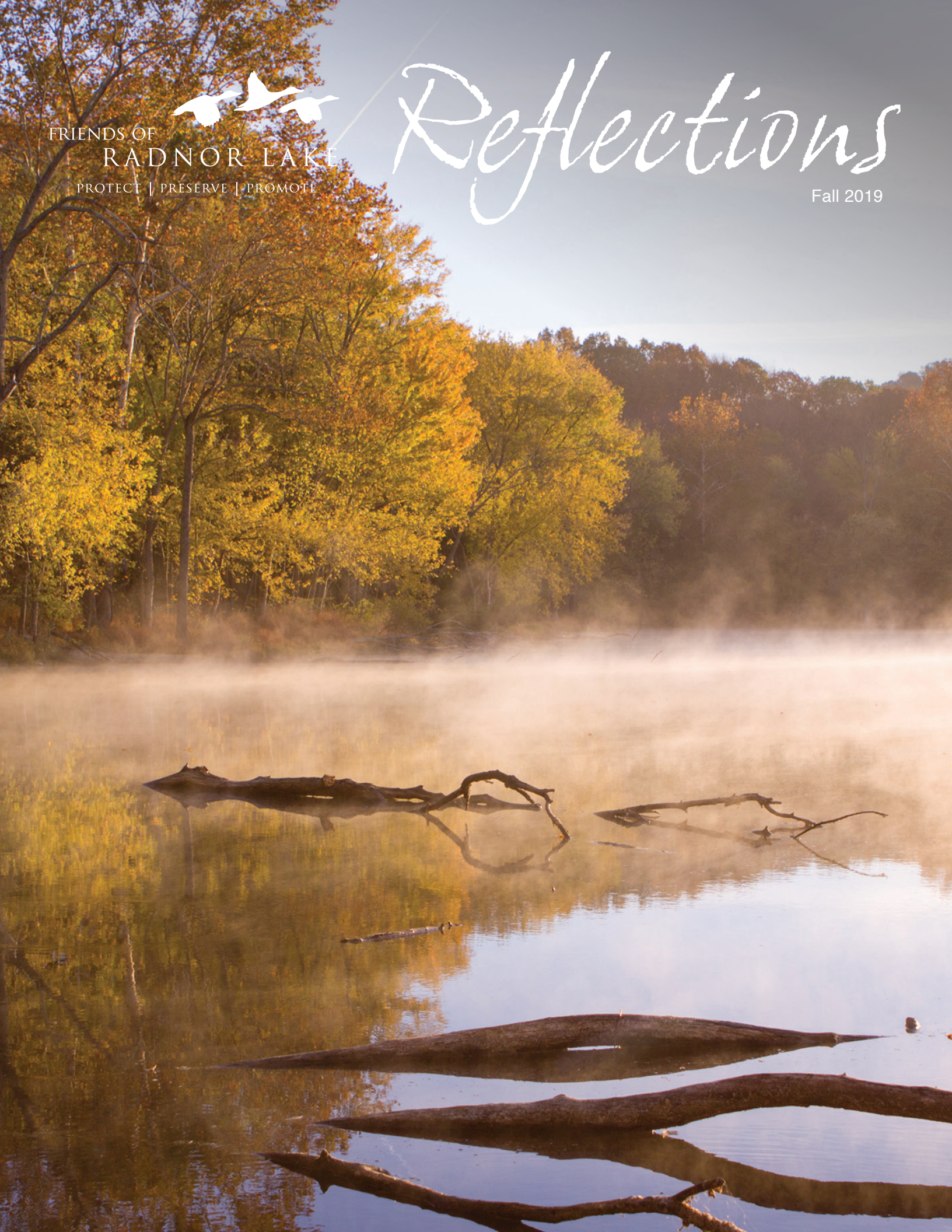




FRIENDS OF
RADNOR LAKE
PROTECT | PRESERVE | PROMOTE

Reflections

Fall 2019

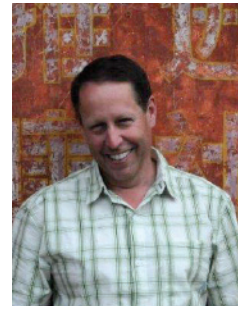


FROM THE BOARD PRESIDENT

Dear All,

Fall is in the air! As we wrap up an extraordinary year at Radnor, we celebrate great accomplishments and events, and welcome new opportunities and personnel.

First, we are pleased to welcome Tina Corkum as our new Director. We miss Gretchen Pritchett, former Operations Manager, and are grateful for her more than six years of service to Friends of Radnor Lake. We are very fortunate to have found Tina, who has quickly acclimated herself to the role. Tina comes to us from a long background of dedicated nonprofit work (see story on facing page). The transition has been seamless and Tina has become an indispensable member of our team in a very short span of time.



We also welcome new rangers, Dameon Fontenot and Will Brazill, whose backgrounds are highlighted on the facing page.

