

Springbrook Nature Center Foundation

2009 ANNUAL REPORT

Preserve ♦ Educate ♦ Nurture



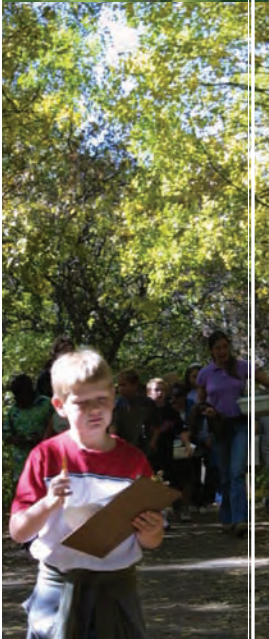
2009 REPORT TO FRIENDS OF THE SPRINGBROOK NATURE CENTER FOUNDATION



In the past decade, we have seen major turning points come and go at Springbrook Nature Center. Less than seven years ago, our community was unsure whether the Nature Center would remain for the next generation, or if this crown jewel of Fridley's open spaces would be swallowed up by development. Today we know that Springbrook and its wetlands, diverse natural habitat, wildlife, science education programs, and summer camps will be preserved for many more decades to come.



Springbrook Nature Center is and will always be true to its mission to preserve the natural heritage, educate all visitors, and nurture the human spirit. Springbrook hosts more than 203,000 visits per year from individuals from more than 300 Minnesota communities, all 50 states and more than 60 foreign countries. The pristine preserve offers three miles of hiking trails, walkways over wetlands, wildlife lookouts, a bird-watching haven, and nature exhibits.



The Springbrook Nature Center Foundation plays a critical role in supporting the Nature Center's educational programs as well as preserving the pristine 127-acre wilderness area. The Springbrook Nature Center and Foundation share a vision to create opportunities to allow all people to appreciate nature.

In 2009, financial gifts to the Springbrook Nature Center Foundation and City of Fridley have supported an impressive list of accomplishments:

- ✧ New environmental education programs meet the growing interests and needs of more than 20,000 students, individuals and families annually.
- ✧ Improved visitor amenities including boardwalk, bridge, and trail upgrades provide greater accessibility to elderly visitors and those with physical limitations.
- ✧ New classroom technologies help students connect with nature and wildlife.

- ✧ A new bike trail connects Fridley and the Nature Center to the Rice Creek bike trails and the larger regional and state trail system.
- ✧ The Lawraine Beery Solstice Memorial Garden, the Nature Center's first named major gift project, connects the Nature Center with the legacy of a community member.
- ✧ And, over 25 annual summer camp scholarships extend educational opportunities to all youth.

The SPRING (Sanctuary Protection Into the Next Generation) Project continues to move forward to meet the challenges of growing use and to reduce the impacts of pedestrian traffic—being loved to death! Thanks to a lead grant by the McKnight Foundation, consulting architect Hoisington, Kogler Group Inc. is revising the SPRING Project master plan to provide for phased enhancement and development of the Nature Center's seven acre entrance area over the next three to five years. The Springbrook Nature Center Foundation will do the heavy lifting to raise the needed funds from state and private sources. At the end of 2009, we began our legislative initiative to seek state bonding assistance for the SPRING Project.

With your support, the Springbrook Nature Center Foundation is ready to help Springbrook Nature Center meet the challenges in 2010 and beyond. We hope you will continue to help the Springbrook Nature Center grow as the premier environmental education center in Fridley, the North Suburban Area, and throughout Minnesota.

Sincerely,



Malcolm Mitchell

Chair, Springbrook Nature Center Foundation



MESSAGE FROM THE DIRECTOR

OF THE SPRINGBROOK NATURE CENTER

Springbrook Nature Center continues to grow as one of the most popular outdoor destinations in Fridley and the North Metro area and this past year was no exception. In 2009, Springbrook hosted over 203,000 visits from area families, school groups, bird watching enthusiasts, and individuals seeking respite in a beautiful wilderness area. More than 20,900 people participated in educational programs and 5,300 people attended special events at the Nature Center, including our popular Pumpkin Night in the Park.

