COMMEMORATIVE & MEMORIAL GIFT PROGRAM

Polk County Conservation

We make a living by what we get.
We make a life by what we give.

— *Sir Winston Churchill*

COMMEMORATIVE & MEMORIAL GIFT PROGRAM

Polk County Conservation

Commemorative and memorial gifts offer a unique way to honor a special person, event, milestone, or may be given in remembrance of a loved one that has passed.

You can sustain and enhance county parks today for present and future generations through a variety of park stewardship gifts.

Tributes

Leave a lasting tribute in your favorite park or trail in accordance with the values shared by the person you wish to celebrate. Tribute gifts will be placed in select locations agreed upon by the donor and Polk County Conservation staff. They will also be recognized with a personalized plaque.

BIKE RACKS: $250 – $750

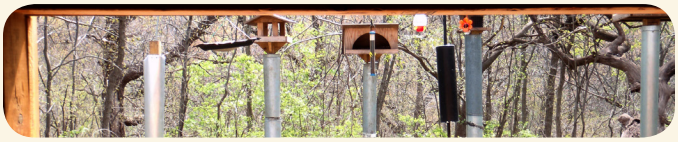
Provide biking visitors with a place to keep their bike safe as they explore our county parks. Scenic overlooks, trailheads, shelters, rest stops and parking lots are a few areas congregating bikers would benefit from the installation of a rack.

TAXIDERMY MOUNTS: $500 – $1000

Taxidermy mounts make learning about animals authentic. Providing a hands-on experience that attracts all ages, these mounts allow wildlife audiences to visually link important learned concepts.

TREES: $500

A beautiful native tree planting is a gift sure to be appreciated for generations. Trees will provide shade space for all to enjoy. Planting will occur in the spring or fall with sites determined between Polk County Conservation and the participant. The donation will include a commemorative plaque to honor your gift.



FEED SONGBIRDS FOR A YEAR: $600 for the year

Feeding birds draws in many different species perfect for bird watching. This fun activity may be enjoyed at bird blinds located at Jester Park and Chichaqua Bottoms Greenbelt.

PARK BENCH AND SWING: $1,000 *(bench)* • $1,500 *(swing)*

Offer a welcome resting place ideal for park and trail users to enjoy a beautiful day. Help contribute to the charm and comfort of these locations with a commemorative bench or gliding swing.

KAYAK OR CANOE: $1,100

Learning an outdoor skill such as canoeing or kayaking is great for the mind, body and soul. Polk County Conservation teaches basic kayaking and canoeing classes to youth and adults. Paddling trips along scenic rivers are quite the attraction for any outdoor enthusiast.

DRINKING FOUNTAIN: $2,500

Provide recognition for someone special in busy hubs throughout county parks and trails. A subtle but essential feature in most established areas, water fountains accommodate thousands of park users and pets every year with a refreshing drink.

SCENIC BRIDGES: $4,500 – $30,000

Providing beautiful features to park guests, bridges enhance roadways and footpaths over scenic viewing areas. Impart a gift that will be sure to delight for years to come. Bridge length varies upon donation and project.

RAIN GARDENS: $5,000

Be a part of local conservation efforts. Rain gardens act as a sponge and natural filter of rainwater. Your celebratory contribution goes towards proper soil mix and placement, plant material, maintenance and watering.

WILDLIFE VIEWING PLATFORM: $5,500 – $10,000

Bring nature closer to home by way of wildlife viewing platforms. Wildlife enhances appreciation of the natural world. It also builds awareness of the importance of habitat conservation in the areas these creatures reside.

BIRD BLIND: $7,500

Offer new experiences and perspectives to both classroom and recreational learners alike with the gift of a bird blind. Blinds offer benefits to wildlife by presenting undisturbed viewing opportunities, and to the observer with a comfortable viewing area sheltered from the elements.

WOOD OR STEEL SHADE STRUCTURES: $15,000 – 20,000

Celebrate an event or enjoy a park with friends and family under the comfort of a shade structure. Complete with a concrete slab, accessible picnic table and barbeque grill, these shade structures provide an excellent resting spot or place to picnic in your favorite county park.

