



# In the Glen

NEWS AND ACTIVITIES OF THE  
GLEN HELEN ASSOCIATION

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SPRING 2024



**INSIDE:** The future of Glen Helen? Secured, thanks to you!  
Read about our Campaign story on page 3.



## From the Director

Four years after COVID forced the closure of Glen Helen and put into question our very future as a nature preserve and place of life-shaping environmental learning, we're marking a major milestone. In this issue of *In the Glen*, we're celebrating the successful(!) conclusion of the \$4,250,000 campaign that allowed us to secure the funds to purchase and reopen Glen Helen, restart programs, and attend to urgent public safety, accessibility, and code compliance needs. It is difficult to find words that adequately express the magnitude of our gratitude, but we will try: Your support, whether as donors, volunteers, or advocates, made our future possible. We are profoundly grateful, and humbled by what you, and everyone in our community of supporters has accomplished.

Of course, to use a slightly heavy-handed analogy, the conclusion of our campaign is indeed a milestone, not a finish line. Much work remains. We want to make sure that we're doing the best possible job stewarding the ecology of Glen Helen, and we want to make sure that our programs are as impactful as possible for everyone who participates in them.

Our plans for the coming year show the type of efforts we see before us. You'll note in our calendar of events

that we are gearing up to host a training for folks interested in becoming Ohio Certified Volunteer Naturalists. This a natural outgrowth of the naturalist training offered to interns at our Outdoor Education Center, and it will allow us to give adults interpretation tools that they can share with others.

Thanks to initial project funding from Center Point Energy, we are working to renovate and reopen Trailside Museum this spring. Perhaps some of you who participate in the naturalist training program would like to volunteer there?

Each year since restarting our educational programs in 2021, we've been able to schedule programs over more of the year, and also expand the types of programs. This past season, and for the first time, we held a winter camp for kids at the Outdoor Education Center. Presently, the Raptor Center is offering a new after school program for kids. At the same time, we're also expanding our offerings for older adults, including a weekly morning walk on a nearly level section of trail. This type of program will get even easier for us to plan for in the coming year once we complete trail improvements that make it easier for folks with limited mobility to explore the preserve.

Nick Boutis  
Executive Director, Glen Helen Association

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

**Contributors**  
Editor: Laurie Freeman; Contributors: Christine Avery, Nick Boutis, Kat Christen, Emily Foubert, Laurie Freeman, Kelsey Mazur, Rebecca Jaramillo, Susan Smith, Ashley Lackovich-Van Gorp, Design: Jennifer Perry

**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**  
405 Corry Street, Yellow Springs, OH 45387  
937-769-1902

**Vernet Ecological Center**  
405 Corry Street, Yellow Springs, OH 45387  
Daily 10am-4pm (except holidays)

**Nature Shop**  
Located in the Vernet Ecological Center  
405 Corry Street, Yellow Springs, OH 45387  
Thurs-Sun, 10am-4pm | Fri. - Sun, 10am-4pm (Jan. - March)

**Trailside Museum**  
505 Corry Street, Yellow Springs, OH 45387  
Opening Spring 2024

**Outdoor Education Center**  
Residential environmental education center for school groups and summer Ecocamps. 1075 State Route 343, Yellow Springs, OH 45387  
937-767-7648

**Raptor Center**  
Raptor education and rehabilitation. Visitors are welcome to visit and see the resident birds.  
Winter: 9am-5pm | Spring & Fall: 9am-6pm  
Summer: 9am-7pm  
1075 State Route 343, Yellow Springs, OH 45387  
937-767-6656

**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.

**Current Glen Helen Association Board of Trustees**  
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[www.glenhelen.org](http://www.glenhelen.org)  
Cover photo by Kelsey Mazur



— Goal Reached —

# Campaign to Secure the Future of Glen Helen

The Glen Helen Association is thrilled to announce that we reached our \$4,250,000 campaign goal! Thanks to the generosity of our 857 supporters, Glen Helen is celebrating this milestone and looking forward to a bright- and busy- future.

The Campaign to Secure the Future of Glen Helen started as a grassroots movement to save the preserve. When the pandemic moved into Ohio in 2020, the Glen was closed in response to the state-wide stay-at-home order. Within weeks, Antioch College announced that there were no plans to reopen the preserve. Immediately, the shocked community responded with care and concern over the fate of the beloved nature preserve. "The challenges were enormous," noted Scott Geisel, who served as Board President during much of the campaign. "But love for the Glen outweighed them."

A few months later, the Glen Helen Association stepped forward with a plan to purchase, reopen and secure the future of the Glen. We quickly organized a campaign to support the transformation of the Glen from the ownership of Antioch College to an independent, nonprofit nature preserve. In addition to raising funds for the purchase of the Glen, the Campaign to Secure the Future of Glen Helen focused on stewarding the Glen's health and beauty, investing in its educational mission, and realizing the Glen's potential to become one of America's leading nature centers. Geisel emphasized that the "public support has made the current preservation and rebuilding possible."

