



## The Schuylkill Center for Environmental Education

**Viridian and The Schuylkill Center for Environmental Education are long-time collaborators. From the transformation of a fire pond into a thriving habitat, to a reimaged street front, to their connection within the trail system, together we've worked to develop habitats, change ecological thinking and make bold art interventions.**

Working with Meliora Environmental Design, VLS designed a fire suppression pond that is recharged with rainwater collected from the building and aerated using a solar oxygenator and submerged plant shelf. An overlook area of native boulders adjacent to the plant shelf allows school children and adults an intimate area in which to study the aquatic plant shelf and associated vegetation and animals.

The Center recognized that their identity suffers from poor curb appeal and asked Viridian to help make a change. VLS and the Center engaged envi-

ronmental artist, Haddad Drugan, to create an entry installation to be truly place-making. With Meliora, the team designed a new street front that weaves environmental art, land restoration and environmental education into an exciting entry sequence.

Last but not least, VLS designed a new gateway to connect The Center to the area's larger trail system using a bright, informative signage and an elegant stone stairway. The gateway now establishes a direct physical link between thousands of River Trail users and the important work of The Center, while revealing the story of a beautiful stream and forested glen.

**Location:** Philadelphia, Pennsylvania  
**Client:** Schuylkill Center for Environmental Edu.  
**Size:** 350 acres  
**Cost:** N/A  
**Status:** Ongoing