

Challenge Match: Cope Environmental Center

Written by Palladium-Item

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The Wayne County Foundation has chosen 35 area organizations to participate in two weeks of intense fundraising called the Challenge Match.

The one-to-one match offers the possibility of generating \$338,500 or more for non-profit organizations throughout Wayne County. The program is designed to help organizations develop new donors and encourage increased giving from regular contributors.

The Challenge Match program runs Nov. 12-25. Qualifying contributions to the participating organizations during that period will trigger matching dollars from the foundation, within certain limits. Learn more at www.waynecountyfoundation.org or call (765) 962-1638.

Participating agencies will be featured in future editions of the Palladium-Item.

Cope Environmental Center

- **Street/mailling address:** 4910 Shoemaker Road, Centerville, IN 47330
- **Office hours:** 9 a.m.-5 p.m. Monday-Friday
- **Phone:** (765) 855-3188
- **Website:** www.copeenvironmental.org
- **Contact name, title, and email address:** Mary Jones, program & development coordinator, m.jones@copeenvironmental.org
- **Annual budget:** \$291,326
- **Mission of your organization:** To promote the sustainable use of the earth's resources through education, demonstration and research.
- How much do you hope to raise during the matching grant period? \$10,000.
- **For what specific projects or needs do you intend to use the donated money?** Funds will be used to support Cope Environmental Center's school programs, which serve more than 5,000 students each school year through adventurous field trips and interactive classroom presentations.

For many of the children CEC serves, hiking through the center's woods is the first time they have experienced a wild habitat first-hand.

In the words of one teacher from KC STEMM Academy in Richmond: "Cope provided a once-in-a-lifetime learning opportunity for our students. Students were able to see and experience life cycles that we have been learning about in the classroom in their natural environment. Thank you for providing this meaningful

learning experience for our students!”