

# WILDLIFE GARDENS

**EDUCATION AND RENOVATION PROJECT** 

**Our Mission:** The nonprofit Lake Erie Nature & Science Center educates and inspires each of us to understand, appreciate and take responsibility for our natural world.

501(c)(3) nonprofit organization Tax ID #34-0845030

#### October 2024

The exciting Wildlife Gardens Education and Renovation Project at Lake Erie Nature & Science Center will create more engaging learning experiences about native animals for 100,000+ visitors each year and raise visibility of our wildlife rehabilitation program. At a cost of \$1,900,000, the Project is our largest capital investment in our free offerings for the public.

### **Project Progress**

Construction work in the Wildlife Gardens continues on schedule, taking advantage of the good weather over the past month. The Wildlife Rehabilitation Exhibit, sponsored on behalf of William B. LaPlace, will raise visibility of our wildlife rehabilitation program and help wildlife patients prepare for their release back into the wild. Concrete ponds have been poured for this exhibit with ample depth to support the recovery of waterfowl patients such as diving ducks and other diving birds. The ponds will provide space for waterfowl to stretch their wings, maintain the waterproofing of



their feathers, and enter the water in a way that mimics their natural environment. The Center's visitors will have a unique opportunity to observe animals in their final stages of rehabilitation in this exhibit through one-way glass.

### Wildlife Education and Rehabilitation Program

Lake Erie Nature & Science Center's wildlife rehabilitation program cares for ill and injured animals with the goal of releasing them back into the wild. Our wildlife rehabilitation facility is the only one in Cuyahoga County, and is operated by professional staff under rules and standards of federal, state, and local permits. The Center treats nearly 2,000 animals and provides wildlife education to more than 7,000 people each year. Wildlife services are offered 7 days a week at no charge to the public.



## **Fundraising Status**



**Project Cost:** \$1,900,000

Funds raised as of **September 30, 2024:** \$1,675,116.77

88% to goal

**Expected completion: June 2025** 

For more information:

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