

2010 ANNUAL REPORT

 Audubon Society
OF WESTERN PENNSYLVANIA



Looking Back – Looking Forward

Like any organization with a long history, Audubon Society of Western Pennsylvania has continued to grow and evolve by adapting to the changing needs of our members and the communities around us. Frequently that evolution means shedding programs that are no longer required, adapting to new techniques and paradigms, and facing new issues as they arise. One thing that doesn't change is our commitment to our mission to inspire and educate the people of southwestern Pennsylvania to be respectful and responsible stewards of the natural world. With this mission comes a great responsibility to help people understand that their actions – individually and collectively – have real impact on the world around us.

Through our education programs, conservation projects, and activities on our own reserves, we try to encourage and demonstrate creative thinking and best practices. With this in mind, we continue to build on past successes and introduce new initiatives and programs that practice what we preach – literally demonstrating how conservation and preservation efforts are beneficial for us as well as the birds, animals, and plants that share our Earth.

Last year saw several major milestones including:

- Completion of Betsy's Garden Shoppe and the creation of the new commemorative walkway in front of Beechwood – both featuring porous pavers and other stormwater management techniques.
- Addition of the Shoop Loop – a new ½ mile trail at Todd Nature Reserve
- Expansion of our rain garden activities that will help to address the environmental damage caused by stormwater runoff, including over \$100,000 in new grants to facilitate rain garden installations in the Pine Creek Watershed.
- New Schoolground Habitat Enhancement and Restoration Projects with two more schools – University of Pittsburgh Laboratory School and the Environmental Charter School at Frick Park.

And most excitingly, we began work on Discover Ground, our newest feature at Beechwood. Scheduled to open in summer 2011, this one-acre area will provide children with an opportunity to safely explore nature on their own terms and encourage unstructured play and discovery.

You can learn more about these programs and all of our other activities by visiting our website at aswp.org. You are also encouraged to let us know how we can continue to grow and adapt to meet your needs and the shared environmental challenges we all face together.



Like birds, amphibians are excellent barometers of a region's environmental health. Unfortunately, nearly 1/3 of the world's amphibian species are now considered threatened and over 40% are in decline. Many ASWP programs focus on specific plant and animal species to help teach broad concepts and the interconnectivity of all life.

OUR AUDIENCE

Since 1916, Audubon Society of Western Pennsylvania has been a member and volunteer driven organization. As an independent chapter of National Audubon Society, our official service area includes all or part of Allegheny, Armstrong, Beaver, Butler, Fayette, Washington, and Westmoreland Counties. Through our formal and Informal programs – many of which are free – and no-charge access to more than 10 miles of trails in the 350+ acres of our two reserves, ASWP is a regional asset for the entire community.

CONSERVATION AND PRESERVATION

ASWP conducts and participates in a wide variety of conservation, preservation, and scientific inquiry activities. Through the Audubon Center for Native Plants, we nursery propagate over 130 species of native plants for use in private gardens, habitat restoration work, and stormwater and green infrastructure projects. ASWP is responsible for the Buffalo Creek Valley Important Bird Area (PA IBA-22) and conducts extensive avian and water quality monitoring programs throughout the more than 100,000-acre watershed.

EDUCATION AND ENGAGEMENT

Believing that people must first experience the world around them before they can truly understand and appreciate it, ASWP has long used outdoor education and engagement as the primary tool in achieving our mission to inspire and educate the people of southwestern Pennsylvania to be respectful and responsible stewards of the natural world. Whether on our nature reserves, on local school grounds, or in parks and trails throughout the region, ASWP works to find ways to connect people with nature.

HOW DOES YOUR GARDEN GROW

Much like all organisms in nature, Audubon Center for Native Plants started small. Over time and with ongoing support, it has continued to grow and prosper. Last year, we more than doubled our overwintering capacity by adding more than 20 new cold frames. In 2010, with help from the Laurel Foundation, ASWP hired our first full-time plant center coordinator.



MAJOR SUPPORTERS

\$15,000 AND UP

Anonymous Estate
Beckwith Family Foundation
Clapp Charitable and Educational Trust
Ecologically Concerned of Zelienople, Inc.
Laurel Foundation

\$5,000 TO \$14,999

Allegheny Regional Asset District
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Gifts received from July 1, 2009 through June 30, 2010

*Once exclusive to the western half of the country, Rufous Hummingbirds (*Selasphorus rufus*), like this one photographed in Crafton, PA, have become increasingly common in the eastern United States. The exact reason is not yet known, but reports and photos from birders help scientists gather information.*



ASWP MEMBERSHIP

MEMBERSHIP LEVEL	2010
Individual (\$35)	579
Family (\$50)	671
Naturalist (\$100)	224
Ecologist (\$250)	42
Conservationist (\$500)	16
Steward (\$1,000)	23
Club	20
Corporate	8
Total	1,583

LAND HOLDINGS

LOCATION	BEECHWOOD	TODD	TOTAL
Owned	6	335	341
Easement	0	137	137
Managed	128	0	128
Total	134	472	606
Miles of Trails	5	5.5	10.5

ASWP EDUCATIONAL PROGRAM INFORMATION

BEECHWOOD FARMS AND TODD NATURE RESERVES	PROGRAMS	PARTICIPANTS
Adults (includes teacher training)	65	737
Children (includes summer camps)	18	357
Schools and Scouts	116	4,777
Family Programs and Events	27	906
Total	226	6,777

