

Tennesse-Sierran

The monthly state newsletter for the Tennessee Chapter Sierra Club

Volume 36, Number 5 - May, 2005

What's Coming Down the Pipeline?

A quiet, sleepy community in Tennessee is abruptly awakened by a sly fox
– Midwestern Transmission Gas Line Company (MGT)

In the following article, a local middle Tennessee grassroots organization named S.T.O.P. describes their plight with regards to proposed unwanted pipeline construction in their community. As of yet, the Tennessee Chapter has not officially adopted this issue, however, a number of Sierra conservation leaders have reviewed this article and have offered support the S.T.O.P. complaints. R. Floyd, Editor

In November, 2004 approximately 140 Landowners received a letter from MGT advising us of a meeting being held at a hotel... When people went to the hotel, the name of the company was an alias; not Midwestern. That's where the confusion and deception started.

Midwestern wants to place a 16" High Pressure (980# PSI) Gas Transmission Pipeline through 30 miles of Farmland with lots of streams, Indian artifacts, farmers dependent on wells for all their uses of which a pipeline would interfere with the underground water structure and limestone that would be blasted causing undue stress.

In December, 2004 Landowner, Mr. David Baker realized that Midwestern was trying to force a gas pipeline through 29+ miles of farmland from Portland, TN - Hartsville, TN. He made a petition and went to his neighbors.

It is now April, 2005 and the events are true. Perhaps our experience will help other people dealing with "Eminent Domain" abuse.

These are the facts that helped our organization, S.T.O.P. (Sumner – Trousdale Counties Opposing Pipeline). The organization started one week before Christmas with a group of 10 people sitting around a conference table. Mr. Baker handed out fliers and created a petition for us to sign stating that we did not want the pipeline company to install their 16" high-pressure gas pipeline on our land. These are the events that have happened:

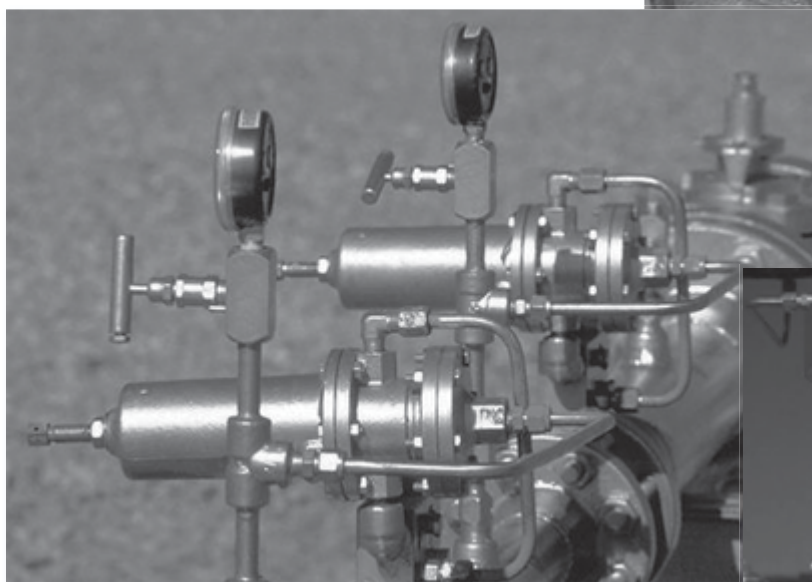
- In November approximately 150 landowners met at Gallatin Civic Center to discuss the letters we received from MGT.
- Dec. 1, 2004 – S.T.O.P.'s first meeting with 90 people present.
- Dec. 13, 2004 Sumner County Commissioners passed a resolution to oppose the pipeline.
- January 6, 2005 – Portland City Council voted unanimously against the pipeline
- We wrote our Congressmen and State Representatives along with letters to F.E.R.C. (Federal Energy Regulatory Commission). We realized we needed to contact the "higher-ups" to make any changes!
- U.S. Congressmen Bart Gordon, State Representative Mike McDonald & Senator Diane Black sup-



ported the landowner's opposition to the pipeline and have passed resolutions through their committees opposing the proposed pipeline.

- Soon after, the Tennessee Farm Bureau and Trousdale County Commissioners passed a resolution to oppose the pipeline.

We thought at this time, we must be able to win this battle. Midwestern made a BIG mistake by not following normal procedures. They did not



introduce themselves to City Council Officials, and no one knew about this pipeline proposition until the Landowners spoke up!

S.T.O.P. continued to hold weekly meetings, gaining support via telephone calls, newsletters and

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Above photos by Broderbund ClickArt

Tennes-Sierran
The monthly newsletter of the
Tennessee Chapter of the Sierra Club.

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ARTICLE SUBMISSION GUIDELINES:

Submission DEADLINE is the 5th of the month preceding the new month's issue.

1. Email and email attached files are preferred. Send to TennesSierran@aol.com either with embedded text messages, or attached files in PC-based formats. Mac users should embed text in body of an email message only.
2. Photographs should be scanned in a .jpg or .tif file format, whenever possible, 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.

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How Corporations Are Using International Trade to Limit Our Choices

Sacramento, CA— Governor Arnold Schwarzenegger recently vetoed a piece of proposed legislation that would have required the California Department of Transportation (CalTrans) to increase its use of rubberized asphalt made from recycled scrap tires. Assembly Bill 338 could have increased the number of tires the state recycled by as much as 3 million to 5 million annually, according to Mark Murray, executive director of Californians Against Waste.

Murray said the state generates more than 33 million scrap tires per year.

The bill would have required CalTrans to use asphalt made from crumb rubber generated in the U.S. in lieu of other materials.

"While I am supportive of the overall policy of this bill, I am concerned that ... limiting the product to those of U.S. origin only may violate various trade agreements," said Schwarzenegger in his veto. "In addition, this bill may invite sanctions from other nations against products produced in California."

In fact, the most recent trade deal being considered, the Central America Free Trade Agreement (CAFTA) which would expand the model of the North American Free Trade Agreement (NAFTA) to Central America, specifically states that conditions for participation in bidding (for example on a state contract) are limited to "those that are essential to ensure that the supplier has



the technical and financial abilities to fulfill the requirements..." In other words, distinctions between wood that is old growth or wood that is farmed, or distinctions between tuna caught with dolphin safe nets and tuna not caught with such nets could come under attack. Issuing contracts to "green" builders based on their environmental performance such as using recycled materials and other environmentally sound measures could also be challenged. All our state's hard won "buy recycled" programs are at risk.

"These trade deals have gone too far," says Joan Holtz,

a Sierra Club volunteer. "How can we sit back and let international law undermine what we have fought so hard for?" She continues, "I am not just speaking as a Sierra Club member, I am speaking as a consumer. I don't want to support sweat shops, or fishing that kills endangered turtles, or fish farms whose genetically modified fish, get into the wild salmon and change their genetic makeup for the worse. I thought choice was part of a free society."

For more information on international trade go to:
www.sierraclub.org/trade

What's Coming Down the Pipeline?

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fiers; just by making the community aware of the Goliath that was trying to slay "David". Landowner's were standing up for "What's Right". This could happen to any one!