We celebrate our 2019 events with fond, fun memories of Radnor in the Round – a stellar day of music and camaraderie to benefit our mission! American Eagle Day at the aviary exceeded all expectations for attendance; the gathered multitudes welcomed our new eagles, including the only captive Golden Eagle in Tennessee State Parks! We are thankful for our 15 year partnership with The Chestnut Group, and are grateful for their commitment to helping us preserve Radnor Lake State Natural Area through fundraising and beautiful replications of some of our favorite sights at Radnor, which now adorn the walls of many of our good, faithful friends.

Thank you to all of you who joined us this year, and to those who have supported us throughout our history. We are excited to close the year with so many things to celebrate, and still enjoying the wonderful energy of The Chestnut Art Show.

We are thankful for the very extended family of friends and supporters who make Radnor part of their lives.

I hope to see you on the trails,
Paul

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Vice President

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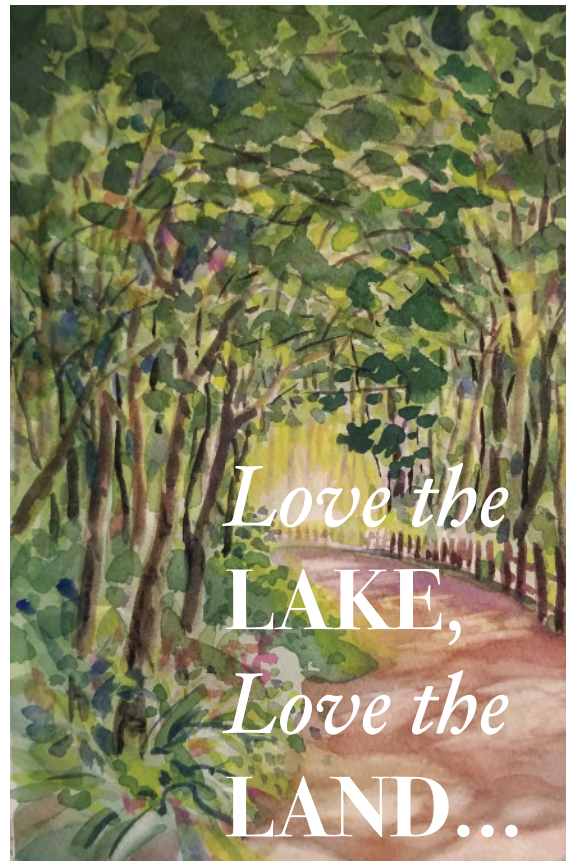
Phil Vassar

Eugenia Winwood

Steve Winwood

Cover Photo
Robin Conover

Art Direction & Design
Stephanie Simkin
Stone + Steel Creative



Promising Morning, 11" x 14", watercolor, Judson Newbern

Thanks to all those who helped
make the Chestnut Art Show and
Sale a huge success!

Sponsors:



In-Kind Contributors:

Nancy Vienneau Catering

Sierra Nevada Brewing

Danna and Bill Francis

Chestnut Art Show Co-Chairs:

Kim Barrick, Friends of Radnor Lake

Donna Brumbergs, The Chestnut Group

Betsy Burrus, The Chestnut Group

Chestnut leadership:

Renee Bates, Board President

Rachel Blair, Executive Director

Chestnut painters and volunteers

And to all of the patrons and visitors who came to view and appreciate the artwork, who bought paintings, and who told their friends about the show...

We couldn't have done it without you!

HITTING THE GROUND RUNNING!



Ranger Dameon Fontenot and Ranger Will Brazill

Photo by Steve Ward

On August 5th, 2019, we welcomed the two newest members of our Radnor staff with the addition of Ranger Dameon Fontenot and Ranger Will Brazill. These rangers were selected out of a very competitive 130+ candidates. It was obvious during the hiring process that their education and experience were exactly what we needed moving forward to help us manage Radnor Lake State Natural Area.

Ranger Dameon Fontenot's background includes a Geoscience Degree and field experience along with previous work experience with the Army Corps of Engineers and AmeriCorps service. This is a tremendous benefit for our current focus of the Harris Ridge Trail Project. Dameon's background fits our needs perfectly with native grasslands, endangered plant research, and other GIS/Mapping needs relative to management of the natural area.

Ranger Will Brazill's background includes a focus in Parks and Recreation, including seasonal experience with the National Park Service. Will has taken the initiative to complete all of his law enforcement training during this past year to achieve his law enforcement commission, so he is already contributing to helping us in our top priority of park visitor safety and compliance of rules/regulations on our trails and boundaries.

Both rangers have hit the ground running and we are already seeing the benefits of their contributions to the park staff as we work collectively to meet the needs of 120,000+ additional visitors in 2019. Since their arrival, both have completed their Canoe Instructor Certification and Wildfire Certification Trainings in their first 60 days!

Please help us welcome both of these new rangers to our staff when you see them on the trail!



Ranger Dameon Fontenot and Ranger Will Brazill completing S-130/S-190 Wildfire Training Certification at Radnor Lake September 2019.

Photo by Steve Ward

WELCOME TINA CORKUM, DIRECTOR



We are delighted to welcome Tina Corkum as Friends of Radnor Lake's new director.

