

November 1, 2021

Happy Hallow's Eve, friends!

We hope this message finds you safe and well and recovering from your trick or treaters.

Welcome to Bluestem's first email update. We are working to deliver a more polished look for you in December, but for now, wanted to share some exciting news:

After four years of searching for suitable land in the Triangle, we have signed a contract on 90 acres in Cedar Grove that if all goes well, will become the future home for Bluestem, central North Carolina's first conservation cemetery!

You asked to be kept informed on our progress and we want to share our excitement with you. We believe this property has everything: rich cultural history, healthy abundant fields, towering black walnut trees, intimate woodlands, two creeks and a charming pond, all surrounded by long standing neighboring farms and the sounds of nature. Click the link below to get a sense of what it feels like.

We'd love to share it with you, perhaps even have you consider it as a final resting place. However, *before we can even have those conversations, we need your help in raising the money to purchase the property.* We have set a goal of raising \$500,000 by the end of year, a hugely ambitious task. *We need your help in sharing Bluestem far and wide.*

Can you share the project with your friends and family? Can you make a leadership gift or a donation? Can you help us with outreach? Consider volunteering with us?

We seek gifts of every size to help launch the cemetery. We also seek volunteer help in raising money, making introductions, writing, bookkeeping, organizing volunteers, all of the tasks necessary to get Bluestem to its opening day.

We have attached an introductory piece about Bluestem, as well as a link to the website: **www.bluestemcemetery.org**

If you haven't already, consider attending a *Bluestem Conversation* on a Tuesday. We meet on Zoom every Tuesday from 4-5pm. Register for the zoom link here.

And please don't hesitate to get in touch if you have any questions. If you would like to support the project you can send a check to: Bluestem Cemetery, % Landmatters, 3710 Shannon Road, Box 51244, Durham, NC 27707.

These past 19 months have been difficult and different for all of us. We need each other more than ever. Come be a part of Bluestem's quiet yet vibrant energy. Join us in reimagining our care of the earth, restorative places of rest, meaningful ceremony, and our relationship with one another. Come be a part of serving our community through the sacred in nature.

Come along and help us make Bluestem happen together!

With gratitude, Heidi and Jeff info@bluestemcemetery.org

Ps. Donations are tax deductible. Let us know if we can send you a pledge form! And please <u>let us know</u> if you'd rather not receive Bluestem's newsletter.