



FRIENDS OF
RADNOR LAKE

PROTECT | PRESERVE | PROMOTE

Reflections
Winter 2015

Our Mission: To protect, preserve and promote the natural integrity of Radnor Lake through land acquisition, environmental education and park support.



A New View

Friends of Radnor Lake, the State of Tennessee, the Harris Family and Radnor park rangers celebrate the opening of new observation deck and announce plans for 52-acre expansion.

Photograph by Robin Conover

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From the Board President

What a momentous year 2015 has been for Friends of Radnor Lake – one of the best ever! Thank you for your generous support in so many ways, as we strive to further our mission to preserve, protect and promote Radnor Lake State Natural Area.

We wish you good health, much happiness and adventurous hiking at Radnor Lake in 2016. Here's to a great year!

Nan Adams



Nan Adams
President
Friends of Radnor Lake

Love the Lake, Love the Land Art Show & Sale

Friends of Radnor Lake partnered with the Chestnut Group for a record-breaking event Nov. 5-8, raising over \$30,000 for Radnor Lake. Much gratitude goes to the many talented artists for their donations, our generous supporters who purchased the beautiful Radnor art and our great Friends of Radnor Lake board and park staff that worked together toward the success of this event.



Photograph by Robin Conover
Amanda Blouin and Janet Jones



Photograph by Steve Ward
Gretchen Pritchett, Sue Ellen and Leon Joyner



Thank you Chestnut Group!

Photograph by Steve Ward

Special thanks to our generous event sponsors

NISSAN



Conservation Collaboration Makes Forever a Reality

Written by Liz McLaurin, President, The Land Trust for Tennessee



On September 16, Kay Cheek joined Friends of Radnor Lake, The Land Trust for Tennessee and the State of Tennessee to celebrate a capstone collaboration that conserves forever an additional 15 acres visible from the trails of Radnor Lake, walked by more than one million visitors each year.

“Working with Friends of Radnor Lake, The Land Trust of Tennessee and Radnor Lake Park Manager Steve Ward over the last 15 years has allowed me to fulfill the wishes of my husband, John Jr. and my son, John III. This precious land that they loved so much will be this way forever,” says Kay Cheek.

Over a period of 14 years, a total of 75 acres of the Cheek property has been added to the Radnor Lake Natural Area and is protected by the State Natural Preservation Act which passed in 1971.

“The Cheek’s steadfast commitment is as awe-inspiring as the landscapes they have protected,” proclaimed Jeanie Nelson, founder of The Land Trust for Tennessee. “The Cheeks are conservation heroes in a city that is growing at a pace among the fastest in our nation.”

“Their vision is transformational for Radnor, for our state,” said Nan Adams, President of Friends of Radnor Lake. “Now, this vast land is protected as an urban sanctuary for wildlife and waterfowl and a place of peace and tranquility for people from all walks of life.”

Speaker Beth Harwell was on hand when the partners gathered to look out over Radnor Lake and pay tribute to the Cheeks. “We accomplish more together than we do alone,” said the Speaker. “This conservation project - and others like it across our state - demonstrates vividly the power of leveraging resources and cultivating relationships to benefit Tennesseans for generations to come.”

“I hope others will be inspired,” agreed Kay Cheek. “The land is only ours for a while and I’m so happy to be here to see us all enjoy it together—just as it should be—forever.”



Nan Adams, Speaker Beth Halteman Harwell, Kay Cheek, Gretchen Pritchett



Kay Cheek with Liz McLaurin and her son Sam Henry



Jeanie Nelson, Speaker Beth Halteman Harwell, Kay Cheek, Anderl Molterer

All photographs by Robin Conover

A Historic Day at Radnor Lake



Park rangers conduct waterfowl identification program from the new observation deck with view of planned land expansion.

Photograph by Steve Ward

Brand New Lake Trail Observation Deck

On Friday, November 13, Friends of Radnor Lake and Tennessee State Parks officially opened a new observation deck on the Lake Trail to the public. The ribbon cutting ceremony included a dedication to Friends of Radnor Lake President, Nan Adams, and her family whose generous funding made this long anticipated project a reality.

This location is considered to be the prettiest view of the lake and the surrounding hills of the natural area. The wheelchair-accessible deck features two seating areas for wildlife observation and quiet reflection; and a special section for ranger-led spotting scope waterfowl identification programs and photography by park visitors.

This View Will Be Protected Forever!

Thanks to the partnership between Friends of Radnor Lake, the State of Tennessee and the Harris Family, a 52-acre expansion is planned for Radnor Lake.

Announced at the observation deck ribbon cutting ceremony on November 13, this land acquisition project, when complete, will protect this magnificent view forever and creates the opportunity for the addition of a new trail and parking from Franklin Road. Friends of Radnor Lake has committed to raise one million dollars toward the completion of this project. Stay tuned for ranger-led hike opportunities to see this historic land acquisition beginning on December 31.



FORL President Nan Adams cuts the ribbon on the new observation deck.

Photograph by Robin Conover



Friends of Radnor Lake board members.

