

The background of the cover is a photograph of the Indian Creek Nature Center building. The building is a long, low structure with a green metal roof that has several solar panels installed. The walls are made of light-colored stone and wood. A wooden pergola runs along the front of the building. In the foreground, there is a field of tall green plants with many small white and pink wildflowers. An American flag is visible on a pole to the right of the building. The sky is overcast.

TWENTY NINETEEN ANNUAL REPORT

THE BOARD

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2019 Annual Report Print Sponsor:



A word from Executive Director John Myers



Celebrating Major Milestones

To create Champions of Nature we must connect with people of all ages to educate and inspire them to care about, protect, and advocate for nature and the environment. It is our goal that each person that walks the trails, attends a field trip, eats at a Farm to Table dinner, practices yoga in the prairie, or learns from a program leaves with a richer appreciation for nature.

In 2019 we achieved major milestones and saw significant accomplishments, including:

- 🌿 Highest attendance ever — 81,988 people came through our doors this year!
- 🌿 Attainment of the Living Building Challenge certification — making Amazing Space the most sustainable building in Iowa, proven through a rigorous certification process which continues ICNC's history of environmental leadership. (Read more on page 5.)
- 🌿 Planting at Etzel Sugar Grove Farm — 2019 was the first year since the donation of the farm that we have crops in the ground focused on regenerating the soil by increasing biodiversity. (Read more on page 6.)
- 🌿 Expanding land protection with the addition of 26 acres of forest adjacent to Věčný Woods. (Read more on page 8.)
- 🌿 Growing our endowment — these funds are an important part of our financial sustainability and provide valuable dollars year after year to support operations. An especially meaningful gift in 2019 came from Dennis & Jacque Holloway to honor Director Emeritus Rich Patterson and his wife, Marion Patterson, for their commitment to ICNC's endowment. (Read more on page 12.)

Our work could not be achieved without volunteers and donors — and one of our most significant recent partners has been Frontier Co-op (read more on page 7). Their support and effort to champion Etzel Sugar Grove Farm has been momentous. We are also continually supported by the Friends of the Nature Center, who devote tremendous time to fundraising through the annual Plant & Art Sale and Nature's Noel (read more on page 14).

Financially, ICNC ended the year in the black, but it took tremendous support from the community and each of you. Gifts to ICNC of all sizes make a difference and are important to continue our work (read more on page 3).

As we celebrate all that has been accomplished, know that we will continue to look forward and address the needs of the environment, nature, and the communities we serve. We will always remain committed to creating Champions of Nature!

