Jefferson Memorial Forest

11311 Mitchell Hill Road
PO Box 467
Fairdale, KY
40118

502/368-5404

www.memorialforest.com
•
www.metro-parks.org

forest@louisvilleky.gov
•
parks@louisvilleky.gov

Welcome Center

Monday-Saturday
8:30 a.m.-4:30 p.m.
Sunday/Holidays
10 a.m.-3 p.m.

The Welcome Center is your destination for maps, gift items, program reservations, camping reservations, permits and Forest information.

Directions

From I-65 south, take the Gene Snyder Freeway (I-265) west and exit at New Cut Road. Turn left, go about one mile, and turn right onto Mitchell Hill Road. Follow the signs to the Forest.

Mission Statement

The mission of Louisville Metro Parks is to create a City of Parks and enhance the quality of life for citizens of Louisville Metro by maintaining and acquiring attractive, vibrant parks and offering safe, diverse recreation programs, and protecting these lands and resources for future generations.

New Land and Better Trails

Metro Parks is thrilled to announce a new addition to Jefferson Memorial Forest. Metro Parks has purchased a 27-acre property behind the existing Welcome Center. This property, known as the Lamont Tract, will connect the Paul Yost Recreation Area, the Horine Reservation and the Tom Wallace Recreation Area via a new hiking trail that begins at the Welcome Center. This strategic development allows the Welcome Center to become the true starting point for exploration in the Forest. This new trail also supports future improvements as called for in our Master Plan.

The Forest would like to thank Kentucky Trail Association members, Consuming Louisville readers, and all the others who took the time to vote in last year's Save the Trails contest, sponsored nationally by the American Hiking Society and Nature Valley Granola Bars. As a result of your efforts, the Forest's trail project was selected and received $5,000 to purchase supplies for trail construction, and support trail-related volunteer activities in the Forest.

We kicked-off this project on June 6, 2009, in honor of National Trails Day. Since then we have designated the second Saturday of each month as the volunteer trail crew project day to build this new trail. We invite you to consider joining our trail crew to help us complete the project in time for a ribbon cutting ceremony to celebrate this year's National Trails Day, on Saturday, June 5, 2010.

This project is one of the many exciting trail developments in store for the Forest and other Metro Parks natural areas. It is our goal that our hiking, equestrian, and mountain bike trail systems will become the finest and best-maintained trails in the region. With your help, we can achieve this goal. If you want to be a part of our volunteer trail team, please check our website for information on how you can contribute, or call Sherry Wright, our volunteer coordinator, at 380-1753.

Bennett Knox, Parks Administrator

Mary Lou Northern, Mayor Jerry Abramson's senior advisor for parks, cultural affairs and faith initiatives, helps Forest volunteers and staff kick-off construction of the Forest's new hiking trail.

Left: Map showing the proposed location of the new hiking trail.

Land Management Notes

Bush Honeysuckle

Probably the most researched and studied of all the exotic invasive plants are the honeysuckles of the genus Lonicera. Bush Honeysuckle is no doubt one of the most troublesome. Honeysuckles belong to the family Caprifoliacea. There are four species of the shrub form and one vine type that are of most concern in Kentucky. The most common of the bush honeysuckles in this area is the Amur Honeysuckle, *Lonicera maackii*.

Preferring full sun, they tend to favor forest edges, disturbed areas, old agricultural fields, abandoned railroad right of ways and roadside edges. Honeysuckles are extremely adaptable to many different climates and soils, especially calcareous soils. Their vigorous growth can in part be attributed to the lack of natural biological controls such as herbivores, insects and diseases. Eventually they will spread throughout the forest, completely dominating the lower canopy. One study indicated that the rate of spread can be as much as a half-mile per year. The thick, often impenetrable, cover shades out native species and inhibits forest regeneration. Fortunately, the seeds have low embryo viability and last as little as two years in the seed bank. There has been some evidence of alleopathy which curbs seed germination and seedling growth to some species. In addition, the extensive shallow root system out-competes native flora for nutrients and soil moisture.

Not only does honeysuckle reduce forest diversity, but the native plant community has been diminished, causing loss of native habitat and food sources for the forest creatures. The early leaf out and late leaf drop extend the photosynthetic period, contributing to its own growth and decreasing available light to the native plant community. Studies have shown that this extended foliage time has birds nesting earlier and staying later. Birds also tend to nest lower in the arching branches, which leaves them vulnerable to forest predators.

Google "bush honeysuckle" and one will find more information than one needs to know.

At the forest, Bush Honeysuckle can be found nearly everywhere. While the heaviest concentrations are at the most active areas of the forest, one can sporadically find individual plants in even the most remote areas. Birds and small mammals, particularly deer mice, devour the fruits and disperse the seed over a wide area. Humans too are responsible for its spread at the forest as there have been brush piles left along forest roads. Our efforts to remove it are being focused on the area near the Welcome Center, Tom Wallace Park and the Horine Conference Center.