- Landowners hired an attorney and the people that at first signed a form allowing surveying their land (because Midwestern made it sound like it was a "done deal" - like they already had the permit, and Landowners didn't think they could do anything about this). They soon realized they were deceived!
- We sent Revocation letters to Midwestern and a copy was given to our attorney.
- At this time we realized we must tell the communities about this because anyone of them could be next. Ten large and 500 small signs were made & set out on the land between two counties.
- Landowners received Summons to appear in Court because they previously signed to survey and later revoked the decision.
- The Honorable Judge Buck Rogers quickly assessed the situation and realized Midwestern hadn't even petitioned the proposed pipeline giving good reason why the Landowner's should be surveyed and reasons to condemn their land.
- The S.T.O.P. organization quickly received media coverage from newspapers, television and radio. We were the hottest thing in town.
- WHY??? Several landowners were treated unfairly and Midwestern was trying to pull the wool over their eyes.

I'll never forget the date "February 24th - "The Fed's Were Coming To Town". Mr. Baker even joked at the meeting saying that the last time anyone heard "The Feds Were Coming to Town"; they ran to the hills to hide their "stills".

The Federal Energy Regulatory Commission, Midwestern Transmission Gas Pipeline Company and the S.T.O.P. Organization, along with 600+ people crammed into City Hall... [What A Day That Was!](#) From 7:00 pm to Midnight, comments and opinions were stated. At the meeting's end FERC was very gracious and Midwestern ducked their tails ready to run! One key element to the success of this meeting was we hired the "Big Guns" - Energy and Economic Specialists, Dr. Bill Wade and Dr. Bill Foster. They proved that the pipeline was unnecessary and existing lines were already previously in place; ready and eager to accommodate Midwestern's request!

So... you'd think this proposed pipeline was over... so had the community and it was once again a quiet, sleepy community.... But the Giant only had its head stung; not cut off!

- As of April, 2005 Midwestern Transmission Pipeline Company is appealing the courts decision to deny surveying... Here's Round 2.
- April 1st and we're not foolin... State Legislator Mr. Mike McDonald passed Resolution #7 through the State Senate, State House of Representatives and Governor Phil Bredeson signed the resolution opposing the proposed pipeline. Letters from County Commissioners, Tennessee Farm Bureau and even Dr. Bill Wades' presentation will be given to the U.S. Senators and U.S. Congressmen -
- The fight isn't over; we must #1 Raise awareness that the Giant is not sleeping and #2 Landowners want community-wide support... We decided to have a "Festival" going back to the "Good Ole Days" with Mule-Pulled Wagon Rides, Home Made Ice Cream, Blue Grass Bands playing and Farmers donated calves to auction off to accomplish both missions. April 30th The Gallatin Fair Grounds hold the Festival!
- Petitions must be signed by business owners on behalf of their customers... the landowners. More letters must be written to Washington, DC. . . to fight this Giant!

We must all stand together because all over the United States of America, several "sleepy" communities

are being rudely awakened by the Eminent Domain Abuse Law... a law that, in times past, was a good law, yet now has been abused in more recent years and must be revised.

This Could Happen To You, believe it or not! We never, in our wildest dreams (nightmares) thought we'd have to fight a privately-owned corporation who found a way to make millions at the expense of the Landowners. Farmers that have had farms in their family for over 100 years; farmers who pay their taxes and work the land so the community can have healthy crops, have been rudely treated by this company out of Nebraska that wants to send its 1,000 PSI (Pressure Per Square Inch) line up to Pennsylvania via Tennessee!

S.T.O.P. is still going strong; ready to defend anyone else that is being harassed by money-hungry privately-owned corporations. This company has several options of which they choose not to take. We all had to learn this "by experience" and the internet allowed us to find several resources.

A Wonderful Thing Happened On The Way To The Pipeline... We found neighbors and communities who were the nicest people, the most sincere and honest folks America still has. We are proud to know that people still come to the aid of others in a world that's moving so fast, we sometimes forget that we must help each other.

If you desire to help us, donations can be made to S.T.O.P. and sent to 544 W. Main Street, PMB 309 - Gallatin, TN 37066. Please visit our website: www.stoppipeline.org and sign our petition online and read more about us. Hang onto this article because, we hope not, you could be facing the very same thing one day. You can view the documentation on FERC's website at www.ferc.gov/elibrary.com using docket #PF05-2.

Thank You and God Bless America!

Martha Deshler / S.T.O.P. Secretary
(615) 822-8484
David Baker, S.T.O.P. President.

Meetings

information on program meeting dates and times.

STATE OF FRANKLIN GROUP (Tri-Cities)

STRATEGY MEETINGS:

Second Monday of every month, 7pm, Holston Valley Unitarian Universalist Church. These Executive

Committee/Conservation meetings are open to everyone interested in helping to protect upper east TN's air, water, forests & family farms. To place an item on the agenda, or for directions to the Church, please contact Linda Modica, Group Chair, (423) 753-9697, lcomodica@aol.com.

PROGRAM MEETINGS: Fourth Monday of every month, 7pm, Holston Valley Unitarian Universalist Church. Programs on environmental issues, travel, nature photography are among the many topics featured at SOFG program meetings. FMI: Mary Gavlik, Vice Chair, (423) 434-9535, mlgav@yahoo.com.

CHEROKEE GROUP (Chattanooga)

PROGRAM MEETING: For additional information, contact Rick Gehrke 423-843-9625 or email rick.gehrke@comcast.net

CHICKASAW GROUP (Memphis)

CONSERVATION COMMITTEE MEETING: Sunday, May 8, 2005, 1:00 - 3:00pm - Otherlands, 641 South Cooper, Memphis, Tennessee. Join James Baker, the Conservation Chair in a casual setting to discuss conservation issues and interests that affect the Chickasaw Group. Contact James Baker at (901) 826-2448 or aubrey_kimo@worldnet.att.net for more information.

STRATEGY MEETING: Monday, May 9, 2005, 6:30pm - Prescott Memorial Baptist Church, 961 Gerwell Street, Memphis, Tennessee. This meeting of the Executive Committee is open also to all members of the Sierra Club. For more information, contact Charlie Rond chasrond@bellsouth.net (by May 5 to place items on the agenda) at (901) 452-8150.

THIRD TUESDAY GATHERING: Tuesday, May 17, 2005, 6:00 - 8:00pm - Cafe Francisco, 400 North Main, Memphis, Tennessee. Join us for Chickasaw Group's "THIRD TUESDAY" monthly gathering where Sierra Club members, activists and friends can meet in a casual setting to talk about issues and interests. Contact Membership Chair Jill Johnston jdjhstn@memphis.edu at (901) 278-2713 for more information.

PROGRAM MEETING: Wednesday, May 25, 2005, 6:00 pm - Memphis Public Library and Information Center, 3030 Poplar Avenue, Memphis, Tennessee Virginia Overton McClean of Friends for our Riverfront will present a discussion of the plans presented by the Riverfront Development Commission for altering the downtown Pedestrian Promenade. For more information, contact Judith Rutschman at (901) 767-5916.

