

Springbrook Nature Center Foundation  
**2011 ANNUAL REPORT**  
Preserve ♦ Educate ♦ Nurture



**NATURE CENTER LOCATION:**  
100 85<sup>th</sup> Ave NW/  
Fridley, MN 55432

**NATURE CENTER MAILING ADDRESS:**  
6431 University Ave NE  
Fridley, MN 55432  
Tel. (763) 572-3588  
Fax (763) 571-1287

# 2011 REPORT TO FRIENDS OF THE SPRINGBROOK NATURE CENTER FOUNDATION

Springbrook Nature Center is one of the most popular outdoor destinations in Fridley and the North Metro area; it's a sanctuary for thousands of plants and animals where people can connect with nature, and it's also a hub for community gatherings.

Springbrook Nature Center's three miles of hiking trails through native forests, wetlands, and prairies provide the perfect environment for individuals to exercise, observe nature, and find solace. However, as a truly valuable community resource, the nature center is more than a beautiful natural refuge. It contributes to the community by providing programs and activities for adults, seniors, and youth; partnering with schools to teach science and environmental education curricula; and hosting family programs and community events.

The past year was filled with memorable community events. Spring Fling provided a welcome exit from a snowy winter into a record setting summer. Pumpkin Night in the Park, a fall family favorite, had record attendance with 3,521 participants attending the event supported by 175 volunteers.

In July, we commemorated the 25th anniversary of the 1986 tornado that stalled over the nature center for 16 minutes, destroying thousands of century old trees and littering the area with debris. In the aftermath of the devastation, the community pitched in and hundreds of volunteers helped clear debris and plant thousands of trees. The celebration, which included exhibits and videos of the tornado, focused on Springbrook Nature Center's recovery from the destructive twister. In the years since the tornado, plants and animals have once again flourished in the sanctuary provided here.

Over the past 25 years, Springbrook Nature Center has become an increasingly popular destination. With the number of visitors from the community and region continuing to

rise, it's crucial to manage growth to protect the natural open spaces. Accordingly, the Springbrook Nature Center Foundation launched the SPRING (Sanctuary Protection and Renewal Into the Next Generation) Project to support phased capital improvements to the nature center that will add new capacity while preserving the fragile ecosystem.

In 2011, the Springbrook Nature Center Foundation continued building momentum on the SPRING Project. The vision for the project includes improvements to enhance the seven-acre entrance area as well as the expansion of education, community celebration, and memorial areas and the Interpretive Center. These improvements are imperative to helping us manage growth in visitor use while preserving and protecting the natural environment of the Nature Center for future generations.

Springbrook Nature Center once again needs your support, and we hope that you will join us in protecting and improving this valuable community resource. The SPRING Project will rely on the full support of visitors, individual donors, businesses, and foundations as we grow and continue providing quality environmental education opportunities for our visitors.

Sincerely,

Malcolm Mitchell  
Chair, Springbrook Nature Center Foundation





# 2011 DONORS

## FRIENDS OF THE SPRINGBROOK NATURE CENTER FOUNDATION



We thank all who support the mission of the Springbrook Nature Center Foundation, and proudly recognize these contributors who made financial gifts during 2011.

### GIFTS FROM INDIVIDUALS

#### *Gifts from \$1 to \$249*

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Linda Rohrbach  
Scott Rolek  
Timothy & Jennifer Roufs  
Dennis & Sharon Ruhnke

# MESSAGE FROM THE DIRECTOR

OF THE SPRINGBROOK NATURE CENTER

Springbrook Nature Center's environmental education programs and events are in demand! Once again in 2011, Springbrook reached new record numbers for programs, program participants, and contact hours:

- 24,231 participants spent more than 50,000 hours at one of 762 education and wilderness programs led by Springbrook's talented staff members.
- 27 scholarships were awarded to low-income students to attend Springbrook's camps and programs.
- More than 5,000 community members attended Springbrook events.
- 1,151 volunteers contributed more than 16,500 hours to support the nature center and foundation programs and operations.
- Nearly 13,000 students from more than 30 area communities participated in Springbrook's science curriculum.

Other highlights from the year include:

- The 27-year-old wildlife observation gazebo on the Beaver Pond Trail was replaced during the summer of 2011 after the old gazebo was lost to fire.
- Eagle Scout Ben Krueger built a new 30 foot bridge with railings over Springbrook Creek on the east hiking trail.
- Springbrook was successful in its application for State Legacy Funds, and pending approval by the State Legislature of the entire Legacy Fund package, work on habitat improvements at Springbrook will begin in late summer 2012.
- Springbrook's new Nature Photography Interest Group held its first meeting in August with more than 60 people attending. The group meets monthly with occasional field trips to places of interest.

