## 2008 year in review

**Mission Statement**

The mission of The Nature Conservancy is to preserve the plants, animals and natural communities that represent the diversity of life on Earth by protecting the lands and waters they need to survive.

---

**Photography Credits**
Photographs by Thomas G. Barnes, Ph.D., University of Kentucky, except as noted. Pg 8 (top) Ken Brooks, (middle bottom) Chris Minor, Pg 11 TNC staff, Pg 14 Kismet Photography, Pg 15 TNC staff, Pg 16 Charles Bertram, The Lexington Herald-Leader, Pg 17 (left) (middle) Diane Davis, (right) TNC staff, Pg 19 Kismet Photography, Pg 20 Diane Davis, Pg 21 TNC Staff, (right) Diane Davis;

---

**The Nature Conservancy of Kentucky**
642 West Main Street
Lexington, Kentucky 40508

Phone: (859) 259-9655
Fax: (859) 259-9678
E-mail: kentucky@tnc.org
Web Site: nature.org/kentucky

---

**2008 year in review**

**Table of Contents**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Section</th>
<th>Page</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Director's Message</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Core Values/Staff</td>
<td>4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Board of Trustees</td>
<td>5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Beyond Borders</td>
<td>6</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Green River</td>
<td>7</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Kentucky River Palisades</td>
<td>8</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Grand Rivers Corridor</td>
<td>9</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Obion Creek/Bayou du Chien</td>
<td>10</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Buck Creek</td>
<td>11</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Lower Licking River/South Fork of the Licking River</td>
<td>12</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Rockcastle River</td>
<td>13</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Nature's Night</td>
<td>14</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Partnering on the Fireline</td>
<td>16</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Partnership Highlights</td>
<td>17</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>License Plate Program</td>
<td>18</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Legacy Club</td>
<td>19</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Donors</td>
<td>20-21</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Conservation Areas</td>
<td>22</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Financial Summary</td>
<td>23</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

---

**Mission Statement**

The mission of The Nature Conservancy is to preserve the plants, animals and natural communities that represent the diversity of life on Earth by protecting the lands and waters they need to survive.
Dear Friend of the Conservancy,

As you know, the recession is affecting the entire charitable community. The Nature Conservancy of Kentucky has not been spared the hardships of donation reductions. Our office has seen a drop in contributions and declines in investment income. These challenges have created immediate and long-term budget shortfalls.

However, as we adjust to current economic conditions, we do so from a position of strength. Our committed partners and staff agree that our on-the-ground conservation work is too important to be impeded by economic downturn.

In this year’s Year in Review report, you’ll read about several reasons why I remain heartened in spite of today’s challenges. For example, our restoration work with partners in the Cromer Ridge area has reduced sediment yields into the Rockcastle River by 1,970 tons a year which will improve water quality and aquatic habitat. We also restored a tributary to Buck Creek, which involved enhancing 850 feet of existing channel and constructing 395 feet of new channel being relocated back to the historic location in the middle of the valley floor.

From a philanthropic standpoint, you can rest assured knowing that two independent charity watchdogs, Charity Navigator and the Better Business Bureau, rate The Nature Conservancy’s efficiency among the highest in the nation.

We may have to tighten our belts but cannot afford to slow down. According to the USDA Natural Resources Conservation Service, the state of Kentucky is losing 47,450 acres of forest and farmland per year to development. We must find footing on a new trail – one that allows us to continue pursuing our conservation mission at a faster rate.

Ironically, this is also a time when acquiring land at affordable price tags represents an unprecedented opportunity for the organization. In response, we’ll be going after more funds to capitalize on new land acquisition prospects being sold at bargain prices. Our philanthropy efforts will be more aggressive so we can preserve our natural systems on a larger scale.

While these are challenging times, our mission is no less important and our work no less critical. Thank you for believing in us and for your commitment to The Nature Conservancy of Kentucky.

Sincerely,

Terry Cook © TNC Staff

Kentucky State Director
Integrity Beyond Reproach The trust and responsibilities placed in us by our donors, members, partners and the public are paramount. With honesty and strict accountability, we will maintain the highest ethical standards in all of our organizational endeavors.

Respect for People, Communities, and Cultures The Kentucky Chapter currently works in seven community based project areas across the state. Each project site has a full time manager residing near the watershed who focuses on protecting and improving the biodiversity found there; and improving the quality of life for residents within the watershed. We believe strong communities comprised of people who are aware of the benefits of a healthy ecosystem are essential to the long-term well-being of the watershed.

