

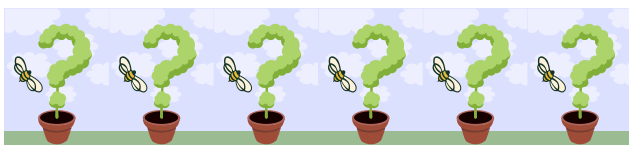
NOVEMBER MEETING

Thursday, November 13th, at 6:30pm
Extension Office.

Glen Chambers is renowned for his wildlife photography and water color painting. He is the current VP of the Conservation Federation of Missouri and promoter of Teaming with Wildlife. Glen is also known as an otter aficionado (Paddlefoot) and his work with river otter restoration. He is one of Missouri's outstanding supporters of conservation and a premier innovator in thinking "outside of the box" toward that goal. This program will be entertaining, interesting and informative, and is not to be missed.



Refreshments: Gail White. We need another volunteer as well. Please contact Jane to sign up.



PRESIDENTIAL PONDERINGS

Child's Play: How to Create a Conservationist

Emmett's most often repeated request to his grandpa is, "Can we play outside?" Though not yet three, Emmett is an entomologist in the making, a watcher of sunlight dancing through leaves, and my grandson.

He went trick-or-treating this Halloween dressed as a cicada, and will tell you that bees can sting but if you don't touch them you can follow them. Anyone who thinks children have a short attention span has not followed Emmett following a bee as it works a patch of clover.

This fall we have spent hours throwing small acorns down the street, up the neighbor's driveway to have them roll down, catch them and throw them up again, & over the hill and into the woods. The possibilities for fun are endless, and this is a simple activity that never grows stale for him.

We have collected hickory nuts, burr oak acorns, black walnuts and persimmons. Recently he attempted his own version of reforestation by impaling fallen leaves back onto the limbs and twigs of a small tree in his yard. The leaf arrangement was perpendicular to the stem which although an unusual configuration was none the less esthetically pleasing.

One afternoon we stapled leaves onto a strip of ribbon as we walked the neighborhood. The activity was more important than the outcome as upon arriving home we had a ribbon studded with an astounding collection of staples but very few attached leaves.

Much has been written lately of children and their lack of unstructured play time outdoors. Richard Louv, author of *Last Child in the Woods*, refers to this nature-child disconnect as "nature deficit disorder". All the research only reinforces what most adults of a certain age knew already; spending time outdoors is good for children. One positive element is a greater respect for themselves, for others, and for the environment.

The National Wildlife Federation recommends that parents provide their children a "green hour" every day; time for kids to interact with the natural world for at least one hour a day. Allow them a chance to climb, dig, collect, build and explore the natural world around them, at their own pace and in their own way. There is information on their website with suggested activities for parents to initiate such play.

The task of getting kids outdoors for supervised but un-constructed play can be overwhelming in this day and age. Schedules are tight for both parents and kids, organized sports activities for children are at an all time high, and the lure of the electronic screen can be seductive whether it is television, computer or video game. Kids don't walk to school but are bused or delivered to the door by their parents. And the present generation of parents may be uncomfortable or untutored in the simple joy of nature themselves.

Manicured lawns and tidy flower beds don't allow for imaginative play like a stretch of open ground or a dirt pit. I remember a time long past when my brother and I spent the length of summer vacation digging and playing in a mound of dirt in our back yard that was intended for landscaping by our Father. We built forts, dug holes with the goal of reaching China, added water to create mud and all the possibilities that medium could create, and buried treasure only to unearth it the next day. I think that was the summer our Mother installed an outdoor water faucet at the spigot on the exterior garage wall so we wouldn't be in and out of the house as often.

We can help create naturalists of the future by helping kids gain access to the outdoors as interpreters for school programs, cultivators of native gardens, rain gardens and outdoor classrooms and presents of programs to acquaint children to nature. You need look no further than the kids involved in the raingarden project at West Boulevard Elementary to view the positive effects of such projects. At the least making sure our own children, grandchildren and their friends have access to the outdoors for play can help instill a respect and appreciation that will last a lifetime.

All the work we do on prairie restoration, habitat revitalization, invasive eradication, and data base collection will be for naught if there is no one to appreciate the wild places and the native plants and animals in the future. The simple act of an unhurried walk in the woods can be invaluable in the creation of tomorrow's conservationist.

E.O. Wilson, a naturalist, said it best when he spoke of educating children in nature. "Hands-on-experience at the critical time, not systematic knowledge, is what counts in the making of a naturalist. Better to be an untutored savage for a while, not to know the names or anatomical detail. Better to spend long stretches of time just searching and dreaming."

Suzanne Wright



MEETING MINUTES

Boone's Lick Chapter Missouri Master Naturalists Meeting October 11, 2008

The Boone's Lick Chapter of the Missouri Master Naturalists met on October 11 2008, at 9:00am, on a field trip to the Little Dixie CA holding ponds. Jeff Koppleman, MDC, was our presenter. Present were Suzanne Wright, Phil

Knocke, JaJuan Lauer, Bill Lauer, Angela Belden, Cheryl Hardy, Jerry Nichols, Laura Sweets, Robert McArthur, Steffanie Abel, Marty Beck, Meredith Donaldson and Carolyn Doyle.

