



Heal. Grow. Be Wild!

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P R E S S R E L E A S E

Improvements Coming to Howell Nature Center Thanks to the Volunteer Efforts of DTE Energy Employees

Howell, Mich. – Dozens of DTE Energy employees from the Howell Service Center will volunteer their time at the Howell Nature Center on Monday and Tuesday, September 9th and 10th, as part of the company’s annual “Day of Caring.” The employees will construct a new white-tailed deer habitat inside the Howell Nature Center’s Wild Wonders Wildlife Park, along with completing a number of other much-needed facility improvements.

DTE crews plan to install more than 40 poles and 550 ft. of chain link fencing as part of Phase 1 of the new enclosure. They will also be enhancing the DTE Raptor Education Center by painting raptor pens and a classroom, repairing the roof, installing landscape cloth, adding pea gravel and much more.

“We are so grateful to DTE Energy and its employees for their generous and ongoing support,” said John “JC” Carlson, chief executive officer of the Howell Nature Center. “What these volunteers can accomplish in one day is truly amazing. This partnership allows us to improve the overall Wildlife Park experience for visitors and our resident animals – giving them all a place to grow, heal and be wild!”

This is the second year that DTE Energy and its employees have volunteered their time at the nature center. In 2018, skilled volunteers with bucket trucks replaced netting and support beams on the 60 ft. tall bald eagle habitat, while others built split rail fencing and spread mulch around the DTE Raptor Center.

The Wild Wonders Wildlife Park is a half-mile trail of woodland landscape winding through the Howell Nature Center. It serves as a forever home to more than 70 permanently injured, non-releasable birds, mammals and reptiles. The Wildlife Park is typically open to the public daily from 10:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m., however, it will be closed on that Monday and Tuesday, as work is completed. The Howell Nature Center’s Alexandria’s NatureScape will remain open.

The Howell Nature Center is home to Michigan’s largest wildlife rehabilitation clinic – taking in approximately 4,000 wild animals per year from across the state. For more information, please call 517.546.0249 or visit howellnaturecenter.org.

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Since 1963, the Howell Nature Center has served as a natural resource for animal rehabilitation, education and advocacy. The Center is nestled around beautiful Pleasant Lake among 230 rolling acres in the heart of Livingston County, Michigan. It offers comprehensive outdoor education and recreation programs; outstanding summer day and overnight camps for children; a premier wildlife rehabilitation clinic; a Wild Wonders Wildlife Park; and an adventure education center, available year-round to individuals and groups throughout the Midwest.