



VOLUME 10

JEFFERS' BEND NEWS

SEPTEMBER, 2008

Come Join us for...

- A Walk in the Woods with Master Gardener's Life of Ants
Homemade Bird Feeders
Nature Fan
Nature Wise
- Live Animal exhibits
- Canoe Tours the Lake (if water table allows)
- Ident-a-Kid & Gun Safety
- Outdoor Skills Training (presented by local Boy Scouts)
- Birding activities
- Poster Contest/Prizes
- Archery
- All about Bugs
- Tile Painting
- Indian Lore
- Food Booths
- Recycling Events

NatureFest at Jeffers' Bend

Saturday, September 20, 2008

1:00—5:00

Rain Date, Saturday Sept. 27, 2008



Tickets: \$5.00 per car or \$10.00 per bus

Includes all events and parking

• Adult Learning Stations

Rain Gardening, Hybrid Cars & Sinkhole Restoration

First 50 children arriving after 12:30

will receive a free T-Shirt.

All children must be accompanied by an adult.

Advance Ticket Sales

HWEA,
Boys & Girls Club, YMCA,
City Hall,
Rec. Dept,
KY American Seed,
Housing Authority,
Extension Office,
Aaron McNeil Center,
Pennyrile RC&D,
County Judge Executive office

CURRICULUM COMMITTEE

**PATRICIA BOWDEN,
CHAIR**

The Curriculum Committee will meet at Jeffers Bend Environmental Center on Tuesday, September 9, 2008 at 4:00 p.m. to set dates in which schools in the nine county Pennyriple Area will be afforded the opportunity to visit the center for hands-on activities in the areas of water quality, soil science, soil conservation, parts of plants, air quality, wildlife habitat, trees, birds, etc.

For 2008, Environmental Education Sessions were held at Jeffers Bend on April 18 and May 2, 9 and 16 with over 340 students from five schools in Christian County . The fall sessions will involve six schools bringing an average of 113 students to the center on September 5, 12, 19 and 26, 2008. The schools scheduled to visit Jeffers Bend are Heritage Christian Academy and the elementary schools of Indian Hills, Martin Luther King Jr., Holiday , Sinking Fork, and Crofton.



Poster Contest Winners
NatureFest 2007

Classrooms Refurbished

The Pennyriple Resource Conservation and Development (PRC&D) Council used an \$8,000 grant from the Honorable Order of Kentucky Colonels to help convert what was once the sleeping quarters for employees of the Hopkinsville Water Environment Authority into 2 much needed classrooms to help accommodate the 2,000 plus K-12 students visiting Jeffers Bend each year. The students and teachers are given hands-on environmental education activities in the areas of recycling, water quality, soil science, soil conservation, insects, various plants and trees, archaeology, litter control, storm water management, wildlife management, etc.

The grant was used to pay for the materials, but the labor and equipment was donated by Jim Wisby, Marlin Anderson, and to a lesser extent, Warren Cornel and six members of First United Methodist Church; providing a value in excess of \$5,000.00. The first students who will have the opportunity to use the two classrooms will be 45 sixth graders from Heritage Christian Academy and 77 fourth graders from Indian Hills Elementary. Those schools will be followed by Martin Luther King Jr. Elementary on September 12, Holiday Elementary on September 19, and Sinking Fork Elementary and Crofton Elementary on September 26, 2008.

BUILDING and GROUNDS COMMITTEE

Anne Casey, Jeffers' Bend Director

As fall quickly approaches it is hard to believe that summer is about over. It has been busy at Jeffers' Bend. With the help of some very dedicated folks much has been accomplished.

Our Upper Room in the Lab Building is sporting a new coat of paint thanks to the WIA summer workers. The students were eager to learn a new skill, they did a good job. We are so grateful for the WIA Project, over the past several years they have painted all the rooms in the Lab Building and helped refinish the Caretakers House. Their efforts, as well as their instructors, are much appreciated.

