Memorial & Tribute Program

Pierce Cedar Creek Institute is a very special place with a very special mission to promote environmental education, research, preservation, and appreciation. A gift to the Memorial & Tribute Program commemorates the life of a loved one, while supporting an organization committed to preserving and protecting our valuable natural resources. Gifts given through this program are represented in the Celebration Garden and are listed in the Visitor Center. It is a unique way to remember loved ones or to celebrate special occasions.

Celebration Garden

The Celebration Garden is a garden near the beginning of the Yellow Trail, by Prairie View Housing. As memorial and tribute gifts are given, it will grow into a beautiful testament to the many lives it represents. Native trees, shrubs, and plants will be used to bring to life a spot for contemplation and education.

List of Species Available for Planting

All memorial and tribute donations are recognized in a gift book in the Visitor Center and published in the Institute’s newsletter, Naturally Speaking. With gifts of $250 or more, you may be able to choose a native shrub or plant to add to the Celebration Garden. Species available for planting are:

**Shrubs:**
- New Jersey tea (*Ceanothus americanus*)
- Lead plant (*Amrpha canescens*)
- American hazelnut (*Corylus americana*)
- Shrubby cinquefoil (*Potentilla fruticosa*)

**Grasses:**
- Little bluestem (*Schizachyrium scoparium*)
- Oats grama (*Bouteloua curtipedula*)

**Wildflowers:**
- Rattlesnake master (*Eryngium yuccifolium*)
- Butterfly weed (*Asclepias tuberosa*)
- Wild bergamot (*Monarda fistulosa*)
- Black-eyed Susan (*Rudbeckia hirta*)
- Blue vervain (*Verbena hastata*)
- Pale purple coneflower (*Echinacea pallida*)

For more information, contact Michelle Skedgell, Executive Director, at 269-721-4470 or skedgellm@cedarcreekinstitute.org.

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