



# In the Glen

Spring 2022 | News and Activities of the Glen Helen Association

The  
Hiking  
Issue

# In the Glen

In the Glen is published for Glen Helen Association members and friends.

## Contributors

Editor: Laurie Freeman; Contributors: Nick Boutis, Zach Bollheimer, Sarah Cline, Rebecca Jaramillo, Kelsey Mazur, Sam Crawford, Pan Reich, Paul Sampson; Design: Bob Bingenheimer

## Glen Helen Nature Preserve

Trails are open daily, sunrise to sunset. All wildlife, vegetation, and natural features are protected. For general information: 937-769-1902

## Administrative Offices and Nature Shop

Located in the Vernet Ecological Center

405 Corry Street, Yellow Springs

Visit [www.glenhelen.org](http://www.glenhelen.org) for the opening date and hours.

## Trailside Museum

505 Corry Street, Yellow Springs

Visit [www.glenhelen.org](http://www.glenhelen.org) for the opening date and hours.

## Outdoor Education Center

Residential environmental education center for school groups and summer Ecocamps.

1075 State Route 343, Yellow Springs,  
937-767-7648

## Raptor Center

Raptor education and rehabilitation

Visitors are welcome to visit the center and see the resident birds.

Winter hours: 9am-5pm

Spring hours: 9am-6pm

1075 State Route 343, Yellow Springs  
937-767-7648

## Mission

The mission of the Glen Helen Association is to steward and strengthen Glen Helen nature preserve for present and future generations, safeguard the ecological, historical, and geological resources within its bounds, and utilize the preserve to offer life-shaping environmental learning to our students and visitors.

## Glen Helen Association Board of Trustees

Bruce Bradtmiller, Ken Dahms, Ph.D., Emily Foubert, Scott Geisel (President), Ben Hooper, Jon Horvath, Jeremy Main (Treasurer), Betty Ross (Vice President), Dan Rudolf, Paul Sampson, Kat Walter, Nick Boutis (Ex-officio)

## Glen Helen Association Staff

Zach Bollheimer, Land Manager; Nick Boutis, Executive Director; Tom Clevenger, Director for Finance and Administration; Sarah Cline, Outdoor Education Center Director; Sam Crawford, Maintenance Assistant; Laurie Freeman, Outreach Manager (Volunteers, Programs, Membership, and Nature Shop); Rebecca Jaramillo, Raptor Center Director; Ashley Mason, Facility Rentals/Booking Coordinator; Kelsey Mazur, Outdoor Education Center Assistant Director; Shannon Schenck, Outdoor Education Center Business Manager; Susan Smith, Glen Ranger; Shahkar Strolger, Property Manager

## From the Director

This issue of In the Glen is all about hiking, and unsurprisingly, we have a lot to say on the subject. Glen Helen has about fifteen miles of trails, and we're well aware that, for many folks who know and love the Glen, their connection began with a walk in the woods.

That's certainly true for me. I can remember well my first walk in the Glen, in the fall of 1989. I was here to interview for an internship at the Outdoor Education Center, and honestly, had no idea what I was getting myself into. We walked down the Fire Road to the Pine Forest, which at that point was in its glory days. Coming into the grove of pines, sensing the stillness in the air, and feeling the soft needles underfoot was magical.

What about you – do you have a favorite trail in the Glen or a trail experience that is particularly memorable for you?

Over the next several years, we're going to be busy making improvements to the Glen's trail system. We're mindful that some of the bridges and boardwalks in the preserve are well past their reasonable life expectancy. Heck, we're mindful that there are a number of streams and springs that need bridges or boardwalks, but never had them.

We've also been long aware that the topography of the Glen, coupled with the design of our trail system, make the preserve hard to visit for folks with limited mobility. Anyone who has difficulty tackling the long stone steps down from Trailside Museum (and frankly, that's a lot of us), find few points where they can access the preserve.



With this in mind, we are working to secure funds to increase the accessibility of our trail system. The planned bridge and boardwalk work will help, but we hope to go well beyond that. We recognize, as an example, that even the Yellow Spring itself is not visit-able to anyone unable to manage a series of tall and irregular stone steps. There, we hope to install a ramp to make it easier to get to the site. Rest assured, we have no interest in pavement – Glen Helen will always be rustic, but we want to ensure that we're able to be welcoming to those with limited mobility. This includes planned improvements to our parking areas, signage, and designation of at least one fully ADA accessible trail.

