



Above: STEM students are fascinated by the bird banding process. Below: A youngster helps fill a suet feeder. Inset photo: Wildflowers brighten the landscape at Aullwood.

conservation actions

This spring Dayton International Airport (DAY) planted 270-acres in tallgrass prairies. This combined with the Paul E. Knoop Prairie that was planted in 1994-95, brings the total acreage to 400. Not only is this habitat low maintenance, but it attracts small threatened grassland birds that have little impact on airplane flight. Aullwood is collaborating with DAY and the U.S. Department of Agriculture to determine how different habitats affect bird populations. We are surveying bird populations in croplands, established prairies, developing prairies and turf grass to determine which habitat will reduce hazardous wildlife and airplane interactions.

With funding from the Greater Dayton Conservation Fund, Aullwood, in collaboration with Ohio Bird Conservation Initiative, introduced a *Lights Out Miami Valley* program and enrolled seven building in the Miami Valley to turn off lights at night during peak bird migration in the spring and fall months.

The U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service funded projects to improve forest habitats. The invasive plant, Lesser Celandine, was treated with herbicide and restored with native woodland seeding. Additionally, the vernal pool on the Wildflower Trail will be restored and amphibians will be reintroduced.

Wiles Creek bank was stabilized and erosion issues were resolved. Michael Flannery completed an Eagle Scout project, creating and installing new trail signs throughout the sanctuary.

"A 5th grader from Dayton's Westwood PreK-8 exclaimed to his friend that he never thought he would be this excited to learn about birds!"—Sarah Alverson, Aullwood Naturalist



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Memories made here...
spend your life at Aullwood!

Audubon A REPORT TO OUR FRIENDS July 2014-June 2015

our mission

Aullwood Audubon Center and Farm, an Audubon Center for environmental education and sustainable agriculture, provides activities that increase understanding and preservation of the planet by children and adults through education, research and recreation.

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Pam Dittner
Farm Building Operator
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Farm Manager
Barbara Trick
Office Manager

friends and supporters:

Countless memories are made at Aullwood enriching the lives of all who participate in our incredible activities. During my 33 years as Aullwood's Executive Director, I have been blessed with an exceptional staff, Friends of Aullwood Board of Trustees, volunteers and members. Your inspiration and support is one of the reason that Aullwood is recognized by center directors across the county as one of the top nature centers! Your gifts of time, talent and funds have provided the resources for Aullwood to expand programs and facilities.

Innovative partnerships are key to our success. This year a 270-acre prairie was planted at neighboring Dayton International Airport. We will conduct studies to determine if prairie habitats will reduce bird strike incidents with planes. If this is documented, airports across the country may convert land into prairie habitats for some of our most threatened songbirds.

STEMing Science into Conservation Action continued to engage economically disadvantaged children from six Dayton City Schools in four full-day field experiences at Aullwood. Students will never forget the first time they planted a tree, banded a bird or collected fish from the Stillwater River.

What will I miss the most as I retire at the end of this fiscal year? The people...you, the staff, volunteers and members. I have watched so many children grow-up at Aullwood...these are my treasured Aullwood memories. On July 1, Aullwood welcomed Alexis Faust as the new Executive Director. May lives always be transformed through Aullwood's innovative experiences.

Charity Krueger
Aullwood Audubon Center & Farm,
Executive Director

Charlie Shoemaker
Friends of Aullwood
President (FY 2014-2015)

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For more information:

Call (937) 890 7360 or visit us on the web: www.aullwood.org

nature inspires, teaches and involves children

22,260 children discovered nature, conservation and farming through Aullwood field trips or special classes. Additionally, 37,025 students participated in *Aullwood REACHES* outreach programs. These 59,285 students came from 14 counties, 22 public school systems and 120 different schools or educational institutions!

Thirteen elementary schools participated in *Aullwood Adventures School* programs, enabling 3,764 children to experience three field trips for in-depth nature and farming exploration. Honda of America Manufacturing and the Northmont Rotary Club provided funds to create new *Aullwood Adventures* programs with Ansonia Elementary and Englewood Hills Elementary.

