Help build the future you want to see.

Your gift to connect your community to the natural world will be MATCHED.

Tumultuous, confusing, alarming, anxiety-producing. 2020 has been a year we will not soon forget. And yet, even in the midst all this chaos, I still find so much reason for hope. **That reason is because of you**.

When you make it possible for local kids to get outside and fall in love with the rivers, growing things, and animals around them, something incredible happens.

You create a future where each and every person, young and old, does what they can to care for their community and the natural world.

I don’t know about you, but that’s a future I want to see.

**And starting today, every dollar you give to the Wenatchee River Institute to make this future a reality will be matched, up to $20,000.**

Even during chaos, the seeds of this future are already sprouting here along the Wenatchee River, because of you. Your support has made what I’m going to tell you next possible.

This fall, kids who need a break from stressful online schooling have been able to access safe outdoor camps because of your support. Because we know COVID has affected everyone differently, these camps are on a *Pay What You Can* basis. Thanks to you, ANYONE can attend camp, no matter their ability to pay.

One rainy day this September, a camper named Lauren noticed there was a piece of litter on the riverbank. She asked her group leaders if she could go get it.

The Wenatchee River was a little bit cleaner, thanks to Lauren.

But Lauren’s good deed didn’t just stop there.

Her leaders, Elisa and Rebecca, used this opportunity to chat with the students about how the Wenatchee River connects communities near and far. This led to a discussion about the people and animals that depend on its clean water.

Soon, the students began playing a game: how much trash can we pick up?

This kid-inspired impromptu clean up resulted in a healthier river and reinforced the idea that helping our community can be fun and feel good.

Without your help, these campers might very well have been at home inside that rainy afternoon, glued to a screen.

This is the kind of thing you make happen with your gift to the Wenatchee River Institute.

And if you give today, every dollar you give will do twice as much good connecting our local community to the natural world.

That’s twice as many people falling in love with nature, like you and I have. **But I need to hear from you soon - before the $20,000 match runs out!**

So please, rush your gift today, so that:

* Your gift of $50 will be doubled by matching funds to become $100.
* If you can give $100, it will become $200 to help build the future you and I want to see.
* $250 would double to become $500 (that could fund a week of camp!)
* $500 would be matched to become $1000.

I know you want to see your community thrive - and care for each other and the natural world. Don’t miss out on the chance to have your gift matched. So please grab a pen, fill out the enclosed donation form, and slip it into the return envelope with a stamp. Or give online at www.wenatcheeriverinstitute.org.

If you have any questions at all about how your gift supports your vision for the future of our community and our world, please don’t hesitate to give me a call at 548-0181.

Thankful for people like you,

Carolyn Griffin-Bugert

Executive Director

P.S. **Remember - any amount you give will be DOUBLED by matching funds, until we reach $20,000.** Don’t miss out on your chance to help twice as many young people fall in love with nature, so that they will care for it, just like Lauren!