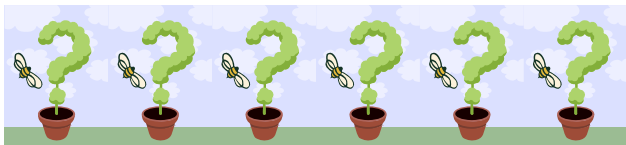




JULY MEETING

The Boone's Lick Chapter of Missouri Master Naturalists will meet at 6:30 p.m. on Thursday, July 12 at the Boone County Extension Center. The program will be given by Tim Rielly, MDC, who will discuss water quality and its history, as well as macroinvertebrates and how they are used in water quality monitoring. This will be an excellent introduction for those who have wanted to start a stream team; and for those who are a little nervous about getting a stream team going, it's another opportunity to become more familiar with the techniques and ask questions. The business portion of the meeting will follow Tim's presentation; snacks will be included, plus a slideshow of conference photos (check the end of this issue for a sneak preview). Hope to see you all there!



PRESIDENTIAL PONDERINGS

Suzanne Wright

Summer Fun

The tents filled with fireworks for sale herald the imminent arrival of the 4th of July, a holiday that always held both good and bad memories from my youth, and which has become a very enjoyable celebration of summer in recent years.

When I was a kid, the day began with the smell of gunpowder and the popping of firecrackers as every kid in my neighborhood proceeded to "blow up" all the money they had earned in their summer vacation by manning lemonade stands or mowing lawns at 50 cents a yard. I'm

surprised to remember my mother looking forward to the holiday, as it usually digressed to an emergency room trip before nightfall. There was the time we accidentally caught my brother's shirt on fire, then there was the cut requiring stitches from getting whacked in the head with a coffee can we were blowing up, to what we thought was a broken leg from a piece of playground equipment we were using in an inappropriate manner, just to name a few. One incident that always comes to mind is letting a lit firecracker go off in my hand when I'd forgotten to throw it because I was distracted when my brother said "watch this". It was a redneck moment for sure.

There was no air conditioning in those days so it was always beastly hot, and no sunscreen so we were always sunburned by sunset. We were bug-bitten from mosquitoes more adept at playing hide and seek than we were, and for good measure everywhere you sported elastic you would find yourself peppered with chigger bites collected by rolling in the grass. The high points of the day, of course, were firework displays after dark, my Aunt Kate's chocolate cake, and home made ice cream. It was a love/hate/love relationship for sure.

For me the 4th of July of the present is a kinder gentler holiday, the trade off being much less stimulation to the adrenal gland in the context of survival. I'm not sorry to see fireworks banned in the city limits but I do miss all my rowdy cousins and my Aunt Kate's cake. It's always a day I call my brother and reminisce on the wildness of our youth.

Last year the fireworks were provided by Mother Nature putting on a lightning and thunder display as Brad and I watched from a

hill overlooking a marsh in Chariton County. This year I'm planning a sedate kayaking trip on a river yet to be named. I have retreated to the water in an effort to bypass the ticks and (thanks to global warming) a more abundant and virulent strain of poison ivy. However, if I find myself paddling on a tributary of the Missouri River, I will still experience a little shot of adrenalin every time one of those blasted Asian carp jumps and I think it will land in the boat with me.

The stealth of the kayak gets you up close and personal with nature, whether it's the big buck with his antlers still in velvet standing by a creek bank or the spider on a log that you didn't notice until he's close enough to shake hands. The sight of gelatinous globs of bryozoans have been a new experience this year, falling into the creepy but interesting category. It's a kick gliding over fish that never know you're there. My new hobby is seeing how many fish floats I can collect this summer, including the attached monofilament line.

July 4th always seems to signify the halfway point of summer, even though it's closer to the one-third mark. As usual I'm running behind as I just made my first greenhouse visit of the season this week. Most offerings were long and leggy in their four packs as they should have been in the ground weeks ago, but I've been too busy eradicating invasives and weeding to put anything pretty in the ground. I'm relying on my natives to save the day as the phlox will be blooming soon. There will be plenty of hot days to follow but just the thought that the days are now getting minutes shorter makes me want to squeeze as much out of the remaining season as possible.

