New Membership Program

FAQs

Basics

Why is there a new membership program?
Even as costs have risen, our basic membership program had not changed in many years. The two main reasons for changing the program are to raise more funds to support our mission-based programming and to create a program that offers more benefits to members.

When did the new program roll out?
October 1, 2019

What time frame will the membership apply?
We are moving to a calendar year program that will be effective from January to December of each giving year. However, donations in 4th quarter of any year will qualify for the benefits for all of the following year.

What if I had a membership already that doesn’t expire until sometime in 2020 or 2021?
All previous membership discounts and benefits will apply until their original expiration. To qualify for any new benefit offered under the new program we ask that you renew your membership.

What if I donate mid-year?
All the benefits will apply from the time of your donation until the end of the calendar year. You will receive any promised discount for the rest of that year and will receive any qualifying gift. Going forward all donations made in the last quarter of any given year will apply thru the end of the next year.

Did the 2-year membership go away?
Yes, very few people took advantage of the 2-year membership program.

Benefits of Membership

What is the sustainable gift?
Every membership level donation will qualify for a packet of native plant seeds, which, if planted, will help support our efforts to sustain pollinators. Donations at the Maple level and above will qualify for a cloth grocery bag with the nature center logo proudly displayed.

When would I get my qualifying sustainable gift?
Gifts will be sent along with your gift acknowledgement letter.

Is the honey actually harvested from the hives at the nature center?
Yes. We currently have 4 active hives and all the honey collected and bottled for appreciation gifts.
When will the fall Appreciation Dinner be?
The dinner will be held in October each year. For planning purposes, all qualifying donations must be made by October 1. Any qualifying gifts in the 4th quarter of any given year will count toward the following year’s dinner.

How many invitations to the dinner will I receive?
Each Oak level membership will receive an invitation for two people to attend the dinner.

Do the gifts affect the tax value of my donation?
According to the IRS guidelines, the only gift that may impact the taxable value of your gift would be the Appreciation Dinner. Your acknowledgement thank you letter will reflect this. The estimated cost for the dinner will be $50 per person.

Do I have to receive the gift?
No. On the donation form, both in print and online, you can indicate that you do not wish to receive any tangible gift.

Program Discounts

What are the seasonal nature center events?
Seasonal events are regular programming that is open to the public like our concert series.

Do I have to take advantage of all discounts during the membership year?
Yes, your membership qualifies you for the discounted event during the membership period. You must be a member at the time your event is held.

How would I take advantage of a discounted birthday party?
You will need to contact Caroline at caroline@dunwoodynature.org and follow the usual scheduling procedure for birthday parties. Parties are scheduled on availability and first-come, first-served basis.

Is there a limit to the number of discounted events per membership year I am eligible for?
Yes, each membership allows for one discounted birthday party and one facility rental.

How would I take advantage of the discounted camp rate?
Just like in previous years, you would select the camp member rate while registering for each camp session.

Do the discounted camp fees apply to just one or multiple camp sessions?
You will receive the discount on all camp sessions throughout the year.

If I still hold an unexpired membership from the previous program ($50 one-year or $90 two-year) will I still be eligible for the member rate?
Yes.

When does earlybird camp registration start?
Early camp registration opens on, or the week of, February 1 for members. General camp registration will begin on, or the week of, February 15. Many of the camp sessions are usually sold out during the member-only period.
ANCA benefits

How do I get access to other nature centers?
As a member of the Association of Nature Center Administrators, our members are eligible for free or discounted benefits at other ANCA affiliated nature centers throughout the country. Each nature center sets its own policies on how to apply the benefits but typically include: free or reduced admission fees, discounts at nature shops and discounts for programs.

Complementary Butterfly Festival Tickets

How would I claim free Butterfly Festival tickets?
All qualifying members will receive an email with a discount code to use when registering for the festival. Ticket sales open the week of July 1.

Facility Rentals

How would I arrange for a discounted use of the pavilion?
The qualifying discount for rentals is available Sunday-Friday. Call the office or email rentals@dunwoodynature.org to schedule events. All rentals are scheduled on a first-come, first-served basis and are subject to calendar availability.

Can I still rent the pavilion on Saturday?
Yes, but because of the high demand on Saturdays, standard rates will apply.