Commitment to Diversity The Kentucky Chapter continuously seeks to build diversity within its staff. The Kentucky Chapter is an Equal Opportunity Employer.

One Conservancy Due to the small size of the Kentucky Chapter, it is often necessary for field staff to work together state-wide in order to accomplish our conservation goals. A prime example of this “One Conservancy” attitude is found in our fire program. During the winter and spring months, most field staff work together as one team to maximize the amount of prescribed fire that we are able to achieve in our priority areas. This co-operation also extends across state lines by other state chapters to meet our collective prescribed fire goals. These efforts have included cross-boundary work with Indiana and Ohio. The Kentucky Chapter also works with the Tennessee Chapter to plan and implement work within the Northern Cumberland landscape.

Tangible, Lasting Results The staff of the Kentucky Chapter is committed to achieving tangible, lasting results in the areas where we work. This is achieved by habitat restoration and the development of sound partnerships with our local, state, and federal partners. Habitat restoration and forming strong partnerships are just a few ways to ensure that these priority areas will remain intact for generations to come.
The Nature Conservancy of Kentucky Board of Trustees

The Nature Conservancy is governed as a single, tax-exempt 501(c)(3) organization by a Board of Governors that is managed from its worldwide office in Arlington, Virginia. To achieve the Conservancy’s place-based mission, the Board of Governors established chapters of organization at the state and country level. Each of these chapters are run by a director who manages the annual plan and budget in support of the Conservancy’s mission and goals.

Most state and several country programs are advised and assisted by their own volunteer Boards of Trustees. The national Board of Governors relies on these Boards of Trustees for assistance in achieving the Conservancy’s mission and goals, and for overseeing chapter operations.

At The Nature Conservancy of Kentucky, board members serve three critical functions: ambassador, conservationist and fundraiser. They assist in setting chapter goals, review and approve annual plans, monitor progress toward the organization’s goals, and subject the chapter’s work to additional critical thinking. Without their existence and dedication, the Conservancy could not accomplish its work around the world.

The Nature Conservancy of Kentucky wishes to express its sincere appreciation to the individuals listed below.

**Officers**
Irvin Abell, III, Chair  
Michael Hamm, Vice Chair  
Robert C. Wade, Vice Chair  
Marshall B. Farrer, Treasurer  
Susan Lavin, Secretary

**Trustees**
Norman L. Brown  
Mrs. P.P. “Weesie” Douglass  
Robert G. Edmiston, J.D.  
Henry L. Hinkle  
Boyce F. Martin, III  
Dr. Robert J. Shott  
George Sullivan  
Dr. Woodford Van Meter  
Louise R. Wall  
W. Plumer “Buck” Wiseman, Jr.

**Immediate Past Chair**  
W. Austin Musselman, Jr.

**Trustee Emeritus**  
Thomas P. Dupree, Sr.

**Advisory Council**  
Donald S. Dott, Jr.  
Dr. Jon W. Gassett

**Former Trustees**
Mr. Richard Alloo  
Mr. Raymond Atchey*  
Ms. Brooke Barzun  
Ms. Elizabeth Ann Bicknell  
Mr. Barry Bingham, Jr.*  
Mr. Douglas L. Blair*  
Mr. Robert Blair  
Mrs. Ina Brown Bond  
Mr. Jim Boyd  
Ms. Margaret C. Brandt  
Mrs. W. L. Lyons Brown  
Dr. William Bryant  
Dr. Harry M. Caudill  
Mrs. John H. Clay*  
Mr. Alan K. Cornette  
Mr. Avery Crouse  
Mr. S. Gordon Dabney  
Mr. Ray C. Dailey  
Dr. Robert J. Shott  
Mrs. Mimi Middleton

Any inaccuracies on this list should be shared by calling (859) 259-9655.
Fed by the land, rivers know no boundaries. That’s the stuff of humans.

Beginning in upland fields and woodlands, rainwater flows over and down the acres of soil across the Commonwealth, forming a vast network of small and progressively larger tributaries that collectively join to form Kentucky’s more than 89,000 miles of rivers and streams.