We are half way thorough the MAPS bird banding, I still haven't helped weed a public native garden or assisted in several of the other things on my "to do" list for the summer. But for now, I will enjoy celebrating the 4th. I don't know if our plans will include the city's fire works display but I do think we should fire up the grill, crank up the ice cream maker and I might give Aunt Kate's recipe one more try even though my cake never seems to taste as

good as I remember hers. I wish you all a Happy 4th of July!

MEET A MASTER NATURALIST

Meet...Jody Stotsky, Class of 2006

Reason you become a Master Naturalist: I enjoy learning about nature and improving my knowledge about natives and trees. I thought it would be a good program to put me in touch with others who share my interests, and to volunteer in those areas.

Most amazing, bizarre, disgusting, odd, or awe-inspiring thing you have ever seen or experienced in the course of Master Naturalist-type activities: I can't think of anything specific--it's all a little bizarre, you know!

Favorite service project: Seed collecting for the Prairie Fork Restoration Project. I do most of my collecting at the Charles Green CA, and by haunting the back roads and ditches of Boone County.

Favorite natural history-related book, and why: I really like reading National Geographic, and there was fantastic issue a few months ago on the origins of the plant classification system, which I've always been interested in.

Favorite Missouri native, and why: I have to pick one?!?!?! I like a lot of native trees, especially ones I can identify by the bark in the winter. I try to locate my own champion trees-- I know where to find one of the biggest sycamores and most gargantuan black walnuts, and I love to visit them. One plant I absolutely couldn't live without is American beautyberry, because of the exquisite bubblegum-purple berries they get in the fall. Also purple beardstongue—the Missouri Wildflowers catalog doesn't give it 4 stars, but it deserves them!

One thing that people who know you would NEVER guess about you: A lot of people are surprised to find out that I spend so much time collecting seeds, crawling through tick-infested grass in the hottest part of summer.

UPCOMING EVENTS

ONES alliance of Outdoor, Nature, Environment & Sustainability groups, will meet Friday July 13 at 7:30 am at Uprise Bakery (816 E. Broadway). Individuals from Master Naturalists, Friends of Rock Bridge, Audubon, Missouri River Communities Network, Hawthorn Native Plant Society, Hinkson Restoration Project, Greenbelt Land Trust, Friends of Big Muddy, and other organizations are invited to attend. For more info, visit web.missouri.edu/~umcsnresiwww/ones.html

Bats on Parade, Rock Bridge Memorial State Park, Saturday, July 14 at 7:30 p.m. & Saturday, August 18, 7 p.m. Participate in a 45-minute presentation about bats followed by bat viewing and an optional tour of Connor's Cave. This is a rare chance to be in the park after hours. This program is part of a series of "Bats on Parade" events. Reservations required. Contact Roxie Campbell at roxie.campbell@dnr.mo.gov for more information.

Raptor Awareness program by World Bird Sanctuary at Rock Bridge Memorial State Park, Friday, Aug. 24, 2007, 6:30-7:30 p.m. The program will feature live birds, including a hawk, vulture, falcon and owls. Located in St. Louis, the World Bird Sanctuary's mission is to preserve Earth's biological diversity and secure the future of threatened bird species in their natural environments. They work to fulfill that mission through education, captive breeding, field studies and rehabilitation. Call 573-449-7400 for reservations (required); free. Reservation accepted up to one month in advance (starting July 24). Contact Roxie Campbell at roxie.campbell@dnr.mo.gov for more information.

Explore New Public Land! Saturday, July 14 9:00 AM Big Muddy National Fish and Wildlife Refuge has just acquired over 500 acres that will be part of the Overton Bottoms North Unit of the refuge. This will be the public's first tour of the new land. Sturdy shoes/boots, long pants, insect repellent, sun block, and water bottles are recommended. We will hike ~2 miles. Contact Troy Gordon at tgordon@friendsofbigmuddy.org or call 573-424-9051.