TELEVISION PROGRAM: Every Monday at 1:30pm, Tuesday at 4:00pm and Wednesday at 11:30am, CST, The Library Channel, Memphis Cable 18, WYPL, "The Nature of Conservation" is sponsored by the Sierra Club. For May, Judith is interviewing Arlene Hill of the Earthquake Center to discuss environmental impacts of earthquakes and other natural disasters. If any groups or individuals in the community have a special problem or concern, or would like to see a program on a special issue or subject, please contact Judith Rutschman at (901) 767-5916.

HARVEY BROOME GROUP (Knoxville)

PROGRAM MEETING: Tuesday, May 10, 7:30 p.m., Tennessee Valley Unitarian Church, 2931 Kingston Pike, Knoxville. Learn how you can have a more energy efficient home with "Net Zero Energy Housing", as presented by Jeffrey Christian, Building Technology Director at Oak Ridge National Laboratory. If you are interested in having a more energy efficient home, come hear this presentation. Call Axel Ringe at 865-397-1840 for more information.

STRATEGY MEETING: Tuesday, May 24, 7:30 p.m., Tennessee Valley Unitarian Church, 2931 Kingston Pike, Knoxville, Interested in getting more involved in club issues or finding out what drives the local Sierra Club, then this is the meeting to attend. Call Axel Ringe at 865-397-1840 for more information.

MIDDLE TENNESSEE GROUP (Nashville)

CONSERVATION MEETING: Tuesday, May 3 at a place to be announced. Contact Diane Perschbacher at 615-895-1236 or Diane@Propson.com for the time and location. We are looking at the Brentwood area for this meeting. During the past month we have attended onsite training for reviewing mitigated wetlands, developed educational water quality brochures for distribution and started working with MPO on alternative transportation for the community. If any of these areas interests you, give Diane a call!

PROGRAM MEETING: Thursday, (May 12), 7:00 p.m. at Radnor Lake Visitor Center in Nashville. Please join us for an enjoyable evening of food, conversation and education. "Alaska Wilderness Backpack by Six Tennesseans" In 1983, six Tennesseans, including three members of the Tennessee Sierra Club Chapter flew into Alaska 250 miles north of the Arctic Circle for a cross country backpack trip. They spent eleven days in a small section of the Gates of the Arctic National Park, a part of the Brooks Range. Joe McCaleb will present slides of that trip shared with Will Skelton, Ray Payne and three others. Come see a snapshot of true Alaska wilderness! Light refreshments will be served; please feel free to bring your favorite reusable cup and napkin. For more information on this program, contact Shelli Dimarco at (615) 260-0030. (Enter the Radnor Lake area on Otter Creek Road, accessible only from Granny White Pike.) Non-members are always welcome!

STRATEGY MEETING: Wednesday, (May 25) at 6:30 p.m. Conservation review and issues are first on the agenda! Bring your re-usable cup and sack dinner, or snack on refreshments provided by our group and get the news on what's happening in our Middle Tennessee Group. All members are invited to attend our conservation and administrative meeting at 2021 21st Avenue South (the old St. Bernard Academy Building). We meet on the 4th floor. We welcome you to be with us to learn about the group's conservation initiatives and community activities. For conservation issues or additions to the conservation agenda, contact Katherine Pendleton at 615-943-6877 or email Katibug1959@aol.com. For additions to the administrative agenda or for more information regarding the meetings, send a message to Caty Butcher at jlclbutch@comcast.net or call 226-8925.

UPPER CUMBERLAND GROUP (Cookeville)

PROGRAM MEETING: Contact Peggy Evans at 931-432-6680 or maevans@TWLakes.net for more

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Edward O. Wilson's

The Diversity of Life

W.W. Norton & Co., New York
and London. 1999 (2nd ed.), 1992.
Paperback, ISBN: 0393319407

Review by RICHARD SIMMERS'

The earlier book, *Biodiversity*, is a collection of essays on different facets of biodiversity and its significance to humanity. Here we can read Hugh Iltis on the importance of his collecting serendipitously two new kinds of wild tomatoes years ago in Peru, also the chance find of a diploid perennial relative of maize (or corn) in Mexico. And Mark Plotkin on the value of various hardly known tropical plants including a palm (babassu, *Orbignya*) that can yield up to 1000 lb. per tree of fruits high in edible oils and protein. Terry Erwin discusses his samples of beetles in the Amazon forests suggesting millions of undescribed insect species. Other authors discuss ecological restoration, also in situ and ex situ conservation. And so forth.

The second book explores such subjects as vulnerability to extinction of fragmented populations, such as from inbreeding depression; the area effect, from the theory of island biogeography (see pp. 220-223); species packing, with more in the tropics where climates are less extreme; human threats, including the postglacial extinction of many large animals; "hot spots" (map pp. 262-262). Both books are well worth reading. I thought I would illustrate or demonstrate some of the points made in the later book. Tennessee is moderately rich in biodiversity compared to other "temperate zone" areas, but not a "hot spot" as is the mountainous region of SW China (especially rich in plants). There are 21 species of frogs and toads, plus at least 44 species of salamanders (most of these in or near the Smoky Mts.), for a total of 65 species of amphibians known from Tennessee [our state]. This compares with only about 5 or 6 species (representing 3 genera and families) known from Britain. In the 6 New England states (taken together), 24 species of amphibians occur wild, 6 of them true frogs (*Rana*), and 12 of them salamanders. (Primary reference: maps in Conant and Collins, *Reptiles and Amphibians, Eastern/Central North America*, Peterson Field Guides, Houghton Mifflin Co. ([Boston and New York], 1991.) According to Conant and Collins, nearly 3,700 species of frogs and toads are known worldwide, plus about 380 species of salamanders (plus some caecilians). About 216 species of amphibians (131 of these are salamanders) are known from North America north of Mexico; however, several have been discovered only recently, such as the large Red Hills salamander in 1960 in Alabama. At my 150+ acre property E of Monterey, I have so far identified 16 species of amphibians (4 of them salamanders) as being present.

Butterflies have been well-studied most everywhere; on the island of Britain, 70 species are listed in *The Butterflies of Britain & Ireland* (Thomas & Lewington, 1991; Dorling Kindersley, £16.99, hardcover), of which 57 are residents or regular visitors, 8 are fairly rare visitors, 2 are reintroduced after native populations became extinct, and 3 are extinct or apparently so. Ireland, a bit farther away from continental Europe and smaller, has 35 species of which 4 are rare visitors (all these occur on Britain). In contrast, Putnam County, TN has listed for it 84 species of butterflies so far, with several others likely (source: Stedman, *Butterflies Identified in Putnam County, Tennessee*, 2002). For eastern North America (excluding south Texas) Glassberg (1999) lists 283 species of butterflies. In the tropics, huge numbers of butterfly species can occur, such as over 1,200 species at the 55 sq. km. Tambopata Reserve in Amazonian Peru (*The Diversity of Life*, p. 197.).