PLAYGROUND: $10,000 – 50,000

Playing outside is a crucial part of childhood. Help children in their development of physical skills, imagination, creativity, in problem-solving and socializing as well as a sense of connection to their surrounding environment. Playgrounds offer the setting to nurture these skills.

LAND PROTECTION: *All donation amounts welcome*

Sensitive natural areas exist throughout Polk County. Conservation staff works with partners and landowners to acquire priority properties or easements to support restoring these areas to functional wetlands, prairies and woodlands that will benefit wildlife, flood control, water quality and outdoor recreation. Help us protect and enhance these lands for future generations!

ENDOWMENT FUNDS

Endowment funds are invested donations that will go towards large conservation stewardship projects associated with environmental education, outdoor recreation and natural resource protection. Distribution of this special giving opportunity will be determined between the donor and Polk County Conservation.

POLK COUNTY CONSERVATION

For further information on these giving opportunities, call **(515) 323-5300** or visit: **www.leadingyououtdoors.org**

Scholarships

Provide a child with an outdoor experience that they will remember for a lifetime! Camps offer children a fun and relaxed way to help foster an interest or hone a skill that can be enjoyed for many years to come. Horseback riding, canoeing, golfing, archery, geocaching, and fishing are just a few of the fun outdoor skills that a camp can bring to a child's life. Be part of the effort to set the stage for the next generation of outdoor enthusiasts!

YOUTH CAMPS: $150

Summer camps provide youth the chance to hone their skills in an outdoor interest. Make attending an area camp possible. Opportunities available include Riding Camp at the Jester Park Equestrian Center, Golf Camp at the Jester Park Golf Course, and Nature Camps throughout our county park system.

SUPPORT SCHOOL FIELD TRIPS *through Scholarships:* $200

Get youth outdoors! Help make a field trip possible for area school children who need funds for school bus transportation. Scholarships grant children the opportunity to get out and explore Polk County parks.

Donations

Contributions of any amount can enrich people's experiences in the great outdoors. You can help provide park visitors and program attendees with the best environment possible to build upon these outdoor experiences, learn more about their natural world, and cultivate advocacy for the land upon which we work, play, and live.

BIRD AND BAT HOUSES

$35 *(bird)* • $100 *(bat)*

Birds and bats offer a variety of benefits to the environment. They provide weed and pest control and aid in flower pollination. Help these mini conservation ambassadors thrive by providing them with homes.

INSECT NETS: $30

A great way to connect youth to the outdoors is through immersion. Bug nets provide the thrill of the chase as an accessory to learning about the vast and diverse world of insects and their habitat.

SPONSOR AN ARTIST

for a School Field Trip: $50

People connect to nature in many different ways. Help students learn more about nature through the arts. Local artists are available to enhance theme-based field trips by providing a creative component to lessons.

FEED AN EDUCATION ANIMAL

for a Year: $100

Engaging several senses including sight, sound, and touch in the learning process presents unique opportunities for students to experience. Education animals help students better connect to the animals they are learning about.

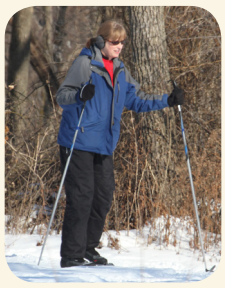
AQUATIC NETS: $100

People of all ages love to see what lurks beneath the surface of the water. Nets used for field trips and public programs provide an outdoor classroom the tools needed for exploration of a pond or wetland.

SNOWSHOES: $100

(adult and youth sizes)

Snow shoeing is an easy way to get outdoors for winter fun. Snow shoes are available for schools to check out for use in science or physical education classes. These rentals are also available for public use.



CROSS COUNTRY SKI GEAR: $300

Help shake off the frosty blues and spread the joys of winter to others by providing park guests with ski rental equipment. Polk County Conservation Naturalists offer cross country ski classes as well as public rental gear. Your gift of all the necessary gear (skis, poles, boots) will grant the opportunity for people to enjoy county parks in a winter setting.

POLK COUNTY CONSERVATION

For further information on these giving opportunities, call **(515) 323-5300** or visit: **www.leadingyououtdoors.org**