

# OZARK SIERRA

One Earth

One Chance

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<http://missouri.sierraclub.org>

## Do Something for Missouri's Wild, Remote and Rare

by Caroline Pufilt

### Send Comments Regarding Mark Twain National Forest Planning

The Mark Twain National Forest (MTNF) is starting Forest Plan revision. This is an important step that will guide management decisions on the forest for the next 10-15 years. The Forest Service is asking for input now in the first step of this process. Your comments are needed.

The first step is to gather comments on priorities for the forest. Later there will be a draft plan also needing your comments. But this first step is very important, especially since the Forest Service is trying to limit the scope of planning to exclude comments on mining.

The agency has established its own priorities which do not include mining. Forest Service personnel have stated at preliminary public meetings that they do not plan to consider changes in mineral exploration and mining designations on the forest. Mining is a major threat to the MTNF, especially in the Scenic River watershed. The forest's primary mining "customer" is Doe Run Lead Mining Company. Doe Run is the company responsible for contaminating the town of Herculaneum, Missouri, and threatening the health of many residents. Doe Run has a long history of pollution and exploitation. There is no reason why our public lands should continue to be open to this irresponsible business. Through forest planning some areas of National Forests can be put off limit to mining. But the current agency leadership does not want the public to consider this. Through its written and verbal statements the Forest Service is trying to mislead the public on this important option.

Thus it is important to let the Forest Service know that the public is not well served by additional lead exploration or mining in the Mark Twain National Forest. Tell the Forest Service they should include a review of all mining activities and designations on the MTNF as part of the forest planning process.

Of course there are many other important aspects of good management on the forest. If you have a special area or use of the forest you are interested in, let the agency know now.

Suggested comments are:

- 1 Removal of forest service lands from consideration for mineral, oil and gas leasing.
- 1 Protection of wilderness, roadless and natural areas.
- 1 Better enforcement of rules regarding Off Road Vehicles (ORVs). No new ORV areas and reassessment of existing ones.
- 1 More ecological restoration of areas such as glades and savannas. Better camping facilities, more rustic camping areas.
- 1 No expansion of recreation fees.
- 1 End commercial timber sales.
- 1 Improved and expanded hiking trails.
- 1 Protection and restoration of habitat for native forest species. Greater protection for

threatened and endangered species

Send your comments to:

Mark Twain National Forest  
NOI Forest Plan Revision  
401 Fairgrounds Road  
Rolla, MO 65401

Comments should be submitted by August 2.

### What is a Forest Plan?

Federal law requires each National Forest to have a plan spanning 10-15 years that will set the priorities and philosophical framework for more specific decisions that are made on the forest. A Forest Plan includes important "management prescriptions" which describe what range of activities are appropriate for a given region of the forest. For example, one area may be open to motorized recreation and clear cut logging. Another area may be protected from those activities. But when individual actions are proposed, such as a timber sale in a certain area, the Forest Service will provide more specific information. Also the Forest Plan is a dynamic document that can be updated by amendments. But it remains a very important document that will help shape management choices for the forest for many years.


More information on the planning process can be found at the agency web site: [www.fs.fed.us/r9/marktwain/](http://www.fs.fed.us/r9/marktwain/)

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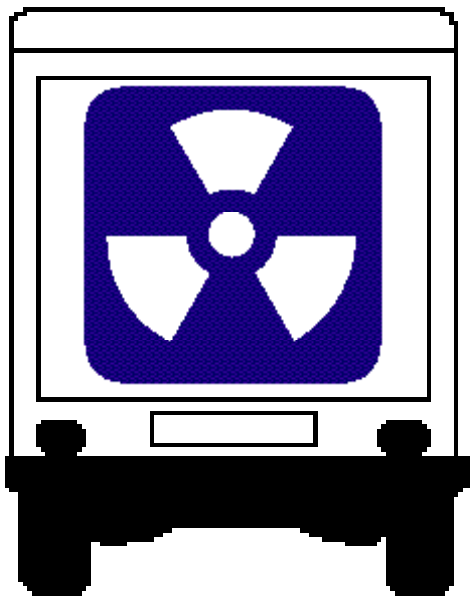
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# Yucca Mountain Nuclear Waste Dump: Bad for Missouri as Well as Nevada

by Roy C. Hengerson, Chapter Legislative Chair

After years of contention, a showdown on what to do with the mounting accumulation of high-level nuclear waste is coming up in the U.S. Senate.

High-level radioactive waste has been accumulating at 77 sites around the United States where commercial nuclear power plants operate. In addition, high-level waste is stored at nuclear production defense facilities. Now the federal government wants to ship all this extremely toxic and dangerous material across the country on trucks, railroads, and barges through 43 states, including Missouri, to a proposed nuclear waste disposal site at Yucca Mountain in southern Nevada. However, this site has severe flaws as a long term storage facility.



Nevada residents from all political persuasions are united in their opposition to this proposal. However, Missouri residents also need to understand how it will affect their health and safety. Shipping high-level nuclear waste around the country, given the risks identified, and in light of the terrorist attacks of September 11, 2001, should send up warning flags.

Since most of the nuclear power plants are east of the Mississippi River, and since a number of major interstate highways and railroad lines run through Missouri, including through St. Louis, Kansas City, Jefferson City, and Columbia, we could be on the frontlines of catastrophe if an accident or terrorist attack should strike one of the nuclear waste shipments. According to the Department of Energy's plan, waste shipments would occur on a regular basis for approximately 30 years, with up to 100,000 shipments envisioned. Thus citizens along major transportation routes could expect several shipments per day for three decades going through their communities.

There are major problems with storing nuclear waste at Yucca Mountain. The site is in an area of seismic activity, which has been affected by earth-

quakes. The dump could impact an aquifer used for drinking water. Fast growing Las Vegas, Nevada, is not far from the site, and growing closer each year. And the lead agency, the Department of Energy, has a history of environmental management problems.

The February 14, 2002, decision of Energy Secretary Spencer Abraham to recommend to President Bush to proceed with a nuclear waste repository, and Bush's declaration the very next day to approve this recommendation, began a countdown to decision time for this controversial project. The next step was a window of opportunity for the host state to veto the project. As expected, the state of Nevada quickly vetoed the recommendation to site the waste dump at Yucca Mountain. Now, Congress has limited time, according to the law they passed in 1987, to override that veto.

The House of Representatives has already voted to override on May 8, although 117 members courageously voted against the heavy lobbying of the nuclear industry and for protecting the health

and safety of their constituents. Only Richard Gephardt (D-3) and Karen McCarthy (D-5), of the nine Missouri House members, voted against the veto override.

The Senate will now take up the matter, with deciding votes expected in early to mid July. The Sierra Club is working with a broad spectrum of groups and individuals to slow the Yucca Mountain project so that a better solution can be found.

We want the U.S. Senate to reject the resolution to override Nevada's objection to the Yucca Mountain nuclear dump. I urge you to contact your two Senators and ask them to vote against Senate Joint Resolution 34, which would override Nevada's veto of Yucca Mountain. You can call them at the following phone numbers or write them at:

The Honorable \_\_\_\_\_, U.S. Senate, Washington, DC 20510.

Senator Christopher Bond: (314) 725-4484 or (202) 224-3121.

Senator Jean Carnahan: (314) 436-3416 or (202) 224-3121.

For more information contact: Roy Hengerson, 2201 Weathered Rock Road, Jefferson City, MO 65101, (573) 635-8066, roy.hengerson@sierra-club.org —

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The published deadline is the real, honest-to-goodness, drop-dead deadline—not a couple of days or a week later! Submissions received after the deadline are subject to the possibility they won't appear in the

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The editors reserve the right to edit articles! Material may be edited for length, content, or clarity. It is our job to help you communicate. If you have strong creative ownership of your writing, and wish to review your edited article before publication, *consider your deadline 10 days prior to the published deadline*. With notice, we will be happy to work with you.

Reproduction quality photographs (prints) or artwork are dearly welcome. Please send us photos...

issue: you will feel bad and we will feel bad. Call us nasty, but we are determined this newsletter will come out on time!

The *OZARK SIERRAN* is produced on a Macintosh computer, so we strongly prefer to receive material electronically (E-mail), or on a Mac or PC disk (3.5"), **WITH A HARD COPY OF THE TEXT**. Typed articles are also OK (must be received a few days before the deadline). All submissions must include name, address, and phone number of the author. If you want your submission returned (including your disk), please include a SASE.

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# The Hills of Roaring River — How Shall We Love Them?

from the November 2001 issue of *Heritage*, the newsletter of the Missouri Parks Association  
by John Karel

One of the crown jewels of Missouri's park system is Roaring River in Barry County. Visitors to this park, or readers of *Exploring Missouri's Legacy*, are already aware that Roaring River is dramatically scenic, set in the rugged, mountainous hills of the western White River Basin. It is centered on a natural feature of striking beauty, Roaring River spring, which generates the cold clear water that draws visitors from far and wide to fish for the rainbow trout that have been stocked in the spring branch for almost one hundred years. Since Native American days, the valley along this branch, set deeply amid these glorious hills, has been a haven for people to gather, recreate, and refresh their spirits.

