



Working Together to Protect Radnor Lake

by Robin Conover and Steve Ward

ON December 30, 2012, Friends of Radnor Lake (FORL) and The Land Trust for Tennessee (LTTN) purchased a 40-acre parcel along Radnor Lake's southeastern boundary. This large acquisition is a critical piece of the overall puzzle to protect Radnor Lake. The land was secured by FORL and LTTN, with assistance from The Conservation Fund, then purchased by the state of Tennessee in May 2013, protecting it forever as part of Radnor Lake State Natural Area.

"Partners working together" has been a common theme throughout Radnor Lake's history. With the protection of 653 acres in 1973, more than 550 additional acres have been protected, saving vital watershed and viewshed. Keeping Radnor Lake as we have all come to know it takes partnerships, vision and dedication.

What is different about this latest property acquisition?

FIRST: The leadership from TDEC specifically Commissioner Bob Martineau and Deputy Commissioner Brock Hill, has enabled Friends of Radnor Lake to aggressively pursue not only this 40-acre parcel, but other tracts of land that have been on our wish list for years. FORL's fundraising efforts acquired grants and donations that will be matched with state dollars. These partnerships allow us to work more efficiently and maximize funding from both the state and private sector.

SECOND: There will be 40 hikes in 40 days to the newly acquired property. We have learned from our past successes, specifically our "Save Harris Ridge" campaign in 2011, and have committed to taking park visitors on the grounds to see for themselves how important this land is to the natural area.

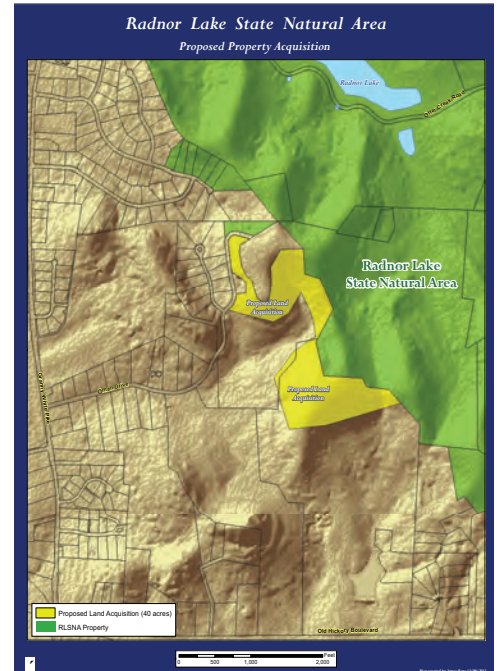
We will offer multiple opportunities for off-trail hikes during the fall of 2013, where park visitors will hike to the centerpiece of this 40-acre acquisition: a ridgetop—the last unsecured hilltop

along the southeastern boundary—that overlooks Brentwood.

These hikes will be supported by FORL, LTTN and our partners at Dyer Observatory.

The concept of state park rangers leading hikes to these new properties to highlight their significance and long-term management is perhaps the most important way we can raise awareness for the need of private funds to secure the remaining watershed, viewshed and other sensitive parcels of land.

Although these 40 acres have been saved, we aren't finished yet. Your support in any way will be greatly appreciated by all who wish to enjoy and to protect Radnor Lake forever.



Supporters Generously Donate For Expansion

The Frist Foundation

Last October, The Frist Foundation granted an unprecedented \$500,000 to help in the expansion of the Radnor Lake State Natural Area.

"The Frist Foundation sees Radnor Lake as an exemplary public-private partnership," says Pete Bird, Frist Foundation President. "We saw this as a rare opportunity to enhance a crown jewel in Nashville's urban landscape."

This generous donation from The Frist Foundation makes it possible to take advantage of targeted land opportunities as they become available. "It's now or never," says Paul Buchanan, Board VP of Land for Friends of Radnor Lake. "Having the support of The Frist Foundation will give us a once-in-a-lifetime opportunity to protect this land forever."

Andrea Waitt Carlton (AWC) Family Foundation

Friends of Radnor Lake (FORL) has received two substantial grants from the Andrea Waitt Carlton (AWC) Family Foundation totaling \$325,000. AWC Family Foundation awarded the Land Acquisition Opportunity Grant of \$25,000 in September of 2011 for use in land surveys, appraisals, and options for land acquisition and preservation.

