



## FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Contact:  
Christine Reedy  
Antioch College  
(937)319-0159  
[creedy@antiochcollege.edu](mailto:creedy@antiochcollege.edu)

### **Antioch College Completes Transfer of Glen Helen Nature Preserve to Glen Helen Association**

Yellow Springs, OH (September 1, 2020) – Antioch College Board of Trustees Chair Maureen Lynch and Glen Helen Association President Bethany Gray are pleased to announce the transfer of Glen Helen Nature Preserve has been finalized, completing the agreement in principle announced by the two organizations on June 11, 2020.

The Glen Helen Association (GHA) will now assume responsibility for maintaining and operating the Glen, which has been maintained and expanded under the College's stewardship since 1929. Glen land remains protected by conservation easements safeguarding it from development in perpetuity. As part of the agreement, the GHA and the College have also detailed ongoing cooperation on a variety of educational and operational matters.

"The Glen Helen Association has been preparing for this transition of ownership, and we are ready to continue the work of preservation, conservation, and education that is so vital to our region and our state," says Gray. "We are grateful to the community for their support, especially as we also navigate the pandemic's unique challenges."

Lynch says, "As we continue to focus on delivering the vital experience-based education Antioch College offers, we are also seeking new and better ways to collaborate with strategic partners and to develop and share resources. The transfer of the Glen from the College to community hands makes perfect sense, and is a victory for us all. This agreement will serve Yellow Springs, the greater Miami Valley, and the College well for generations to come."

College President Tom Manley adds, "I have great confidence in the outcome achieved here. It models how natural settings like the Glen might be reimagined and stewarded around principles of mutuality and reciprocity; how they might shape a new concept for a community commons. It is a win for the Glen, the College, and the community."

The transfer completes a journey which began over a year ago when the College and the GHA board began exploring options with the common goal of both protecting Glen Helen and providing public access in an environmentally responsible way. The College will receive



approximately \$2.5 million over a 10-year period as partial reimbursement for decades of investment in the Glen. The agreements include terms for strategic collaboration, joint programming, and continuing access for the College community for academic and recreational purposes.

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#### About Antioch College

Antioch College is a groundbreaking and progressive institution and community, dedicated to winning victories for humanity. Antioch students apply their classroom learning in the world at-large, through extended Co-op work placements with national and international organizations. Antioch teaches and lives its commitments to educational innovation, an engaged campus community, and the pursuit of social justice in all its forms. Antioch College is located in Yellow Springs, OH, in the heart of the Miami Valley. Learn more at [antiochcollege.edu](http://antiochcollege.edu) and on Facebook, Twitter, and Instagram.

#### About the Glen Helen Association

Founded in 1960 to protect Glen Helen from a proposed highway bypass and municipal sewer line, the Glen Helen Association became a non-profit organization in 1979 and has operated as a membership-based auxiliary. Funds raised from memberships and events have supported educational programming, land stewardship, the Raptor Center and other operational needs. The Association's mission is to preserve Glen Helen as a natural area and support life-shaping opportunities for environmental education that enhance the public's knowledge and appreciation of nature.