Financials

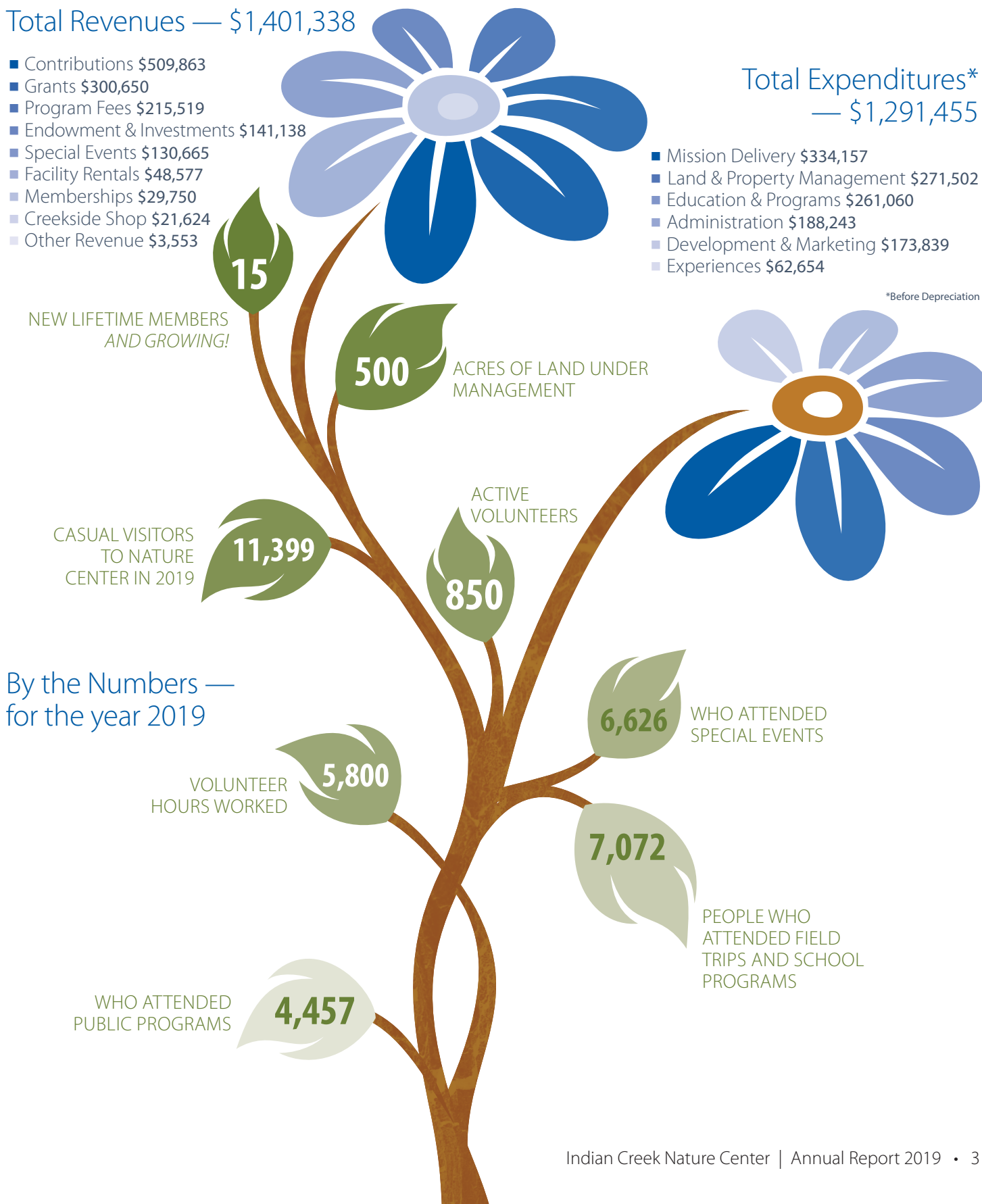
Total Revenues — \$1,401,338

- Contributions \$509,863
- Grants \$300,650
- Program Fees \$215,519
- Endowment & Investments \$141,138
- Special Events \$130,665
- Facility Rentals \$48,577
- Memberships \$29,750
- Creekside Shop \$21,624
- Other Revenue \$3,553

Total Expenditures* — \$1,291,455

- Mission Delivery \$334,157
- Land & Property Management \$271,502
- Education & Programs \$261,060
- Administration \$188,243
- Development & Marketing \$173,839
- Experiences \$62,654

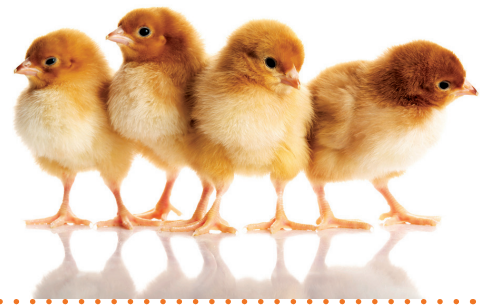
*Before Depreciation



By the Numbers — for the year 2019

YEAR IN REVIEW

2019 marked our 46th year of creating Champions of Nature through education and inspiration, as well as several other milestones:



Recognized with ASHRAE award

- ICNC was selected from a field of international nominees to receive the prestigious Technology Award from the American Society of Heating, Refrigerating and Air Conditioning Engineers (ASHRAE). The award was given for Amazing Space's integrated approach pairing low-energy building systems along with high performing renewable generation systems.



Opened RI MOC

- In partnership with Rodale Institute and Frontier Co-op, we launched the Rodale Institute Midwest Organic Center at Etzel Sugar Grove Farm. The MOC will provide resources and support for Iowa's organic farmers; enhance the growth of more organic farms throughout the region; research innovative, regenerative, organic farming methods in Iowa's unique climate and soil; and create progressive opportunities in agriculture.



129 Total Rentals

- Our facilities were used for 129 rentals in 2019, including corporate retreats, birthday parties, weddings, picnics, school programs, fundraisers, equipment rentals and more. Rentals enable groups to bring people to the Nature Center that have never been here before.



Launched the Land & Creek Legacy Project

- In 2019 we launched a million dollar fundraiser for two major initiatives: the purchase of 26.6 acres of land adjoining Věčný Woods to the north; and the creation of the Indian Creek Exhibit, which will 'flow' through our exhibit hall and demonstrate the magic beneath Indian Creek's surface.

Addition of 65 ISA Brown hens, now laying at ESGF

- In April we received fertilized eggs from Hoover's Hatchery. The eggs were incubated and hatched in the Exhibit Hall of Amazing Space. The chicks made their way to Etzel Sugar Grove Farm and are now free-range and organically-raised.



- EGGS FOR SALE — with our fresh flock of ISA Browns laying 40 dozen eggs per week, we began selling eggs for \$5 a dozen in our Creekside Shop in the fall.



Revitalized the teepee

- Volunteers from the Central Iowa Power Cooperative dismantled, cleaned, revitalized and rebuilt the teepee in the Hazelnut Hideaway Outdoor Classroom.