The human history of this 3403 acre state park includes rich local folklore, an eccentric donor, and a wealth of log and stone buildings in the appealing rustic style of the 1930's Civilian Conservation Corps. The natural history of Roaring River is likewise rich and diverse. An unusually large number of native plant and animal species make their homes at Roaring River, including many that are rare, threatened, or endangered—in the nation, the state, or the park system. The park is also home to one of the original units of the Missouri Wild Area system: Roaring River Hills Wild Area. This 2045 acre portion of the park is one of a series of eleven such areas in Missouri state parks set aside by formal designation to preserve forever their wilderness-like qualities as a resource of permanent value and benefit.

Recently, several of the key values embodied in the hills of Roaring River have seemed to come into conflict, causing considerable discussion among park divi-

sion staff, the State Parks Advisory Board, the Missouri Parks Association (MPA) and other citizen groups, all of whom support the natural and cultural heritage values of our state parks. The issue is complex, having to do with the desirability of maximizing biodiversity, on the one hand, and preserving the wilderness character of the designated wild area, on the other. The background review that follows is offered with the hope that all resources involved can be enhanced.

One of the areas of expertise that guides the park division in the stewardship of the natural resources at Roaring River, and at other parks as well, is a relatively new field known as restoration ecology. This is a field that has expanded around the country in the last decade or so, but no state park system has shown more skill or determination in applying its tenets than Missouri's.

Restoration ecology endeavors to maximize biodiversity by restoring natural landscapes with species and biotic communities that were present prior to Euro-American settlement but that have been affected by recent human activities. A variety of clues are used to determine the nature of such presettlement landscapes.

When the still-evolving restoration techniques are fully applied, the results can be dramatic. Typically, such restoration projects employ the use of prescribed fire, or even mechanical removals of trees or brush that have colonized areas that were once open or grassy before human efforts to restrict wildfire. Examples of restored landscapes in Missouri parks include unglaciated upland prairie at Prairie State Park, wet bottomland prairie at Pershing, western Ozark glades and oak savanna at Ha Ha Tonka, and igneous glades and savannas at Taum Sauk Mountain. Related efforts apply to natural area protection and recovery programs for specific rare or endangered species or habitats. The Missouri Parks Association supports these programs and is proud of the prominence our park staff has achieved in this field.

At the same time, the tripartite mission of Missouri's park system emphasizes a

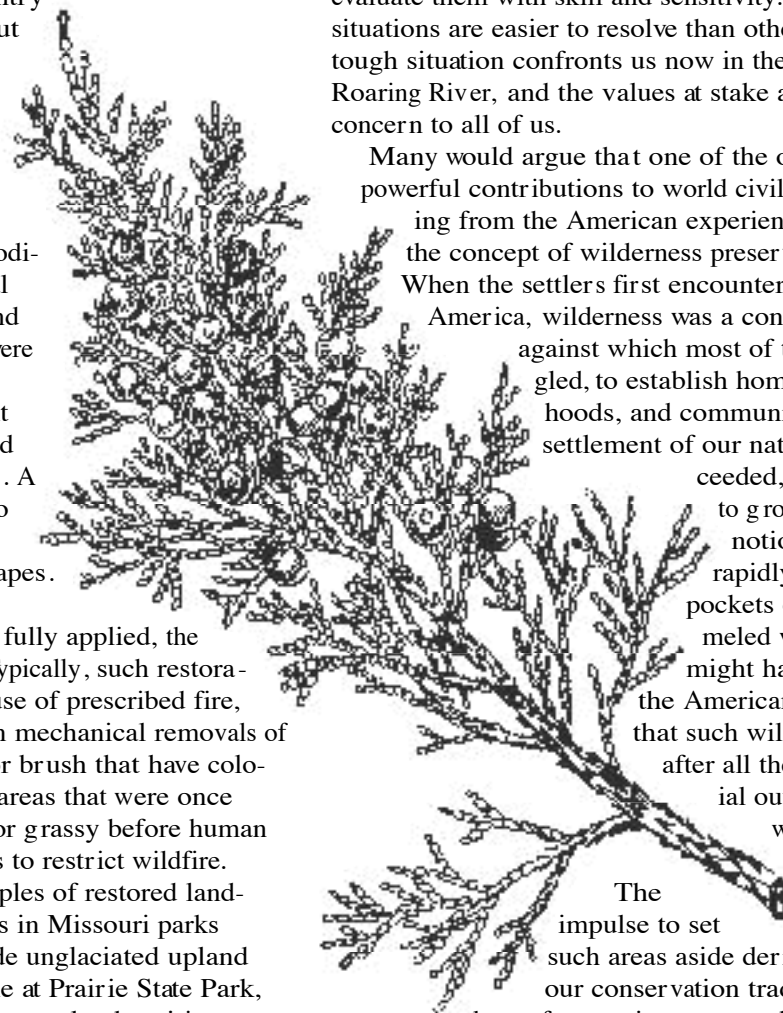
careful balance between natural resources, cultural resources, and outdoor recreation. Most of the time these priority missions reinforce and complement one another, but on occasion initiatives from one mission conflict with values from another. Then we must use prudence as we sort out the most critical resources and the most important long-term benefits for the people of Missouri. As an example, park planners may find that a site that offers a choice location for a modern campground turns out to have also been used by Native Americans and is thus now of archaeological importance, or perhaps the site is home to a rare species of plant or animal. We are fortunate that when such issues arise our park staff is trained to evaluate them with skill and sensitivity. But some situations are easier to resolve than others. Such a tough situation confronts us now in the hills of Roaring River, and the values at stake are of direct concern to all of us.

Many would argue that one of the original and powerful contributions to world civilization coming from the American experience has been the concept of wilderness preservation.

When the settlers first encountered North America, wilderness was a condition against which most of them struggled, to establish homes, livelihoods, and communities. As the settlement of our nation proceeded, there began to grow the notion that the rapidly dwindling pockets of untrammelled wilderness might have value to the American spirit—that such wildland was after all the raw material out of which we had built our nation.

The impulse to set such areas aside derives from our conservation tradition and love of expansive scenery, but also, perhaps even more deeply, from our American cultural experience of encountering the original untamed landscape—an encounter that was in part, to be sure, a confrontation, but was also a profound and satisfying engagement. Every region experienced a version of this encounter, and the history of every state, including Missouri, has been shaped by it. As we inexorably triumphed over the wilderness, a rough national consensus eventually emerged that the remnant vestiges of wild land did have value, and in 1964 Congress embodied this consensus in the Wilderness Act which established the National Wilderness Preservation System. This system included only federal lands, and at first was applied almost exclusively in the mountain west.

continued on page 4...Hills of Roaring River



## Dates You Need to Know

<b>7/27</b>	<b>Chapter ConsCom meeting: Columbia, Missouri</b> contact Gina DeBarthe, <a href="mailto:gdebarthe@aol.com">gdebarthe@aol.com</a>
<b>7/28</b>	<b>Chapter ExCom meeting: Columbia, Missouri</b> contact Keel Kopecky, <a href="mailto:kkopecky@tcn.com">kkopecky@tcn.com</a> , (#16) 966-9544
<b>9/5</b>	<b>Deadline: October-December Ozark Sierran</b>
<b>9/14</b>	<b>Chapter ConsCom meeting: Cape Girardeau, Missouri</b>
<b>9/15</b>	<b>Chapter ExCom meeting: Cape Girardeau, Missouri</b>
<b>10/11-13</b>	<b>Annual Rerunion, Lake of the Ozarks:</b> contact Keel Kopecky, <a href="mailto:kkopecky@tcn.com">kkopecky@tcn.com</a>



**Hills of Roaring River** .....continued from page 3

A significant percentage of Americans had come to value highly the opportunity occasionally to renew that elemental American encounter with our native wilderness. The key satisfaction in that experience is the sense of contact with untamed wildness — landscapes that are not overtly managed by humans but rather are affected primarily by the raw forces of nature. This experience has become highly cherished by many Missourians and is considered a form of recreation, though many would also consider it to be at least as much a cultural or even a spiritual experience. Many find it of great comfort that our society has mustered the reverence and self-discipline to leave some land, as much as possible, alone. Even from a scientific perspective, it can be argued that we have yet much to learn from such land, that we are wisest not to assume that we have arrived at all the answers about natural communities and biodiversity.

