



Friends of
Patuxent

10901 Scarlet Tanager Ct
Laurel, MD 20708-4011
www.friendsofpatuxent.org
301-497-5789

December 26, 2020

Dear Friend of Patuxent,

Friends of Patuxent needs your help to continue its support of Patuxent Research Refuge and Patuxent Wildlife Research Center. We would like to invite you to consider making a year-end gift to support our non-profit volunteer work for the Refuge and Wildlife Research Center.

This past year has been particularly challenging. As a result of the COVID-19 pandemic, the visitor center has been closed since March and virtually all educational programs for children and families have been curtailed. Before the pandemic closures, Friends hosted a packed-full auditorium program by Dr. Rebecca Waterworth, an entomologist in the Office of Pesticide Programs of EPA on conserving beneficial insects by planting native plants. After the closures, we were able to adapt to virtual and online programs such as the online program celebrating the Centennial of Bird Banding in America in October, and an innovative outreach in our members-generated 'Friends Talking to Friends' newsletter, which continues during the pandemic closure.

But our traditional annual events such as the Pollinator Festival, the Holiday Bazaar, and other programs and events all had to be cancelled. With the cancellation of these events and the closure of the Wildlife Images bookstore, much of the funding that Friends raises over the course of the year has been seriously curtailed.

Therefore, for the first time, the Friends ask you to consider making a tax-deductible end-of-year donation so that we can continue our support of the wildlife research, education, and conservation missions of the Center and the Refuge. There is so much we have planned to support the Refuge and the Center—continuing support for research, conservation, and education grants to the science work at the Center and education and conservation work at the Refuge; program support for new urban wildlife programs and community outreach to diverse communities, especially connecting with the Masonville Cove urban wildlife refuge partnership and our planned exciting new partnership with the local chapter of The Links, an organization of African American women to create containerized pollinator gardens.

And there is more that we plan and for which we need your help—the Dr Chandler S. Robbins Outdoor Education Center, the purchase of a herbarium cabinet for plant specimens collected at the Refuge, an interpretive display of real-time data from the new Motus receiver near the visitor center of passing migratory birds, and more.

This long dark winter of COVID-19 will come to an end. We will all be back to experience and share the wonders of nature and the outstanding resources of our unique Patuxent Research Refuge and contribute to the research work of the Patuxent Wildlife Research Center. Please consider making a year-end gift to the Friends of Patuxent. Your gift will be put to good use for conservation, education, and research at the Refuge and Wildlife Research Center. Thank you.

Richard Dolesh
Chair, Friends of Patuxent

Please make your tax-deductible contribution by going to the Friends website at
<http://www.friendsofpatuxent.org/home.html>

Or, mail a check to the address above

Friends of the Patuxent Wildlife Research Center and Patuxent Research Refuge, Inc. is a Section 501(c)(3) Public Charity. All contributions are tax deductible to the extent allowed by law. Our Combined Federal Campaign (CFC) designation number is 63960 in the National Capital & Chesapeake Bay Area Maryland campaigns. Maryland Charitable Organization Registration - 2348