Recognized as one of the CBJ's Coolest Places to Work

- The Corridor Business Journal recognized ICNC as one of the coolest places to work in the Cedar Rapids / Iowa City area. Local companies are recognized for engaging and rewarding work environments based on a worker satisfaction survey.



Created overflow parking lot with freshly planted trees



- To accommodate our growing attendance we expanded our parking area to include an overflow parking lot. We also planted Kentucky Coffee trees with the help of Trees Forever and volunteers.

We are Petal Certified!

Amazing Space achieves prestigious Living Building Challenge Petal Certification



In September 2019 Amazing Space was officially designated a Living Building Challenge Petal Certified building, making it the only one in Iowa and one of just 31 in the world to achieve this rigorous certification.

Living Buildings push the envelope for sustainable design. They create synergy between nature and the built environment, between individuals and the community, and between current design and future energy use.

Amazing Space achieved the Petals of Place, Water, Energy, Health and Happiness, Equity, and Beauty. Some of the features in the building include:



SITE / PLACE Our 290-acre property on the southeast side of Cedar Rapids features native prairie plant species and more than five miles of trails with views of natural prairie, woodlands and wetlands.

NET-ZERO ENERGY Solar panels produce more than 100 percent of the energy Amazing Space needs each year. The interactive portal outside our mechanical room gives visitors an in-depth look at our energy usage.



NET-ZERO WATER

Permeable pavers, wetlands, rain gardens and bioswales hold 100 percent of the rainwater on site, which prevents downstream flooding. The ecological robustness of the native prairie, shrubs and trees eliminates the need for irrigation. Wastewater is treated on site through a septic system and gradually filters back into the soil.

BIOPHILIC DESIGN Biophilia is incorporated throughout our building, including a “living wall” in the hallway, live edge baseboard (harvested from trees that grew on site) along the walls and many windows that flood our building with natural light.



LOCALLY-SOURCED MATERIALS

Almost everything in the building, from the limestone to the wooden beams, was sourced within 500 miles. The building was designed and built by local companies using union labor. Many of the elements, including the living wall and fountain, were created by volunteers!

BEAUTY & SPIRIT Amazing Space is full of art, beauty and spirit, including handmade natural wood art made by local craftsman John Schwartzkopf, vaulted ceilings with repeating wooden beams, a fountain in the exhibit hall (home to three turtles) and the peaceful escape of the bird room (with webbed Ornilux glass to protect from bird strikes). On a rainy day, water dances down the rain chains, both beautiful and functional. At night, experience the purposeful darkness of our site — only two lamps light the parking lot, helping to avoid light pollution and allowing guests to experience an uninhibited night sky.



CIVILIZED ENVIRONMENT

Every room in Amazing Space has windows that open so that you can enjoy the rich smells and sounds of nature. A green light indicates when the humidity and temperature outside are such that it is OK to open the windows without wasting energy.



FARM

New growth sprouted in every direction at Etzel Sugar Grove Farm in 2019

Jean Wiedenheft, Director of Land Stewardship



We welcomed Farm Manager Scott Koepke and his dog Blue — our team of champions who keep the farm running on a daily basis and share the love of healthy soil with the community — as well as a flock of 65 ISA Brown hens, a breed notorious for their ability to lay more than 300 eggs annually. And boy, have they lived up to their reputation. Since

the fall we've sold eggs by the dozen in our Creekside Shop and wholesale to Frontier Co-op. Organic certification is under way.

The Frontier Field was planted with a wide variety of trees and shrubs: red twig dogwood, honeyberry, chestnut, heartnut, butternut, hazelnut, corkscrew willow, almond, sweet cherry, pecan, heirloom apple, and weeping willow. Known as agroforestry, planting multi-height species will allow a diversity of crops to take advantage of the sunlight.

Scott harvested heirloom watermelon, acorn squash, and butternut squash in the fall; planted garlic to harvest in the summer of 2020; and enriched the field with a cover crop of buckwheat to improve the soil and support pollinators.

"This past year at Etzel Sugar Grove Farm was a growing season that focused on building three essential resources for any healthy ecosystem: soil, biodiversity, and relationships," Scott said. "We're digging into what it means to help, not harm, the living, breathing, hydrating biological life of soil as a prerequisite to having food to eat. ... At Sugar Grove, we're driven passionately to advance soil health."

Cover crops not only provide nutrients to the root network for new plants to grow, they also fulfill two other critical roles: retaining hydration in the soil and outcompeting weed pressure.

"Cover cropping is the foundation of regenerative agriculture," Scott explained. "It's a practice that builds more organic matter than it extracts — it gives back more than it takes."

Scott was also able to partner with neighbors and transition ten acres from conventional agriculture into a sorghum cover crop, which will enrich the soil for future planting plans.