Jeff had drained two ½ acre ponds, and members used dip nets to catch and identify various fish and other aquatic animals, including lots of crayfish and tadpoles, and a large, unhappy snapping turtle.

This meeting has been approved for two hours of advanced training.

At about 10:45, a brief business meeting was called to order. Upcoming events were listed in the agenda, and will appear in the Dragonflyer newsletter.

Standing committees:

Program Committee: Steffanie Abel says the speaker for the November meeting will be Glen Chambers, VP of the Conservation Federation of Missouri, and a noted wildlife photographer and painter. He is also noted for his work in otter restoration in Missouri.

Advanced Training: co-chair: Steffanie Abel advised that two Saturday Morning Science programs at the Monsanto Auditorium have been approved, 10/25, Nematodes, The Good, The Bad, and The Ugly, M. Mitchum, and 11/15, Why Plants Need 20/20 vision, M. Liscum.

Volunteer Opportunities: Suzanne Wright, please check Volunteer Opportunities for a complete list.

Treasurer: Alice Havard, no report.

Refreshments: Jane Fore. Suzanne reported for Jane, we have no-one signed up for refreshments for the November meeting, if you can help, please call Jane. Snacks for the meeting were provided by JaJaun and Bill Lauer.

Other Reports:

State Advisory Committee: Cheryl Hardy says there are five new MMN classes state-wide, and two new chapters forming. The State MMN Conference will be hosted by the Osage Trails Chapter, KC MO, on May 15. Items are needed for a silent auction, and each chapter is invited to have a display. Cheryl's complete report will be in the Dragonflyer.

Announcements:

Time for election of officers is fast approaching. Cheryl Hardy is the chairman of this committee, and anyone interested in holding an office is encouraged to contact her.

We will be implementing our own logging system for tracking our volunteer and advanced hours, with the help of Kent Shannon and his staff at the extension office. Watch your email for this form, and for a chapter roster, now in progress. Also, please let Kent know if you have not received your name badge.

Field training with Tony Spicci on GPS has run into scheduling problems, due to shorter daylight hours, and will be scheduled for the spring of 2009.

A new training class will begin in February, 2009, and hosts will be needed to assist at each training session. Contact Suzanne to sign up.

Turn in items for the Dragonflyer to Rachel Pia, and volunteer opportunities and agenda items to Suzanne, by Nov. 17, for early newsletter distribution.

Meeting adjourned at 11:00am.

Respectfully Submitted,
Carolyn Doyle, Secretary.

DRAGONFLYER DEADLINES FOR DECEMBER ISSUE

Because our bylaws require that we publish the slate of current nominations for office 15 days prior to the election, the December Dragonflyer must be published early. Please get all submissions for this issue of the Dragonflyer to Suzanne and Rachel no later than Monday, November 17th. We will resume the regular schedule with the January issue.

Thank you!

GET YOUR GEAR HERE

Would you like some Chapter gear? Sally has some t-shirts available, plus some vests, hats, purses, and grocery bags. Call for size and color availability at work 234-2951 or at home 874-2043.

NB: Cost of the item includes a donation to the Chapter.

Sally Swanson

REPORTING SERVICE & ADVANCED TRAINING HOURS

Following is information on the new system to be used to compile your hours for 2008, and general information on recording and tracking hours from Syd Hime.

Recording Hours:

We now have a mechanism for recording hours for our Chapter! (This is a temporary system to use until the new State-wide system becomes available.) Kent Shannon has created a reporting document in 3 formats: MS Word, MS Excel, and as a PDF file. Please use the format with which you are most comfortable.

The documents are available for downloading at the Chapter website:

<http://extension.missouri.edu/masternaturalist/columbia/index.html>

For the purpose of tallying this year's hours, please compile all your hours on one form. If you have any questions about how to complete the forms, please contact Kent, phone: 573-445-9792 or email: shannond@missouri.edu.

If you have used the old electronic system on the website please let Kent know so he can search for your records in that system.

If you have any information on your 2007 hours, please provide that to Kent with your 2008 hours. He wants very much to ensure that we receive credit for all our hours, and is not confident of everything having been captured with the confusion around the recording program.

Deadline: Please have all your hours in to Kent by the 18th of November. You may submit them electronically or via paper copy. If you need a bit more time to compile them, please contact Kent to make arrangements to get him your data after the 18th. Note that as he is working with a vendor to order name tags and pins, if he receives your data after the cutoff you may not receive your pin until a later meeting.

From Syd Hime:

HOW HOURS ARE COUNTED

Please remember hours **do not** roll over from year to year to be applied to the annual certification pin. They **do** roll over to be applied to the milestone service pins awarded at 250, 500, 1,000 and 2,500 hours of service. Please get your service and training hours tallied so that we can award all of the well deserving volunteers who have earned this recognition. *(And credit our Chapter with the total hours served. Ed.)*

2008 BLUE HERON CERTIFICATION PIN AVAILABILITY

Volunteers working to earn the 2008 Blue Heron certification pin have until December 31, 2008 to complete their annual 40 hours of volunteer service and eight hours of advanced

training. This is an awesome pin created specifically for the Master Naturalist program by famed MDC artist David Bessinger and it will be retired at the end of the calendar year. *(Note that to receive a pin at the Chapter meeting on December 11, Kent needs to receive your data by November 18. If you complete and turn in your hours after November 18 but before December 31, you will receive your pin/s at a later date.)*

CHAPTER ELECTIONS

The December 11th chapter meeting will include election of Chapter officers for the year 2009 and one State Advisory Representative for a two year term (2009-2011). Everyone who has completed the training program and is a member in good standing is eligible to vote and to hold office.