- Wild turkeys displayed and gobbled for the first time last spring in front of Springbrook's feeders. Come out this spring and watch them from inside Springbrook's Interpretive Center!



2011 was a very busy year at Springbrook, but some of the best moments were in the quiet at sunrise, watching the mist rise from the wetlands as the geese greeted the morning. We hope you and your family were able to enjoy the nature center this past year. If not, there will be plenty of opportunities in 2012. So please enroll in a program, attend a family event, or simply stop by and enjoy nature!

Sincerely,

Siah St. Clair  
Executive Director, Springbrook Nature Center

# 2011 ANNUAL REPORT

SPRINGBROOK NATURE CENTER FOUNDATION 501(C)(3)

## FINANCIAL STATEMENTS<sup>1</sup>

	2011 Jan. 1 to Dec. 31	2010 Jan. 1 to Dec. 31
<b>Balance Sheet</b>		
Total assets and liabilities	\$ 142,917	\$ 53,295
<b>Statement of Activities</b>		
Revenues		
Contributions		
Program	\$ 38,170	\$ 52,195
SPRING Project	\$ 90,075	\$ 7,500
Memorials	\$ 1,990	\$ 965
Gift shop sales	\$ -	\$ -
Special events	\$ 18,255	\$ 17,605
Interest and other income	\$ 159	\$ 90
<b>Total Revenues</b>	<b>\$ 148,649</b>	<b>\$ 78,355</b>
Expenses		
Program support	\$ 21,901	\$ 31,957
SPRING Project	\$ 4,200	\$ 34,840
Gift shop	\$ 1,043	\$ 516
Special events	\$ 10,513	\$ 6,619
Fundraising	\$ 19,271	\$ 18,738
Administration and misc.	\$ 2,099	\$ 988
<b>Total Expenses</b>	<b>\$ 59,027</b>	<b>\$ 93,658</b>
Change in net assets	\$ 89,622	\$ (15,303)

<sup>1</sup>The above unaudited financial statement does not include the direct operating revenues and expenses provided by the City of Fridley to support Springbrook Nature Center. In 2011, tax revenue received by Springbrook was \$314,400 and earned income generated by programs at the Nature Center was \$102,288. The Nature Center's operating expenses for 2011 were \$392,067. Combined, 2011 Springbrook Nature Center and Springbrook Nature Center Foundation total revenues were \$565,337 and total expenses were \$451,094.

Noel Ann Ryan  
 Donna & Rodney Salo  
 Gordon & Angela Sangster  
 Diane Sannes  
 Martha & Eugene Schermer  
 Joyce & Robert Schmidt  
 Paul & Janice Schmidt  
 Lois & Edward Scholzen  
 Lynn & James Schonrock  
 Derek Schostag  
 Kimberly & Michael Schroer  
 Janet Scott  
 Mary Sears  
 Graham Sedam  
 Sharon & Glen Sibell  
 John & Kathleen Simmelink  
 Leslie & Darlene Simon  
 Wayne & Jane Simoneau  
 Jeanne & Thomas Slanga  
 Barbara Slone  
 Rolf Smeby  
 Dale Sorensen  
 James & Joy Sovada  
 Springbrook Staff  
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 Susan & Stephen Stedman  
 Glenda & Rodney Stickler  
 J. & Richard Storla  
 Kathy & Richard Svanda  
 Ione & Harold Swanson  
 Janice & David Swanson  
 Lawrence Syverud  
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 Tom Tillberry  
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 Peggy Ward  
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 Jane & Gerald Wichmann  
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 Elaine & Donald Wolf  
 Peter Tena Wolterstorff  
 Tell & Wanda Jean Yelle  
 Richard & Dawn Young  
 Delores Zbikowski  
 Stanley & Rita Mae Zdon  
 Gretchen Zell  
 Patricia & Leonard Zolna, Jr.  
 Kristine Zuroski

**Great Egret Donors**  
*(Gifts from \$250 to \$499)*

John & Sandra Burton  
 Timothy Dess  
 Thor Juneau  
 Vicki & Marvin Reynolds  
 Jeff Summerfield

**Barred Owl Donors**  
*(Gifts from \$500 to \$999)*

Michael Ellingsworth  
 Jerry & Patricia Hartlaub  
 Kathy Nelson Juneau  
 Mac & Polly Juneau  
 Betty Koerner  
 Beverly Kronstedt  
 Malcolm & Annette Mitchell  
 Heidi Olson  
 Tim Schmidt  
 Siah St. Clair  
 Michael R. Stedman Foundation

**Eagle Donors**  
*(Gifts of \$1,000 & greater)*

Donna & Jerold Bahls  
 Rita & John Burgeson  
 Jeremy & Ruth Powers

**BUSINESSES & ORGANIZATIONS**

Allina Health System  
 Fox Consulting, LLC  
 General Mills  
 GoodSearch  
 Grampa's Ice Cream

Lapinski Family Dentistry  
 Medtronic Foundation  
 Michael Servetus Unitarian Society  
 MINCO Products, Inc.  
 Northeast Bank  
 Northtown Mall /Glimcher Properties LP  
 Stand-Up Multi-Positional Advantage MRI, P.A.  
 Walters Recycling & Refuse, Inc.