*"We are humbled and profoundly grateful for this outpouring of support."*

Nick Boutis, Glen Helen Executive Director noted, "We are not exaggerating when we say that donors to the campaign made our future possible." The Campaign to Secure the Future of Glen Helen has raised enough funds for the purchase of the preserve while creating a foundation for the Glen's future.



A wetland forms where the coal-fired power plant had been.

The impact of the campaign can be seen every time you walk in the Glen: In 2022, we tore down the derelict Antioch College coal-fired power plant, which was built on top of a spring-fed wetland. This is the single largest restoration project that Glen Helen has undertaken, but is just one of six dilapidated structures removed with campaign support. Now, a year into habitat restoration, plants and animals have returned to the power plant site. In the spring, we saw swallows, sandpipers, and thousands of toads. This past summer, a family of foxes made their home there.

We're repairing and building bridges and boardwalks to keep trails accessible and open. So far, we've completed six bridges and boardwalks. We are also tackling obstructions, keeping trails clear for the 125,000 visitors we receive each year. Sometimes, this work is sad, but necessary: Throughout the preserve, we are attending to dead trees that would otherwise damage property when they fall. In 2023, we needed

to cut down one of the great trees of the Glen, a 250-year-old white oak that leaned over the Vernet Ecological Center, our main building. Thankfully, campaign resources made this work possible. We made an ambitious suite of improvements to facilities at the Outdoor Education Center. Efforts included a top-to-bottom renovation of the Mercer Farmhouse where our naturalists live; an all-new yurt classroom; kitchen improvements and new furniture in the Lodge; new furniture, a new roof, and air conditioning in the student dormitories; a new stage and benches for our fire circle, and a new porch and meeting space for the office. With four new full-time education and administration staff and a revolving cohort of naturalist interns, we are again hosting schoolchildren and campers year-round.

At the Raptor Center, campaign support expanded our educational programs. With a renovated classroom, we now host regular open hours with family-friendly activities. Our new rehabilitation complex, with a recently installed camera system, has helped us improve the care we offer to sick, injured, and orphaned birds of prey. Last year, we took in over 220 birds!

We have come so far, and yet this campaign marks the beginning of our transformation.



To maintain trail access at the site of the new beaver dam, we elevated the boardwalk. The area has become one of the most popular sites in the Glen for wildlife watching.

**Looking forward:** In 2024, we plan significant improvements to our trail system and access points. We will continue with the renovation or installation of bridges and boardwalks as well as installing a new ADA-compliant trail, three ADA-compliant parking areas, and improved wayfinding signage. These improvements will help us prevent erosion, ensure visitor safety, and improve accessibility for those with limited mobility throughout the preserve.

**THANK YOU to the 857 people, businesses, agencies, and organizations who, together, secured the future of Glen Helen!**



The former "Fox Den" classroom (inset), about to be demolished, and the new yurt classroom with our 2023 naturalist team.

We are continuing to recognize friends who supported our campaign. We are moving forward with different types of recognition, including naming. In addition, inscribed boardwalk planks are working their way across the bridge atop the Yellow Springs Creek dam. This recognition is available to all contributors who have given \$1,000 or more in support of the campaign. Although we reached our campaign goal, we will continue taking donations until the bridge is filled with recognition planks.

This spring, we plan to reopen Trailside Museum, with updated exhibits, new resident animals, and a fresh look. Not far from Trailside, we will continue to accommodate our resident beavers by raising the boardwalk as needed.

Thanks to the Campaign to Secure the Future of Glen Helen, together we are helping ensure that the Glen Helen Association can move forward, and that the Glen and its programs will be open to the public and serving the children of the region for generations to come. We express deep gratitude to our donors, members, and friends who continue to support the Glen in many ways.

 Ashley Lackovich-Van Gorp, Development Director  
alackovich@glenhelenassociation.org

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— Assistant Director Kelsey Mazur and the resurrection —  
of the Outdoor Education Center

# Building Deep Relationships



Outdoor school programs.



Kelsey arrived at the Glen's Outdoor Education Center as the Assistant Director in October 2021. This was in the midst of the pandemic when everything was up in the air.

As her first task as Assistant Director, Kelsey sat down with the list of phone numbers of school partners and began calling them one by one. She recalls that a big part of how she rebuilt those relationships was with empathy, flexibility, and a willingness to help. "I know you can't come here this year, but can we come to you?" she would ask.

The Glen has historically hosted around 30 schools each school year. The pandemic completely shut down operations. As Kelsey talked and visited with more schools it was clear that doing outreach programs and 1-day programs was the next step. In the spring of 2022 we welcomed 12 schools back to campus for a truncated season.

What has made Kelsey so successful is her approach. "We are partners," she explains. "How can we best support the schools, the teachers, and their classrooms, rather than looking at it as a business venture?"