"We are building bridges of agriculture in many forms — conventional, organic, transitional, come one come all," Scott said. We all need to work together to strengthen Iowa's agricultural health for the next generation of farmers."



Other exciting happenings on the farm this year include:

- 🌱 Installing a new nutrient reduction wetland that will reduce nitrogen in the soil from conventional fields and support wildlife.
- 🌱 Hosting an Iowa Organic Association Field Day
- 🌱 In partnership with the Rodale Institute and Frontier Co-op, we launched the Midwest Organic Center — a site for conducting research and sharing knowledge about sustainable and profitable regenerative agriculture practices with farmers throughout the region.

The community came together in many different ways to support the farm in its emergent year. We are deeply grateful to the numerous volunteers who helped at the farm, as well as the many organizations and businesses that provided support including: Alburnett School District, Bankers Trust, Boy Scouts of America, Cargill, Coe College, Cornell College, Frontier Co-op, Hoover's Hatchery, Silos and Smokestacks, Trees Forever, and United Way.



FRONTIER ON THE FARM

A “Perfect Fit” Partnership

Liz Zabel, Marketing Manager



Frontier Co-op has a long tradition of giving back — globally, nationally and locally. They’ve trained farmers around the world to grow organically, created charitable funds for social giving and partnered with a number of local businesses on projects, including Indian Creek Nature Center.

As a longstanding partner of the Nature Center, Frontier Co-op supports us in a number of ways. They’ve sponsored our Farm to Table dinners for three years (since we first started the program), contributed \$150,000 over three years to support Etzel Sugar Grove Farm’s permaculture field, partnered with us and Rodale Institute to launch the R.I. Midwest Organic Center this year, and assisted with several volunteer projects at Amazing Space and the farm. Also, Frontier’s Sustainability Manager, Alicia Simmons, serves on our Board of Directors.

“At Frontier Co-op, our mission is to nourish people and planet, and we know that doing good works,” Simmons said. “We want to play an active role in bettering our community and region, and our partnership with Indian Creek Nature Center was a perfect fit.”

Since its founding in 1976, Frontier Co-op has been committed to the health and welfare of the environment and all the people who produce and consume natural products like theirs.

“We care deeply about our impact on the world and have always tried to operate in a way that reflects this, not only because it’s the right thing to do, but because we believe it’s just good business,” said Tony Bedard, CEO of Frontier Co-op.

For example, Frontier is dedicated to educating farmers about the risks of harmful chemicals and the benefits of organic farming.

Frontier wants to give farmers the tools and resources they need to transition to organic or regenerative farming while also helping break down the financial barriers to get there.

This same mission is reflected in the work ICNC does at Etzel Sugar Grove Farm, where we work to establish sustainable, economically viable permaculture farming practices that we can share with local farmers to replicate on their own farms. As Champions of Nature and leaders in environmental sustainability, the Nature Center and Frontier Co-op are committed to act before it’s too late.

“We know well that we’re running out of topsoil and that farmers are struggling to make ends meet,” Simmons said. “People are fighting to keep their acreage while costs are going up and income going down. ... This project came down to living our core values. People deserve to live happy, healthy lives and agriculture plays a huge role.”

The work being done at the Farm and Midwest Organic Center “represents a truly progressive approach to enhancing agriculture in the area by demonstrating the benefit of not only organic, but regenerative agriculture practices,” Bedard said. “These practices will restore topsoil, enhance soil health, and grow better, more nutritious crops. We believe it is imperative that these progressive practices be exhibited and shared with producers in the Midwest.”

To Frontier, Simmons said, the Nature Center’s focus on listening, educating and inspiring is “exactly the approach” they agree needs to be taken to be agents of change.

“I see firsthand the impact Indian Creek Nature Center has on the community,” Simmons said. “You educate, inspire and get people to experience for themselves the importance of our natural world, and that fosters a love for the outdoors. The Nature Center does a really good job of inspiring people to care.”



LAND

Protecting Natural Spaces

Jason Bies, Trail Specialist

Downshifting the truck into second gear, I round the corner and head north on 44th St. My eyes scan the familiar landscape: the mature oaks in the old pasture, the hay fields, the prairie reconstruction, the scattering of houses. I crest a hill and see something increasingly familiar on this stretch of road: a flock of wild turkeys.



I stop the truck and watch them mosey across the road, off to forage for acorns in the dappled afternoon sunlight. It's a pleasant pause in my day. These are my neighbors, and I'm glad to see them because they're a conservation success

story. By the early 1900s, due largely to habitat destruction, only 30,000 birds remained in North America. Today, over 7 million Wild Turkeys share this continent with us, largely thanks to efforts to protect woodlands, prairies, and other wildlands.