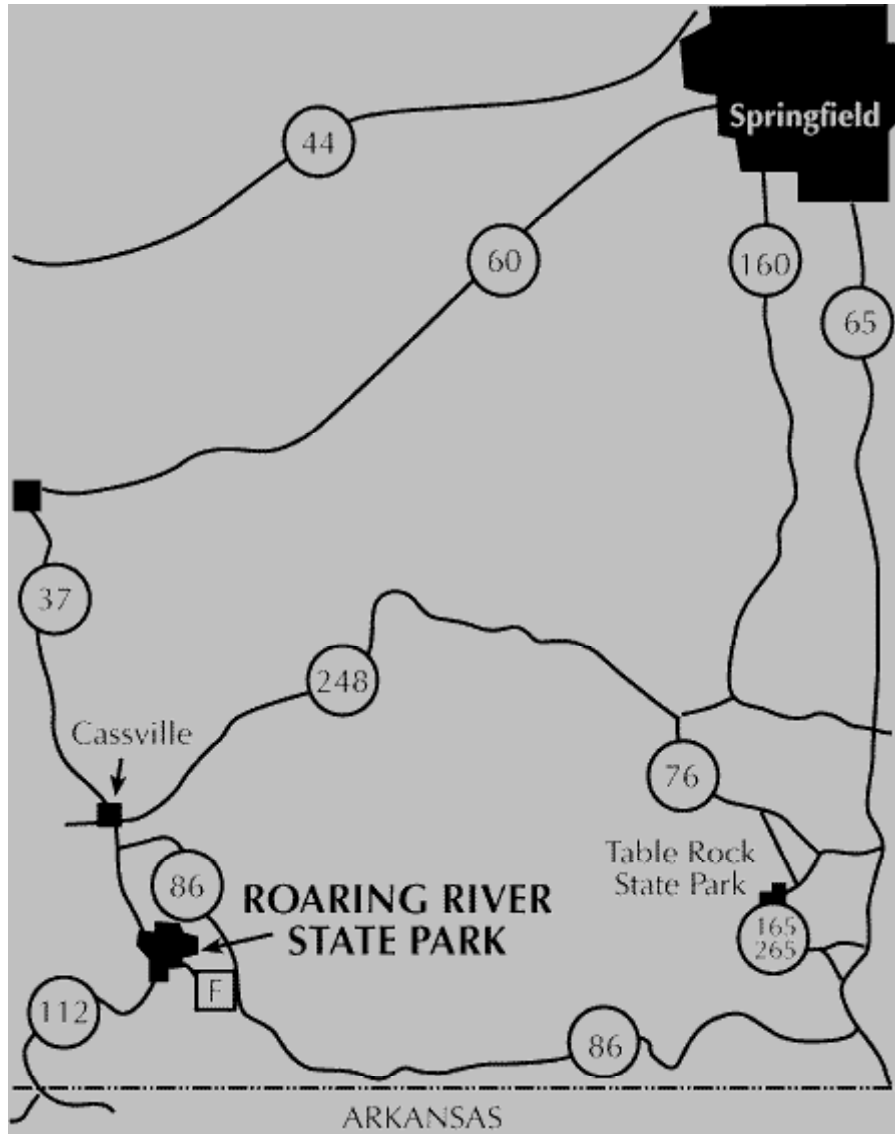
Wilderness can serve as an instructive comparison to lands we manage more actively.

The Wild Area program in Missouri dates back to the 1970's, when the nation as a whole was deliberating about how to apply the benefits of the Wilderness Act to qualified lands in the eastern states. Congress recognized the need, and finally acted. Each eastern state, including Missouri, developed its own proposals and struggled to build the needed political support. In the end, a very broad coalition of civic and conservation groups worked with the Missouri congressional delegation in the 1970's and early 1980's for the designation of a total of eight Missouri areas. In the course of this lengthy campaign, it became apparent that the universe of wildland resources in our state was severely limited, and that of this limited resource, not all was on federal land. Critical portions of Missouri's remaining wildlands, including some of the most beautiful and representative, were on state parklands. Missouri conservationists worked with the Missouri Department of Natural Resources (MDNR) to develop a policy whereby such wild areas could be recognized and protected in an enduring way, and also made accessible for use and enjoyment by the people of Missouri in such fashion that their wilderness qualities would remain unimpaired for future generations. A program was developed based as closely as possible on the federal system.

This policy was adopted by MDNR in 1978, after which state parklands were surveyed to see what areas might be suitable for inclusion in the new Wild Area System. As a result, over the next several years a total of ten areas were designated, including Roaring River Hills. In part owing to the restrictive criteria, the system has been conservative, with few enlargements except in 1995 when

the newly acquired Goggins Mountain was added as the eleventh area, bringing the total acreage of the system to nearly 23,000 acres. This system, now approaching its 25th anniversary, represents a thoughtful and serious commitment on the part of the State of Missouri to its citizens.

In order to conserve the fragile resource of wilderness on these specially designated lands, MDNR has adopted special guidelines for their management, modeled on those for federal wilderness areas. Our state areas are generally smaller than federal wilderness, and as a result some criteria and management techniques are necessarily modified, but the principles and the goals are the same: to maintain for the visitor the sense of encounter with a landscape that has been shaped by the forces of nature — in the words of the Wilderness Act, "untrammelled by man" — and to do so in a spacious setting with ample opportunities for solitude and primitive types of recreation.



This system has been popular, but it has also remained modest in scope, recognizing that Wild Area policies are restrictive of other uses and of management prerogatives. They place a special burden on managers to preserve the wilderness atmosphere, and that is another reason that there have been few additions to the system since its founding.

One of the management tools that has been considered to be compatible with the Wild Area

policy is prescribed fire. Although controlled fire can be, and is considered by some, a human intrusion, fire is presumed to have been a factor in native ecosystems in Missouri for a least a thousand years. Several Ozark landscapes, including glades and savannas, are dependent upon periodic fire to retain their characteristic appearance and species composition. Since fire has been excluded from most Missouri landscapes for many years, such fire-related ecosystems have often seen changes in their vegetation, and especially in the Ozarks an increase in eastern red cedar (*Juniperus virginiana*). A focus of restoration ecology in state parks generally has been to control red cedar and reopen old glades. Some of these cedar-grown glades are located in designated wild areas, and MDNR policy has permitted the use of fire in these areas to maintain or restore the glades. This practice has not been particularly controversial, though there are still debates among professionals about the exact role of fire in presettlement Missouri, and even about the degree of naturalness of that fire, since much of it seems to have originated with Native Americans.

One such area, in fact the area where park biologists feel that cedar colonization has been most extensive, is Roaring River Hills. Although generally forested, Roaring River is at the western edge of a natural region of the Southwestern Ozarks known as the White River Hills. One of the most distinctive characteristics of this region is the broad extent of open glades on the limestone and dolomite slopes. Fire treatments have been applied to glade areas at Roaring River and in the wild area for several years, but the fires alone have not had the result of clearing away the cedars. It is felt that this is due in part to the fact that the cedars are so dense and robust they tend to resist fire. Some park staff have proposed that in order to restore the open glades inside the Roaring River Hills Wild Area, treatments should be applied that would require a waiver of wild area policies: the physical removal of the cedar trees, possibly by commercial logging operations. This has already been tried on glade areas at the park outside the wild area.

The kind of operation that would result from such a waiver would certainly challenge the values that the wild area was established to protect. It would in fact be considered by most people to be

highly irregular on state parklands in general. For many visitors, there is a great aesthetic and philosophical gap between, on the one hand, the effects of a fire which, even if prescribed, mimics the natural process that shaped the glade community, and on the other the outright physical removal of the native cedar trees. During the operation there would be vehicles and machinery inside the area, accompanied by the high decibel whine of chain-

continued on page 9...Hills of Roaring River

# The Struggle for Renewable Energy in Missouri

by Wallace McMullen

Environmental activists with an interest in clean air know that Missouri's electric generating plants contribute greatly to smog and ozone problems in our urban areas, and that they dump more than 70 million tons of carbon dioxide into the atmosphere every year. We know those emissions intensify global warming, which endangers life as we know it for the next generation. And, we know that solar and wind power can generate electricity without burning fossil fuel and causing these harmful emissions.

So, concerned environmentalists are trying to promote the use of renewable energy in this state. But there are multitudinous barriers, both for the adventurous homeowner interested in trying it out, and for those who would like to promote large-scale utility use of solar and wind.

A group of interested activists in the Sierra Club, the Missouri Coalition for the Environment, and the League of Women Voters joined forces last November to pursue the quest for more renewable energy. Heartland Renewable Energy Society and the Mid-Missouri Green Party soon joined in. The Citizens Energy/Labor Coalition, MOFARES, Bridging the Gap, and MOPIRG have participated or attended meetings as well.

## Terms to know:

**Net metering.** The term for the policy and rules about interconnecting to the electric grid if you have renewable generation equipment. The name comes from the issue of potentially getting credit for spinning your meter backward when the renewable source generates more than the home is using.

**Renewable Portfolio Standard.** A requirement for all utilities to buy or generate a small portion of all the electricity they sell from renewable sources. Typically proposed to start very small and then ramp up, for example, 3% by 2005, 10% by 2012, 20% by 2020.

