

The PwC Scholars'
Community Service Day Project
Spring 2011



The Ross Park Zoo

2011 Community Service Project

During the spring 2011 semester, the PwC Scholars Program prepared its members to help restore the Ross Park Zoo. In the month of May, over 140 scholars were split up into teams and given assignments throughout the day. They collaborated with one another and worked collectively with members of the zoo in order to complete a successful project.



The biggest task of this project was building a native animal exhibit that included information on raccoons, rabbits, the great horned owl, striped skunks, opossums, and the whitetail deer. The Scholars constructed four wooden exhibit areas to educate students how animals survive in their natural surroundings. Many artifacts were placed on display within these cabinets such as animal skulls, fur, scat and animal tracks. The goal was to create an interactive experience while educating the zoo visitors at the same time.

Additionally, the Scholars built a ranger station for children to play in. It opened up a new area of the zoo for visitors to enjoy the natural surroundings. They also built a bench out of a tree trunk that recently fell and was otherwise going to be removed. Next to the ranger house they also built many colorful birdhouses.

This project initially cost \$9,000, but the Scholars were fortunate to raise over \$10,000. The extra funds allowed the Scholars to help touch-up the Discovery Center Playground that they built in 2010. The Scholars hoped that by completing the project, they would continue to sustain success of Ross Park Zoo and spark curiosity in children for natural habitat studies.