The best control procedure is the cut stump method, by cutting the stems close to the ground and painting the stump with an approved herbicide. Removing bush honeysuckle from your property and encouraging others to do likewise will certainly lessen the impact on the environment.

Carl Suk, Land Manager

Fruiting branch of Amur Honeysuckle

Natural Areas News

On June 5, Jefferson Memorial Forest will host a National Trails Day Celebration to open and dedicate the first stage of what has become known as the "Nature Valley Project." We broke ground on this project during National Trails Day 2009. This year, we will be putting the finishing touches on the first section of new trail behind the Welcome Center which will eventually connect three major sections of the Forest – Tom Wallace Recreation Area, Paul Yost Recreation Area, and the Horine Reservation.

We are anticipating being at a significant stage of the trail project on June 5, connecting the Tom Wallace Recreation Area at the Welcome Center to the Horine Reservation via the Mitchell Hill Lake Trail! Local dignitaries will be present for the grand opening celebration. The final stage of this project, estimated to be complete in the later part of 2010, will connect this trail to the Paul Yost section and will result in all 35-plus miles of hiking trail being accessible from the Welcome Center. The National Trails Day Celebration begins at 9 a.m. at the Welcome Center.

National Trails Day is sponsored and promoted by the American Hiking Society, and each year thousands of volunteers take part in hundreds of trail projects throughout the United States. We have dedicated the second Saturday of each month throughout 2010 as a volunteer trail day to work specifically on this project, so you can also join us on those days. Typical volunteer activities on the trail including clearing vegetation from the trail corridor, and finish work on the tread, back-slope and out-slope.

Please call 380-1753 if you are interested in participating on any work day. Work days for this project start at 9 a.m. at the Welcome Center on the second Saturday of each month. Hope you can join us!

Natural Areas News

natural areas
Louisville Metro Parks

New Logo for Metro Parks Natural Areas Division

In order to improve Metro Parks' ability to deal with pressing land management issues such as invasive plants, erosion related to improper trail design; promotion of the many outdoor recreational opportunities around our community's natural spaces and connecting children and the community to nature, Metro Parks created the Natural Areas Division in 2004. With this issue, we introduce the new logo for the Natural Areas Division which identifies those properties managed by Jefferson Memorial Forest staff.
The new logo will allow those seeking outdoor recreational and educational opportunities within this system of properties to easily find information through the Jefferson Memorial Forest and Metro Parks websites. Please visit www.memorialforest.com in the coming months to see the changes and to find out more information on the Natural Areas Division of Metro Parks.

Endangered Plant Found at Jefferson Memorial Forest

The Kentucky State Nature Preserves Commission has confirmed the presence of the first State-listed endangered plant known to occur within Jefferson Memorial Forest. Their staff confirmed the presence of narrow-leaved blue curls (*Trichosetema setaceum*). It is an annual herb preferring dry upland woods in an oak-hickory association. As of April 2006, excluding historical observations, there have been only three known observations in the state. This discovery, 60 years into the Forest's formal existence as a nature preserve, points to the need for a detailed inventory of the flora and fauna of Jefferson Memorial Forest so that we can determine if important populations of this and other rare or uncommon species exist within the Forest.

Settlement Achieved in Illegal Logging Case Affecting the Forest

Metro Government recently settled a lawsuit with a resident along Sawmill Road, who trespassed onto Jefferson Memorial Forest property and illegally removed a significant amount of timber. As part of the settlement, Metro Louisville acquired title to a 22-acre forested track owned by the individual and adjacent to the area in question, as well as $5,000 to offset Metro Government's payments to a consulting forester necessary to settle the case. This incident highlights the need to have the boundary of the Forest surveyed and marked to deter future encroachment. This also allows Metro Parks to determine the existence of other possible encroachments along the Forest's extensive boundary and to take appropriate action. Landowners adjacent to the Forest are encouraged to familiarize themselves with Kentucky laws regarding timber trespass. These are available on the Kentucky Division of Forestry's website at www.forestry.ky.gov.

Go Fish - With Your Kids

JMF has partnered with Kentucky Department of Fish and Wildlife Resources to introduce families to fishing.

You may now check out a fishing pole (hook, line and sinker included) for free, courtesy of Kentucky Fish and Wildlife. Your only cost is bait, which is sold at the Welcome Center. This is a great way for parents interested in introducing their children to fishing, but without the immediate need to spend significant money on fishing supplies.