Protected natural landscapes, while providing habitat for native plants and animals, also provide us with many ecosystems services. Forests act like large air filters, cleansing the air of pollutants like particulates and sulfur dioxide. Plants — trees, especially — pull carbon dioxide from the air and sequester that carbon as they grow. Soils of prairies and woodlands quickly soak up rainfall and snowmelt. The land holds onto that water, releasing it slowly into streams and rivers. This slow release curtails flooding and keeps our streams and rivers healthy by reducing inputs of pollutants and soil from surface runoff. Water that doesn't end up in surface water seeps down into aquifers to recharge our drinking water supply.

Protecting natural spaces also preserves those unique characteristics which help a person build a sense of place — that connection, relationship, or attachment to the land. This sense of place is what Indian Creek Nature Center tries to foster while creating Champions of Nature.

We were fortunate in 2019 to have the opportunity to add 26 acres to our protected base. This land will remain as a mixed hardwood forest and will expand on the habitat protection already in place. Because this new addition is adjacent to Věčný Woods, it provides an outsized conservation benefit, as protecting one large parcel is more beneficial to native plants and animals than separate parcels. Large patches of natural landscapes can increase biodiversity by providing habitat for species like cerulean warblers, which will only nest in large, contiguous stands of mature forest. By protecting this property, we'll provide habitat for plants and wildlife and landscapes for Champions of Nature to build their sense of place.

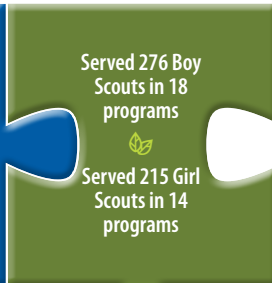


EDUCATION

By the Numbers



Thank you for hosting these Scout workshops! We started attending last year when our Den was comprised of Tigers and brought our entire Den to this event in November. We will continue to use ICNC for educational events and beyond!



Served 276 Boy Scouts in 18 programs

Served 215 Girl Scouts in 14 programs

We had a great experience. All of the staff were wonderful with the girls and clearly very knowledgeable about their subject matter.

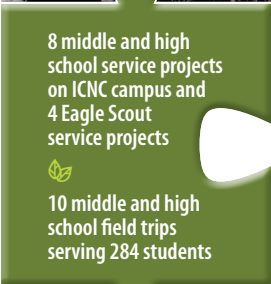


27 preschool field trips serving 706 students

\$364 scholarship dollars awarded to preschool classes



99 Kindergarten–5th grade field trips serving 4,033 students



8 middle and high school service projects on ICNC campus and 4 Eagle Scout service projects

10 middle and high school field trips serving 284 students



My grandson Brant loved the entire experience. We went for lunch afterwards and he was telling total strangers in the restaurant about his time at Dino Dig!



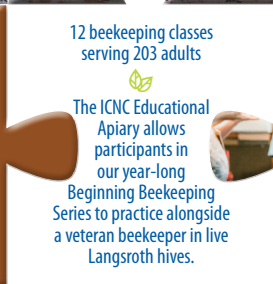
9 chicken classes serving 81 adults

Our Backyard Chicken Workshop is the only certification recognized by Cedar Rapids to apply for a backyard chicken permit.



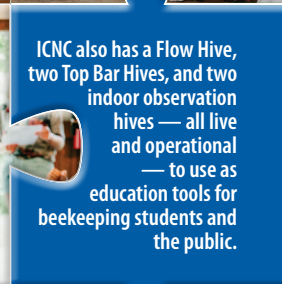
10 programs, both off-site and on-site, for retirement communities, serving 159 adults and 17 staff

Our naturalists enjoy working with people of all ages and abilities, and many of our programs can be held off site!

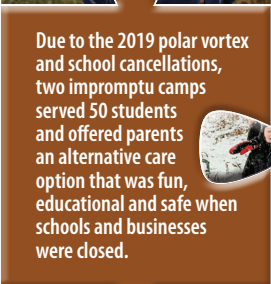


12 beekeeping classes serving 203 adults

The ICNC Educational Apiary allows participants in our year-long Beginning Beekeeping Series to practice alongside a veteran beekeeper in live Langstroth hives.



ICNC also has a Flow Hive, two Top Bar Hives, and two indoor observation hives — all live and operational — to use as education tools for beekeeping students and the public.



Due to the 2019 polar vortex and school cancellations, two impromptu camps served 50 students and offered parents an alternative care option that was fun, educational and safe when schools and businesses were closed.



In partnership with Summit Schools for their In-Service Camp, 28 students visited ICNC for a full day of programming. This included snacks, lunch, and tons of time outside on the ICNC campus.



A total of 135 children & 112 adults partied at ICNC for birthdays (11 parties), which included a full hour of fun and exploration, topped off with ice cream drizzled with our honey or maple syrup.



