



By the Numbers

2017 Annual Highlights





7 Trails • 22 Days • 39 Volunteers • 102 Downed Trees • 335 Hours of Hard Labor

Hurricane Irma struck a blow on September 11, 2017 to the 12-mile hiking trail network in Chicopee Woods Nature Preserve. Elachee's Volunteer Trail Crew cleared and removed 261 cubic yards of debris to make these woodland pathways safe for visiting school children and nature lovers.



1 Annual Fundraiser • 20 Volunteers • 38 Sponsors • 66 Auction Lots • 230 Benefactors

The **2017 Flights of Fancy Benefit and Auction** raised funds equaling 10% of Elachee's annual operational budget to directly support nature education and conservation efforts. **2018 EVENT:** Saturday, May 5, 2018. **SPONSORSHIP/TICKETS:** elachee.org/flights-of-fancy



Elachee By the Numbers in 2017

15 gardens supporting native plants and pollinators maintained by Elachee's Volunteer Garden Crew.

58 couples who wanted to say, "I Do!" at Elachee.

874,800 minutes Elachee Nature Academy students spent outdoors for daily instruction and creative discovery.

6 leeches collected from the Chicopee Woods Nature Preserve wetland areas, identified as a new species of North American medicinal leech by researchers from the Smithsonian National Museum of Natural History.



83,502 Hours • 33,401 Students • 215 Schools • 25 Counties • 26 School Systems

These PreK-12 and college students in greater metro Atlanta and north Georgia benefited from Elachee's accredited STEAM-based environmental education through 635 field trip and outreach program experiences that complemented their classroom studies.

2,000 solar eclipse glasses distributed prior to the historical August phenomenon.

5 bald eagles children spotted while on Elachee aquatic studies field trips to Lake Lanier and Chicopee Lake.

150 volunteers worked 1,000 hours during Elachee public events.

4,622 Individual items for sale in Elachee Nature Shop.

10 Geiger and Mathis Trails' benches replaced with newly built benches by an Eagle Scout.

804 faces painted at Elachee seasonal public events.

14,127 Hall County children served via Elachee field trips and outreach programs.

3,510 miles the Elachee Nature Academy students hiked in Chicopee Woods.

960 hours Elachee naturalists spend annually in field training, professional development and in sharing best practices.

11,520 live bees in the Pollinator Pass exhibit demonstration hives at Elachee.

Elachee By the Numbers in 2017

945 campers, ages 3-12, spent 18,900 hours of schoolbreak adventures in the great outdoors throughout Camp Elachee 2017's nine weeks of summer day camps.



elachee.org



Elachee Nature Science Center promotes environmental understanding through education and conservation.

Nestled in one of Georgia's largest protected greenspaces, the 1,440-acre Chicopee Woods Nature Preserve, Elachee is a private, independently operated 501(c)(3) not for profit organization. Elachee is the only SACS/AdvancED-accredited nature center in the southeastern United States. For nearly 40 years, this premier regional resource and recreation destination has been instrumental in building environmental literacy for Georgians of all ages.

Elachee serves nearly 70,000 visitors annually through STEAM-based environmental education classes for students in PreK through Grade 12, Camp Elachee summer day camps, natural history and live animal exhibits, 12 miles of pristine hiking trails, and life-long learning and seasonal nature-related programs for the public. The campus is also home to Elachee Nature Academy, an accredited and State-licensed school offering nature-based Preschool and Kindergarten-1st Grade programs.

As conservator in perpetuity for the Chicopee Woods Nature Preserve, Elachee collaborates with its devoted community partners and volunteer corps to build, maintain and ensure a sustainable legacy for current and future generations to enjoy. Elachee's conservation stewardship work restores and protects the health of this regional treasure – its forest, streams and habitats – deploying natural design principles to promote sustainability, clean water and biodiversity. This work also provides ongoing maintenance of the Nature Preserve's extensive trail system.

The Elachee organization has a proven record of sound fiscal management, relying on earned income and tax-deductible donations, planned gifts, grants and fundraising events to fund operations. Learn more about Elachee's rich history at www.elachee.org.

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