**FOUNDATION & CORPORATE PROGRAM GRANTS**

Minneapolis Foundation  
 Xcel Energy Foundation

**FOUNDATION & CORPORATE SPRING PROJECT GRANTS**

BAE Systems  
 Cummins Foundation  
 Fridley Lions Club  
 Micro Control Company

**MATCHING GIFTS**

Ameriprise Financial  
 Employee Gift Matching Program  
 Global Impact/Symantic Volunteer Matching Program  
 Xcel Energy Foundation Matching Program

**GIFTS IN MEMORIAM**

**In memory of Dorothy Carroll**  
 James & Sandra Carroll

**In Memory of Judy Jones**

Grace & Web Allen  
 Donna & Jerold Bahls  
 Jane Brecht  
 Mary Dawson  
 Leroy & Mary Ditch  
 Edina Class of 1956

Jerry & Sandy Felde  
 Michael Froehner  
 Roberto Hall  
 Mary Jezierski  
 Kathy Nelson Juneau  
 Mac & Polly Juneau  
 Thor Juneau  
 Richard & Sheryl Lindholm  
 Deloris Mahlou  
 Donna & Frank Moses  
 Judith Pickett  
 Tara & Jonathan Rogness  
 Springbrook Nature Center Staff  
 Michael Vik

**In memory of David Nelson**  
 Christine Vipond

**In Memory of Tom Miesen**  
 Ronald & Karla Ackerman  
 Rodney & Jean Trocke

**In Memory of Louis Smith**  
 Janet Jacobsen

**GIFTS TO THE SPRINGBROOK SPREE AUCTION**

Abby Lingle Porcelain Pottery  
 Betty Ann Addison  
 Anoka County Parks  
 Applebee's Northtown  
 Aramark  
 John Arthur  
 Bachman's  
 Donna & Jerold Bahls

Jeffrey & Julie Basche  
 Beisswenger  
 Ben Saefke Photography  
 Bob's Produce Ranch  
 Brave New Workshop  
 Brightwood Golf Course  
 Broadway Pizza  
 Steve Chambers  
 Chanhassen Dinner Theatres  
 Como Zoo & Conservatory  
 William & Mary D'Amour  
 Timothy Dess  
 Dunn Bros  
 Eastside COOP  
 Emma B. Howe YMCA  
 Mark Emme  
 Fridley Optical, Inc.  
 Gary's Automotive  
 General Mills  
 Beth & Tor Gloppen  
 Grand Casino  
 Half Priced Books  
 Greg & Cindy Hanson  
 Robert & Gayle Harmon  
 Heights Bakery  
 Heights Theater  
 History Theatre  
 Holy Land  
 Craig & Coleen Jerome  
 Bev Junghans  
 Kevin Fox  
 Key's Cafe  
 La Casita  
 Lapinski Family Dentistry  
 Andrew and Carolyn Laursen  
 Debra Long  
 Bennie Loro and Tom Keerl

Lyric Arts Theatre  
 Massage Envy  
 Robert Metzger, DDS  
 Sylvia Miller  
 Minneapolis Police Federation  
 Minnesota Goodness  
 Minnesota Historical Society  
 Minnesota Vikings  
 Malcolm & Annette Mitchell  
 Clem & Elizabeth Nagel  
 National Camera  
 Nelson Cheese Factory & Deli  
 Martha Nelson  
 Old Log Theater  
 Osaka Japanese Steak House  
 Panera Bread  
 Patagonia  
 Perkins  
 Rapids Liquor  
 Ready Meats  
 Red Stag Supper Club  
 Ruttger's Bay Lodge  
 Salon Amore  
 Sammy Perrella's  
 Sarna's  
 Schaaf Floral  
 Ronald & Mary Seekamp  
 Shorewood Bar & Grill  
 Jean & Dale Sorensen  
 Springbrook Garden Club  
 St. Paul Saints  
 Standup Multipositional Advantage MRI, P.A.  
 Summit Brewing  
 Surley Brewing  
 Sweet Chocolate  
 The Bakken Museum  
 Three Rivers Park District  
 Toro  
 Two Stooges Bar & Grill  
 Julie Wilson  
 Xcel Energy Foundation

**THANK YOU!**

*We do our best to honor the names of our supporters. If there are any errors, please contact us & we will update our records.*





# 2011 VOLUNTEERS

## FRIENDS OF THE SPRINGBROOK NATURE CENTER FOUNDATION



Springbrook Nature Center and the Foundation are thriving due, in large part, to the tireless hours put in by our many faithful volunteers. Without volunteers, the Nature Center, Foundation and the many community events would not be successful.