If you would like to be a candidate for an office, or would like to suggest a candidate, please contact Cheryl Hardy, Nomination Committee Chair, at chardy@ccis.edu or 573-445-6359.

A slate of candidates for office will be included in the December Dragonflyer (which will be posted no later than Wednesday, November 26th), or via email to the membership (with a paper copy to those not using email). In addition, nominations will be accepted by the Nominating Committee until the evening of December 11th when a final call for nominations from the floor will be made. A brief review of election procedures follows.

Members are able to nominate themselves or others from the floor December 11th, however if a nomination is made from the floor and the person nominated is not present, nominators are requested to have received prior approval from the person they are nominating. The term of office is for one year, and officers and committee chairs are eligible for re-election or re-appointment. The exceptions are the office of President, which may be held for a maximum of two years in succession, and the

State Advisory Representative which is a two-year office.

The election shall be by secret ballot which will be available the evening of December 11th. Winners are determined by simple majority. All members (those who have completed their initial 40 hours of class training and have accrued volunteer service time during the course of the current year have one vote. There is no provision for absentee ballots. The new Board of Directors (comprised of the elected officers and our two Chapter Advisors) shall assume their duties at the conclusion of the last general membership meeting before the end of the year.

Our chapter has defined the four elected officers and their duties as:

◆ **President:** The President chairs the Board, presides at Chapter and Board meetings, appoints standing committees, oversees Chapter activities, serves as the point of contact with the state Master Naturalist coordinators, and transfers information from the state program coordinators to Chapter members.

◆ **Vice President:** The Vice President is responsible for the monthly chapter meeting programs, co-chairs the Advanced Training committee and assumes the duties of the President when the President is absent or temporarily unable to carry out her/his duties.

◆ **Secretary:** The Secretary keeps a written record of Chapter activities, compiles minutes and reports on Chapter meetings and conducts written correspondence pertaining to the Chapter.

◆ **Treasurer:** The Treasurer is responsible for all financial records of the Chapter, collects and disburses Chapter funds as directed by the Board and provides an annual financial status update at the last Chapter meeting of the calendar year.

Additionally, the chapter has identified several standing committees with various duties. The

membership of these committees is approved by the Board of Directors, and the chairs of these committees are appointed by the President. However, the Nominating Committee will collect names of those interested in serving as committee chair while receiving nominations for officers. Note that those interested in serving on the committees with the chairmen should contact Cheryl Hardy prior to the election, or the new chairman or the chapter president following the election. The following are the standing committees and other Chapter positions:

- ◆ **Project Approval & Volunteer Opportunities Committee**
- ◆ **Advanced Training Committee (Co-chaired with VP)**
- ◆ **Communications Chair**
- ◆ **Chapter Historian**
- ◆ **New Class Planning Committee (Chaired by our Chapter Advisors)**

Please note that fulfilling the duties of officers and committee members constitutes administrative service, and should be counted when reporting your volunteer hours for the program.

State Advisory Committee Representative (2009-2011)

The Statewide Advisory Committee (SAC) representative will serve a two-year term starting in January 2009. The advisory committee consists of two representatives from five regions of the state. Representatives must have achieved initial Master Naturalist certification and be a member in good standing to serve on the advisory committee.

The purpose of the SAC is to advise the state coordinators in matters impacting chapter operations and to participate in program growth.

- * Ensure consistency of participant experience across chapters
- * Help ensure public perception of the program is accurate and positive
- * Help coordinators articulate and communicate the appropriate standards of

conduct (e.g. advocacy, use of title, etc.) to participants

- * Represent the program needs of the regions or agencies they represent

- * Communicate programmatic issues, and ideas from the participants to the program coordinators and sponsoring agencies, as well issues, ideas and policy decisions from the program coordinators and sponsoring agencies to the participants.

The advisory committee generally meets three times a year, one of which is in conjunction with the annual conference. The next meeting is scheduled for Saturday, January 31 in Jefferson City. Committee members earn service hours for their work on the committee and when possible MDC reimburses mileage to attend meetings.

STATE ADVISORY COMMITTEE REPORT
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Statewide Advisory Committee (SAC) meeting summary:

SAC met on September 27th in Jefferson City. Representatives from each chapter summarized their activities since May. Some of these activities included: Meramec Hills will be working in a Conservation Opportunity Area with the Conservation Federation and the new MN chapter in Gray's Summit. Great Rivers has been rotating the location of training classes during each training session to enhance knowledge of local natural areas. Chert Glades is trying to establish a unified identity for their membership. Springfield Plateau has incorporated some advanced training into each monthly meeting. Osage Trails (Kansas City) is planning the 2009 MMN Conference (more to follow). West Plains is trying to increase monthly meeting attendance. Hi Lonesome is scheduling their 2nd training class and has participated in hanging fence markers on wire fences to protect prairie chickens.