For more than 20 years, Tina has worked with Nashville nonprofits to design and build new programming that serves community needs with a sustainable growth approach. Tina's work has included program management, new program development, communications, and fund development for many organizations including: **Hands On Nashville,**

Second Harvest Food Bank of Middle Tennessee, Monroe Harding, Metro Nashville Arts Commission, and most recently **Dismas House.** Tina also provided assistance to Friends of Radnor Lake with communications and event support in preparation for the Grand Opening of the Barbara J. Mapp Aviary Center.

Having discovered and fallen in love with Radnor in the '90s, Tina pursued a partnership relationship with Radnor when serving as Manager of Nonprofit Partnerships at Hands On Nashville. During that first meeting with Steve Ward, Park Manager, a friendship and partnership began, which has grown over the years, and provides the backbone of a strong collaboration between FORL and Radnor Lake.

"Tina is a welcome addition to Radnor Lake. Besides being a valued friend, Tina has worked with us at Radnor Lake in her previous role with Hands on Nashville during and after the Flood of 2010, helped us in our efforts to open the Barbara J. Mapp Aviary Center in May 2015, and also trusted us as a parent with her children as part of the Jr. Ranger Intern Program. Tina brings an extensive professional not-for-profit background. Moving forward, this will no doubt be an asset to us with our mission to "Protect Radnor Lake" as we tackle the challenges of completing the Harris Ridge Trail Project!," says Steve Ward, Park Manager.

Tina Corkum was selected as FORL's director after the organization employed a search firm to help lead an extensive search and interview process after the May departure of its former manager of operations, Gretchen Pritchett.

Tina has volunteered with many community organizations in various capacities, most notably serving on the Boards of **Abintra Montessori School** and **Intersection Contemporary Music**, engaging as a grant reviewer for **Metro Nashville Arts Commission**, and participating on the **ACE Nashville Education and Outreach Committee.** She currently serves the city as a **Community Corrections Advisory Board Member.**

“HOW WE GET THINGS DONE”

2019-2020 Volunteer Program at Radnor Lake

By Park Manager Steve Ward



NPLD with volunteers from Nissan.

Photo by Steve Ward



NPLD 2019 at Radnor Lake *Photo by Brandon Jarratt*

When we started the volunteer program at Radnor Lake in 2002, there was no set volunteer day nor opportunity for the public to assist the park staff with work on trails and exotic plant removal. Based on feedback from park visitors, we started a monthly volunteer day (4th Saturday monthly at that time) and scheduled projects for the public to help us complete around the natural area. The first Volunteer Trail Day included **four volunteers** showing up for our first scheduled monthly volunteer day in March 2002.

Since that time, the Radnor Lake Volunteer Program steadily gained steam thanks to many of you who became staples in “how we get things done” at Radnor Lake State Natural Area. This program requires a lot of behind the scenes time and energy by our staff, thousands of emails, thoughtful coordination, and committed time by volunteers to attend. Volunteers are so valuable to the park that making the time to manage fun, safe, and productive volunteer workdays is worth the effort and has become integrated with our regular park duties of operating a state park/state natural area for 1.7 million visitors annually.

Park visitors see the contributions of past and current volunteers on all fronts including the construction of the Barbara J. Mapp Aviary Center, repair work from the 2010 Flood of Otter Creek Road, the great condition of our 6+ miles of trails, the completion of the BJMAEC Flighted Eagle Aviary in 2018, and by the lack of invasive-exotic plants during hikes at the natural area. We have removed 1,300+ acres of invasive-exotic plants by hand since 2002 thanks to this team effort! Areas of the Lake Trail which were once like tunnels under the invasive-

exotic Bush Honeysuckle that was 10-12’ tall have now been replaced with scenic views of the lake and/or a broad diversity of plant life. This is highlighted when mass wildflowers, such as Dwarf Larkspur in April or White Snakeroot in September, emerge annually.

This did not happen on its own. It has been a collective effort with a targeted focus by Friends of Radnor Lake to financially support this program which enables us to work with 2,500+ volunteers annually. This allows us to achieve all of our resource management goals, and maintain our high quality trail standards and protection of the natural area. Thank you Friends of Radnor Lake for your financial support of this program for the past 17+ years and moving forward!

We love our volunteers! We hope that everyone who has volunteered their time to help us at Radnor Lake State Park and Natural Area feels a deep satisfaction and the feeling that your time is appreciated and has made a difference!

Looking ahead to 2020, we are always trying to refine our volunteer program and be more efficient with our volunteers’ time to make a difference on the ground. I am fortunate to have a phenomenal park staff that works with volunteers on a weekly basis and a dedicated Friends of Radnor Lake Board that understands the importance of this “boots on the ground” support from our park visitors who take time out of their day to come help us protect Radnor Lake and simply make things better.



