

# Nature Playscape 2022 Upgrade



A “playscape” is a natural landscape that supports children’s self-directed play and offers natural and created features designed to encourage children to explore and learn from the natural world while in a safe environment. Making natural environments available to children allows them the time and opportunity to explore, ask questions, and develop their innate sense of wonder. The original Nature Playscape at TWC was created over 10 years ago. It is the intent of TWC to create a new playscape that will include play activities accessible to all children and their families, regardless of their physical capabilities or limitations. In addition, a significant improvement to the project will be to upgrade the parking and trail leading up to the Nature Playscape.



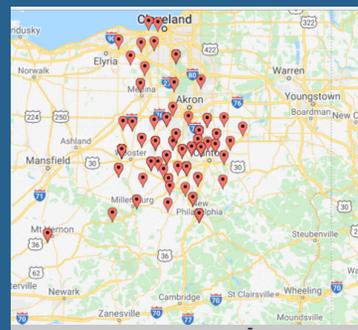
## Why Nature Playscapes?

The average American child spends 4 to 7 minutes a day playing outside and over 7 hours a day in front of a screen. Outdoor play is essential for physical, emotional, and spiritual growth; for intellectual and educational development; and for acquiring social and behavioral skills.

## Key Areas of Impact:

- Promoting cognitive development in children, optimized through active, exploratory play
- Promoting healthy relationships with nature
- Incorporating STEM activities including building, sand and water play, and investigations of the natural world
- Helping children develop gross motor skills
- Encouraging family stability by involving adults interacting with their children
- Promoting social interaction and collaboration with other children

## Who we Serve:



We serve as a escape into nature for those living in urban areas such as Canton, Massillon, Wooster, Alliance, North Canton, and New Philadelphia.

We see an estimated 40,000 visitors annually to The Wilderness Center.

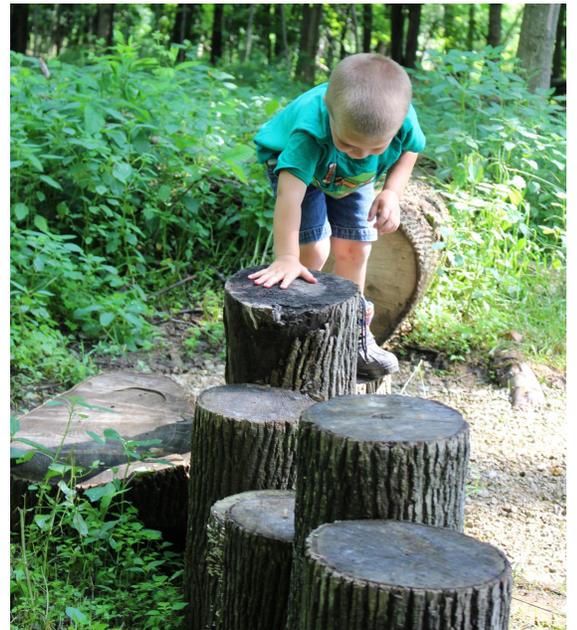
\*All support is appreciated, and we will be happy to work with you to design a level of support that suits you best! Email [Tiffany@WildernessCenter.org](mailto:Tiffany@WildernessCenter.org) or call 330-359-52353

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## New Features for the Nature Playscape

- 3 Handicapped Parking spaces connected to a new ADA compliant trail which will allow **accessibility** for children and caregivers of all abilities.
- A new **water feature** which will increase the types of educational programs we offer at the Nature Playscape (and be just good, plain fun for kids!).
- Log tables and chairs to promote **imaginative play**.
- Log balance beams to help kids develop **gross-motor skills**.
- Additional landscape features to delineate the different areas of the Nature Playscape more clearly and **improve usability**.



## Equipment, Materials, and Services Needed

- Paving ADA compliant asphalt trail.
- Excavation and construction of ADA compliant parking spots and ramp to trail.
- Buried pipe, cistern, hand pump, and deck for water feature. Installation of water feature.
- Rustic logs for log table and chairs and log balance beams.
- Sand/soil mix for digging areas. Gravel for installing base of some equipment.
- Rubber edging.
- Printing signage and engraving.

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THE WILDERNESS CENTER

ALL SUPPORT IS APPRECIATED, AND WE WILL BE HAPPY TO WORK WITH YOU TO DESIGN A LEVEL OF SUPPORT THAT SUITS YOU BEST!\*

## \$250 Level (In-Kind or monetary)

Recognition:

Invitation to Grand Opening event (Date TBA)  
and name listed in program.

## \$500 Level (In-Kind or monetary)



Recognition:

Engraved Brick in seating area

## \$1,000 Level (In-Kind or monetary)



Recognition:

Dedicated Bench in seating area

## \$5,000 Level (In-Kind or monetary)



Recognition:

Name/Company Logo on Entrance Signage

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