Bluestem

January 2022

Dear Bluestem Friends,

We hope our area's recent snow brought you some joy and fun outdoors. It sure brought out the birds at Bluestem! Check out the Savannah Sparrow on <u>Bluestem's Instagram page</u> and follow us on Facebook too, at <u>Bluestem Conservation Cemetery</u>.

A *warm winter welcome* to all new friends and acquaintances who have recently signed up for Bluestem's Newsletter. We are grateful for your interest and look forward to meeting you at Bluestem one day soon!

Joe Miller, of <u>Get Going NC</u> and <u>Get Hiking! Southeast Podcast</u> came out for a delightful conversation and walk with us a few weeks ago. Tune in to *Bluestem, a hike for all eternity,* wherever you listen to podcasts, and enjoy Joe's colorful descriptions and exclamations as we explored Bluestem together.

Bluestem's Big News

We expect to close on the 87 acres of quintessential Piedmont landscape that so many of you have donated to NEXT WEEK!!

We are utterly thrilled at this milestone and recognize it as a tribute to the amazing curiosity, enthusiasm, and generous support that we have received from so many individuals and families, encouraging Bluestem forward. Thank you!

With Bluestem's land secured, we can now focus on creating this unique place of rest and restoration, both for land and people, in order to open to the public later this Spring.

Our Building Bluestem campaign continues!

Your tax deductible donations to Bluestem help establish parking areas and roadways, seed the fields with native grasses, build pollinator gardens, create protective buffers around the streams and pond - *and so much more* needed to run and steward Bluestem. No gift is too small. <u>We welcome donations here</u>.

We are also developing a menu of options created specifically for those who have asked for tangible items of need. We will post this list on the website in the next few weeks. If you can't wait that long, or have in-kind goods that support Bluestem's mission, please get in touch with us directly <u>info@bluestemcemetery.org</u>

DONATIONS

<u>Can be made online and are tax deductible</u>. We can also accept checks, mailed to: Bluestem Community, 3710 Shannon Road, Box 51244, Durham, NC 27707. For high level donations, we offer naming opportunities and/or burial plot discounts. Please get in touch directly if you or your group/business is interested in those opportunities.

TOURS

Tours at Bluestem will take place beginning mid-February and occur twice a week. Information about the tours and sign-up timeframes will be posted on our website as soon as we have closed on the property.

BURIAL PLOT SALES

We are finalizing Bluestem's Burial Rates and will also post this information online as soon as we can.

PROGRAMS

Bluestem Community is growing every day with your outreach to friends, family and colleagues. With Covid still present in our communities, we are not meeting in person at this time; however, we do hold weekly <u>*Bluestem Conversations*</u> online where we cover topics of interest as well as general information about Bluestem. Check <u>our calendar</u> for upcoming opportunities.

Tomorrow, Tuesday 1/25, Anne Weston of the <u>Green Burial Project</u> will join us for a conversation about *Renewing Burial Traditions* and green burial options in the area. *Please join us.* Zoom link for 1/25: <u>https://us02web.zoom.us/j/83390790759</u>

Thank you for accompanying us on this exciting path to Building Bluestem

Keep safe and warm, and we'll share more news next month, including opportunities for volunteering at Bluestem.

Heidi + Jeff

PS. If you do not wish to receive Bluestem's updates, please reply to this email with UNSUBSCRIBE in the subject line. Thank you.

Heidi Hannapel Jeff Masten Co-founders <u>Bluestem</u> - *opening Spring 2022* www.bluestemcemetery.org www.bluestemcommunitync.org

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