



SwanerEcoCenter

Grand Opening

December 7, 2008

About Swaner

Swaner is a place that celebrates the natural resources that enhance our quality of life. The organization consists of the Swaner Preserve and trail system, the historic Swaner Farm, and the state-of-the-art Swaner EcoCenter. With 1200 acres of breathtaking open space nestled amidst expanding development, Swaner is a refuge for an abundance of wildlife.

The EcoCenter is the greenest building in Utah, a symbol of Swaner's ideals and values, and a powerful expression of our relationship to the environment. With expanded programming for youth and adults, interactive exhibits, an innovative theater, and space for unique events, the EcoCenter is designed to inspire a deep respect for the natural world. The building design boasts 75% of all materials from recycled or rapidly renewable resources and translates to 90% water savings and 54% energy savings. It is an award-winning showcase for sustainable building practices on a national scale.

Robert F. Kennedy, Jr.

Robert F. Kennedy Jr.'s reputation as a resolute defender of the environment stems from a litany of successful legal actions. Mr. Kennedy was named one of Time magazine's "Heroes for the Planet" for his success in helping Riverkeeper lead the fight to restore the Hudson River. The group's achievement helped spawn 177 Waterkeeper organizations across the globe.

Mr. Kennedy serves as Senior Attorney for the Natural Resources Defense Council, Chief Prosecuting Attorney for the Hudson Riverkeeper and Chairman of Waterkeeper Alliance. He is also a Clinical Professor and Supervising Attorney at Pace University School of Law's Environmental Litigation Clinic and is co-hosting the Ring of Fire on Air America radio.

He has worked on environmental issues across the Americas and has assisted several indigenous tribes in Latin America and Canada in successfully negotiating treaties protecting traditional homelands. He helped lead the fight to turn back the anti-environmental legislation during the 104th Congress. He is a licensed master falconer, and as often as possible he pursues his life-long enthusiasm for white-water paddling.

Bob Vila

Bob Vila is best known as the television show host for *This Old House*, *Bob Vila's Home Again*, and *Bob Vila*. His website, BobVila.com, provides comprehensive information for the do-it-yourself homeowner. Bob Vila is one of America's best known authorities on home improvement. In Utah, he is gathering information for his new show, *Our Green House*, which will debut next year.

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