TN Promise Volunteer Day 2019

Photos by Steve Ward



Jr. Ranger Intern Program Volunteers at the Barbara J. Mapp Aviary Education Center 2019

Photos by Steve Ward



FORL Board Member and Volunteer Lester Turner working at the Barbara J. Mapp Aviary Education Center 2019

Photo by Steve Ward

This will only continue to improve in 2020 as we look toward planning critical resource management goals such as our **2nd Annual Invasive Plant Week (March 2nd thru March 7th, 2020)**.

We greatly need your help to achieve our goals in the coming year, such as:

- our Native Grasslands Initiative as we work toward managing invasive-exotic plant threats,
- removing recycled/repurposed wood from these areas and using this as fuel to save taxpayer dollars on utilities through heating two of our buildings with firewood,
- Trees to Trails Program in January/February to recycle used Christmas Trees and turn them into mulch on the Lake Trail, and
- expanding our trail building opportunities for completion of the Harris Ridge Trail Project!

We will have numerous volunteer opportunities on several fronts ranging from our Jr. Ranger Intern Program in May-July for local youth, Tennessee Promise Volunteer Days that provide opportunities for local students to achieve their mandatory eight hours of community service for scholarships, Tennessee Serves Initiative, and special focused days such as National Trails Day and National Public Lands Day. You will be able to find this list of volunteer dates and times on the Friends of Radnor Lake website (Radnorlake.org) by the end of December 2019.

If you have volunteered with us in the past, **THANK YOU** and we hope you will consider spending a few more hours with us in 2020 on all of these exciting projects. If you have never volunteered with us before, we hope you will consider signing up for one of the multiple opportunities that will be available in 2020. We cannot achieve these goals at Radnor Lake without our volunteer program!

Thank you in advance as we cannot do it without your support!

STATE NATURAL AREAS PRESERVATION ACT OF 1971: 48+ YEARS LATER!

By Park Manager Steve Ward

Reckon We've Got a Chance?



Tennessean editorial cartoon

In the early 1970s, the original effort to “Save Radnor Lake” solidified with the foresight and creation of a key piece of legislation enacted in 1971. Thanks to that legislation, Radnor Lake State Natural Area was created less than two years later and opened to the public. Now, 48+ years later, more than 1.7 million park visitors will come to Radnor Lake this year under the blanket of protection still provided by the State Natural Areas Preservation Act of 1971.

In less than two years, **WE** will celebrate that milestone in Tennessee conservation history as we celebrate the State Natural Areas Preservation Act’s 50th Anniversary in 2021! With that in mind, we should always look backward to help us choose the correct path forward in managing natural areas such as Radnor Lake. **Why?** Because that forward-thinking legislation opened the door for a new way of thinking about conservation in Tennessee which is the backbone of how we protect Radnor Lake today.

Thanks to the leadership of Governor Winfield Dunn and many others in the early 1970s, this legislation launched a state natural concept that is now expanded to 85+ natural areas across the State of Tennessee. Now, more than 48 years later, Tennessee State Natural Areas and Tennessee State Parks are thriving and “scratching the itch” in communities across the state by setting aside unique ecosystems to preserve them in their natural state. This provides passive recreation opportunities such as birding, hiking and photography for 6.8 million Tennessee residents each year.

It is the simplest and most forward thinking of concepts, yet often the hardest to protect, as there is a constant pressure to somehow improve a perfected idea that is at the core of our mission to “protect and preserve Radnor Lake while offering unique wildlife observation and safe hiking opportunities for our park visitors.” Rarely does a week go by that we don’t receive a request of “if you only allowed drones,” etc. We are working to help people to understand—and even care about, in some cases—the negative effect of this type of 21st century sight/sound on a natural habitat. This type of activity scares off bald eagles visiting the lake, eliminating the opportunity for our park visitors to view it through a ranger’s spotting scope on the trail. We have learned over the past 48+ years that our natural areas like Radnor Lake are a great example of “less is often more.”

