

## FUNDING SOURCES



Many people are surprised to find out that the **Houston Nature Center is owned and operated by the City of Houston (population 979), with no ongoing County, State, or Federal support.**

The Nature Center generates income each year through prairie seed and gift shop sales, camping and program fees, and donation jars. This income, while significant, falls far short of covering all yearly expenses.

***The Friends of the Houston Nature Center, a non-profit 501(c)(3) organization, serves as the fundraising arm for the Houston Nature Center,*** Cash donations and donated items help us to keep the Natural Playground in good condition and to keep our summer programming going. Nearly all building furnishings, most display materials, The Natural Playground, water & electricity in the picnic shelter, are some of the many ways your donations have helped to date.

**Your donations are the secret to the success of the Houston Nature Center!**

## IF YOU'RE SHORT ON CASH...

The Houston Nature Center needs more than just financial contributions to be successful. Here are several other ways you can help:

**Donate your time and talent as a volunteer.** We need people to help with everything from seed collection to staffing to display construction to programming. Let us know your talents and we'll fit you in where appropriate.

**Donate needed items from our wish list.** This is how we got most of our reference library! Our wish list is constantly being updated, so please contact the Nature Center for the most current list. Or ask if you think we could use something not on the list.

**Buy a gift from the Nature Center store.** For a unique assortment of nature things make great birthday and Christmas presents (for yourself or for others!), and you help the Nature Center at the same time.

**Join the Friends of the Houston Nature Center.** Your annual membership fee is used to help the Nature Center where needed, plus you get a newsletter to keep you up to date on Nature Center happenings.

F R I E N D S O F T H E



PO Box 731 Houston, MN  
507-896-4668 nature@acegroup.cc 55943

F R I E N D S O F T H E  
**HOUSTON  
NATURE  
CENTER**   
AT TRAILHEAD PARK

PO Box 731 Houston, MN  
507-896-4668 nature@acegroup.cc 55943



## GIVING GUIDE



Join the team that supports the little Houston Nature Center, known in the Midwest as the best trailhead in the state!

# FOUR FUNDS TO SUPPORT THE HOUSTON NATURE CENTER

## TRAILHEAD AMENITIES FUND

GOAL: *To increase our reputation as the best trail-head in the state by providing for:*

- Cleaning and maintenance supplies
- New park amenities and equipment
- Campground expenses
- Landscaping and trees
- Kiosks and signs
- Funding to staff the nature/visitor center



## NATURAL PLAYGROUND FUND

GOAL: *To keep our playground as a "GO TO" destination for our many visitors by providing for:*



- Grounds Maintenance
- Upkeep of play features
  - Printing information fliers
  - Advertising our playground

## DISPLAYS AND PROGRAMS FUND

GOAL: *To increase the high quality reputation of our hands-on displays and interactive programs by providing for:*

- New display and program materials
- Permit fees
- Funding staff time to develop new displays and programs



## MEMBERSHIP FUND

GOAL: *To establish a solid, informed support system for the Houston Nature Center.*

### Membership levels:

- Student - \$5
- Senior - \$10
- Individual - \$15
- Family - \$30
- Lifetime - \$250

As a member you receive a newsletter twice a year as well as special Owl Festival benefits: an invitation to a reception with the speakers and award winners,.

## Yes, I'd like to support a fund!

Which fund?	Amount
<input type="checkbox"/> Trailhead Amenities	\$ _____
<input type="checkbox"/> Displays and Programs	\$ _____
<input type="checkbox"/> Natural Playground	\$ _____
<input type="checkbox"/> Memberships	\$ _____

Students \$5    Senior \$10  
 Individual \$15    Family \$30  
 Lifetime \$250

**TOTAL**    \$ \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_  
 Your Name

\_\_\_\_\_  
 Address

\_\_\_\_\_  
 City, State, ZIP

\_\_\_\_\_  
 Phone

\_\_\_\_\_  
 E-mail

Please add me to your e-mail list so I can keep up with nature center happenings.

Please add me to your volunteer list.

For contributions of \$100 or more, enter text for a nameplate (memorials welcome). Please also indicate if smaller donations are memorials.

\_\_\_\_\_  
 \_\_\_\_\_  
 \_\_\_\_\_

### MAKE CHECKS PAYABLE & MAIL TO:

Friends of the Houston Nature Center  
 PO Box 731  
 Houston, MN 55943



Using your own envelope and stamp allows us to use our donations more wisely .