



For immediate release

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Audubon Announces Grant from West Penn Power Sustainable Energy Fund to Install Wind Turbine at Succop Nature Park in Butler

(Fox Chapel, PA, April 24, 2015) -- Audubon Society of Western Pennsylvania received a \$50,000 grant from West Penn Power Sustainable Energy Fund to install a WindStax wind turbine at Succop Nature Park in Butler, PA. The wind turbine installation will take place in late 2015 or early 2016 and will provide up to 10% of the electrical needs of the park's historic barn.

The grant funds will pay for the major turbine components. Audubon is in the process of securing funding for the structure that the turbine will be built upon-as well as for renovations to Succop Nature Park's historic barn. Real-time electrical generation and performance statistics from the turbine will be available at Audubon's website, aswp.org, after the turbine is installed and running.

"Audubon is excited to move forward with this real world project that will not only reduce our impact on the environment, but serve as a model that others can follow," according to Audubon Society of Western Pennsylvania's executive director, Jim Bonner. "We are

thankful for West Penn Power Sustainable Energy’s support of this important project—and for their ongoing commitment to promoting sustainable energy sources in our region.”

WindStax is a local company, based in Pittsburgh’s Strip District, that produces a unique style of vertical axis wind turbines. This type of turbine is believed to pose a low risk to birds and other flying wildlife. Audubon hopes that the turbine will inspire homeowners to lessen their environmental footprint—WindStax also creates 20-foot wind turbines that work well in residential settings. Learn more about these environmentally-friendly products at windstax.com.

The **West Penn Power Sustainable Energy Fund (WPPSEF)** is a 501(c)(3) nonprofit organization that invests in the deployment of sustainable energy technologies that benefit West Penn Power ratepayers in Pennsylvania. WPPSEF investments are focused in three broad categories:

- ✓ Deployment of sustainable and clean energy technologies;
- ✓ Deployment of energy efficiency and conservation technologies; and
- ✓ Facilitating economic development, environmental betterment, and public education as they relate to sustainable energy deployment in the WPP service region.

Visit <http://www.wppsef.org> for further information.

Audubon Society of Western Pennsylvania connects the people of southwestern Pennsylvania to birds and nature through our programs, projects, and places. Audubon has three properties open to the public: Beechwood Farms Nature Reserve in Fox Chapel, Succop Nature Park in Butler, and Todd Nature Reserve in Sarver. Please visit aswp.org for a complete listing of our programs for people of all ages.

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