Ultimately, we want to make sure that everyone is able to develop a relationship with nature and the natural world. 🌱

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Nick Boutis".

– Nick Boutis, Director, Glen Helen Association



# Want to Take a Walk in the Woods?

By following the seven "Leave No Trace" principles, you can both keep your family safe, and enjoy the outdoors without degrading it. Learn more at [www.Int.org](http://www.Int.org).

## 1. Plan ahead and prepare.

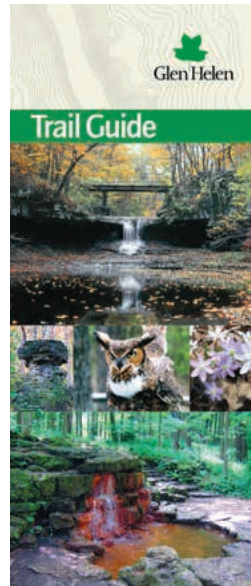
All of the other points below follow from good trip planning. It's hard (maybe impossible) to be a good steward of natural areas if you are physically or mentally stressed because of poor planning or unexpected conditions. Here are examples: Make sure that you're dressed for the weather, with proper footwear. Do you have enough water? Have you timed your bathroom breaks? Do you have snacks for the kids? Does your route match the energy and ability of everyone in your party? Some times of year, to protect the public and the preserve, we will need to close the trail system. Check [glenhelen.org](http://glenhelen.org) before you head to the Glen on a very windy day, or a unseasonably warm day in the thick of the winter/spring thaw – our trails may be closed!

## 2. Travel on durable surfaces.

Each of our trails is a little scar on the landscape, where little can grow. Any step that folks take that is off our trail system can make that scar a little bigger. The Glen Helen trail system will take you nearly everywhere in the preserve. Even if it means getting a better look at a bird or a flower or a vista; even if hikers are coming from the other direction; even if you come to a muddy spot; even if you see a shortcut; please stay on the trails! This is why we also ask people to stay out of streams and off rock formations.

## 3. Dispose of waste properly.

Beyond our parking area, you will not find trash cans within the Glen. We ask that visitors carry out everything that they brought with them. And, if you come across litter left by another party, please carry that out as well if you can do so safely. Not only is it depressing to find trash in the beautiful Glen, litter can be dangerous for people and wildlife. And, if you have a dog with you, be sure to pick up and carry out anything that it might be inclined to leave behind.



A great step in preparing for your Glen hike is to pick up a copy of the Trail Guide at the Vernet Ecological Center (or click on the QR code below). The map spotlights popular sights in the Glen, and lists the guidelines for responsible hiking.



## 4. Leave what you find.

Manipulating the natural environment can be a great temptation for people, but we ask that folks only do that in areas designated for that purpose. Need some examples of what not to do? Pulling rocks out of a stream to build rock stacks damages the stream habitats. Our native wildflowers are highly sensitive – in some cases, the entire plant will die if the flower is picked!

## 5. Minimize campfire impacts.

There are no campfires allowed in Glen Helen. In places where they are allowed, it's important to minimize your impact when you build a fire. It's best to use existing fire circles, for example. Build fires only where there is abundant wood, and little danger of wildfire. Never leave a fire unattended.

## 6. Respect wildlife.

Your choices around wildlife will help determine whether you and the animals have a safe interaction. In simplest terms, if an animal changes its behavior because of you, you're too close or otherwise threatening to it. This is particularly important for folks who bring dogs into the Glen, and why we have a strict policy that dogs must be kept on leash in the preserve. Some animals can be vectors for diseases. Some animals will defend their territory or their offspring.

## 7. Be considerate of other visitors.

Obviously! People deserve the opportunity to spend time in nature at their own pace, unperturbed by others to the extent possible. That's why we ask people to leave their Bluetooth speakers at home when they come to the Glen. It's also why it's a reasonable courtesy to step to the side if you're going down a slope while others are coming up. 🌿



# Hiking in the Glen

Visitors are welcome to explore our 15-mile network of trails on over 1,100 acres. 365 days a year from sunrise to sunset. Even on a short walk, you can view spectacular wildflowers, 200-year-old trees, limestone cliffs with waterfalls and overhangs and the beautiful Yellow Spring for which the nearby town is named.