Children under 12 do not require a fishing license and parents do not either, provided they only help the child with fishing! On selected Saturdays from April to July, volunteer naturalists will be on hand to provide basic fishing instruction.

Historic "Gully of the Drums" Site to Be Cleaned Up

The Kentucky Division of Waste Management is in the process of initiating removal of a small historic dump site located near the far eastern corner of the Forest, on land incorporated into the park via a donation in 1988. The site, just within the Forest's boundary, is near the infamous A.L. Taylor site (a.k.a. the "Valley of the Drums"). This site was located on private property and used as a refuse dump, drum recycling center, and chemical dump site from 1967 to 1977. The A.L. Taylor site, for those who may not be aware, was one of the main sites (along with others such as Love Canal) that ultimately resulted in the EPA's Superfund Program. Because of the pollution caused on these sites, the government strengthened regulations regarding the disposal of hazardous waste. In 1988, following extensive remediation, the EPA removed the A.L. Taylor site from the Superfund list.

The smaller "Gulley of the Drums" site located on Forest property was characterized some years ago by the EPA as one not requiring further remediation. However, subsequent monitoring and soil sampling by the Kentucky Division of Waste Management indicated that further remedial action was necessary. While this site is not close to any existing or

Continued on back page

Volunteer News

Volunteer Appreciation Event

In 2009, those serving in our ongoing volunteer programs provided over 3,800 service hours in 2009. Using the national average value of a volunteer hour, their donated hours are valued at over $77,000! Now that's worth bragging about! And brag we did, on Thursday, February 18, 2010, when the Forest held a Volunteer Appreciation Dinner at Riverside/ Farnsley-Moremen Landing.

District 13 Councilwoman Vicki Welch sponsored the meal and served as the key speaker. She began the evening with a thank you to all our volunteers and personally delivered a proclamation of thanks to each volunteer.

Bennett Knox, Park Administrator, unveiled the new Natural Areas logo at the dinner, explaining how it will assist us to better highlight the Natural Areas region for the public and identify its volunteers. Jefferson Memorial Forest serves as the flagship park and staff headquarters for the Metro Parks Natural Areas Division, which encompasses several additional smaller parks. The Natural Areas logo was developed to be used in conjunction with the Jefferson Memorial Forest logo. You'll see the two logos on our website, signage and documents, as well as on some spiffy new hats being sported by some of your friends! (Hint: Logo ball caps are available in the Welcome Center Gift Shop!)

An added surprise for the evening was the introduction of the new Volunteer Handbook and Volunteer Benefit Package. The volunteers were pleased to learn the benefit package was effective as of January 2009, and 18 volunteers received awards Thursday evening based on the new package.

A good time was had by all, and we hope to repeat the event next year with even more volunteers present and more awards to honor how wonderful they are!

We extend our gratitude to Vicki Welch for her ongoing support and dedication to the Forest and to Patti Linn at Riverside, for graciously allowing us to use that beautiful facility.

Volunteer Opportunities

Jefferson Memorial Forest serves as the flagship park and staff headquarters for Metro Parks Natural Areas Division, which oversees more than 7,000 acres of public land set aside specifically for the preservation and conservation of natural habitat. Of that, over 6,200 acres are in Jefferson Memorial Forest. Other areas include Kulmer Beach Reserve, Fairmount Falls, Caperton Swamp, the Beargrass Creek Greenway and Waverly Park.

Natural Areas volunteers assist with trail development and maintenance, help with conservation and preservation efforts, report on trail conditions, remove litter and assist in teaching public programs. Some individuals or groups offer their services for single-day projects, while others complete applications to become part of our core ongoing volunteer base, described below.

Natural Areas Volunteer Groups

Land Stewards are botanists-in-action, aiding with the removal of toxic plants, replanting and restoration, locating and mapping native flora, and other conservation/preservation pursuits. Project days are generally the 2nd Saturday, 2nd Wednesday and 4th Thursday of each month. Meet at the Welcome Center at 9:00 am. Come out and learn more about plants while helping maintain the Forest ecosystem.

Trail Team members develop new trails, maintain existing trails, offer public assistance, and provide reporting on conditions and usage patterns. Monthly project days begin at 9:00 am on the second, third and fourth Saturdays of each month. Location changes each project day; call for meeting location on the day you plan to attend. Join this group to learn more about trail development and layout and to assist staff in meeting Forest goals for providing quality recreational opportunities to the community.

Forest Ambassadors are on-call volunteers, providing assistance with varied tasks such as staffing booths or directing parking during special events, helping with crafts during summer camps, or delivering flyers and advertising materials.

Volunteer Naturalists assist staff and/or lead field trips and public programs, providing environmental education to visitors. The 15-week training course for Volunteer Naturalists begins each January.

