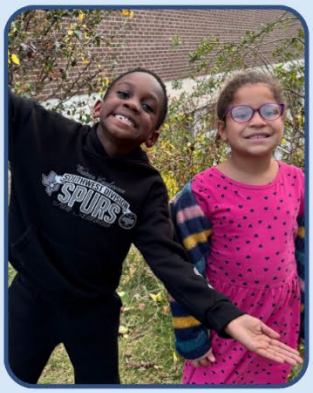
LOWELL PARKS & CONSERVATION TRUST











November 2026

"This is the greatest field trip ever!" —Leo, 1st grade

Dear Friend,

Think back to field trips you took as a young student. You may remember visiting a museum, historic site, or theater. The experience may have been exciting or nerve-wracking, or a little bit of both, and it usually involved taking a bus. But sometimes the best field trip is a nature walk right outside your elementary school.

For after-school students like Leo, a simple walk can be the greatest field trip: **a chance to observe and enjoy the outdoors right where they live. Your end-of-year gift makes experiences like this possible**, giving people of all ages a chance to slow down, look closely, and discover something new—away from screens!

Thanks to your support, our after-school programs like "Lowell Leaders in Stewardship" introduce children to nature at a young age. They can touch soil as they dig for earthworms or wonder why there's a hole in a fallen leaf. They can observe a tiny, endangered turtle hatchling and ask questions about it. They can fall in love with the outdoors and want to continue the program in middle school—where a roly-poly found in compost gets them thinking about the various roles animals play in nature.

For some students, these discoveries grow into a desire to do even more. They advance into the Environmental Youth Task Force (EYTF), where they take on conservation projects, develop leadership skills, and explore careers in science.

Kevin joined EYTF as a shy high school student. Through experiences like whitewater rafting on the Concord River and attending a youth conference in Washington, D.C., he expanded his horizons. Now, he's a senior forestry major at the University of Vermont and president of its birding club.

"The times we worked to care for Jollene Dubner Park were very special. So many people expressed gratitude and excitement that we had planted so many lovely flowers and cleaned up the park. It felt really important to be a part of."

- Kevin



EYTF has been student-led from the start, giving young people opportunities to lead with guidance from experts and longtime volunteers. **Your support strengthens these connections and helps young people carry this work forward, protecting Lowell's special places and creating community through conservation.**

At Pawtucket Farm Wildlife Sanctuary, the new outdoor classroom will inspire young learners, while the All Persons Trail welcomes every age and ability. Restored habitats and community gardens offer further opportunities to learn and connect with nature. Our partnerships with Mass Audubon and Mill City Grows, along with the commitment of volunteers and dedicated supporters, help make it all possible.

Connecting people and places is what the Trust does. Your **end-of-year gift** helps provide everyone with access to the outdoors through free educational programs for schoolchildren, nature programs for the community, and unique opportunities for all to protect natural wonders.

Please give today to protect the places you love and help every generation learn, explore, and belong in nature. You make it possible for more children to say, "This is the greatest field trip ever!"

Thank you for making nature accessible to all.

With sincere appreciation,

Jane Calvin
Executive Director

Sheila Kirschbaum
President

P.S. **All new and increased gifts will be matched dollar for dollar—doubling your impact at a time when budgets are tight.**