CONSERVATION CORNER

Extracted from an update from the Executive Director of the Xerces Society, Scott Black...

Pollinator Protection Act of 2007

Senator Barbara Boxer (D-CA) and eight other co-sponsors introduced the Pollinator Research Act of 2007 into the Senate on June 26. This bill provides significant funding for research to improve the security of crop pollination and support strong populations of honey bees and native bees. The recent widespread loss of honey bee colonies from Colony Collapse Disorder (CCD) has received a lot of media coverage. At this time the cause of CCD remains a mystery. It may be one or more factors, such as parasitic mites, disease, pesticides or diet.

The European honey bee is and will continue to be the most important single crop pollinator in the United States. However, with the decline in the number of managed honey bee colonies from diseases, parasitic mites, and Africanized bees as well as from CCD it is important to increase use of native bees in our agricultural system. Research into CCD, as well as the biology of crop-pollinating native bees is vital to this effort.

The Pollinator Protection Act provides for:

- \$25.25 million to the Agriculture Research Service over five years for research, personnel, and facility improvements regarding honey bee and native bee biology, causes/solutions for CCD, and bee toxicology, pathology, and physiology.
- \$50 million to Cooperative State Research, Education, & Extension Service over five years to fund research grants to investigate honey bee and native bee biology, immunology, ecology, genomics, bioinformatics, parasites, pathogens, sublethal effects of insecticides, herbicides,

and fungicides, native bee crop pollination and habitat conservation, and effects of genetically modified crops.

- \$11.25 million to Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service over 5 years to conduct a nationwide honey bee pest and pathogen surveillance program.

Honey bees and native bees are vital for \$15 billion and \$3 billion in crop production each year, respectively, yet research in these fields has received little funding and attention throughout its history. No other industry or service that provides such vital services to this nation is as under-funded as beekeeping and native bee management and habitat conservation.

Pollinators are essential to our environment. The ecological service they provide is important for the reproduction of nearly 75% of the world's flowering plants. This includes more than two-thirds of the world's crop species, and one in three mouthfuls of the food that we eat. The United States alone grows more than 100 crops that require or benefit from pollinators. Native pollinators are keystone species in most terrestrial ecosystems. Fruits and seeds derived from insect pollination are a major part of the diet of ~ 25% of birds, and of mammals ranging from deer mice to grizzly bears.

PAINTING RAIN BARRELS

submitted by Vanessa Melton

Those of you who come to the monthly meetings have heard me giving updates on the Rain Barrel Parade. Well, the Parade downsized a few times before it was all said and done, but all-in-all, it was a great experience. The original idea for the Parade was for a person or group to paint a rain barrel (provided by Missouri Rivers Community Network and AmeriCorps) in any creative style they chose, and then the finished barrels were to be displayed around town and finally auctioned off to the highest bidder. The first thing to go was the around-town display and auction, and instead the barrels were going to be displayed at Art in the Park. Well, the

displaying of our masterpieces at Art in the Park also fell through, but in its place was a display at the Forum Nature Expo on June 2nd. Despite all the changes Jody Stotsky and I decided to go ahead with the project and we painted the Master Naturalist rain barrel in May. We chose a garden motif and added a brick wall behind the various flowers, and depending on which side of your brain you use most, you may or may not be able to morph then into native plants. Our barrel was proudly on display at the Forum Nature Expo, and thank you to Buffie Balling for purchasing the barrel after the Expo. Also, thank you to David Silvey for his inspirational ideas and to Jody Stotsky for her ingenious ideas and hard work that went into painting the barrel.



NOTEWORTHY NATURAL HISTORY

from the MDC Missouri Forest Health Update
Editor's note: Ticks seem to be figuring largely in this issue of the Dragonflyer, for bird banders and seed collectors alike, and Cheryl Hardy provided an additional session during the state conference as fellow Master Naturalists removed an estimated 100 ticks from her following a field trip. Are ticks always this abundant, and a long winter just made us forget? Here's Rob Lawrence's opinion...

