



***Mid-Shore Community Foundation Awards
Two Grants to Adkins Arboretum***



The newly acquired portable, three-basin handwashing station.



Environmental Educator, Courtney Rivera, with a Junior Naturalist camper.

(RIDGLEY, MD—July 30, 2026) Adkins Arboretum is grateful to the Mid-Shore Community Foundation for two recent grant awards that will enhance outdoor learning experiences for children throughout the year.

One grant funded the purchase of a portable, three-basin handwashing station for use during Nature Preschool, Summer Nature Camps, school field trips, and community events. By bringing handwashing directly to outdoor classrooms, children will spend less time waiting in restroom lines in the Visitors Center and more time exploring nature, participating in stewardship activities, and engaging in hands-on learning.

A second grant supports Adkins Arboretum's Junior Naturalist Camp by expanding and retaining trained science educators, ensuring campers receive high-quality environmental education while exploring the Arboretum's forests, meadows, and wetlands.

"We are incredibly grateful to the Mid-Shore Community Foundation for investing in programs that connect children with nature," said Suzy Moore, Director of Advancement. "These grants strengthen our ability to provide safe, meaningful, and engaging outdoor experiences while giving more young people the opportunity to discover, explore, and develop a lifelong appreciation for the natural world."

"The new handwashing station may seem like a simple addition, but it will have a tremendous impact on our programs," said Madison Palmer, Youth Program Director. "Every minute we save moving children through handwashing is another minute they can spend investigating wildlife, asking questions, and learning through direct experiences in nature. Combined with additional science educators for Junior Naturalist Camp, these grants allow us to maximize every learning opportunity."

Adkins Arboretum extends its sincere thanks to the Mid-Shore Community Foundation for its continued commitment to organizations that strengthen communities across Maryland's Mid-Shore and youth education.

About Adkins Arboretum

A 400-acre native garden and preserve in Ridgely, MD, Adkins Arboretum provides exceptional experiences in nature to promote environmental stewardship.