With each downhill turn a stream becomes what the land makes it. Each of Kentucky’s big river systems reflects the unique land regions surrounding them. Higher elevations and forestlands of eastern Kentucky shape fast flowing, shallow and cooler streams like the upper Cumberland and Licking Rivers, and the unique aquatic organisms found only in those conditions. The flatter agricultural lands in the western part of the state harbor slower, deeper flowing portions of the Tennessee and Cumberland rivers as they near the Ohio. In central Kentucky, one of the nation’s most diverse and unique rivers — the Green River — harbors many species of unique fishes and freshwater mussels. Here, the relationship between land and stream becomes even more complex and dynamic in the Mammoth Cave system, where rain and surface waters feed into sinkholes and ultimately arrive in streams by vast underground connections.

When humans enter the landscape, the natural dynamic between land and water changes. Agriculture, industry, mining, urban and forestry activities begin redefining the character of Kentucky’s rivers and streams. Changes in the land can affect temperature, rates of flow, sediment load, and levels of chemicals or heavy metals — elements which interact to determine a stream’s usefulness as drinking water, recreation destination or wildlife habitat.

Because of humans, the entire landscape of Kentucky has to a degree become a watershed. Every person, knowingly or unknowingly, plays an active role in the relationship between land and water. It’s a relationship that shapes The Nature Conservancy’s approach at every project where it has a presence, and will be critical to the future of the waters moving within the state’s borders and well beyond.
During challenging economic times, the Conservancy’s Green River Project Area boasts a financial partnership that’s working. The Conservation Reserve Enhancement Program (CREP) on the Green River combines state and federal dollars with additional funding from non-governmental resources to tackle agriculturally-related environmental issues. Voluntary participants in the program receive financial incentives for removing their land from production for a period of 15 years, or longer with a permanent conservation easement, so that it can be restored to a natural state through seeding and planting of native grasses and trees and other beneficial management practices.

The objectives of Kentucky’s Green River CREP include planting natural buffers around sinkholes within the karst plain, and along the tributaries and main stem of the river in an effort to reduce by 10 percent the amount of sediment, pesticides, and nutrients entering the watershed from agricultural sources. Such a buffer improves water quality and enhances habitat for wildlife.

The Green River CREP was approved in 2001 to enroll up to 100,000 acres with $110 million contributed from the Federal government ($88 million), the Commonwealth ($17 million) and the Conservancy ($5 million) during a period of 15 years. That acreage cap was reached last December, less than halfway into the timeline.

This is a milestone that could only represent something that really works. However, there’s still a lot to do. In the future, the Conservancy will continue working with private landowners along the Green River who have truly become partners in conservation.

**The Green River** is Kentucky’s crown jewel of river systems and a national treasure of biodiversity. Located in south central Kentucky, the Conservancy’s Green River Project Area consists of the upper Green River, its tributaries and portions of Mammoth Cave National Park, comprising a watershed of about 1,350 square miles. The Green River is home to 71 of the state’s 102 known mussel species. Nearly 60 of these species, including the state’s endemic Kentucky Creekshell, have been collected from the project area. A number of rare, threatened or endangered plants and other animals are native to the project area as well.
Kentucky River Palisades

When the aging information kiosk at the Sally Brown Nature Preserve’s trailhead cried out for renovation, Mattie Toma saw an opportunity. The junior at Henry Clay High School in Lexington had been looking for a project that would earn her the Girl Scout’s Gold Award, an achievement comparable to the Eagle Scout Award in Boy Scouts.

Over a period of four months, Mattie repaired the ten-year-old structure and updated content provided on the kiosk’s four information panels. She raised all of the funds to cover costs. It wasn’t the first time Mattie had helped out at the Sally Brown Nature Preserve, which spans a majestic stretch of the Palisades area’s steep limestone cliffs and river bottomland. After discovering the preserve through communications with the Conservancy’s office in Lexington, she coordinated friends and relatives to assist with eradicating Japanese honeysuckle, an invasive plant that had been taking over the preserve’s remarkable array of native wild flowers.

Mattie Toma’s accomplishment represents a small piece of what’s possible with generous supporters and a variety of land protection tools at a place like the Sally Brown Nature Preserve. The Conservancy acquired the original preserve after a 2:1 challenge grant provided by the National Fish & Wildlife Foundation was met by private donations. Later, the Conservancy bought 300 acres of adjacent farmland and sold it in three parcels to conservation buyers willing to maintain them with conservation easement agreements ensuring they be maintained in ways that do not harm the view shed, water quality and habitats. The Conservancy has also acquired additional property, the Crutcher Nature Preserve, to expand the Conservancy’s presence further up the river, and has assisted adjacent local farmers with selling development rights to the state.

