUT THE FREEWAY FIGHT IN 1966



CHILDREN LEARNING AT THE NATURE CENTER, c. 1970’s



## WHAT WE HAVE ACCOMPLISHED



### THE LAVELLE FAMILY OUTDOOR AMPHITHEATER

Located behind the Visitor Center, this unique ADA-accessible educational venue connects to our trails and the parking lot.

**COMPLETED: SEPTEMBER 2018**



### RECONSTRUCTION OF THE ALL PEOPLE'S TRAIL

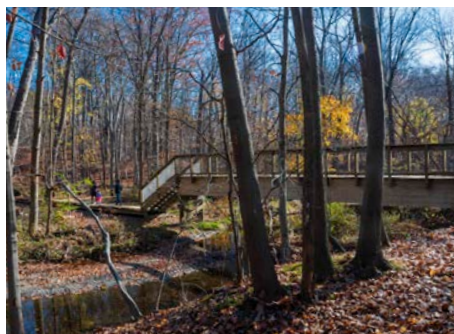
The new All People's Trail is a universally-designed, elevated boardwalk. The new Rose Foundation Gazebo and other expanded gathering spaces now allow classes to spend more time in discussion and observation along its path.

**COMPLETED: NOVEMBER 2019**

### ENHANCING & RESTORING STEARNS WOODLAND TRAIL

Renovations on the one-mile Stearns Woodland Trail's included reconstruction of the boardwalks, two bridges and the addition of an ADA-accessible entrance and trail segment and a new wetland observation deck.

**PHASE 1 COMPLETED: NOV 2020**



## UPCOMING ENHANCEMENT PLANS



PHOTO OF SIMILAR NELSON TREEHOUSE PROJECT

### AN ACCESSIBLE TREEHOUSE IN THE FOREST

We will be improving our Stearns Woodland Trail by adding an accessible treehouse designed by Nelson Treehouse of the Animal Planet show *Treehouse Masters!* Enjoy Stearns Woodland Trail in a new and exciting way— from the canopy!

**COMING SOON: SPRING 2021**



### NEW NEIGHBORHOOD ENTRANCES CONNECTING YOUR PARK TO THE SHAKER PARKLANDS

We will improve pedestrian connections on Stearns Trail between the street, our driveway and parking lot, and create welcoming new community trail entrances with bike racks.

**COMING SOON: FALL 2021**



### CREATION OF A NATURE PLAY AREA

The nature play area will include the addition of movable, natural materials for imaginative, unstructured play, building and climbing.

**COMING SOON: FALL 2021**

### ONGOING RESTORATION OF OUR 20 ACRES OF HABITATS

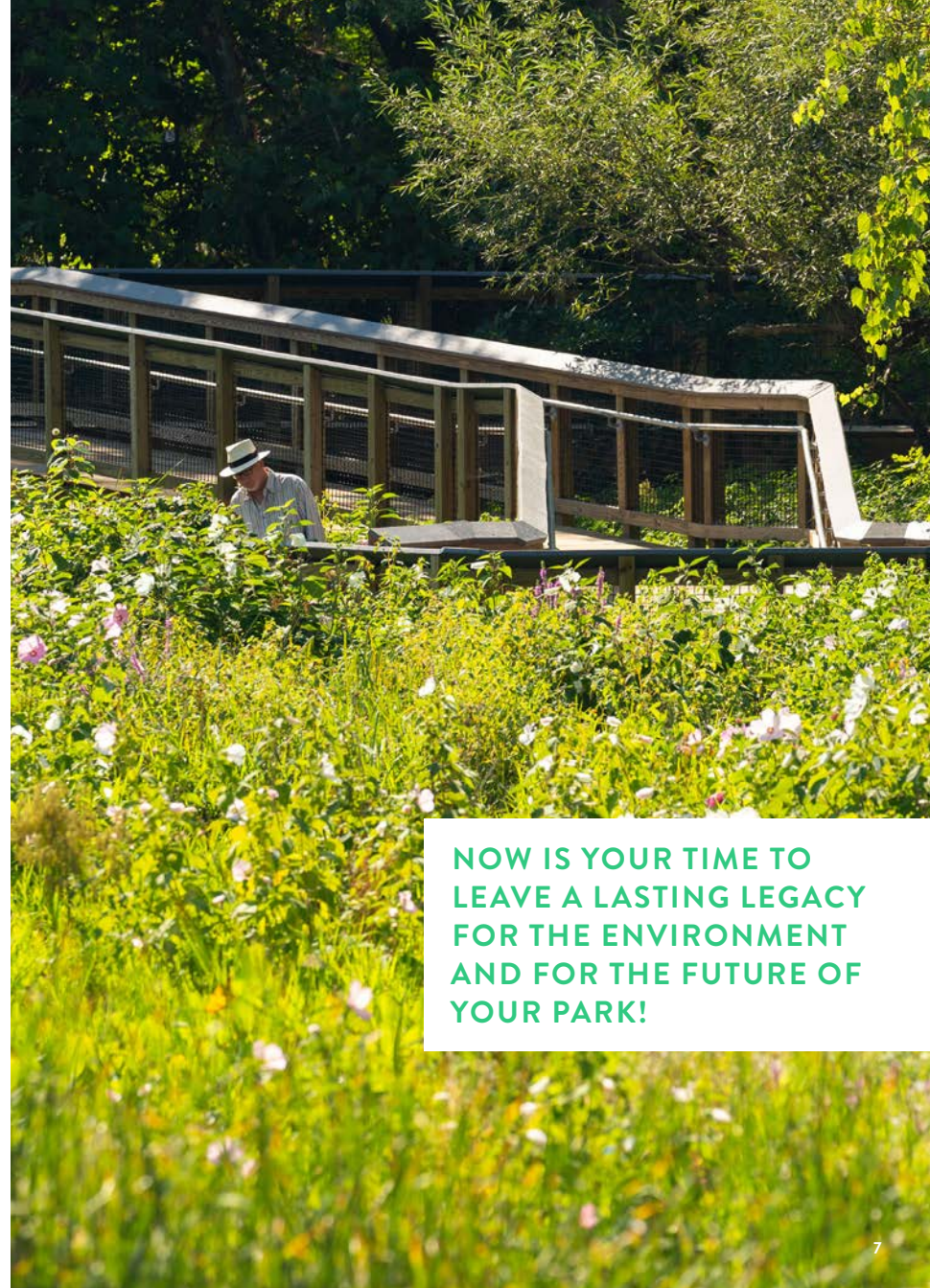
In tandem with the construction projects, we have been restoring the stream, woodland and wetland habitats that are the heart of our educational mission, but are threatened by invasive species, deer browse, and stream erosion. We have removed **over 5 acres** of invasive species, planted **over 300 trees** and shrubs, **1,200 live stakes**, and **200 perennials**, and erected extensive deer fencing to help protect this investment in our natural history and future.

