

Taking Action and Making a Difference



Volunteer Spotlight: Nancy Holcomb

Volunteers at CNC collectively contribute thousands of hours each year promoting stewardship and educating members and visitors in order to support our mission. CNC volunteers often go above and beyond being good land stewards and citizens; by volunteering, they are making connections and making a difference in our CNC and greater Cincinnati community.

Thirty-five years ago Nancy Holcomb began teaching at Amelia Middle School where she combined her love for science and nature with a gift for working with students. Organizing and overseeing the environmental club was a natural fit. In this role, she and her students helped coordinate the school recycling program. In 2004, the middle school brought in an Abitibi Paper Retriever where the school and community could recycle on-site and reap the benefits!

Founded in 1994, The paper retriever program places recycling stations in schools and other organizations, to encourage people to recycle newspapers, magazines, catalogs, mail, scrap paper, etc. by offering a financial incentive: the more paper recycled (by weight), the more money earned for the host organization. Nancy looked to benefit Amelia Middle School by engaging local businesses in the project. She called businesses such as Office Max and JC Penney to learn what they were doing with excess paper and catalogs.

Nancy then built relationships with people at each company where every week, or as catalogs phased out, they would call her for pick-up. Even in retirement, she continues to collect bags of paper and stacks of catalogues—but now she drops off her paper in CNC's Paper Retriever! "The bin is a simple way for people to make a big impact: recycling and raising money for CNC at the same time!"

An education and special events volunteer for 9 years, Nancy brings creativity and positive energy to everything she does. "It's all about getting kids in nature and seeing them be excited. Oh, and of course, having fun!"



Nancy Holcomb at the recycling bin.

CNC wants to know: what little steps are you taking to make a big impact in your community? Share your stories by contacting Sarah Holland at (513) 831-1711 ext.128 or sholland@cincynature.org.

Did you know?

- Every ton of recycled paper saves about 17 trees.
- Recycling paper uses 60% less energy than manufacturing virgin timber paper. (source: American Forest and Paper Association, 1996)

Maple Syruping Program Volunteer Opportunities

We're looking for help in the Sugar House! We will provide the training and information – all you need to bring is your enthusiasm!

Maple syruping volunteers help to:

- Tend the evaporator
- Learn the steps between sap and syrup while you keep the evaporator boiling!

Lead weekday afternoon or weekend maple hikes to teach our visitors about maple syruping basics and fun maple facts.

To sign up or for more information contact Sarah Holland at (513) 831-1711 ext. 128.

Find out more about CNC's volunteer community!

Attending a Volunteer Exploration Session will help you find your place in CNC's community of volunteers.

Volunteer Exploration Sessions are from 10-11 am in the Rowe Visitor Center:

- Wednesday, December 8
- Saturday, January 8
- Tuesday, January 18
- Saturday, February 5
- Wednesday, February 23

Sarah Holland
Volunteer Coordinator