This outlook has worked. We are now welcoming twenty-two schools for the 2023-2024 school year, and most of them are spending the night again, a huge upward trend toward reinvigorating the program since the pandemic.

This fall, a long-time teacher was loading backpacks and pillows onto the yellow school bus at the end of their visit. He had attended our Outdoor School program as an assistant teacher for many years. This year was new—he was the lead teacher. Before boarding the bus he ran over to Kelsey, gave her a big hug, and expressed, "I was really nervous to be in charge of this trip, but I felt like I could do it because you were here and we'd be doing it together."

Bringing Kelsey on as the Assistant Director was made possible by generous donations to the Campaign to secure the future of Glen Helen.

 Emily Foubert, Lead Naturalist Outdoor Education Center  
oecteaching@glenhelenassociation.org

## The Nature Shop

Located in the Vernet Ecological Center. Shop hundreds of nature related items for friends and family including Charley Harper items, hiking supplies, t-shirts, mugs, wind chimes, books, nature toys, and much more!

Open Fridays-Sundays, 10am-4pm.  
Beginning March 14, open  
Thursdays-Sundays, 10am-4pm.


*Remember as a perk of your membership, members receive a 10% discount on items.*



# Rent The Glen

Did you know that Glen Helen has many unique rental facilities for hosting a variety of functions such as weddings, graduation parties, reunions, celebrations of life and business retreats?



 Vernet Ecological Center  
With its spacious auditorium and beautiful natural stone patio, Vernet Ecological Center is the perfect space for weddings, receptions, celebrations of life, dances, and business meetings.

Capacity: 140 seated theatre-style or 80 seated at tables  
Rental Season: Year-round

 Camp Greene  
The 200-person capacity lodge and outdoor spaces make Camp Greene the ideal private location for weddings, receptions, family reunions, business retreats, and celebrations of life.

Capacity: 200  
Rental Season: April 1 - November 14

 Birch Manor  
Birch Manor's historic home and surrounding lawns are a welcoming setting for weddings, receptions, and business retreats.

Capacity: 110 indoors or 150 outdoors  
Rental Season: Year-round

Please visit [glenhelen.org/rentals](http://glenhelen.org/rentals) for photos and information. For rates, questions, or to schedule a tour of any of our facilities, contact Ashley Mason at [rentals@glenhelenassociation.org](mailto:rentals@glenhelenassociation.org) or 937-769-1902 ext. 1101.

*Open House at Birch Manor and Camp Greene on March 9.*

See calendar for more information.



Pull Out Program Calendar >



### Bird Seed Sale and Local Delivery

Did you know you can purchase bird seed at the Nature Shop? We stock locally-grown high quality black oil sunflower seed, plus hot pepper suet and other suet cakes. Yellow Springs residents (45387) may order seed or suet and have it delivered for just \$3. Hot Pepper Suet-\$4, Reg. Suet Cake: \$3 Black Oil Sunflower Seed (25 lbs.): \$20

GHA members receive a 25% discount. Products are only available for delivery to persons within the 45387 zip code. GHA volunteers will deliver within 48-72 hours. Order online at [glenhelen.org/birdseedsale](http://glenhelen.org/birdseedsale) or purchase at the Nature Shop.

### GO GREEN with Glen Helen

We want to stay in touch with you. We also want to save trees, and save costs that can support our mission. Will you help us decrease our paper usage?

By opting in for digital mail, 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 put your name in the message body.



### Support the Glen with a License Plate

Plus, as a bonus, it comes with a Charley Harper sapsucker. 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).

Through your purchase, the Glen Helen Association receives \$15/year.

### Glen Helen Membership Update

Did you know your membership keeps the trails safe and open, enhances educational programs, helps rescue and rehabilitate raptors, and ensures the preserve remains lovingly maintained? In January 2024, the Glen team introduced a new membership structure to better serve our members and steward our Glen. Check out [www.glenhelen.org/membership](http://www.glenhelen.org/membership) for more details.

#### Basic Benefits

- Complimentary parking
- Subscription to *In the Glen* quarterly magazine
- Free or discounted programs and events
- 10% discount on Nature Shop purchases
- Free admission or discount at nature centers nationwide

#### TRILLIUM | \$50/year

Basic family (household) membership

*Trilliums, native wildflowers with three leaves, three petals, and three sepals, are sure signs of a healthy woodland. Find these native wildflowers in spring along Birch Creek.*

#### SPICEBUSH | \$120/year

Benefits above, plus add single-use 10% Ecocamp discount

*Spicebush are fragrant understory shrubs with leaves that turn bright yellow in fall. They are the sole food source for the Spicebush Swallowtail butterfly.*

#### OAK | \$365/year

Benefits above, plus member-only events

*Oaks are the grand canopy trees of Glen Helen. They can live for hundreds of years, and provide vital habitat for wildlife.*

#### LUCY & ARTHUR MORGAN SOCIETY | \$1,000/year

Benefits above, plus Morgan Society recognition, annual event, personalized communication

*Lucy and Arthur Morgan were champions of nature, whose efforts helped make the creation of Glen Helen Nature Preserve possible.*

**Your membership gives so much to Glen Helen. We appreciate you and your support.**

— At Glen Helen —

# Ohio Certified Volunteer Naturalist Program

Skilled naturalists have been trained for decades at the Glen's Outdoor Education Center, launching exceptional young educators out into the world to teach about and protect our natural resources.

