



## Forest to Table Fundraiser 2023

[Johnson Nature Center](#) is Oakland County's hidden gem. It is a publicly accessed forty acre site located in Bloomfield Township that offers a great escape for all ages. It features a four acre pond, miles of beautiful nature trails, a sugar bush, special orphaned wildlife habitats, and a visitors center with classrooms. It is a haven for fauna like birds, owls, foxes, fish, and deer. Our programs offer something for all of our life long learners. It is a wonderful place to gather like-minded environmentalists, and our highly trained naturalists take the lead in our community with their quality programs.

[Friends of Johnson Nature Center's](#) vision is to have a place where all people experience connectedness with nature in a healthy native Michigan ecosystem, and are inspired to respectfully care for our planet. The Friends of the JNC mission is to support the Johnson Nature Center through economical conservation, community outreach, volunteerism, and fundraising.

Thanks to our generous sponsors, our first Forest to Table fundraiser was able to raise \$40,000. These funds have provided native plantings, invasive remediation in designated areas of JNC, and helped us purchase the first phase of our interpretive signage. With your continued support and generosity, we know we can reach this year's fundraising goals. Friends of JNC is focusing this year's fundraising efforts in the following areas:

- Land conservation, including continued invasive species remediation and native species planting
- Restore the aging sugar bush
- Complete phase two and three of the wayfaring and interpretive signage throughout Johnson Nature Center

To help us achieve these goals, we are happy to announce our second Forest to Table fundraising event. Chef Chris Gadulka from [Sylvan Table](#) and Chef Johnny Prepolec from [Alchemi](#) will be catering a strolling dinner of forest foods throughout our trails at the Johnson Nature Center. Our featured Chefs will intertwine Michigan native and invasive species of flora and fauna throughout multiple stations. Attendees will have an opportunity to connect with our natural environment and engage their senses in a unique way. Guests will stroll the trails as they listen to live music and taste Chefs' creations. Naturalists on site will provide education and community awareness around ecological conservation. The evening will conclude with sweet endings, photo opportunities, and performing artists.

This is a one of a kind event that you will not want to miss! We hope you join us and support The Johnson Nature Center. This event will be a celebration of community collaboration, connection with nature, culinary delights, and conservation. Be sure to check out our pictures and videos from last year's Forest to Table on [our event site](#).

We are always looking for individuals and businesses whose values around conservation align with our own. Together we can have big impact! [Sponsorship packages](#) are now available.

Questions? Contact us at [events@friendsofjnc.org](mailto:events@friendsofjnc.org) or please visit us at [johnsonnaturecenter.org/forest2table](http://johnsonnaturecenter.org/forest2table)

Yours truly,

Erin Watson  
Friends of Johnson Nature Center, President