

## Board of Directors

Dustin Simpson, **President**

Jane McWilliams, **Vice President**

Mark Thacher, **Treasurer**

Thomas Spooner, **City Council Rep**

Dustin Dienst

Erica Jakes

Peter Jacobson

Erin Liu

Patrick Mader

John Sheesley

Simon Zeller

**Served in 2019**—Kathy Lockner,  
Peter van Sluis, Sara Beebe, Matt  
Carlander, Dirk Peterson, Paul  
Stegmeir, Wendy Wustenberg

## Staff

Breanna Wheeler, Executive Director

David Foley  
Lead Naturalist / Public Program Coordinator

Katy Anderegg  
Naturalist / School Program Coordinator

Molly Olson  
Naturalist / Outreach Program Coordinator

Brittany Smith  
Naturalist / Natural Resources Program Coord

Evan Pak, GreenCorps of MN Member  
Stacy Dupont, Charitable Gambling Manager

Doug Zahn, Assistant Gambling Manager

CG Employees: Connie Jensen, Lori Johnson, Tricia  
Johnson, Tiffany Martinson, Kellsey Meyer



**River Bend**  
NATURE CENTER

# 2019 Annual Report

**Bats, Bones & Bonfires:** 684 Participants  
**Public Programs:** 1,024 Participants  
**Maple Syrup Fun Run:** 224 Participants

**School Programs:**  
6,789 Students

**Summer Camp:**  
131 Participants

**Volunteer Hours Logged:** 1,800 (doesn't include intern/  
GreenCorps member hours)

**Monetary Value of Logged Volunteer Hours:** \$48,960



**RBNC Staff:** Brittany Smith, Breanna Wheeler, Katy Anderegg, Molly Olson, David Foley

**River Bend Nature Center**  
1000 Rustad RD, PO Box 186  
Faribault, MN 55021  
507.332.7151  
[www.rbnc.org](http://www.rbnc.org)  
Email: [rbncinfo@rbnc.org](mailto:rbncinfo@rbnc.org)

**Trail Hours**  
Everyday 6 am - 10 pm  
No entrance fees

Become a Member/Donate/Volunteer  
Today at [www.rbnc.org](http://www.rbnc.org)



Helping people discover, enjoy, understand, and  
preserve the incredible natural world that surrounds us.

## NOTE FROM THE EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

Dear Friends,

Thanks to all who have provided resources of charitable donations and volunteer time! Your contributions are needed to help people discover, enjoy, understand and preserve the incredible natural world that surrounds us. Your commitment changes the lives of people in this community and region and powers River Bend Nature Center - your local nature connection complete with education, conservation and recreation opportunities.

The year 2019 marked a turning point as the first full year without temporary naturalist staff. The decrease in staff turnover has increased our ability to accomplish more, be creative, invest in program development and further strengthen the nature center. We have covered a lot of ground but still have much to do, which we can't do without you.

Thank you for making nature connection possible at RBNC!

## 2019 SUMMARY OF REVENUE & EXPENSES

### 2019 Operational Revenue Sources

Memberships / Donations / Fundraising Events	48%
Programs / Event Fees / Contracts	34%
Charitable Gambling	12%
Misc. (Grants / Rentals / Gift Shop)	6%

**Total Revenue = \$368,750**

### 2019 Operational Expense Categories

Programs / Events	56%
Administration	32%
Buildings & Grounds	6%
Fundraising	6%

**Total Operational Expenses = \$369,742**

(data source: 2019 year end profit and loss statement and 2019 Audit)

\*2019 audited financial statement available upon request

## PROGRAM HIGHLIGHTS

### SCHOOL PROGRAMS:

RBNC Naturalists provide educational programs for schools within a sixty mile radius of River Bend Nature Center. Programs are provided mainly at RBNC but can also be provided at schools. Participating schools include:

- \*Faribault Public Schools
- \*Rice County (Waste Reduction)
- \*Faribault Community School
- \*Divine Mercy Catholic School
- \*Nerstrand Elementary School
- \*Faribault Lutheran School
- \*McKinley ECFE
- \*And Many More
- \*Cannon River Watershed Partnership / City of Faribault (Stormwater Education)

### OTHER PROGRAMS

Summer camps, school's out adventure days, lunch & learns, school outreach/after school programs, daycares, senior living, service clubs, homeschool, scout programs, birthday parties, and more.



## NATURAL RESOURCE STEWARDSHIP

In 2019:

- 25 acres of buckthorn removed
- 5 acres of garlic mustard/Dame's rocket removed
- Overlook steps project completed

Currently -

- 116 acres are in active conservation status
- \* 36 acres native prairie
- \* 2.5 acres woodland establishment
- \* 77.5 acres invasive species removal (buckthorn, garlic mustard, Dame's rocket, 54 of these acres are for rare and endangered species)