



## The New Education Center at Wakamatsu Farm



Imagine this beautiful building welcoming learners to an *outdoor learning campus* on a working farm in rural El Dorado County, California.

Construction began January 2021 on this innovative structure in Placerville. When complete, it will invite people to discover 272-acre Wakamatsu Farm, the historic site of the first Japanese Colony in America established in 1869.

For over a decade, American River Conservancy (ARC) has owned and managed landmark Wakamatsu Farm. The new Education Center will serve thousands of people every year while they experience the many natural, cultural, and agricultural resources on the property. For generations to come, this visionary building will remain a vital asset for all communities within the greater Sacramento region and far beyond, including Japan.

The Education Center is an infrastructural key for boosting outdoor school and public programs. It also opens doors for outreach to disadvantaged communities, particularly in urban areas. The building will entice more people of all ages to benefit from time spent in nature while enjoying the unique features of the property, including trails, ponds, oak woodlands, gardens, a nature play space, native plant nursery, teahouse, museum, living history, and much more.

The cutting-edge building will also be a teaching tool addressing climate change. Solar panels and a rainwater catchment system will illustrate how to harness renewable resources and conserve precious water. By demonstrating green technologies, ARC's Education Center will inspire visitors to take these solutions to their homes, classrooms, and workplaces.

Total construction costs are estimated at \$652,000. Supporters have helped ARC raise over \$445,000 covering all phase 1 and some phase 2 construction costs. When phase 1 is complete in 2022, the pavilion-style building will be functional with *no walls, electricity, water, or restrooms*. Current fundraising efforts will support phase 2 building completion at an estimated total cost of \$250,000. As of June 2022, \$207,000 of the balance remains to be raised.

- Donate \$1,000+ and receive an **engraved plaque** on the Donor Wall of Honor at the Farm.
- Donate \$5,000+ and receive **special recognition** permanently on the building.

Please give generously [HERE](https://www.ARCconservancy.org/wakamatsu) to make this vision a reality.

[www.ARCconservancy.org/wakamatsu](https://www.ARCconservancy.org/wakamatsu) · [wakamatsu@ARCconservancy.org](mailto:wakamatsu@ARCconservancy.org)

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