The Palisades, as it is most commonly referred to, is located on the outskirts of the Inner Bluegrass Region in central Kentucky. The conservation area encompasses approximately 600,000 acres and 100 river miles along the Palisades section of the Kentucky River. The towering limestone cliffs, deep gorges, wet weather springs, caves and sudden variations in slope expose the meandering river and allow for a diversity of plant and animal species. The area also harbors endangered Indiana and Gray Bats.
Grand Rivers Corridor

During the past year, the Conservancy continued working with the Kentucky Department of Fish and Wildlife Resources (KDFWR) and Quail Unlimited (QU) to develop the 40,000-acre Livingston County Focus Area Project. With the ultimate goal of restoring early successional habitat, the partners reached out to more than 100 landowners to share information about Farm Bill programs and other ways of advancing conservation throughout the focus area.

To this end, the Conservancy also co-hosted, along with QU and KDFWR, a “Community and Conservation” event at a 900-acre farm featuring significant early successional habitat restoration work that had been done over the years. The free event – which included a barbeque, bluegrass music, field tours and activities for kids – attracted more than 250 people interested in bringing together community and conservation. The event provided people with a snapshot of how healthy grasslands, glades and open woodlands can be situated on a working farm in ways that provide critical habitat for declining plant and animal species, especially important grassland songbirds.

At the Mantle Rock Preserve, the Conservancy signed a cooperative agreement with the National Park Service to implement visitor use improvements including a new parking lot, a boardwalk, a new loop trail, and the installation of informational exhibits highlighting the area’s ecological and historical significance. Project completion will make Mantle Rock the first certified site along the historic Trail of Tears to be developed for visitor usage.

The Grand Rivers Corridor encompasses 513,000 acres in the watersheds of the Cumberland and Tennessee rivers below their dams at Land Between the Lakes. This includes all of Livingston County and parts of Caldwell, Crittenden, Lyon, Marshall and McCracken counties.

Important systems in the area include aquatic assemblages of the Cumberland and Tennessee rivers, sloughs and emergent wetlands, bottomland forest, oak flatwoods, forested ravines, oak savannah, native grasslands and xeric glade communities.

There are a number of rare federally threatened or endangered plant and animal species present in the area.
 lands and waters

Obion Creek/Bayou du Chien

The Conservancy continues to work with local landowners to implement best management practices on the numerous agricultural fields draining into the Obion Creek and Bayou du Chien watersheds. In 2008, this work was advanced by a State Wildlife Grant from the Kentucky Department of Fish and Wildlife Resources. Thanks to the grant, the Conservancy has begun working with landowners in both watersheds to implement bottomland hardwood planting and riparian restoration.

Additional bottomland hardwood plantings will take place as part of a new conservation program launched by the Conservancy called State Acres for Wildlife Enhancement (SAFE). The SAFE program provides incentives for landowners to enroll agricultural lands for the creation of wildlife habitat within the project area.

The Conservancy also secured a conservation easement on 50 acres of agriculture land through the Natural Resource Conservation Service’s Wetlands Reserve Program, and is working closely with local partners to complete a restoration project on Obion Creek within the Obion Creek State Nature Preserve. Once completed, the project will restore approximately 9,000 linear feet of Obion Creek, reconnecting it to its floodplain while also providing important aquatic habitat and improved water quality.

This project area is defined by the watersheds of both Obion Creek and Bayou du Chien in western Kentucky, which drain roughly 350,000 acres of predominately agricultural land from western Graves County, southern Carlisle County, and most of Hickman and Fulton Counties. The two waterways join in Fulton County and flow for approximately 2 miles before draining directly into the Mississippi River.
Buck Creek

In the Buck Creek project area, 2008 saw a lot of stream restoration at the Conservancy’s Pumphrey Tract in Pulaski County. Most of the work took place on unnamed tributaries to Buck Creek and included planting native sages on the toe slope of the new channel, alder and willow stakes on side slopes, and clover and rye in the new floodplain area to control erosion. Old tile drains and drainage ditches were plugged and/or broken to make them non-functional in order to restore the area to its more natural hydrological regime.

