

Educational

1. To increase knowledge and understanding of our natural world and man's place in it.
2. To develop an awareness, appreciation and an affection for nature.
3. To develop a desire and will, based upon understanding, to protect, safeguard from harm and use wisely the living and non-living resources of the earth important to man. These are the first steps in the development of a geobiotic ethic.

Scientific

1. To have a natural area near a community where students may study physical features and the native fauna and flora.
2. To have an area where the ecology of natural communities can be studied.
3. To hold in perpetuity in and around urban areas some representative samples of the native landscape.
4. To help provide a natural outdoor laboratory for the stimulation of scientific curiosity, especially among young people.

Cultural

1. To help train persons in awareness and skills and thus to add to their capacity for enjoyment.
2. To teach good outdoor manners and conduct, thus helping to curb vandalism and juvenile delinquency.
3. To develop in young and old a sense of appreciation, respect and reverence for all living things, thus adding to man's moral character.
4. To promote better citizenship by stressing individual responsibility.

Recreational

1. To promote wholesome and productive outdoor activity.
2. To help promote more active instead of passive recreation.
3. To add a new dimension to physical and mental health.
4. To show that more "quality" in outdoor recreation is worth pursuing.
5. To help make leisure time productive.

(b) Suggestions and Recommendations

There is little question that the development of a nature center involves a considerable capital investment as well as a substantial annual operating budget. A nature center must include three basic elements: land, buildings, and personnel. The land element is most basic but would present no problem in this instance.

The second important element of a nature center is buildings. To run a nature center effectively, it is necessary to have a place where people meet. An education building with an assembly room, exhibits, displays, offices, rest rooms, and workshop is essential. The central education building should be large enough to include a museum wing. In addition to the education building, the center should have one or more residences for the staff.

The third and final element necessary is, of course, personnel. Staffwise, a typical center should have a trained educational director, one or two professional assistants to help with instruction, a stenographer and at least one caretaker. Needless to say the director and teaching staff should be persons of professional training in the natural sciences and conservation.

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