ANNUAL REPORT FOR 2018

Winner of 2018 Nature Photography Program Contest: Kara Mayberry, 11 yrs old

GREENAllies
1794 Gilbertsville Road
Pottstown, PA 19464

Executive Director: Ken Hamilton

Empowering Students
Driving Environmental Innovation
Creating Visionary Leaders
Changing the World

THAT IS GREENAllies
MISSION

TO EMPOWER AND SUPPORT STUDENTS AS THEY BECOME ENVIRONMENTAL SUSTAINABILITY LEADERS.

VISION: A WORLD WHERE STUDENTS LEAD THE WAY TO A MORE SUSTAINABLE AND LIVABLE FUTURE.

THE NETWORK

Our efforts to reach out to schools to develop environmental clubs, programs and leadership.

ALTHOUSE ARBORETUM

Our outdoor activity and education center where students develop leadership skills through community programming.

IMPACTED STUDENTS

2018:
HS: 215
COLLEGE: 309
ELEMENTARY: 789

STUDENT VOLUNTEER HOURS: 2,760

TOTAL SERVED SINCE 2015:
HS: 1,275 COLLEGE: 1,338 ELEMENTARY: 3,392

SCHOOLS ASSISTED

INSPIRE • INNOVATE • INITIATE
GreenAllies provided inspiration and assistance to 23 schools to improve their student-led projects. We worked to help create nature areas, complete energy audits of their schools, assist with Earth Day projects, and develop ways to reduce food waste in their cafeteria. All projects are required to be student-run with a community component.
CONFERENCES AND MORE

NETWORKING • SPEAKERS • WEBINARS  ALL ORGANIZED BY STUDENTS, FOR STUDENTS!

The annual college conference took place at Swarthmore College with about 160 students attending from 22 different schools. Working with students at the University of Delaware, we also created a Sustainable Foods conference. In addition, several Webinars were conducted to provide students with information and inspiration from the experts in sustainability.

STUDENTS CONTRIBUTIONS THROUGH INTERNSHIPS

The summer saw the greatest number of college interns we have ever had. Some internships were done remotely, working on connecting students, while others were completed at the Althouse Arboretum. Positions included “Summer Camp Director”, “Assistant Development Coordinator”, “Land Manager”. Amazing projects were completed including plans for an Aquatic Education Center!

SUSTAINABILITY LEADERS

College interns created education programming for not just younger students, but also for the entire community to learn. Here two college interns teach a class on DIY environmentally friendly household products.

LEADERSHIP OPPORTUNITIES

This is what we do! In 2018 GreenAllies have provided opportunities for students to lead their communities. The following pages prove it!
DID YOU KNOW? GreenAllies has worked with students from schools in 19 different states in 2018!

THE SURVEY SAYS...

During the fall, residents were given the opportunity to let the township know their opinions about local parks and open space lands. When asked which park they visit the most, the Althouse Arboretum was mentioned almost three times as much as the next park!

WE ARE NOW A NATIONALLY CERTIFIED “ARBORETUM”

With the hard work of college intern Julia Bebout, the certification process was completed, and an application submitted. It was accepted and now the Althouse Arboretum is an accredited “Natural” Arboretum!
This past year was a huge success for our Native Plant Sale in May! Students worked throughout the winter and spring to prepare. We even started seeds in partnership with the KenCrest Foundation. But the fun didn’t end then. Continuing to work on our gardens, students and volunteers under the guidance of Nancy Baker beautified new areas of the property with native wildflowers. This helped us gain a Wildlife Habitat certification from the National Wildlife Foundation!

**DID YOU KNOW?** Student prepared and sold over $1,000 worth of native plants!

**STUDENT LEADERSHIP**

**STUDENT ADVISORY BOARD • STUDENT-RUN COMMUNITY PROGRAMMING**

Our new AACT (Althouse Arboretum Core Team) leadership group consists of 15 members from 4 different high schools. They discuss, design, and plan all the activities at the Althouse Arboretum. There is also an alumni Advisory Board of former AACT members who remain involved by meeting several times a year to make recommendations to the Board of Directors. This board is made up of 13 members from colleges scattered across the country.

**TEAM BUILDING ON THE LOW ROPES COURSE**

This was the first full year of operation for our Low Ropes Course. School groups, business teams, and other organizations all came for team building and leadership training. There were over **20 programs** this year.
**SUMMER CAMPS**

The Althouse Arboretum is buzzing all summer long with our camps and children's program. Children are walking through our trails every day! This past summer we filled all 210 camp spots! All camps are led by our amazing student leaders.

**DID YOU KNOW?** Nearly 30 student volunteers recorded over 850 hours of volunteer camp help!

**RECYCLING... WOW!**

**CHRISTMAS TREES • ELECTRONICS AND APPLIANCES • CLOTHING**

Servicing the community with special recycling days highlights our calendar year. Student leaders organize and run these events which collected more than 20 **tons** of materials!