## Utility-Scale Renewable Energy

It is essential to create a definite market to get the renewable energy industry off the ground in the realm of larger scale generation. The best way to do this is to create a requirement for all utilities to buy or generate a small portion of the electricity they sell from renewable sources. Such a requirement is known as a Renewable Portfolio Standard (RPS).

Jenee Lowe and Joan Bray have introduced a bill which contained such a requirement in the past two legislative sessions. We were able to bring in an expert witness to testify in favor of a renewable portfolio standard during the hearing on the bill this year, and Han Detweiler from the Environmental Law and Policy Center presented some nice economic analysis in favor of the legislation. However, conversations with legislators after-

ward indicate that they were not convinced, and the House Energy and Environment Committee struck out those provisions when they acted on the bill.

Missouri imports virtually all of its energy at present — to the tune of about 12 billion dollars a year. So developing in-state renewable energy can be expected to improve the state's economy. And, renewable energy generation sources create more local jobs than the fossil-fuel power plants. The arguments for renewable energy are strong, if we can get the attention of policy makers, and overcome the influence of the entrenched fossil fuel interests.

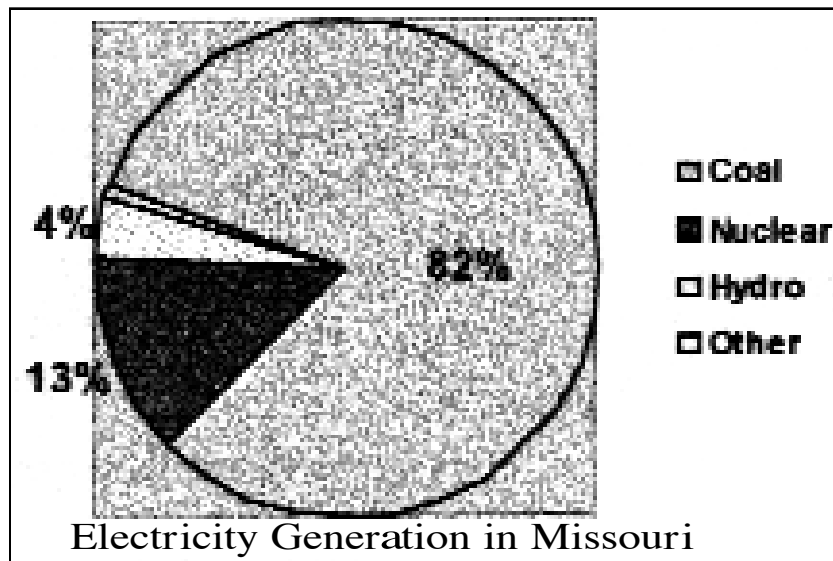
## Renewable Energy for Homeowners/Small Farmers

Homeowners can not experiment with renewable energy supplying some of their needs and still get electricity from the main grid in this state. The utilities will not allow it unless you are willing to pay for engineering studies, enormous amounts of insurance, sign frightening long contracts making you liable for all problems within three counties, and buy expensive electrical hardware for interfaces and lockout switchgear outside your house.

Two pieces of legislation were introduced this year to allow homeowner use of renewable energy. One was introduced by Senator Pat Dougherty, the other by Representatives Jenee Lowe and Joan Bray. Our coalition did well at turning out supporters for the hearings on both bills. Both the House and Senate bills had so many supporters testify that another session had to be scheduled for the opponents to speak.

However, the utilities were able to get more legislative support for their bill, sponsored by Sen. Childers, which would enact into law all the barriers to grid interconnection mentioned above. Every member of the Senate Commerce and Environment Committee except Dougherty voted for Childers' SB 1100.

In the House, the show of interest prompted the chair of the Energy and Environment Committee to form a subcommittee to consider the Lowe-Bray bill. The subcommittee created a substitute bill largely incorporating the anti-renew-

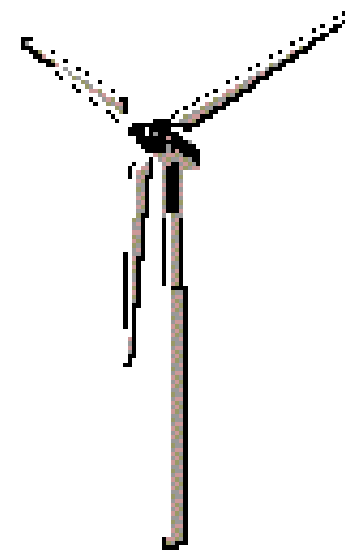


able energy features the utilities wanted, and the full committee then passed the substitute bill — which we were now opposing.

In the chaotic last week of the 2002 session the undesirable language of SB 1100 was amended onto HB 1402, a bill about municipalities offering cable TV service and Internet pornography in libraries, and the legislature passed it.

## We Must Overcome the Influence of the Entrenched Fossil Fuel Interests

That will not happen easily. Although we may have a long struggle before solar and wind power are a major portion of Missouri's energy mix, environmentalists can help by learning about the electric power issues, telling other people about the environmental impact of these issues, and bending the ear of legislators at every opportunity. —



Harmful Emissions from Missouri Power Plants			
1999, in tons			
Pollutant	SOx	CO2	NOx
Amount	256,274	71,543,029	181,655
Causes	Acid Rain	Global Warming	Smog

# Energy Notes

by Wallace McMullen, Energy Subcommittee Chair

## Missouri Clean Energy Coalition

A group of environmental activists and renewable energy supporters have been meeting regularly during the last six months to pursue more use of renewable energy in Missouri, and to join forces against possibly damaging actions by the proponents of fossil fuel generated electricity. The Sierra Club, the Missouri Coalition for the Environment, the League of Women Voters, Heartland Renewable Energy Society, and the Mid-Missouri Green Party have been consistent participants. A representative from Bridging the Gap has joined the group, and representatives from Citizens Energy/Labor Coalition, MOFARES, the Missouri Rural Crisis Center, AARP, and MOPIRG have participated or attended meetings as well.

The group representatives discussed what their common interest were and agreed on the following statement of principles:

We believe that Missouri's future energy needs should be met using safe, clean, renewable sources, that energy efficiency should be promoted, and that a well-regulated electric power industry will best protect Missouri citizens. These strategies promote healthier living conditions, are economically and environmentally wise, offer greater financial returns for our state, and help to preserve our natural resources.

To date the coalition has shared information and coordinated some activities around renewable energy legislation in the last session of the Missouri legislature. (See the "The Struggle for Renewable Energy"). We are planning to partner with the Missouri Department of Natural Resources (DNR) on presenting a renewable energy conference in September. More interested participants are always welcome. Contact Wallace McMullen in mid-Missouri, (573)636-6067, mcmulw@home.com, Jill Miller in St. Louis, (314)645-2032, jill.miller@sierraclub.org, or Ron McLinden in Kansas City (816)931-0498, ron.mclinden@kcmo.org.

## Big New Powerline from AmerenUE

AmerenUE, the biggest electric utility in the state, is planning to build a new powerline south from the Calloway nuclear plant through Osage and Maries counties. It intends to use its power of eminent domain to acquire the land in the powerline corridor. As demand for electricity has not grown much in that part of its service area, we speculate that AmerenUE is considering selling power out-of-state.

Affected residents near Linn have told the Sierra Club that AmerenUE is not only planning to acquire farmland for the powerline, but in some cases intends to go right through occupied homes. —

# Wilderness first aid course offered

If you lead trips into wilderness areas — or if you spend any time working or playing more than few minutes away from emergency assistance — have we got a deal for you!

The Kanza Group of the Sierra Club has arranged for a wilderness first aid course on Saturday, Aug. 24, at Armourdale Community Center, 7th and Osage in Kansas City, Kansas. And Sierra Club members get the first shot at slots in the class.

The all-day, hands-on course is a joint effort of the National Safety Council and the Wilderness Medical Society, and the certificate you'll receive at the end meets the requirements of numerous organizations. Trip leader Scott Hooper took the same class several months ago and says it's well worth the time and cost (about \$60).

To learn more about taking Wilderness First Aid, and to sign

up, check out [www.kssierra.org](http://www.kssierra.org) or call Steve Hassler, (913)599-6028, [hassler@planetkc.com](mailto:hassler@planetkc.com). —

*Standard first aid may not be sufficient when help is far away. Learn what to do when you can't count on the paramedics to be there in a few minutes.*



## Please Consider Joining the Chapter Executive Committee in 2003

The Ozark Chapter is seeking persons to run for the 2003 Executive Committee (Excom). No experience necessary. The Excom manages the Chapter finances and budget; takes care of Chapter business having to do with office, staff, and correspondence; endorses political candidates after recommendations from the Chapter Political Committee; ensures that the Chapter committees have leadership; and sets the tone of the Sierra Club in Missouri. The Excom meets once every two months in cities across Missouri. Excom members strongly support the Sierra Club mission to "Explore, enjoy, and protect the planet."