The Nature Center also provided science education and outdoor programs to 8,154 students from Fridley and neighboring school districts. A recognized leader in outdoor and environmental education, Springbrook's expert teachers and strong curriculum continue to attract growing enrollment.

Of course, all of these numbers and accomplishments were made possible by the extraordinary support of our volunteers who contributed over 16,000 hours toward Nature Center programs and operations—service hours equivalent to more than 8 full-time staff! While the list of those who help is long, each contribution is critical to maintaining the quality of Springbrook's programs and wilderness areas.

The annual numbers of people and volunteer hours supporting Springbrook are impressive. But the true value of Springbrook Nature Center can be seen on any day of the year. Daily activities at Springbrook illustrate the importance of a nature preserve in the middle of an urban area—from children of all ages learning about the importance of environmental stewardship to the many families, couples, individuals, and local business employees hiking Springbrook's trails and enjoying the health benefits that being in nature bring.

Springbrook's natural areas continue to be a vital part of the community and region.

Come frequently. There is a new adventure at Springbrook with each visit.

Sincerely,



Siah St. Clair

Executive Director, Springbrook Nature Center



2009 ANNUAL REPORT

SPRINGBROOK NATURE CENTER FOUNDATION 501(C)(3)

FINANCIAL STATEMENTS¹

	2009 Jan 1 to Dec. 31	2008 Jan 1 to Dec. 31
Balance Sheet		
Total assets and liabilities	\$ 68,598	\$ 70,421
Statement of Activities		
Revenues		
Contributions	\$ 42,542	\$ 51,367
Memorials	\$ 100	\$ 2,945
Gift shop sales	\$ 45	\$ 120
Special events	\$ 22,179	\$ 22,162
Interest and other income	\$ 190	\$ 726
Total Revenues	\$ 65,064	\$ 77,320
Expenses		
Program support	\$ 17,899	\$ 26,502
Gift shop	\$ -	\$ 15
Special events	\$ 14,063	
Fundraising	\$ 34,852	\$ 34,540
Administration and misc.	\$ 723	\$ 1,185
Total Expenses	\$ 67,537	\$ 62,242
Change in net assets	\$ (2,472)	\$ 15,078

¹The above unaudited financial statement does not include the direct operating revenues and expenses provided by the City of Fridley to support Springbrook Nature Center. During 2009, tax and earned income revenue received by Springbrook was \$379,038. Final expenses for 2009 came in at the budgeted amount of \$379,038. Combined, 2009 Springbrook Nature Center and Springbrook Nature Center Foundation total revenues were \$444,102 and total expenses were \$446,575.

2009 DONORS

FRIENDS OF THE SPRINGBROOK NATURE CENTER FOUNDATION

We thank all who support the mission of the Springbrook Nature Center Foundation, and proudly recognize these contributors who made financial contributions during 2009.

GIFTS FROM INDIVIDUALS

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Mary and Kenneth Ackerman
Barbara and Gerald Adelman
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Springbrooks hosts summer campers of all ages.

Margot and Shawn Eastman
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A pair of Coopers Hawks find a perch at the Nature Center.

Douglas Kirks
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Best Buds Garden Supply, Inc.
Fridley Lions Club

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FOUNDATION AND CORPORATE GRANTS

BNSF Foundation
McKnight Foundation
Nash Foundation
The Michael Stedman Foundation
W.C. Rasmussen-Northeast Bank
Foundation
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A seventh-grader learns about proper
bird banding technique.