The 2009 MMN Statewide Conference will be held in Kansas City at the Discovery Center. The conference hotel will be the Holiday Inn Plaza (about \$89 per night with breakfast) or Longview Lake for camping (\$5 basic site). The hotel is located within walking distance of art museums and the Plaza shopping district. Conference t-shirts will be available to order when you register for the conference which should begin in mid-April. On Saturday a BBQ will be at Swope Park with keynote speaker, Jim Burnett, author of "Hey, Ranger," a collection of humorous stories relating to his 30 years of forest park service. ALL chapters are invited to bring items for a silent auction and their chapter displays! More information to follow as it becomes available. You can also visit the website for Osage Trails MN for details. (<http://www.gkcmn.com/>)

Two new MN chapters are in progress: Camden County (in Camdenton) and Franklin County (in Gray's Summit). Official names of these chapters will be determined by their members.

Five 2009 spring training classes are scheduled (including one for Boone's Lick).

Each local region will need to elect a new member to SAC in December for a two year term (2009 – 2011). (Boone's Lick's retiring member is Cheryl Hardy and its continuing member until 2010 is Suzanne Wright).

Syd reported on the Alliance of Natural Resource Outreach and Service Programs Annual meeting. Arkansas and Kansas are interested in forming MN-like groups and are using case studies developed by ANROSP (including MMN) to model.

Syd also requested that chapters use the most current versions of MN manuals (e.g. officers). She has them available electronically to any interested parties.

Syd updated the status of electronic submission of MN hours. The contractor had difficulty importing the information and has had

to manually reproduce the information greatly delaying the estimated time of completion.

The next SAC meeting is scheduled for January 31st in Jefferson City from 10:00 to 3:00 p.m.

Cheryl Hardy

UPCOMING EVENTS

Project Feeder Watch

Starts Saturday, November 8th and those interested may check out the following website: <http://www.birds.cornell.edu/pfw/>.

The 2008-09 season of Project FeederWatch gets underway November 8 and runs through April 3. Participants count the numbers and kinds of birds at their feeders each week and send the information to the Cornell Lab of Ornithology. Participants submitted more than 115,000 checklists during the 2007-08 FeederWatch season, documenting unusual bird sightings, winter movements, and shifting ranges—a treasure-trove of information that scientists use to monitor the health of the birds and of the environment.

MPF Film Festival, Sunday, November 9, 2pm
Missouri Theatre Center for the Arts, 203 S Ninth St.

Hosted locally by the Missouri Prairie Foundation, Columbia Farmers Market, and The Alpine Shop.

Doors open at 1:00pm, show time is 2:00pm

This three hour event features award-winning short films about resource conservation, sustainable agriculture and more, including the documentary, "America's Lost Landscape: The Tall Grass Prairie."

Tickets: General admission: \$12. Get your tickets [online](#) or at the Missouri Theatre Center

for the Arts box office, or at the Columbia Farmers' Market Saturday, November 8. For more information, contact the MPF at 888-843-6739.

Proceeds benefit the Missouri Prairie Foundation. www.moprairie.org

Big Muddy Session with USGS fisheries biologist Aaron Delonay, Tuesday, November 11, 7:00pm at the Bryant Cabin at Overton North Unit of Big Muddy NFWR.

Our November installment in the Big Muddy Session series is an exciting one! USGS biologist Aaron Delonay will be sharing the methods and discoveries of the multi-agency project studying the federally endangered pallid sturgeon, a prehistoric fish that has become the center of a multi-state controversy about the management of the Missouri River. Details will soon be posted on the [Missouri River Relief website](#).

NB: This program has been approved for advanced training.

Ian McAllister, Stories & Images, November 17, Monsanto Auditorium (Life Sciences Center, MU) at 7pm. Free and open to the public. A book-signing and reception will follow.

Ian McAllister is a Canadian conservationist and accomplished nature writer and photographer. He is a founding member of the Raincoast Conservation Society and of the Pacific Wild conservation organization. He is a writer of two well-known books on carnivore species in the Great Bear Rainforest, and a longtime advocate for protecting the coasts of British Columbia. He and his wife, Karen McAllister, were named by *Time* magazine as "leaders for the twenty-first century" for their efforts to protect British Columbia's rainforest.

We hope you might attend and hear firsthand about the exciting conservation work in the Great Bear Rainforest!

Saturday Morning Science

Saturdays, 10:30-11:30

Monsanto Auditorium, Life Sciences Center (Free and open to the public)

<http://satscience.missouri.edu>

Fall Schedule:

11/1 T. Lupo

Global Warming: Attribution, Who Is Really to Blame?

This talk will explain the make-up of climate and the current state of climate science. We'll also discuss arguments for and against anthropogenic causes of climate change as well as what can be and should be done to prevent it.

11/8 C. Pires

Darwin's Neglected Idea: How Does Evolution Prune the Family Tree?

Although Charles Darwin is best known for his theory of natural selection, he was also central in developing the idea of common ancestry. This talk will explore basic principles of tree thinking, from the tips of the branches to the roots of life.