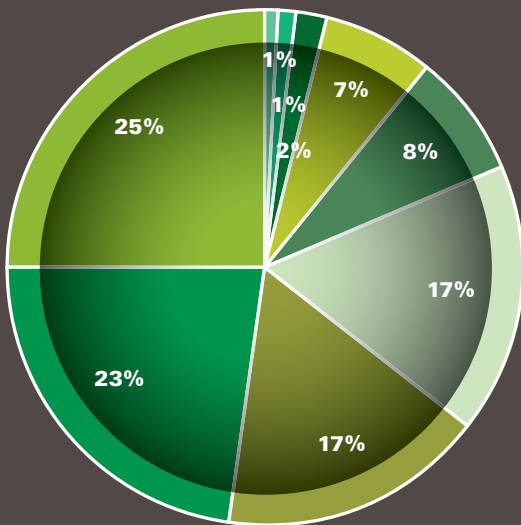
REGIONAL OUTREACH	PROGRAMS	PARTICIPANTS
Adults (includes teacher training)	21	375
Children (includes summer camps)	3	32
Schools and Scouts	110	4,145
Family Programs and Events	23	1,467
Total	157	6,019



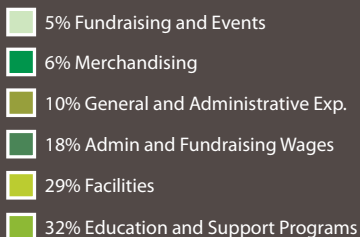
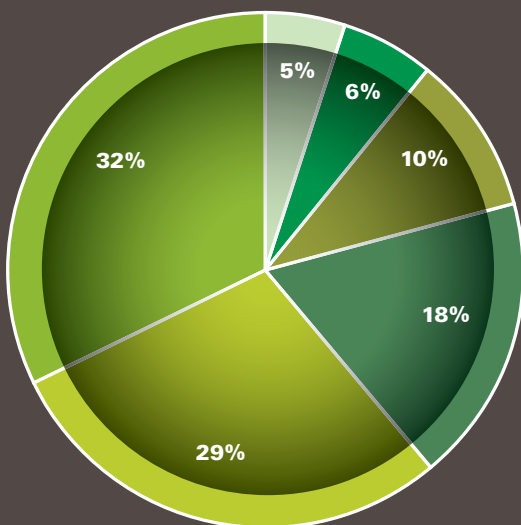
Inspiring the Next Generation

Connecting people with nature – particularly children – has long been an Audubon achievement. Each year, ASWP summer camps provide an opportunity for children to explore the world around them and discover amazing things both in nature and within themselves. For the past two years, ASWP has been able to offer full scholarships to eligible summer camp participants through our Shannon's Camp Fund. We believe no child should miss this opportunity just because of money. Please contact us directly for information on how you can help to make summer camp possible for more children in our region.

INCOME



EXPENSES



STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL POSITION

ASSETS	2010	2009
Cash and Cash Equivalents	60,001	77,843
Accounts Receivable	60,782	89,080
Pledges Receivable	125,000	180,500
Inventories	39,932	52,306
Prepaid Expenses		1,833
Investments	980,915	938,795
Land, Buildings & Equipment (net of accumulated depreciation)	1,931,163	1,903,697
Total	3,197,793	3,244,054

LIABILITIES	2010	2009
Accounts Payable	27,920	26,453
Accrued Expenses	2,886	3,658
Total Liabilities	30,806	30,111

NET ASSETS	2010	2009
Unrestricted — Undesignated (land and property)	1,844,578	1,845,377
Temporarily Restricted Grants	286,676	374,953
Unrestricted — Board Designated Reserves	485,317	443,197
Permanently Restricted Endowment	550,416	550,416
Total Liabilities and Net Assets	3,197,793	3,244,054

STATEMENT OF ACTIVITIES

REVENUE AND SUPPORT	2010	2009
Fundraising, Contributions & Grants	378,831	337,255
Special Events	6,753	8,345
Education and Program Support	194,732	192,542
Nature Store (net cost of goods)	127,108	143,667
Investment Income	22,898	23,137
Total Revenue and Support	730,322	704,946

EXPENSES	2010	2009
Education and Support Programs	284,582	279,253
Facilities	256,669	190,304
Membership	3,918	20,306
Merchandising	58,136	49,919
General and Administrative	148,226	250,341
Fundraising	119,639	72,362
Total Expenses	871,170	862,755

Income and Expenses for the 2009-10 fiscal year. All numbers in this report are based on our 2009-10 audited financial statements. Copies available upon request.

STAFF

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Building New Homes for Summer Visitors

While many people have placed birdhouses around their homes, some bird species actually prefer to live inside our houses – inside our chimneys, to be exact! Chimney Swifts (*Chaetura pelagica*), a neotropical migrant that adapted to using man-made structures when their original nesting and roosting sites (old hollow trees) became scarce, are facing a new threat. Many older homes and buildings are removing or capping their chimneys while new construction utilizes smaller and less habitable techniques to vent exhaust. The result has been a dramatic decline in Chimney Swift populations throughout the northern latitudes. ASWP has built its first artificial chimney at Beechwood Farms Nature Reserve and will help to facilitate installation of more throughout the region in the coming years.



Allegheny Regional Asset District

MISSION STATEMENT

To inspire and educate the people of Southwestern Pennsylvania to be respectful and responsible stewards of the natural world.

614 Dorseyville Road
Pittsburgh, PA 15238
(412) 963-6100

www.aswp.org

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