GIFTS TO THE
SPRINGBROOK SPREE
ANNUAL AUCTION

Acapulco Restaurant
Addicks, Ltd
Angelique Fredriksen
Anoka County Parks
Applebee's
Bachman's
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The Bakken Museum

Barna Guzy & Steffen
Beisswengers
Blarney Pub and Grill
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Brave New Workshop
Brightwood Hills Golf Course
Broadway Pizza
Brunswick Zone XL
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Cabela's
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Costco
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ERA Muske Co. Real Estate
Kevin Fox, Fox Consulting, LLC

GIFTS TO THE SPRINGBROOK SPREE ANNUAL
AUCTION (CONT'D)

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Jean Sorenson
Jeremy and Ruth Powers
The Jungle Theater
Bev Junghans
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Tasty Pizza
Three Rivers Park District
Timberlodge
Toro
Treasure Island Resort & Casino
Two Right Feet
Two Stooges Sports Bar & Grill
Wood Duck Society

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Gift Matching Program
GiveMN.org
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Matching Program

GIFTS IN HONOR

In honor of Paul, Reta, Tyler Scott
Janet Scott
In honor of Malcolm Mitchell
Steven and Arlene Pine

GIFTS IN MEMORIAM

In memory of Larry Spitz
Albin S. Dubiak
Thomas and Rosemary Herzberg
Richard and Kathleen Kemper
Michael and Sharalyn Leginski
C. and Marjorie Skaaden
In memory of David Nelson
Christine M. Vipond

THANK YOU!

We do our best to honor the names of our supporters. If there are any errors, please contact us and we will update our records.

SPRINGBROOK NATURE CENTER FOUNDATION

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Siah St. Clair
Brenda St. Germaine*
Rebecca Thaisen*

** Newly elected in 2009*

*** Term ended in 2009*

The Springbrook Nature Center Foundation Board of Directors is committed to finding the resources to preserve and enhance Springbrook Nature Center into the next generation. We invite you to join with us in this effort on behalf of our community.

SPRINGBROOK NATURE CENTER

2009 STAFF

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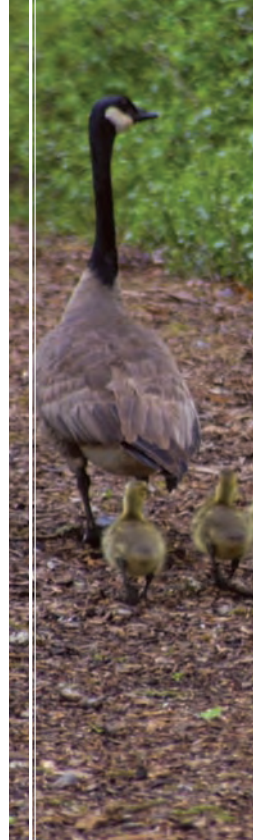
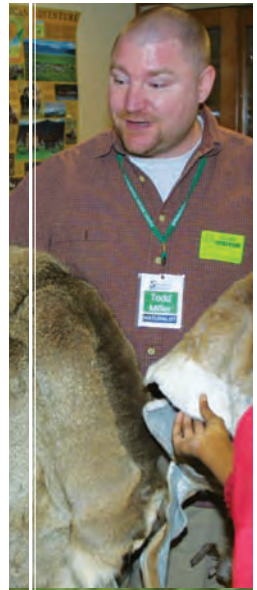
PARKS & RECREATION COMMISSION

CITY OF FRIDLEY

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The Parks & Recreation Commission provides safe leisure and educational opportunities for all ages through programs, facilities, open spaces, and services responding to the needs of the residents and enhancing the quality of life in Fridley. The Commission works in partnership with the Springbrook Nature Center and Foundation to provide guidance and leadership to Nature Center activities.





MAILING ADDRESS:

P.O. Box 32722
Fridley, MN 55432

NATURE CENTER LOCATION:

100 - 85th Ave NW
Fridley, MN 55432

NATURE CENTER MAILING ADDRESS:

6431 University Ave NE
Fridley, MN 55432

Tel. (763) 572-3588

Fax (763) 571-1287

www.springbrooknaturecenter.org

Cover photo: Springbrook provides required science curriculum to hundreds of K-12 students from area schools annually. Here, fifth graders collect samples of pond water to examine aquatic life under microscope.