(My students) had fun, were able to get out of the classroom, and build strong relationships with one another while experiencing nature.

Thank you to our Education Sponsors

Summer Camps:



Field Trips:



Trail Trekkers:



Backyard Chickens Workshop:



2019 SPECIAL EVENTS



MAPLE SYRUP
FESTIVAL

IN KIND
IBEW
Hy-Vee
Reinhart
Quaker Oats
Hansen's Dairy
ImOn Communications
Evergreen Packaging
Carpenter's Union
Amerigas



CONCERTS
AT THE CREEK



MONARCH FESTIVAL



NATURE'S NOEL





PAUL &
JENNIFER
MORF



Iowa
Natural Heritage
Foundation



Northtowne
CYCLING & FITNESS

Sugar Bottom
SBB BIKES

Morgan Stanley

IN KIND
World of Bikes
Bike Rags
Cedar Ridge Winery
& Distillery



GOLDFINCH
Cycling
CEDAR RAPIDS, IA



Informatics
ALL THINGS INTERNET®
Nancy Lorenzini



BACK in line FAMILY
CHIROPRACTIC AND WELLNESS

IN KIND
Shop Wild Moon
Kae Apothecary
Naturally Eden Linens
New Moon Studio
Roots in Bloom
Sage Practices



IN KIND
SOKO Outfitters
Fin & Feather
Up a Creek

RSM



GreenState
CREDIT UNION

SCHEELS
GEAR. PASSION. SPORTS.

IN KIND
Coe College
Kiecks Apparel
Active Endeavors
Chestnut Mountain
Nature Freak Clothing
Sundown Mountain



The Linge Family



FRONTIER
FRESH CO-OP
HOMES GROWN SINCE 1974



Enriching the Endowment

Endowment gifts ensure long-term financial health of ICNC

Every donation Indian Creek Nature Center receives helps move its mission forward, but to sustain that mission long-term, gifts to the endowment are critical.

In 2019 we received a significant donation of \$25,000 to our endowment from long-time supporters Dennis and Jacque Holloway. The Holloways made the donation in honor of ICNC Emeritus Director Rich Patterson and his wife, Marion. In the '80s, under his tenure as director, Patterson and the Nature Center's board of directors launched the endowment, which continues

Rich and Marion Patterson

to keep the Nature Center financially stable.

"In the late '70s and '80s, the Nature Center was operating extremely lean," Patterson explained. "Financials were tight to grim. In the early '80s, the economy was terrible and we were two weeks out from not being able to pay staff."

Inspired to keep the Nature Center's mission alive for the long term, board members donated to the newly formed endowment. It was "the most critical thing to happen in the history of the Nature Center," Patterson said.

Since then, Patterson said there hasn't been a year when there wasn't a contribution to the endowment, and those investments have provided a perpetual income stream to support the organization's operations long term — currently, 11% of ICNC's annual budget comes from endowment distributions.

During the Amazing Space campaign, over \$1 million was added to the endowment, and as of 2019, ICNC's endowment is \$2.78 million dollars invested with the Greater Cedar Rapids Community Foundation.

In 2019, ICNC's leadership chose to move a portion of those funds into an ESG (Environmental, Social, Governance)



investment strategy. ESG investments not only minimize risk and maximize gains like traditional investments, but also consider the ethical implications of those investments. Specifically, our ESG fund does not have any investments in companies in the oil, natural gas, coal or traditional energy industry.

Over the years, Indian Creek Nature Center's leadership has demonstrated responsible and ethical use of donations and built trust with donors to expect their money will be used according to their wishes.

Donations to ICNC's endowment can be designated to benefit general operations, education, or land and facilities. With their 2019 endowment gift the Holloways specified it should be used for general operations rather than for a special project or campaign. They believe in and understand the need for nonprofits to fund general operational items that are so important but often overlooked — such as insurance, office supplies, and maintenance.

"The endowment is meant to fund the mundane," Patterson said. "It's the hardest money to find in contributions — paying to fix a roof, or the custodian's salary. ... It takes a leader who has long-term vision to invest in durable funding that is often unglamorous, but critically important."

In learning of the Holloway's gift in their name, the Pattersons said they are honored.

"The Holloways have that wisdom — they understand it's the operations that are often the toughest, and the flexibility of their gift will truly help," Patterson said. "Jacque and Dennis are wonderful supporters of our community, the environment and the Nature Center."

Interested in contributing to ICNC's endowment?

Become a lifetime member today with a one-time \$1000 contribution to the endowment, or contact Membership & Development Coordinator Nancy Lackner today at nancy@indiancreeknaturecenter.org or 319-362-0664.

Make it Monthly!