**M**any folks enjoy hiking in the Glen, but there are a variety of reasons behind what gets them out there in the first place! In Glen Helen, many of our visitors set out on the trails to find peace, to enjoy scenery, or to just take a break from the daily grind, as they walk the boardwalks.

Our Trail Ambassadors program gets volunteers out on the trails to assist with ensuring the safety of our visitors and ecosystems, and to provide directions and interpretive knowledge to those along the way. Some volunteers get

their steps in as Hike Leaders, leading scheduled groups of visitors on interpretive hikes covering a variety of topics. Others help with land management activities as Land Stewards, conducting trail maintenance and invasive species management, both on and off trail.

Hear from some of our volunteers on what's on their minds as they set out on the trails...

## Full Moon Musings

Wishing upon a moon. Have you ever wished upon a moon? Astrologers believe it is the most powerful way to make a wish come true. Well, wishing upon a full moon may be even more potent.

As a guide for full moon hikes in the Glen, I have seen many a wish come true. One cold and clear winter's night, two 10 year-old friends ventured into the Glen with their families. I told them there is a chance you will hear a barred owl call on the hike. Neither boy had ever heard an owl call or seen one in the wild. As we began the hike, strolling down the boardwalk

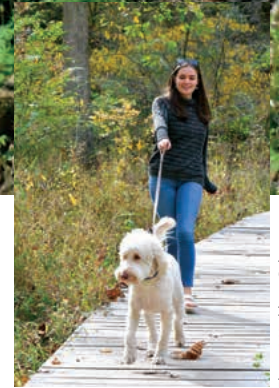


Photo | Kathleen Galarza

The Inman Trail is a 1-mile loop that provides ready access to many of the best known features of Glen Helen, including the Yellow Spring, Birch Creek Cascades and the Grotto.

Walking your dog in the Glen can be great exercise for both you and your pet. Remember, though, to keep them on a leash of 6 feet or less and to clean up if nature calls.



on the Inman trail, the boys heard the distinct “Whoop Cooks for You” echo through the woods. Their excitement could not be contained as both replied with their own imitations of hoots.

Now, thoroughly invigorated and with renewed energy, the boys lead the way past the Grotto, then to the Yellow Spring, and on to the Cascades. With the full moon shining above the horizon, lighting our way, a large owl with a three-foot wingspan flew right overhead and down the trail. The boys could hardly believe their eyes. Truly, a night to remember.

– Paul Sampson Volunteer Trail Ambassador, GHA Board Member

## Finding Connections

As a Volunteer Trail Ambassador at Glen Helen for the last two years I’ve learned to especially appreciate the amazing transformation that occurs with the changing of all four seasons; our flowers, fungi, trees, insects, birds, animals, streams, everything changes so much into almost completely different environments, each with equally breathtaking beauty and magic! Spending hundreds of hours on our trails, connecting with the land and nature spirits, I have found to be a deeply healing and nurturing transformative experience.

Also one of my favorite responsibilities has been meeting and helping to guide visitors to our Glen; I’ve met hikers from a couple dozen states, South America, Canada and several European and Asian countries. It’s so much fun to introduce new guests to the myriad of features of our Glen, teach about our history and fauna and especially to see children’s faces completely light up when introduced to our Raptor Center!

Serving with the Glen Helen family of staff and volunteers, helping to protect and care for this sacred space and serve our visitors has truly been an honor and blessing for me. Sometimes, when I’m picking up litter from our trails, I hear whispered singing of gratitude from the Woodland Faeries; where else can you experience that?

– Pan Reich RN, EMT-P Volunteer Trail Ambassador

If you have interest in getting out in the woods with one of these groups, contact our Outreach Manager Laurie Freeman at [lffreeman@glenhelenassociation.org](mailto:lffreeman@glenhelenassociation.org). Come take a hike with us!

## Tips for a Great Hike

### Footwear and Clothing

» Good sturdy shoes are important! The priority should be to have a rugged sole, to give you the best grip. Any sort of running shoes will work pretty well, and in the long run, a pair of hiking boots are a great investment. Waterproof boots are really nice in the winter and in areas of the Glen that generally get a little muddier, but for most of the year, they are not necessary, and sometimes not ideal! Remember that your feet sweat and regulate your body temperature, so in the summertime, breathability can be important!

» Layer your clothing! A breathable under-shirt (a base layer, in hiker-speak), with layers of breathable clothing on top is the way to go. Then you can take off layers, as-needed. If you’re only wearing one big coat and overheat and get sweaty, taking it off may not be ideal and your options become limited. Wool and breathable fabrics like polyester are great choices.