This spring, the Glen is also training a cohort of local, volunteer naturalists with the Ohio Certified Volunteer Naturalist (OCVN) Program. A statewide program of The Ohio State University, OCVN is being hosted and coordinated by Glen staff to cultivate a volunteer community with a deep knowledge of our local environment and shared stewardship ethic.



*A naturalist training hike along the Yellow Springs Creek.*

The training includes forty hours of education from local and state educators and conservation leaders and will include topics like birds, water, soils, amphibians and reptiles, insects, aquatic life, land stewardship and more. Naturalists trained in this program commit to giving back forty hours of volunteer time to organizations like Glen Helen upon completion of the training.

*"Volunteers make our work of stewarding land and immersive environmental education possible."*

Participants will be learning in the Glen's Vernet Auditorium and on the preserve trails as well as spending a day in Beaver Creek Wetlands, with our partner organization, Beaver Creek Wetlands Association.

The Glen provides some exceptional learning spaces for course topics including the tadpole-rich emerging wetland at the site of the former power plant, the impressive beaver dam and pond teeming with new aquatic life, and a rich diversity of native plants and

animals. In addition, the Glen stewards part of the local watershed including the Yellow Springs and the National Scenic Little Miami River. We can't think of a better classroom!

Some OCVN-trained volunteers already support the Glen, welcoming guests and staffing the Nature Shop, leading educational hikes, and caring for raptors. Volunteers make our work of stewarding land and immersive environmental education possible. We look forward to welcoming the first Glen Helen cohort of Ohio Certified Volunteer Naturalists to our volunteer community.

To learn more about our programs: [www.glenhelen.org/calendar](http://www.glenhelen.org/calendar)

To volunteer at the Glen: [lfreeman@glenhelenassociation.org](mailto:lfreeman@glenhelenassociation.org)



*Ohio State University Extension Aquatic Ecosystems Program Director, Eugene Braig, leads an educational hike in the Glen at the beaver pond in 2023. Educators like Eugene are leading some OCVN sessions.*

 Kat Christen, Deputy Director  
[kchristen@glenhelenassociation.org](mailto:kchristen@glenhelenassociation.org)

— Check It Out —

# Ecocamp Exploration

Since 1974, Ecocamp has provided countless opportunities for campers to experience the beauty of Glen Helen nature up close, while creating a safe space for them to build community, connect with friends, and gain new skills as they build self-confidence.

Each Ecocamp is a week-long program. Day camps are for our youngest group of campers involving daily drop-off and pick-up. Progressive camps are for campers looking to get their feet wet with a single overnight experience. Older campers participating in overnight camp or Leaders In Training will spend the week overnight until pick-up on Friday afternoon.

We are very excited to introduce new campers to the wonders of the Glen as well as welcome all returners with fun, new activities. We will be offering Ecocamp favorites such as Dig It, Raptor Camp, and Nocturnal Camp, as well as some new things! This season, the 9-11 year old age group has progressive and

overnight camp options available through the summer, and we have added a few new options to the schedule, such as:

- Critters & Camouflage
- D.I.R.T.T.
- Weird & Whacky Science
- STEM in the Glen
- Adventure! We are finalizing details surrounding Adventure Camp but families will be notified when this camp becomes open for registration

More information can be found on our website: [www.glenhelen.org/ecocamp](http://www.glenhelen.org/ecocamp)

Registration available at: [www.glenhelenecocamp.campbrainregistration.com/](http://www.glenhelenecocamp.campbrainregistration.com/)

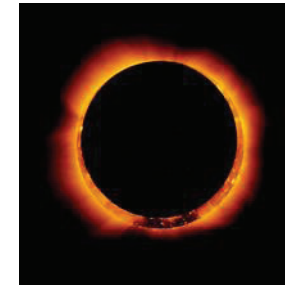
 Kelsey Mazur, Outdoor Education Center Assistant Director  
kmazur@glenhelenassociation.org