In November of 2012, Steve Rasmussen, executive director of AWC Family Foundation, informed us that we were awarded with a \$300,000 matching grant for the purpose of land acquisition. The award is a multi-year gift. Friends of Radnor Lake has been actively raising money and will undertake a major fundraising campaign, starting in August 2013, towards matching this generous grant on the next targeted land acquisition.

"Having these funds allows us to act quickly when land opportunities become available," said Greer Tidwell, President of FORL.



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A letter from the board: President's Message

Dear Friends,

Fishing together with Radnor Lake Junior Rangers on the Buffalo River Cleanup trip was a highlight of my summer and a reminder of hope. During their two week program of working at Radnor, the Jr. Rangers take one day and go help another area of Tennessee by cleaning up a stretch of the Buffalo River. The trip is a refreshing break from trail maintenance and also serves to instill a sense of duty to care for our natural resources. Highlights for the kids include catching a first fish, snorkeling for a fish-eye view of the river and loading the last piece of garbage on the trailer at the end of the day. The young people working for two weeks side-by-side with Radnor's professional staff and volunteers have an intense, in depth connection to Radnor, and they epitomize the hope we all share as we work to preserve, protect and promote Radnor.

Today, experiences for young Radnor visitors may include riding in a baby stroller, hiking bench-to-bench on the lake trail, peering through the historic water pipe on our new valve house trail, getting up-close to a red shouldered hawk with Ranger Dustin Crowell, or fulfilling the "meditation time" class assignment for students in Lipscomb's Ecology Literature class. Young people connecting with Radnor are our hope.

Forty years ago, a group of Nashvillians started with hope and turned it into the 653 acre core of Tennessee's first state natural area. Those hardworking volunteers and public servants who initially saved Radnor have been joined by many others to continue adding acres

and promoting education for the next generation. Through a lot of teamwork during its first 40 years, Radnor has served tens of millions of visitors. Radnor is where many introduced their kids and now, grandkids, to the outdoors. In *The Forest Unseen: a Year's Watch in Nature*, author David Haskell of Sewanee reminds us of our need for the Radnor oasis: "A direct experience of the forest gives us the humility to put our life and desires into that bigger context that inspires all the great moral traditions."

Taking care of Radnor through your time, talent and treasure is a great way of showing close to a million visitors each year that you care for them and for their future. Through the foresight of state leaders, strategic focus of park professionals and generous hard work of thousands of Nashville's finest citizens, companies and charitable foundations, our teamwork puts hope into action for results. Urban development continues to threaten the Radnor experience; so when we can, we must take action to save the remaining land. The Friends of Radnor Lake will continue to work together to serve the visitors and young people of today as well as tomorrow. Join us.

Respectfully,
Greer Tidwell



Greer Tidwell
President, Friends of
Radnor Lake



Jr. Ranger Interns, Radnor Staff and FORL President Greer Tidwell with trailer full of trash collected from the Buffalo River in June 2013. They collected 28 tires from 10 miles of river. The tires were recycled through Bridgestone's recycling program.



A boardwalk is under construction from the education center on Hall Rd. to the aviary.

The Barbara J. Mapp Aviary Education Center

by Steve Ward and Patty St. Clair

The Barbara J. Mapp Foundation and Friends of Radnor Lake have undertaken an incredible project — building an aviary at Radnor Lake State Natural Area. On June 11, 2013, the first poles were placed in the ground and construction of The Barbara J. Mapp Aviary Education Center began. Since then, many people have contributed their time, money and energy to this project, including staff, volunteers, board members and members of the aviary team, who have helped prep the site, removed exotic-invasive plants and ensured that the project will be completed efficiently.

Our partners at Baron Construction and Stansell Electric have worked on-site to construct the individual aviaries and boardwalk. Oversight of the project has been provided by Walter Cook with Tennessee Wildlife Resources Agency



(TWRA) to ensure the health and safety of the educational birds of prey housed at the aviary. In addition, Nashville Electric Service donated approximately 100 used utility poles to support the 550 foot long boardwalk and the aviary.

The Barbara J. Mapp Aviary Education Center is being constructed behind the current Education Center located southwest of the lake at the end of Hall Rd. It is being built for raptors or birds of prey and will include five pens for non-releasable birds of prey, such as injured red-tailed hawks and great horned owls; a separate aviary to house two bald eagles; a wheelchair-accessible boardwalk along the pens; and an amphitheatre for wildlife and nature programs.

