

## Kingston Fly Ash Retention Pond Had History of Problems

By Gloria Griffith

Kingston Fossil Plant's fly ash retention pond suffered leaks, seepage and water-logged walls for decades before the December 2008 coal waste blowout, according to the Tennessee Valley Authority's February 2008 inspection report.

While TVA hasn't ended its official probe into the cause of this failure, the report indicates the agency opted not to pay for long-term solutions for on-going problems.

TVA spokesman Jim Allen says that TVA hasn't yet determined the cause of the spill, and the agency could not immediately respond to questions about the inspection report.

The report details a Dec. 4, 2007 site inspection of the pond that recently failed and dumped sludge into the surrounding neighborhood and the Emory River. Fly ash, a waste

product from coal combustion, contains arsenic, lead, barium, thallium and other substances that can cause health problems, including cancer, liver damage and neurological disorders.

The Kingston Fossil Plant pond is regulated as a Class II landfill by the Tennessee Department of Environment and Conservation's Division of Solid Waste Management. TDEC inspection records going back to 2002 show the pond routinely passed muster, though inspectors occasionally found signs of erosion and seepage.

The coal ash waste in the dredge cell impoundments measured up to 55 feet above the water level before the catastrophic disaster, but within TDEC permitted limits.

The retention walls are made of bottom coal fly ash that is sculpted to prevent erosion.



Top Photo: (left) Donna Lisenby, Upper Watauga RiverKeeper and (right) Sandra Diaz, Appalachian Voices Project Director, site sampling at the TVA Coal Ash Spill on December 27, 2008.

## Energy Policy Agenda Sets Course for a Sustainable Tennessee

Edited by Mary Mastin

The "Agenda For a Sustainable Tennessee" is the result of a three-day summit held last November to look at ways to preserve the state's natural infrastructure and have healthy and safe communities, quality growth and sustainable energy.

Here are some of the highlights of the summit's top priority energy policy recommendations, both short and long-term, for state government actions to create a sustainable Tennessee:

Energy conservation and efficiency and renewable energy development must be promoted. A comprehensive state energy plan should support the safe, secure, and reliable operation of Tennessee's energy and transportation infrastructure; stimulate a sustainable economy; spur technological innovation and jobs through market forces; increase energy diversity in the state's economy; promote and achieve a cleaner and healthier environment; ensure fairness and consumer protection in the competitive market; and support the recommendations of the state climate action plan.

Tennessee needs to set targets for energy efficiency and renewable energies with plans on how to meet those targets over the years as well as make energy goals clear, shared, measurable, and attainable. There must be sustainable funding for energy efficiency incentives, consumer education, low-income services, R&D, and environmental protection with the long-term goal of market transformation.

### Support Task Force Initiatives

The state must support the legislative initiatives recommended by the governor's energy policy task force, including statewide implementation and enforcement of updated residential and commercial energy building codes, increased mobility options and reduction of vehicle miles traveled through increased support of public transportation.

The task force's "lead by example" regulatory recommendations should be supported. They require an agency by agency annual report card on progress toward achieving targets verified by a third party and creation of a state Sustainable Energy Department to coordinate activities on the state level and improve communication with local government and industry.

The state must complete the study requested by the task force to identify strategies to promote sustainable land development that will decrease vehicle miles traveled.

The state must require that the Tennessee Department of Transportation (TDOT) conduct a review of its 25-year plan and 10-year investment plan, including a report of energy and CO2 greenhouse gas with goals set for reductions. All new TDOT transport projects must demonstrate a reduction in vehicle miles traveled. TDOT should reallocate highway funds for new lane miles to mass transit and evaluate how highway projects can be avoided through public transit or other mobility options for both passengers and freight.

Tennessee must provide incentives to municipal and county governments to develop sustainability plans including Cool Cities and Cool Counties.

### Other Issue Areas

The top priority for water issues was defending the authority of the Tennessee Department of Environment and Conservation to protect headwater and ephemeral streams by refusing to pass legislation seeking to create a less protective definition of waters of the state.

Another top priority was protecting our mountains and streams from the devastation of mountaintop removal coal mining. Other topics in the sustainability policy agenda with lots of good substantive suggestions were: air, natural infrastructure, solid waste, smart growth, safe and healthy communities, and education. Read more about these issues at [www.sustainabletn.org](http://www.sustainabletn.org)

Seeps along the bottom of Dike C have been periodically reported since the early 1980s, though inspectors in 2007 didn't find any "wet spots" visible, the report states.

### A Matter of Cost

Eight options to address the re-occurring seepages, according to a December 22, 2003 TVA update, were considered. Three of the options may have provided a solution to the seepage problem, but high costs were cited to decline those choices. Beside high cost, TVA noted that using a synthetic liner would set a precedent for all other dredge cells.

The priciest option—converting to a dry fly ash collection system—had a cost estimated at \$25 million. Other proposed fixes were to place a \$5 million synthetic liner in the pond and construct a wall around the perimeter of the pond for \$2.6 million.

TVA chose to repair the dike and install "underdrains" to relieve water pressure. These fixes were completed in 2005, but the dike sprang another leak in 2006.

In November 2007 the Kingston Fossil Plant stopped placing fly ash in the dredge cells, based on recommendations from consultants.

"This preventive measure was taken to reduce water levels in the dredge cell through the winter months in an attempt to avoid another blowout," the report states. See the report at:

<http://www.tva.gov/emergency/pdf/Dike%20nsp%20Report%202008.pdf>

If you would like to follow the unfolding story of the TVA coal ash spill, go to Appalachian Voices's web page,

<http://www.appvoices.org/index.php?/frontporch/>

# Tennes-Sierran

The monthly newsletter of the  
Tennessee Chapter of the Sierra Club.

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(615) 831-6782

## ARTICLE SUBMISSION GUIDELINES:

Submission DEADLINE is the 10th of the month preceding the new month's issue.

1. Email and email attached files are preferred. Send to [lbaker@usw.org](mailto:lbaker@usw.org) either with embedded text messages, or attached files in PC-based formats. Attached files are preferred. Mac users should embed text in body of an email message only.

2. Photographs should be scanned in a .jpg or .tif file format then either attached to email or mailed via US Postal Service (USPS) on a 3 1/2 diskette or CD Rom. Please include a stamped, self-addressed envelope if you would like your diskette or photo prints returned.