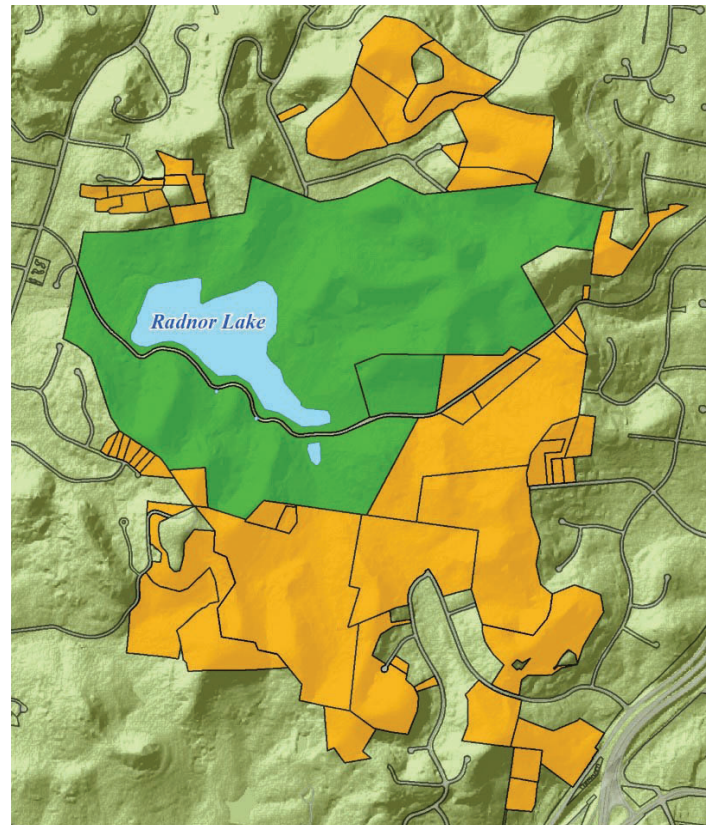
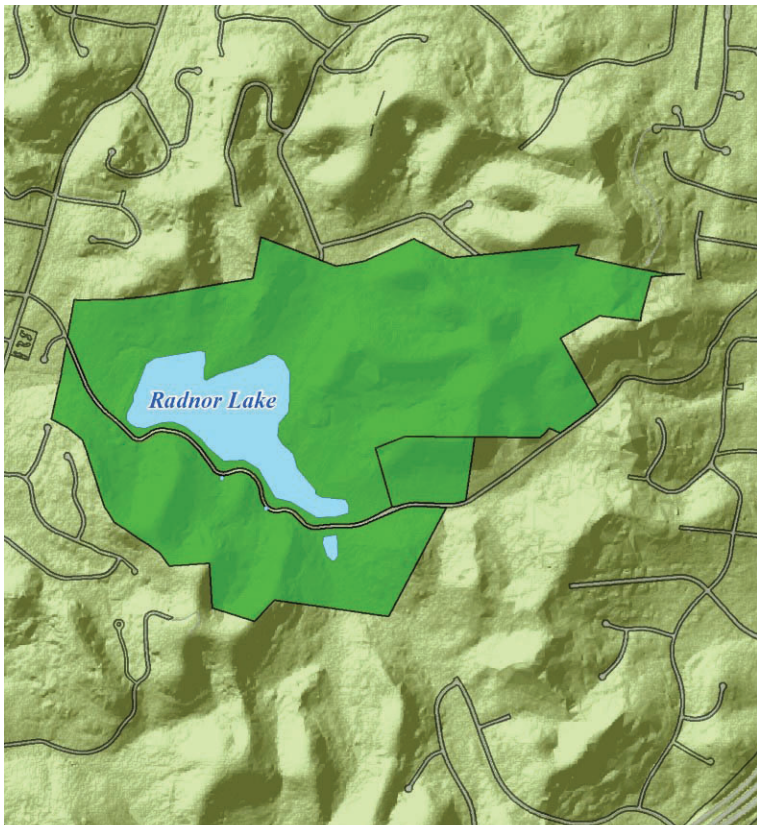
Yes, **“we are so out of style, we are in style”** is a common phrase I use during interpretive programs to visiting groups when explaining the purpose of our trail rules and regulations. The sights and sounds of a natural area are what many park visitors crave in order to escape the noise of the day-to-day grind of living in the “It City.” While there are a lot of great Tennessee State Parks (56), greenways, city parks, green spaces and recreational areas that (thankfully) provide those other great recreational opportunities for millions of Tennesseans and visitors to our state, that isn’t why Radnor Lake State Natural Area was saved in 1973. With our recent visitation increase of 120,000+ for the first eight months of 2019, there is no better example of the **value** of the mission of Radnor Lake and the vision from those who created the State Natural Areas Preservation Act in 1971.



Photo courtesy of Tennessee Department of Environment and Conservation.

Looking back, thank you Governor Dunn and everyone who was part of the effort to create The Natural Areas Preservation Act of 1971. It laid the foundation for the natural areas concept from which millions of Tennesseans benefit annually to escape the daily grind of life through protection of unique plant and wildlife species, which enhances the quality of life for all of us by saving these great places future generations.

Looking ahead to 2021, I look forward to celebrating our 50th Anniversary of the State Natural Areas Preservation Act with all of you. I am certain the best days are still ahead in our efforts to protect Radnor Lake and fulfill our mission **“to protect and preserve Radnor Lake while offering unique wildlife observation and safe hiking opportunities for our park visitors”**.



Radnor Lake State Natural Area 1973 and 2019 Maps by James Russ

Without a doubt, the challenge moving forward is to keep Radnor Lake as it is and/or was intended when it was saved in 1973. This includes welcoming to the great State of Tennessee all of our new guests and residents while also maintaining the balance of protecting the State of Tennessee's First Natural Area just eight miles from downtown Nashville. This was all made possible by this key piece of legislation which was passed 48+ years ago.

