

December 13, 2021

Bluestem Friends.

We are thrilled by the welcome that Bluestem has received in the last month and want to share our exciting progress together!

We have raised \$206,000 --- and are making tremendous strides towards our goal of raising \$550,000 by January 31, 2022. As an early supporter, you have been critical to Bluestem's success. Thank you for believing in Bluestem.

Just last week we received a \$30,000 pledge to initiate a matching gift challenge! The next \$30,000 in contributions will be matched dollar for dollar by this generous donor, an incredible gift to encourage others to join the Bluestem community.

 $\cdot$  Right before Thanksgiving we received a \$50,000 gift, the largest ever granted by a local family interested in Bluestem's vision for change.

• In the month of November, we also received approvals from the land committees of both <u>Triangle Land Conservancy</u> and <u>Eno River Association</u>, for holding Bluestem's conservation easement.

 $\cdot$  We have made over 50 visits to Bluestem with donors, to share our vision and listen to the advice and feedback from those who walk the land. Check out their responses below!

We share this exciting news to keep you apprised of Bluestem's momentum and to inspire you to spread the word.

Conservation cemeteries are built with the support of entire communities. Wherever possible, we seek to share Bluestem with others who believe in our theory of change: *that conventional burial practices are sterile, impersonal, and create environmental problems that are unsustainable for future generations.* 

## Are there friends in your circle ready to be introduced to Bluestem? Can you make a holiday gift to help us purchase the land? Imagine walking through open fields next Spring with nothing but Carolina sky above you!

Bluestem provides people with a burial choice that engages family and spiritual traditions within nature. Walking and reflecting at Bluestem nourishes the mind and the body. A burial at Bluestem will integrate green burial practices that support land and habitat restoration and provide a healing place in nature for all.

We can't wait for you to experience Bluestem! Please get in touch if you would like to walk the land with us.

With gratitude, Heidi and Jeff info@bluestemcemetery.org

PS. Donations are tax deductible and can be made by check and mailed to: Bluestem Conservation Cemetery, 3710 Shannon Road, Box 51244, Durham, NC 27707 -- Let us know if we can send you a pledge form. Also <u>let us know</u> if you'd rather not receive Bluestem's newsletter