» Rain gear, like a good rain jacket, is a great investment that can last you many years. If you hike a lot, you will eventually get caught in the rain, but that doesn’t have to end your hike if you have the proper clothing! Look for jackets or pants with good ventilation that will still keep you dry. Armpit zippers and other types of ventilation are common characteristics of higher-quality rain gear, but sometimes, just having a cheap disposable poncho is all you need, and they can be reused if cared for! And if you aren’t using them very often, they can last a very long time!

### Safety

Be aware that there are hidden dangers in nature, just like anywhere else! We want our visitors to be safe, and learn best practices in the outdoors.

» Don’t stand or sit on the edge of rock outcroppings, boulders, or other rock formations. Not only do we not allow our visitors off-trail in the preserve, but it is also difficult to access some of these places by safety personnel. An injured visitor off-trail will be more difficult to find by staff and emergency personnel, and the time it takes to get them to a hospital or into emergency care is longer if an injured visitor is in a place we don’t expect visitors to be! Please don’t damage the native plants in the unique habitats at the edges of our rock features, and ensure your own safety at the same time!

» Drink plenty of water, and bring a snack if you intend to be on the trail for an extended period of time. 🍁



Photo | Kathleen Galarza



Photo | Kathleen Galarza

# It's Not Just a Hike;

Taking a hike is a great experience for men, women, children and dogs. It's an experience made all that much better when you are actively aware of your surroundings. Here are a few ideas about making your hike a true experience.

## Identify Plants and Animals

Everywhere you go, there are different communities filled with an exciting array of species. Learning your flora and fauna can help you see the differences in different types of ecosystems. Cell phone applications like Seek, iNaturalist and eBird can help speed up your process. We have a variety of great field guides in our Nature Shop, and the Ohio Department of Natural Resources (ohiodnr.gov) offers free, highly recommended ID guides.



## Observe Your Surroundings

What type of ecosystem are you in? Is it a forest? An open prairie?

What kinds of species are here? Are there large mature trees, or is it mostly younger trees, regenerating from past logging or farming? Is it a wetland area with water-loving plants, or are you in the upland, where the soil is drier?

Where is the water near you? Where does the water flow, and how does it get there? Are there standing pools of water that might provide habitat for macroinvertebrates, aquatic insects, and amphibians, or is there a stream, home to a diverse

array of fish, turtles, or other mammals like beaver?

Observing your surroundings and identifying the differences between ecosystems is a great way to learn about a place, to learn about human impacts on the land, and to get anyone on the road to becoming a better ecologist (a person who studies the relationships between organisms and environment).

## Take a Springtime Family Sense Hike

Use your senses as you hike through the Glen this spring. Please stay on the trails and avoid picking items.

### Listen for

- » Different types of bird calls
- » The flowing of springs and cascades
- » Squirrels rustling through the leaves
- » Spring Peepers or other frogs
- » Creaking of tree branches
- » Buzzing of insects

### See

- » New wildflowers blooming
- » Mushroom and shelf fungi on trees
- » Moss and lichen – what colors?
- » Animals tracks in the mud
- » Beaver dam
- » Butterflies
- » Evidence of animals (tracks, scat, etc.)

### Smell

- » The new spring growth of plants
- » The earthy scent after a rain
- » Wildflower scent
- » The iron oxide of the Yellow Springs
- » Decomposing logs

### Touch

- » Ridges and tree bark
- » Cool spring water
- » Lichen
- » Decomposing logs

### Try to Find These Things

- » A red bird
- » Something that starts with the first letter of your name

## What's in Bloom? Spring Flowers in the Glen

Check out the four April Spring Beauty Saunter Wildflower Walks on the events calendar. Here are some wildflowers that you may see in the Glen.



Large-flowered Trillium (*Trillium crandiflorum*)



Dutchman's Breeches (*Dicentra cucullaria*)



Sharp-lobed Hepatica (*Anemone acutiloba*)



Mayapple (*Podophyllum peltatum*)

Photo: Stephanie Falzone

Photo: Nancy Flinchbaugh



# It's an Experience!



Photo | Kathleen Calarza

- » A tree taller than you and a tree shorter than you
- » An animal in its home

## Wildlife in the Spring: How to Help and When Not To

Ahhhh springtime! The birds and bees and baby bunnies have a way of energizing us and thawing us out from the cold winter. But wait! Is that a baby squirrel in need of help? As a nature enthusiast, how do we ensure that we are the best animal allies we can be without interfering with thousands of years of evolution?