Contact any member of the nominating committee to let them know of your interest in serving on the 2003 Excom by July 31. Contact: Chair, Brian Alworth: (573)334-7978 or [bstorm@clas.net](mailto:bstorm@clas.net), Cheryl Hammond at (314)291-5907 or [chammond@todaydata.com](mailto:chammond@todaydata.com), or Ellen Brenneman at (816)274-8062 or [ebrenn1@hallmark.com](mailto:ebrenn1@hallmark.com).

## Ozark Chapter Executive Committee Election Calendar

- July 31** — Last date for Nominating Committee to accept submissions of Excom candidates.
- August 13** — Nominating Committee informs standing Chapter Excom of candidate list.
- August 27** — Petition candidate deadline for submitting their candidacy to Excom.
- October 15** — Ozark Chapter members receive Excom election ballots in the mail.
- November 30** — Ballots due (closing date of Excom election).
- December 7** — Counting of ballots and reporting of results.

# Ozark Chapter Tackles Degraded Urban Watersheds

by Chapter Director Carla Klein, Chapter Water Sentinel Angel Kruzen, and Water Sentinels Program Director Scott Dye

In the last issue, Angel Kruzen introduced herself as the Ozark Chapter's new Water Sentinel. This month, we'd like to tell you more about the Chapter's Water Sentinels project, and how we're working to restore Missouri's urban watersheds.

Last fall, the Ozark Chapter was one of seven Sierra Club Chapters that were awarded grants under the Club's new Water Sentinels program. The grants are used to promote volunteer water quality monitoring activities and to pursue state level enforcement of pollution laws. The Chapter's Water Sentinels project is focused on three urban basins in the Kansas City metropolitan area — Blue and Little Blue Rivers, Brush and Indian Creeks; and three basins in the St. Louis region — Dardenne and Perdue Creeks and River des Pere (also known as 'River Despair').

These watersheds, home to millions of Missourians, are badly degraded by sprawl and development, urban non-point runoff, channelization and concrete diversion, and combined sewer overflows (CSO's). Yet despite visually obvious pollution problems and habitat destruction, and considerable agency data indicating impairment, very few urban waterways such as these are included on Missouri's current list of impaired waters. Often, the problems impacting urban and suburban streams are simply written off by public officials as too large or too complex to solve.

We intend to change that way of thinking. By

building strong alliances within metropolitan areas — among environmentalists, schools, churches, civic groups, city planners, and new and existing volunteer water quality monitors — we can begin to reclaim and restore these urban waterways. The first step in the process of restoring our urban rivers and streams will be getting these degraded streams placed on the state's 303(d) list of impaired waters.

Federal clean water law requires states to produce a list of its 'impaired' (polluted) waters every two years. When streams are listed as 'impaired' it triggers the Total Maximum Daily Load (TMDL) process, which requires the writing and implementation of a cleanup plan for the waterway. Working with newly recruited as well as existing volunteer water quality monitors, we'll conduct biological monitoring and broad-based chemical testing for pollutants including bacteria and nutrients. The coordinated monitoring should fill in any remaining gaps in the data supporting the streams' placement on the state's 303(d) list.

We're very fortunate to be able to coordinate our project's efforts with Missouri's nationally recognized Stream Team Program. The state program's volunteer water quality monitors are among the best trained and best equipped in the country. Many have attained the highest level of training and certification offered by Missouri's USEPA-certified program.

The new Water Sentinels project continues the Ozark Chapter's long involvement in Missouri's impaired waters listing processes. In 2001, the successful settlement of the Chapter's federal lawsuit

over Missouri's 303(d) list resulted in several important victories for clean water: a more accurate and complete

impaired water list (from approximately 40 to 260 stream segments); initial TMDL's being written; improvements to the state's water quality regulations and listing criteria; greatly increased utilization of volunteer data; and several other important reforms. The settlement was also the catalyst to the subsequent legislative process that resulted in millions in increased funding to the Missouri Department of Natural Resources (MDNR) to comply with the monitoring requirements in the resulting Consent Decree. The USEPA and the state are currently operating under this Consent Decree and several Memorandums of Understanding.

While much has been accomplished, much work remains, especially in our urban and suburban areas. We need your help to reclaim these rivers and streams — especially if you live or work in Missouri's two largest cities. We have many different levels of volunteer opportunities available to get you involved in this effort — from letter writing campaigns and contacting public officials, to diving feet first into a stream in search of the elusive *Corydalis*.

Together, we can change the future face of Missouri's urban environment. The work won't be easy, and it won't be quick. But, if we believe we can change the status quo — we will, together. Our children, and our children's children, will thank us.

To get involved in the chapter's Water Sentinels project, contact Angel Kruzen at (417)934-2818, or at pansgarden@hotmail.com, or call the Chapter office at (573)815-9250. —

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## The Water Sentinel Meets the Stooges and the Magic Eight Ball

by Angel Kruzen, Sierra Club Water Sentinel

My new job as Sierra Club Water Sentinel for Missouri has introduced me to a whole new world of water quality work in Missouri. I had never before known the waters that grace the Kansas City metropolitan area. They come with such beautiful names, the Blue, the Little Blue, Indian Creek and Brush Creek. Unfortunately, these urban streams are terribly compromised and impacted by human activities. Like all streams, they represent the sum of all our activities in their watersheds. My goal is to have these streams placed on the Missouri Impaired Waters List: the first step in healing gaping wounds.

The Blue River Parkway parallels the Blue River through town, complete with soccer parks, fishing spots, and picnic areas. Although my husband Tom and I have observed many bicyclists on that road, it remains too narrow to be as safe as a bike path. Without much expense the city could remedy this and make this tree-covered road a real joy to traverse. A widened path would encourage pedestrians and cyclists to become familiar with this unexpectedly pleasant wild area in urban Kansas City. Prompt garbage pick-up at these parks would also make them more appealing to use. No one wants to frequent a park with garbage ballooning out of the open trash cans!

Further downstream, this delight turns to horror as the city government and the Army Corps of Engineers is engaged in a costly boondoggle to channelize the Blue. Monster machines are creating an artificial stream more closely resembling a super-highway than a river. A straightened stream causes more potential damage as it increases the water's speed and carrying capacity, enabling it to do more damage further downstream. This impairs the river's ability to act as a safe conduit for storm water runoff and is money not well spent. Riverbank junkyards, cement and rip-rapped banks, and mountains of garbage turn the pretty Blue into a nightmare. Projects like this on the Blue have been promoted as "flood control" projects by the city government, developers, and Army Corps of Engineers. I was told that many projects were begun without any storm water permits from the MDNR — only to be given permits after the project had been inaugurated! This is government in reverse!

Indian Creek, which begins in Kansas and is listed as an impaired water there for fecal coliform loads, passes the magical Missouri State Line, which "cleanses" this water body of all its ills. It is not listed as impaired by Missouri but undergoes no treatment to make it purer — just the magic of the Missouri State Line! This should be a "no

brainer" for MDNR. This stream and the others in the Kansas City region seem to be suffering from bureaucratic and political bungling.

Brush Creek too often deserves the disparaging local name "Flush" Creek. We didn't expect an urban stream that meanders through the urban core to be pristine, but we did not expect to see an open sewer either. Strong human sewage odor made this one of the nastier streams this side of Calcutta's open trench sewers — and this was after a flood water event. This poor stream also boasts a totally cemented bottom and embankment, occasionally broken to reveal a bedrock bottom. The water quality is frightfully impaired as are the fluid dynamics of the stream. Once again, verification of its impaired status hasn't been officially recognized. Sadly, all one would really need is a nose and average eyesight to accomplish this!

All is not doom and gloom. These streams can be brought back to functional and even aesthetic levels. A week ago our Scenic Rivers Stream Association got over 100 volunteers to pick up garbage in the Jacks Fork River. Over a ton of garbage was collected and a fun time was had on the river and it is an even more desirable place to play today. Care for our streams like care for our democracy cannot be spectator sports; they call for intimate participation. —



# Outings Leader Training Workshop Wrap-up

by Dan Fuller

I have been on more Group outings than I can count, and I have been leading Group outings for over 15 years. I thought I knew quite a lot about outings. But after attending the the recent Outdoor Activities Training Program (OATP) workshop held recently, I realized how much I didn't know.

The OATP is a traveling outings roadshow put on by the national Sierra Club Outings Committee, led by Steven Schewach and an intrepid band of trainers. The Thomas Hart Benton and Kanza Groups hosted the latest session March 1-3 at Camp Shawnee near Parkville. Thirty-six outings leaders from Missouri, Kansas, Nebraska, Iowa, and Illinois attended. Some of us had been leading outings for some time, while others were relatively new to the game. Even the late-winter snowstorm and bitter cold did not prevent us from having a thoroughly enjoyable and educational weekend.