Week # Dates	Ages 5-6 Day Camp	Ages 7-8 Day Camp	Ages 7-9 Progressive	Ages 9-11 Prog or Overnight	Ages 10-12 Overnight	Ages 12-14 Overnight	Ages 13-15 Overnight	Ages 16-17 Overnight
<b>Week 1</b> June 10-14	Whimsy	Nature Ninjas	Critters & Camo	NART	Exploration Expedition	Raptor	Wilderness Living	X
<b>Week 2</b> June 17-21	Puddle Jumpers	NART	Fort-topia	X	The Great Glenfoot Search	Weird & Whacky Science	Nocturnal	X
<b>Week 3</b> June 24-28	Forest Friends	Dig-It	Exploration Expedition	Critters & Camo (Overnight)	Girls in the Outdoors	Wilderness Living	Raptor	Leaders In Training
<b>Week 4</b> July 1-5	<b>No Ecocamp</b>							
<b>Week 5</b> July 8-12	Nature Ninjas	Forest Friends	Wilderness Living	The Great Glenfoot Search	D.I.R.T.T.	Girls in the Outdoors	Forest Deep: D & D	X
<b>Week 6</b> July 15-19	NART	Puddle Jumpers	Critters & Camo	X	Wilderness Living	Nocturnal	STEM in the Glen	Leaders In Training
<b>Week 7</b> July 22-26	Dig-It	Nature Ninjas	Exploration Expedition	NART (Overnight)	Weird & Whacky Science	Forest Deep: D & D	Wilderness Living	X
<b>Week 8</b> July 29- Aug 2	Nature Ninjas	Whimsy	NART	Exploration Expedition	D.I.R.T.T.	Wilderness Living	Adventure	X

— Monday, April 8 —

# Total Eclipse of the Glen



Total solar eclipses are a rare astronomical spectacle. They occur when the sun is completely blocked out by the moon, resulting in a period of darkness—in the middle of the day. Only 21 total solar eclipses have crossed the lower 48 states in the entire

existence of the United States! The last total solar eclipse visible in Ohio was in 1806. The next total solar eclipse in Ohio will be in the year 2099. But, on Monday, April 8, 2024, Glen Helen will be within the 124-mile-wide zone of totality for an eclipse.

We'll be hosting a gathering for eclipse watchers at the big boulder by Trailside Museum (505 Corry St, Yellow Springs). At our location, the partial eclipse will start at 1:54pm, and become a total eclipse for only 2 minutes and 8 seconds, starting at 3:10pm. The partial eclipse will end at 4:25pm.

*Note: Do not look directly into the sun. Glen Helen will have a small number of eclipse-watching glasses available for purchase for \$2.*

awake and bats take wing for the early evening feast. Owls may begin to call and take flight from daytime nesting areas to begin their evening hunt. Coyotes and foxes might even be spotted as they start to roam their territories. Totality is a fascinating moment of upside-down reality.

 Christine Avery, Raptor Center Assistant Director  
cavery@glenhelenassociation.org



Remember your glasses!


## Eclipsing the Norm: How Animals React to Solar Totality

During a total solar eclipse stars and bright planets may be visible in the darkened sky, there will be a measurable temperature drop, and animals may begin acting strangely.

How strangely? Very. Our animals rely on temperature and light to determine the time of day. As the totality nears, diurnal birds may flock to return early to their roosting areas and often display significant anxiety behaviors, aware that something is amiss. Dogs often bark, cattle and horses may begin returning to their barns, believing the evening feed is imminent. Crickets emerge and begin to serenade. Evening insects

## A Closer Look

Turn back to the front cover photo...do you recognize the image in our logo? It's the outline of the leaf of the *Liriodendron tulipifera* tree, commonly known as Tuliptree or Tulip Poplar. Though it is not closely related to tulips or poplars, its physical resemblance to them has definitely helped the name stick! With its distinctly lobed leaves and large tulip-shaped flowers present in late spring, it is actually in the magnolia family, *Magnoliaceae*.

The original version of our logo was designed by Read Viemeister, who also designed the Vernet Ecological Center and Trailside Museum. 

— Capital Campaign —

# Updates for the Raptor Center

During the pandemic, the whole world took to rediscovering the outdoors, which translated to more people finding injured or sick birds. The Raptor Center kept its doors open, finding ways to safely get birds from the public who found them to the medical care they needed. At the same time, the Glen was starting a capital campaign to reopen and revitalize critical infrastructure. Over the next three years, the Raptor Center used some of the funds to renovate the indoor classroom space, and for the first time ever, invite the public to participate in weekly education hours within and around the classroom. On Saturdays and Sundays, the building is buzzing with families getting an up-close look at the educational ambassadors, interacting with displays and activities, and exploring new ways to connect with their local environment. Every weekend,

educational docents and staff prepare interactive booths to educate and inspire everyone from our youngest to our oldest visitors.

In addition to being an educational space, the Raptor Center building also houses our two full-time intern staff members. Thanks to capital funding, we added air conditioning to the building and living spaces to address air quality issues, and replaced ancient carpeted flooring with more versatile and cleanable wood laminate. While there are always more projects on the horizon to better life for birds and humans alike, we could not have made these improvements without the generosity and support of our community.

