



April 6, 2006

Donna VanBuecken
Wild Ones Natural Landscapers
P. O. Box 1274
Appleton, WI 54912-1274

Dear Donna,

The River Group from Valley New School supports the acquisition of the property at 2285 Butte des Morts Beach Road in the Town of Menasha for the creation of the West Shore Preserves Environmental Center. This property on the west shore of Little Lake Butte des Morts downstream from the Little Lake PCB clean-up site includes marshland and upland habitats and a building to be turned into a community environmental center.

The River Group looks forward to collaborating with other partners in this endeavor to establish further connections and opportunities for environmental learning situations. Our goal is to spread and fulfill our mission: *The River Group strives to learn about the environment, educate others, and apply our knowledge to improve our natural surroundings.*

We wish to be an active partner in the Environmental Center, in particular, by learning about and assisting in the re-establishment, preservation, and enhancement of the aforementioned property, as well as surrounding natural areas. Through these activities, the River Group students can fulfill science and service learning requirements while becoming life-long learners dedicated to environmental causes.

The River Group would also like to utilize the property as a laboratory and meeting space to provide access to outdoor educational settings for all students at Valley New School participating in related projects.

We are very grateful to have been introduced to such a dynamic organization as Wild Ones. We are anxious to support this project in any way we can.

Thank you,

Nicole Luedtke
The River Group
Valley New School