Workshop sessions were held on emergency response, insurance, conservation, the One Club program, interpersonal skills, group management, and Club structure. I was wondering how the training staff could make these relevant to veterans and newcomers alike, but they pulled it off. Kudos to them. Our hope is that those who attended will now be ready to take this information back to their Groups and Chapters.

There are many people to thank who worked hard to make this session so memorable. Special thanks must be given to our crack kitchen staff, led by Liz Huffman and ably assisted by Lynda Loomis. They did not get to join in on the fun of the sessions, but worked their tails off to provide us with superb meals. I had never seen the cooks get a standing ovation before. Thanks also to Scott Hooper, the event co-ordinator, who secured the site, recruited many of the volunteers, and was our communications hub with national, and to Steve Hassler, who did a great job with publicity and advertising. We would also like to thank the folks at Camp Shawnee who opened their doors to us, kept us warm, and plowed the roads. And thanks to all the participants as well.

We are still hoping to schedule additional first-aid training in the Kansas City area, probably this summer. Stay tuned for further information. —



*Snowy Camp Shawnee*



*Event Co-ordinators Dan Fuller and Scott Hooper*



*Standing ovation for Liz Huffman and Lynda Loomis*



**Hills of Roaring River** .....continued from page 4  
saws; following the event there would be visible for many years the telltale stumps of the cut cedars and other scars of the harvesting operation. Presumably, we would see on the newly cutover areas a resurgence of glade vegetation and glade-associated wildlife, including coneflower, collared lizards, and Roadrunners; and possibly also we might see on those same areas a corresponding decrease in cedar-associated wildlife, such as the Prairie Warbler.

All of this could be quite controversial. For those who value wilderness, the most troubling effects would be on the quality of the Roaring River Hills Wild Area as a sanctuary dedicated to the human need for areas "untrammelled by man." Even if our goal in the cedar removal operation is to recreate landscape scenery and biotic communities that we are certain existed before white settlers came to southwest Missouri, we would obviously have laid a heavy hand on the land to bring this about. This would strain, if not tear, the fragile sense of wilderness we seek to protect in this area, and which the state has pledged to provide.

More troubling still is the precedent that could be set. Whenever in the future the conservative guidelines for wild area management prove to be irksome or inconvenient for some competing purpose — perhaps less noble than landscape restoration, such as a powerline right-of-way, road or reservoir, or any of the myriad landscape altering endeavors to which we humans are so prone — we will by this precedent have weakened our ability to defend the whole system, and thus our capacity to provide a secure resource of wilderness for future generations

MPA has supported the wild area program from our inception, and we have also applauded and encouraged the restoration ecology program in the state parks. We support both programs and know that in the long run they are mutually reinforcing; after all, biological diversity ultimately came forth from wilderness. We would like to assist the park division in the resolution of this dilemma. In doing so, we urge that all parties acknowledge the integrity of the motivations for the cedar removal project at Roaring River, and also that all parties acknowledge the values of the wild area resource that are placed at potential risk by the proposed project. MPA president Susan Flader and this writer have developed an alternative proposal for consideration by the park division. It is intended to respond to concerns about the glade ecosystems of southwest Missouri and also to retain intact the policies that govern and define the Wild Area System. It is offered as an outline, an approach to a solution:

- 1 On the 1300 acres of Roaring River State Park outside the wild area, continue to use aggressive techniques, including cedar removal, to reclaim known glade habitats.
- 1 There are still open glades in the Roaring River Hills Wild Area; use prescribed fire in a more aggressive way to retain and gradually expand these glade areas. If some stands of red cedar manage to grow to maturity, it

seems reasonable to assume that they will prove of aesthetic and scientific interest in their own right.

1 Most importantly, we urge that this issue be considered from a bioregional perspective. The park is bounded on the east and south by Mark Twain National Forest lands, and the bulk of the public land in the White River Hills ecoregion is Forest Service owned. We propose that a multi-agency task force be formed that will work with the Forest Service to manage its glade lands for biodiversity and apply a full range of restoration techniques. This approach could be modeled on the cooperative program in the eastern Ozarks known as "Pine Knot," which is intended to restore old growth shortleaf pine savannas on a sizeable scale. This would capitalize on the expertise that has been developed by park staff, and would expand MDNR's role in interagency partnerships. It would also do more to ensure a continuing resource of glade-associated biodiversity in southwest Missouri than anything we might do at Roaring River alone.

### Resolution on the Wild Area System

adopted by the Ozark Chapter Executive Committee on March 24, 2002

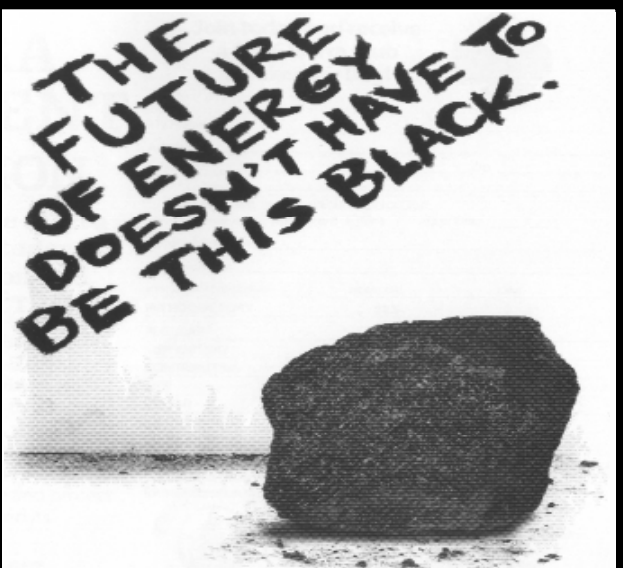
Whereas the Missouri Department of Natural Resources (MDNR) is undertaking a review of the Missouri Wild Area System which it has administered since 1978, and

Whereas the Ozark Chapter of the Sierra Club has from its inception advocated the recognition and protection of wilderness values on suitable public lands, including the Wild Area System in the Missouri State Parks, Therefore be it resolved that:

The Ozark Chapter of the Sierra Club registers its strong interest in the DNR review process and also hereby reaffirms its strong and longstanding support for the recognition and perpetuation of the values of wildness in that system and

That other legitimate values that may be considered in the management of wild areas be reviewed with fundamental respect for the integrity of the resource of wildness in that system.

This proposed general approach has been submitted to the park division and to the State Parks Advisory Board. It is presumably under consideration, and will serve, we hope, as a starting point for further dialogue. In the meantime, we encourage all readers to give this issue thoughtful reflection. MPA pledges to work toward a solution that respects both biodiversity and wilderness as precious resources, a solution that will protect and enhance all native species and ecosystems and will also protect the fragile resource of wildness that still haunts the remote hills of Roaring River. —



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# Join us October 11-12-13 for our Annual Ozark Chapter Campout and Reunion!

With summer all around us, it's that time of year again when we start thinking about the Annual Campout and Reunion. It will be held October 11-13 at beautiful Lake of the Ozarks State Park — a nature lover's paradise. We will once again be lodging at Camp Pin Oak, with its big dining hall and familiar rustic cabins.

There will be some familiar hikes (including a morning trip to Ha Ha Tonka State Park to immerse in the fall foliage) and some new trips (including photography clinics and wild edibles hikes). The air will be crisp and clear, and the sugar maple trees should be at their peak

of fall colors.

There will be plenty of family activities including children's crafts, nature games, and an afternoon tour of Ozark Caverns. As with every campout, there will be plenty of good food prepared by friendly fellow Sierrans.

Send in the registration form with your check by September 15th, and a packet will be sent to you with all the information you will need to have an enjoyable weekend with some of your fellow tree-huggers. Tent camping may also be available on a first come first served basis. Hope to see you there!

**F r i . O c t o b e r 1 1 — S u n . O c t o b e r 1 3**

## Registration Form for 2002 Annual Reunion

**Send in your registration form today!**  
**September 15th** deadline

name \_\_\_\_\_  
(please list names of all persons you are registering)  
address \_\_\_\_\_  
city/state/zip \_\_\_\_\_  
evening phone (\_\_\_\_\_) \_\_\_\_\_

#s		\$s	
	child: 0-3 yrs.	free	
	child: 4-6 yrs.	\$8	\$
	child: 7-12 yrs.	\$15	\$
	adult: (13 yrs. & over)	\$30	\$
	adult, partial weekend *	\$20	\$
	limited income	\$15	\$
	Saturday dinner <u>ONLY</u>	\$10	\$
total		fee enclosed	\$

maximum fee for a family \$80

Fees include cabin camping, and 5 meals (Sat. breakfast through Sun. lunch).

\* "partial weekend" defined as less than 3 meals

- ◆ Make checks payable to "Ozark Chapter, Sierra Club"
- ◆ Mail form and checks to:  
Keet Kopecky, 9211 Olmstead Road, Kansas City, MO 64138
- ◆ Any questions, phone : Keet Kopecky at (816) 966-9544 or e-mail kkepecky@kc.rr.com.
- ◆ We must receive your reservation by September 15th
- ◆ Camping fees will be refunded for cancellations received prior to Sept. 31th
- ◆ We will mail you an information packet containing map in advance of the Camp-Out date.