Photograph by Robin Conover



Harris Family joined by current and past presidents of Friends of Radnor Lake, Radnor Lake ranger staff, Commissioner Bob Martineau, Deputy Commissioner Brock Hill, Congressman Jim and Martha Cooper, Nan, Kaitlin and Preston Adams. *Photograph by Robin Conover*



Board members Andrew Amonette, Lester Turner, architect Chris Magill, and board member Charley Wray discuss the observation deck design. *Photograph by Robin Conover*



Congressman Jim Cooper speaking at the special park event where this historic land acquisition was announced. *Photograph by Robin Conover*



Steve Ward
Park Manager

Dustin Crowell
Park Ranger

Sam King
Park Ranger

Will Peter
Park Ranger

Paul Schauer
Park Ranger

Charles Okoreeh-Baah
Ranger Aide

Taylor Smith
Ranger Aide

Laurie Campbell
Seasonal Interpreter

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:
Thurs – Mon: 9:30 a.m. - 4 p.m.
(Closed: Tues and Wed,
and daily 1 - 2 p.m.)

Walter Criley Visitor Center:
(615) 373-3467

**Event Schedule
and Updates:**
www.radnorlake.org

Volunteer Days
Fourth Saturday of the month
(Meet at the Visitor Center)
8 a.m. - noon

Radnor Lake State Natural Area receives special gift to enhance education programs for park visitors

Written by Park Manager Steve Ward



Ranger staff in canoe instructor class

Photograph by Steve Ward

Radnor Lake State Natural Area has for many years provided interpretive canoe floats for our park visitors. These floats offer visitors' the "best view" and insight into the natural area, provide unique wildlife observation opportunities and enable visitors an in-depth interpretation into the history of the lake.

Over the past year, the ranger staff worked toward identifying quality improvements that could enhance our visitors experience during interpretive canoe floats. The goals were: improving the quality of floats by replacing metal canoes with fiberglass to reduce noise while on the lake, equipping canoes with padded seating and back support options and providing rangers canoe instructor certification and targeted training for visitors with special needs. Other priorities were to plan for more efficient canoe storage and better care for the canoes for long-term sustainability.

At the beginning of 2015, Radnor Lake was honored with a very special donation from a couple who are regular park visitors and wanted to "make a difference" at the

park. Their gift was specifically targeted to improve environmental education efforts by the park ranger staff. It is not every day as park manager you get approached with, "Steve, what do you need, what is really important to you, what have you and the rangers been unable to do".

Thanks to Trish and Shelly Krizelman, our enhanced canoe float program became a reality during the Summer of 2015. On behalf of the ranger staff and Friends of Radnor Lake, we would like to thank them for this special donation.



Photograph by Bob Belser

Radnor Kicks Off 2016 Ranger-Led Land Acquisition Hikes

Starting on New Year's Eve, ranger staff will be leading a series of hikes to the planned 52-acre land acquisition site at Radnor Lake State Natural Area. Enjoy the view, learn about the watershed and viewshed at Radnor Lake and the historical and natural features of the property. For more information and to sign up for special hikes, visit radnorlake.org or call the park office at (615) 373-3467.



2014 New Year's Eve Hike was a blast!

Photograph by Robin Conover



Ranger-led After-Thanksgiving Hike, Nov. 2015

Photograph by Steve Ward



Photograph by Robin Conover

Barbara J. Mapp Aviary Education Center update

Enjoy a hike to the Barbara J. Mapp Aviary Education Center and say, "hello" to our new resident, an American Bald Eagle. Construction is underway to complete the flighted aviary which will allow Radnor Lake to welcome two additional American bald eagles in 2016.

Sustainability Matching Grant

Friends of Radnor Lake has received a generous matching grant opportunity from the Barbara J. Mapp Foundation of \$5,000 per year over the next five years. With the final phase of construction nearing completion, these funds allow us to reach our goal of housing three bald eagles and ensuring their care—dietary, veterinary and other items needed—at a very high level for the remainder of their lives. If you would like to support this matching campaign, please make a donation for "aviary sustainability" to Friends of Radnor Lake. Thanks once again to the Barbara J. Mapp Foundation for another generous grant opportunity!

Check **radnorlake.org** for more information.



Photograph by Sam King

Thank you to volunteers whose work was essential in completing this new observation deck.

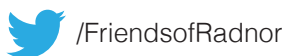


Photograph by Robin Conover

Radnor Lake welcomes new park ranger Paul Schauer. Please say "hello" when you see him on the trails!

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Nashville, TN 37220
(615) 251-1471
FORL@radnorlake.org
www.radnorlake.org

Friends of Radnor Lake was founded in 1971 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.



Trees to Trails Recycle Program

From December 26 to January 31, visitors can drop off their trees at the Radnor Lake west parking area. Please remove all ornaments, metal, tinsel and stands so the trees may be mulched and installed on the Lake and Spillway trails on Volunteer Day, January 23. Special volunteer group sign-ups will be available at the park from January 1 through March 15.

Special thanks to Johnathan Cummings with Clean Earth Collections for chipping the donated trees and our new partners at the City of Forest Hills!

2016 Calendar Now Available!

A perfect gift for friends, family and business associates.

Available at
RadnorLake.org
and these retail
locations:

Bookman Bookwoman
Granny White Market
Hot Pink
Parnassus
REI
A Thousand Faces



All proceeds benefit the mission of Friends of Radnor Lake to protect, preserve and promote Radnor Lake State Natural Area.

Thank you to our calendar sponsors
for their generous support.

