

ANNUAL REPORT

2023



Dunwoody
Nature Center

Inspire your love of nature



In 2023, through collaborative efforts and a shared commitment to preserving this community gem, we accomplished numerous milestones that I am proud to share with you.

The Nature Center inspires the love of nature and cultivates environmental understanding and stewardship by conserving and enhancing Dunwoody Park; educating children, families, and adults of all ages about the natural world and our place in it; and motivating environmental awareness and responsible action.

1. Educational Programs that Inspire:

Our team worked tirelessly to expand and enhance our educational programs. We empowered individuals of all ages to connect with nature and develop a profound understanding of our local ecosystems.

2. Conservation Initiatives with Lasting Impact:

We worked on several crucial conservation initiatives, such as the planning & design for stormwater initiatives, as well as the preservation of the wetlands area. These efforts contribute not only to the health of our environment but also to the well-being of our community.

3. Engaging Events that Unite:

The Nature Center hosted a series of engaging events that brought our community together. Whether it was a nature walk, a master naturalist program, or a family-friendly festival, these gatherings fostered a sense of belonging and shared responsibility for our natural surroundings.

4. Infrastructure Enhancements for Future Generations:

In 2023, we made significant strides in planning for our future. These plans lay the foundation for a sustainable and vibrant future for the Nature Center. We are creating a space for our new Forest School that future generations will cherish as much as we do.

As we express our gratitude for the successes of 2023, we look forward to the opportunities and challenges that lie ahead. Together, we will continue to nurture and protect this community gem, ensuring that it remains a source of inspiration and education for generations to come.

Kind Regards,

Nancy A. Longacre
Executive Director





 **1,485**
campers attended
our camps through-
out the year



NATURE CAMP PROGRAMS

In 2023, we offered 13 weeks of summer camp at our main campus, plus seven weeks of camp for campers aged 9-13 at Island Ford Park on the Chattahoochee River. Our campers learn about a variety of nature, conservation, and outdoor subjects, explore every inch of the park and creek, and participate in supervised free play.

93% of parents would recommend our summer camps to a friend or colleague

“We really can’t say enough great things about camp! The staff and camp programs are wonderfully enriching and thoughtful. Our son has a great time, and he can’t wait to come back.”

SCHOOL FIELD TRIPS

All of Dunwoody Nature Center's field trips are correlated to Georgia Standards of Excellence according to grade level and subject area using academically based curriculum materials. We utilize our three distinct habitats to enhance the fundamentals of environmental science in a controlled setting.

In 2023, we received funding to offer full scholarships (including transportation) for field trips for 30 unique schools!

63%

of schools who attended field trips in 2023 came from Title I schools

88%

of teachers said they would recommend our field trips to a friend or colleague



"Students, teachers, and chaperones truly enjoyed this experience. We can't wait to visit again next school year!"



6,320

students attended field trip programs in 2023



VOLUNTEERS

Nature is for everyone—that is the foundation of all our work at Dunwoody Nature Center. We work to protect the land and wildlife within our boundaries while educating visitors & program participants on what they can do to help in their own yards, neighborhoods, and communities.

Because of our 1,800+ volunteers, our community is stronger. We continue to thrive in our efforts to enrich lives by encouraging a passion for conserving nature through experience, education, stewardship & volunteerism.



10,000+ volunteer hours in 2023

100% of survey responders were extremely satisfied with their experience

“We really enjoyed doing meaningful work — the planting, knowing why native plants ‘matter,’ and then putting mulch down to secure them was all very fulfilling and MOST importantly, we got “points” from our executives for choosing an activity that is closely aligned to our company’s values around sustainability and conservation.”

NORTH WOODS PAVILION & VENUE RENTALS

The Dunwoody Nature Center has become an *extremely* popular spot for event rentals from clients looking for a more natural event. Our beautifully equipped spaces host a variety of meetings and special events — from weddings, mitzvahs, and celebrations of life to corporate meetings, retreats, and lecture series.



“The venue and surrounding areas are beautiful. Even though it is a public park, the Pavilion is tucked away where you have enough privacy. It was very affordable and I would highly recommend this place for any type of event!”