3. Hard-copy handwritten or typewritten articles may be accepted; however, pre-approval from the Editor is required.

4. Any materials submitted via USPS mail cannot be returned unless a stamped, self-addressed envelope is provided.

**The opinions expressed in the Tennes-Sierran are those of the contributors and do not necessarily reflect the official views or policies of the Tennessee Chapter, or the Sierra Club.**

## Middle Tennessee Group Forming Program Committee

Programs are a huge part of MTG's environmental education and outreach to the community. The program chair invites you to join a new committee to plan programs for 2009. A small commitment of time is required with big rewards for you and the group. Please contact Adelle Wood for more info. 665-1010, [adelleintn@juno.com](mailto:adelleintn@juno.com).



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### With your help, we can clean up our water.

Over the last 30 years, we've made great progress cleaning up our water. But the Bush Administration is threatening that progress, proposing that "isolated" small streams, ponds and wetlands no longer be covered under the Clean Water Act. Work with us to strengthen the Clean Water Act and its enforcement. Together we can leave our children a legacy of clean water, air and wild lands.

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**Please notify the Editor when changes are needed**

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# 7th Annual Wilderness First Aid Training May 22-24, 2009

There are still some spots left for the seventh annual Sierra-sponsored Wilderness First Aid training (WFA) the weekend of May 22-24, 2009 at TVA Foster Falls near Tracy City, TN. Landmark Learning, LLC, our training provider for the previous six years, will perform the training again this year, teaching the National Outdoors Leadership School (NOLS) WFA curriculum. This educational weekend features top notch training in an outdoor setting by field experienced instructors.

Training will be held Saturday and Sunday from 8:00 a.m.-5:00 p.m. at the Foster Falls Picnic Pavilion. Please make arrangements to arrive on Friday night, May 22.

WFA - 16 hours / 2-yr certification. Fast paced and hands-on, this two-day course covers a wide range of wilderness medicine topics for people who travel in the outdoors or who spend time in the backcountry as either a passion or profession. This course is not for Wilderness First Responder recertification.

In this course you will learn to prepare for the unexpected. You will acquire knowledge

and skills that will help you make sound decisions in emergency situations. Visit the NOLS website <http://www.nols.edu/wmi/courses/outlines/wildfirstaidoutline.shtml> for course details.

Snacks and lunch are provided. Breakfast and dinner are on your own. Participants are responsible for securing their own lodging. We plan to camp in the TVA Foster Falls Campground. There are walk-in campsites available at no charge.

Cost is \$175 and is non-refundable. Payment is due April 22, 2009.

Membership in the Sierra Club is required. You can join online at <https://www.sierraclub.org> or Katherine can send you a membership form. Introductory memberships are \$25. Participant must have health insurance coverage, complete a health form, and sign a Sierra liability waiver and a NOLS/Landmark Learning liability waiver.

For more information, contact Katherine Pendleton at 615/943-6877 evenings or email her at [Katherine.pendleton@sierraclub.org](mailto:Katherine.pendleton@sierraclub.org)



## 7th Annual First Aid Wilderness Training Enrollment Form

Name \_\_\_\_\_  
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 City \_\_\_\_\_ State \_\_\_\_\_ Zip Code \_\_\_\_\_  
 Email \_\_\_\_\_  
 Previous 1st Aid Training \_\_\_\_\_

A non-refundable payment of \$175 is due by April 22, 2009

- to participate in this training you must be a Sierra Club member
- introductory Sierra Club memberships are \$25
  - I will go to <https://www.sierraclub.org> to join on line
  - please send me a membership form

**NOTE** - breakfast, dinner, lodging/camping, and Sierra membership are not included in the course fee of \$175

I am seeking recertification of a previous WFA certification

- YES  NO  If yes, previous certification is NOLS  SOLO  Other
- Note-this is not a recertification class for Wilderness First Responders

I am an omnivore  a vegetarian

Please send check along with this form to:  
 Katherine Pendleton  
 Make check to: TN Chapter Sierra Club  
 P.O. Box 290306  
 Nashville, TN 37229

## Corner

### The Chair's

## Dear Tennessee Chapter Members,

Many thanks to the Harvey Broome Group for an excellent Winter Chapter meeting in January held at Cedars of Lebanon State Park. Barbara Allen provided delicious food, and Ron Shrieves took a group to Stone Rivers Battlefield for a ranger guided tour. Over 40 people attended the Chapter meeting.

Save the date for our Spring Chapter meeting May 1-3, 2009 at Nathan Bedford Forest State Park hosted by Middle Tennessee Group. Yours truly is cooking for the weekend. A menu is included with the registration information elsewhere in this newsletter. Attending a Chapter meeting is a great way to re-connect with old friends, make new friends, and get up-to-date information regarding environmental issues impacting our state.

The month of March is designated by the National Sierra Club as "the March Window." This is a period of time when the National Club does not solicit donations. The Tennessee Chapter sends out a "March Window" letter during the month of March asking our members for donations that will be specifically used by the Tennessee Chapter. Those members who did not receive a "Defenders" solicitation letter will receive a "March Window" solicitation letter during the month of March.

Our Chapter is offering two premiums this year including a Sierra Club gardening bag (\$50 donation) and an invitation to attend a five-course French dinner paired with wines prepared by your Chapter Chair on June 20, 2009 (\$250 & up). Please donate generously this year. Our Chapter needs everyone to donate something whether it is a dollar or \$1,000.

Mark your calendar now and plan to attend our 7th annual Wilderness First Aid Training to be held May 22-24 at Foster Falls TVA Campground near Tracy City, Tenn. Information is included in this newsletter.

There are many Sierra Club volunteer opportunities throughout our Chapter. Please make 2009 the year for you to get involved in either your local group or with our Chapter. The contact persons for each group are listed in this newsletter. Pick up the phone or get on-line today and get in touch with someone in our Chapter and make a difference in your community. We all are going to have to do a little more work if we expect to make a significant difference in our world environmentally.

**See you in May!**  
**Katherine Pendleton, Chair**  
**Tennessee Chapter Sierra Club**

## We Did It!

By Olivia Diaz, Co-Chair Clair Tappaan Lodge Committee

At the end of September 2008, Clair Tappaan Lodge met the Sierra Club Board of Director's November 2006 challenge to "break even by the end of the third quarter of 2008." We ended September 30 with a \$45,000 surplus!

At their regular November meeting, the board of directors passed a resolution congratulating the CTL Committee and staff for their hard work in meeting the deadline. For the full resolution, see page 2 of the CTL newsletter, The Goshawk at <http://ctl.sierraclub.org/GoshawkFall08final.pdf>

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# Meetings

## HARVEY BROOME GROUP (Knoxville)

**MARCH 2009 PROGRAM: Tuesday, March 10, 7:00p.m., Tennessee Valley Unitarian-Universalist Church, 2931 Kingston Pike. Our Annual Outings Meeting!** Pictures, maps and discussions of all HBG day hikes, backpacks, canoe trips, etc. for the next year (through February 2010). This is your chance to make exciting outdoor plans and talk with trip leaders. Ron Shrieves, our outings chair, will preside. For further information, contact him at 865-922-3518 or ronaldshrieve@comcast.net.