Looking forward to 2020, our focus is three-fold:

1. Land Acquisition (finishing what was started in 1973!):

This has been accomplished to date by the joint focus of the State of Tennessee, Friends of Radnor Lake, adjoining landowners, and other partners (such as the Land Trust of Tennessee) on protecting and preserving land that support the ecosystem at Radnor Lake. ***This has included our top priorities of protecting watershed-watershed properties, protecting unique plant and wildlife populations, while also looking ahead to expanding wildlife viewing and hiking opportunities for future generations.***

Thanks to our friend-volunteer James Russ' mapping contributions over the past 17+ years, we have been able to visually demonstrate our park land mass from 1973 to 2019 that has resulted from this enormous public-private partnership effort. Much like putting together a large jigsaw puzzle, the acquisition of these critical parcels is staggering as **we have doubled our size of the natural area** in a geographic area with some of the highest land values anywhere in Tennessee. For those of you who have supported those efforts with charitable contributions, **thank you!** We have needed and continue to need every dollar possible toward our land acquisition efforts.

What's next? At the time of this newsletter Friends of Radnor Lake along with the State of Tennessee are working to acquire/add another 15+ acres before we hit 2020. Stay tuned for more exciting news as we continue to save these last critical parcels to protect Radnor Lake forever!

2. Environmental Stewardship and Education: This includes resource management and interpretive management plan priorities such as our Jr. Ranger Intern Program, Native Grasslands Initiative, invasive-exotic plant removal efforts, historical (Henderson State University) and vegetative research (Penn State University), our focus on quality interpretive programming with visitors with special needs, and the birds of prey venue at the newly completed Barbara J. Mapp Aviary Education Center.

3. Additional safe hiking/wildlife viewing opportunities – Harris Ridge Trail Project:

Thanks to Friends of Radnor Lake and the Harris Family, the last two acres of this project were purchased/closed in April 2019. As referenced earlier, relative to our land acquisition efforts, part of that focus and criteria has been also looking ahead to expand wildlife viewing and hiking opportunities for future generations. Since 2010, we have been working on the Harris Ridge Trail Project with the goal of protecting critical watershed, viewshed and habitat as part of our land acquisition goals of "keeping Radnor as it is."

We kicked off our long-awaited trail construction on the Harris Ridge Trail in March 2019, thanks to the help of Dr. Doug Heffington's field research class from Henderson State University (Arkansas) and funding from Friends of Radnor Lake.

Since that time, we have had multiple public volunteer days and volunteer groups working with the park staff and TN State Parks Trails Coordinator Michael Meister to construct new trail.

This was a highlight of our 2019 National Trails Day Hike on June 2, 2019 led by Dr. Doug Heffington and Michael Meister with over 40 park visitors coming out to see the result of our recent trail-building efforts.

Our long-term planning has included creating a new three-mile trail to expand hiking opportunities as Middle Tennessee continues to grow. Our Harris Ridge Trail Project also includes a new trail head accessed from Franklin Road which will include a parking area with 100 spaces, a LEED Certified restroom, an interpretive kiosk, a security camera system, and a gated entry just like our current East and West Parking Areas. More to come on this exciting project in early 2020!

For details on Harris Ridge Trail hikes and other off-trail hiking opportunities, please visit our website at radnorlake.org.



FORL Board Member Greer Tidwell, TDEC Deputy Commissioner Jim Bryson and Dr. Doug Heffington discussing the Harris Ridge Trail Project on National Trails Day 2019.



Harris Ridge Trail Construction



National Trails Day. May 31, 2019



Over 40 park visitors attended the National Trails Day Hike on June 2, 2019 led by Dr. Doug Heffington and State Parks Trails Coordinator Michael Meister.



November 2, 2019 Harris Ridge Trail Project Hike

All Photo This Page by Steve Ward

AMERICAN EAGLE DAY CELEBRATION AT RADNOR

By Carolyn Stalcup



Photo by Robin Conover

After months of park staff working to acclimate four eagles to their new environment, Radnor hosted an open house at the Barbara J. Mapp Aviary Center on American Eagle Day and gave more than 200 bird lovers the opportunity to see these majestic creatures.

What Is American Eagle Day?

American Eagle Day is held on June 20th of each year, and every state in the union (except Alaska) has issued Proclamations to recognize and celebrate the comeback of our nation's living symbol, the majestic Bald Eagle. It is a good time to encourage people to do all they can to conserve and protect our environment and the creatures who share it with us.

American Eagle Foundation Has Partnered With Radnor Lake For Many Years

The American Eagle Foundation's mission is to provide the best care possible for eagles that cannot survive on their own in the wild due to a permanent disability. At times, this means finding eagles a forever home at another facility in the country that can dedicate time and provide optimal care for these majestic creatures.

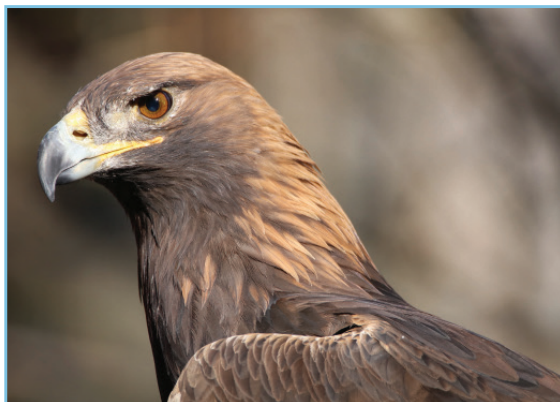
Several years ago, Steve Ward (Manager of the Radnor Lake State Natural Area of Nashville, TN), invited the American Eagle Foundation (AEF) to partner with Radnor Lake to update their Bald Eagle display and to finalize the design of Radnor's Bald Eagle aviary. Prior to this partnership, Steve had toured AEF's facilities to get ideas for the Radnor Lake aviary. This interest was spurred by occasional sightings of Bald Eagles on the 80-acre lake surrounded by over 1,300 acres of adjacent State land that could potentially attract nesting.