**Take time to watch:** If an animal is spotted that appears to be in stress, take a few minutes to watch it from a quiet, ideally distant vantage point. Many animals will feign injuries in order to draw predators away from a nest site. Look around to see if there is anything that the animal may be reacting to. Does the animal appear to be trapped by something? Unless the animal is actively causing self-harm, give it a few minutes to see if it can work its way out. Do you see or hear a parent nearby? A young animal without parental supervision is often not a cause for alarm, but taking the time to look for adults or other young

can give you a more complete picture of the situation. Many animals leave their young alone all day and night, only coming to feed them once or twice under the cover of darkness. While strange to us, this has served them well for thousands of years and is perfectly natural parenting. During this observation time, if you can take pictures or video discreetly, they can be valuable tools for the next step.

**Call a rehabilitator:** If, after observation, the animal seems to need help, call a licensed rehabilitator before taking action. Ohio is blessed to have a well-trained and diverse collective of wildlife rehabilitators and wildlife organizations. When at all possible, talking to a rehabilitator before taking action can save you and the animal unneeded stress. A rehabilitator can help to determine the best course of action and how to safely go about it. Remember, many rehabilitators are very busy people so be patient and give them time to call you back. A complete list of rehabilitators and wildlife resources by county can be found through the Ohio Wildlife Rehabilitators Association at [www.owra.org/find](http://www.owra.org/find).

**Contain:** If an animal appears to be in distress or immediate danger, you can contain the animal while waiting for further instructions from a rehabilitator. A large towel, blanket, or sheet is often a great tool for catching or gently herding an animal into a safer location. When containing an animal, remember the three most important rules; Dark, Warm, Quiet. As much as we would like to comfort the animal, holding, petting or talking to it is stressful for it and could be dangerous for you. A dark, warm and quiet place to rest can very often be the

difference between life and death. Do not offer food or water until/unless instructed to do so. Eating or drinking while in shock can lead to many negative consequences for an animal. Sometimes it is our own pets that need to be contained rather than the wild animal. For example, if a nest of rabbits has been discovered in your yard, there are many steps that can be taken to protect them from your dogs while they grow up. Cats should *never* be left outside to roam as they will inevitably cause harm to wildlife and will likely be injured themselves.

Wild animals do often need human intervention due either to injury or illness, but many times with a little observation and knowledge, we can ensure Mother Nature has the chance to do what she does best!

## Be on the Lookout for...

Invasive species are introduced organisms that negatively impact ecosystems by rapid reproduction, eventually outcompeting native organisms in an ecosystem. Here are invasive species to watch for this spring.



Garlic Mustard  
(*Allaria petiolata*)



Lesser Celandine  
(*Ficaria verna*)

If you see LESSER CELANDINE between February and May within the Village of Yellow Springs or nearby vicinity, please notify Land Manager Zach Bollheimer at [zbollheimer@glenhelenassociation.org](mailto:zbollheimer@glenhelenassociation.org) or leave a message at 937-769-1902 ext. 1104. We may be able to help you remove it, to prevent the area from further infestation.



# The Surprising History of Glen Helen Trails



**A**s you walk on footpaths in the Glen, see if you can find any clues that point to their history. While some parks and preserves have trail systems that were laid out and created specifically to be trails, Glen Helen – along with many other larger and older parks and preserves – is filled with trails that once had another purpose.

A number of the footpaths in the Glen used to be roads. Yes, roads. The gravel path from State Route 343 to the Outdoor Education Center used to be part of the Clifton Pike, and was actually the first officially authorized road in all of Greene County. Can you imagine arriving here by stagecoach 220 years ago? Other trails in the Glen used to be farm roads, or even logging roads. For clues that the path you're on used to be a road, consider steepness of the slope, the width of the graded area, and whether it has any abrupt turns.

An honorable mention, just outside the boundary of the preserve: The Little Miami Scenic Trail is built on top of the right of way for the Little Miami Railway. Paved as a hiker/biker trail in the early 1990s, it is now a 78-mile long paved path. Railroad grade looks a lot like a roadbed, only more so. Changes in slope have to be gradual, and any turns have to be wide enough for a train.