**APRIL 2009 PROGRAM: Tuesday, April 14, 7:00p.m., Tennessee Valley Unitarian-Universalist Church, 2931 Kingston Pike.** Botanist Edward E. Clebsch will present a program on emerging spring wildflowers. This will serve as a convenient lead-in to a planned HBG wildflower day hike. Everyone is welcome. For further information contact John Finger at 865-573-5908.

## MIDDLE TENNESSEE GROUP (Nashville)

**PROGRAM MEETING: Thursday, March 12, 7:00p.m. at Radnor Lake Visitor Center, 1160 Otter Creek Road, Nashville.** Bobby Fulcher, park manager of the Cumberland Trail State Park, will present a program called the "Seeding the Cumberlands." This a project of the University of Tennessee Tree Improvement Program, the Justin P. Wilson Cumberland Trail State Park, and Friends of the Cumberland Trail to conserve, protect and restore native plant resources in the park. Free and open to the public.

**PROGRAM MEETING: Thursday, April 9, 7:00p.m. at Radnor Lake Visitor Center, 1160 Otter Creek Road, Nashville.** State Naturalist Randy Hedgepath is a wildflower enthusiast and will present a PowerPoint show on some of his favorite wildflowers. Identification, folklore, and trivia he has learned will help you remember them when you see them out in their natural habitats. He will feature the spring ephemerals but will also show examples from the rest of the growing season. Free and open to the public.

**STRATEGY MEETING: Third Mondays, March 16 and April 20, 6:30p.m.** in the old St. Bernard's Academy Building, 2021 21st Avenue South, 4th floor. Conservation issues are first on the agenda, and all members are invited to attend this conservation and administrative meeting to get the news on what's happening in our Middle Tennessee Group. We welcome you to be with us to learn about the group's conservation initiatives and community activities. For more information regarding the meetings, send a message to Rachel Floyd at rfloyd557@bellsouth.net or call 792-2590. If you come to the meeting and the building doors are locked, call Rachel's cell at 406-9204.

## STATE OF FRANKLIN GROUP (Tri-Cities)

**STRATEGY/PROGRAM MONTHLY MEETING: 6:00 p.m. at the "The Acoustic Coffee House- Next Door" at 450 West Walnut in Ole Town Johnson City.** Contact Tom Mozen at mozenetc@yahoo.com or 423-232-0827 for the date and more information. The **January meeting** was held at the Nelson Fine Arts Center with discussions about the SOFG "Vista Marker Plaque" for Buffalo Mountain and spring community organic gardening pilot project on the grounds of Mize Farm & Garden Center in Johnson City. Tentative

plans were suggested for a spring hike into Rocky Forks to be guided by nature photographer, Jerry Greer.

## UPPER CUMBERLAND GROUP (Cookeville)

**MONTHLY MEETING: Every 4th Thursday at 7p.m. in the downstairs meeting room of the Putnam County Library.** Alternating program meeting with planning meetings every other month. For more information, contact Mary Mastin at marymastin@twlakes.net or (931) 268-2938.

## CHEROKEE GROUP (Chattanooga)

**Directions to New Meeting Place: GreenSpaces** is located at 63 E. Main Street, Chattanooga. Going south on Market Street from downtown, take a left onto Main. Go slow and look to your left -- 63 E. Main is at the end of that block. It is a brick building with a glass storefront. GreenSpaces is kiddy-corner across the street from the fire hall. Park on the street. If you get lost or can't find it, call Barbara Kelly (423.718.5009).

**MARCH PROGRAM: Monday, March 30, 7:00 p.m., at GreenSpaces, 63 E. Main Street, Chattanooga.** Tennessee Clean Water Network Executive Director Renee **Victoria Hoyos** will present "Updates on the TVA Kingston Coal Ash Spill." Bring your questions about the spill, as well as concerns about other water issues. Open to the public. Refreshments after the program.

**MARCH STRATEGY: Monday, March 30, 6:00p.m., at GreenSpaces, 63 E. Main Street, Chattanooga.** All interested members are welcome to participate in the administrative and conservation business of the group.

**APRIL PROGRAM: Monday, April 27, 7:00 p.m., at GreenSpaces, 63 E. Main Street, Chattanooga.** With our program happening just after Earth Day, we are highlighting GreenSpaces and green development in metro Chattanooga and the surrounding area. Come learn more about what's available in green design materials and resources. Public is welcome; refreshments will be served afterwards.

**APRIL STRATEGY: Monday, April 27, 6:00 p.m., at GreenSpaces, 63 E. Main Street, Chattanooga.** All interested members are invited to be a part of planning our conservation and community activities.

**PROGRAM IDEAS NEEDED:** If you have an idea for a program, call Program Chair Lynn Cimino-Hurt at 931.598.9605, or e-mail, lcimino-hurt@gmail.com. If you've been on a Sierra Club national outing recently and would like to share your pictures, call Lynn.

## CHICKASAW GROUP (Memphis)

**Chickasaw Group Strategy Meeting March 9 & April 13, 6:30pm - Prescott Memorial Baptist Church, 961 Getwell.** This meeting of the Executive Committee is open also to all members of the Sierra Club. Contact Nancy Ream by March 6 (March meeting) or April 10 (April meeting) to place items on the agenda: (901) 759-9416 or njream@aol.com.

**Sierra Club Chickasaw Group Program Meeting - "Sustainable Shelby Initiative" Thursday, March 26, 7:00pm, Benjamin L. Hooks Central Library, 3030 Poplar Ave.** Don Richardson will moderate a panel of Sustainable Shelby participants and members of the implemen-

tation team. They will discuss the newly revised implementation report and its impact on Shelby County. Program starts at 7:00pm.; 6:30p.m. for social time. For more information, contact Tom Lawrence at bus@thecave.com

Sierra Club Chickasaw Group Program Meeting - "Aldo Leopold," Wednesday, April 22, 7:00pm., Benjamin L. Hooks Central Library, 3030 Poplar Avenue. Mr. McMichael will conduct an entertaining and informative presentation of Aldo Leopold. Program starts at 7:00pm.;6:30 for social time. For more information, contact Ed Jones at edshouse35@comcast.net.