Abundance of Insects and Ticks? – Although we might expect some insects that emerge in early spring and feed on leaves to decline in numbers at least temporarily due to foliage lost in the big April freeze, what about other insects and related beasts? I've received several comments from people surprised by the healthy numbers of ticks and insects of various kinds that survived what seemed like a relatively cold winter this year. Predicting winter survival of arthropods is not as

straightforward as it might seem, because of the large number of factors involved.

For example, winter conditions that reduce survival of a pest insect may also reduce survival of some of its natural enemies that control its numbers. Spring precipitation patterns may affect the level of fungal pathogens that infect insects. For this winter in particular, once it became cold, it generally remained cold. That consistency is usually favorable for insect survival. Winters with fluctuating patterns of warm spells followed by quick freeze-ups can be detrimental to insect survival, because insects may be roused from their hibernation too soon and killed by cold temperatures or starvation. Snow cover this winter tended to remain on the ground longer than in recent years. Snow acts as a blanket insulating arthropods residing below from severe drops in temperature. That's my story for why we are seeing healthy populations of insects and ticks this year, and I'm sticking to it - - at least for now.

BIRD BANDING NOT FOR SISSIES!

submitted by Suzanne Wright

Some of you may be under the delusion that bird banding is all sweetness and light.



You could not be more mistaken. The conditions at Eagle Bluffs have not been prime (unless you are a mosquito).

Early floods left the ground in a condition more conducive to mud wrestling than walking. Stephanie (Abel) actually weighed the mud (only the mud) from one boot after our first scheduled session to find a whopping eight pounds of the stuff. I figured with moisture content lost in transport we were carrying the equivalent of a ten pound weight on each leg.

The mosquitoes have been so voracious that Vanessa (Melton) has taken to wearing a mosquito net over her head. We have been contemplating different styles of gloves that would still provide us the dexterity needed to remove birds from the nets and yet protect us from the piercing proboscis(es) of the little buggers. All of us who are not directly banding have resorted to doing little jigs while we wait to complete data collection so we are at least presenting a moving target. And we have begun fanning whoever is banding with the charting clipboard and reference book to keep them from being eaten alive while their hands are too busy to flail at the buzzing hordes swarming around their heads.

If we have time between rounds we walk out of the mosquito breeding ground and into where the sun is shining and the temperatures are rising so we can sweat through the multiple layers of clothing we have put on for protection and re-spray ourselves with toxic Deet.

While the vegetation was suppressed for a while because of the mud, the poison ivy and stinging nettle are making a comeback. Troy (Gordon) was bitten on the thumb by a snake, but that was somewhat provoked. And I have fallen in the mud twice, no pictures please. I'm beginning to think this would have been a more suitable form of punishment for Paris Hilton than the county jail.

And did I mention how early we have to get up? The first round begins at 6:45 AM; if you want to help Andy and Troy set up the nets you have to be there at 5:45, and you are required to walk in from of them and break all the spider webs along the paths with your face.

On the bright side, we have muffins every session, and the birds have been amazing. We are half way through the scheduled MAPS banding season and to date we have 83 total captures, 50 new captures and 24 re-caps from last year, with a total species count of 18.

We have banded three Rose-breasted Grosbeaks (that's the royal we, as Andy is the

one with bite marks to prove it). Also under new species we have captured an orchard oriole, Swainson's thrush, hairy woodpecker, yellow-shafted Northern flicker, and two song sparrows. The different conditions from last year have had a notable impact on the species we have seen thus far, and even though three of the nets were closed because of water/mud for the first three banding sessions, the numbers look like we could top our total count from last year.



We have banded birds as small as a house wren and as large as a common grackle. And the colors of the indigo buntings, prothonotary warblers, Baltimore orioles, and red-headed woodpeckers dazzle the eye. The wonder of releasing a bird after banding, knowing that it may be flying hundreds of miles in the course of the year, leaves me breathless.