I have been doing a but of "browsing" on the Internet and have located a couple of websites of possible interest. The first one is <http://csssrrv.entnem.ufl.edu/~walker/handbook/cklstwww.html>, which has a checklist of katydids and crickets for North America N of Mexico. As of the fall of 2000, T.J. Walker's checklist has 127 species of crickets (7 of them mole crickets) and 256 species in the katydid family. (These lists do not include camel crickets, in another family, so these hideous zebra-striped

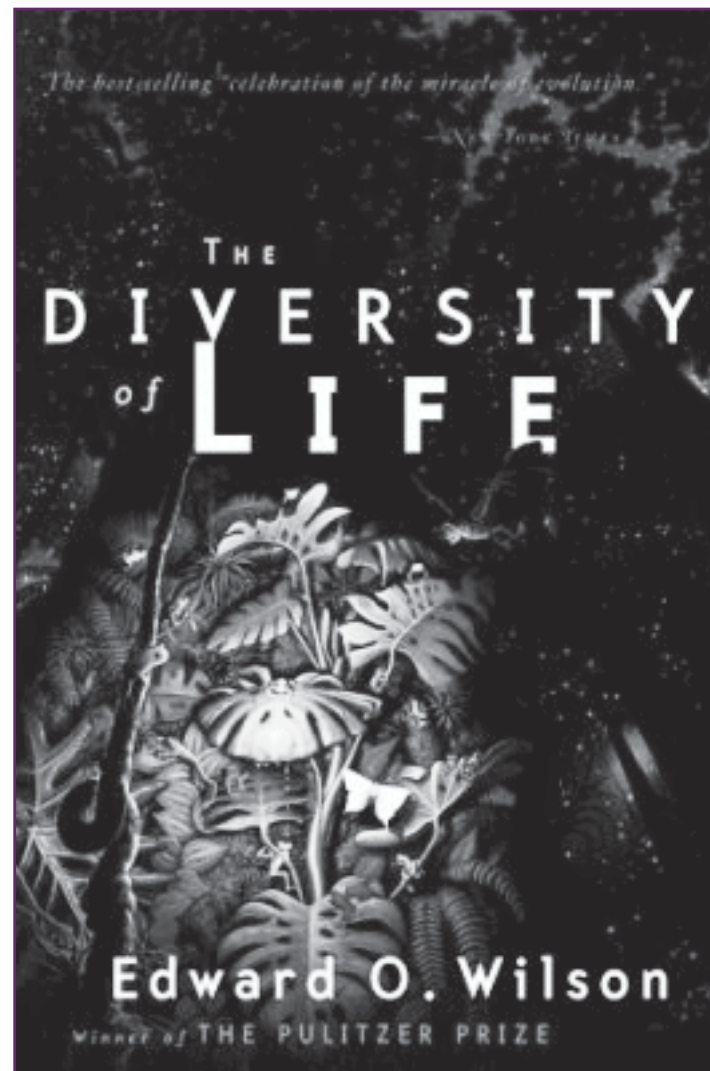
nocturnal household prowlers aren't included.) Maps and songs for many of the species are included. At least 39 species of crickets are known in TN, and at least 30 species in the katydid family. By using the calls, I could identify one frequent cricket (calling on warm overcast afternoons from trees, even in towns) as the "Columbian trig" (*Cyrtoxipha columbiana*) and another common species (which calls a dull metronomic "anh-anh-anh . . .") as the Japanese burrowing cricket (*Velarifictorus micado*), a range extension. (An exotic!) As for Britain, I know of only 3 species of crickets found on the island; there is perhaps one katydid.

Ants, the main research focus for Wilson (who has recently published a monograph on the genus *Pheidole*), are abundant insects nearly everywhere, and very significant in most ecosystems. Wilson estimates over 10,000 species in *Biodiversity* (p. 7), but in *The Diversity of Life* (p. 5) this number has doubled; he estimates that for the Amazon rain forest, almost half the insect biomass overall and over 10% of the biomass of all animals is composed of ants, and is not much less in temperate areas. There is an antweb.org, based at the California Academy of Sciences, which has available some figures. For California, 270 species of ants are known, 245 of them native, and 25% endemic (not known outside the state). Three of the *Lasius* species listed reappear in *The Butterflies of Britain & Ireland* as having important interactions with some blue butterflies (see pp. 83, 84, 96, 99); these ants protect these butterflies. The imported fire ant (*Solenopsis invicta*) is listed for California, as is an interestingly named *Solenopsis tennesseensis* (native hereabouts, I presume?). No lists available yet from antweb.org for any SE state. They do have a Madagascar list; currently 418 species and subspecies are recorded from Madagascar, of which 379 are endemic; ongoing field work suggests that many more native ants may be described here. Madagascar is a "hot spot" with large numbers of endemics (see *The Diversity of Life*).

I have an interest in millipedes. Recently I found while collecting tree seeds at Barnes Hollow 2 dark brown millipedes about 2" long that wriggled like worms when disturbed. There is no field guide to millipedes, so I will have to be patient. Millipedes are among the earliest known land animals, and fossils from the Carboniferous indicate that they could attain a size of about a meter long. Most are poisonous or distasteful (some secrete cyanide); they are significant in the recycling of dead vegetable matter such as leaves. They are most numerous in limestone areas (their exoskeletons have calcium included), but do occur elsewhere.

FIELD NOTES - Autumn 2003 - Richard Simmers

September 2003 turned out to be considerably wetter than normal, as at Crossville, which had 7.01 inches; there were a few dryish periods, however. Notable rains fell on Sept. 3-4 (total over 4" at my place E of Monterey, hereafter "G"), 14, 21-22 (over 2-1/2") and 27. The end of the month had chilly dawns in the 30's, patchy frost reported on the Cumberland Plateau (very local frosted tomato and sweet potato foliage seen at my garden ([at G] on 30th). October was much drier at Crossville, with only about 1-1/2" reported; more rain fell at G and Barnes Hollow (BH hereafter), mainly on the 14th and 26th-27th. Patchy frost occurred Oct. 2-3, then not until the 28th. A general killing frost did not occur until Nov. 14; I still had blooming nasturtiums at G Nov. 8, but a heavier frost finally killed them Nov. 9. Rainfall in Nov. was heavier, at least 5-1/2" at Crossville; heavy rains fell Nov. 12, 15-19 (break on 17th) and 27-28. Temperatures fell into the low 20's in places with the freezes on Nov. 14 and 25. Snow flurries fell Nov. 24 and 28.



I missed seeing the spectacular display(s) of "northern lights" (aurora) recently. Out of the usual sunspot cycle, the sun's surface this year has had unusually intense flares and such. This is likely to affect the earth's weather, not just telecommunications.

This was a good year for autumn foliage colors, except on the most wind-stressed slopes; colors lasted well into Nov. in sheltered areas (as Brotherton Mt. Road and Hwy. 70 E of Dry Valley). East of Monterey the colors peaked around Oct. 21-24, though a few red maples and tulip trees had some green foliage still; by Nov. 5 hardly any trees except some scarlet oaks had any color. Towards Nashville from Cookeville there was plenty of color Oct. 28 on sugar maples, white ashes and sweet gums, with some left even by Nov. 18. A little foliage remained Dec. 2. In Dry Valley, there was color on willow oaks and sweet gums Nov. 23. The kudzu vines along Brotherton Mt. Road were still largely green Nov. 22 but had frozen on the 25th.