**DID YOU KNOW?** 345 cars came to Electronics Recycling

**NEW PROJECTS THAT GOT THEIR START IN 2018**

- Wildlife Habitat Area
- Student Art Garden
- Goat Yoga
- Eco Store and Gift Shop
- Gala Fundraiser
- Amazing Raise Fundraiser!
- We Trademarked our Name!
THE NUMBERS ON THE ALTHOUSE ARBORETUM

Amazing Numbers for 2018!

**Estimate of the total number of visitors:** 11,000

Total number of volunteer hours: 2,150
Number of volunteers: Over 200
Number of participants in our low cost or free programming: 1,700
Facebook Followers: 2,517

STUDENTS TEACHING STUDENTS    GREENALLIES NETWORK

**ELEMENTARY CLASSES • C2 CAMP • CLIMATE CHANGE SCIENCE MENTORS**

Whether it is college students teaching high school students or high school students teaching elementary children, it is all about student leaders being mentors and role models. 2018 had numerous examples of this extraordinary program organized by GreenAllies.

COMMUNITY EVENTS... OH MY!

**Forest Easter Egg Hunt:** A unique, family-oriented event where children have to hike the trails to find their eggs. This popular event drew more than 200 people!

**Night Hike:** This October event for young children had our families walk our forest trails to find wizards and magic. Two-day attendance: 902

**Haunted Woods:** We had some fun bringing terror to our trails. The half mile hike had visitors screaming. All student designed. All run by students. (With a little help from Upper Pottsgrove Fire Police!)

**Nature Story Time:** Our most popular free event. Each month we have our storyteller come in to read a story to the children. The story is then followed by a fun and educational guided hike through the woods.

**Parents’ Night Out:** New in 2018. This monthly event is a chance for parents to have a quiet evening after dropping off their children at the Althouse Arboretum. Outdoor activities, hikes and fun are all part of these evenings.
THANK YOU! TO OUR AMAZING SPONSORS WHO SUPPORT GREEN ALLIES

DOLAN LAW GROUP, LLC
Peter J. Dolan, Esq.
Attorney and Guarantee at Law
1000 E. High St. Suite 150
Pottstown, PA 19464
610-906-3147
5970 Perkiomen Ave., Suite 302
Reading, PA 19606
610-310-4589
Peter@1874Law.com
www.1874Law.com

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A SPECIAL THANKS TO OUR NEW PARTNER:

OUR AMAZING BOARD OF DIRECTORS

GALA • COMMITTEES • SERVICE
The Board of Directors meet about 4 times per year to provide oversight for all operations of GreenAllies. Their hard work, dedication and commitment are vital to the success of GreenAllies. Positions are always available as we look to bring in a diversity of ideas.

Richard Roller, President
Chloe Klaus, Vice President
Todd Hilsee, President Emeritus
John Bayard, Treasurer
Kara Hackman, Secretary
Wendy Gaynor, Tori Bateman, Chris Hickman, Herbert C. Miller Jr., Dr. Julia Szarko, David Stokes, Elwood Taylor, Brianna Costira, Jenah Fluck, Sarah Self

DID YOU KNOW?  The organizational Bylaws requires that 25% of the Board of Directors be made up of students.

COMING IN 2019...

HELPING STUDENT GROUPS • IMPROVING SERVICES • INCREASING IMPACT
Get ready for an amazing year!

New initiatives:
1. Organic Farm: A student-run farm servicing the community
2. Expanding our trails: New layout and new land provides lot of opportunity
3. Exciting new conferences being planned: As far away as California
4. Youth Empowerment Program: Leading the way to connect student volunteers with nonprofits
5. Increasing access to outdoor programming: Providing programming to the under-served
7. Our New Traveling Showcase: TESS, our RV, will be out on the road as a traveling sustainability showcase.
A SPECIAL THANK YOU TO ALL OUR SUPPORTERS!!!

COMMUNITY • BUSINESS SPONSORS • MEMBERS

Our family! Below is a list of our 2018 SILVER Sponsors. We also want to thank the 132 community members who also made a contribution. There are just too many to fit on this page! Thank you!!

Nancy Baker
Cheryl Bayard
John Bayard
Big Daddy’s Pizza
Brookside Family Restaurant
Sheila Burns
John E. Collier
Anne and Jesse Crew
Joanne Czerpak
Peter and Susan Dolan
Cristin Ehrgot
Jenah Fluck
Noreen and Ed Gaynor
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Robert Murphy
Patricia Oconnell
Gail Rieker
Richard and Ann Roller
Angela Schatz
David Stokes
Julia Szarko
Elwood Taylor
Tim Walsh
Jack and Gerry Yergey

Student Leadership Team signing “Thank You” cards to our community volunteers. This is part of the holiday cookie gift give-away!

THANK YOU TO ALL OUR COMMUNITY SUPPORTERS AND VOLUNTEERS!