Thank you for supporting the Glen. 🍀



## 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).

— Springtime —

# Fun at the Glen

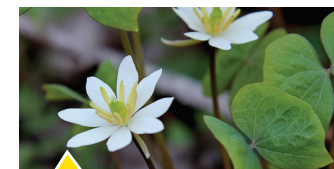
## Meet Mr. Turkleton



Mr. Turkleton is soon to be a Trailside Museum resident. He's a woodland box turtle that will serve to educate and delight visitors of all ages. He enjoys chopped plant bits and insects for lunch, long naps and warming under the heat lamp. Mr. Turkleton cannot be safely returned to the wild. How can you help turtles like Mr. Turkleton? Don't collect turtles from the wild for pets. Brake for turtles when you see them on the road and move them to the side in the direction they are going. They need to stay in their home territories to survive. Keep up-to-date on the opening of the Trailside Museum by checking [www.glenhelen.org](http://www.glenhelen.org) or our Facebook page. 🍀

## What's in Bloom?

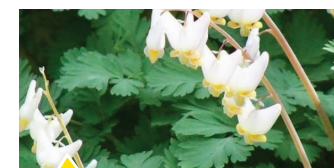
Check out the Spring Beauty Saunter Wildflower Walks on the event calendar. Here are some beautiful wildflowers that you may see in the Glen. 🍀



Twinleaf: *Jeffersonia diphylla*



Hepatica: *Hepatica nobilis*



Dutchman's Breeches: *Dicentra cucullaria*



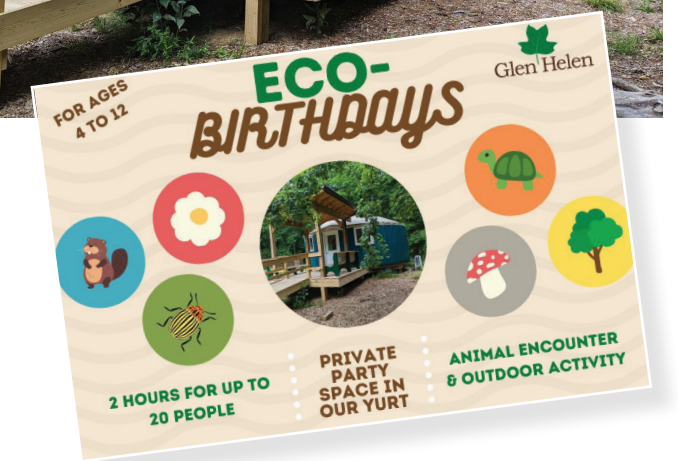
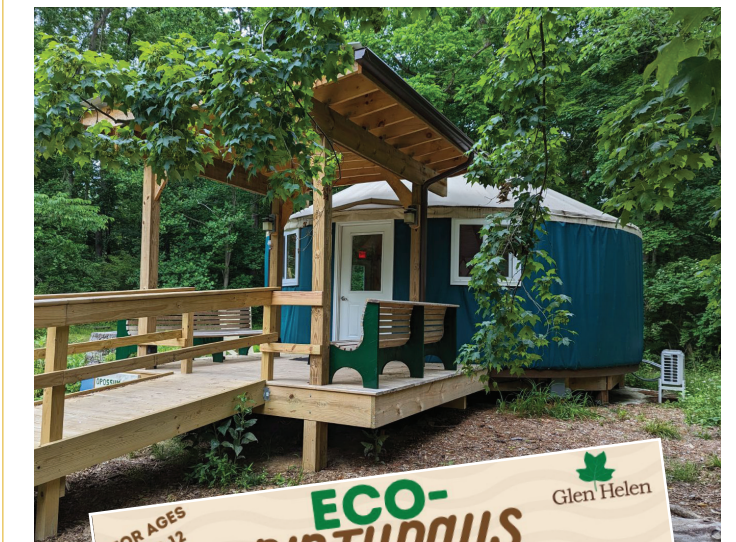
Cut-Leaved Toothwort: *Dentaria laciniata*

## ECO-Birthdays!

Celebrate your child's birthday with a memorable nature-themed party at Glen Helen!

- For ages 4 to 12
- Two hours of private party space in our yurt for up to 20 people
- Party room set up with tables/coverings and chairs
- Four program themes to choose from
- Animal encounter and outdoor activity included

For inquiries and bookings, please contact [rentals@glenhelenassociation.org](mailto:rentals@glenhelenassociation.org) or call 937-769-1902 x1101. 🍀





# Glen Helen

405 Corry Street, Yellow Springs, OH 45387-1895

937-769-1902

[www.glenhelen.org](http://www.glenhelen.org)


RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED



## Cedar Center, 1956

The original buildings of the Outdoor Education Center were built with spare parts and sweat equity. Cedar Center, shown here as it was nearing completion, was the first of these structures, built around 1956-57.

