



October 1, 2011

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Dear Friend,

*"Never doubt that a small group of thoughtful, committed citizens can change the world; indeed, it's the only thing that ever has."*

- Margaret Mead

This was true in 1925 when Ehrick Rossiter gifted the original 100 acres of Steep Rock, and it is still true today! You can make a difference!! Steep Rock's founders held a conservation ethic deeply rooted in an appreciation of open space and envisioned that Washington residents would embrace this legacy that has become the cornerstone of our quality of life. Their vision was simple .... preserve our natural heritage. Please help us keep that vision alive by contributing now as generously as possible.

Since those early days, Steep Rock Association has become the caretakers of more than 5,100 acres of open space; representing 20% of the land in Washington. This includes managing and maintaining our three nature preserves ... Steep Rock, Hidden Valley, Macricostas ... for the enjoyment of hikers, equestrians, paddlers, anglers, campers and other outdoor enthusiasts; and protecting nearly 2,600 acres held in conservation easements on private lands. We do all of this on a very modest annual operating budget of \$325,000 – a budget funded almost exclusively by private donations.

**Your contribution to Steep Rock will help us continue advancing our conservation mission.** Your dollars will enable us to (i) continue providing you with safe and beautiful natural areas in which to recreate; (ii) implement a new biodiversity management plan to enhance wildlife habitat; (iii) complete a strategic land conservation plan which will allow us to be more proactive in preserving lands critical to the protection of our rivers, ridgelines, forests, farms and wildlife; (iv) implement a technologically advanced program to improve our effectiveness and efficiency in monitoring our 100+ conservation easements; and (v) pursue national accreditation through the Land Trust Alliance.

We have come a long way since 1925, but there is still so much to be done. We hope you will join your friends and neighbors in supporting Steep Rock to help us continue the legacy of open space preservation. Please give as generously as possible.

Sincerely,

Edmund J. White, President

P.S. Please make your tax-deductible contribution payable to Steep Rock Association