## TELEVISION PROGRAM:

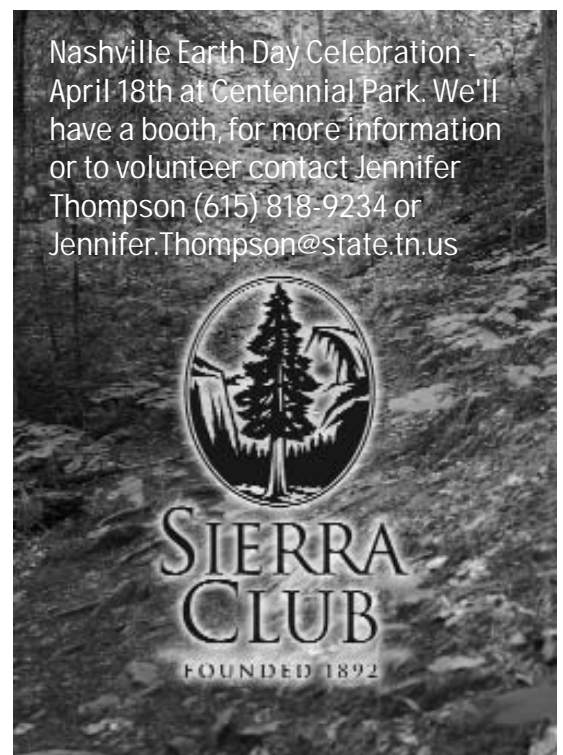
**WPYL - Channel 18, Memphis, Tennessee, - Mondays at 1:30am, 8:30am, 3:00pm, Tuesdays at 3:30am and 10:00pm, Wednesdays at 8:00pm, Thursdays at 5:30am and noon, Fridays at 11:30pm, and Saturdays at 12:30pm and 7:30pm.** "The Nature of Conservation" is the Sierra Club's Chickasaw Group TV Program on cable channel 18. For complete schedule listings on cable channel 18, please see the website: www.memphis-library.org/tlc18/schedule. For more information about "The Nature of Conservation," or if any groups or individuals have a special concern and would like to see a program on it, please contact Judith Rutschman at (901) 767-5916 or rutschman@rhodes.edu

## A Yahoo Group for the Sierra Club

Sierra Club-Chickasaw Group and Friends is a Yahoo group for members and friends of the Chickasaw Group of the Sierra Club (Memphis/West TN). It is an announcement-only email list to send notices of upcoming events and other "green" information of local interest. All announcements are accessible to the public, so you can look up the latest posts anytime! To view and/or join the Yahoo group, go to <http://groups.yahoo.com/group/sierra-club-chickasaw/>

## WATAUGA GROUP (North Eastern TN)

**PROGRAM MEETINGS: Every second Tuesday at 7p.m.** Please contact Gloria Griffith at gla4797@earthlink.net or 423-727-4797 for more information.



# Outings

All participants in Sierra Club outings are required to sign a standard liability waiver. If you would like to read a copy of the waiver before you participate, please refer to: <http://www.sierraclub.org/outings/chapter/forms/SignInWaiver> PDF, or call 415-977-5630 for a printed version. Transportation to the outing, including carpooling, ride-sharing or anything similar, is strictly a private arrangement among the participants. Participants assume the risks associated with this travel.

## HARVEY BROOME GROUP (Knoxville)

**March 15 (Sun). Day hike, Virgin Falls Pocket Wilderness.** This small wilderness area contains a 110-foot waterfall. The trail winds along and down into a gorge for about 4 miles before reaching the waterfall, with a loss of 800 feet in elevation. This trail has steep sections, and is rated difficult. Good hiking boots are required. Drive: 108 mi each way. Pre-register with Ron Shrieves: phone 922-3518; [ronaldshrieves@comcast.net](mailto:ronaldshrieves@comcast.net) (email preferred).

**March 22 (Sun). Day hike, Cades Cove Section, GSMNP.** We'll do the Rich Mountain Loop in the Smokies, an 8-mile loop of moderate difficulty with over 1,000 feet of elevation gain. Drive: 45 mi each way. Pre-register with Linda Smithyman at [ismithymanhbg@yahoo.com](mailto:ismithymanhbg@yahoo.com) or 865-335-3559.

**March 28 (Sat). Day hike, Upper Bald River Wilderness Study Area.** Come explore this proposed addition to our wilderness areas. Jeff Hunter, Tennessee field organizer for the Southern Appalachian Forest Coalition, will join us and discuss a wilderness proposal for the area. We'll hike the Kirkland Creek Trail. This out and back hike will take us from the Kirkland Creek Trailhead to Sandy Gap and back. The hike requires several creek crossings, so hikers joining this hike may want to bring Texas or similar creeking shoes, in addition to hiking boots. The trailhead is located on FS Road 210. Parking is limited, so we may need to leave a few cars at the nearby campground. Length: 9.2 miles. Difficulty: Moderate. Drive: 73 mi each way. Pre-register with Ron Shrieves: phone 922-3518; [ronaldshrieves@comcast.net](mailto:ronaldshrieves@comcast.net) (email preferred).

**April 4 (Sat). Day hike, Frozen Head State Park.** Waterfalls and wildflowers are the twin objectives for this easy hike, so bring your cameras. We'll start up the Panther Branch Trail, passing DeBord Falls, to the intersection with the Emory Gap trail, which we'll take to Emory Gap Falls, then reverse our path to the cars. Total distance, about 4 miles, rated easy with time for lots of pictures and flower identification. Drive: 45 mi each way. Pre-register with Ron Shrieves: phone 922-3518; [ronaldshrieves@comcast.net](mailto:ronaldshrieves@comcast.net) (email preferred).

**April 12 (Sun). Wildflower Day hike, Norris Dam State Park.** This area is well known for the wildflowers along the 3.2-mile River Bluff trail. The hike is not hard, except for one long hill, but we'll take our time. Bring your cameras and wildflower identification books. Rated easy to moderate. Drive: 25 mi each way. Pre-register with Linda Smithyman at [ismithymanhbg@yahoo.com](mailto:ismithymanhbg@yahoo.com) or 865-335-3559.

**April 18 (Sat). Earthfest, Knoxville.** Knoxville's celebration of Earth Day. (<http://www.knox-earthfest.org/>) Earthfest 2009 from 10am - 6pm at Pellissippi State TCC, Knoxville, TN. Admission is Free! Volunteers are needed - contact Linda Smithyman at [ismithymanhbg@yahoo.com](mailto:ismithymanhbg@yahoo.com) or 865-335-3559.