Recurring giving option now available

I've been a member of the Indian Creek Nature Center for many years; it's a cause I believe in and advocate for — and the best ways to do that are with a membership and with donations. The Nature Center now makes it possible to give regularly and painlessly using automatic recurring donations from an account



or credit/debit card you specify: you don't need to worry about forgetting and you can choose whatever amount is comfortable for you! I think it's important to pay for the things you value, and I value the Nature Center. A recurring automatic donation is such an easy way to support a local organization that provides a great benefit to our community.

—Jo Pearson

You can follow in Jo's footprints and begin monthly (or quarterly or annual) gifts today simply by going to www.indiancreeknaturecenter.org/join-give, choosing an amount, opting for "Recurring Donation," choosing your desired

frequency, and then entering your contact and credit card payment information. (Contact Nancy Lackner at nancy@indiancreeknaturecenter.org for more information and/or to use a bank account rather than a credit or debit card.)

Your gifts will begin immediately and will continue until you contact us. What could be easier? Plus, you're spreading out your giving, so it's pretty painless. The animals and plants that call Indian Creek Nature Center their home thank you, and so do we.

2019 MEMBER BREAKDOWN

Explorer	30
Household	157
Household Plus	75
Individual	41
Lifetime	186
Protector	2
Silver Maple Household	129
Silver Maple Individual	73
Steward	11
TOTAL	704

2019 Endowment Funds

Indian Creek Nature Center has mission-focused funds at the Greater Cedar Rapids Community Foundation (GRCRF). We continue to honor the memory and service of those who provided or inspired legacy gifts to benefit the Nature Center for future generations.

Indian Creek Nature Center General Operations Fund

Legacy Donors:

ICNC Founders BB Stamats & the Jean O'Donnell Family (Michael & Tiffany O'Donnell, Ann O'Donnell Ilten)

2019 Donors to this fund:

Andrew & Shari Barden
Scot Brown & Julie Lammers
Susan Horak
Doug & Diane Kopp
Annie Kregel
Vickie Kriz
David Maier & Matt McGrane
Bob "Mick" & Jo Ann McNiel
Lisa & Randy Ramlo
Jodi & Derek Stepanek
Terry & Marlyse Strait

Liana & Nick Weiland
Mike & Esther Wilson

Indian Creek Nature Center Education Fund

Legacy Donors:

Metro High School
Mrs. Paul (Sigurd) Lynch
Richard Schulz (in memoriam)
Robert G. Worley (in memoriam)

Indian Creek Nature Center General Operations Friends Fund

Legacy Donors:

Jeanne and Robert Blahnik (in memoriam)
Cedar Rapids Garden Club
Harriet and Robert Eckard
2019 Donors to this fund:
Andrew & Shari Barden

Scot Brown & Julie Lammers
Dennis & Jacque Holloway
Susan Horak
Annie Kregel
Vickie Kriz
David Maier & Matt McGrane
Bob "Mick" & Jo Ann McNiel
Sue & Ron Neil
Rich & Marion Patterson
Lisa & Randy Ramlo
John & Diane Riccolo
Bob Rush & Judi Whetstone
Sara & Jim Sauter
Jodi & Derek Stepanek
Terry & Marlyse Strait
Liana & Nick Weiland
Barb Westercamp
Mike & Esther Wilson

Indian Creek Nature Center Education Friends Fund

Legacy Donors:

Ella Johnson Miller
Helen Troxel (in memoriam)

2019 Donors to this fund:

Janet & Steve Hamous

Indian Creek Nature Center Land & Facilities Fund

2019 Donors to this fund:

Pat & Don Boland

Indian Creek Nature Center Land & Facilities Friends Fund

Legacy Donors:

Carl and Doris McClain
Lynne Stimple Family (in memoriam)

2019 Donors to this fund:

Lil' Drug Store Products, Inc.

In addition, Indian Creek Nature Center is grateful for grants and endowment distributions received from these funds at the Greater Cedar Rapids Community Foundation in 2019, with

donors to those funds shown below the fund name:

Alex Strait Memorial Fund for Indian Creek Nature Center
Bill & Lu Barron Donor-Advised Endowed Fund of the GRCRF
Chris Keeran
Tom & Becky Pardonek
Terry & Marlyse Strait
Fred & Deborah Walk
Dr. Norma Wenzel
Altorfer Inc.
Non-Endowed Donor-Advised Fund
Betty & Meril Geuder
Land Care Fund
Bloomhall Family Donor-Advised Fund
David & Chris Kubicek
Endowed Fund
Dean & Laura Gesme
Family Fund
Dorothea & Joseph Hall
Gift of Wonder Fund
Dorothea E. Garberson
Wildflower Project Fund
Dr. Eugene & Carleen
Grandon Indian
Creek Nature Center
Endowment Fund
Etzel Sugar Grove Farm
Endowed Fund
Frontier Co-op Giving
Fund