For more volunteer information, visit www.memorialforest.com or contact Sherry Wright, Volunteer Coordinator, 502-380-1753 or sherry.wright@louisvilleky.gov.

Many Thanks!

Jordan Butts, Boy Scout Troop 207, completed his Eagle Scout project at Jefferson Memorial Forest by mulching the Preschool Discovery area and building two discovery tables. Jordan's project took over 36 hours to complete. He mulched and secured the discovery tables on October 6, 2009. Thanks, Jordan!

Thinking about YOUR Eagle Scout Project? Consider Jefferson Memorial Forest or any of the other Natural Areas parks for your project. Our wish list projects are listed on our website at www.memorialforest.com, under Volunteer Opportunities. Still have questions? Give us a call: Sherry Wright, Volunteer Coordinator, 502-380-1753 or sherry.wright@louisvilleky.gov.

FOREST FEST

What do crafters, snakes, turtles, barbeque and bluegrass music have in common? Forest Fest! Where else can you go on a scavenger hunt, buy exquisite crafts from local crafts people, learn about snakes, meet a turtle up close, and kick back and relax while listening to the award-winning bluegrass music of Daley & Vincent? And, may we add, all for only a $5 parking fee. This year's Forest Fest promises that and so much more. This is why it has quickly become one of the best bluegrass festivals in Louisville and the region.

Besides our headliners Dailey and Vincent, we have Jeri Katherine Howell, who at age 15 is quickly becoming a force in the music world. After performing at Forest Fest, Jeri will be the opening act for Sam Bush's summer tour. We have the traditional sound put with the original music of Blue River. And last, but certainly not least, Earl Bull and his Clinch Valley Boys will teach us all a course in old style bluegrass. These guys bring it like they did in the old days, and boy is it beautiful!

Of course, we will have all of our crafters and Kentucky Proud vendors, as well as lots of fun family activities and a variety of great food. From Fairdale's own Shack in the Back Barbeque to Ehrler's yummy cold treats, we have you covered. So bring a blanket or pull up a hay bale on Saturday, May 15, from 11 a.m. to 6:30 p.m. to enjoy the best bluegrass fest around! For more information, call 502/368-6856 or log onto www.memorialforest.com.

We also would like to thank the following sponsors:

Councilwoman Vickie Aubrey Welch, District 13;

Councilwoman Madonna Flood, District 24;

Councilman Rick Blackwell, District 12;

Councilman Bob Henderson, District 14;

Councilwoman Marianne Butler, District 15;

Councilman Brent Ackerson, District 26;

Councilman James Peden, District 23;

Councilwoman Tina Ward-Pugh, District 9;

Councilman Jon Ackerson, District 18;

Councilwoman Mary C. Woolridge, District 3;

Councilwoman Judith Green, District 1;

Councilman Dan Johnson, District 21;

and our Bluegrass Benefactors:

Fairdale-McDaniel Funeral Home;

Fairdale Pic Pac;

Friends of Forest Fest;

Forest Fans;

ISA Recycling

Dailey and Vincent

2010 Jefferson Memorial Forest Summer Camps

Summer Adventures

This day camp immerses your child in the natural world. Campers take on the roles of naturalist, scientist and explorer as they discover new things about the Forest, and the creatures that inhabit it. By combining educational activities and learning experiences with traditional summer camp fun, your child will have an educational adventure to remember for a lifetime.

Camp activities include nature study, crafts, science experiments, games, journaling, hikes and animal contact with the Forest's education animals. All campers receive a Forest water bottle. Each session runs for one week.

FOREST ADVENTURES

June 7-11 & July 12-16, 9 a.m.-4 p.m.

Is your child an explorer? Do they crave adventure? They are sure to find it here! Campers explore the trails deep in the forest, climb our alpine tower, and learn rappelling skills. They learn skills such as fire and shelter building and using a map and compass.

CREATURE TREKKING

June 14-18 & July 19-23, 9 a.m.-4 p.m.

Campers explore a variety of habitats and learn about the creatures that call these places home. Campers travel through the forest, along the forest edge, across fields and meadows, and into streams. Campers will learn what to look for when tracking animals, and what the population of animals can tell us about ourselves and how we affect the world around us.

AQUATIC HABITATS

June 21-25 & July 26-30, 9 a.m.-4 p.m.

Discover the exciting world within a pond, lake, stream and river. Campers explore a lake while canoeing, hike through a forest to a winding stream, use nets to collect specimens, and view the many tiny creatures they collect on our videoscope. Also, campers are engaged in crafts, journaling and science experiments. Life preservers are provided and trained staff will accompany the campers in a 1:3 ratio for our canoe excursions. Parents are welcome to join their child for canoeing field trips.

Forest Explorers

Ages 5 to 6
June 28-July 2, 10 a.m. to 2 p.m.

