Investing In Today’s Youth

Article by SARAH GRELLA

The history of a nation will inevitably be written by the way in which it cares for its soil. ~President Theodore Roosevelt

The implications of President Roosevelt’s words are obvious in regards to the conservation of natural resources. Yes, considering those wise words through an educator’s eyes reveals new meaning.

In a world where its citizens offer a variety of intellectual natural resources, our youths’ potential is like soil. If taken for granted and left repeatedly uncared for, soil will not be able to produce the nutrition we need to survive. Likewise, if we do not place a priority on youth education, our world will not be able to produce the creative, thoughtful minds needed to sustain the next generation of conscientious citizens and leaders.
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Investing in today’s youth and tomorrow’s leaders is one of the Texas Wildlife Association’s top priorities. We believe a key action in creating mindful leaders is providing young people with opportunities to develop understanding and passion for native environments.

Last year, TWA invested (time, effort, funding) in hundreds of thousands of young minds through its numerous outdoor education programs and partnerships such as the L.A.N.D.S. Outreach and Intensive Programs, Trinity River Project, Texas Youth Hunting Program and Texas Brigades camps. As students capture and identify aquatic macroinvertebrates or responsibly harvest their first deer, a transformation becomes rapidly apparent through obvious physical excitement paired with mental engagement. These visible signals of changing perspectives continually validate TWA’s mission and fuel our passions.

If you are interested in being a part of these pivotal programmatic interactions and want to help continue and enhance our collective investment in the next generation of stewards and leaders, there are numerous avenues for your participation.

For more information, please contact Dr. Lisa Flowers, TWA Director of Programs at lflowers@texas-wildlife.org. Thank you!