Gladys Bock Children's Fund for the Indian Creek Nature Center
GreatAmerica Financial Services Corporation
Donor-Advised Fund
Jay G. Sigmund Fund
Joy Kim Fisher Memorial Fund
Al & Ellen Fisher
Kolln Family Endowed
Donor-Advised Fund
Linge Family Fund
Merit Construction Co. or Rinderknecht Associates Inc. Donor-Advised Fund
Morf Endowed Donor-Advised Fund
Norm & Floy Erickson
Endowed Fund
Organizational Development Fund
Paul Christiansen Memorial Fund
Scot & Jane Christiansen
Program Grant Fund
Robert W. & Elizabeth M. Allsop Fund
Roger & Thea Leslie
Endowed Fund
Ruth M. & Clifford M. Altermatt Fund
Steve & Joanne Carfrae Fund
William B. Qarton Fund

We ♥ our Friends

Group of 164 committed volunteers raises thousands for the Nature Center each year

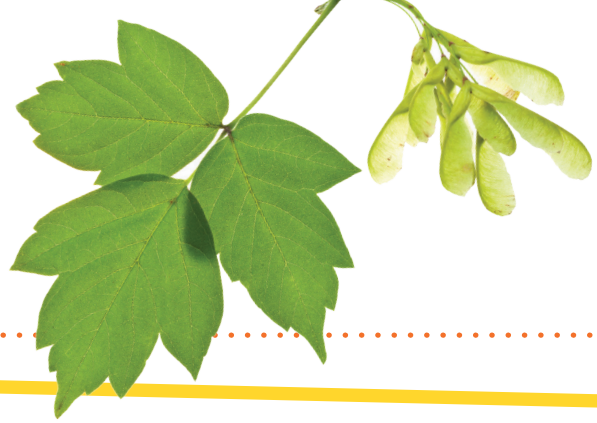
The Friends of the Nature Center help us meet our mission with two beloved events each year: the Spring Plant & Art Sale and Nature's Noel. In 2019, the Friends raised a total of \$31,913.29 for the Nature Center. These funds ensure ICNC's ability to provide high-quality environmental education to area children and help foster connections to the outdoors that last a lifetime.



Interested in joining
Friends of the Nature Center?
Just fill out the volunteer application
at [indiancreeknaturecenter.org/
get-involved/volunteer](http://indiancreeknaturecenter.org/get-involved/volunteer), or call us at
(319) 362-0664.

THANK YOU

Our Volunteers



“ICNC allows me to teach the fun stuff to kids of all ages. Teaching children about nature in Iowa is a reminder to me how important spending time outdoors is for everyone, even in bad weather, and just a couple hours of my time can make a huge difference in a child's experience.”

—Jenni Semelroth, Volunteer Teacher-Naturalist



“I have volunteered at the Nature Center for decades, so obviously it calls to me! The Nature Center is “my place.” It has everything for volunteers — great people, abundant learning opportunities, variety, and the chance to be a part of nature. When I spend time there I don't just help in my community, I have a great time. I can't imagine a week without my fix.”

—Mary Kopecky, Volunteer



Volunteers Recognized

The following individuals were recognized at our 2019 Volunteer Recognition Dinner for their incredible contributions of time and talent to Indian Creek Nature Center:

Founders Award Sheila Hahn

Jack in the Pulpit Vickie Kriz, Tom Cleveland and Steve Keane

Outstanding Service by a Community Supporter

Cedar Rapids Garden Club, received by Hilery Livengood; and McIntyre Foundation, received by John Rife

Commitment to Excellence Alicia Simmons

Education Volunteer of the Year Kelle Kolkmeier

Land Volunteer of the Year Dan Sauerbrei

“Volunteering at the ICNC has been a tremendously rewarding experience for me. As a Teacher-Naturalist helping to lead children's programs, I have learned how experiences in nature can have a positive impact on our kids. It's impossible to not be affected by the moments of simple joy and ‘ah ha’ that comes when our kids are exposed to nature in new and exciting ways. An essential part of my experience has been to learn from the great staff, fellow volunteers, and yes, the students as they ask intrepid questions. I would recommend volunteering at ICNC for anyone with an interest in making a difference. Thank you for letting me be part of the wonderful Indian Creek Nature Center team!”

—Steve Keane, Volunteer Teacher-Naturalist





 **Indian Creek**
NATURE CENTER
5300 Otis Road SE
Cedar Rapids, IA 52403

Indian Creek Nature Center is Iowa's first and only privately owned and operated nonprofit nature center. ICNC's mission is to promote a sustainable future by nurturing individuals through environmental education, providing leadership in land protection and restoration and encouraging responsible interaction with nature. We create #championsofnature, and we hope you'll join us in fostering environmental stewards who are passionate about nature and will protect it into the future.



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2019 Annual Report design by:

