

2024 Education & Climate Department Plan

Who worked on this plan draft?

- Kerri Ziemman, Program Director
- Nick Corcoran, Education Services Coordinator
- Shannon Surdyk, Education Programs Manager
- Leanne Favreau, Interpretive Programs Manager
- Chris Werni, School Programs Coordinator
- Jen Kretser, Director of Climate Initiatives
- Hannah Barg, Climate Network Manager
- Alicia Lamb, Jeanne Hutchins Youth Climate Program Manager
- Garrett Marino, Youth Climate Leadership Coordinator

Goal: Provide experiential and inclusive programs which reflect the interconnectedness and diversity of nature to inspire action.

Q: Which strategic focus area does this goal address most directly and how?

This goal most directly addresses the strategic focus area of Convening and Outreach because we will use innovative educational approaches to gain more impact locally, regionally, and beyond to inspire community and individual action.

Q: Which other focus area/s does this goal also address?

- Organizational Capability and Capacity
- Vibrant and Experiential Campus

Education and Climate:

Goal: Provide experiential and inclusive programs which reflect the interconnectedness and diversity of nature to inspire action.

Strategy 1: Engage a diverse public audience with innovative and experiential-learning experiences that connect them to nature through science, technology, and art to inspire action (providing multiple entry points).

Objective 1: Provide core weekly programs a holistic daily schedule that includes a mixture of animals, science, and experiential learning utilizing Adirondack and campus resources that inspire action and foster connections to nature.

- Tactic 1: Interpretive programs that feature live animal programs to help visitors build connections with the natural world through personalized stories, natural history and opportunities for community action.**
 - Creature Features (live animal program featuring owls, kestrels, porcupines, turtles, snakes...)
 - Otter Program (interpretive program at otter falls)
 - Fish Feeding program around the indoor exhibits
 - Grab n Go Animals (turtles, snakes, amphibians with an interpreter)
- Tactic 2: Outdoor Programs that utilize outdoor resources, weather, and exhibits to connect visitors to nature through experiential learning.**
 - Canoeing (daily July - August, 6 canoes for families / groups, 2 staff)
 - Community Science walks (Informal drop in opportunities to engage and practice science around TWC)
 - Ice fishing (daily winter program on TWC pond)
 - Kicksledding (daily drop in experience, facilitated by education staff)
 - Snowshoeing (daily drop in experience, facilitated by education staff)
 - Monarch tagging (August - September, Monarch Watch Program)
 - PinesNature Play Area (drop in, fort building, play and exploration, daily upkeep from education staff)
- Tactic 3: Drop-In self selected experiences offered across campus where visitors can choose to slow down, take a minute and learn more.**
 - Movies (daily drop in movies options featuring 5 films)
 - Planet Adirondack - Science on a Sphere (staffed daily, 2-3 hours daily)
 - Tinkering Studio (self directed, drop in experiences with facilitation and upkeep by education staff, includes wind turbines, ball run play, animal homes and climate implications...)
 - Microscopes - (Naturalist Cabinet drop in program, explore pond life under a microscope, few times a week staffing dependant)
 - Trunks/Naturalist History information table - Facilitated, topic based hands-on materials and themes (ie Otters, Wild Walk, Birds etc)

- Nature journaling (drop in programs during specialty summer weeks, Pollinator week - June, Water week - August)

Outcome (desired/intended): Participants will feel connected (empathy, ethic of care, wow/awe factor) to the nature and inspire increase appreciation, sense of belonging, and interest to learn/explore/act the world around them

Objective 2: Host a series of seasonally featured and varied public programs to support our mission and drive visitation.

Tactic 1: Festival , themed weeks and larger scale public events

- **Shanty Shenanigans** - Ice Fishing Wild Lights event
- **Total Solar Eclipse** - April 8, 2024 including special programming April 5th, 6th and 7th, TWC will be directly in the path of totality for a Total Solar Eclipse—a sight as amazing as it is rare. Celebrate this celestial event with a weekend festival featuring glass blowing demonstrations by Corning Museum of Glass Mobile Hot Shop, eclipse tattoos from hand poke tattoo artist Jane Romm from Plain Jane Tattoos, New immersive and interactive eclipse-inspired musical experiences from Whatever Penny, solar eclipse-themed activities, food trucks, music, murals, and more.
- **Fen Trail and Raquette River Roll** - Trail Opening June 29th
- TEDx Tupper Lake - event featuring speakers sharing new ideas around the theme “Natural Connections”, 12 speakers, 6 hour event and activities
- **Community Free Days** - Free admission to all visitors offered 2x a year (Veterans Day and in the winter)
- **Pollinator Week** (3rd Week in June), themed, additional interactive programs offered daily
- **Adirondack Water Week** (1st Week of August), themed, additional interactive programs offered daily
- **Sensory Friendly Day**- offered 2x / year Sounds throughout the museum will be turned down and tactile, sensory-friendly activities will be available as well as designated quiet spaces.

Tactic 2: Workshops, specialized programs and exhibit features

- **Woods Water and Wonder a Family STEM series** - up to 10 families participate in 6 consecutive Saturday science programs. NSF funded through partnership with High Desert Museum, Bend, OR.
- **Forest Bathing** sensory forest walk- 4 programs / year, registered program with fee or featured in Homeschool Program Days
- **Carl Heilman Photography** - 4 programs / year, Day long workshop meeting at TWC followed by field photography, registered fee based program for artist

- **Remnants** - August 17th- program collaboration of dance, storytelling, visual art, music and the spoken word to tell stories of the land that has been and remains the ancestral home to the Haudenosaunee.
 - **Dialogue** - **Amy Godine**, August 2nd presentation and discussion about *The Black Woods*, her history of the Black pioneers who carved a future for both their families and civic rights in the Adirondacks.
 - **Winter week**, 9 days- Open daily for a week in February, Animal Ice Sculptures, daily winter programs and interactives for families.
- Tactic 3: Lectures**
- **Science Speaker Series** — Connect with regional scientists and authors in this multi-part speaking series covering topics such as Wild Landscaping, relational birding and bees. Details below
 - **Nancy Lawson**- Wild Landscapes - Book , July 6th
<https://www.humanegardener.com/>
 - **Perry Ground** - TEK Haudenosaunee Storytelling and Nature Observation, Sunday July 14th <https://talkingturtlestories.com/>
 - **Emily Monosson**- Blight (In Process) - Josh reaching out, July 19th July 20th Tentative
 - **Emmet Smith**, Northern Power and Light, Saturday, August 3rd
 - **Mike Mahoney** - Riparian Restoration and Beavers, Vice President for Research and Campus Operations Manager, ESF, August 10th
 - **Jody Johnson** - USDA Bee Research Lab in MD, August 24th
 - **Rich Hanlon**- **Relational Birding**, Wild Neighbors,[Wild Neighbors Nature Connection](#), September 14 TBD
 - **Brook Bateman**- Director, Climate Science, National Audubon Society
www.audubon.org/people/brooke-bateman, date TBD
- Tactic 4: Tours/Private and speciality focused Programs**
- **Sustainability Green Tour** - Featuring our green design elements and net-zero initiatives around the Wild Center trails and buildings
 - **Private Behind the Scenes** of animal care areas and facilities
 - **Solutions Exhibit**, Age of Humans and Creatures on Climate Change combine climate education themed programming (can combine with Sustainability Green Tour)
- Tactic 5: Digital and Virtual Program Engagement**
- **Animal Club Member program** 6–7 p.m. Jan. 16, Feb. 13, and March 12, Join the Wild Center’s Animal Club and meet a new Animal Ambassador each month during these 45-minute virtual programs. School-age children (and everybody else in your family) can tap their creative side with animal-inspired challenges that merge art and science.
 - **Wild Tales**, [Wild Tales YouTube series](#), featuring behind the scenes stories of Wild Center animals and staff who take care of them.

- **Live Stream and Document Events/Lectures/Programs** , example: Science speaker series will be shared with the public.

Outcome (desired/intended): Visitors gain an increased appreciation and understanding for the interconnectedness of the four natural systems.

Objective 3: Build and maintain relationships with schools and community groups centering The Wild Center as a community science resource by offering exceptional experiences including pre and post services to encourage long lasting community ties.

- Tactic 1: Field Trip Education Programs** designed to be developmentally appropriate standard aligned experiences. These 35-45 minute in-depth programs include a curriculum-based focus while offering Live Animal Encounters to complement your field trip experience. Students will practice essential science skills while experiencing Adirondack life up-close.
 - Creature Feature Anima Program** - Interpretive program featuring a TWC animal focused on a science theme aligned to school standards and needs.
 - Wildlife Defenses** - Explore the importance of shells, talons, teeth, and quills. Students will get hands-on with natural artifacts to learn how wildlife have adapted for survival in the variety of habitats found in the Adirondacks.
 - Classifying Critters** - So many animals have been discovered, yet so many have yet to be identified. Step into the shoes of a taxonomist to learn how scientists classify different species. Students will work together using their new knowledge to classify an Animal Ambassador of The Wild Center.
 - Naturalist Walk** - Thematic walk on TWC trails to explore ecology and biology of the Adirondacks.
 - River Otter Ecology** - Follow us on an engaging three part experience, diving into the world of otters. Students will explore the amazing adaptations and natural history of the otters in the Adirondacks. Program features an encounter with North American river otters
 - Creatures on Climate** - Students are introduced to the science of climate change and the exploration of its impacts on Adirondack wildlife. Groups will discover the solutions of these issues through visualizing global data sets on NOAA's Science on a Sphere and exploring the Climate Solutions exhibit.
 - Sustainability Green tour** - highlights the Wild Center's Silver LEED Building components and green initiatives (pellet boiler, solar panels, sco-pavers, composter etc)

- Tactic 2:** Drop In self selected experiences across campus where students can choose to slow down, take a minute and learn more
 - **Jr. Naturalist booklet and patch.** Students take a closer look at the natural world around them through this self-guided environmental education booklet. After completing a variety of adventures that engage students across the museum and outdoor campus, each student earns a patch honoring their work.
 - **Planet Adirondack** (Science on a Sphere) - self directed kiosk and exploration
 - **Climate Solutions Tinkering Studio** challenges including wind turbine, animal homes and environmental challenges.
 - **Animal Viewing window** - Open view location to see and learn about TWC's ravens, porcupines and various additional, rotating birds.
 - **Movies** - Continue to offer a wide variety of films in the Flammer Theater that elevate important science & nature concepts in an engaging and powerful ways

- Tactic 3:** Accessible experiences to a variety of community audiences with specialized needs.
 - **Homeschool Days** - Specifically market to the Homeschool audience and needs. Offered 5x times/ year
 - **Sensory Friendly Days** - Specifically market to families and groups that have special needs for low stimulation and positive learning experiences. Offered 2x/year

- Tactic 4:** Continue engagement efforts to serve regional high schools in providing climate change education through hosting the annual **Adirondack Youth Climate Summit** and associated activities
 - Working with approximately 25-30 school districts across the North Country region;
 - supporting **Climate Action Projects** and year-round initiatives;
 - providing mentorship and coaching for teachers and students

Outcome (desired/intended): Schools and groups seek out TWC as a community science resource through repeat visitation, inquiries, and collaboration.

Objective 4: Support visitor experiences and exhibits across campus to ensure that high quality, sustainability and accessibility standards are commensurate with our programmatic and visitor services experience to prioritize 2024-2025 museum goals.

- Tactic 1:** Create and offer interpretive experiences that connect people to climate change science and solutions

- **Planet Adirondack** - formal and informal interactive programs that create meaningful connections to science through storytelling and visual literacy
 - **Climate Solutions** - formal and informal interpretive programming that highlights climate solutions through relevant, place-based experiences
 - **Tinkering Studio** - playful hands-on experiences that promote 21st century skill-building and connect broadly to climate solutions topics
- Tactic 2:** Create and offer outdoor featured experiences that promote health, well being and connections to the natural world for youth and caregivers .
- **Fen Trail / Raquette Ball Run** - provide new outdoor experience, expanding the trail system on our property and sharing a new play based experience to connect with positive outdoor memories.
 - **Pines Nature Play Area** - provide open-ended nature play experiences in the Pines area and refreshing the pines space to ensure safety and a positive visitor experience
- Tactic 3:** Wild Lights continues to build as a community tradition incorporating visitor feedback to responsibly support this outdoor experience
- **Planning:** Debriefing, reflections, future planning and creative new ideas begin April 2024
 - **Supplies:** Ordering supplies and new concepts begin September 2024.
 - **Installation:** Onsite light installation begin October 2024
 - 3 week onsite installation with labor done by program staff, AmeriCorps members and volunteers;
 - **Hours of Operation:** 2024-2025 operations 2024 seasonal opening - November 2024, after Thanksgiving, Friday and Saturday nights 5-8pm, Last week of December and February winter week. Plus private group bookings
 - **Staffing Wild Light Nights:** Program staff include 4 people (Night Manager and Trail Rovers) Additional staff from visitor services, development and facilities departments.
 - **Take Down:** 2-3 weeks Onsite removal of lights with labor done by program staff, AmeriCorps, and volunteers

Outcome (desired/intended): As people visit The Wild Center campus they are presented multiple opportunities and entry points to find personal connections, experience the natural world and gain appreciation for the 4 interconnected systems.

Strategy 2: Convene and engage people with the purpose and intent to learn, explore, discuss, dialogue, collaborate, solve challenges, and address issues important to science and society.

Objective 1: Host, develop and implement nature-inspired, climate science and relevant community convenings to elevate our work and those of our trusted partners to reach new audiences

- Tactic 1:** Wild Center facilitate, organize and host events
 - **Adirondack Youth Climate Summit** - 2 day signature event held each November. Planned with local schools and community groups for 12 weeks prior. 165 students from 25-30 school districts attend.
 - **TEDx Tupper Lake** - October 26, 2024 - 1 day event in partnership with TEDx to elevate the theme 'Natural Connections'. 12 speakers, 6 hour event and activities.
 - **Youth Climate Leadership Retreat** - 4 day event in July. This year will be focused on Youth Climate Connections between two UNESCO designated Biospheres (the Champlain-Adirondack Biosphere reserve and the Frontenac Arch Biosphere Reserve (funded by Champlain Valley Natural Heritage Program)
 - **Adirondack Build Conference planning for 2025**
- Tactic 2:** Partner program and events hosted at TWC that support mission-based activities and provide important networking opportunities
 - **NOAA Environmental Literacy Program & Science on a Sphere Network - Annual Meeting** Planned and Hosted 4 day event with 140 educators and leaders from NOAA's Office of Education; elevated The Wild Center's Youth Climate Leadership work and ELP project outcomes.
 - **Feedback: Food Justice Summit** - 1 day event held each year in Feb/early March facilitated by a coalition of community-based organizations focused on north country food systems to share practice, address and problem-solve issues and collaborate. .
 - **Adirondack Explorer: Presentation and Panel on Road Salt Impact in the Adirondacks** Forum convened by the Wild Center in partnership with the Adirondack Explorer to address Road Salt Impact.
 - **Tupper Lake High School Science Fair** High School students highlight and present their school science projects to families and the public
 - **Family Night Art and Nature show with Wild Lights** hosting Tupper Lake LPQuinn Elementary students and their families to a free night of Wild Lights while displaying nature based art work created by local students. Annual event, Kindergarten to 5th grade students
- Tactic 3: Partner with regional organizations to build capacity in the North Country to scale climate work**

- Pathways to Community Climate Resilience Project with PSC/AWI and NYSERDA
- Climate Communication Workshops/Dialogue with Adirondack Research Consortium ie. Intergenerational Dialogue Event at SLU March 7th; ARC Conference panel leadership
- Regional Team to NASA Earth to Sky training in November 2024

Outcome (desired/intended): Providing a collaborative and inclusive space/resources for people to engage in dialogue and be inspired to take action.

Objective 2: Expand our support of educators and teachers through professional development and providing science resources

- Tactic 1:** The Wild Center will coordinate, lead and support a variety of Trainings and Professional Development for informal and formal educators
 - **Climate Camp (IMLS)** in partnership with Phipps Conservatory to support year-long training Cohort of Museum educators (June 16-20 retreat in Pittsburgh) from 5 institutions (Anchorage Museum, Oakland Zoo, The Watershed (Idaho), Cincinnati Art Museum and Montshire Museum) 3 years
 - **NOAA B-Wet** - In partnership with Adirondack Watershed Institute and Finger Lakes Institute, working with schools in the Great Lakes watershed to build water and climate literacy
 - **National Park Service** - Training NPS educators as part of the NPS Education Summit. Working on a 1 year project to create and iterate youth climate summit resources for NPS.
 - **Monthly YCS Network Meetings** to connect Youth Climate Summit sites across the country- ongoing
- Tactic 2:** Maintain leadership in New York State and regional support for on mission Climate Educational Initiatives
 - **NYS Climate Resilience and Education Task Force** - Wild Center co-founded the task force in 2017; maintain an ongoing leadership role to connect in partnership with NYS partners and build support for statewide strategies for climate change education and funding through NYS
 - **NYS DEC Office of Climate Change** ongoing partnership to connect on Climate Smart Communities, AYCS, and leadership
 - **NYSERDA** ongoing partnership
- Tactic 3: Create and Provide** high quality science resources on our website and at The Wild Center

- **Community Science apps** creating onsite, drop in educational experiences for visitors to participate in science data collection while learning about the Adirondacks. New additions added to summer daily programs 2-3 x's a week.
- **Youth Climate Summit Toolkit**, Climate Action Project facilitation guides and workbooks, media guide for summit sites, virtual summit materials - Maintain and grow high quality resources/online toolkits for The Wild Center's Youth Climate Summit Global Network to increase network participating and ongoing engagement
- **Forces for Change: Empowering Youth and Local Government Toolkit** - provide virtual resource toolkit for youth working with local government specifically as a model for NYS and continue to grow the resources for the country. Elevate work at a national level through the NAAEE-CCE Fellowship.
- New resources - NPS and Biosphere additions

Outcome (desired/intended): Increase understanding and dialogue about climate change education, community science, justice, and climate solutions to inspire action

Objective 3: National and International leadership work on climate change education through connecting with existing networks to elevate and position our work

- Tactic 1:** Strategically partner to elevate our youth climate program model in existing networks at a national and global stage (ie: White House, National Park Service, C-CAMP National Leadership Project - Museums Educator Leadership Retreat, UNESCO Biosphere Initiatives in Canada and Malaysia)
- Tactic 2:** Continue to convene monthly Summit Network meetings, coach and mentor summit sites, build relationships with summits
- Tactic 3:** Partner, support and participate in international youth climate summits such as the South East Asia Initiative
- Tactic 4:** Present our youth climate work at national and international events (ie ASTC, NAAEE, AGU, NAF, UNFCCC/COP)

Outcome: Maintain and sustain our trusted reputation as a national and international leader in climate change education

Strategy 3: Create and implement *mission aligned programs that support career/professional development.* These integrated aspects are a key part to our comprehensive programs that mentor, support, and deepen participant knowledge, understanding, skills, and professional development to thrive in a 21st century (and climate-ready) environment which add to TWC professionalism and leadership reputation.

