



MITICO

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MITICO

“Solving today’s mitigation needs by restoring, enhancing and preserving natural resources for future generations!”

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Mitico 2018 A Philosophy of “Mitigation, for good”:

In our 2018 strategic planning session, held at Tan-Tar-A directly after the Missouri Soil and Water Conservation Districts annual meetings in late November, I presented our team with a challenge:

“How can we make the most of our work? How can we focus our efforts on not just meeting the requirements of compensatory mitigation-- how do we use compensatory mitigation as a vehicle to accomplish real results? How do we focus the resources brought by what we do in to a greater cause?”

*It took only a few minutes of brainstorming to produce a very concise mission statement – **Mitigation, for good.***

This approach seems counter-intuitive to that which is customary in our industry. The Clean Water Act, which gives the US Army Corps of Engineers authority to oversee the implementation of compensatory mitigation practices, has typically fostered the creation of mitigation sites whereby compensatory mitigation providers find tracts of land with varying restoration qualities or characteristics. Then these tracts are modified to create a more productive mitigation scenario. Enhancements are then designed and executed. We think there is a better approach which provides substantially more lift and real, tangible results.

We regularly attend soil and water conferences to meet landowners and discuss erosion issues. Many are seeking help, but there is a serious lack of program funding. The feedback was pretty consistent, “We know people with serious erosion causing soil and land loss issues, but there is insufficient funding to do any real work”. Mitico would like to help with that.

Mitigation, for good represents mitigation solutions that are:

- Good for the landowner, as they gain control over erosion and arrest land loss without expenditure;
- Good for the health of waterways, as siltation and sedimentation is stemmed, which helps streams flow cleaner;
- Good for stream species and other wildlife, as they can flourish, and in some cases become repatriated in healthier ecosystems;
- Good for non-profit partners, as relationships with landowners are fostered and mitigation becomes a source for funds matching;
- Good for the recipients of the services of non-profits, as program dollars simply go further; and
- Good for compensatory mitigation credit buyers, as they know that their dollars are actually restoring natural resources in support of long-term solutions.
- Good for the resource, as long term fixes are applied.

*If you or someone you know is losing land to erosion, please call us today. We’d like to introduce them to our philosophy of “**Mitigation, for good**”.*

Thank you, Wally Iman



MITICO

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The Great Circle and The Land Learning Foundation Team Up To Provide New Experiences For Youth:



Members of the staff of the Tom Butterfield Campus of Great Circle in Marshall met with board members of The Land Learning Foundation (LLF) in October 2017 to discuss ways to partner for the enhancement of children's services. LLF President Scott Martin and Executive Director Larry Pollard discussed current and future endeavors with Joe Beck, Seleene Lewis and Heather McKinney of the Great Circle Marshall campus.

After a discussion of each entity's respective missions and visions, the Great Circle staff and LLF representatives embarked on an interactive tour of the Butterfield facility. Tom Butterfield of Kansas City, who attended Missouri Valley College, founded Butterfield Youth Services in 1963. In 2015, the Butterfield facility was merged with Great Circle and operates youth service campuses in Columbia, Webster Groves, Springfield, St. James and Marshall, Missouri.

In December, the Great Circle Tom Butterfield Campus was awarded a \$1,500 grant from The Land Learning Foundation in support of the development of a sensory garden for the Marshall campus. The sensory garden will enhance the existing outdoor learning center. Plants and other features that appeal to all five senses will offer a richer, more therapeutic experience to a range of children at the facility with differing needs.



A sample Sensory Garden that LLF will fund for The Great Circle.



Pursuing Accreditation

In October, Katie attended the Land Trust Alliance Rally in Denver, Colorado, a convention of hundreds of land trusts. At the convention Katie learned best practices of land trusts and more about land trust accreditation. Equipped with this knowledge, she is currently pursuing accreditation for The Land Learning Foundation (LLF). Accreditation will offer credibility to LLF and ensure that LLF's procedures mirror national Land Trust Alliance standards. LLF is the grantee for a recent conservation easement granted on a mitigation property on Calvey Creek. To ensure compliance with LTA standards, Katie recently completed a Baseline Documentation Report which represents the environmental conditions of the property at the time the easement was placed on the land.

In March, Katie will be attending the Conservation Federation of Missouri's (CFM) Annual Convention as a Conservation Leadership Corps (CLC) student. As a member of CLC, Katie has gained experience and knowledge in the field of conservation. All CLC students meet in the Fall to learn how to write resolutions. CFM uses resolutions to communicate their stance or action on a topic of interest. These resolutions undergo rigorous review at the annual convention, and those that pass are adopted by CFM. This fall, Katie worked with a fellow student on a resolution supporting the building of outdoor classrooms.



**A Non-Profit
with a Mission-**

Get Kids Outside

The Land Learning Foundation (LLF) (landlearning.org) is a not-for-profit corporation located in Keytesville, Chariton County, Missouri that is active in youth outdoor education, conservationist land activities and is a fully operational land trust. Annually, Executive Director George L. (Larry) Pollard sets forth an agenda for presentation to the LLF Board of Directors for adoption in support of carrying out the mission of the foundation. Please review the LLF 2018 slate of activities at right. If you can help with any of these with time, event sites, monetary support, or equipment, your time and/or contributions are appreciated.



One of The Land Learning Foundation's many events is an Outdoor Skills Overnight Event held during the summer.



The Land Learning Foundation Activities for 2018

January 31 – Feb 3

Exhibitor at Missouri Natural Resource Conference, Tan-Tar-A

March 6 and 7

Cover Crop and Healthy Soil Conference, Boonville

March 9 – 10

Conservation Federation of Missouri Annual Convention, Jefferson City

March 23 – 25

4-H Shooting Sports Leader Training

March 31

Youth Turkey Hunting Skill Workshop (ages 8 thru 15)

April 7 – 8

Youth Turkey Season (ages 8 thru 15)

June – Youth Trotline Catfishing in Dalton Cutoff Lake, Chariton County

June or July

Youth Overnight Outdoor Camping Skills

August

Youth Squirrel Hunt

September or October Outdoor Sports Rally, Chariton County

October 11-13

Land Trust Alliance Rally, Pittsburg, PA

October 27

Youth Waterfowl Hunt (ages 8 thru 15)

December

Youth Small Game Hunt

INTERESTED IN VOLUNTEERING?

Call Larry Pollard – 660-788-4246

Or visit www.landlearning.org

All types of support are appreciated!



Expanding Mitico's Ecosystem Services

From September to December 2017, Lakeya completed an online course on Ecosystem Entrepreneurship: "Ecosystem Services and Products: From Ideas to Business". The course included lessons on ecosystem opportunities for entrepreneurs; market outlooks for various ecosystems; formulating business ideas focused on ecosystems; and innovative opportunities in ecosystem business. Each lesson presented information compiled from various environmental studies, including reporting from the Ecosystem Marketplace, to identify opportunities for entrepreneurship in eco-services.



The online course culminated in the creation of a business plan which proposed an innovative ecosystem service. Lakeya's business plan expanded Mitico's current business portfolio to include services on Brownfields lands; in conservation banking; and in carbon credit to achieve streamlined environmental services. Implementation of such a plan has the potential to ensure the growth of Mitico's environmental service offerings, and to continue the company's tradition of conserving valuable natural resources in the State of Missouri for future generations.

www.miticomo.com



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