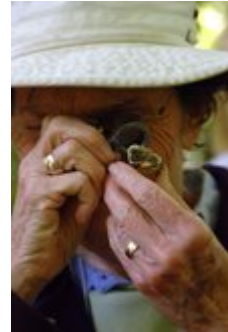
The experience more than justifies not missing a single round of bird banding this summer despite the conditions. Who knew the underside of a female rose breasted grosbeak's wing was such an amazing shade of yellow? Check the Volunteer Opportunities for the remaining dates. And did I mention we have muffins?

**MISSOURI STATE MASTER NATURALIST
CONFERENCE 2007**

The Boone's Lick chapter did themselves proud with tremendous organization, great food, free-flowing alcohol, diverse advanced training sessions, and an all-around whale of a good time. And, thanks to Rebecca Allen, some of those memorable conference moments have been captured for the ages! Stay tuned for the July meeting, which will feature a complete conference slideshow!



Scrutinizing the elusive mushroom...



Food, food, and more food...



Finding your way in the woods...



Native wildflowers...



Cheerful, friendly hosts...



Hordes of Master Naturalists!



And hordes of poppy mallow!



JULY VOLUNTEER OPPORTUNITIES

Below are volunteer opportunities for July and ongoing projects. Additional information on each project is at:

<http://extension.missouri.edu/masternaturalist/columbia/VolunteerOpportunities/June%20volunteer%20opportunities.pdf>. Please contact the person indicated for more detailed information on any project. If a project is listed as “not yet approved,” you will need to fill out a Service Project Form (at <http://extension.missouri.edu/masternaturalist/columbia/Projectapproval.htm>). You will be notified via e-mail of the project’s approval or if there are any questions. Once approval is granted for any person, it is approved for everyone, so it is only necessary to submit one form per project.

July Volunteer Opportunities

Weekends on the Boardwalk, Select weekends in July

sponsored by Rock Bridge Memorial State Park. Lead tours of Connor’s Cave, answer visitor questions. New volunteers will need to fill out volunteer paperwork. Contact 573-449-7402 or rock.bridge.memorial.state.park@dnr.mo.gov. Project is approved.

CACHE Birding Trips: Wednesday, July 4th; Thursday, July 12th, Wednesday, July 18th, and Wednesday, July 25th

Sponsored by The Columbia Audubon Society, Missouri Department of Conservation, and The Audubon Society of Missouri. Birding trips with Bill Clark. Meet at 7:30 am (don’t be late) at the southwest corner of the Parkade Center parking lot. Destination will be decided the day of the trip. Contact Vanessa Melton at 573-864-3905 or vanndawn@hotmail.com. Project is approved.

Bird Banding at Eagle Bluffs: Wednesday, July 11th; Monday, July 16th; Saturday, July 21st (dates tentative)

Sponsored by Audubon Missouri. Andy Forbes, ornithologist with MDC and Audubon Missouri, will be conducting bird banding activities at Eagle Bluffs Conservation Area. Volunteers interested in participating should dress for the field (hiking boots or sturdy shoes, long pants, sunblock, etc.). Reservations required. Contact Andy Forbes at Andrew.Forbes@mdc.mo.gov or 573-447-2249 for more information. Project is approved.

Butterfly Inventory at Overton Bottoms North (2007 Capstone), Tuesday, July 17th 1:30 PM; Saturday, July 28th, 10:00 AM

Sponsored by Big Muddy National Fish and Wildlife Refuge and Friends of Big Muddy. Master Naturalists will capture butterfly and moth specimens to continue the inventory begun in 2006. Dress for field work (sturdy shoes/boots, long pants, and head covering recommended). Insect repellent and sun block are suggested, as are water bottles. Contact: Troy Gordon, 573-424-9051; friends@friendsofbigmuddy.org or Wedge Watkins, 573-441-2788, Wedge.Watkins@fws.gov. Project is approved.

Work Day at Wild Haven: Saturday, July 21st

Sponsored by The Columbia Audubon Society This is a work day at one of the Columbia Audubon Society's properties. We will be doing shop clean-up and equipment maintenance. Contact Vanessa Melton at 573-864-3905 or vanndawn@hotmail.com. Project is approved.

