

Connection



through Nature

June 2022

What is Five Rivers Worth to YOU?

Dear Friend:

Our 50th anniversary is a time to reflect and consider what Five Rivers has meant to you and how you can help sustain the mission of the Friends of Five Rivers for years to come.

Did your children attend the Guided School Program? Did you learn to snowshoe here? Perhaps you practiced your photography skills capturing wildlife enjoying their habitat at the Center? Did the simple serenity of nature within Five Rivers provide you with solace during stressful times? We invite you to share your thoughts and experiences at Five Rivers with all of us for our special online storybook. The storybook is a way to share how Five Rivers helped you, educated you, or connected you and your family through nature. Send your testimonial to development@friendsoffiverivers.org and even include a photo to correspond with your memory.

The mission of Friends of Five Rivers is to support environmental education, as well as to enhance the experience of visitors to Five Rivers and to promote the interests of the Center. Whether your memories are worth \$25 a year, \$50 a year, or as some say, "priceless," **we can only sustain the mission, programs, and memories for the next generation with your generous support.**

Here is an inspiring memory recently shared by our good "Friend" Catherine Markey:

I am writing to convey my family's immense appreciation for the Beautiful Day program. I started bringing two of my children during the winter of 2020 when few other children's programs felt safe with the COVID19 pandemic. It was a gift to find an outdoor program that went out no matter the weather, and even when moved inside, one that was (and is) so mindful of safety. We quickly fell in love with the curriculum and leaders and we have continued to enroll as much as our schedule allows. The flow of a story, craft, and outdoor adventure is a perfect combination that keeps my children, now two and four years old, engaged and excited. But speaking solely on the structure or content of the program, does not adequately quantify just what Nancy Payne and Nancy Conway have created, which is something magical. Their rich understanding of childhood development is so apparent in how they interact with and guide the kids both maintaining structure and creating space to follow the children's spontaneity and curiosity.

I cannot sing my praises of this program loud enough. It has been a gift through the last two years and I often think how different the world would be if every morning we all started the day by letting the sun find our faces, stretching our arms out wide and exclaiming "it is a beautiful day!" then wrapping ourselves in a hug. For now, I will continue to treasure the opportunity this program has given my children - and me - to slow down and appreciate the world around us.

What is Five Rivers worth to YOU? Please consider sharing your story and donating to our 50th Anniversary Appeal. Checks may be made payable to 'Friends of Five Rivers.' You may also donate online at www.FriendsofFiveRivers.org or by scanning the QR code below. To thank you, please accept this small token of appreciation that also serves to commemorate our 50 years of connecting people to nature.

Sincerely,

Randy Coburn, *President*
Board of Directors

Cyndee Berlin, *Chairman*
Development Committee



FRIENDS OF FIVE RIVERS

Supporting Environmental Education

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