Materials to build the dorm apparently came from army barracks that were located on Antioch's campus. From the picture, it appears that entire walls of the former barracks were relocated to the Glen to create Cedar

Center. It holds 36 students plus their chaperones in two cozy wings. Well over 50,000 kids have had overnight stays in this dorm over the years! Funds from the Campaign to Secure the Future of Glen Helen allowed us to make significant improvements to the structure, including a new roof, new beds, and a new heating and cooling system. 

MARCH APRIL MAY 2024  
Glen Helen Program Calendar

MARCH

**1 FRI** **Guardians of the Glen**  
3pm  
Meet our ranger to assist with litter collection, trail maintenance, and invasive plant removal. Great service opportunity. All ages welcome. Youth under 16 must be accompanied by an adult. Trailside Museum, 505 Corry St. Repeats Fridays: March 8, 15, 22, 29.

**9 SAT** **Open House at Birch Manor**  
11am-1pm  
Birch Manor's historic home and surrounding lawns are a welcoming setting for weddings, receptions, and business retreats. If you are interested in renting Birch Manor, please join us for an open house at 720 Jacoby Road. No RSVP needed.



**9 SAT** **Open House at Camp Greene**  
2-4pm  
The 200-person capacity lodge and outdoor spaces make Camp Greene the ideal private location for weddings, receptions, family reunions, business retreats, and celebrations of life. If you are interested in renting Camp Greene, please join us for an open house at 3452 Grinnell Rd. No RSVP needed.

**13 WED** **Ohio Certified Volunteer Naturalist Training (OCVN)**  
9:00am-5:00pm  
Glen Helen is hosting the Ohio Certified Volunteer Naturalist Program this spring! Join our cohort of participants to complete 40 hours of engaging classroom and field training from state and local experts in forest ecology, aquatics, geology, ornithology, mammals and much more. \$300 program fee. Scholarship funds may be available. Program meets on the 2nd and 4th Wednesdays, through May 22. See story on page 7 or go to [glenhelen.org/ocvn](http://glenhelen.org/ocvn) for more information.



**16 SAT** **Late Winter Birding**  
8-10am  
We'll search the north Glen for winter residents and early spring migrants on this two-mile walk. \$5, members free. All participants must register. Contact [programs@glenhelenassociation.org](mailto:programs@glenhelenassociation.org) for member code. Trailside Museum Parking Lot, 505 Corry St.

**23 SAT** **Full Worm Moon Hike and Seed Exchange**  
8-9:30pm  
Admission for this event includes a seed share, promoting the legacy of heirloom vegetables. Join Brendan Baumann, Pan Reich, and Paul Sampson as we embark on a captivating under-the-full-moon adventure with a moderate 1-mile hike. \$5, members free. All participants must register. Contact [programs@glenhelenassociation.org](mailto:programs@glenhelenassociation.org) for member code. Trailside Museum Parking Lot, 505 Corry St.

Group sizes are limited. Register early to ensure your participation at [glenhelen.org](http://glenhelen.org). Many programs are free or discounted for Glen Helen members. Contact [programs@glenhelenassociation.org](mailto:programs@glenhelenassociation.org) or member code. Visit [glenhelen.org](http://glenhelen.org) to learn more.

APRIL

**5 FRI** **Guardians of the Glen**  
3pm  
Meet our ranger to assist with litter collection, trail maintenance, and invasive plant removal. Great service opportunity. All ages welcome. Youth under 16 must be accompanied by an adult. Trailside Museum, 505 Corry St. Repeats Fridays: April 12, 19, 26.

**6 SAT** **Spring Beauty Saunter - Wildflower Walks**  
1-3pm  
Trillium, Hepatica and Mayapple, oh my! Join our volunteer naturalist, Patrick Dwyer as we explore the trails in search of emerging plants and spring flowers. Not only are they beautiful, but they can teach us something too. Find out what one small flower can tell us about the health of the land. Each week brings us something new and these beautiful blooms don't stick around long. \$5, members free. All participants must register. Contact [programs@glenhelenassociation.org](mailto:programs@glenhelenassociation.org) for member code. Trailside Museum Parking Lot, 505 Corry St. Repeats Saturdays, April 13, 20, 27.



**8 MON** **Total Solar Eclipse**  
1:30pm  
Gather near the big boulder and view the eclipse with us! Eclipse glasses will be available for purchase for \$2 (cash only while supplies last). Weather permitting. Trailside Museum parking lot, 505 Corry St.

**20 SAT** **Full Pink Moon Hike**  
8:30-10pm  
Embark on a blooming adventure and discover the enchanting world of spring wildflowers! Join us for a guided hike along the Inman trail with the knowledgeable Pan Reich, covering a moderate 1-mile stretch, adding a touch of celestial magic to our nature exploration. As the moon graces the sky, immerse yourself in the vibrant colors and fragrances of the blossoming flora under its soft glow. \$5, members free. All participants must register. Contact [programs@glenhelenassociation.org](mailto:programs@glenhelenassociation.org) for member code. Trailside Museum Parking Lot, 505 Corry St.