AEF Eagle Consultant and retired TN Endangered Wildlife Coordinator Bob Hatcher provided the basic material and updates of the 3-year old eagle display.

The display focuses on the chain of events leading up to Bald Eagle recovery efforts in Tennessee and milestones since. Hatcher and AEF provided on-site consultation concerning completion of the eagle aviary, and AEF agreed to transfer two non-releasable educational Bald Eagles to Radnor Lake after the aviary was completed.

"One of the long term goals of the park has been to have captive Bald Eagles (that could not be released back into the wild due to their injuries) in the aviary where visitors could interact with them," Radnor Park manager Steve Ward said. "The eagle is the top dog in the bird world," he said, explaining they are the largest bird of prey in the southeast. "The eagles' presence the past few years is an example of a better environmental balance at Radnor. The natural area's ecosystem is the best it's been in my lifetime, thanks to the efforts of many since 1973 to protect Radnor Lake," Ward said.

Two Bald Eagles are housed in the park's new flighted aviary, a 38-foot-tall netted enclosure that gives the birds freedom of movement and protects them from other predatory wildlife within the natural area.



Golden Eagle

Photo by Ron Boniol



Steve Ward
Park Manager

Lyndy Maness
Administrative Assistant

Ann Duncan
Receptionist

Paul Schauer
Park Ranger

Matthew Bowling
Park Ranger

Brandon Jarratt
Park Ranger

Dameon Fontenot
Park Ranger

Will Brazill
Park Ranger

Mackenzie Maness
Aviary Intern

Laurie Campbell
Seasonal Interpreter

Taylor Smith
Ranger Aide

**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. - 6 p.m.
(Closed: Tues and Wed,
and daily 1-2 p.m.)

Walter Criley
Visitor Center:
(615) 373-3467

**Event Schedule, Updates
and Volunteer Days:**
www.radnorlake.org

**The Barbara J. Mapp Aviary Center is open to the public:
Wednesdays, 7 a.m. – 1 p.m. and Saturdays, 1 p.m. – sunset**

WHAT'S ALL THE BUZZ ABOUT?

Radnor Lake Native Grasslands Initiative 2019

By Park Manager Steve Ward



Late summer wildflower, Goldenrod blooms in the Hall Farm.

Photo by Steve Ward



Late summer wildflower, Frostweed blooms in the Hall Farm.

Photo by Steve Ward

Amid all the construction noise in the Middle Tennessee Area and the welcoming of 60-90 new residents daily, park visitors can come to the State of Tennessee's first Natural Area for a hike at Radnor Lake as an escape from all that activity 365 days a year. This is the result of the beauty and foresight of those who originally "Saved Radnor Lake" from development in the early 1970's. Now, 46 years later, there is a new buzz that can be heard with simply walking along the Hall Drive at Radnor Lake State Natural Area during the summer months.

Thanks to support from Friends of Radnor Lake, AWC Foundation, Tennessee State Parks, Tennessee Division of Natural Areas, Tennessee Division of Forestry, TVA, the Iris Fund License Plate, and those who have contributed funds to Radnor Lake, we have been able to create/convert over 30 new acres of this habitat in the past 18 months! This is creating a new buzz and it is not the sound of machinery, rather bees, birds and butterflies!

What we have learned from our vegetative and historical research has now become the foundation of our resource management plan

at Radnor Lake. The native grassland habitats that support these species have dramatically changed since Radnor was first saved from development in 1973, either from development adjoining the natural area and/or from allowing areas to turn into forest that were historically field areas at Radnor Lake.

Why do we care? There are countless scientific studies and data that support our Native Grasslands Initiative at Radnor Lake, ranging from the protection of specific plant species to the long-term management of butterflies (specifically the Monarch), ground nesting birds (Meadowlarks, Bobwhite Quail, Woodcock) and/or pollinators (bees), and their contributions to our ecosystem. In addition, the creation of these native grassland areas has already provided a broader diversity of plant life unknown to most at Radnor Lake. Just in the past three years alone, from our prescribed burning efforts, two new plant species (Fall Phlox--Phlox Poniculata and Indiam Hemp--Apocynum cannabinum) have emerged, despite having not been seen for years! Another critical monarch butterfly host plant species, common milkweed, has increased 500% from this resource management effort.



Native plants such as Fall Phlox (Phlox Poniculata) can now be seen in the Hall Farm at Radnor Lake in response to prescribed burning and the removal of invasive-exotic plants.