Little River continues to be a source of conversation by entertaining us with its disappearing and reappearing act. Because of the last summer's prolonged draught, Little River vanished! But with the welcomed spring rains, almost overnight it reappeared, at full capacity only to vanish again and reappeared one more time only to disappear again. It is amazing to watch! We welcome you to come by and see what is new at Jeffers' Bend.

**GARDENS
COMMITTEE**
DAVID & SUSAN CHILES

Children's Garden



Jeffers' Bend hosted the second Children's Garden for local students this summer. For ten Mondays students helped till the ground, plant seeds, add mulch, weed, water and fertilize their garden. Their efforts were rewarded at harvest time. Students happily took home cucumbers, tomatoes, green beans, and peppers.

In addition to gardening chores, the lessons focused on the important work of pollinators. When the work was done students practiced petting bumble bees and worked hard at trying to catch butterflies in the butterfly garden. One highlight of the experience was monitoring a bluebird nest from eggs to fledglings. Since most pizza ingredients were grown in the garden, pizza was enjoyed during the last meeting. Students also enjoyed eating freshly picked sliced cucumbers.

Butterfly Garden

By Susan Chiles

In an effort to contribute to the conservation of the monarch butterfly, Master Gardener volunteers have worked this spring to complete the requirements for our existing butterfly garden to be certified as a Monarch Butterfly Waystation. Recently, a letter congratulating us on our efforts was received. The letter stated our site was to be entered into the Monarch Waystation Registry which will be available online soon at www.MonarchWatch.org.

Visitors to the butterfly garden will see milkweed, a colorful variety of nectar plants, and shelter for migrating monarch butterflies. Hummingbird feeders serve as



additional nourishment sources and strategically placed stones serve as basking rocks. Be sure to notice the unique shape of the gardencomplete with head, thorax, and abdomen.

Bluebird Trail

By David Chiles



This summer a Bluebird Trail was added to the conservation efforts of Jeffers' Bend. A natural resident species and a cavity dweller, the Eastern Bluebird welcomes the man-made boxes when natural cavities in trees are limited. In return bluebirds eat critters like grasshoppers, crickets, caterpillars, and spiders. Jeffers' Bend offers a perfect feeding area for these birds.

Currently the trail consists of 15 bluebird nest boxes stretching from the south end gardens to the observatory and lake to the north. The boxes will soon be dedicated and labeled with the names of major contributors to Jeffers' Bend.

Dinner By the Lake

By Maggie Selvidge

The Jeffers' Bend first annual Dinner by the Lake on June 21 was a great success. Moonglow Jazz Band entertained around 170 folks while they dined at white cloth covered tables beside our lovely little lake. Guests were also able to browse for interesting items at a Silent Auction table.

A short after dinner program featured information on recycling, our environmental education success with kids, the new bluebird trail, and an inspiring poem. The home cooked barbecue dinner was provided by Steering Committee members. Matt Snorton served as Master of Ceremonies. Total proceeds to benefit Jeffers' Bend exceeded \$3,000.00.



JEFFERS' BEND

Charles Turner
Pennyrile R C & D
3237 Eagle Way
Hopkinsville, KY 42240

PRIDE, Inc.
P.O. Box 4096
Hopkinsville, KY 42241

BECOME A "FRIEND OF THE BEND"

Would you like to support Jeffers' Bend?

For a \$25.00 donation you can become a
"Friend of the Bend".

We also need your help in maintaining the gardens and trails. Come help on our next Saturday work day. Please call Charles Turner at : 270-885-8692 ext.. 123 or Fax: 270-889-0328 or Email: cturner@ky.usda.gov

Please mail your contributions to :
Charles Turner, Pennyrile RC&D
3237 Eagle Way
Hopkinsville, KY 42240

A new **Rain Garden** was added in front of the Caretakers House for use in storm water education programs. Funding was provided by a grant from the University of Kentucky Barnhart Fund for Excellence and the Christian County Extension Office and was secured by Kelly Jackson, Horticulturist.

