



Annual Report 2022

The Friends are dedicated to the preservation and enhancement of White Clay Creek State Park. Our members come from a variety of backgrounds, with differing interests, knowledge, and concerns for the park's protection. All share the desire to preserve the park for the benefit of current and future generations.

Membership

We continue to grow, from 275 members in 2021 to 294 members in 2022. We have additional connections that increase our contacts to about 350.

Finances

Support from our community is strong.

Dues: \$2300

Donations: \$6116

Total dues and donations: \$8416.

Our major fundraiser is the summer concerts which raising \$10,080 from raffle tickets, the beer garden, and food and water ice concessions

Our major expenditure commitment remains the scholarships that support the Park school programs. Our other large expenditure was the new roof on the Judge Morris mansion.



Volunteer Activities

Volunteers are the core of our commitment to the Park. In 2022 the Friends recorded 2032 hours by 108 volunteers. This does not include the 3822 hours worked by Terri Tipping's group fighting invasives and planting natives in the Judge Morris area, AND the many many hours that are spent by dedicated but more anonymous Park supporters.

Summer Concerts started up again in July after a long Covid pause. This is our major fund raising activity and Friends volunteers sold 50:50 raffle tickets and organized a very successful Beer Garden. Friends also manage the food trucks and water ice for the concerts.



Bird Box volunteers, led by George Probst, maintained and monitored the Park bird boxes

Memorial Benches were made and installed under the leadership of Susan Eggert.

Pollinator Garden of native plants was new this year, planted around the Judge Morris mansion. Susan Eggert and Terri Tipping led their team of volunteers



Nature Center

A team of 27 volunteers, led by Allen Sievert, staffed the Nature Center on Saturday and Sunday afternoons from May through October, and provided 330 hours of service and greeted 477 visitors.

Trail maintenance There are over thirty miles of trails in the Park and they are **heavily dependent** on volunteers to maintain. Friends having been working with the Park to coordinate the many volunteers who have stepped forward and this work will continue in 2023,



Advocacy

The Friends advocated for funding for a Nature Center study, and \$300,000 was ultimately approved by the legislature. In 2022 an additional \$4.5 million allocated, the majority for the construction of the Nature Center. The Friends will continue to advocate for the implementation and construction funding that will be needed in the years ahead

Spring General Meeting and Election of Officers

We returned to Deerfield Golf Club on March 24 and join our Friends for our spring general meeting and enjoy a special presentation on the History of Dams along White Clay Creek by Jerry Kauffman, Director, University of Delaware Water Resources Center

The nominating committee of Linda Stapleford and Doug Lloyd presented a slate of officers that were duly elected to serve another year, with all ayes and no nays



Bob Brechter(VP) Dave Koppeser (Pres.) Jerry Kauffman , Lori Hans (Sec.) Joe Calabretta Treas.)

Support the White Clay Creek State Park by Renewing your Membership!

The more members we have, the more our voice is heard when we seek to preserve and enhance our Park. Please go to our [website](#) and click on the purple button.

