

Introducing: Drift Creek Nature Center

Anna Williams

A small group has formed recently

to develop plans for a nature learning center at Drift Creek Camp. Creation care has long been an ambition of many Mennonites, but this is the first advisory meeting of its kind in Oregon.



Activities at the November 2006 Annual Member's Meeting provided the final inspiration needed for creation of the advisory group. Comprised of interested members of several churches in the Valley, its aim is to share the wonders of Drift Creek's uniquely undisturbed ecosystem with people of all ages. The group meets on the second Wednesday of each month at the Straub Environmental Learning Center in Salem.

The committee has penned this mission statement:

Developing awareness, appreciation and stewardship of Creation through education, exploration and interaction with nature.

The center, which has been named Drift Creek Nature Center, plans to launch its website soon, where you will find the mission and vision statements, the strategic plan, proposed programs and a place to give input and donations. This is a very exciting project, and we hope you are looking forward to hearing more about its progress, the new website and ways to get involved. If you are interested in keeping updated on the monthly progress, reports and dialog via email, send a message to John Gingerich at jandlg@mennonite.net requesting to be added to the online mailing list.

Donations are welcomed at this time, in the form of a check made payable to Drift Creek Camp, with "Nature Center" on the memo line. We ask that donations not be in place of your regular giving to other DCC programs. Please mail donations to Glen Oesch: 2305 Rogers Lane NW Salem, OR 97304, or to DCC: PO Box 1110 Lincoln City, OR 97367.