The non-releasable birds could not survive on their own, due to an injury to a wing, claw or eye. Close interaction with these birds of prey will help visitors understand their importance as they are natural barometers to the environment.

We look forward to this addition to our environmental education and protection efforts at RLSNA. Watch for our anticipated opening this fall. Please visit our website at www.radnorlake.org, for more information, and a map of its location.

At left, the Baron Construction company working on the aviary boardwalk.



Help Us Fly

You can be a part of this extraordinary project. Help us raise \$90,000 to complete the aviary.

- **Give online** – at www.radnorlake.org. Click on Donate and put AVIARY in the comment box on the bottom of the page when filling out your credit card information.
- **Mail check** – using the envelope enclosed with this newsletter, fill out the requested information and mail a check. Write AVIARY on the check memo line.
- **Donation Box** – Envelopes are available at the Visitor Center to make a donation in person. Simply fill out the requested information and drop into the FORL Donation Box. Write AVIARY on the envelope.
- **Text to give** – be a part of our innovative efforts to reach all of the nearly 1 million visitors to Radnor Lake State Natural Area. Use your smart phone to give \$10.



Text: Radnor

To: 20222

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Thank You to Our Many Volunteers and Donors

Pictured on top: National Trails Day volunteers working on mulching the Lake Trail at Radnor Lake in June.

Pictured in the center: Tennessee State University students working on their service day at Radnor Lake on June 21.

Pictured at right: Jr. Rangers and Caterpillar Financial employees working on the South Cove Trail in June.



DONATIONS AND CONTRIBUTIONS 2012

THANK YOU to everyone who has contributed to Friends of Radnor Lake. Your generosity and support are greatly appreciated and will help us to further our mission to protect, preserve and promote Radnor Lake.

This list reflects donations, gifts, grants and memorials made in 2012 using a revised database system. We apologize in advance for any mistakes and/or omissions. Please let us know if we have any listings or omissions in error.

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Doug Darwish and Silvia Vajushi
Janet Kalnas

Dr. Oliver Yates
Robbie and Hank Davis

Elliott Garrett
Anne Livingston-Garrett

Felix Dowsley and Susie Douglas
Toby and David Cannon

Frances C. Hayes
Diane and Tom Hayes

Gordon and Linda Potter
Louise Potter

Greer Tidwell
Risley Lawrence

Jill Gimney
Larimore Foster

Jo Anne Moore
Lisa Spangler

John and Becky Reed
Carolyn and Russell Daniel

John Egerton
Richard and Lou Anne Wolfson

Johnsie and Tate Dawkins
Leanne and John Woehlke
Wyatt and Harper McClure
William and Anne Harris
Menge

Scott and Margot Ramsey
Baby Parikh
Emily and Stephen Maggart
Vaughn Yancey

Joe M. Hodgson
Elliott and Audrey Paik
Maida and Lily Harwell
Johnsie and Tate Dawkins
Jackson and William James
Gabi and Brent Hannafan
J.P. Todd

Jet O'Rear
Caroline and Dorothy Walsh

Julia and Brian Chrisman
Richard and Marilyn Thompson

Katherine Lane Simpson
Carolyn Simpson

Ken Levitan
Brandy Necessary

Kent Blazy
Suellen and Leon Joyner

Louis Jackson
Jane and Frank Tacker

Mr. and Mrs. Pat Kelly
Ruth Hessey

Mr. and Mrs. Norris Nielsen and Mr. and Mrs. Robert Dale
Jane Fabian

Norman and Richenda Davis
Kathie Hodge

Peter Scanlan
Carol Rehder

Phyllis Cargile
Betty Davies

Radnor Lake Staff
Norma Hunter

Ranger Jenkins
Sow and Grow Garden Club

Sharon Monroe
Patricia Green

Suellen Joyner
Sherry Harrison

The Rangers and Staff of Radnor Lake
Janet and Bob Belser

The Tidwell Family
Honey and Lamar Alexander

Tracey Ford
Edwin Ford

Tyne Meade Garden Club
Betsy Abernathy

Will Martin and Jeanie Nelson
Harlan Dodson, III

IN KIND...

Radnor Lake Volunteers
Thank you for your generous time and hard work.