With funds provided by the Martha Holden Jennings Foundation, Mathile Family Fund, Vectren Foundation, Kenneth A. Scott Charitable Trust, Iddings Foundation and the Tait Foundation, Aullwood engaged 263 economically disadvantaged 5th grade and high school students from six Dayton City Schools in *STEMing Science into Conservation Action*. We will be thrilled to note that students' interest in pursuing science/STEM careers increased. A teacher from Charity Adams Early Girls Academy shared, "Aullwood Naturalists' expertise and enthusiasm inspired many of our girls and allowed them to realize that they can be scientists!"

634 children participated in *Winter/Summer Earth Adventures* classes. Aullwood's *Avian Art Contest* engaged 999 children from three elementary schools. This initiative was sponsored by Annette Marquardt-Kimball and the late Robert Marquardt in memory of Enid Marquardt.



DP&L Foundation sponsored *Aullwood READS*, enabling twenty 3rd graders from Valerie Elementary and twenty 3rd graders from Helke Elementary to explore Aullwood on a weekly basis and improve reading skills. At the conclusion of *Aullwood READS*, the majority of students were proficient or above in reading and science!

82 preschoolers from Kleptz YMCA's preschools at Stillwater U.M.C. and Concord U.M.C. were engaged in Aullwood's *Small Steps in Nature* program. Enrollment at Aullwood's Farm/Nature Play Head Start Preschool was filled to capacity with 32 youngsters.

Above: An Aullwood volunteer mentors a Valerie READS student. Below: An Aullwood intern leads students on an exploration of the Farm pond.



Aullwood by the numbers

- 800 volunteers donated 17,473 hours, valued at \$403,079.
- Over 120,000+ people participated in activities at Aullwood or off-site.
- Aullwood's *Breeding Bird Census* recorded 52 species of nesting birds on our sanctuary. 26 species of birds were identified during *Project Feeder Watch* citizen science study.
- 32 species of butterflies and moths were identified during the 27th Annual NABA 4th of July Butterfly Census at Aullwood

Aullwood's honors...

- The American Institute of Architects awarded LWC, Incorporated and Aullwood an *Honorable Mention Award for Sustainable Design* for the Charity A. Krueger Farm Discovery Center.
- Charity Krueger was presented with a *Lifetime Achievement Partner of the Year Award* at the Partners for the Environment's Annual Awards Dinner in September. The award criteria included—achievement of significant results, leadership and vision, inspired work of others, utilized innovative strategies, increased community action, collaborated with other partner organizations and acted in a courageous manner.
- Nina Lapatin received a Toyota TogetherGreen Fellow Mentor Award.
- Aullwood and VMA received two awards from the Ohio Museums Association 2013 Visual Communications Competition. We received an Honorable Mention for Aullwood's *Autumn Affair* invitation and a Silver Award for the *Annual Appeal*.

The Aull Society...planning for our future
The Aull Society recognizes individuals who provide a planned gift for Aullwood. These gifts reflect a passion for Aullwood's mission and vision for the future. The following individuals are members of the Aull Society—

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Virginia C. Woodrow, M.D.
Liz* and David Wyse

"Without the support Aullwood has given Edison PreK-8, we could not have nearly as much creativity in our teaching and our students could not be nearly as invested in their own environmental responsibility to be good stewards of the land"
—Abbey Rymarczyk, Neighborhood School Coordinator



Mary Beth Young
*Deceased

Friends of Aullwood members
To conserve paper, we are listing only those members who have contributed \$250 or more. We are grateful to our 1,600+ family members.

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Special friends and supporters...

Your generosity provides vital resources enabling Aullwood to create innovative activities for children of all ages. All attempts have been made to ensure the accuracy of and completeness this list. If your name has been omitted or listed incorrectly, please notify Aullwood at (937) 890-7360.

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July 2014-June 2015

Expenditures: \$1,617,558

- Administration: \$323,512 (20%)
- Program: \$1,051,412 (65%)
- Land & Building: \$242,634 (15%)

Income: \$1,617,558

Endowment: \$578,720 (35.8%)
Special Events: \$286,847 (17.7%)
Contributions & Grants: \$256,970 (15.9%)
Admission & Tuition: \$237,644 (14.8%)
Membership: \$104,253 (6.4%)
Rentals (educational): \$55,466 (3.4%)
Store & Farm Sales: \$97,658 (6%)



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