11/15 M. Liscum

Why Plants Need 20/20 Vision: Insights from Vision-Impaired Plants

Nearly all aspects of a plant's life cycle are influenced by light, so plants can't afford poor vision. This talk will examine consequences of visual impairment in plants and how science may be able to "treat" some of these "disorders." *Approved for advanced training.*

(Thanksgiving break)

12/06 H. White

New Light

12/13 M Ravosa
Semester ends

Skulls Are Made for Chewing

Sessions which have been approved as advanced training are so indicated.

MEET A MASTER NATURALIST

Gail White

1. What is the reason you became a Master Naturalist?

I became a MN because I have a degree in wildlife biology from the 70's, followed by a bachelor's in nursing. I wanted to refresh my memory and get back in the loop of outdoor activities now that my children are grown.

2. Most amazing, bizarre, disgusting, odd or awe-inspiring thing you have seen or

experienced in the course of Master Naturalist activities?

Most amazing thing is to see the prairies come to life in the spring after we have collected seed, sprayed unwanted stuff and been a part of the cleaning/planting process.

3. Favorite service project thus far?

Favorite project is the ongoing seed collection and establishment of different prairies in MO.

4. Favorite Missouri native?

My favorite MO native would have to be butterfly weed (it is flourishing in my yard).

5. Something folks would never guess about you?

People would probably never guess that I am a native of MA and grew up on a dairy farm there.

6. Anything else you'd like us to know?

I wish I could retire early so I could spend more time doing MN stuff.....

friends, (2) golden Alexanders for butterflies partial to the carrot family, and (3) any penstemon species. If anyone has these to share, they would be greatly appreciated.

Suzanne is getting a bluebird house for the spot. Jody has a bench to donate for the spot, but the wooden slats need to be replaced. If anyone wants to show off their handyman (or woman) skills, please step forward. Or if someone has a bench to donate that doesn't need rehab, we would gladly accept it.

Currently, there is a lot of litter in the recycle area. Leigh Britt is trying to find volunteers who will clean the site on a regular basis. Frequent clean ups plus our Adopt-a-Spot along the roadway will greatly improve the looks of this location next spring.

Our Adopt-a-Spot is located on State Farm Parkway just off Grindstone Parkway near the recycle bins.

Jane Fore

ADOPT-A-SPOT UPDATE

Adopt-a-Spot Update (Consider it a work in progress!)

The Boone's Lick Chapter of Missouri Master Naturalist sign is up. We are still working with Leigh Britt of Volunteer Services and Mona Menezes of Public Works to get another sign displaying native plant brochures and Master Naturalist brochures.

All of the original plants that were saved have been re-planted, and they include aromatic aster, smooth aster, prairie coreopsis, liatris pycnostachya (blazing star), Missouri black-eyed Susan, and purple poppy mallow. Some are beginning to show signs of health and may come back next spring. Other plants may not survive; therefore, we would like to locate some additional plants for our "wish list." We are interested in (1) milkweed species other than common milkweed for our Monarch

CONGRATULATIONS

Our own Vanessa Melton is the City of Columbia's Volunteer of the Month.

"Vanessa Melton, our November Volunteer of the month, works for the U.S. Geological Survey and Environmental Research Center in Columbia. Her passion for the environment shows in her work and her volunteer service!

A city TreeKeeper since 2005, she has helped in projects spanning from Dolomite forest restoration to trail tree pruning. She is a charter member of the Columbia Aquatic Restoration Project (C.A.R.P.) that began in March 2007. Vanessa leads two Stream Teams, at Hinkson Creek and at Cedar Creek. She is also active with the Columbia Chapter of the Audubon Society, the Native Plant Society, Hawthorne Chapter and the Master Naturalists. Vanessa also volunteers for Cleanup Columbia.

Vanessa says, "Since my youth I have enjoyed nature. When I moved to Columbia I wanted to continue that enjoyment and did so by joining environmental organizations and volunteering with the city through TreeKeepers and C.A.R.P. What better way is there to enjoy nature than by bringing nature to you and your community?"

Thanks go out to Vanessa for all the hours she devotes to Columbia's environmental programs. "

Written by (City) volunteer Donna Lester
http://www.gocolumbiamo.com/Volunteer/Meet_Our_Volunteers/Volunteer_Of_The_Month/

Congratulations, and thank you, Vanessa!

CHRISTMAS BIRD COUNT

Annual Audubon Christmas Bird Count and Chili Supper Saturday, December 20.

Chapter members are strongly encouraged to participate in the annual National and Columbia Audubon sponsored Christmas Bird Count (CBC). The date for this year's CBC is Saturday, December 20, 2008.

Prior to the bird count, there will be an organizational meeting at Susan Hazelwood's house, 3005 Chapel Hill Rd, at 7:30pm on Thursday, December 4th. Section leaders, individuals interested in becoming section leaders and those wanting to learn more about the count should attend.

Besides section leaders, counters, recorders, spotters, and drivers are needed. You do not have to be a birder to participate. We also need feeder watchers (see side bar). Last year, for the first time, the goal of seeing at least 100 different species was met. Let's help Audubon do it again!

