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December 3, 2024

Dear Friends,

Imagine drowning in a sea of information, with megaphones incessantly calling for your attention, and it doesn't stop when the sun sets or rises. Though it sounds like a Greek myth, it's not far from the experience of many young people (and adults). While we ask multiple questions of this scenario, the ones that preoccupy me are: "Where do you turn for enough quiet and peace to find a mooring? Where do you look for information that awaits discovery instead of smothering you?

It's outside, and it's always been outside. When faced with the generational challenge of COVID, Greenagers went outside, taking kids on adventures, warming our hands and cooking soup by the fire, understanding that nature is an essential worker and works on our behalf each and every day.

Perhaps you find such solace or inspiration on a walk in the woods or a swim in the river. Or maybe with your hands in the garden, at work or home. Even observations from a tractor or a building lot, tending fields, building homes—interactions that let us know our place.

Greenagers offers these opportunities to youth from our community and beyond. The first, most important step: get outside! Next, get your hands dirty; either through work or exploration, the connection to a world that makes profound sense lies there. At Greenagers, youth work and explore together, in community. There is opportunity to compare observations, share discoveries and differing perspectives, move as a group toward a common goal, one to be proud of—a stone wall on a trail, a gilded sign for the Historical Society, fresh vegetables delivered to the food bank, community firewood. The list goes on.

We need your help to go on. We need you to amplify not the cacophony, but the steady murmur that is good works in our community. It's insistence is not loud, but it's easy to hear...until it's snuffed out.

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62 Undermountain Rd. | PO Box 157 | South Egremont, MA 01258 | info@greenagers.org | 413 644 9090
www.greenagers.org

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We have big decisions to make as a community, society, and culture. Don't you want the next generation to make these decisions informed by ecology and each other? Shouldn't they be familiar with skills that grow our food, build our houses, and restore our ecosystems and gain respect for those who make their living this way?

I hope your answer is yes and that you'll give generously, as you are able. Any amount matters. Your donation gives the gift of the outdoors and self-reliance to young folks at Greenagers.

With gratitude,

Will

P.S - If **Stock gifts** are more your style, we gladly accept them. Please email samantha@greenagers.org for information on appreciated securities as well as estate planning.

P.P.S. Interested in being a Sustaining Supporter? A recurring, monthly gift is a great way to spread out the cost of a donation into bite-sized chunks and helps provide Greenagers with steady support we can count on. www.greenagers.org/donate.