THANK YOU!

### SCHOOLS

Andover High School Key Club  
 Andover High School National Honor Society  
 Anoka Hennepin School District Bridges Program  
 Anoka Hennepin School District Transition Plus Program  
 Anoka High School Key Club  
 Anoka High School National Honor Society  
 Anoka-Ramsey Community College  
 Anoka Technical College  
 Blaine High School National Honor Society  
 Champlin Park High School National Honor Society  
 Coon Rapids High School National Honor Society  
 Fridley High School Key Club  
 Fridley High School National Honor Society  
 Fridley High School Ti-Corps Program  
 North Hennepin Community College  
 Osseo High School National Honor Society  
 Spring Lake Park National Honor Society

### ORGANIZATIONS

Allina Hospitals and Clinics  
 Audubon Chapter of Minneapolis  
 Boy Scouts of America- numerous groups  
 Fridley Community Theatre  
 Fridley Lions Club  
 Girl Scouts of America- numerous groups  
 Minnesota Master Naturalist Organization  
 Single Volunteers of the Twin Cities  
 Urban Bird Festival  
 ANOKA COUNTY COMMUNITY RESOURCES  
 Anoka County Agriculture Extension Service  
 Anoka County Community Corrections Department  
 Anoka County Job Training Center  
 Anoka County Social Workers  
 Anoka County Summer Youth Program  
 Hennepin Home Health Care Retired and Senior Volunteer Program

### CITY OF FRIDLEY

Fridley Fire Department  
 "Flames" Organization  
 Fridley Police Reserves  
 Parks & Recreation Department  
 Public Works Department

### CHURCHES

Camp Serve Group Service  
 Epiphany Catholic Church  
 St. Timothy Catholic Church

### SPRINGBROOK

Many Individuals and Families  
 Springbrook Nature Center Bird Banding Group  
 Springbrook Nature Center Foundation  
 Springbrook Nature Center Garden Club  
 Springbrook Nature Center Regular Volunteers

### BUSINESSES

Cummins Employees  
 General Mills Employees  
 Medtronic Employees  
 Sam's Club Employees  
 Starbuck's Corporation Employees  
 Target Employees

## SPRINGBROOK NATURE CENTER FOUNDATION

### 2011 BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Malcolm Mitchell – CHAIR  
 Donna Bahls – VICE CHAIR  
 Ed Meyer – TREASURER  
 Annette Mitchell – SECRETARY  
 Kasi Aten-Freese\*  
 Kent Buell  
 Tim Dess  
 John Engstrom\*\*  
 Ceace Haagensen\*  
 Jerry Hartlaub  
 Neal Hayford

Brent Hodgeman  
 Craig Jerome\*\*  
 Andrew Laursen  
 Carolyn Laursen  
 Cory Leet\*\*  
 Clem Nagel  
 Rebecca Thaisen  
 Josey Warren\*\*

\* Newly elected in 2011  
 \*\* Term ended/resigned in 2011

The Springbrook Nature Center Foundation Board of Directors is committed to finding the resources to preserve and enhance Springbrook Nature Center into the next generation. We invite you to join with us in this effort on behalf of our community.

## SPRINGBROOK NATURE CENTER

### 2011 STAFF

Siah St. Clair – EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR	NATURALIST AND DAY CAMP COORDINATOR
Tara Rogness – NATURALIST	Jim Lane – SUNDAY STAFF
Jan Swanson – OFFICE MANAGER	Todd Miller – SCHOOL & SUMMER CAMP NATURALIST
Chrissy Sazenski – SEASONAL	AND SUMMER CAMP STAFF.

## PARKS & RECREATION COMMISSION

### CITY OF FRIDLEY

Tim Solberg – CHAIR	Dave Kondrick
Marcy Sibell – VICE CHAIR	Jack Kirk – DIRECTOR OF PARKS & RECREATION
Michele Barrett	
Mike Heintz	

The Parks & Recreation Commission provides safe leisure and educational opportunities for all ages through programs, facilities, open spaces, and services responding to the needs of the residents and enhancing the quality of life in Fridley. The Commission works in partnership with the Springbrook Nature Center and Foundation to provide guidance and leadership to Nature Center activities.