Bonnot's Mill Missouri River Cleanup: Saturday, July 28th, *Sponsored by Missouri River Relief and Friends of Big Muddy.* Volunteers will go out in boats and pick up trash along the Missouri and Osage Rivers. Participants should wear long pants, hiking boots or sturdy shoes, and bring sun and insect protection. Gloves, trash bags, etc. will be provided. A lunch will be served. Contact: Troy Gordon, 573-424-9051; friends@friendsofbigmuddy.org. Project is approved.

Ongoing Opportunities

Project Seeds- Students, the Environment, and Endangered Species, Ongoing starting in the fall with training this summer

Sponsored by the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, Ecological Services Columbia Office Volunteers will lead presentations on Boone County endangered species in Columbia schools (5th grades). They will also follow up presentations with installing and maintaining an aquarium in the school and hosting a book fair to purchase wildlife books for the school libraries. Contact Becky_Clearwater@fws.gov or Charlie Scott at Charlie_scott@fws.gov Phone: 573-234-2132. Project is approved.

Hummingbird Banding in Central Missouri, Flexible hours throughout the summer on Monday evenings and Wednesday mornings

Assistance is needed with hummingbird banding project in the Columbia area. Trainees begin with assisting in catching birds and removing them from traps and will gradually be trained to do actual banding over time. Contact Troy Gordon at tgordon@friendsofbigmuddy.org or call 573-424-9051. Project is approved

Columbia Fishery Resources Office, Ongoing, typically weekdays throughout the year

Sponsored by the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service. Volunteers join fishery staff for day long trips to the field where they will collect, tag, and measure fish, and assess fish habitat quality. Volunteers may also work in the lab to aid in fish identification analysis of field data. Contact: Joanne Grady at Joanne_Grady@fws.gov or 573-234-2132, ext. 101. Project is not yet approved.

Fish Study at Eagle Bluffs Conservation Area, Ongoing in spring and summer

Sponsored by the University of Missouri-Columbia. Study fish use of two passage structures and wetland pools at Eagle Bluffs Conservation Area with UMC graduate student. Volunteers will help to sample and identify fish. Contact: Meagan Montgomery at mdm01a@mizzou.edu or 417-619-6460. Project is approved.

Prairie Seed Collection for Prairie Restoration at the Charles Green Conservation Area Ongoing May until November, each year for 6-10 years

Sponsored by Missouri Department of Conservation. Volunteers maintain and collect seed from established forb plots at Charles A. Green Conservation Area (little guesswork, as plants are in rows). They can also collect on other areas of choice, if species and/or area have been approved. Contact: John George at John.George@mdc.mo.gov or 573-882-8388 ext 224. You may also contact Jody Stotsky at 573-874-0642 to learn about her work on the forb plots at the Green Area in summer and fall of 2006. Project is approved.

Bulletin Board Update at Rock Bridge Memorial State Park, Flexible scheduling

Volunteers are needed to drive to the park's four bulletin boards, open and close them with a power drill and add/remove flyers and posters. Work can be done on your own time if you have your own power drill and vehicle or between 8 a.m. and 4:30 p.m. if you need to use park equipment/vehicle. Updates usually needed 2-3 times per month

during busy seasons (April-October), and once a month during slower seasons (November-March). Contact: Kathryn DiFoxfire at rock.bridge.memorial.state.park@dnr.mo.gov or Roxie Campbell at roxie.campbell@dnr.mo.gov 573-449-7402. Project is approved.

Bats on Parade, Summer 2007 Program

Sponsored by Friends of Rock Bridge Memorial State Park. Help needed for award-winning Bats on Parade Program. Volunteers needed for the summer programs June - August. There will be opportunities to help with a variety of interpretive programs. Estimated 4 - 8 hours per month. Contact: Meredith Donaldson at Mjdonlsn@aol.com or 815-9255. Project is approved

Raptor Rehabilitation Project, Ongoing

Sponsored by Raptor Rehabilitation Project. Care for sick or injured raptors; feed and provide activities to captive, wild animals; create, improve and deliver presentations. Contact: Erin West, President at eed76@mizzou.edu for details and training. Project is approved.