This is a great year for many tree fruits and nuts, including sugar maples (often more than 1 per square inch on ground at BH), tulip trees, sweet gums, walnuts, hickories (fewer squirrels helped), Carolina buckthorns (enormous crop), flowering dogwoods, sumacs, box-elders, red cedars, hemlocks, green ashes (and some white ashes), and black gums. It was a fairly good season for beechnuts, some acorns and basswood fruits.

Butterflies were somewhat less numerous this fall in many instances, notably cloudless sulphurs (though I still saw quite a few). I observed only 3 gulf fritillaries locally I could be certain of, such as 1 at G on Oct. 3 (with monarchs, a variegated fritillary, a painted lady and 3 other species), a fresh brilliant male. Monarchs were quite numerous, noticeable in the towns, as 4 in Cookeville Oct. 6; one was seen heading S on Nov. 11 at G. Painted ladies and little yellows were occasional, buckeyes infrequent (one at G Sept. 19 and Nov. 1). I did not see any common checkered-skipper this season. There were plenty of orange sulphurs, question marks, and eastern commas this autumn. Latest observations include Sept. 20, common wood nymph; Oct. 24, red-spotted purple (G); Oct. 20, great spangled fritillary (BH); common buckeye and pearl crescent, Nov. 21 (G).

There was a reasonably good fall migration of warblers locally; I noted good flights at G Sept. 10th (with a Blackburnian warbler) and 26th (about 50 birds in mixed flock). A blue-headed vireo was heard singing Nov. 3 and 10 at G. The winter residents drifted in slowly, with some purple finches appearing by early Nov. at both BH and G. A large hawk, seemingly red-tail size, which had dark streaks on its underparts and behaved like an Accipiter, was seen briefly twice Nov. 10 at BH. Sandhill

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)

Saturday, May 7, Day hike, GSMNP-Thomas Divide/Kanati Fork trails.



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!

This is an excellent late spring 4.7 mile wildflower trail off the Newfound Gap Road. We will begin at the Thomas Divide trailhead 3.5 miles south of Newfound Gap soon passing over a 5,000 ft. knoll where hunters used to flush out turkeys at nearby Turkey Flyup. We will continue down the trail 1.8 miles to the junction with Kanati Fork Trail. This will take us into Kanati Fork Valley for more wildflower viewing. We will shuttle back up to the cars at Thomas Divide. Driving time about 2 hours from Knoxville. Pre-register with Priscilla Watts at 865-966-4142.

Saturday-Sunday, March 14-15, Backpack-Walls of Jericho, southern Cumberland Plateau. One of the newest natural areas in Tennessee is the recently purchased Walls of Jericho area. It is a truly unique area, with a rock-walled gorge that narrows down to what is called the "Walls of Jericho." The Nature Conservancy purchased the Tennessee portion in 2004 when it became available for purchase, and hikers will forever be in their debt. The only problem with the area is a 3-hour drive from Knoxville to Northern Alabama (The "Walls" are in Tennessee but the only trailhead is in Alabama). We will hike about 2.5 miles to a designated campsite, then day hike another mile on the Walls. Sunday will be an easy hike out. Rated easy. Pre-register with Will Skelton: H 523-2272, W 521-6200, email whshome@bellsouth.net.

Sunday May 22, Canoe-Wildlife Float, Rankin Wildlife Management Area, Douglas Lake. Experience this unique complex of lake, river, swamp, and mudflat with the Chairman of the Rankin Bottoms Project. We'll explore backwaters accessible only by canoe or kayak and get acquainted with some of the wildlife that inhabits this wetland paradise. The float is suitable for paddlers of any skill level-no currents to contend with. Rankin is best appreciated at a slow pace. We'll set out at 8:30 a.m. and return in about 3 to 5 hours, depending on the mood of the group. Rental canoes and gear are available. Driving time from Knoxville: Approx. 1 hour. Pre-register with Michael Sledjeski of the Rankin Bottoms Project: 423-487-3161, email mtnsylva@msn.com.

MIDDLE TENNESSEE GROUP
(Nashville)

Saturday, May 7 - Oaklands/Sinking Creek Clean-up in Murfreesboro - Sponsored by Stones River Watershed Association. Pristine Oaklands Creek begins at the Oaklands Mansion and connects with persistent little Sinking Creek just a block away. You can work from the bank or from a canoe.

Call Heloise at 615-896-6278 or email her at stillwild@bellsouth.net.

Sunday, May 8 - Cedars of Lebanon Wildflower Hike - On this five mile hike we always see an amazing assortment of glade and woodland flowers. Meet at 11 a.m. at the Welcome Center at Cedars of Lebanon State Park on Hwy. 231 south of I-40 between Lebanon and Murfreesboro. Call Heloise at 615-896-6278 or email her at stillwild@bellsouth.net.

Tuesday, May 10 - Longhunter State Park After Work Hike - This is the first of a series of conditioning dayhikes. Meet at 5:30 p.m. at the Couchville Lake picnic area for a 2 mile walk around the lake. This is an easy, paved hike. For more information and to register, contact Katherine Pendleton at 615-360-3481 and leave a message or email Katibug1959@aol.com.

Saturday, Sunday, May 14-15 - Savage Gulf Backpack - We will meet at 9:00 a.m. at the Cracker Barrel at Hickory Hollow and proceed to the Stone Door Ranger Station. We will hike the Big Creek Gulf Trail and camp at Alum Gap Campsite. On Sunday, we will hike the Big Creek Rim Trail back to our starting point. This is approximately an 11 mile loop rated moderate to strenuous. For additional information and to register, contact Katherine Pendleton at 615-360-3481 and leave a message or email Katibug1959@aol.com.

Saturday, May 14 - Flat Rock Cedar Glade Hike - Just in case you couldn't make the April date, here's another chance to enjoy the largest cedar glade preserve in Tennessee. This hike is 3 1/2 miles on its new trail. We'll meet at the preserve just east of Murfreesboro in the morning. Contact Diane Perschbacher at 615-895-1236 or Diane@Propson.com for time and to register.

Tuesday, May 17 - Longhunter State Park After Work Hike - Continuing in our series of conditioning hike, we will meet at 5:30 p.m. at the Couchville Lake picnic area and hike 4 miles of the Bryant Grove Trail which is rated easy. Hiking shoes suggested since this trail is not paved. For more information and to register contact Katherine Pendleton at 615-360-3481 and leave a message or email Katibug1959@aol.com.

Saturday, Sunday, May 21-22 - AT Backpack-Stecoah Gap to Fontana Dam - This is a 15.8 mile strenuous trip on the Appalachian Trail from Stecoah Gap to Fontana Dam. We will meet at Fontana Dam at 9:00 a.m. EST. We will arrange shuttle plans since this is a one way hike. On Saturday, we will hike 8.5 strenuous miles, spending the night at Cable Gap Shelter. Sunday, we will hike 7.3 miles to Fontana Dam. For additional information and to register, contact Nancy Fleming at Flemanti@bellsouth.net or call after 6:00 p.m. CST at 615-872-9221.

Sunday, May 22 - Wetland Conservation Dayhike - Short hike to a wetland area(s) to be determined,

possibly Sumner County. We will be studying and/or viewing the area and this will be an educational and conservation activity. Call Linda Smithyman at 615-822-1979 or email at lsmithymanhbg@yahoo.com for information.