Search for animal tracks, discover the fascinating world of insects, find life in a small scoop of pond water, and hike the trails! Through stories, crafts and hands-on activities your child will make discoveries about the variety of habitats and the animals living in the Forest.

Time Travelers:

ADVENTURE INTO THE PAST WITH RIVERSIDE, FARNSLEY-MOREMEN

Ages 8 to 11
July 6-9, 9 a.m. to 4 p.m.

Travel back in time to discover how Native Americans lived in the forests of Kentucky, go on an archaeological adventure to find real artifacts and travel forward to learn about the people who came after the Native Americans and settled on the banks of the Ohio River. Camp begins at Jefferson Memorial Forest Horine Reservation for July 6th and 7th. Then drop-off and pick-up will take place at Riverside, Farnsley-Moremen for July 8th and 9th

Registration

Sessions are filled on a first-come, first-served basis. Full payment is required at the time of registration. Full payment and completed registration form are required prior to the first day of camp. You will promptly be notified if a session is full or cancelled due to insufficient enrollment. Confirmation will be e-mailed or mailed to you prior to the beginning of camp.

Payment options and refunds

Price includes all camp supplies, water bottle, t-shirt, and small snack. Registration forms can be mailed with check or credit card information to Jefferson Memorial Forest, P O Box 467, Fairdale, KY 40118. Reservation forms and information packets may be requested by phone, but reservations will not be accepted over the phone. Make checks payable to Jefferson Memorial Forest. Include the session dates that your child is attending on the check. Refunds, less a $25.00 processing fee, are given only if a cancellation is made in writing at least 2 weeks prior to the first day of camp. If a camp is filled or cancelled, a full refund will be made to you. All camps are subject to maximum and minimum enrollment requirements.

2010 Jefferson Memorial Forest Summer Camp Registration

Registration fee must accompany this registration form.
Make checks payable to **Jefferson Memorial Forest**. When registering more than one child, send the information for each child on a separate form. Mail check and registration to:

Jefferson Memorial Forest · Summer Camp · PO Box 467 · Fairdale, KY 40118

*Forest Adventures**	*Creature Trekking**	*Aquatic Habitats**	*Forest Explorers*	*Time Travelers*
❏ June 7-11	❏ June 14-18	❏ June 21-25	❏ June 28-July 2	❏ July 6-9
❏ July 12-16	❏ July 19-23	❏ July 26-30	[ages 4-5]	[ages 8-11]
$115	$115	$115	$105	$175

**The sessions in June repeat in July. Price is per week.*

Child's last name: _____ Child's first name: _____

Sex: ❏ M / ❏ F Age: _____ Birthday: _____ / _____ / _____

Address: _____

City: _____ State: _____ Zip code: _____

Home phone: _____ Emergency phone: _____

Email address: _____

Is there a friend/sibling you would like placed with your child? _____
This cannot be guaranteed if children are in different age groups or if space is not available.

Does your child have any health concerns, special needs or allergies? _____

_____

_____

I hereby authorize Jefferson Memorial Forest/Metro Parks to take any steps necessary to ensure my child's health in case of an emergency, including seeking medical treatment. My child has permission to go on all camp-sponsored field trips. I understand that transportation will be by van with a staff driver for all field trips.

Signature: _____ Date: _____

I hereby authorize Jefferson Memorial Forest/Metro Parks to use my child's name and/or photograph for educational and public relations purposes.

Signature: _____ Date: _____

Payment

❏ Check Amount paid: _____

Check Number: _____

❏ Credit Card: ❏ Master Card ❏ Visa

Name on the card: _____

Card number: _____

Expiration date: _____

Signature: _____

Essentials of River Canoeing

The Louisville region offers several areas for canoe paddling, such as Floyds Fork, Harrods Creek, Salt River, Fourteenmile [note: this is the correct spelling – JC] Creek, and the Ohio River. On Saturday, April 24, from 9 a.m. to 3:30 p.m., Jefferson Memorial Forest will offer Essentials of River Canoeing – an invaluable American Canoe Association class for anyone who enjoys paddling on moving water.

While many paddlers are content to simply go with the flow, a whole other world of fun opens up when one learns how to perform maneuvers such as ferrying from one side of a river to another, or pausing their trip by catching the calm pools known as eddies. The class will also teach an array of useful paddling strokes: the draw, pry, sweep, cross bow draw, and J-stroke.

The fundamentals of safe paddling will be covered as well. How do you properly use a throw bag, where are strainers most likely to form in a meandering creek, what different hazards are present if you capsize in moving water versus flat water?

Register early by calling the Welcome Center at 502/368-5404. The class is limited to 12 people, with a one-to-six instructor to participant ratio, so this is a great hands-on learning opportunity.