In order to share progress at the Pumphrey Tract, the Conservancy showcased the project last summer as part of a community field day attracting approximately 75 people. At the event, neighbors and community members learned more about the Conservancy’s stream restoration work. Many expressed a desire to return when the restoration is completed, and water begins flowing through new channels.

In addition to restoration work at the Pumphrey Tract, the Conservancy placed a permanent wetland reserve easement on 150 acres of the Pumphrey Tract and a permanent conservation easement on an additional 40 acres of the adjacent Page Tract. The remainder of the Pumphrey Tract will be purchased by Pulaski County with funding from the Kentucky Heritage Land Conservation Fund. The County will use the area, together with 35 acres acquired in 2007, as a nature preserve with walking trails.

Buck Creek is one of Kentucky’s most outstanding natural resources, containing more than 30 species of freshwater mussels (nine of which are endangered or threatened), 77 species of fish, and one endangered bat species. Its ecosystem encompasses 188,472 acres in Pulaski, Lincoln and Rockcastle counties. It is a tributary to the Upper Cumberland River drainage and remains one of the more pristine streams in the region.
Through a grant from the Kentucky Division of Water, the Conservancy continues to work with the Natural Resources Conservation Service to restore wetlands in the Licking River and its South Fork tributary. In 2008, this partnership facilitated the protection and restoration of 60 acres of wetlands through the Wetland Reserve Program.

The Conservancy also developed strong relationships with the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service through its Private Stewardship Program as well as strengthened its partnership with the Kentucky Department of Fish and Wildlife Resources Landowner Incentives Program. Both programs are vital to building strong relationships with both public and private landowners to preserve natural wetlands.

In the South Fork and its tributaries, much of 2008 was spent working on cooperative agreements with landowners to install Best Management Practices (BMPs) on their land to help improve water quality. Nine cooperative agreements were completed, with commitments to incorporate practices including fencing to keep livestock out of streams, installation of alternative watering facilities for livestock, the planting of riparian forest buffers to prevent sediment runoff and improve aquatic habitat, and the establishment of heavy use protection areas to reduce soil erosion and improve water quality and quantity.

**Lower Licking River/South Fork of the Licking River**

The Lower Licking River, along with its tributaries, has a diverse geography and wide range of plant and animal species living in some of the most highly valued habitat in the region. The river itself represents a rare example of a native muskie stream. A total of 100 fish species inhabit the river basin, including redside dace, mimic shiner, streamline chub, slender madtom, blue sucker, paddlefish, eastern sand, tippecanoe and sarpnose darters. The watershed also supports more than 50 species of mussels, of which 11 are endangered, and provides respite for an unusually high number – about 250 species – of migratory birds.

The Conservancy’s total Lower Licking River project area encompasses more than 1.8 million acres, of which about 60 percent is open agricultural land and 40 percent is forested. The Conservancy also co-manages and owns part of a unique conservation site in the South Fork of the Licking River area, where a tributary has been classified as a 303(d) 1st priority stream by the Kentucky Division of Water due to heavy sedimentation, pathogens in the water and nutrient overload.
Rockcastle River

Recently, the Conservancy received a 319 grant from the Environmental Protection Agency to assist with rehabilitation of the Cromer Ridge watershed in response to abuse by all-terrain vehicles (ATV’s). Recipients of the grant include the Conservancy, the Daniel Boone National Forest, the Kentucky Division of Water and the Kentucky Division of Conservation.

One of the most used and abused riding areas in the southeastern United States, Cromer Ridge has hundreds of illegal ATV trails etched in the fragile topsoil located on both public and private property. Once advertised on the internet as an ideal place to ride, visitors flocked to the area, setting up camps and later leaving couches, tires, wrecked vehicles and garbage throughout the landscape. In some places, the bedrock was worn down 10 feet by abuse from continually spinning tires. Steep trails poured mud into the Rockcastle River when it rained.

Just two years into this project, and with cooperation from local landowners, illegal trails have been closed, slopes revegetated and 95 percent of the ATV traffic eliminated. Few thought that this could be accomplished and certainly not so soon. As a result, siltation into the Rockcastle River has decreased.

The Rockcastle River and the surrounding area is no longer a playground for those who would endanger this bountiful water resource. The key to preserving Cromer Ridge will be a continued law enforcement presence and education on the part of all who use the area’s roads.