Tuesday, May 24 - Longhunter State Park After Work Hike - This is our third hike in a series of conditioning hikes. We will meet at 5:30 p.m. on the parking lot of the Volunteer Trail. We will hike a 4 mile loop which is easy to moderate with rolling hills. Hiking shoes required. For additional information and to register, contact Katherine Pendleton at 615-360-3481 and leave a message or email Katibug1959@aol.com.

Saturday, May 28 - Stones River Canoe Trip - Stones River East Fork class 1 paddle from Cannon County to Rutherford County. (Please refer to any state map for general location) A beautiful stretch of river that meanders among genuine hills. Easy put in and easy take out. Ripples and gravel bars too. Joint venture with Stones River Watershed Association. Call Heloise at 615-896-6278 or email her at stillwild@bellsouth.net.

Saturday, Sunday, May 28-29 - Ocoee River Whitewater Rafting - This trip will be coordinated with an outfitter and will not be an official Sierra Club outing. Whitewater rafting on the Ocoee River. No experience needed but willingness to get wet and possibly fall overboard is required! We will travel with a licensed outfitter on the river and possibly stay overnight in a nearby camping area. Call Linda Smithyman at 615-822-1979 or email at lsmithymanhbg@yahoo.com for information.

Friday, Saturday, Sunday, June 3-5 - Fall Creek Falls Rock Climbing School - This is not an official Sierra Club Trip. An official outfitter is conducting the course. There has been interest shown for rock climbing/rappelling activities to be offered in MTG Sierra Club. We have reservations for 5 people to attend the Fall Creek Falls Rock Climbing/Rappelling course which offers elementary instruction in these sports. The cost is \$30/person which includes equipment use and course materials. For additional information or to register, contact Katherine Pendleton no later than May 25 at 615-360-3481 or email Katibug1959@aol.com

Saturday, June 4 - Percy Priest Canoe/Swim - Paddle. From Percy Priest shore to Cook's Island for a swim and to clean up the island a little. Joint venture with Stones River Watershed Association and Tennessee Scenic River Association. Call Heloise at 615-896-6278 or email her at stillwild@bellsouth.net.

Saturday, June 4 - National Trails Day Clean-up - We will volunteer at a local natural area by picking up trash or working on a trail. Site to be determined. Call Linda Smithyman at 615-822-1979 or email at lsmithymanhbg@yahoo.com for information.

Friday, Saturday, Sunday, June 24-26 - Smoky Mountain Backpacking Trip - We will meet Friday morning at 10:00 a.m. EST at the Twentymile Ranger Station, located on the southwest border of the park. On Friday, we will hike 4.1 miles via the Twentymile Trail to Long Hungry Ridge Trail, to campsite #92. Saturday, we will continue hiking 4.6 miles on the Long Hungry Ridge Trail to the Gregory Bald Trail to campsite #13. Sunday, we will hike 7 miles on the Wolf Ridge Trail back to our starting point. The month of June brings the Gregory Balds alive with blooming Azaleas, so cameras are a must! This trip is rated strenuous for experienced backpackers and registration is required since the trip is limited to 6 hikers. For additional information and to register, contact Nancy Fleming at Flemanti@bellsouth.net or call after 6:00 p.m. CST at 615-872-9221.

Sunday, June 26 - Dayhike - Hike at least 6 miles, location TBA. Call Linda Smithyman at 615-822-1979 or email at lsmithymanhbg@yahoo.com for information.

CHEROKEE GROUP (Chattanooga)

For information on upcoming outings, contact Chris O'Connor at chris_o77@yahoo.com or visit our web site at <http://www.tennessee.sierraclub.org/cherokee/index.htm>

CHICKASAW GROUP (Memphis)

SYLAMORE CREEK EASY BACKPACK: Saturday-Sunday, May 7-8, 2005 - Ozark National Forest, Arkansas. Chickasaw Group Membership Chair Jill Johnston and Group Treasurer Joe Kyle will lead this backpack along the beautiful Sylamore Creek Trail. Limestone bluffs, waterfalls, and a gentle, easy trail are featured on this laid-back trip. This is a good beginning backpack overnighter. It's also an opportunity for seasoned backpackers to try out new boots or equipment. The hike is about 3 miles and goes up creek from Blanchard Springs. The return trip is 2 miles to Gunner Pool. Depart Memphis early Saturday morning (or with the car campers on Friday. See below). Back in Memphis by 8:00PM Sunday. For reservations call hike leader Jill Johnston at (901) 276-2819 or Joe Kyle at (901) 761-9118.

SYLAMORE CREEK CAR CAMP: Saturday-Sunday, May 7-8, 2005 - Ozark National Forest, Arkansas. Chickasaw Group Outings Chair Judith Hammond will lead this car camp trip to Gunner Pool in the Sylamore Creek portion of the beautiful Ozark National Forest of Arkansas. Saturday, Sunday, May 7-9. Sylamore Creek Blanchard Springs Campground car camp. Leave Memphis Friday late afternoon, (or with the backpackers on Saturday morning. See above.). We'll meet up with the backpackers on Saturday morning for the Sylamore Creek hike. Saturday night potluck and, for those who want, a trip after dinner into Mt. View for

the ole' timey pickin' and singin' on the square. There are trails to hike, swimming, and at the Visitor's Center tours of Blanchard Springs Caves. The Ozark Folk Center is nearby. Expect \$7.00/night camping fee. Reservations, Judith Hammond, 276-2819. Contact hike leader Judith Hammond at (901) 276-2819.

OVERTON PARK HIKE: Saturday, May 14, 2005 - 10:00am - THE OLD FOREST TRAIL, OVERTON PARK: SECOND SATURDAY HIKES. Don Richardson will lead this hike through The Old Forest in Overton Park. Explore the only urban old growth forest of its kind in America. Learn about the forest's history, identify big trees and wildflowers and observe firsthand the impact of natural and human forces on forests in an urban setting. The informative and entertaining trail map to the self-guided mile-and-a-quarter mile loop hike with seasonal bird watching and wildflower-viewing guides is available for free at the Abe Goodman Golf House in Overton Park. Meet at the bridge next to the parking lot at the end of Old Forest Lane, east of Memphis College of Art. For more info, contact Don Richardson (901) 276-1387. Sponsored by Park Friends, Inc.

GERMANTOWN GREENBELT HIKE: Saturday, May 14, 2005 - 9:00am - GERMANTOWN GREENBELT: Carolyn Pierce will lead this hike along the paved 2-mile Germantown Greenbelt. Meet at the Chick Filet on Germantown Parkway by the old Wal-Mart. For more info, contact Carolyn Pierce (901) 755-5635.