If you would like to participate, call Susan Hazelwood at (573) 445-4925 and leave a message. If you have previously participated and know which team you want to join let Susan know. Otherwise Susan will assign you

to a section in need of additional observers and counters.

The Columbia CBC covers a 7.5 mile radius centered on Rock Bridge Elementary School. We split into approximately 13 teams. Each team is assigned an area within the circle and each team will bird their area for most of the day. Columbia Audubon Society will pay the National Audubon Society count participant fee of \$5.00 per person.

We will conclude the day with a chili dinner and a compiling of the day's observations. The dinner will take place at 6:00pm at the Community of Christ Church located at 1111 Fairview Road in Columbia. The room will be open at 5:00 pm for food set-up. We usually have venison chili, buffalo chili, and meatless chili, too, along with veggies and desserts. The dinner cost about \$6-7/person with the money covering the cost of the food, beverages, paper products and room rental. If you have questions about the dinner please call Vanessa Melton at (573) 864-3905.

SIDEBAR ON FEEDER COUNTING

Wanted: Individuals living in the count area to be "feeder counters" for the Christmas Bird Count on December 20

Counters should only record the maximum number of individuals of a given species seen at any one time at their feeders and should be sure they are not counting the same birds more than once. For example, if they see two Blue Jays and later see three Blue Jays the total number of Blue Jays seen for the count would be three, not five, because they could not be sure the first two seen were not part of the second group of three. Another example is seeing four female cardinals at once and later seeing two male cardinals at the same time. They could then say they had seen six cardinals since male and female cardinals can be distinguished visually.

Observe for as much of or as little of the day as you wish, just be sure to keep track of the time

spent observing. Report the species, number of individuals and time spent watching your feeders to Bonnie Heidi at 442-2191 between 3:00 and 5:00pm on December 20, the day of the count.

Susan Hazelwood

NB: Project is approved.

<http://www.gocolumbiamo.com/Volunteer/Opportunities/treekeepers.php>

Columbia Aquatic Restoration Project (CARP)
The 2009 CARP classes will be held on Mondays, March 2, 9 and 16, 6:00-8:30pm
Location: Parks Management Center at 1507 BL70 W

<http://www.gocolumbiamo.com/Volunteer/Opportunities/carp.php>

NWR PHOTO CONTEST!

The National Wildlife Refuge Association will hold the 4th annual Wildlife Refuge Digital Photography Contest this coming spring.

Please visit

<http://www.refugenet.org/contest/2009ContestFlyer.html> to view the 2009 Contest

Announcement. We are looking forward to another wonderful contest, and we want to get people taking pictures today!

ADVANCED TRAINING OPPORTUNITIES

Big Muddy program on pallid sturgeon, November 11, has been approved for advanced training.

Saturday Morning Science

Sessions for September 20 (Insects), October 4 (Black bear), October 18 (nematodes), and November 15 (plant vision) have all been approved for advanced training.

City of Columbia Volunteer Program Training

Note that the training portion of these programs qualify as advanced training, and; the volunteer hours qualify as service hours, for our program.

Treekeepers: The 2009 TreeKeepers class will be held Thursday, January 22 ~ 6 to 9 p.m.; Saturday, January 24 ~ 8 a.m. to noon and Tuesday, January 27 ~ 6 to 8 p.m. (This is a change to their previous schedule format.)

VOLUNTEER OPPORTUNITIES

Volunteer Opportunities 2008

Below are the volunteer opportunities for November and ongoing projects, as well as announcements of other events. Please contact the person indicated for more detailed information on any of the projects. Note that if a project is listed as "not yet approved," you will need to fill out a Service Project Form (available 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.

November Volunteer Opportunities

Prairie Seed Collection, Wednesday, November 12, 9-1.

John plans to take a collecting trip for closed gentian. If you would like to join him, please let him know by Monday, November 10th, via email at John.George@mdc.mo.gov. This is the last scheduled trip of the season. Project is approved.

CACHE Birding Trips: Every Wednesday, November 12th, 19th, and 26th

Sponsored by The Columbia Audubon Society, Missouri Department of Conservation, and The Audubon Society of Missouri.

These are birding trips with Bill Clark, former president of The Columbia Audubon Society.

Meet Bill at 7:30am (don't be late) at the southwest corner of the Parkade Center parking lot. The destination will be decided the day of the trip depending on who is there and where they want to go. Contact Bill Clark at 573-474-4510 to confirm. Contact Vanessa Melton at 573-864-3905 or vannndawn@hotmail.com . Project is approved.

SPARKS Birding Trip, November 29th

Sponsored by The Columbia Audubon Society, Missouri Department of Conservation, and The Audubon Society of Missouri. This is a birding trip with Columbia Audubon's field trip chairs Bill Clark, former president of The Columbia Audubon Society, and Edge Wade. Meet them at 7:30am (don't be late) at the southwest corner of the Parkade Center parking lot. This is an all day field trip, so they will be stopping for lunch in either Macon or Moberly, but you can bring a sack lunch if you like. If there is time they will also be going to Long Branch State Park near Macon. Bring a scope if you have one as these lakes are very large and birds may be a great distance away. Contact Vanessa Melton at 573-864-3905 or vannndawn@hotmail.com if you are interested.