Steve Winwood, benefit concert for Radnor Lake

Everyone who attended the Steve Winwood concert for Radnor Lake

Lightning 100

Aviary contributions:

Baron Construction Nashville
Electric Service Marion Fowlkes
John Carpenter
Stansell Electric
Armour and Amour
Environmental Marketing

The Chestnut Group

Charley Hankla's donation of trailer for park use

Dan Smith, Debra Brawner and Granny White Market and all who donated their musical talent to the Mooggrass Jam

Demetria Kalodimos for being a wonderful Emcee at Mooggrass

Don Horn, photographer

8:28 Marketing

Gary and Adam Geckley, for help with the Valve House Bridge

Rick and Dana Short, for all the water supplied

Richard Conner's birding class

Susan Hollyday and the Tennessee Ornithological Society for Birding Walks

Imagen Anything's assistance with educational displays at the Visitor Center

ActiveBuy

Charlie Tallent, photographer

Dave Badger, John Netherton posters

Dyer Observatory

REI

Wonderful retailers who helped sell, Radnor Lake's 2013 Calendar: Granny White Market, Parnassus Books, A Thousand Faces, The Beveled Edge and REI

Chris and Wess Megill for help with park bridges

Whole Foods Market

Dr. Heffington, MTSU

James Russ, mapping consultant

David Adderly, Hitech Signs

ACS, Joel Hill - security cameras

Robin Conover, photography and design of 2013 FORL calendar.

Granny White Market Moograss Jam Raises Record \$30k

by Susan Chapman

Ten years ago, the Purple Cow Moograss Jam was a simple little bluegrass jam brought together by Dan Smith and Debra Brawner, owners of Granny White Market since 1996. “The first couple of years we spent more on the jam than we took in,” Dan recalls.

On Saturday, May 25, the 10th Anniversary of the jam coincided with the 100th Anniversary of the Granny White Market, as well as, the 40th Anniversary of Friends of Radnor Lake. The festival raised a record \$30,000 to benefit Radnor Lake.

Dan remembers growing up in the area and riding his bike around Radnor Lake with his brothers and friends. “I loved it then and later, as a Boy Scout, I helped raise money to save Radnor,” said Dan. “It’s something I remember being proud of. I have never stopped wanting to support it. My son and daughter served as junior rangers there for a few years and volunteered on clean-up days. My whole family hikes there and we feel it is incumbent upon us to protect what we love so much.”

Demetria Kalodimos, WSMV-TV news anchor and an avid Radnor Lake devotee, was once again emcee.

“We, of course, could not do it without the musicians donating their talent and time,” Dan said.



Pictured above are Riders in the Sky with Kurt Storey. Below left is Muriel Anderson with her harp guitar. Demetria Kalodimos, below right, served as the emcee.
Photographs by Robin Conover.



Special thanks to everyone who made this year’s Moograss Jam the best one yet!

Riders in the Sky • Rivers Rutherford • Stanley Jordon • Future Man • Kathy Chiavola Kurt Storey • Katherine Saul • Rocky Block Band • Grace Adele Band • Muriel Anderson

We also greatly appreciate the support of our generous sponsors, donors, musicians, Demetria Kalodimos, Dan Smith, Debra Brawner and all the Granny White Market staff.

Tidwell Receives Achievement Award



Photograph courtesy of the Metropolitan Historical Commission

On May 29, the Metropolitan Historical Commission honored Ann Tidwell with the Achievement Award for her dedication and contributions to the protection, conservation, and promotion of Tennessee’s natural resources, including Radnor Lake State Natural Area and Nashville’s greenways and trails. The 38th annual awards ceremony took place at the Nashville Public Library with Mayor Karl Dean, seen here on left, presenting the award to Ann. She has served on the Friends of Radnor Lake board of directors for more than 25 years.



Ryan leads a canoe float at Radnor Lake.

Farewell to Ranger Ryan Jenkins

In May, Ranger Ryan Jenkins transferred to Henry Horton State Park. Thank you, Ryan, for your service at Radnor Lake. We wish you and your family all the best.