WOLF RIVER CLEAN-UP AND FLOAT: Sunday, May 15, 2005 - 9:00am-3:00pm - Upper Wolf River clean-up and trail maintenance: Yes, some canoe routes have to be marked and maintained if the river decides to change course and move into the swamp! Bill Rehberg helped Wolf River Conservancy mark new routes last summer but additional work may be needed by May. Expect an exciting and challenging six hours minimum! Bring lunch and plenty of water and dress appropriately - we may have to get out of the canoes and wade! I will provide heavy-duty trash bags and we will collect as time allows. If you have implements of collection (such as "grabbers", "giggers" or "snatchers") please bring them. We will shuttle vehicles down to take out just below Fenmeister Bridge at Moscow prior to put-in. Basic canoe skills MANDATORY. This is not fast water but navigation is still tricky. There is a canoe rental option if needed. For more information, contact Bill Rehberg at (901) 725-9747.

TOXIC TOUR: Saturday, May 21, 2005 - 1:00-3:00pm. Environmental Justice Toxic Tour. Memphis, Tennessee. Sierra Club Environmental Justice Coordinator Rita Harris will lead this tour of some of the most toxic-producing industries in the city. Meet at the Sierra Club office parking lot at 2600 Poplar Avenue (rear of the building). Contact hike leader Rita Harris at (901) 324-7757.

The Muck of Radnor Lake

By Shawn Lawrence, Student Environmental Writing - Belmont University
Dr. Robbie Pinter, Instructor
November 2, 2004

"Don't let a good mind go to waste" is the philosophy of many educators, but "don't let good nature go to waste" would be the philosophy of many naturalist, environmentalist, and conservationist

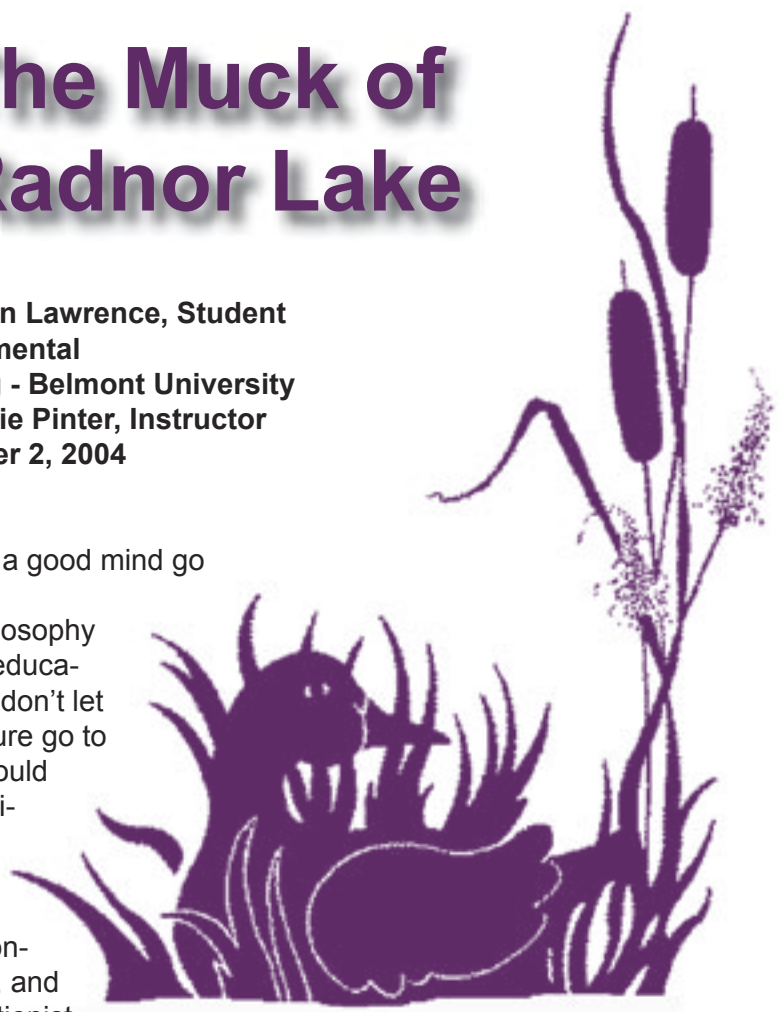
when discussing the problem with water pollution at Radnor Lake. Nature lovers play a major role in protecting and preserving some of the most precious places on Earth, and Radnor Lake State Natural Area is one of those places on Earth that many people such as industrialists, capitalists, and some local residents have taken for granted. They do not view nature as a beauty within itself. To them, nature is more beautiful once it is developed with huge homes sitting on the shorelines or atop the many hills. This is the scenario at Radnor Lake. Companies only see money piling, but what neither the residents nor the builders see or smell is green gunk and muck that is accumulating in the Lake. They are either not aware, or just do not care, about the water pollution they are creating that results from construction and lawn treatment chemicals the residents are using. Radnor Lake is becoming awfully contaminated from the pollutants that run off into the lake from the watershed communities being built near the area, and with the help of the community, the City of Nashville and Williamson County and the State of Tennessee, not only can the water and nature at Radnor be saved, but the integrity and tranquility at

Radnor Lake can be preserved.

Davidson and Williamson County belong to the Harpeth watershed. A watershed is a land area that ultimately drains to a particular watercourse or body of water (Tennessee.gov). The Harpeth watershed, as with all watersheds, is the most cost effective way to control water pollution and meet the standards of clean water goals. Focusing on the entire watershed rather than just the area around Radnor helps reach the best balance among efforts to control point source pollution and polluted runoff as well as protect drinking water sources and sensitive natural resources such as Radnor Lake and its wetlands.

Tennessee has plans to not only clean up Radnor Lake but to clean up all water sources. Four main features are typical of the Watershed Approach. The first is identifying and prioritizing water quality problems in the watershed. Secondly, Tennessee plans to develop increased public involvement. Thirdly, the state will coordinate activities with other agencies, and lastly, the state will measure success through increased and more efficient monitoring and other data gathering (Tennessee.gov). Now how will this directly affect Radnor?

Continued on page 8



Volunteer Opportunity!

To help the Middle Tennessee Group, to help our senior and disabled recyclers, to have fun and to meet other Sierran's, please consider volunteering at our recycling site at the Elysian Fields Kroger in Nashville. The site is open Saturday mornings from 9:00 to 12:00. You will have at least one other person working with you, and you can choose to volunteer only when it is convenient for you, whether that is just one time, monthly, quarterly, or every few months. Please call Recycling Coordinator David Bordenkircher at 333-3377 (H) or 741-1597, or e-mail him at dabordenkircher@mindspring.com.

The Muck of Radnor Lake

By Shawn Lawrence

Continued from page 7

Since most, if not all, of the water pollution comes from the lawns of homes built in the watershed area of Radnor and the construction produces polluted run-off that runs into the water, three of the four features of the Watershed Approach will prevent further contamination of Radnor Lake.

Tennessee's plan will greatly impact Radnor Lake by eliminating water pollution. The first feature of the plan will identify and prioritize water quality problems in the watershed. The construction and existing communities around Radnor is the problem so once that problem is identified, which it has been, the state will place this problem amongst others and begin working to solve these problems by degree of importance. Yes, this process takes time, but this is one of the two solutions to the water pollution problem that will be the most cost effective. The second aspect of the plan to solve the problem with water pollution is by developing public awareness and involvement. Radnor Lake and the

state of Tennessee are both doing a great job at getting the public involved by promoting a cleaner environment through pamphlets and websites. They both are also trying to get the public involved through donations in order to purchase surrounding land. The final approach to solving this dilemma is through coordinating activities with other agencies, and with this, the state and Radnor Lake could talk with contractors and residents to explain that they are creating the water pollution. The builders and homeowners should be understanding and try to develop a plan to minimize or eliminate as much pollution as they can from running off into Radnor Lake. Maybe a few companies would decide just not to use that land surrounding Radnor to build on for fear of ruining the homes of God's other living creatures who already reside at Radnor. Through land acquisition and the Watershed Approach plan implemented by the State of Tennessee, Radnor Lake should be the cleanest, most enjoyable natural park inside a major metropolitan area.