Children in Nature

Spring is here! Thank goodness, after all that snow and cold weather. Flowers are in bloom and the songs of birds, insects and amphibians fill the air. This is a great time to get outdoors and investigate the natural world.

If you need help with ideas for your children, stop by the Jefferson Memorial Forest's Welcome Center and check out one of our forest eco-adventure kits for families. These kits can be rented for $5 and include various investigation tools such as a magnifying glass, binoculars, various thermometers, a clipboard, and ID books to engage your children in brief outdoor activities - the book is yours to keep. You can also sign up for one of our many public programs geared towards children. We are offering two public programs on the weekends which help families get outdoors. Nature Explore Family Club is geared towards three to five year olds which includes the use of our new preschool play area, soon to be a certified Nature Explore Classroom. This program is offered at the Forest as well as the Louisville Nature Center. We also offer the Forest Family Explorers Program geared towards families with children ages three and up.

If you like spending time outdoors at your home or a nearby park, start by using your senses. Smell the new blooming flowers, look for insects that are emerging, listen for birds as they busily work raising their young and touch the bark of different trees. Children naturally love to explore. Just by spending time with them outdoors, your children can lead you into amazing moments of discovery. Bring a bug net, jar, magnifying lens, paper and crayons, camera or video camera, and simple field guides, which we sell at the Welcome Center. Head out with your children to turn over logs, look up into the trees, and explore a field of wildflowers. Go where your discoveries lead you.

We recommend these resources for outdoor activities with your family:

www.fws.gov/letsgooutside/

www.arborday.org/explore/families/

www.childrenandnature.org/resources/familyactivities/

www.naturerocks.org/

www.greenheartsinc.org/Parents__Guide.html

Volunteer News

Volunteer of the Month Program

September 2009 brought more than just fall color to the Forest. It also brought a competitive air among the volunteers with the announcement of the Volunteer of the Month program. This initiative proved that cool weather doesn't slow down our dedicated public servants! John Buchenberger set the bar high by claiming the prize the first two months, performing 50 hours in September and 72 in October! As the holidays threatened to temper the pace, Dick Dennis took the lead in November with 35 hours. Margie Jones stepped up to command December with 32 hours, and January with 17.5 hours. Each month the volunteer with the most service hours is awarded with a Forest gift certificate and their picture on the Wall of Fame in the Volunteer Corner of the Welcome Center. Stop by and check out who will be featured there next!

Dennis

Jones

Volunteer Program Donations

Now everyone can show their love of our wooded areas while supporting the Natural Areas volunteer program at the same time! Monetary donations to the Louisville Metro Parks Foundation can be designated for the Natural Areas/JMF volunteer program. Your entire tax-deductible donation will benefit the volunteer program, providing needed funds to purchase supplies, tools, shirts, training and education materials, and awards for our dedicated volunteers. Show them you appreciate their hard work by sending in your donation today!

Louisville Metro Parks Foundation
P O Box 37280
Louisville, KY 40233-7280

Volunteer of the Month for September and October 2009, John Buchenberger.

Below and left: Volunteer appreciation luncheon at Riverside, the Farnsley-Moremen Landing.

Volunteer Naturalist Training is Underway

Two years ago, in January 2008, the Forest began a new program for volunteers, called Volunteer Naturalists. The goal was to provide 15 weeks of extensive training to produce a group of volunteers able to lead public programs and visiting groups, teach classes and interpret at the Forest. We are proud to say that group has done a stellar job and the education staff has been able to expand programming during a time when cutbacks were the norm.

Now, those original Volunteer Naturalists are serving as mentors for a brand new group of eager trainees. The new course began in January and the training is well underway. Watch for these enthusiastic volunteers as they complete their training and begin assisting with programming this spring. You'll know them by their amazing knowledge of the Forest ecosystem and their winning smiles (a volunteer name badge will help, too!).

Volunteer Naturalist trainees learn to build small, safe fires, a skill used to teach survival and Earth Keepers classes.

Public Program Calendar: April Through June

The Forest offers programs for all ages. For more information visit our website at www.memorialforest.com or call the Welcome Center at 502/368-5404. Our staff will be happy to help make reservations, give directions to the program location, or provide a complete schedule of programs throughout the year. For all programs, please wear close-toed walking shoes and dress for the weather.

Reservations are required in advance. The Forest reserves the right to cancel programs due to insufficient registration or inclement weather. Rain checks will be provided.

Outdoor Skills

Programs meet in the Horine Reservation. Fee: $6/person. Note difference in time and fee for the ***Leave No Trace*** program.

