Columbia County has relatively little public open space.

Many groups have traditionally been excluded from experiencing the outdoors and still face discrimination while enjoying trails and nature.

The school system’s focus on testing and science, technology, engineering, and math may not leave room for environmental education activities.

Outdoor gear can be prohibitively expensive to purchase.

CLC owns and manages ten public properties open to the public from dawn to dusk daily. These sites include wayfinding information in English, Spanish, and symbols. Each site includes a Nature Quest adventure especially designed to engage young children in the outdoors.

CLC partners with other local nonprofits to provide outdoor educational programming both after school and at summer camps.

CLC works with local libraries to distribute Nature Explorer Backpacks which contain basic gear, trail maps, and more.

Our students donned life jackets and climbed into the kayaks to paddle on the pond! It was beautiful to witness their excitement as they paddled against the backdrop of changing leaves in the golden light of the late afternoon sun. The smiles were wide and abundant, and there were so many giggles and squeals of joy.

Nellie Ostow
Kite’s Nest