Rain Garden Installation and Maintenance

Sponsored by Missouri River Communities Network

This project will include the installation and maintenance of five area raingardens and demonstration of the raingardens during tours by local community groups and individual. There are five raingardens included in the original grant with the hopes that more will follow. For more information contact Lea Langdon at langtrea@gmail.com or phone: 573-864-7647
Project is approved.

Bird Banding Training: There will be training sessions scheduled this month weather permitting, if you are interested in participating contact Suzanne Wright at 573-446-2217 or Suzwright@centurytel.net .
Project is approved.

Adopt-a-Spot Bed

Contacts for this project are Jane, Jody and Vanessa for updated information and if you would like to help. Project is approved.

Ongoing Volunteer Opportunities

School Natural Areas - Ongoing

Many of our area schools that have natural areas could use some volunteer assistance. Often the staff members and/or parents who had the initial idea, time, and energy to create these natural areas have since moved on to other schools or other projects. As a result, many areas have been neglected to the extent that they are less useable as educational areas. Missouri Master Naturalists could be helpful in several different types of projects. Some schools have large areas, including prairie and/or woodland areas that may need burning or removal of invasive species, or introduction of more diversity in the native flora. Some schools have small butterfly gardens or sensory gardens that need some weeding preferably by someone who has some knowledge of and interest in native plants. Some schools have an interest in a native area or rainwater garden, and might appreciate some planning and/or installation assistance. Ideally I would like to connect each school that wants help with a MMN volunteer contact person (and for large natural areas, perhaps a group of MMN Vol.), and if more help is needed, that MMN volunteer could call me for more MMN volunteers who are available for more service hours.

I am compiling a list of needs, and school contacts so that I can match up MMN volunteers with needs expressed. (If you know of any other schools that could use help of this sort, I would like to know about it. . . they do not have to be public schools, that is just the ones I know of.) If you are interested in volunteering at a particular school, or have a particular expertise or type of work you like to do, or if you would like to generally assist for a few hours, please let me know so that I can

match you up with an appropriate project. There may also be opportunities to help with after school garden clubs at some schools. So far, these are the schools that I know of that have natural areas that could use help:

- Benton Elementary--new native garden to begin in spring
- Blue Ridge--prairie, woodland, butterfly and sensory gardens
- Douglas High School—possible new rainwater garden
- Fairview Elementary—small butterfly garden
- Hallsville--native garden area
- Harrisburg—interest in a new rainwater garden
- Mill Creek Elementary—wetland, prairie
- New Haven Elementary—butterfly garden has plants to dig and share with other schools
- Rock Bridge Elementary--prairie, native plantings, wetland
- Russell Boulevard Elementary--native garden area
- Shepard Elementary--native planted courtyard (to be re-planted this spring)
- West Boulevard Elementary—-raingardens and native garden area
- Midway Heights Elementary--small prairie, raised bed butterfly garden, wetland, erosion area could be rainwater garden?

Contact Lea Langdon at langtrea@gmail.com or 447-1257. Project is approved.

Students, the Environment, and Endangered Species (SEEDS) Ongoing

Sponsored by the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, Missouri Ecological Services Field Office

The future of Missouri's environment rests in the hands of today's youth. Students, the Environment, and Endangered Species (SEEDS) is an environmental education program developed by the Missouri Ecological Services Field Office to promote environmental awareness among Boone County's youth. SEEDS incorporates interactive learning, outdoor activities, and hands-on interaction

between fifth grade students, wildlife, and U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service volunteers. The program brings volunteers into the classroom to interact with students, and provide teachers with information and resources to further educate their students on environmental issues and endangered species. The key messages of SEEDS include 1) informing students on endangered species and their habitats in Boone County and 2) how kids can be environmentally conscious in their every day lives. Volunteers will lead presentations on Boone County endangered species in Columbia schools, primarily for the fifth grade level. Volunteers will coordinate with wildlife educators to bring to the classroom native Missouri wildlife, and host book fairs to raise funds for the purchase of wildlife books for the designated school's media center. Additionally, volunteers are encouraged to think of new and innovative ways to accomplish the Service's mission to connect children with nature. Volunteers with a background in education or the environment are especially encouraged to participate. Contact Becky_Clearwater@fws.gov or Charlie Scott at Charlie_scott@fws.gov Phone: 573-234-2132.

Project is approved.

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

Sponsored by the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service

Volunteers are welcome to join fishery staff for day long trips to the field where they will collect, tag, and measure fish, and assess fish habitat quality. Volunteers are also welcome in the lab to aid in the identification of collected fishes and assist in analysis of field data. Volunteers are also needed with skills outside of the traditional fish biology. Individuals skilled in computers, construction, journalism, photography, statistics, teaching or other disciplines are welcome and needed.

Contact: Joanne Grady at Joanne_Grady@fws.gov or 573-234-2132, ext. 101.

Project is approved.

dgkb6b@mizzou.edu. We're looking forward to meeting you!

Contact: Contact: Kathryn Kettenbach, trainer, at 314 749-6211 or kpkcnc@mizzou.edu, to hear more about the project and how you can get started training. Let her know you're a Master Naturalist and heard about the project from Diane!