Photo by Steve Ward



Native plants such as Indiam Hemp (Apocynum cannabinum) can now be seen in the Hall Farm at Radnor Lake in response to prescribed burning and the removal of invasive-exotic plants.

Photo by Steve Ward

According to the experts who monitor all of these populations across the country:

These hard-working animals help pollinate over 75% of our flowering plants, and nearly 75% of our crops. Often we may not notice the hummingbirds, bats, bees, beetles, butterflies, and flies that carry pollen from one plant to another as they collect nectar. Yet without them, wildlife would have fewer nutritious berries and seeds, and we would miss many fruits, vegetables, and nuts, like blueberries, squash, and almonds . . . not to mention chocolate and coffee...all of which depend on pollinators

US Fish and Wildlife Service

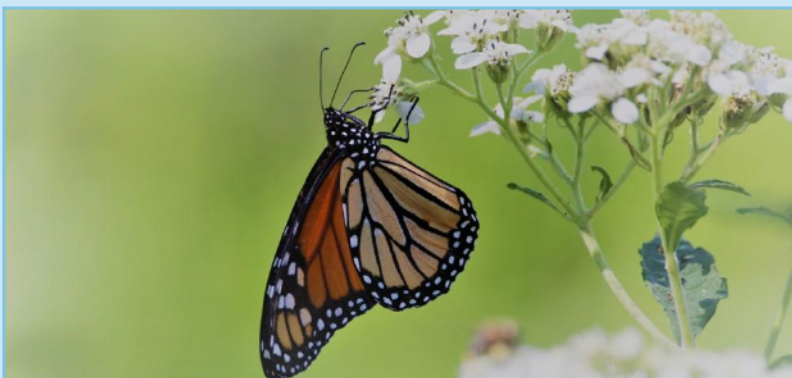


Ruby throated Hummingbird enjoying native plant spotted jewelweed in areas on the Hall Drive where exotic-invasive plants were previously removed.

Photo by Bob Belsler.

The monarch butterfly has declined by 80 percent in the last 20 years. It is currently being considered for federal listing under the Endangered Species Act. There are many potential reasons for the butterfly's decline, including habitat loss at breeding and overwintering sites, disease, pesticides, logging at overwintering sites and climate change. Through simple conservation actions like planting native milkweed and nectar sources, everyone can help to provide a future filled with monarchs. Your actions will also help a host of other pollinators including bees and birds that share resources with the monarch butterfly.

US Fish and Wildlife Service



Monarch Butterfly on native Frostweed plant

Photo by Ron Boniol at the Hall Farm 2019

Good news is ahead and can be seen by visiting any of the native grassland areas for a few minutes as the transformation becomes apparent. Whether from noticing rarely-seen plant species thriving and the numerous Monarch butterflies they attract, hearing the buzz of bees, and/or catching a glimpse of a hummingbird as they are all hard at work enjoying the pollen from the diverse plant life that has come alive in these restored native grasslands areas, the benefits to our natural area are numerous!

How can we enjoy this?

Our long-term goal with the native grasslands initiative at Radnor Lake is three-fold:

1. **Restore critical habit for grassland plant species, ground nesting bird species and butterfly species within the natural area.**

How? Primarily by rangers who work with volunteers to remove exotic-invasive plant species. In addition, contracted machine-work (gyrotrac) on these historic field areas will convert back to native grasslands.

2. **Expand our interpretive programming efforts on those species.**

How? State Park Ranger led hikes and/or interpretive programs highlight the progress and offer insights into these restored native grassland areas for park visitors.

3. **Provide unique wildlife viewing opportunities for our park visitors.**

How? By park visitors hiking the Hall Drive and/or the Barbara J. Mapp Aviary Education Center to see these changing habitats and enjoy unique wildlife viewing opportunities for generations to come.

What's next? Looking head into 2020, our goal is to convert another 20+ acres to native grasslands at Radnor Lake State Natural Area to continue the momentum of this exciting and critical habitat restoration initiative at the State of Tennessee's first Natural Area.

Yes, it is all the buzz.....come see it for yourself!

Thank you for supporting this effort as we all do our part to protect these critical species which will enable future generations to enjoy these same unique hiking/wildlife experiences at Radnor Lake!

1160 Otter Creek Rd.
Nashville, TN 37220

(615) 251-1471
FORL@radnorlake.org
www.radnorlake.org

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

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.

 / friendsofradnorlake

 / FriendsofRadnor

 / FriendsofRadnor

GO THE EXTRA MILE FOR RADNOR LAKE!

Show your support with a specialty license plate.



Available to ALL Tennessee residents at county clerk offices across the state.

Since 2004, Friends of Radnor Lake has raised **more than \$500,000** through the specialty plate program.

These funds are used to acquire land and preserve the natural integrity of Radnor Lake.

When it's time to renew your license plate, share and support the beauty of Radnor Lake by requesting a Friends of Radnor Lake specialty plate.

Can't wait for your renewal date?

Trade in your current license plate for a Friends of Radnor Lake specialty plate at the County Clerk's office and show your support today!