



Environmental Organizations

Big environmental issues start at the ground level – in our homes, in our businesses, on our streets, among our families, and within our native wildlife. Individuals can spark change and start positive trends to improve the quality of life for every person, plant, and animal. Protecting the environment and preserving resources requires a holistic approach. Everyone can help.

The following environmental organizations have been reviewed by The Greater Cincinnati Foundation (GCF) in the recent past.

Environmental Education

Cincinnati Nature Center

The Cincinnati Nature Center was founded in 1965 on 175 acres in Rowe Woods. The Nature Center has grown to encompass over 1,600 acres of protected and managed forests, farms, meadows, streams and ponds. Its mission is to create passion for nature and promote environmentally responsible choices through experience and education. The Nature Center incorporates ecology, natural history, science, social studies and sustainable living into its programs. More than 10,000 children and 80,000 adults visit the Nature Center or participate in its educational programs each year.

www.cincynature.org

Gorman Heritage Farm

Gorman Heritage Farm is a 120-acre historic, working family farm in Evendale that provides visitors with memorable experiences ranging from hands-on farming to strolls through woodland trails with outstanding scenic vistas. Gorman Heritage Farm's mission is to provide the opportunity to explore and learn the history, methods and values of a working family farm in a natural setting. The Farm promotes education about agriculture, local habitats and the value of manual labor for people of all ages,

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What can you do?

This is a small sample of environmental organizations GCF has recently supported. If you would like to contribute to one or more of these organizations or want more information please contact a member of our Giving Strategies Group at (513) 241-2880.



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particularly local students. It serves about 9,000 visitors each year, including 2,500 children.

www.gormanheritagefarm.org

Imago, Inc.

Established in 1978, Imago is an ecological education organization that provides programming for all ages focusing on sustainability and ecological living with an emphasis on urban environments. Imago's Earth Center, a 16 acre facility located in Price Hill, serves approximately 12,000 participants each year, including 9,500 school children.

www.imagoearth.org

Keep Cincinnati Beautiful (KCB)

KCB was established in 1978 to promote litter prevention, recycling, community improvement and beautification through citizen action, education and building strategic partnerships in Greater Cincinnati. KCB's major programs include Clean & Safe Neighborhoods/Project 180, Adopt-A-Spot/Adopt-A-Highway, SuperCan Neighborhood Cleanups, and the "Don't Trash the 'Nati'" litter prevention public awareness campaign. KCB's school programs reach 12,000 children and youth each year. In 2007, KCB was honored for the seventh consecutive year as a national award-winning affiliate by Keep America Beautiful.

www.keepcincinnatibeautiful.org

Miami University/GREEN Teachers Institute (GTI)

GTI was established in 1986 as part of the Hefner Zoology Museum on Miami University's Oxford campus. It exists to help teachers enhance their knowledge of life sciences and environmental studies and gain confidence in using hands-on, inquiry-based teaching methods. GTI serves 100-200 teachers each year through programs such as Water Resources, which explores aquatic ecosystems; Advanced Environmental Education Through Inquiry, a field-oriented course focused on Southwest Ohio's ecology and natural history; and Science for Ohio, a Web site created by a GTI alumnus featuring 84 activities introducing teachers to the inquiry method for teaching science concepts.

www.environmentaleducationohio.org

Ohio Citizen Action (OCA)

Established in 1975, OCA works to maintain healthy and safe communities by involving citizens in campaigns to reduce exposure to toxic chemicals in our environment. It is Ohio's largest environmental organization with more than 100,000 members. Activities include research, advocacy and community organizing, such as Good Neighbor Campaigns that engage citizens in addressing pollution being caused by companies in their communities. Several Campaigns are underway locally and across the state, and nearly 20 campaigns have been completed successfully.

www.ohiocitizen.org

Ohio River Foundation (ORF)

ORF was established in 2000 to protect and improve the water quality and ecology of the Ohio River and its watershed for the benefit and enjoyment of current and future generations. ORF's major programs include the River Explorer program for students grades 4-9 and the Great Ohio River Paddle, a multiday event held annually. ORF serves approximately 1,300 students and others each year.

www.ohioriverfdn.org

Land Conservation and Protection

The Boone Conservancy

The Boone Conservancy was established in 1999 to create parks and protect land with unique or significant recreational, natural, scenic, historical or cultural value. The organization currently protects nearly 175 acres in the Middle Creek Watershed area in western Boone County and is working to reclaim and restore a 44-acre abandoned sand and gravel mine site in the same area.

www.thebooneconservancy.org

Cincinnati Parks Foundation

The Cincinnati Parks Foundation was established in 1995 to support the conservation and enhancement of the city's parks and greenspaces. Since inception, the Cincinnati Parks Foundation has helped to raise and leverage over twelve million dollars for park and community projects. The Cincinnati Parks serve over six million visitors each year throughout the 5,000 acre park system, which includes 5 regional parks, 70 neighborhood parks, 34 preserves and natural areas, 50 miles of hiking trails, 5 nature centers, 52 playgrounds, and 5 parkways.

www.cincinnati-oh.gov/parks

The Land Conservancy of Hamilton County

Established in 1999, the Land Conservancy helps Hamilton County families preserve their lands through voluntary conservation; protects the county's land and water resources for future generations; and helps the public understand how land conservation benefits all. The Land Conservancy has a particular emphasis on protecting land and historic sites in western Hamilton County. It provides stewardship of 169 acres, as well as a half mile of scenic greenway along the I-74 corridor and the Schmidt-Berninghaus Preserve in Westwood.

www.landconservancyhc.org

Little Miami, Inc. (LMI)

LMI was established in 1967 to preserve the natural ecosystem of the Little Miami National and State Scenic River as a green corridor of forest lands for wildlife, a setting for quiet public recreation, and a source of clean drinking water. LMI's activities include land protection, restoration and educational programs. LMI protects 200 acres of watershed land and is working with the Environmental Protection Agency to protect an additional 14 miles of river frontage. In addition, LMI recently opened the River & Trail Center on the Little Miami Scenic Trail in Loveland.

www.littlemiami.com

Rivers Unlimited (RU)

RU, founded in 1972, works to protect and restore Southwest Ohio's watersheds through public involvement, governmental cooperation and organizational collaboration. RU educates citizens on watershed issues, equipping them with the tools necessary for watershed protection and restoration, and creating opportunities for them to enjoy the recreational benefits of healthy rivers and streams. The goal is for citizens to become invested in the health of their local watershed and to establish a lifelong appreciation for southwest Ohio's waterways.

www.riversunlimited.org

Three Valley Conservation Trust (TVCT)

TVCT was established in 1964 to work with area landowners and governments to conserve the natural environment and cultural heritage of the Four Mile/Seven Mile, Indian and Twin Creek valleys, throughout Butler and Preble counties and parts of Darke and Montgomery counties. Activities include seminars on farmland preservation, conservation developments and easements, urban/rural redevelopment, and tax and legal issues with preserving family lands; assisting landowners with applications for federal and state land protection funds; and stewardship of preserved lands. TVCT has permanently protected more than 6,000 acres through conservation easements.

www.3vct.org

Valley View Foundation

Valley View Foundation's mission is to conserve land, preserve history, and share those assets with the Greater Cincinnati community. Valley View was formed in 2002 to preserve a 150-acre historic parcel of land in Milford. Since then, Valley View has purchased 126.5 acres and begun clearing a trail, replanting a native prairie, and restoring a historic barn on the site, which will make the site accessible for public use and educational programs. The remaining 23.5 acres are owned by the City of Milford and will be preserved as greenspace.

www.valleyviewcampus.org

May 2008