# OUR BOLD VISION

## A \$6 MILLION CAMPAIGN AND CONSTRUCTION PLAN TO ACTIVATE YOUR PARK IN NEW AND ENGAGING WAYS.

Children and adults will make stronger connections with our woods and wetlands, and to each other. Each visitor will leave the Nature Center more deeply inspired to protect the beauty and bounty of our planet.

Just as the region came together over 50 years ago to preserve these 20 acres, today supporters like you are coming together to raise funds for this important effort. Through exciting renovation, restoration and enhancements, together we will deepen the experiences that engage people here throughout the year.



**NOW IS YOUR TIME TO  
LEAVE A LASTING LEGACY  
FOR THE ENVIRONMENT  
AND FOR THE FUTURE OF  
YOUR PARK!**



# HELP CONNECT YOUR PARK TO OUR COMMUNITY



PROUDLY DISPLAY  
YOUR SUPPORT OF  
THE CAMPAIGN WITH  
A YARD SIGN!

To learn more, contact  
our Development team  
at 216-321-5935 ext. 246

## CAMPAIGN COMMITTEE

### Co-Chairs

Graham P. Hearn  
Cynthia M. Klug  
David H. Lavelle  
Michael T. Novak

### Honorary Co-Chairs

Rita M. & Peter A. Carfagna  
Harry & Mary Ann Carlson  
Claudia & David C. Fulton, Jr.  
Stewart A. Kohl

### Committee Members

John C. Barber  
James T. Dixon  
Kimberly H. Dyer  
Margaret R. Giltinan  
Matthew R. Goldman  
Kathleen A. Heffernan  
Kitty L. Makley  
Denise L. Neary  
Carrie B. Shelfer

## HONORARY LIFE TRUSTEES

Marjorie M. Drollinger  
Cynthia M. Klug  
Clara T. Rankin  
Sally R. Schulze, Ph.D.  
Julie A. West

## ENDOWMENT FOUNDATION TRUSTEES

A. Chace Anderson  
Cynthia Bassett  
William G. Batcheller  
David C. Fulton, Jr.  
Margaret R. Giltinan

## AFFILIATE TRUSTEES

Caroline Borrow,  
*Shaker Lakes Garden Club*  
Victoria Mills,  
*Doan Brook Watershed  
Partnership*  
Brianna Treleven,  
*Shaker Historical Society*  
Tres Roeder,  
*City of Shaker Heights*

## BOARD OF TRUSTEES

Karen G. Kidwell, *Chair*  
Sherri A. Barr  
Kate D. Blaszak  
Leigh H. Carter  
Erin B. Connell  
Martha A. Connell  
Justin M. Croniser  
Laura H. Dean  
James T. Dixon  
Kimberly H. Dyer  
Jon E. Fowler  
Beth H. Gillespie  
Jeanne V. Gordon  
Graham P. Hearn  
Meghan B. Hunter  
David J. Kaufman  
Stephen D. Kresnye  
Michael J. Moran  
Kate F. Nagel  
Meredyth J. Ralph  
Carrie B. Shelfer  
Terri Wade-Lyles  
Daniel A. J. Waters

The Nature Center at Shaker Lakes is a 501(c)3 nonprofit organization and receives no income or property tax dollars to fulfill our mission.

2600 South Park Boulevard, Shaker Heights, OH 44120  
216.321.5935 [shakerlakes.org/outdoorclassroom](http://shakerlakes.org/outdoorclassroom)



**NATURE CENTER**  
AT SHAKER LAKES