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205 Old Commerce Road Athens, GA 30607 706-613-3615







2018 Annual Report





Our Mission:

"To support, promote and protect the environmental education and preservation efforts of Sandy Creek Nature Center." We work to ensure that natural science and environmental education opportunities are available to everyone in our local and regional community.

Our History:

Sandy Creek Nature Center, Inc. was founded in 1973 as Northeast Georgia Nature Center, Inc. by a committed group of 12 Athensarea educators, scientists, and concerned citizens who saw a need for stronger environmental education in the area.

In 1981, the board deeded the Nature Center to Clarke County, which assumed responsibility for its day-to-day operations and funding. This partnership continues today, with the Athens-Clarke County Unified Government providing staff and the majority of funding, while Sandy Creek Nature Center, Inc. continues to act as a liaison between the staff and the community, a partner in ongoing development, an advocate for the nature center and environmental protection, and a source of supplemental funding.



Our Future:



Backyard Discovery Zone

With the overwhelming popularity of the exhibit hall, it has become clear that additional play space is a necessity. Thus, Sandy Creek Nature Center, Inc. is committed to raising funds to construct an outdoor play and exploration area which will be located in our current garden area, just behind the Education and Visitor Center. This area will be available for independent visitors and for use by school groups, camp groups and facility programs. Our goal is to construct an active space close to our building in order to create a safe outdoor experience focusing on nature.

Features will include low-impact play surfaces, forest trails, seating for adults and space for strollers, shade, natural boundaries and a variety of natural structures for open-ended free play.

Two preliminary basic concept plans and a professionally prepared site survey have been completed. Koons Environmental Design, an Athens company, has been retained to develop a detailed concerpt plan within 90 days. A final plan will then be prepared.