Prescribed Burns at Rock Bridge Memorial State Park, Select weekdays between 8 a.m. and 3:30 p.m. (call for specific dates)

Volunteers assist in prescribed burns in restored native grassland or woodland units within park. Exact dates are determined by weather, wind direction and staff and volunteer availability. Contact: Kathryn DiFoxfire at rock.bridge.memorial.state.park@dnr.mo.gov or Roxie Campbell at roxie.campbell@dnr.mo.gov 573-449-7402. Project is approved.

Prairie Fork Conservation Area Field Trip Naturalists

Sponsored by Missouri Dept. of Conservation, University of Missouri, Prairie Fork Trust. Prairie Fork CA needs naturalists to staff environmental education stations during field trips for school students. Most programs take place M - F from ~ 9 am to 2 pm. Most programs involve 3 small group activities from 9am till noon with children rotating through stations and one large group activity after lunch. Help is most needed during morning activities. Contact: Benedict Nagy at (573)254-3262, or benedict62@yahoo.com. Project is approved.

Friends of Rock Bridge Memorial State Park Explore Rock Bridge, 3rd Saturday of each month

Sponsored by Friends of Rock Bridge Memorial State Park. Explore Rock Bridge provides opportunities for the public to explore different park resources and participate in service projects. Volunteers needed to assist trip leader with hike each month and to plan future programs. Contact: Meredith Donaldson at Mjdonlsn@aol.com or 815-9255. Project is approved.

Landowner Contacts Database, Flexible hours until completed.

Sponsored by the Missouri Department of Conservation. Volunteer will log landowner contact folders by location. Files date back to the 1940s and recording assistance provided on specific properties in the past will provide an account of historical management allowing MDC to better assess property needs. Location: Fulton. Contact Josh Stevens at Josh.Stevens@mdc.mo.gov or 573-592-1412. Project is approved.

Friends of Big Muddy Activities, Ongoing dates throughout the year.

Sponsored by Friends of Big Muddy. Most opportunities are on units of the Big Muddy National Fish & Wildlife Refuge. Check <http://www.friendsofbigmuddy.org> for current opportunities or sign up for list serve announcements of activities by e-mailing FriendsofBigMuddy-subscribe@yahoogroups.com. Contact Troy Gordon at 573-424-9051 or friends@friendsofbigmuddy.org. Projects are approved.

"There are some who can live without wild things, and some who cannot... Like winds and sunsets, wild things were taken for granted until progress began to do away with them. Now we face the question whether a still higher 'standard of living' is worth its cost in things natural, wild, and free. For us of the minority, the opportunity to see geese is more important than television, and chance to find a pasque-flower is a right as inalienable as free speech."

Aldo Leopold

2007 OFFICERS

President Suzanne Wright
 suzwright@centurytel.net

Vice-President David Silvey
 silveyd@missouri.edu

Secretary Buffie Balling
 motherscaretaker6@yahoo.com

Treasurer Janine Gordon
 gordonja@umsystem.edu

State Advisory Committee Representatives:
 Troy Gordon, Cheryl Hardy

COMMITTEES

Programs Vanessa Melton
 vanndawn@yahoo.com

Communication Celeste Mazzacano
 cmazzacano@gmail.com

Project Approval Jack Dillard
 3js1948@sbcglobal.net

State Conference Sally Swanson
 sal@socket.net

Advanced Training Mary Jane Wheeling
 wheelmj@centurytel.net

Chapter Co-advisors:

Don Day, University of Missouri Extension, daydr@missouri.edu
 Missouri Department of Conservation: vacant

NEXT MEETING
Thursday, July 12, 6:30 - 8:30 p.m.
Boone County Extension Center

Program: Tim Rielly, MDC
The history and practice of water quality monitoring

Refreshments: Suzanne Wright will send out a reminder to those people signed up to bring the July refreshments. Please bring anything needed to serve and consume your dish or drink.



*To promote awareness and citizen
 stewardship of natural resources
 through science-based education and
 community service*