Parts of what are now the Lower Birch Creek and Inman Trails were once on the "Bullskin Trace," a Shawnee migration route between the Ohio River and Detroit, which followed the Yellow Springs Creek right past the Yellow Spring. The level terrain in the floodplain of the creeks made travel and long-distance wayfinding easier.

Some of our trails were created specifically for the purpose of building a recreational or educational footpath. The Talus Trail and the steps down from Trailside Museum are good examples of trails that were set up specifically to be part of the trail system of the Glen. Look for trails that are steep, or narrow, or have greater emphasis on scenery than utility. These trails can have abrupt changes in direction – think of the two switchbacks along the Trailside Steps.

A herd path is a trail formed by animals – typically deer in our area. If enough people follow these herd paths, they naturally get widened and begin to look more official. We don't know for certain that any trails in the main part of the preserve were initially created by wildlife, but suspect that some of them might have been. Look for trails that are short, don't appear to be destination driven (perhaps they connect other trails) and are generally in level terrain. 🍄

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Nick Boutis ([nboutis@glenhelen.org](mailto:nboutis@glenhelen.org))



# Welcome to New Staff!

This past fall, Glen Helen welcomed three new staff members into the organization. Take a little time and get to know them.

## Sam Crawford



As part of the Glen Helen Maintenance Staff Sam Crawford has accomplished many things since he started, including much needed updates to the Raptor Center, Trailside Museum, and Outdoor Education Center dorms.

**When did you begin at Glen Helen and what was your prior experience at the Glen?** I started in early November. I have loved coming to the Glen my whole life and enjoyed attending Ecocamp when I was younger.

**What's your favorite place in the Glen?** One of my favorite places is the fire road trail right before you get to School Forest, because I am always amazed by the trees there.

**What animal, insect, bird, amphibian, etc. do you identify with or absolutely love?** The beavers are really cool. I haven't seen them yet but I appreciate their hard work.

**What's your favorite vacation or adventure?** This summer I hiked part of The Long Trail in Vermont with two friends. The trail goes along a mountain range, so it's all uphill or down. We didn't hike as far as we thought we would, but we had a lot of fun and took in some amazing views.

**What's the best part of your job?** One of the best parts of my job is getting things to be clean when they were not before.

**What's your tastiest meal or treat?** Coffee!

**What's your motto or favorite quote?** "Quote me as saying I was mis-quoted," by Groucho Marx

## Laurie Freeman



As our new Outreach Manager, Laurie Freeman will be working with volunteers, running the Nature Shop, and managing publications, communications, and this magazine. She is originally from Illinois with a background in parks and recreation. One of the fun things she has done is teach Laughter Yoga.

**When did you begin at Glen Helen and what was your prior experience at the Glen?**

Began working in early October 2021. After moving to Ohio in 2020, I explored the Glen as a visitor and fell in love with it

**What's your favorite place in the Glen?** Right now, the beaver dam and especially the Grotto.

**What animal, insect, bird, amphibian, etc. do you identify with or absolutely love?** I'm happy to see my favorite animal, the white-tailed deer, near my home and in the Glen. Learning to identify birds is on her to do list.

**What's your favorite vacation or adventure?** A 2019 trip to Iceland was truly memorable especially seeing the northern lights two nights in a row.

**What's the best part of your job?** Meeting so many wonderful people who are passionate about preserving Glen and the energy they exude.

**What's your tastiest meal or treat?** Got to love a juicy white-flesh nectarine or a blood orange. Coffee ice cream is pretty darn good too!

**What's your motto or favorite quote?** "Imagination is more important than knowledge. For knowledge is limited to all we know and understand, while imagination embraces the entire world, and all there ever will be to

know and understand," by Albert Einstein.

## Kelsey Mazur



As the Assistant Director at the Outdoor Education Center, Kelsey Mazur has been working with the other staff on recruiting Naturalist Teacher Interns and scheduling schools to prepare for this upcoming spring Outdoor School term.

**When did you begin at Glen Helen and what was your prior experience at the Glen?**

I started as an Ecocamp Naturalist Counselor in 2013, stuck around for Outdoor School as a naturalist and Lead Naturalist for two years. I'm so grateful and excited to be back at the OEC – it is my favorite place in the world.