ORIENTEERING

Sat, May 1, 9 a.m. to Noon

Map and landscape reading are skills every outdoors person needs to possess. This program equips participants with the skills necessary to read and interpret topographic maps and locate destinations. This in-field set of exercises is truly a hands-on learning experience.

LEAVE NO TRACE OVERNIGHT AWARENESS WORKSHOP

Sat-Sun, June 5-6, 1 p.m. to 11 a.m.

Leave No Trace is an international program designed to show enthusiasts how to reduce their impact outdoors. Participants receive introductory training in skills and ethics, and the chance to practice them by camping overnight.

Fee: $60/person. Program meets in the Horine Reservation. For details and to register, visit www.greenearthoutdoors.com. For more details read "Reducing our Impact" in this issue.

Canoe Programs

Programs meet at the Welcome Center, and are subject to change of dates or venues due to water conditions and weather. Ages 12 and up. All children must be accompanied by parent or guardian. All equipment provided.

ESSENTIALS OF RIVER CANOEING

Sat, April 24, 9 a.m. to 3:30 p.m.

This American Canoe Association skills course is an introduction to paddling rivers safely. Participants learn to catch large eddies, perform simple ferries, recognize hazards, and perform rescues on moving water with no rapids. Bring lunch with you and dress appropriately. Program is limited to 8 participants. Participants receive an ACA packet with brochures, a workshop card, and decal. Fee: $25/person

FLOYDS FORK CANOE TRIP

Sat, May 29, 9 a.m. to 2:30 p.m.

See the beauty of nature as you paddle down Floyds Fork. This trip requires basic paddling skills to navigate its sometimes tight channels. All equipment will be provided. Bring a sack lunch. There is space for 18 participants, with a maximum of 12 adults. Fee: $15

NEW! • Birding Programs

BIRDS OF THE FOREST

Jefferson Memorial Forest
Sat, April 10, 9:30 a.m. to 11:30 a.m.

After learning how birds create their nests, come to their habitat in the Forest and learn how to identify them, from the Forest bird blind. Birder and Volunteer Naturalist Dick Dennis will lead a short hike in search of them. Meets in Horine Reservation. To register, call JMF at 502/368-5404 ext. 0. Fee: $6/person

Howl at the Moon

Fri, April 16, 7 p.m. to 8:30 p.m.
Fri, May 21, 7 p.m. to 8:30 p.m.
Fri, June 18, 7 p.m. to 8:30 p.m.

Owners and pooches, come out for an evening hike through the woods! You will be around other dogs and people, so non-retractable leashes, good behavior, and up-to-date vaccinations are required. Meets in the Horine Reservation. Fee: $6/dog

Family Forest Explorers

Classes designed for children 3 and up and their families. Program meets in the Horine Reservation. Fee: $10 per family (limit 4); $5 for each additional member.

SPRING AWAKENING: WILDFLOWERS, TREES

Sat, April 10, 10 a.m. to Noon

The Forest comes alive with colors in the spring. Find and examine all these wonderful plants, and explore our spring butterfly garden to learn the important role these beautiful buds play!

CREATURES OF THE EVENING: OWLS, OPOSSUMS, SKUNKS AND BATS

Sat, May 8, 10 a.m. to Noon

What goes bump in the night? Why, nocturnal animals, of course! The Forest is teaming with life after dark, from bats to opossums. Discover how their world is different from our own!

BIRDS OF PREY: VULTURES, FALCONS, WILD TURKEYS AND OTHERS

Sat, June 12, 10 a.m. to Noon

What do each of these native birds eat? Which flies the fastest? Why do we need them? Through hands-on outdoor play, we'll explore bird anatomy and the role these creatures play in our ecosystem.

New Program! Nature Explore Family Club

This program utilizes our ***new*** outdoor preschool play area, designed to encourage imagination and a love of exploring. Ages 3 to 5. Program meets in the Horine Reservation. Fee: $6/child

WHAT IS BEAUTIFUL TO YOU?

Sat, April 17, 9:30 a.m. to 11:30 a.m.

Take a walk with your family and use your senses to explore the beauty in nature and enjoy everything around you.

COLORS IN THE WORLD

Sat, May 15, 9:30 a.m. to 11:30 a.m.

See how many colorful nature items you can find outdoors. Take a walk with your family and look closely.

Native Garden Program: Beekeeping

Mon, May 10, 9 a.m. to Noon

Keeping bees has become very popular, being good for gardens and easier than you might think. Even if you don't take it up, you can learn more about this interesting partnership. Speakers from the Kentuckiana Beekeepers Association will introduce the hobby to participants, and provide information to get them started. Program meets in the Horine Reservation. Fee: $10/person

Alpine Tower Programs

Programs for ages 10 and older; parent or guardian must accompany those under 18. Wear tennis shoes and long pants, or shorts with inseam greater than 5 inches. Sign up early, as space is limited to 18 participants. Meet in the Horine Reservation. Fee: $10/person

THE ALPINE TOWER EXPERIENCE

Sat, May 22, 9 a.m. to 1:30 p.m.

