



April 29, 2009

Dear Mr. and Mrs. Svitek,

On behalf of the staff and trustees at The Schuylkill Center for Environmental Education, I would like to thank you for your recent \$1,000 gift in support of our environmental programs.

I wanted to take this opportunity to share with you some of our recent initiatives and programs.

The Center has collaborated since 2001 with the on-site Green Woods Charter School (GWCS) to provide curriculum support for the school's nine classroom teachers and 200 students in grades K-8. Green Woods Charter School students also have the opportunity to participate in The Center's after school environmental club, the Monkey Tail Gang. The Center offers daily after school care for students that includes hiking, nature exploration, outdoor and indoor play, and group activities. Students who might otherwise go home to an empty home or to be babysat by a television instead spend time in the outdoors with environmental educators. The Center is expanding the Monkey Tail Gang in the 2008-09 school year to welcome students from other area schools and to further meet the demand for high quality after school care.

The Land Restoration Department is rehabilitating, in concert with the National Fish & Wildlife Foundation, native habitat for species of special concern, such as the warbler. Increased sightings of this bird and others on the grounds demonstrates that The Center's resoration efforts are moving in the right direction, as the presence of warblers is interpreted as a sign of improving woodland health.

Each year, the Wildlife Rehabilitation Clinic rescues, rehabilitates and releases approximately 3,000 animals. This year the clinic has been working to expand the audience for its live animal wildlife conservation and coexistence programs. SWRC travels to locations in the Greater Philadelphia area to bring these programs to schools, scout troops, community groups, day camps, senior citizen centers and birthday parties. Animals used in the presentation include an opossum, skunk and a turtle.

Our most exciting news for this past year is that the William Penn Foundation has awarded The Center with a generous gift to help support our Environmental Art program for the next three years. This prestigious award ensures the growth and continued quality of the three areas offered by the Environmental Art Program: Outdoor Environmental Art Exhibitions, Gallery Exhibitions, and the Artist-in-Residence Program. We will also be expanding the frequency and reach of our Gallery and Outdoor exhibitions, connecting with additional partner organizations, and increasing the Artist-in-Residence program. This will allow us to better integrate the Environmental Art program into the themes of the education programs.

We are very grateful to the Kate Sviek Memorial Foundation for your support of our mission. I hope that we continue to honor Kate's memory through our efforts. Please do not hesitate to contact me at (215)482-7300, or at lmoffa@schuylkillcenter.org with any questions or concerns.

Sincerely,

Lori C. Moffa
Grant Coordinator