**April 18-19 (Sat-Sun). Backpack, Little Frog Wilderness (Tennessee).** This is Tennessee's "gentle wilderness" located just north of the Ocoee

River in the area of the Olympic whitewater course. No huge mountains and cliffs, or waterfalls, but an especially pleasant and nice area with great trails. On Saturday we'll hike the Dry Pond Lead Trail from a FS Road (the Kinsey Highway) to the north down into one of the loveliest valleys you'll see anywhere, Pressley Cove, where we'll camp. Then on Sunday we'll hike out on the Rock Creek Trail to Highway 64 and the Ocoee River Gorge. Hiking distance is about 7.5 miles total and it is rated Easy. Drive: 114 mi one way. Pre-register with Will Skelton: H 523-2272; Cell 742-7327; [whshome@bellsouth.net](mailto:whshome@bellsouth.net).

**April 25 (Sat). Earth Day 2009, Oak Ridge. 11 am until 6 pm, Oak Ridge Civic Center and Bissell Park.** Organized by the East Tennessee Earth Alliance (<http://www.orearthday.org/event-detail.html>). Admission is Free! Volunteers are needed - contact Linda Smithyman at [ismithymanhbg@yahoo.com](mailto:ismithymanhbg@yahoo.com) or 865-335-3559.

**April 26 (Sun). Day hike, Oconaluftee Section, GSMNP.** We'll hike the Bradley Fork and Smokemont Loop trails on the NC side of the park. This is one of the 75 miles of hikes in celebration of the 75th anniversary of the Great Smoky Mountains National Park. We'll meet with the Carolina Mountain Club to hike these trails with over 1,000 feet elevation change. Distance, about 5.4 miles. Rated moderate. Pre-register with Linda Smithyman at [ismithymanhbg@yahoo.com](mailto:ismithymanhbg@yahoo.com) or 865-335-3559.

## STATE OF FRANKLIN GROUP (Tri-Cities)

Contact Tom Mozen, SOF Group chair, at (423) 232-0827 or [mozenetc@yahoo.com](mailto:mozenetc@yahoo.com) about any outings.

## MIDDLE TENNESSEE GROUP (Nashville)

**March 5 - 8. Nashville Lawn and Garden Show.** We need lots of volunteers to hand out information at our table. Please contact Jennifer Thompson at (615) 818-9234 and email, [Jennifer.Thompson@state.tn.us](mailto:Jennifer.Thompson@state.tn.us).

**March 7, 14, 21, 28. (Sat.) 9:00 - noon, Volunteer at the Recycling Site.** We like to have several volunteers at our recycling site at the Kroger near Harding and Nolensville Road every Saturday morning. For more information, contact Peggy at [min\\_margaret@yahoo.com](mailto:min_margaret@yahoo.com), or phone 615-525-7264.

**Mar 15 (Sun) Day hike on Pinnacle Trail, west side Percy Priest lake. 5 mile urban park hike on a forest covered dirt trail in Hamilton Creek Park.** Some spots will be muddy. Trail is shared with mountain bikers, so there may be a bit of company. Contact Diane Perschbacher 615-895-1236 or [Diane@PRopson.com](mailto:Diane@PRopson.com) for details.

**April 4. (Sat.) 9:00 - noon, Volunteer at the Recycling Site.** We like to have several volunteers at our recycling site at the Kroger near Harding and Nolensville Road every Saturday morning. For more information, contact Peggy at [min\\_margaret@yahoo.com](mailto:min_margaret@yahoo.com), or phone 615-525-7264.

## CHEROKEE GROUP (Chattanooga)

We have some outings in the works, but the dates aren't set yet!

**TREE PLANTING** - In cooperation with the City of Chattanooga, we will be doing some tree planting. If you're willing to help, give Brad McAllister a call at 478.918.4998 or email him at [wbmcalli@gmail.com](mailto:wbmcalli@gmail.com).

**EARTH DAY ACTIVITIES** - We are looking at having a booth at these activities. Give Brad McAllister a call, 478.918.4998.

## CHICKASAW GROUP (Memphis)

"Signs of Spring" Walk, Sunday, March 15 &

## Ten Essentials for Hiking



Sierra Club outings offer a variety of wilderness and near-wilderness experiences. It is important to realize that while all trips are guided by a leader, it is ultimately the responsibility of the individual to operate in a safe manner. To this end, the following is a list of essential items which should be modified according to the particular type of outing. These are:

1. Adequate map
2. First aid kit
3. Compass
4. Rain gear
5. Extra clothing (it is a good idea to always have a wool hat)
6. Matches
7. Knife
8. Flashlight
9. Extra food, water
10. The tenth essential: You decide what is the most important thing to bring!

**April 19, 1:00-2:30pm., Memphis Botanic Garden, 750 Cherry Road.** We walk through almost all areas of the garden, usually beginning with the sensory garden each month to see how it changes, on to the Japanese garden, and depending on the season, the Dogwood Trail, the magnolia trail, the forest for wildflowers, the arboretum, and the hidden garden. This is an hour and a half easy walk. Sunshine or snow. Meet at 1:00pm in the visitors' center. For more information contact outings leader, Judith Hammond, (901) 276-2819 or [judithhammond@bellsouth.net](mailto:judithhammond@bellsouth.net)

**Sierra Club Chickasaw Group Film Night - "Who Killed the Electric Car?" Wednesday, March 18, 7:30p.m., Power House, 45 G.E. Patterson (between Main and Front).** A searing indictment of big business and greed, "Who Killed The Electric Car?" is a well-tuned documentary that simultaneously entertains and enrages. Admission is free (with donations accepted), and refreshments will be available. For more information, contact Tom Lawrence at [bus@thecave.com](mailto:bus@thecave.com)

**"Wild Flower Trail" Hike. Sunday, March 22, 1:30 pm, Meeman Shelby Forest State Park. Meet at the Visitors Center.** We will walk up to 3 miles depending on trail conditions and participants. Bring your wildflower book and camera, if you wish, and water. Hiking stick and boots are recommended for this trail. The hike will be rescheduled if the weather is bad. Pets are not permitted on this Sierra Club hike. Contact Sue A. Williams, 901-274-0524 or [z4cmv@juno.com](mailto:z4cmv@juno.com)

**Sierra Club Film Night - "The 11th Hour" Wednesday, April 1, 2009, 7:30pm Power House, 45 G.E. Patterson (between Main and Front) - Leonardo DiCaprio's "The 11th Hour" is a documentary concerning the environmental crises caused by human actions and calls for restorative action through a reshaping of human activity. Sierra Club film night is hosted by Power House Memphis. Admission is free (with donations accepted), and refreshments will be available. Come early to get a good seat. For more information contact Tom Lawrence at [bus@thecave.com](mailto:bus@thecave.com). (After April 10 contact Barbara Standing at [bluebabs@gmail.com](mailto:bluebabs@gmail.com))**

The Chickasaw Group needs a few interested environmentalists to share their concerns and enthusiasms with the Sierra Club community in Memphis and West Tennessee. Please join our conservation efforts and let me know of places you would like to visit on an outing or places others should know about, including places that demonstrate conservation needs or successes. Send your suggestions to Judith, Chickasaw Group outings chair, 901-276-2819, [judithhammond@bellsouth.net](mailto:judithhammond@bellsouth.net)



**By Diane Perschbacher**

The Energy Corner welcomes energy liaisons: CKG—Nancy Ream, WG—Dean Whitworth, SOFG—Tom Mozen, UCG—Josie McQuail, CG—Bill Reynolds, MTG—To be announced, and HBG—David Reister.

