



FRIENDS OF FIVE RIVERS

Supporting Environmental Education

56 Game Farm Road, Delmar, NY 12054 · Phone: 518-475-0295 · www.FriendsofFiveRivers.org

November 15, 2022

**What would Nancy Say?
"It's a BEAUTIFUL DAY!"**

Dear Friend:

Indeed, it's always a beautiful day at Five Rivers Environmental Education Center! Sarah Read and her two children have learned this through the Friends of Five Rivers Beautiful Day programs for ages 2-5 years. While her children have recently aged out of the Beautiful Day programs, the foundation that was laid for both of them to love and appreciate nature through these programs, will ground them forever. Sarah shares the following experience she had with her children in these programs, led by Friends of Five Rivers Environmental Educator, Nancy Payne.

"While at the time I couldn't have imagined my children aging out of the Beautiful Day program, I knew each week that both my children and I were part of something special, and we were all experiencing growth as both Nancys led us in exploring not only the world outside, but in ways of questioning, noticing, and appreciating any moment - on the grayest days, we still stand outside with our arms outstretched and say 'What would Nancy say? It's a beautiful day!'"



Sarah Read with her two children when they were involved in the Beautiful Day Programs.

My children have very different personalities, and I've been continually amazed at how Nan [Payne] and Nancy [Conway] interact so personally with each child and adult; I cannot count the ways they've demonstrated meeting us where we were on any given day; a 3-year-old who wants nothing but to roll around on ice becomes a sensory exploration of a frozen trail; a child running ahead being reminded gently and firmly what it looks like to be a leader; and a frazzled and running-late parent being met with encouraging smiles. Over the years, we have also seen mentorship in action as various interns have rotated through the program.

We still have the summer [nature] program and after-school opportunities at Five Rivers, but as a family we have all recognized in our own ways that the Beautiful Day programming will be missed, and that we've all gained so much from our years in the program."

Have you had a Beautiful Day experience at Five Rivers? Have your children or grandchildren learned to value and appreciate nature through Five Rivers educational programming similar to Sarah's children? **If you have learned about and enjoyed nature at Five Rivers, then please consider making a year-end, tax-deductible contribution to help pass on that same experience to others.** Complete the form below and mail it with your payment in the enclosed envelope. You may also donate online at www.FriendsofFiveRivers.org or by scanning the QR code below.

Remember, it's always a Beautiful Day to support Five Rivers!

Sincerely,

Cyndee Berlin, *Chairman*
Development Committee

Friends is a not-for-profit charitable organization 501c3 · EIN: 23-7309978



YES! I'm so happy to be donating to Friends of Five Rivers to help maintain "Beautiful Day" programs, the Guided School Program, Adult Talk and Trek, and other environmental education programming.

\$500 \$250 \$100 \$75 \$50 \$25 \$ _____ other

Name: _____

Address: _____

City: _____ State: _____ Zip: _____

Phone: _____ Email: _____

Thank you for your tax-deductible contribution!