



Friends of the Thurston Nature Center

When we see land as a community we may begin to use it with love - Leopold

Brief Facts about the Thurston Nature Center (TNC):

- The Thurston Nature Center is located in NE Ann Arbor by Thurston Elementary School, covers about 30 acres of gently rolling terrain, and includes 5 ecosystems along with a 7 acre pond within its boundaries.
- It lies near the headwaters to the Miller's Creek Sub Watershed - water flows from Thurston Pond into Millers Creek, which in turn flows into the Huron River.
- It is used as an educational, recreational, and environmental resource.
- It is not city-owned!
- It is mostly owned (purchase in 1955) by the Ann Arbor Public School District and the remainder by the Orchard Hills Athletic Association (OHAC).
- It has been fully maintained, preserved, and enhanced through neighborhood volunteers, Thurston and Clague School teachers, students and their families for over 45 years.
- Recognized by Ann Arbor Public Schools (AAPS) - "Environmental Education Program" (EE) as an outdoor laboratory and nature preserve, being available for field trips and allowing the integration of classroom science curriculums with experiential education in the out-of-doors. The EE program is instrumental in preserving the TNC relationship with the Thurston and Clague "Green Schools" program.
- The Thurston Nature Center Committee (TNCC) on behalf of the Thurston Elementary PTO works very closely with not only the AAPS but a number of local city, county, state, and national environmental and educational organizations.
- The Michigan Department of Natural Resources dedicated the Thurston Nature Center as a Conservation Education Reserve. It is also recognized as a National Wildlife Foundation Certified Wildlife Habitat.
- Check our Web site: <http://www.thurstonnaturecenter.org> and **join our e-mail list**