



Buffalo Township Audubon Center

\$1,000,000

Todd Nature Reserve – Audubon’s 1st Nature Reserve

A gift from W.E. Clyde Todd to Audubon Society of Western Pennsylvania in 1942, Todd Nature Reserve is bursting with potential. A significant resource in Pennsylvania, abundant with the natural beauty of the forest, Buffalo Creek, streams and a pond, Todd’s 220 acres include 6 miles of hiking trails and is convenient to the Butler-Freeport rails-to-trails bike system.

Over the years, Audubon has carefully protected and stewarded natural areas at Todd and the entire 170 square mile Buffalo Creek Watershed. Education, nature study and recreation have been promoted, but with limited staff to lead activities and virtually no facilities, Todd has been primarily an “on your own” experience.

To transform Todd as a community asset, Audubon’s Centennial Campaign includes plans to create new facilities and other enhancements to make Todd Nature Reserve more accessible and appealing to visitors and to help them engage in nature to the fullest. A collaborative initiative with Buffalo Township, enhancements will include:

- New Nature Center
- Nature Play Area
- Butler- Freeport Trail amenities
- Nature Store and food concessions
- Picnic facilities
- Youth and handicap stream access for fishing

Butler – Freeport Trail Amenities

The Butler-Freeport trail, open since 1992, is a level, beautiful section of the rails-to-trails system, ideal for casual recreation in an area with a quickly growing population. Amenities along the trail currently include seasonal restrooms and picnic tables, but there is potential for so much more.

ASWP plans include a Nature Center on a centrally located section of the trail, 10 miles from Butler and 6 miles from Freeport. The Center will include amenities such as bike rentals and concessions to make use of the bike trails more user-friendly for families and recreational cyclists. Picnic pavilions, year-round restrooms and education facilities and programs will help make this area a destination for the growing number of people in southwestern Pennsylvania who are enthusiastic about engaging in nature, biking, hiking and the outdoors.