Mid-month conference calls are held to share

information and keep local group members updated. You are invited to join the calls. Please contact your group's liaison or Diane Perschbacher at 615-895-1236, email [diane@propson.com](mailto:diane@propson.com) for the phone number, code, day and time.

**Carpooling in Memphis:** The local Memphis medical center and several schools use GoLoco's online matching program to match people for carpooling opportunities. GoLoco is a service that lets friends, neighbors, and co-workers arrange rides together. It helps match a driver with someone else who wants to go to the same place. Members post their desired trips. When a match is made, the details of the trip are agreed to online. Businesses can have incentive programs set up to encourage carpooling. For more details, check out [www.goloco.org](http://www.goloco.org).

**Rain Barrel Festival in Cookeville:** The Sierra Club, City of Cookeville, Caney Fork Watershed Association, Coca-Cola and the Rotary Club are sponsoring a rain barrel festival at Dogwood Park on Sat. April 25. Learn how to build your own rain barrel and build and plant your own rain garden. Buy a ready-

made, hand-painted barrel, and attend the many booths which talk about good stewardship of water resources.

**Ready To Go Transportation Projects in TN—how you can help!** Ready to Go! projects in Tennessee are those which potentially could be funded under a federal infrastructure stimulus package. The lists, containing 246 transportation projects, totaling \$1.69 billion, are based on the assumed criterion that the projects will be ready for contract within 180 days of passage of legislation. Our state transportation committee would like to provide feedback to TDOT on the spending of the transportation portion of the economic stimulus package, and we need your help in determining which projects truly are important infrastructure needs. Please review the list at <http://www.tdot.state.tn.us/readytogo/default.htm>, taking a look at projects within your community. If you have feedback, contact Brian Paddock, Transportation Committee chair, at [bpaddock@twlakes.net](mailto:bpaddock@twlakes.net).

For up-to-date information and event dates, check out Energy Corner on the chapter website!

**Join us to PROTECT the planet.**

## Inner City Outings Program Introduces Kids to Natural World

**By Joy Mayfield**

It's official! Middle Tennessee Group launched its Inner City Outings (ICO) program last August. For those of you unfamiliar with ICO, this is a community outreach program of the Sierra Club that was established in 1971 in San Francisco. There are over 40 groups nationwide conducting as many as 1,000 outings a year. The purpose of ICO is to provide wilderness adventure to people who wouldn't otherwise have the opportunity to explore the beauty of the wild lands we treasure.

We have nine trained, certified hike leaders on board. They are: Celeste Dye, Alyssa Browning, BethAnn Easterly, Helen Stewart, Nancy and Mike Robinson, Betsy Garber, Jody Patterson and me, Joy Mayfield. We also have four additional folks who are active but not yet certified.

Nancy and Mike Robinson have agreed to serve as co-chairs of the Nashville ICO this year. Betsy Garber serves as our secretary and Olivia Collins Crow, our treasurer.

Have you ever thought you might like to be an outings leader? The more hike leaders we have, the more opportunity we have to serve the kids in our area. Think about it. Can you remember your first wilderness experience? Can you remember what sparked your own interest in the natural world?

Our target group is underprivileged, low-income youth of diverse cultural and ethnic backgrounds who do not have the opportunities most of us have had to explore the natural world as children. I ask you to ponder this commitment. Think of all we have to give and what is at stake if the next generation does not assume the responsibility to be good stewards of our garden planet.

Contact [garberb@hotmail.com](mailto:garberb@hotmail.com) if you're interested in being an outings leader.

If you want your batteries charged, come along with us. You will not be disappointed. It's fun and so rewarding. If you're not sure you're ready to make the leap to ICO hike

leader but would like to volunteer as an assistant to the hike leader we'd be delighted to have you in this capacity too.

If you just cannot stretch yourself to join us as a hike leader (and men, we really do need more of you for balance), can you see fit to donate money to our cause? It's a tax-deductible contribution. Make checks payable to Nashville Inner City Outings and send to our ICO Treasurer, Olivia Collins Crow, c/o Tennessee Chapter Sierra Club, 2021 21st Ave. S, Suite 436, Nashville, TN 37212.

Any money we raise goes toward expenditures associated with our outings. In this depressed economy that often translates to money for van rental and gas to get our little recruits out to a beautiful place, where we hope they will engage

with nature. What they do not learn to cherish they will not care to protect as adults.

We have had four outings to date with kids from The Boys and Girls Club in Nashville and Big Brother/Big Sister of Davidson County. We've had two hikes at Shelby Bottoms Greenway, one to Edwin Warner Park and one outing at Mansker's Station in Goodlettsville.

If you know of any other local agencies that cater to underprivileged children, will you please pass this information along to me? I am new at this and would appreciate any suggestions.

**Now take a moment to look at the happy faces in these photos.**



Photos: Mike Robinson and Nancy Robinson

# 2009 Good Jobs Green Jobs National Conference Leads the Charge for a New Future

By Don Richardson

More than 2,500 advocates of investments in a green jobs stimulus convened in Washington on February 4-6 for the second annual Good Jobs, Green Jobs National Conference. The conference featured three days of educational programs, speakers and networking opportunities to achieve the following objectives:

- Focus the country on the specific combination of policy changes, public investments and funding mechanisms necessary to accelerate the growth of the green economy;
- Quantify and illustrate the job growth potential of global warming solutions and green chemistry;
- Demonstrate the breadth of the coalition that supports the transition to a clean, renewable energy economy; and
- Highlight the potential of the green economy to forge a new social agenda that lifts Americans out of poverty, improves public health and strengthens our middle class.

