NORTH LAKELAND DISCOVERY CENTER
inspire - discover - connect

Dear Friends,

As another year draws to a close, I've been reflecting on what makes the North Lakeland Discovery Center such a special place. It's the curiosity of a child exploring the woods for the first time, the joy of discovering something new on a trail, the shared commitment to protecting our woods and waters, and the sense of connection that comes from spending time in the Northwoods. These experiences are at the heart of NLDC, and they are possible because of the people who believe in our mission.

This year, more than 10,000 people connected with the Discovery Center through our educational programs, school group visits, traveling naturalist programs, trails, Nature Center, and other opportunities to learn, explore, and experience the natural world. Whether welcoming students to our campus, bringing nature-based learning directly into schools and communities, or helping visitors discover something new on our trails, each experience is an opportunity to inspire curiosity, strengthen connections to nature, and build a lasting ethic of care for the Northwoods.





Behind these experiences is a dedicated team working every day to make a difference. Our naturalists introduce children and adults to the wonders of the natural world. Our Woods and Water team works with community members to protect the lakes and waterways we all cherish. Our staff and volunteers care for the Nature Center, trails, facilities, and grounds that make the Discovery Center a welcoming place for residents and visitors alike.

As our reach continues to grow, so does the importance of community support. Rising operating costs and the resources needed to maintain our campus and deliver quality programs make your generosity more valuable than ever. Your year-end gift helps ensure that the Discovery Center remains a place where people of all ages and backgrounds can connect with nature, regardless of their financial circumstances.

With your support, we can:

- **Inspire the next generation** by providing meaningful outdoor education and hands-on learning experiences.
- **Protect the Northwoods** through aquatic invasive species management, lake protection, and conservation outreach.

- **Keep our programs accessible** so more people can experience the benefits of connecting with nature.
- **Care for our campus and trails** to ensure the Discovery Center remains a welcoming resource for our community for years to come.
- **Support the people who make it all possible** by investing in the dedicated staff who bring our mission to life every day.

As you consider your year-end giving, I invite you to think about what the Discovery Center means to you, your family, and our community. Perhaps it's a favorite trail, a memorable program, a beautiful afternoon outdoors, or the reassurance that we're working together to protect the natural resources that make the Northwoods so special. Whatever your connection may be, your generosity helps ensure those experiences continue for future generations.





Whether you choose to give $25, $50, $100, $250, or another amount that feels right for you, every contribution makes a difference. We've also made it easier to support NLDC through donor-advised funds (DAFs) and IRA charitable rollovers. You can find information about these giving options on our website, along with other ways to make your year-end gift.

You can make your gift by returning the enclosed form, scanning the QR code below, visiting www.discoverycenter.net, calling us at 715-543-2085, or stopping by the Discovery Center.

Thank you for being part of the Discovery Center community. Your generosity helps us enrich lives, inspire an ethic of care for the Northwoods, and create opportunities for people to connect with the natural world. I'm grateful for your support and excited about what we can accomplish together in the year ahead.

Warmest regards,

Don Anderson