



## CHANGES FOR THE BETTER

This year, we have been busy making facility upgrades to improve our guests' experience. We have upgraded water filtration systems in all buildings, replaced mattresses in our dorms, updated floors and sinks and have re-roofed three buildings. Guests at the wetland cabin will also notice a complete remodel of the building.



As we continue to strive to lower our carbon footprint, we have added four new charging stations for electric vehicles. We have also moved to raising our chicken and growing a large portion of our vegetables at our Roger and Ruby Trapp farm, while also locally sourcing all of our beef. Now the majority of our salad bar, cooked vegetables and meat comes from within 10 miles of campus, May – October.

There are a few upcoming projects we are also excited to share with you. In 2023, you will be welcomed with a freshly painted interior to our dining hall and dorm rooms. Also, a long-awaited restoration of the original wood floors will take place in our historic Schwyzer lodge. We are always changing things for the better so please ask us, on your next visit, "What's new on campus?"



## SCHOOL YEAR IS STARTING STRONG

The school year is starting strong at Osprey Wilds! Our first students of the year arrived September 7, and we have schools visiting every week through November and are working to schedule the rest of the year.

One very exciting new tool we have to increase our school programming is a scholarship grant. Funding for this project was provided by the Minnesota Environment and Natural Resources Trust Fund as recommended by the Legislative-Citizen Commission on Minnesota Resources (LCCMR).

In June of 2022, LCCMR awarded \$1.6 million allocated over the next 3 years for this grant divided among Minnesota's six residential environmental learning centers. Schools may apply for scholarships to cover up to 90% of the school program fees for programming. Please spread the word! This is a great opportunity!



## VIEW UPCOMING EVENTS





## DIVERSITY, EQUITY & INCLUSION

Osprey Wilds is committed to becoming a more diverse, equitable and inclusive organization. Our mission is “to instill a connection and commitment to the environment in people of all communities through experiential learning”, and we are continually striving to do that better. Currently, we are working with Propel Nonprofits to create an organizational Equity Statement and a Land Acknowledgement. These efforts are born out of discussions from our JEDI (Justice, Equity, Diversity & Inclusion) Committee. These steps are just two examples of our commitment to fostering an inclusive environment.

In addition, we are implementing new practices, policies and procedures organizationally to foster a more diverse, equitable and inclusive space for our staff, board members and volunteers by thoroughly overhauling our employee handbook geared towards those ends. We hope these new policies create a more enjoyable culture and atmosphere for all, including our guests.

We all share one planet, and the more inclusive and equitable Osprey Wilds can make our programs, facilities and work environment, the better we will achieve our vision of “A healthy planet where all people live in balance with the Earth”.



## WELCOME EDUCATION FELLOWS

We are excited to have four new fellows join our three returning fellows this year. Our new cohort of education fellows arrived the third week of August and completed two weeks of intensive training. They hit the ground running in September and are finding their stride as professional educators for Osprey Wilds. Our returning fellows, Taryn Brandl – 2-year Wildlife Fellow, Gwen Hughes – 2-year Program Fellow, and Finlay Bilden – 1-year Education Fellow, have taken on leadership roles and are doing an excellent job showing the new fellows the ropes.

*Pictured above from left to right: Grace Sommers – 1 year Education Fellow, Cat Boyle – 1 year Education Fellow, Regina Lobner – 2 year Wildlife Fellow, Laurel Martinson 1 year Education Fellow*



## 2022 WAS A YEAR OF REMARKABLE DONATIONS TO OSPREY WILDS

Most Osprey Wilds’ supporters probably know about Marguerite Schwyzer’s gift of land that marks the beginning of Osprey Wilds in 1968. Less well known is that Dr. Schwyzer also established Osprey Wilds’ endowment fund with a cash bequest of about \$100,000 to help with the costs of managing the 535 acres on Grindstone Lake that she left in her will.

In 2022, Osprey Wilds received its largest ever bequest for its endowment fund, a gift from the estate of Jill Mithun totaling more than \$186,000. in cash and investment assets. Like the Schwyzer endowment, which has grown to more than \$750,000, the Mithun bequest will be invested to help fund our programs today and into the future.

As the fiscal year ended in June 2022, the total of contributions received for current year operations and projects surpassed \$255,000. That number is remarkable for its size—the largest ever annual giving total—and for the number of donors it represents—362!

With the 2022-23 fiscal year bringing the end of COVID-19 relief funds, we are encouraged to see

last year’s evidence of the size and generous spirit of our supporting community. We look ahead to your continued partnership in the vital work of connecting people to the natural world and nurturing their commitment to its care and preservation.



Learn more about  
our work at  
[OspreyWilds.org](https://OspreyWilds.org)