100%

of clients who answered our survey said they would host an event at the Nature Center again

100%

of clients who answered our survey said they would recommend renting the facilities at Dunwoody Nature Center to a friend or colleague



NATURE PROGRAMS FOR ALL

We have programs for all visitors, from the young to the young at heart!

Mommy & Me Classes

Young children aged 18 - 36 months and their parents enjoy learning about nature through activities and exploration. We had **268 child-adult duos** present at our Mommy & Me classes in 2023.

Scout Programs

The Nature Center has continued to be a popular spot for local scout groups to gather and learn more about the natural environment. In 2023, we hosted **642 scouts** for different badge programs.

Adult Programs & Clubs

We keep our constituents coming back with programs and clubs for adults interested in beekeeping, art, reading, health & wellness, native plant gardening, and more! Almost **500 adults** participated in 2023.

Free First Saturday

With a new theme each month, **376 families** attended our free community program throughout the year. Participants learned about our ecosystem through subjects such as geology, wetlands, reptiles, and more!

Butterfly Experience and Butterflies & Brews

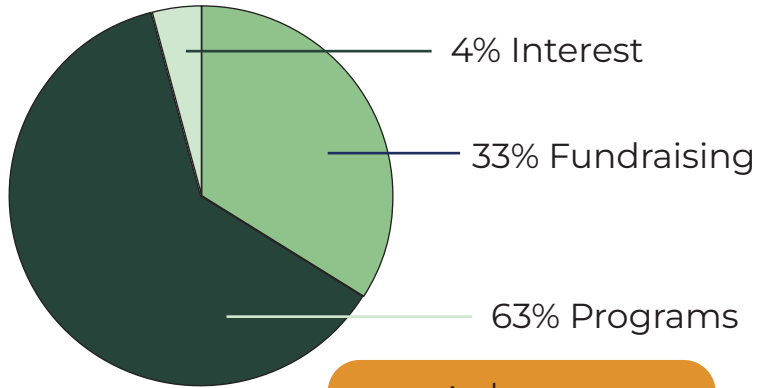
Butterfly Weekend 2023 welcomed over **3,000 guests** over the course of three days. This pollinator focused festival has continued to grow in popularity and has become a beloved staple of the community.

Master Naturalists

New in 2023, we offered a Master Naturalist program in partnership with UGA Warnell School of Forestry. **20 participants** became experts of the local ecosystem, completing 10 weeks and nearly 50 hours of course work to earn their certificate.

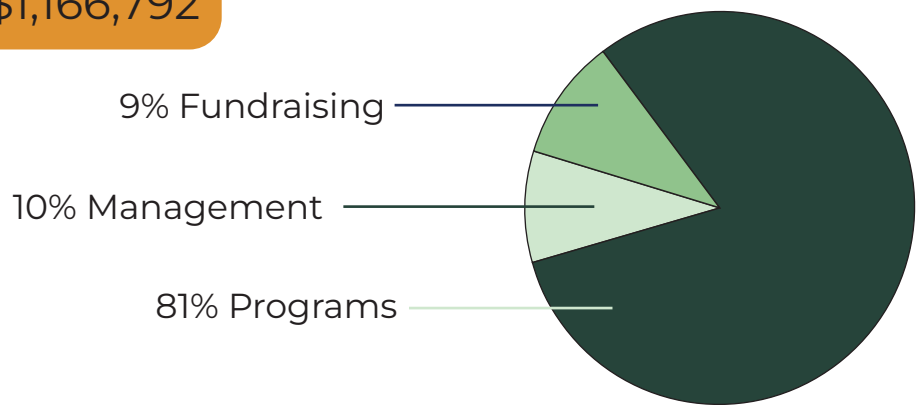
FINANCIALS

INCOME



Total: \$1,166,792

EXPENSE



Total: \$1,032,898





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Dunwoody Nature Center

Inspire your love of nature

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dunwoodynature.org

Office Hours: 9:00 a.m. - 5:00 p.m.
7 Days a Week
Park Hours: Sunrise to Sundown
7 Days a Week