Steve Ward
Park Manager

Dustin Crowell
Park Ranger

Jesse Germeraad
Park Ranger

Sam King
Park Ranger

Leslie Anne Rawlings
Park Ranger

Nikki Gordan
Ranger Aide

Chris Corsi
Ranger Aide

Lyndy Maness
Secretary

Angelina Clarke
Receptionist

**Radnor Lake State
Natural Area**
1160 Otter Creek Road
Nashville, TN 37220
(615) 373-3467

Park Hours:
6 a.m. until dark

Visitor Center Hours:
Open daily: 9 a.m.-4 p.m.
Closed: noon-1 p.m.

Park Visitor Center:
(615) 373-3467

Event schedule and updates
at: www.radnorlake.org.

Volunteer Days

Fourth Saturday
of the month
Meet at the Visitor Center.
8 a.m. - noon

Bob and Margaret Maddox Charitable Fund Grant

by Steve Ward, Park Manager

Last year, Friends of Radnor Lake were awarded a generous grant from the Maddox Charitable Fund to create an environmental education opportunity for our park and an educational display about the waterfowl and birds at Radnor Lake State Natural Area on one of our observation decks along Otter Creek Road. This project was headed up by Ranger Jesse Germeraad and Dr. Jon Lowrance from Lipscomb University, both of whom spent countless hours working with Joan LaGrasse of Imagen, LCC, Jan Shaw, Scott block and volunteers from the Tennessee Ornithological Society on this project.

In addition, Friends of Radnor Lake and Imagen, LCC partnered on this project contributing additional funds to allow us to maximize on the grant awarded to us by the Maddox Charitable Fund.



A young visitor uses scope to view migratory waterfowl. Photograph by Steve Ward

Thank you to the Maddox Charitable Fund for making this project a reality.

Dr. Harris Oliver Yates 1934-2013

by Patty St. Clair

Dr. Oliver Yates, retired biology department chair of Lipscomb University and an ardent supporter of Radnor Lake for the past 60 years, passed away earlier this year on January 24. Dr. Yates became involved with Radnor Lake in the early 1950s when he first conducted biological research and educational programs for students at Lipscomb University. His findings were used to explain the biological importance of preserving the fragile ecosystem, which was key to Radnor Lake being designated as Tennessee's first state natural area. Most recently he was a member of the steering committee to determine the quality of the water in Radnor Lake and its feeder streams, to determine its overall health. Park Manager Steve Ward said it best when Dr. Yates received the 2012 Friends of Radnor Lake Environmental Award, "Without a doubt, he has been an irreplaceable protector of the state's first



Dr Oliver Yates on right, identifies a new plant at Radnor Lake in 2010 with Ranger Jesse Germeraad. Photograph by Steve Ward.

natural area and a valued friend to Radnor Lake for the past 60 years." We are indebted to Dr. Yates for his many years of support, research, leadership and friendship, and would like to express our heartfelt condolences to his family.

Welcome Ranger Dustin Crowell

In June, Radnor Lake added a new staff member, Ranger Dustin Crowell, who comes to us with extensive experience in conducting educational programs, on prey and reptiles. Dustin was formerly with Tennessee State Parks as a Seasonal Interpretive Ranger at Reelfoot Lake, Hiwassee/Ocoee River and Fall Creek Falls.

Ranger Dustin Crowell, on far left, leads a canoe float. Photograph by Lester Turner



Forestry Stewardship Grant Awarded to Friends of Radnor Lake

by Steve Ward, Park Manager

In our continuing efforts to remove the natural area of invasive-exotic plants, Friends of Radnor Lake was awarded a generous \$15,000 grant from the Tennessee Division of Forestry that will provide the ranger staff and volunteers with supplies necessary to remove the natural area of more invasive-exotics such as bush honeysuckle, privet and tree of heaven.

We would like to thank all of our volunteers, staff members and board members who have stepped up to assist in these efforts. Special thanks to the Tennessee Division of Forestry, specifically Heather Slayton and John Kirksey for assisting us through this grant process for the past five years.

If you would like more information about invasive-exotics, please pick up a brochure at the Visitor Center or visit our website at www.radnorlake.org.



Invasive-exotic plants: bush honeysuckle (left) and a new shoot from the Princess Tree (right) grows aggressively. Photographs by Steve Ward

Friends Purchase Parking Lot Safeguard

by Lester Turner

Visitors seek peace and tranquility at Radnor Lake. It's a refuge for anyone wanting to relax, enjoy the outdoors and leave their problems behind.

But nothing breaks the Radnor spell faster than finding your car window shattered when you return to your vehicle. Periodic break-ins led Friends of Radnor Lake to find a solution to help deter vandalism.