This isn't your grandmother's climbing wall. Interlocking tripods form a 52-foot tall tower from which logs, platforms, nets and ropes hang, to create a unique climbing experience. Learn basic climbing and belaying techniques while improving self-esteem, confidence, and problem-solving skills on this "high altitude" obstacle course.

EVENING ALPINE TOWER CLIMB

Friday, June 25, 7 p.m. to -10 p.m.

Now you can also experience the Alpine Climbing Tower in a whole new way – by the light of the moon. Bring a headlamp if you want.

ELIMINATE WASTE AND GET THIS NEWSLETTER BY EMAIL!

Do your part to save trees and keep our costs down, by emailing forest@louisvilleky.gov with the request "subscribe to newsletter." Include your name and the mailing address where you received this issue, and you will then only receive electronic copies of future newsletters.

Reducing Our Impact

Despite our good intentions, we sometimes cause damage to the great outdoors while enjoying activities such as hiking and camping. Leave No Trace is a program to educate outdoor enthusiasts in the skills and ethics needed to reduce their impact on the natural world. In partnership with Green Earth Outdoors, the Forest is offering a Leave No Trace Awareness Workshop June 5-6, from 1 p.m. Saturday to 11 a.m. Sunday.

The seven principles to be covered in this introductory training are:

- Plan ahead and prepare
- Travel and camp on durable surfaces
- Dispose of waste properly
- Leave what you find
- Minimize campfire impacts
- Respect wildlife
- Be considerate of other visitors

By following these principles, we can leave our outdoor places as good as or better than we found them.

At $60 per person, this program includes one night of camping at Jefferson Memorial Forest, as well as food, group equipment, course equipment and handouts, a Leave No Trace patch and sticker, and an Awareness Workshop certificate. For more details and to register, visit www.greenearthoutdoors.com or call 502/475-7445.

Jefferson Memorial Forest
11311 Mitchell Hill Road
PO Box 467
Fairdale, KY 40118

tel · **502/368-5404**
email · **forest@louisvilleky.gov**
web · **www.memorialforest.com**

PRSRT STD
US Postage
PAID
Louisville, KY
Permit #1151

METRO Parks
www.metro-parks.org

Jerry E. Abramson, Mayor
Louisville Metro Council

JEFFERSON MEMORIAL FOREST

Metro Parks
www.metro-parks.org

Forest/Parks Natural Areas Staff

Bennett Knox
Parks Administrator

Brian Lewis
Infrastructure Manager

Tonya Swan
Public Education Manager

Carl Suk
Land Manager

Sherry Wright
Volunteer Coordinator

Larry Hilton
Naturalist/Trails Supervisor

Gina Tate
Welcome Center/Reservations

Katheryn Lynn
Naturalist/Programs

Shawn Nevins
Naturalist/Programs

Jerry Waddell
Maintenance Supervisor

Christa Weidner
Naturalist/Programs

Continued from page 3
proposed public use areas, Metro Parks is pleased that funding has been made available by the EPA to allow the state to plan for and implement removal of this waste and remediation of the site.

Parents: Engage Your Children Outdoors!

Jefferson Memorial Forest is introducing new Forest Eco-Adventure packs! These packs include a 25-page activity guide providing activities for children to complete on their own or with their family as they explore the Forest. Each pack includes all of the tools an Eco-Explorer needs: binoculars, magnifying glass, thermometer, compass, clipboard, collection jar and much more! These packs are available for a $5 rental fee. The activity book is yours to keep. You can purchase additional activity books for $1.75 each.

The welcome center also carries a variety of children's nature coloring books and colorful kid-friendly guides for purchase. These materials will help your budding naturalist discover and learn more about Jefferson Memorial Forest and the nature found in their own back yards.

The Welcome Center has a New Look and New Items for Sale

During the winter, the Welcome Center got a face lift! The changes include a cozy gathering place for volunteers to check on the latest news and fill out their log sheets. New shelves in the gift shop allowed us to expand what we can provide our visitors.

The Welcome Center now offers hiking, camping, and fishing supplies for sale. Do your part to eliminate waste from plastic water bottles. Show you care and promote the Forest at the same time by purchasing one of our stainless steel water bottles. Getting ready for a hike? Make sure you are prepared with bug spray, sunscreen, and trail mix—all carried in our new shopping space. If you find you have forgotten the charcoal for your cookout, don't worry! We carry charcoal and other picnic supplies such as lighter fluid, matches, paper goods, and utensils. Please stop by to check out all of the changes!