**What's your favorite place in the Glen?** Traveler's Spring on Upper Birch Trail (or the Raptor Center!)

**What animal, insect, bird, amphibian, etc. do you identify with or absolutely love?**

I love spiders! Especially salticids (jumping spiders), thomisids (crab spiders), and argiopes (a genus of orbweavers) – they have such unique personalities



and are really fascinating creatures.

**What's your favorite vacation or adventure?** I was really fortunate and able to visit Maine with my family and we went on a Puffin Cruise! We got to see so many amazing birds (and some lifers!!) and I got to share my love of birds with my family, which was really special.

**What's the best part of your job?** So far, the best part of my job has been building a team of naturalists for this spring's Outdoor School! It has been really rewarding working with young people who want to start or continue their career in environmental education with us here at the Outdoor Education Center! They have such passion and are so excited to learn and grow with their students. I feel really grateful that I get to help and support them on this journey.

**What's your tastiest meal or treat?** Might I recommend the campfire chocolate banana? Peel just one part of the banana peel, and add chocolate and marshmallows, replace the peel, wrap in foil, and place in campfire. Wait until it is chocolate-y marshmallow-y smooshy gooey, and enjoy!

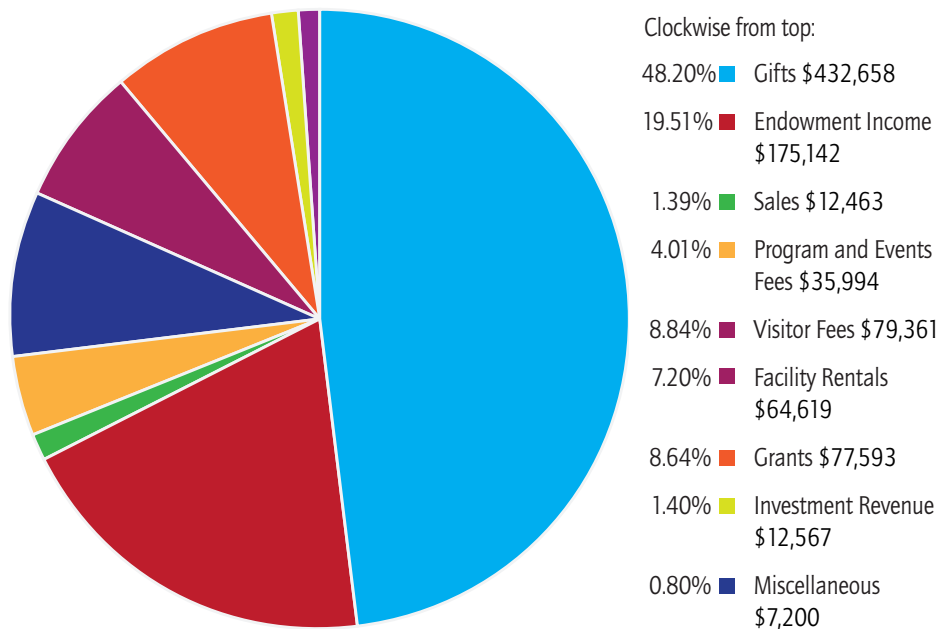
**What's your motto or favorite quote?** "Everything everywhere matters to everything" and "I cannot do this but I am doing it anyway."



## Errata

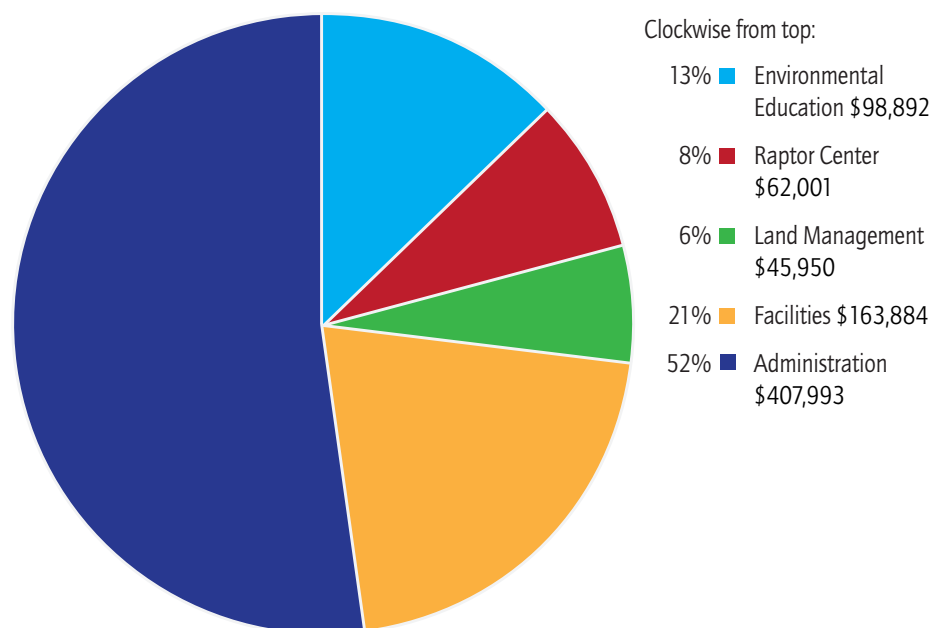
Our recent annual report for the period from July 1, 2020 to June 30, 2021 included misprinted financial information. A correction appears below. Total revenues and expenditures remain unchanged.