With the help of private donations, a security camera system was installed in June. The system allows rangers to monitor activity from the gates to the parking areas.

The digital log files maintained by the system allow the ranger staff to

respond to security incidents quickly and determine what occurred. The video files can be viewed on laptops in the rangers' vehicles and, in the event of an incident, will give rangers the tools needed to work with other law enforcement agencies to pursue successful prosecution.

The camera system serves as a deterrent to illegal activity and adds to our visitors' peace of mind. It also allows the ranger staff to work more efficiently — which means more time to be on the trails, lead educational programs, conduct environmental research and spend time with park visitors.

One recent incident highlights the effectiveness of the system. A ranger

on duty found a car in the parking lot at closing time. Protocol requires the ranger to verify that no one is stranded or injured on a trail. Normally this requires rangers to hike all the trails to be sure that no one needs help. In this case, the ranger reviewed the video and saw that the owner had apparently locked the keys inside and left the park in another vehicle. Reviewing the video resulted in a significant time savings for park rangers.

Special thanks to the two private donors whose donations made this project possible and to Access Control Systems LLC for its generous in-kind contribution and professional installation of the system.



A contented bullfrog peeping out of the duckweed.

Photograph by Robin Conover



FRIENDS OF RADNOR LAKE

Friends of Radnor Lake was born in 1973 when the lake and surrounding hills were threatened by residential development. As the Tennessee State Parks system's oldest and most successful nonprofit support group, FORL has purchased critical properties and supported protection efforts in many other ways.

Friends of Radnor Lake
P.O. Box 40324
Nashville, TN 37204
(615) 251-1471

email: [friendsofradnorlake@
yahoo.com](mailto:friendsofradnorlake@yahoo.com)

www.radnorlake.org

Radnor Visitor = Radnor Member? Mostly not.

By Karen Bird

It amazes me in this 40th anniversary of Radnor Lake how many visitors who frequent the state's first natural area aren't yet members. Can't blame them, as nine out of 10 visitors don't realize they CAN support Radnor by becoming a member. Or why.

The "Why" part is simple. Friends of Radnor Lake membership means you support:

- **Protecting land** — donations help purchase critical views and watershed land surrounding the park. There's only so much left, so when it's gone, it's gone.
- **Environmental projects** — like the new Aviary for injured birds
- **Volunteers** — after mulching trails for 3 hours, a water bottle and lunch supplied by the Friends group is huge.
- **Advocacy** — to give wildlife "a voice" when it comes to their backyard.
- **Research** — to study the quality of lake water, historical features and impact of humans on our natural area. Think pipeline again.
- **Education** — park programs and web information help educate students and visitors alike.

Come to think of it, the "How" to support Radnor Lake is pretty simple too:

1. Become a member of Friends of Radnor Lake for as little as \$40. Go to www.radnorlake.org to learn more.
2. Upgrade your license plate. A large portion of each plate you buy is donated directly to Friends of Radnor Lake. AND it's pretty!
3. Remember a loved one by donating "in honor of" or "in memory of."
4. Donate your time—Volunteer days are the 4th Saturday of each month. Your time is priceless to our Park Rangers.
5. Like us on FACEBOOK and enjoy scenic photos and park updates.
6. Drop a dollar in the donation box. Just think if all million visitors did that...
7. Attend events—Mooggrass Jam at Granny White Market was a blast. Put it on your calendar for next May—and watch for other upcoming fundraising events.
8. Remember Radnor Lake in your will and trust, or through the Community Foundation environmental funds.

Join FORL — if you do nothing else, during this 40th Anniversary year of Radnor Lake, please join the Friends of Radnor Lake for \$40. Let's turn one million visitors into one million members, starting today.



Like Us!

In an increasingly digital world, it's important to be able to communicate with supporters

in both traditional and nontraditional methods. Friends of Radnor Lake uses its Facebook page to communicate with supporters on a daily and weekly basis. From photos of wildlife at Radnor Lake to the visitors and volunteers enjoying the park, we are always looking for new ways to recognize achievement and be a resource for information.

If you haven't visited or "liked" our Facebook page yet, the only real question is ... what are you waiting for?

Like us at:

www.facebook.com/friendsofradnorlake

For more information please visit:

www.radnorlake.org