A special highlight this year was Green Jobs Advocacy Day, which featured hundreds of attendees storming Capitol Hill to educate lawmakers about renewing America by building a green economy.

"The hard work people have done in pressing for green job growth and solutions to global warming can now have direct impact on the outcome of the economic stimulus being considered by Congress," said David Foster, executive director of the Blue Green Alliance, a broad and growing coalition of environmental organizations and labor unions, and coordinator of the conference.

The alliance is composed of the United Steelworkers, Sierra Club, Natural Resources



Defense Council, Communications Workers of America and Service Employees International Union.

### Diversity of Speakers

There was a diversity of environmental, community and clean energy advocates as well as labor leaders who spoke. Participating were Donald Kennedy, PhD, campaign chair of the Sierra Club's Climate Recovery Partnership; Sierra Club President Allison Chin; Peter Lehner, executive director, Natural Resources Defense Council (NRDC); Van Jones, founder and president, Green For All; Denise Bode, CEO, American Wind Energy Association; Phil Angelides, chairman, Apollo Alliance; and author and radio commentator Jim Hightower.

Labor leaders who spoke included Richard L. Trumka, secretary-treasurer, AFL-CIO, and union presidents Leo W. Gerard (United Steelworkers), James P. Hoffa (International Brotherhood of Teamsters), Larry Cohen (Communications Workers of America), and Terence M. O'Sullivan (Laborers International).

Along with environmental and

union leaders who spoke during the conference were newly appointed EPA Administrator Lisa P. Jackson and United Nations Under-Secretary General and UN Environment Programme Executive Director Achim Steiner. National policy-makers who spoke and cheer led the "green recovery" were Senators Debbie Stabenow (MI), Sherrod Brown (OH), and Amy Klobuchar (MN); Governors Kathleen Sebelius (KS) and Martin O'Malley (MD); and Congressman Keith Ellison (MN - 5th District).

A Green Jobs Expo highlighted more than 85 academic institutions, nonprofit organizations, corporations and others committed to educating, hiring and training workers in a wide range of green jobs. Examples included green job staff augmentation and career management, solar energy and greenhouse gas management job training; degree programs in sustainability and environmental organizing and management, and green construction, retrofitting and maintenance. The Green Jobs Expo Theater featured short presentations throughout the day on trends and various green jobs training programs.

For details about the 38 speakers, 50 workshops, 85 Expo vendors, 18 Expo presenters, and other reports and videos, please visit [www.greenjobsconference.org](http://www.greenjobsconference.org) and [www.blue-greenalliance.org](http://www.blue-greenalliance.org). The majority of keynote videos are now posted online at [www.youtube.com/bluegreenalliance](http://www.youtube.com/bluegreenalliance). Also check out the Green Jobs Guidebook at [www.edf.org/cagreenjobs](http://www.edf.org/cagreenjobs).

Look for part two of this article in the May-June issue where Tennessee Chapter members reflect on their experiences at the conference.

## Upcoming Events

**Tennessee Chapter Spring Meeting**  
**May 1st to 3rd**  
**Nathan Bedford Forrest State Park**  
<http://www.tennessee.gov/environment/parks/NBForrest/>

**Directions:** Take Exit 126 on Interstate 40 and travel North on Hwy. 641 for 15 miles to Camden. Turn right on Highway 70 East (do not take the 70 Bypass) at the traffic signal. Follow the signs to the park.

We will occupy the Group Lodge where bunks are provided, but bring your own bedding, pillow, and towel. Activities will include early Saturday morning hikes or other activities such as relaxing and enjoying all the wood thrushes in the surrounding forest. On Saturday evening, we will have a short program and a Silent Auction.

The cost schedule follows:  
 Entire weekend (meetings, group lodging, camping, all meals) - \$40 (\$20 children 5-12 yrs old)  
 Meetings (both days) + Saturday Meal - \$20 (\$7.50 for children 5 to 12 years old)  
 Meetings (both days) + Sunday Meal - \$10 (\$5 for children 5 to 12 years old)  
 Meetings Only (both days) - \$5

**On the menu!**

**Friday, May 1, 2009 Supper**  
 Pork Bar-B-Q - Baked Beans - Cole Slaw - Potato Chips - Assorted Cookies  
 Vegetarian Option: Whole Wheat Pasta with Garden Vegetables, Tofu & Marinara

**Saturday, May 2, 2009 & Sunday, May 3, 2009 Continental Breakfast**  
 Assorted Cereals - Fruit Medley - Oatmeal - Toast Jam/Butter/Almond Butter  
 Milk - Soy Milk - Orange Juice - Coffee

**Saturday, May 2, 2009 Supper**  
 Oven Fried Chicken - Green Beans - Au-gratin Potatoes  
 Spinich Salad - Sweet-Sour Dressing  
 Cherry Pie - Vanilla Ice Cream  
 Vegetarian Option: Brunswick Stew Casserole

**RSVP Rachel Floyd via**  
**email at [rfloyd557@bellsouth.net](mailto:rfloyd557@bellsouth.net) or 615-406-9204**  
 Contact Katherine Pendleton if you have specific food allergies/requirements at 615-943-6877

## Attention!

Middle Tennessee Group Sierran's  
 You are invited to join us for our  
**2009 Annual Planning Retreat**



Cumberland Mountain State Park  
 at the Millhouse  
**March 20th - 22nd, 2009**

If you been wanting to introduce yourself to our local group and find your niche in exercising your call to service in your community, this is your chance to get started!

We will be planning the Middle Tennessee Group's conservation agenda during this meeting via an experienced planning facilitator who will lead us in setting group objectives, developing project strategy and appointing folks interested in helping our group meet its goals in the forthcoming year.

And! This year we are going to return to an age old tradition of retreating to Cumberland Mountain State Park's Millhouse! We will start gathering at the Millhouse on Friday p.m. for fun, wine, and like minded discussions... maybe a friendly board game or two. On Saturday after breakfast, we'll conduct a morning planning session, then break for a long lunch and probably a hike. Then back for an afternoon planning session. Saturday evening we'll have potluck dinner, more like-minded discussion around the fire, wine, eco-theater to enjoy on screen, and possibly even some kitchen dancing. Sunday morning we will wrap it up with a final planning session before the lunch hour so we can leisurely head back home.

\*\*\* Come & let your voice be heard \*\*\*

This retreat is for people of all ages! So, bring a friend, or a family member! Participate, get to know us, or simply just catch-up with old friends! No matter what involvement level you have in the Sierra Club, this is the perfect opportunity to do as little or as much as you would like!