Project is approved.

Prairie Fork Conservation Area Field Trip Naturalists - Ongoing

Sponsored by the Missouri Dept. of Conservation, the University of Missouri and the Prairie Fork Trust.

Prairie Fork CA has a need for naturalists to staff environmental education stations during field trips for school students. Most programs take place Monday through Friday from about 9 am till 2 pm. Most programs involve 3 small group activities from 9am till noon with children rotating through the stations and one large group activity after lunch. Help is most needed during the morning activities. Prairie Fork Conservation Area is a 712 acre wildlife refuge owned by the Missouri Dept. of Conservation and administered in cooperation with the University of Missouri and the Prairie Fork Trust. This conservation area, located about 35 miles due east of Columbia, was established in 1997 by a generous donation from Pat Jones. Prairie Fork was established with 3 major goals: 1. Natural Community Restoration 2. Conservation Education and 3. Ongoing Academic Research in support of goals 1 and 2. Benefits for volunteers (besides the warm fuzzy feeling you get from making a difference in school kids lives!) could include limited access to Prairie Fork, limited camping/hiking opportunities, as well as an end of season BBQ.

Contact: Benedict Nagy at (573)254-3262, or benedict62@yahoo.com .

Project is approved.

Landowner Contacts Database – Ongoing / Flexible hours until completed.

Bulletin Board Update at Rock Bridge Memorial State Park Flexible scheduling – Ongoing

Sponsored by Friends of Rock Bridge Memorial State Park

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 8am. and 4:30pm if you need to use park equipment/vehicle. Updates are usually needed 2-3 times per month during busy seasons (April-October), and once a month during slower seasons (November-March). No experience is needed but some paperwork is required. One-time volunteers may fill out a temporary work agreement (no background check required). If you desire to volunteer more than once, state park paperwork and a background check must be submitted and approved prior to volunteering (so be sure to allow at least a week for paperwork processing). 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.

Raptor Rehabilitation Project - Ongoing

Sponsored by Raptor Rehabilitation Project

The most rewarding volunteer experience ever! We have new opportunities for volunteers to begin working with birds sooner. Please contact us to set up training sessions just for you, so you can begin to feed these amazing creatures. You can then become more familiar with our education birds and all of the amazing ways you can interact with them and continue educating delighted audiences throughout mid-Missouri about the importance of wildlife conservation. This is a rare and special opportunity that is not available in most areas. We are truly lucky to have the chance to do so, so why not check it out? If you want to first discuss the project with a Master Naturalist, contact Diane Kuschel at 573-881-1425 or

Sponsored by the Missouri Department of Conservation

The 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 that will allow MDC to better assess the needs for the property. 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.

Most opportunities are on the units of the Big Muddy National Fish and Wildlife Refuge; projects are sponsored by Friends of Big Muddy. Friends of Big Muddy helps the refuge with a variety of projects including trail building, putting up boundary signs, trash pickups, educational programs, habitat restoration projects, water quality monitoring, etc. We also have booths at festivals at communities along the Missouri River to talk about the refuge and Friends of Big Muddy activities. We are looking for people to lead interpretive hikes, canoe trips, boat rides, etc. on refuge units (leading these counts as volunteer time, participation does not). Most activities are announced on an e-mail group about 10-14 days before they happen. To subscribe to that list, send an e-mail to FriendsofBigMuddy-subscribe@yahoogroups.com. Activities generally only require the volunteer to provide personal care items (water bottle, sun protection, bug protection, etc.). Exceptions will be noted in e-mail announcements. Volunteers can choose to participate only in the activities that interest them. Projects are approved.

GPS

Would you like to borrow a GPS unit?

Through the Boone County University of Missouri Extension office and Kent Shannon,

Natural Resource Engineer, five Garmin GPS 60 GPS units are available for borrowing. The units are WAAS (wide area augmentation system) enabled and capable of returning accuracy of better than three meters 95 percent of the time.

Using the Garmin GPS 60

The Garmin GPS 60 can be used for navigation and data collection. Using DNR Garmin, a freeware program, it is possible to convert Garmin waypoint files into data that can be easily used in a GIS program or Google Earth. In addition, there is other free software that can be used to manage GPS data collected. These programs can also be used to download routes and waypoints to the GPS units.

Summary of GPS Circulation Policy

- * Call Kent Shannon to reserve a unit and schedule a time to pick it up during regular business hours. 445-9792.
- * GPS units circulate for up to fourteen days at a time.
- * GPS units circulate only to members of volunteer groups associated with University of Missouri Extension.
- * Patrons are required to sign a statement agreeing to the GPS loan policy.
- * Patrons are required to take a 10 minute orientation on GPS usage the first time they check out a unit. After the first circulation, a record is kept showing that the patron has completed the orientation.

"The system of nature, of which man is a part, tends to be self-balancing, self-adjusting, self-cleansing. Not so with technology."

E.F. Schumacher

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NEXT MEETING

Thursday, December 11th, 6:30pm.
Extension Office

Program: Holiday Potluck Dinner, Milestone Pins, & Election of Officers
Family and friends are welcome!

State Conference: 2009 to be hosted by Osage Trails Chapter in Kansas City. Dates: May 15-17.



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