WOODS & WATERS NEWS

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Snowy Owl Awards WWLT Grant

The Snowy Owl Foundation funds projects that care for nature, creativity, and human need with imagination. Woods and Waters Land Trust was given \$2500 in support of our conservation efforts this year. The foundation is the result of founder Nana Lampton's vision of giving.

Extravaganza 2016

Join us Saturday, September 10 for an evening by the creek at Franklin County's most celebrated horse farm Indian Ridge Farm. We'll be grilling local food and celebrating land conservation with dinner, a live auction, tours, and music.

Tours begin at 4:30pm

Dinner begins at 6:00pm

Tickets available on Facebook, at Completely Kentucky (downtown Frankfort) and on our website.

woodsandwaterstrust.org/ extravaganza

502-229-1436



John Wigginton, Dan Hauck and WWLT Vice President Andrew Cammack after easement signing.

Benson Creek—More Forest That Stays Forest!

From the day they bought their 72 acres of wooded property on upper Benson Creek, Dan Hauck and John Wigginton intended to conserve it – to keep the forest healthy as long as they own it. In signing a conservation easement on this natural land, they now know it will be forest forever. Woods and Waters Land Trust worked with the two landowners to develop this long term agreement. On April 26 they signed an agreement that they had been contemplating for 40 years.

The oak hickory forest slopes to rock ledges along the stream and, in spring, is flush with wildflowers. While both of them have thought about living on the property, neither has built a permanent home –



Land Trust Consistent Accreditation Commission An independent program of the Land Trust Alliance

On the Path to Accreditation...

Thanks to an enormous effort by one of our volunteers, board member Mary Margaret Lowe, and others, we have submitted our completed application for national accreditation. This is a comprehensive review of practices and policies – our application was at least 5 inches thick!

Like WWLT, many land trusts rely on volunteers to do the intensive work of land conservation. The Land Trust Alliance administers the program to provide guidance in sound business, legal and science practices. WWLT is on its way!

Our Easements

Franklin County

Hauck/Wigginton–72 acres/ Benson Creek

Shelby County

Coffey- 43 acres/Benson Creek

Owen County

Schimmoeller–107 acres/Cedar Creek

Henry County

Caye-140 acres/Cane Run

which, as Dan says, makes him appreciate it even more when he's there.

With the Coffey easement only a few months ago, this is the second forest protected within the Benson Creek area. Studies show that more forest cover in a watershed results in higher water quality.

During a survey of the site for the conservation agreement, biologists found a rare plant, Wood's bunchflower, that is listed as "threatened" in Kentucky. This making the agreement even more significant to the conservation of the area.



There were some interesting old cars at the easement property including a Valiant, VW bug and bus (1960s), and this "jeep". Thanks to John Wheatley, Capital Restoration and Automotive Services, for donating time and equipment to haul them out of the woods.

Thank you, Dan and John, for

your decision to protect a beautiful natural area that will support water quality and wildlife habitat with rare plants. Your commitment creates a legacy that will continue to yield benefits beyond our lifetimes.

Board Member Sallye Stumbo

Sallye Hill Stumbo is widely known in the Frankfort community as a former City Commissioner and volunteer for civic groups, schools, and our land trust! Her "never met a stranger" attitude makes it clear that she's interested in people and her community, but we have discovered at WWLT, she's interested in conservation too.

Sallye's interest and passion for the land conservation springs from seeing the pollution and destruction of her homeland; the east Kentucky mountains, streams and rivers, from strip mining. For her WWLT biography she wrote: "I spent the first 18 years of life on a 35 acre farm 5 miles from Prestonsburg, Floyd Co, KY. The small Abbot Creek flowed around our bottomland into the Big Sandy River. Our working farm had cows, chickens, pigs, a dog, cats and a very large garden. As the youngest of four children, we all helped plant and harvest the crops. Beef, pork, and poultry from the farm fed our family. I wandered the hills, found wildflowers, played in the creek and learned to swim in the Big Sandy."

Invasive Plant Removal Service a Success

Woods & Waters Land Trust was pleased to provide a second year of service pulling garlic mustard and bush honeysuckle for WWLT members in our watershed. With the adept supervision of Tim Riggs, we employed residents of the men's and women's shelters in treating land for 8 landowners over a period of three weeks in April and May.

Both garlic mustard and bush honeysuckle are widespread in our region. They out-compete native flora and over time, replace native shrubs and plants with a monoculture. If you would like to learn more about what is in your woods, please contact us!



Tim Riggs and another worker grubbing out callery pear on a Franklin County property near the Kentucky River.

After getting her college degrees she worked as an administer of a health screening project in 13 Eastern KY counties; a counselor for college students from public assistance families from all over the state; a Health Planner for the Big Sandy Area Development District; and, a part-time teacher at Prestonsburg Community College. After moving to Frankfort in the late 70s, she worked in Kentucky's Appalachian Regional Commission program writing



Sallye with her grandchildren Ella and Myles.

grants and starting programs in Home Health, Child Development, and Vocational Education. She also operated a State Farm Insurance Agency.

Clearly Sallye has a long history and interest in community support! Her family, including her grandkids Myles and Ella, are further inspiration to her in ensuring healthy places for healthy people.

Thank you, Sallye, for your dedicated work at Woods and Waters Land Trust.

Focus on Invasives: Callery Pear

Callery pear is a popular ornamental tree native to China and Vietnam. The most familiar cultivar of this invasive is 'Bradford.' Like many of the callery pear cultivars, it was bred to be sterile. It doesn't produce viable seeds when pollinated by itself or other 'Bradford' pears. However, it can produce viable seeds when pollinated by a different cultivar of callery pear. Evidence of this is easy to see along roadsides and in old fields in spring when the trees are in flower.

Callery Pear (*Pyrus calleryana*) produces small fruit that are eaten by birds and small mammals. The indigestible seeds are carried to new locations in the gut of the animals that eat them. These seeds germinate and within 3 or 4 years produce a tree that can be as much as ten feet tall.

Like most invasive pest plants, callery pear quickly displaces the native trees and shrubs that are so important for our native pollinators, birds, mammals and other animals.

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Join WWLT, a non-profit organization protecting the forested lands and riparian areas in the lower Kentucky River watershed and promoting sustainable land use in the region for the benefit of present and future generations. To join, complete and mail this form, along with your check to the above address.

<u>\$25</u> <u>\$50</u> <u>\$100</u> <u>\$250</u>

Name _____

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Paying it forward with land.

Consider Woods and Waters Land Trust in your will. Your bequest helps us develop long-term conservation strategies, acquire land and conservation easements, steward our properties, and promote a strong land ethic through education and outreach.