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When you become a Sierra Club Life Member, you create a living legacy. A legacy of wildlife. A legacy of wildlands. A legacy for all of our children to breathe clean air, drink fresh water, and savor the majesty of Earth's natural environment. From the very first day of your membership, your dues go to work to support the Sierra Club conservation programs that have proven so effective in protecting our natural heritage. So enroll on you annual renewal form today. And join the indispensable group of honored members who are dedicated to preserving our Earth. For life.

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# Outings Continued

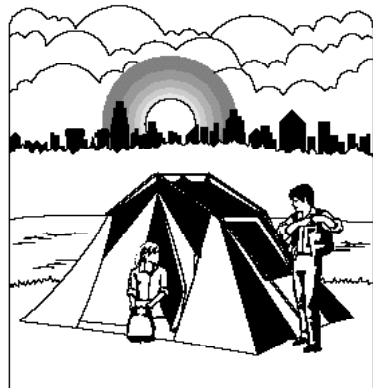
**Oct 12-13 (Sat-Sun) Beginners Backpack trip.** We will hike a short distance to our camp site where we will demonstrate setting up tents and other equipment. Common commissary Saturday night. Later we will sit around our camp fire and tell wild stories of past adventures. Bob Gestel (636) 296-8975, or Paul Stupperich (314) 429-4352.

**Oct 12-13 (Sat-Sun) Two day canoe trip on the Big Piney River.** A chance to enjoy some of the beautiful fall weather and color. Families welcome. Toni Armstrong & Richard Spener (314) 434-2072.

**Oct 18 (Fri) Hike the 6 or 10 mile loop at Hawn State Park for great fall colors.** Suzanne Smith (618) 281-4762 (after 7:00 pm weeknights only).

**Oct 19-20 (Sat-Sun) First Annual Introductory Car**

**Camping And EMG Fall Celebration at Silver Mines Campground.** Great for beginner campers and families. Learn the basics: tent set up, stove use, food preparation. Bring your own gear and food, call if you need advice or suggestions. Must have sense of



humor. Small camping fee to be determined. Enjoy day hikes and fall colors. Bring musical instruments for sing along. George Behrens (314) 821-0247 (after 6 pm only), or Stephen Finch (314) 352-0743.

**Oct 19-20 (Sat-Sun) Revisit Big Creek.** Be prepared for stream crossings and a 10 mile hike as we camp by the creek. Creek shoes are a must. Limit 10 people. Paul Stupperich (314) 429-4352.

## Osage Group

**July 11 (Thu) Bicycle outing on new Bear Creek Trail.** Meet at 6:30 pm at the Cosmo Park trailhead. This is next to the Skateboard Facility on the north end of Cosmo Park. Dick Luecke (573) 882-3691.

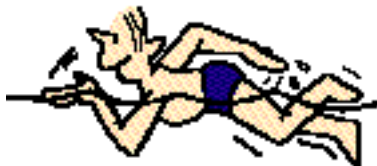
**July 11, 18, 25 (Thu) Weekly nature walks at Rock Bridge State Park.** Meet at 5:30 pm each Thursday in July at the Devil's Icebox parking lot for a nature walk led by a park volunteer. For more details call Rock Bridge Memorial State Park at (573) 449-7400.

**July 21 (Sun) Clifty Creek Natural Area Hike and Swim.** We will walk and swim up one of the most scenic spring-fed streams in the Ozarks to see the most scenic natural arch in Missouri. Wear your creek walking shoes, bring a lunch and your camera. Randal Clark (573) 875-0514.

**Aug 16-18 (Fri-Sun) Day Float Trip on Big Piney River and Campout at Paddy Creek.** We will take a day float down the easy and scenic Big Piney River. We will be camping along the beautiful Paddy Creek

where we will find a secret swimming hole. Randal Clark (573) 875-0514.

**Aug 23 (Fri) Moonlight Night Hike through along new Grindstone Trail.** Join us to look at the night life along the new Grindstone Park Hike/Bike trail. Randal Clark at (573) 875-0514.



**Aug 31 (Fri) Round Trip Bike ride from McBaine to Rocheport.** Join Denise on a morning bike ride along the Katy Trail State Park. Denise Johnson (573) 256-5228.

## Thomas Hart Benton Group

**July 20-21 (Sat-Sun) Tour of Schafer Farms Natural Meats and Jamesport, MO.** We'll see how Mother Nature knows best at this farm and also learn about their sustainable lifestyle. The farm visit will take place on Sunday July 21. There is an option to make a weekend of it by staying at a Bed and Breakfast Sat night. Saturday could include visits to antique and craft shops in Jamesport, horseback riding at the conservation area and an opportunity to drive around the countryside to see the Amish working their fields. Doris Sherrick, (816)779-6708 or bjsherrick@aol.com

**July 27 (Sat) Friends of Kaw Float: St. George to Wamego.**

Meet at 8 a.m at Kansas River Outfitters. A scenic 5-6 hour float. Access is good in St. George but somewhat difficult in Wamego. Dave Murphy (913) 406-2260 or (785) 242-8343.

**Aug 3 (Sat) Deanna Rose Farmstead, Overland Park, KS.** This 12-acre park is ideal for young children to see, feed and pet animals like ducks, peacocks, chickens, pigs, horses and cows. Steve Hassler (913) 599-6028, hassler@planetkc.com

**Aug 10 (Sat) Public Transit Scavenger Hunt, Kansas City.** A scavenger hunt between the Kansas and Missouri groups will be a fun way to learn about area transit. Bob Wilshire & Anne McDonald rjwilshire@yahoo.com, (913) 384-6645

**Aug 10 (Sat) Star Party, Powell Observatory, Louisburg, KS.** The Astronomical Society of KC presents "The Life & Death of Stars." Ellen Brenneman (816) 523-2944,

ebrenn1@hallmark.com

**Aug 17 (Sat) Friends of Kaw Float: Wamego to Bellevue.** Meet at 8 a.m. at the River Access Park in St. George. 6-7 hours, poor take-out conditions. Dave Murphy (913) 406-2260 or (785) 242-8343.

**Aug 17 (Sat) Streamway Park Outing, Overland Park, KS.** Hike, help monitor or clean up the Indian Creek Trail. Elaine Giessel (913) 888-8517, inez5@planetkc.com

**Sept 7 (Sat) Apple Picking, Vaughn Orchard, Weston, MO.**

Pick apples at Vaughn Orchard, then picnic at the state park. Ellen Brenneman (816) 523-2944, ebrenn1@hallmark.com

**Sept 14 (Sat) Horse-Drawn Hayride, Red Barn Farm, Weston, MO.** Hike the nature trail, learn about agricultural practices

and environmental issues. Klaus Karbaumer (816) 640-5777.

**Sept 15 (Sun) Bike Trip to Powell Gardens, Kingsville, MO.** We'll ride 25 miles through rolling hills from Blue Springs to Powell Gardens. Walk through the gardens and enjoy lunch at



Café Thyme. Return by trailer is optional if you don't want to ride back. Paul Gross (816) 228-6563, wildwoodp@hotmail.com

**Sept 20-22 (Fri-Sun) Ozark Forest Tour and Float, Round Spring, MO.** We'll tour a clear-cut site, chip mill and the sustainably-managed Pioneer Forest on Saturday, and float the Current River on Sunday. Eileen McManus (816) 523-7823, eileenm@planetkc.com

**Sept 21 (Sat) Tour of Kansas City Community Gardens.**

These plots allow low-income households to produce their own fruit and vegetables. Tour them plus the passive solar structure the agency occupies. Steve Hassler (913) 599-6028, hassler@planetkc.com

**Sept. 28-29 (Sat-Sun) Hercules Glades Wilderness, Hilda, MO.** A favorite spot to start the fall backpacking season, and great for beginners. Bob Wilshire rjwilshire@yahoo.com, (913) 384-6645

**Oct 5 (Sat) Heartland Sustainable Homes Tour, Kansas City, MO.** Tour homes and public spaces that use solar, wind, geothermal & energy-efficient design & materials to save money and conserve energy. Eileen McManus (816) 523-7823, eileenm@planetkc.com

**Oct 11-13 (Fri-Sun) 16th Annual Reunion & Chapter Campout.** Complete the coupon found in this copy of the Ozark Sierran to reserve your space. Contact Keet Kopecky at (816) 966-9544 or kkopecky@kc.rr.com for more details.

**Oct 12 (Sat) Autumn Tour of the Haskell-Baker Wetlands, Lawrence, KS.** We'll see how autumn transforms these wet-

lands along the Wakarusa. Jim Horlacher (913) 649-1611, jimhorlach@aol.com

**Oct 19 (Sat) Blue River Glade Restoration, Kansas City.** Help protect one of KC's last natural landscapes by removing exotic plants.