Objective 1: In coordination with Human Resources & working across departments, create a robust and cohesive suite of professional development opportunities for staff that support learning, growth, capacity building, and staff wellbeing

- Tactic 1:** Certifications/Trainings to ensure visitor safety, reduce risk and create a positive interpretive experience for all
 - **National Association of Interpretation** - Certified Interpretive Guide training. 32 hour course taught in-house to support staff developing high-quality interpretive programming for guests
 - **First Aid and CPR** training offered annually to staff and AmeriCorps members
 - **Canoe Water Safety training** - for canoe guides leading public canoe programs
 - **DEC Guide License** - required for paid trips on forest preserve (ie canoeing, member field trips)
 - **Visual Thinking Strategies (VTS)** training provided to new education staff for effective group facilitation, open ended questioning and student based program design.
- Tactic 2:** Present and Participate in national conferences to build momentum and leadership level recognition of The Wild Center's work.
 - **Science on a Sphere Network** meeting - every other year. Showcase Science on a Sphere programming and innovation. 2024 meeting held at the Wild Center.
 - **Association of Science and Technology Centers (ASTC)** - museum field conference; held yearly.
 - **Museum Association of New York State (MANY)**
 - **North American Association of Environmental Education** - yearly conference; strategic network for the Youth Climate Summit program
 - **American Geological Union** - yearly research conference that specifically focused on leadership level climate change education and initiatives. Important for network building and Federal Partnerships.
- Tactic 3:** Cross-departmental collaborative teams that work on specific initiatives, topics and projects that are critical to our mission. Internal staff teams are long standing teams with rotating staff members while others are formed as needed with focus on required skilled sets, i.e. seasons exhibit and larger festival/ program event teams. Increases project management, team-building, communication and other professional skills
 - Customer Service Team
 - Safety Committee

- Green Team
- DEAI Team
- Fen Trail and Raquette River Roll exhibit team

Outcome (desired/intended): Empower our staff to grow personally and professionally in a safe inclusive workspace. Staff feel supported and valued at The Wild Center and excited to meet our mission.

Objective 2: Develop, implement and maintain strong **career development & mentoring programs/initiatives and pathways** that offer multiple entry points into the Wild Center family, support positive youth development and offer opportunities for leadership and growth.

- Tactic 1: Emerging Leaders/Climate Teens** - Year-round youth development program with 10 teens from 5 school districts. Teens participate in community events, on the floor museum climate programming, and leadership development.
- Tactic 2: AmeriCorps Members**
 - 11 AmeriCorps Members work as Community Educators both onsite and around the Tupper Lake and surrounding areas. Through mentoring, training and hands-on experience they are an integral part of the education program. Members serve in Animal Care, Education and Climate departments working on a variety of teaching opportunities, projects and programs throughout the year.
- Tactic 3: Education Program Volunteers**, for complete Volunteer Program Plan - Please see Volunteer Section with in Development Department Plan
 - Volunteers facilitating activity tables (Trunks) on Wild Walk and Exhibit Floor
 - Exhibit Guide Volunteers
 - Planet Adirondack (Science on a Sphere) volunteer interpreters
 - Seasonal volunteer opportunities around education included ice fishing education, community maple program assistance and event assistance.
- Tactic 4: Youth Climate Leadership Retreat** - annual 4 day overnight retreat for 25 teens from across NYS. Teens deep dive into climate science, impacts and solutions in an experiential setting.

Outcome (desired/intended): The Wild Center career & mentoring pathways initiative demonstrates increased confidence and competence in public engagement, professional skill development in STEAM, a non-profit skill-set (such as strong communication skills, creative problem-solving, collaboration & teamwork, and project management among others), and personal growth.