**RSVP to Rachel Floyd no later than March 16th via**  
**email at [rfloyd557@bellsouth.net](mailto:rfloyd557@bellsouth.net) or 615-406-9204.**

## Defenders of Tennessee Update

The Sierra Club's Defenders of Tennessee campaign began 13 years ago as a means of funding our legislative program. Because the Sierra Club is a volunteer organization with no paid staff in Tennessee, we rely on our Defenders program to give us a strong voice in the state legislature. Please become a Defender to help us continue with this critical work.

The Sierra Club Defender campaign is a very effective grassroots effort with 100% of the proceeds dedicated to program purposes. We need your help to be able to continue our work representing Sierra Club initiatives in the state legislature.

Each contribution is valued. Please join, or renew your Defender support. Your contribution is not tax-deductible, but it is critical in enabling us to continue to have an advocate on "the hill." Please send the form below with a check made out to Sierra Club Defenders to Adelle Wood, 4641 Villa Green Drive, Nashville, TN 37215. Thank you.

--Bill Terry and Penny Brooks, Legislative Co-Chairs

### Please enclose the following with your contribution

Amount of donation:  \$75  \$150  \$250  \$500  Other

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

May we publish your name in the Sierra Club newsletter as a donor?

Yes  No

(OPTIONAL) Your e-mail address. Sending our letter of appreciation to you electronically will allow us to conserve paper and save money.

**We will not divulge the address nor use it for other purposes.**

Please save Defenders funds for legislative activities. Send no acknowledgement letter.

**Remember: The donation of money to this fund is not a tax-deductible contribution for federal income tax purposes.**

## MANY THANKS TO OUR CONTRIBUTORS

December 8, 2008 through February 9, 2009

Anonymous Contributors, Nancy Anderson, Jim Blackstock, Bob Brandt, Alyssa Browning, Gary and Terri Brunvoll, Clark Buchner, Mary Buckner and Jack Lyle, Cathy Conley, Bill and Dorothy DeVan, Betsy Garber, Tom Gatti and Judith Murray, Allis D. and John Gillmor, John Harwood, Jay and Marilyn Hiatt, Mark and Anne Manner, John and Chris McCarthy, Christina and John Norris, Margaret Olson, John Noel and Melinda Welton, Marie Pendzich, Glen and Martha Wilson.

## Moving?



Attach mailing address label, or fill in current name, address & Membership ID#

Current Address: \_\_\_\_\_

Member ID# \_\_\_\_\_

My new address is:

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

City/St/Zip \_\_\_\_\_

Mail to:

Sierra Club  
P.O. Box 52968 Boulder, CO 80322-2968

The Sierra Club-Middle TN Group  
**Tennes-Sierran**

2021 21st Avenue South, Suite 436  
Nashville, Tennessee 37212

Non-Profit  
Organization  
U.S. Postage  
PAID  
Nashville, Tennessee  
Permit No. 3225

## Silent Auction

### Donations Needed for Silent Auction to Benefit Defenders of Tennessee

The silent auction is being held at the Spring Chapter meeting, May 1-3.

Please visit your local outdoor, health food, music, wine or other stores and restaurants and ask them to make a donation of goods or gift certificates.

We also need your donations of new or used (must be in good condition) items, such as crafts, outdoor equipment, books, CDs/DVDs, homemade items, baked goods, etc. Plants and flowers always sell well.

If you are not able to attend the meeting but want to help, please contact those listed on page 2 of the Tennes-Sierran.



## Tennessee Chapter Initiates State Legislative Program

### By Penny Brooks

With the Tennessee State Legislature in session, bills are being drafted and filed, later to be considered by the subcommittees, committees, the full House or Senate, and the governor—depending on their success at each level. The Tennessee Chapter's legislative committee keeps track of the environmental bills and anti-environmental bills and informs you of their progress. We also hire a lobbyist, who, for the last few years, has been Mike Murphy, a longtime presence on the hill and very knowledgeable and respected by legislators.

Listed below is a general outline of our proposed legislative program for the 2009 session. We initiate some bills, support those initiated by others, and actively oppose bills which allow actions that would damage our environment.

#### Our program:

1. We will oppose any bills that loosen restrictions on regulating our water and watersheds. One example of such a bill last year was one that allowed the destruction (without a permit) of small seasonal feeder streams.
2. We will oppose mountain top removal methods of coal mining.
3. We will initiate a bill that requires all new automobiles sold in Tennessee to meet California emission standards. This bill, if passed, would be effective once states containing 40% of the population in the country are subject to the same restrictions. (This trigger value is close to being reached.)
4. We may initiate a bill that will limit sales of appliances to those that are energy efficient. Compliance and reporting by dealers will be voluntary.
5. We will support a container deposit recycling bill and any other bill that stipulates the use of proven methods of recycling.
6. We will initiate a bill that changes the composition and method of appointment of state environmental boards.
7. We will support all energy conservation/efficiency bills that come out of the governor's energy task force.
8. We will be actively involved in a bill to establish updated energy efficient codes for residential and other structures.
9. Depending on the nature of the bill, we may support legislation that decouples natural gas profits from sales (as an incentive to discourage use of gas).
10. We will support a bill that prohibits rock harvesting on public lands, e.g., state parks.
11. We will support a bill that specifies a coal severance tax when coal is sold out of state.
12. We will support a bill that promotes the sale of local products.
13. We will support bills that prohibit the disposal of nuclear waste in Tennessee landfills.

What you can do: Successful legislation depends on you. If you contact the legislators from your district, you can have influence. The legislature has a new website that allows you to put in bills you want to track (by number) and it will keep your list updated. You can click on your state senator or representative and look at the bills they are sponsoring. [www.Legislature.state.tn.us](http://www.Legislature.state.tn.us)

You can sign up for Tennessee Conservation Voters' legislative update (sent out every week) that gives you the latest information on all the environmentally relevant bills and tells you what is needed about contacting legislators about those bills. The email address to request the update is [stewartclifton@comcast.net](mailto:stewartclifton@comcast.net).

We always recommend calling your legislator on the phone. The toll-free number is 1-800-449-8366. You can get individual phone numbers from the website. When you call, be sure to mention the bill number that you are calling about. If you email your legislator (least recommended method) there is a new formula for email addresses: sen (or rep), first-name.lastname@capitol.tn.gov as in [sen.tim.barnes@capitol.tn.gov](mailto:sen.tim.barnes@capitol.tn.gov).

If you have any comments or questions, contact the co-legislative chairs: Bill Terry at [hikebike@comcast.net](mailto:hikebike@comcast.net) or Penny Brooks at [penny.h.brooks@vanderbilt.edu](mailto:penny.h.brooks@vanderbilt.edu).