The best method of eliminating the water pollution at Radnor Lake is through purchasing as much land around the area as possible in order to prevent housing and commercial developments from littering the shorelines and hilltops at Radnor Lake. Through land acquisition, acres and acres of land

can be preserved for the mammals to use for giving birth and raising their young, and the birds can nest in open areas on land tracts surrounding Radnor and migrate daily to Radnor Lake (Radnorlake.org). Not only will this land, 290 acres to be exact, be most beneficial to the animals and wildlife of Radnor, the land will reward the visitors and the surrounding area with brand new trails, extended and multi-faceted paths, and advanced educational programs. Among the new trails and paths will be a connecting trail from Radnor to Maryland Farms, a bike route connecting Nashville and Williamson County, bike paths, and jogging trails (Radnorlake.org). The only way to acquire these 290 acres is through community support. Neither Radnor Lake nor the State of Tennessee alone can afford to foot the bill by themselves. Donations, grants, and pledges are needed from public sources and private corporations in order to obtain this land. It is great to see so many visitors enjoying the nature at Radnor Lake, and it is obvious that no one wants to see this area tainted by homes and more pollution. So, "become a friend of Radnor Lake and this will help save the existing natural beauty many people enjoy today" (Radnorlake.org).

Without Radnor Lake, wildlife and the ecosystem would not be what it is today. Radnor is the home to so

many different species of plants and animals that would not normally have a home in Southeastern Davidson County if it were not for Radnor Lake. Nashville is blessed to have such a wonderful wildlife sanctuary located only about 10 minutes from the city's center. It really shows the versatility of the city and how humans and nature can survive together in such proximity without conflict. The love this area has for nature sets it apart from many other major cities that might not care as much about whether the birds or otters have a safe place to lay their heads. So keep up the good work Tennessee, Nashville and other surrounding areas so that the mission of Radnor, "protecting, preserving, and promoting the natural integrity of Radnor Lake through land acquisition and environmental education," is not only read and written but accomplished.

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All For the Love of Nature

By Shawn Lawrence, Student Environmental Writing - Belmont University
Dr. Robbie Pinter, Instructor
November 2, 2004

Nature lovers play a major role in protecting and preserving some of the most precious places on Earth, and Radnor Lake State Natural Area is one of those most precious places on Earth that many people such as industrialists and some local residents have taken for granted. They do not view nature as a beauty within itself, and to them nature is beautified once it is developed with homes. This is the scenario at Radnor Lake. Companies only see money piling, but what neither the residents nor the builders see or smell is green gunk and muck that sits in Radnor Lake. They are either unaware or just do not care about the water pollution they are creating at Radnor Lake from construction and lawn treatment chemicals the residents are using. Radnor Lake is becoming contaminated from the pollutants that run off into the lake from the watershed communities being built near the area, and with the help of the community, the City of Nashville and Williamson County and the State of Tennessee, not only can the water and nature at Radnor be saved, but the integrity and tranquility at Radnor Lake can be preserved.

Davidson and Williamson County belong to the Harpeth watershed. A watershed is a land area that ultimately drains to a particular watercourse or body of water (Tennessee.gov). Having the Harpeth watershed is the most cost effective way to control water pollution and meet the standards of clean water goals. Focusing on the entire watershed rather than just the area around Radnor helps reach the best balance among efforts to control point source pollution and polluted run-off as well as protect drinking water sources and sensitive natural resources such as Radnor Lake and its wetlands.

Tennessee's plan to clean up water supplies will greatly impact Radnor Lake by eliminating water pollution. The first feature of the



plan will identify and prioritize water quality problems in the watershed. The construction around Radnor is the problem so once that problem is identified, which it has been, the state will place this problem amongst others and begin working to solve these problems by degree of importance. Yes, this process takes time, but this is one of the two solutions to the water pollution problem that will be the most cost effective. The second aspect of the plan to solve the problem with water pollution is by developing public awareness and involvement. Radnor Lake and the state of Tennessee are both doing a great job at getting the public involved by promoting a cleaner environment through pamphlets and websites. They both are also trying to get the public involved through donations in order to purchase surrounding land. The final approach to solving this dilemma is through coordinating activities with other agencies, and with this, the state and Radnor Lake could talk with contractors and residents to explain that they are creating the water pollution. The builders and homeowners should be understanding and try to develop a plan to minimize or eliminate as much pollution as they can from running off into Radnor Lake. Maybe a few companies would decide just not to use that land surrounding Radnor to build on for fear of ruining the homes of God's other living creatures who already reside at Radnor. Through land acquisition and the Watershed Approach plan implemented by Tennessee, Radnor Lake should be the cleanest, most enjoyable natural park inside a major metropolitan area.

The best method of eliminating the wa-

ter pollution at Radnor Lake is through purchasing as much land around the area as possible in order to prevent housing and commercial developments from littering the shorelines and hilltops at Radnor Lake. Through land acquisition, acres of land can

be preserved for the mammals to use for giving birth and raising their young, and the birds can nest in open areas on land tracts surrounding Radnor and migrate daily to Radnor Lake (Radnorlake.org). Not only will these 290 acres be most beneficial to the animals and wildlife of Radnor, the land will reward the visitors and the surrounding area with brand new trails, extended and multi-faceted paths and advanced educational programs. Among the new trails and paths will be a connecting trail from Radnor to Maryland Farms, a bike route connecting Nashville and Williamson County, bike paths, and jogging trails (Radnorlake.org). The only way to acquire this land is through community support. Neither Radnor Lake nor the State of Tennessee can afford to foot the bill by themselves. Donations, grants, and pledges are needed from public sources and private corporations in order to obtain this land. It is great to see so many visitors enjoying the nature at Radnor Lake, and it is obvious that no one wants to

see this area tainted by homes, high rises, and more pollution. So, "become a friend of Radnor Lake and this will help save the existing natural beauty many people enjoy today" (Radnorlake.org).

Without Radnor Lake, wildlife and the ecosystem would not be what it is today. Radnor is the home to so many different plants and animals that would not normally have a home if it were not for Radnor Lake. Nashville is blessed to have such a wonderful wildlife sanctuary inside city limits. It really shows the versatility of the city and how humans and nature can survive together in such proximity without conflict. The love this area has for nature sets it apart from many other major cities that might not care as much about whether the birds or otters have a safe place to lay their heads. So keep up the good work Tennessee, Nashville and other surrounding areas so that the mission of Radnor, "protecting, preserving, and promoting the natural integrity of Radnor Lake through land acquisition and environmental education," is not only read and written but accomplished.

Works Cited

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