### Operating Revenues



**Total Operating Revenues: \$897,597**

### Operating Expenditures



**Total Operating Expenditures: \$779,680**



## Announcements



### Ecocamp Registration is Open!

We are pleased to announce that Ecocamp registration for summer 2022 is open! This summer, we will be offering day camps as well as overnight residential camps, and a handful of progressive and Leaders In Training camps as well! Ecocamp is a great opportunity for children ages 5-15 to connect to nature, build community, gain new skills, and build self-confidence while engaging in fun, educational, and nature-y camp activities.

Camps will begin the week of June 13th and run through the week of August 8, 2022. Scholarships are available. For more information, and to sign up, please visit [glenhelen.org/ecocamp](http://glenhelen.org/ecocamp).

### Order a Glen Helen License Plate Today!

The Glen Helen license plate is a way to show the world that you love the Glen. Plus, as a bonus, you get to drive



with a beautiful Charley Harper sapsucker affixed to your bumper.

Any Ohio car owner can acquire the tag, either from your local Bureau of Motor Vehicles office, or by visiting [oplates.com](http://oplates.com). No need to wait until your regular renewal date on your birthday – you can order your plates at any time. For each driver who purchases these specialty plates, the Glen Helen Association receives \$15.

### Support the Glen – Shop at amazon.com

Participating is very simple. All you have to do is go to “smile.amazon.com,” any time you’d like to make an Amazon.com purchase.

When you are prompted to select your charity, select “Glen Helen Association.” Everything else about your Amazon shopping experience stays the same – the shopping cart, wish lists, shipping options and prices. You shop. Amazon donates 0.5% of your purchase to us.



### Donate to the Raptor Center Wishlist

The daily work of caring for live hawks and owls requires a continuous supply of items for feeding and cleaning. Any time we’re able to receive donations of these items, it means that more of our operating funds can go directly to our rehabilitation and education work. See our current wish list by clicking the Raptor Center tab at [glenhelen.org](http://glenhelen.org).



Photo: Kaathryn Shauger

### Go Green with the Glen

Opt in for digital mail, and you’ll receive an average of four email messages monthly, including *In the Glen* magazine, our quarterly calendars, and current news, events, and invitations. To receive these mailings in a digital format, simply send an email to [lfreeman@glenhelenassociation.org](mailto:lfreeman@glenhelenassociation.org). Put “Go Green” in the subject field, and your name in the message body.



Follow us on Facebook: [www.facebook.com/glenhelen](http://www.facebook.com/glenhelen)





405 Corry Street  
Yellow Springs, Ohio 45387-1895  
Phone 937.769.1902  
Fax 937.769.1910  
[www.glenhelen.org](http://www.glenhelen.org)

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## From the Archives



This undated photo – probably from the late 1800s – is the earliest known image of the old stage coach bridge over Birch Creek. You can see a single rock arch over the main stream channel, supporting planks or beams over the remainder of the channel. This span has been an important crossing for centuries! It was once a part of

the Clifton Pike, which connected Yellow Springs and Clifton. This route was so significant that when Ohio became a state in 1803, it was the first authorized road in all of Greene County. The irony that the oldest road in the county is now protected within Glen Helen is not lost on us. In the 1930s, the bridge was improved by adding a second

arch to the right of the original one, and raising the road bed up. Today, the bridge is not only part of the Glen Helen trail system, it is also a mandatory crossing for vehicles heading to the Raptor Center or Outdoor Education Center, including buses of visiting schoolchildren. 🍁