The Conservancy has been involved in the protection of the Rockcastle River watershed for more than 20 years. The Rockcastle River is located in southeastern Kentucky and covers part of five counties: Laurel, Jackson, Rockcastle, Clay and Pulaski. The relatively clean water found in the Rockcastle, where a portion has been designated a Wild and Scenic River, allows for a diverse fish and mollusk fauna including several federally listed species. More than seventy aquatic and terrestrial species at risk are found in the waters, caves, forests and fields of the surrounding watershed.
The sell-out crowd, fabulous food, organic wine and tremendous support from several local community and corporate partners helped make Nature’s Night the most successful benefit in the 33-year history of The Nature Conservancy of Kentucky. The event was held on September 27, 2008 at the Barn at River Farm in Goshen, Kentucky. It featured blue jean chic attire, a silent auction, live music performed by Relic Bluegrass of Louisville and Brazilbilly of Nashville, native habitat tours and an organically grown, Kentucky Proud, scrumptious meal.

Attended by more than 250 guests, Nature’s Night raised a net total of $72,017. The highly anticipated event sold out within two weeks of invitation delivery – largely due to a strategic marketing campaign, creative invitation package and intriguing venue. Guests on a waiting list were also accommodated.

All proceeds from Nature’s Night benefit local conservation in the state of Kentucky.

The event was sponsored by:
- Ashbourne Farms
- Bittner’s Inc.
- Bandy Carroll Hellige Advertising
- Brown-Forman Corporation
- Business First of Louisville
- Tops In Lex
- Chrysalis Ventures
- Citicards of Louisville
- Frost Brown Todd, LLC
- Kentucky Select Properties

First Annual Nature’s Night Event Brings In Record Amount

Make sure to get this annual event on your calendar. Nature’s Night 2009 will be held on Friday, September 25th at the same location: Barn at River Farm in Goshen, Kentucky. For more information, contact The Nature Conservancy of Kentucky at (859) 259-9655.
Guests enjoy lunch at the “Community and Conservation” outreach event hosted by The Nature Conservancy, Quail Unlimited and Kentucky Department of Fish and Wildlife Resources.

Jeff Sole shows a landowner the Buck Creek project area.

Recreational vehicles are now prohibited at Cromer Ridge.

Teaching a respect for nature and conservation begins at a young age.

Landowners attend a field tour demonstration of best management practices.

Conservation leaders partner with representatives of the navigation community to help protect the Mississippi River.
Strengthening Partnerships on the Fireline

During the past several years, The Nature Conservancy has developed partnerships with federal and state agencies to increase the use of fire as a management tool. In Kentucky, the Conservancy has worked with Land Between the Lakes National Recreation Area and the Daniel Boone National Forest to identify focus areas and begin large-scale fire restoration. These areas, called Fire Learning Network Sites, represent places where the Conservancy, agency staff and other partners combine expertise, formulate a plan for reintroducing fire into the landscape, and communicate results and findings to other practitioners and academia.

Partnerships with federal agencies like the United States Forest Service (USFS) and the National Park Service (NPS) has led the Conservancy to adopt the federal certification standards for its own fire staff in an effort to increase capacity for landscape-level fire management. As a result, wildfire experience is now a requirement for staff seeking to serve in certain fire line positions and eventually reach Prescribed Fire Burn Boss Type 2 level (RxB2).

When starting out in the conservation field, Chris Minor didn’t know he might aspire to the title of “Burn Boss.” However, that became a professional goal after learning about the harm that fire suppression can wreak on a landscape.

As part of this professional development, Minor spent more than two weeks last summer helping the U.S Forest Service in Northern California’s Tahoe National Forest. During his detail, he served as a Crew Boss Trainee, charged with managing a 20-person crew made up of Forest Service and National Park Service personnel from Kentucky. The experience gave Minor a first-hand account of how disastrous a wildfire can be after decades of fire suppression. It also provided him with invaluable training, and strengthened the Conservancy’s relationship with the U.S. Forest Service with regard to this important work.

Since returning, Minor has helped the Daniel Boone National Forest with two fires located in the Red River Gorge. While smaller than what he’d experienced out west, he found himself more familiar with the local fuels and fire behavior. He finds that all of these experiences – whether local or national – have improved his fireline and leadership skills, and have made him more confident in his role as a Burn Boss for The Nature Conservancy of Kentucky.
The Nature Conservancy relies on strong partnerships to leverage its conservation work.