Strategy 4: Community engagement designed to develop positive reciprocal relationship between the community and The Wild Center through sharing resources, content and events/program

Objective 1: Provide multiple opportunities to connect and build relationships with the Tupper Lake Community throughout the year including attending Tupper Lake hosted events.

- Tactic 1: Community Maple Program** Bring your maple sap to The Wild Center to join a community-wide project to turn sap into syrup! Participation is FREE - all you need is a maple tree (at least 12 in. diameter). Tapping supplies provided, or use your own. Every participant receives 70% of their sap back as pure maple syrup.
 - 2024 Maple season - 40 families participated, 1 Full Time Staff, 2 AmeriCorps members and 2 Volunteers with assistance from Facilities Staff as needed. 120 gallons of syrup was produced this season.
- Tactic 2:** Provide opportunities for the Tupper Lake/surrounding communities to enjoy and benefit from the Wild Center
 - **Tupper Lake Science Fair** - 25 High School Students showcased their science projects for students and families, February 6th
 - **Community Day** - free admission for visitors March 9th (celebrating Best Science Museum from USA Today Readers Choice 2024) and November 9th (in honor of Veterans Day)
 - **Tupper Lake Field Day and Parade**, July 20th
 - **Party on Park**, May 25th
- Tactic 3:** TL Community Educational Partnerships - Americorps projects and program focuses on supporting education and youth needs across the Tupper Lake community. Members taught, mentored, chaperoned and supported youth and community organizations serving youth across the community.
 - **Tupper Lake Public Library**
 - Library Summer Reading Series programs (July-August, Thursdays)
 - Library Tupper Teens Programs after school program assistance (October - May, Tuesday afternoons)
 - Youth movie night
 - **LP Quinn Elementary**
 - Reward Fridays school programming** - During the school year, creating Friday programs for students 3-5th grade during student choice
 - Faculty Meeting student support** - supervise students and play games while the staff meet once a month
 - Family Art and Nature night at Wild Lights** - February 23rd, hosting Tupper Lake LPQuinn Elementary students and their families to a free night of Wild Lights while displaying nature based art work created by local students. Annual event, Kindergarten to 5th grade students
 - **Town of Tupper Lake**
 - Winter sport assistance (ski team, basketball)
 - Spring sport assistance (youth soccer)

- Summer Camp assistance on Wild Wednesdays, at TWC as well as on field trips around Tupper Lake.
- **Tupper Lake Middle High School**
 - Science Fair hosted at TWC in February
 - School community day assemblies programs for students
 - Working with Tupper Lake Green team and mentoring highschool students on composting with in the school cafeteria during Earth Week , April 2024
- **Tupper Lake Food Pantry**
 - Supporting moving supplies, setting up shelves and restocking food donations.

Outcome (desired/intended): The Tupper Lake community values The Wild Center as a trusted partner in education, economic development, and community sustainability.

Objective 2: Participating in regional events outside of Tupper Lake as it is appropriate and advances The Wild Center’s relationships with key community partners and our mission. This objective would align across other departments (ie. communications/ marketing/development)

- Tactic 1: Sustainability Days** and climate-related events in communities and with key stakeholders (ie Clarkson University, Saranac Lake Community, St. Lawrence
- Tactic 2: New York State Government days-** yearly event in Albany NY. Opportunity to highlight museum initiatives and offerings (see also Marketing/Development)
- Tactic 3: Northeast Climate Change Collaborative** - new initiative based out of Shelburne farms to build a coalition and network of professional organizations, agencies and universities to connect across the northeast on climate change education
- Tactic 4: Gulf of Maine Research Institute (GMRI)** - NASA funded partnership project where TWC education staff are partnering with GMRI on Learning Ecosystems of the Northeast, a Community Learning Ecosystem model working with 12 science organizations around youth, community and climate engagement.