

Winter Wonderland

Winter at the Outdoor Lab is extra special. Who doesn't love a 226 acre snowy classroom? Arlington Public School students have the extraordinary opportunity to learn in an outdoor setting and understand first-hand the effect of the seasons on natural habitat.

We had a end-of-the-year surprise in December when otters were spotted in the pond. Scott McKeown, Supervisor of the Outdoor Lab, commented that the otters "played in the pond for a couple of days and then went MIA. We sure enjoyed them while they were here."

Visit our [Facebook page](#) for more pictures.



AOEA Gearing Up for APS Budget Season

The APS Superintendent will present his proposed budget for the 2025-26 school year on March 13, 2025. This could be a challenging budget year as state and federal funding tightens and COVID relief funds, which boosted local budgets for several years, have largely been spent.

AOEA will closely review the proposed budget and quickly share information with Lab supporters. We are prepared - - and we'll need your help -- to mobilize the community to advocate for funding necessary to continue unique, hands-on learning for APS students at the Outdoor Lab.

Seventh Grade Ecology Lesson - Fall 2024



AOEA Seeking New Board Members

AOEA is seeking new board members. Join us in leading this beloved Arlington institution!

As a working board, members play meaningful roles in support of the Outdoor Lab's property and facilities, including strategic planning, property management, and community engagement.

Current and past Board Members have a variety of experience and skills. Many are

parents, teachers, or staff of Arlington schools. Others are scientists, marketing professionals, real estate agents/builders or consultants. We need a variety of experiences to challenge our organization to improve and grow.

You can learn more [here](#) or by emailing Mike Maleski at president@outdoorlab.org.

Thank you to Arlington Community Foundation's Wish Catalog



Many thanks to the Arlington Community Foundation for including AOEA in their 2024 Holiday Wish Catalog. We are grateful to everyone who supported us and helped to fully fund our \$5,000 wish to strengthen the Lab's biodiversity efforts.

With over 9,000 Arlington students visiting each year, land maintenance is vital for experiential learning. We are committed to ongoing land stewardship focused on removing invasives, like Japanese Stiltgrass, and replenishing areas with native plants.

**DONATE
NOW**

Give With Confidence



Arlington Outdoor Education Association

www.outdoorlab.org



Arlington Outdoor Education Association is a 501(c)(3) nonprofit organization that owns and conserves the 226-acre property and facilities of the Outdoor Lab. Our long standing partnership with Arlington Public Schools provides teachers, curriculum and transportation. You are receiving this email because you opted in via our website, made a gift or signed up for one of our events.

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