**21 SUN** **Earth Day Weekend Birding**  
8-10am  
During this early spring migration walk, we'll search for sandpipers in the Little Miami River, Yellow-throated Warblers in the Sycamore trees, and Wood Ducks overhead. \$5, members free. All participants must register. Contact [programs@glenhelenassociation.org](mailto:programs@glenhelenassociation.org) for member code. Grinnell Mill, 3536 Bryan Park Rd.

**21 SUN** **Community-wide Earth Day Celebration**  
1-4pm  
Stop by and visit the Glen Helen tent, along with a variety of other organizations sharing eco-activities for the whole family. John Bryan Community Center, 100 Dayton St., Yellow Springs.

**21 SUN** **Take Flight for the Birds**  
5-8pm  
An exclusive event for the benefit of the Glen Helen Raptor Center. During this event enjoy tasty tapas and wonderful wines while seeing live raptors in an intimate setting. This extraordinary evening will be designed and prepared by executive chefs from the greater Dayton area. Wines presented by fine wine specialist Donna McGovern. Wheat Penny Oven and Bar, 515 Wayne Ave, Dayton, Ohio, \$135 per person. Only 65 tickets will be sold! For full event details or to purchase tickets visit [www.glenhelen.org/take-flight](http://www.glenhelen.org/take-flight)

MAY

**3 FRI** **Guardians of the Glen**  
3pm  
Meet our ranger to assist with litter collection, trail maintenance, and invasive plant removal. Great service opportunity. All ages welcome. Youth under 16 must be accompanied by an adult. Trailside Museum, 505 Corry St. Repeats Fridays: May 10, 17, 24, 31.

**4 SAT** **Make it Count for the Birds**  
Our annual birdwatching marathon, with free hikes scheduled throughout the day. Join us as we raise funds in support of Glen Helen land restoration activities, and discover how many bird species can be found in the Glen in one 24-hour period! You can "Make it Count for the Birds" from the comfort of your home by offering a per-species or lump-sum donation. Contact [nboutis@glenhelen.org](mailto:nboutis@glenhelen.org) for more info. Activity times below:

**5:30am: Dawn Chorus Little Miami**  
Grinnell Mill, 3536 Bryan Park Rd.

**8:30am: Woodland Bird Walk**  
Trailside Museum, 505 Corry St.

**8:30am: Pine Forest Walk**  
Horace Mann Meadow, Bryan Park Rd., south of John Bryan State Park entrance.

**12:00pm: Tally Rally**  
Trailside Museum, 505 Corry St.

**1:00pm: The Homestead Walk**  
Meet at the far end of West Jacoby Road (access from Rt. 68).

**1:00pm: South Glen Wetlands**  
Greene County Boat Launch at the end of East Jacoby Road (access from Clifton Rd.).

**3:30pm: Prairie and River Walk**  
Meet at the Little Miami bridge on Grinnell Rd.

**7:00pm: Evening Tally Rally**  
Trailside Museum, 505 Corry St.

**11 SAT** **Raptor Photo Program**  
8-9:30am  
Calling all photographers! Take advantage of the soft morning light and photograph the majestic raptors at the Raptor Center. Birds will be out of their enclosures and held on glove or natural perches. You may even have the opportunity to photograph a bird in flight! \$40 per ticket. \$30 for members. Email [programs@glenhelenassociation.org](mailto:programs@glenhelenassociation.org) for code. In order to provide the best experience for the photographers, no non-ticketed observers will be allowed. Glen Helen Raptor Center: 1075 State Route 343.

**23 THUR** **Full Flower Moon and Pine Forest Hike**  
8:30-10:30pm  
Join Tom Sabin, Pan Reich, Brendan Baumann, as they guide you through the Pine Forest and the nearby School Forest. \$5, members free. All participants must register. Contact [programs@glenhelenassociation.org](mailto:programs@glenhelenassociation.org) for member code. Trailside Museum parking lot, 505 Corry St.

THURSDAY, MAY 23 | Capital Campaign Celebration | 4-7pm

Join us to celebrate the **Campaign to Secure the Future of Glen Helen**

**4pm: Optional hike 1:** Campaign work at the Outdoor Education Center and Raptor Center. Up to one mile on level to nearly level terrain. 1075 State Rt. 343

**4pm: Optional hike 2:** Ecological restoration and trail work supported by the campaign, from the power plant site to bridges, boardwalks, and trails. Up to one mile of challenging terrain, including 100 stone steps on the Inman Trail. 405 Corry St.

**5:30pm: Campaign celebration:** Enjoy light refreshments at the Vernet Ecological Center, 405 Corry St. while learning about the lasting impact of the Campaign.

Sign up at [www.glenhelen.org/calendar](http://www.glenhelen.org/calendar)