See Bethany Falls limestone outcroppings & 300-yr-old chinkapin oaks. David Anderson (816) 678-4359, davidcanderson@sbcglobal.net



## Trail of Tears Group

None submitted —





# SIERRA CLUB OUTINGS OZARK CHAPTER

## Eastern Missouri Group

**July 9-11 (Tue-Thu) Current River during mid-week.** Avoid the weekend crowds and escape from the summer heat. The pace will be leisurely with frequent stops to go swimming and enjoy the day. Colin Maag (314) 721-7397 or colinmaag@hotmail.com.

**July 12 (Fri) Bicycle over the "Bridges of Madison County!"** About 20 miles on a great paved trail at S.I.U. in Edwardsville. Stop at Annie's Custard. Suzanne Smith (618) 281-4762 (after 7:00 pm weeknights only).



**July 13 (Sat) Highway cleanup.** Now that the woodchucks are going into their dens to avoid the heat it's a great time to pick up trash. Diane DuBois (314) 721-0594.

**July 13 (Sat) Day canoe trip on the Mississippi River.** Join us for a canoe trip which will take you past the Holcim, Inc. 4,000 acre property which is the proposed site for the world's largest cement quarry. Diane Albright (314) 966-3645, or George Behrens (314) 821-0247 (after 6pm only).

**July 13-14 (Sat-Sun) Big Piney canoe trip.** No rental canoes available. Experienced only. Jim Rhodes (314) 821-7758.

**July 18 (Thu) 6:00 pm hike on Jefferson Barracks Fitness trail.** Suzanne Smith (618) 281-4762 (after 7:00 pm weeknights only).

**July 19 (Fri) Check out the glades at Washington State Park to see purple coneflowers.** About 8-10 mile hike depending on the heat. Suzanne Smith (618) 281-4762 (after 7:00 pm weeknights only).

**July 20 (Sat) Walk the North City Trail.** This 6-7 mile trail takes us along the Mississippi River into downtown where we will have a meal before heading home. Paul Stupperich (314) 429-4352.

**July 21 (Sun) Leisurely canoe trip suitable for small children.** We will float about 5 miles with lots of stops for swimming and exploring. Probably on the Meramec River. Barb Wall (636) 394-6549 (h), or (314) 515-8684 (w).

**Aug 2 (Fri) Bike ride a section of the Katy Trail through historic Missouri towns.** Stop for lunch. Suzanne Smith

434-2072.

**Aug 9-11 (Fri-Sun) Annual Perseid Meteor Shower campout.** Be prepared to sleep out in a field (chaise lounge, tarps, sleeping bag and pad) to watch the sky. Suzanne Smith (618) 281-4762 (after 7:00 pm weeknights only).

**Aug 16 (Fri) Blazing Stars, prairie flowers, water lilies.** We should see them all on our Shaw Nature Reserve 6 mile day hike. Suzanne Smith (618) 281-4762 (after 7:00 pm weeknights only).

**Aug 17 (Sat) Walking in the footsteps of Lewis and Clark.** This hike will take us along the Missouri River to where Lewis and Clark camped in the early 1800s. Then we will walk through old town St. Charles before returning to our cars. This trip could be combined with a few hours of work at the Festival of the Little Hills. Paul Stupperich, (314) 429-4352, or Nancy Carrol (636) 225-8057.

**Aug 23 (Fri) Hike or bike depending on the temperature.** Suzanne Smith (618) 281-4762 (after 7:00 pm weeknights only).

**Aug 24 (Sat) Operation Clean Stream.** Have a great day on the river with friends figuring out creative ways to get more trash into your boat. Ed Schmidt (314) 647-1608.

**Aug 24 (Sat) Sixth Annual Rain or Shine Hike.** Easy three mile evening walk on Jefferson Barracks paved hiking trail. We will take time to look for deer and watch the sun set as we hike. Come make new friends and greet the old...one is silver and the other gold! Marsha Amentrout (314) 892-4279.

**Aug 31-Sept 2 (Sat-Mon) Annual Mississippi River canoe trip.** Big beaches, sandbar camping, cool breezes, & musical festivities. George Behrens (314) 821-0247 (after 6 pm only).



**Sept 6 (Fri) Blazing stars, I hope.** Hike 6-8 miles at Cuivre River State Park. Suzanne Smith (618) 281-4762 (after 7:00 pm weeknights only).

**Sept 7 (Sat) Canoe trip on the Bourbeuse River.** Good for beginners, rentals available, close to St. Louis. George Behrens (314) 821-0247 (after 6 pm only).

**Sept 13 (Fri) Hike the wilderness loop at Meramec State Park to see the tall grasses.** Barbecue at Homer's after. Suzanne Smith (618) 281-4762 (after 7:00 pm weeknights only).

**Sept 14 (Sat) Highway cleanup.** Join the crew of volunteers as we bag trash by the road and watch for migrating broad-winged hawks. Diane DuBois (314) 721-0594.

**Sept 20 (Fri) Hike the 10 mile trail at Buford Mountain.**

*In order to participate on one of the Sierra Club's outings, you will need to sign a liability waiver. If you would like to read a copy of the waiver prior to the outing, please see <http://www.sierraclub.org/outings/chapter/forms/> or call (415) 977-5630.*

*In the interests of facilitating the logistics of some outings, it is customary that participants make carpooling arrangements. The Sierra Club does not have insurance for carpooling arrangements and assumes no liability for them. Carpooling, ride sharing or anything similar is strictly a private arrangement among the participants. Participants assume the risks associated with this travel.*

(618) 281-4762 (after 7:00 pm weeknights only).

**Aug 3 (Sat) Late afternoon and early evening dinner canoe trip on the Meramec River.** Bring your own dinner and enjoy the sunset. Toni Armstrong & Richard Spener (314)

**Overlook Belleview Valley from the glades.** Suzanne Smith (618) 281-4762 (after 7:00 pm weeknights only).

**Sept 21 (Sat) One day canoe camping clinic;** a leisurely 5 mile paddle down a nearby Ozark river where we demonstrate camping techniques, talk about equipment, food preparation, and how to rig a tarp for rain protection. June Stevens (314) 822-3430.

**Sept 21 (Sat) Test water quality on Fox Creek near Eureka.** Help us identify the aquatic insects, test for dissolved oxygen and other chemical parameters, and measure stream flow. We should see a lot of macro invertebrates. Leslie Lihou (314) 726-2140, or Jim Rhodes (314) 821-7758.



**Sept 27 (Fri) Night hike of about 4 miles at Shaw Nature Reserve.** Helen McCallie (636) 451-3512 (w-toll free), or (636) 742-4380 (h).

**Sept 27-29 (Fri-Sun) A fall weekend in the Shawnee National Forest of Southern Illinois.** We will be hiking on Saturday and canoeing the bayous of the Cache River on Sunday. Friday is an optional day. Camp in your tent or sleep in tree houses. Bring the entire family. This outing always fills up so register early. The deadline for registration is Sept. 8. Terry Allen (618) 398-1087, or Ted Hom (618) 397-9430.

**Sept 28-29 (Sat-Sun) Trail maintenance on the Blair Creek section of the Ozark Trail.** We will start at the North box and work our way down to Laxton Hollow. Common commissary Saturday night. This will be our annual fish fry dinner. Bob Gestel (636) 296-8975, or Paul Stupperich (314) 429-4352.

**Sept 29 (Sun) Walk the Al Foster Trail from Glencoe to Castlewood.** Points of interest include a sunken barge, an old hotel, as well as riverside scenes. Easy walking, 7 miles. Wayne Miller (314) 569-0094, or Millwy@aol.com.

**Oct 2 (Wed) Beginners backpack planning meeting at the club office 7:30 pm.** This is a show and tell meeting. You need not bring your equipment. We will show you the equipment available and tell you how it is used. Equipment is available to lend or rent. We will also decide where we will go on this great adventure of Oct 12-13. Bob Gestel (636) 296-8975, or Paul Stupperich (314) 429-4352.

**Oct 4 (Fri) Explore Long Ridge Conservation Area near Meramec.** Approximately a 7 mile hike. Suzanne Smith (618) 281-4762 (after 7:00 pm weeknights only).

**Oct 6 (Sun) Early fall day hike at Hawm State Park.** With the leaves starting to turn this 8 mile hike should be very worthwhile. Paul Stupperich (314) 429-4352.



**Oct 11-13 (Fri-Sun) 16th Annual Reunion & Chapter Campout.** Complete the coupon found in this copy of the Ozark Sierran to reserve your space. Contact Keet Kopecky at [kkopecky@kc.rr.com](mailto:kkopecky@kc.rr.com) for more details.

**Oct 11 (Fri) Hike 5-6 miles at Per e Marquette State Park.** Lunch in Grafton after. Suzanne Smith (618) 281-4762 (after 7:00 pm weeknights only).