



Save Maumee Grassroots Organization Inc.
Help us to speak for our Rivers...for our Rivers have no voice

January 17, 2019

Dear Lush North America Charitable Giving Team and Liz Hartnett,

Our Save Maumee Crew of hard working volunteers & board members wanted to send a sincere and personal thank you, to share our gratitude.

What started as an effort to remove trash in front of my home in 2005, became a vision to correct decades of environmental problems and entrenched behaviors of elected officials. Allen County is responsible for 2,500 miles of streams in Indiana and we work to protect all those in our watershed. There are 11 million people downstream, all the way to Lake Erie, that depend on the Maumee River.

This truly grassroots movement, to improve water quality, has been gaining momentum with privately sponsored memberships and the kindness of strangers. Our group is volunteer based and supports a vision of clean rivers locally! We were the first in our area to provide shovel-ready projects in 2005. Your generosity has helped us to reach a larger audience in 2018.

Some of the people who volunteer, have been helping serve our mission for 13 years. They pay dues with their own money; to be a member and/or purchase Save Maumee schwag. Giving these treasured people a special commemoration has been the most enjoyable for me personally. I love being able to give them a sweatshirt or a water bottle for their never-ending service! These are hard working volunteers, who sacrifice hours and hours of time to the cause!

We have to share a funny, personal story about how we had found your most generous grant funding. Jennie Nicklin, my friend (before she was a Board Member), told me that she heard about Lush hair powder,

”It’s environmentally friendly, and is created by the most environmentally-friendly cosmetics company on earth! We will never have to wash our hair again. Hair powder can save the world because water is too precious to waste. The time it takes to use that water could be better spent by playing with the rescue dogs... or activism!”

I was interested!

I am not a regular at our local Glenbrook Mall, but we went there and I bought the divine Charity Pot Lotion. Jennie and I both purchased the best product made on earth, Lush Hair Powder! At the cash register there was a sign that said, “*We love to give to local nonprofits.*” So we asked Celia Garza, our Vice President, to write her first grant. She got it! This was such a great opportunity.

My right-hand has been this young woman named Celia Garza, who is responsible for filling out the grant, which paid for the coolest year we have ever had thanks to Lush! She was able to write a grant, help administer money, and understand how budgets and processes truly work!

Every time I used the hair powder, we joke about the small amount in my palm being worth a few hundred dollars. WHY? Because it was worth almost \$20,000 USD for us to shop at your store!

Thank you for understanding that part of our delay in reporting was educating Officers on walking through the entire grant process. It gave a unique opportunity to walk “new-bees” through the grant process from beginning to end. I also broke my foot on September 1st, so movement was slow for several weeks, but we had all the elements to make community outreach and appreciation happen!

Delegation of workload and learning responsibility for water quality can only be taught by doing the work. A national network of water quality groups is paramount to all of our organizations around the globe...but we start at home, locally. YOU have helped us to reach a larger audience. With the needs of a thirsty future, a national network of water quality groups should continue to be partnered. You have helped move these social movements forward.

Lush is such an astonishing company, supporting so much potential from so many fabulous organizations! Save Maumee Board of Directors would love to foster a relationship with Lush as a reoccurring partnership!

Please accept another gracious “thank you” here:
<https://savemaumee.org/lush-charity-pot-thank-you/>



You have helped to make 2018 our greatest year ever. Truly.

Abigail King

Jennie Nicklin

Save Maumee Grassroots Organization
Board of Directors President & Founder

Save Maumee Grassroots Organization
Board of Directors Member