- The Conservancy secured a State Wildlife Grant (SWG) from the Kentucky Department of Fish and Wildlife Resources (KDFWR) to continue funding work in the Obion Creek/Bayou du Chien project area. This grant provides a small pot of money for some personnel costs, and for landowner incentives to implement Best Management Practices aimed at protecting water quality and restoring and protecting wetlands.

- The Conservancy continued its partnership with KDFWR and Quail Unlimited in the Grand Rivers Corridor project area to focus on declining early-successional wildlife species. During 2008, funds were used for prescribed fire activities and other stewardship work. Quail Unlimited continued to use a portion of their funds towards supporting a “Habitat Team” charged with focusing efforts in the Jackson Purchase area of the state.

- The Conservancy continued to co-fund the Buck Creek Project Manager position with the Pulaski County Soil and Water Conservation District. This partnership has been in place since 2000 and has been the impetus for an incredible amount of conservation work in the Buck Creek watershed.

- The Conservancy reached near-completion of stream construction work at the Buck Creek stream restoration project. The project results from an agreement with the Kentucky Transportation Cabinet and the United States Fish and Wildlife Service to restore approximately 20,000 feet of tributary streams leading to Buck Creek. The partnership has been bolstered by additional resources from KDFWR to restore another 500 feet of one of the tributaries in the Buck Creek Project area. The project also benefits from additional assistance from the Natural Resources Conservation Service (NRCS) to fund the restoration of approximately 150 acres of wetlands through the Wetland Restoration Program (WRP).

- The Conservancy continued working with the United States Army Corps of Engineers on reoperation of the Green River Dam, as well as with various state, federal and universities on monitoring the effects of the reoperation on mussels, fish, invertebrates and vegetation along the river.

- The Conservancy reached the acreage cap approved as part of the Green River Conservation Reserve Enhancement Program (CREP), less than halfway into its timeline. The Green River CREP was approved in 2001 to enroll up to 100,000 acres with $110 million contributed from the Federal government ($88 million), the Commonwealth ($17 million) and the Conservancy ($5 million) over a period of 15 years. The effort has involved partners including the USDA, NRCS, the Farm Services Agency, KDFWR, Kentucky’s Division of Forestry, Kentucky’s Division of Conservation and others.
Kentuckians have lots of options for protecting the state’s natural heritage. One of the best ways includes purchasing a nature plate when registering a car, light truck or SUV. The extra $10 for these attractive, locally-designed plates is considered a tax-deductible donation toward the Kentucky Heritage Land Conservation Fund. Proceeds go towards purchasing land from willing sellers for nature preserves, state parks and forests, wildlife management areas, recreational and environmental education areas, wild river corridors and wetlands.

Since the program began in 1995, Kentuckians have contributed more than $8.6 million to the Kentucky Heritage Land Conservation Fund. Over the years, the Conservancy has sold 1,900 acres to county governments and 700 acres to universities as a result of this funding source. For the Conservancy, the program makes it possible to turn over certain properties knowing they are in good hands, while providing capital that can be used to protect additional land.

For more information visit www.dnr.ky.gov/heritageland/natureplate.

Drive Home Support For Nature

In 2008, Livingston County secured remaining funds to purchase the 869-acre Reynolds Tract from the Conservancy thanks to the Kentucky Land Heritage Conservation Fund. The Fund also made it possible for Livingston County to acquire an additional 520 acres from the Conservancy, totaling 2,396 acres transferred into permanent protection using this resource. All of the acres protected will be open to the public and jointly managed by Livingston County, the Kentucky Department of Fish and Wildlife Resources, and the Kentucky State Nature Preserves Commission.

There are three main ways you can give to The Nature Conservancy of Kentucky:

- An **outright gift** – a contribution of cash, stock, real estate and donor advised funds – provides a charitable deduction and removes assets from your taxable estate.

- A **life-income gift** provides you and/or loved ones with a stream of income-generating funds for retirement or helps you meet your current financial needs.

- A **bequest** can be made through your will or revocable trust.

Contact Diane Davis, Director of Philanthropy, (859) 259-9655 for more information.

www.dnr.ky.gov/heritageland/natureplate
Membership in The Legacy Club is available to those who have chosen to create a lasting legacy with The Nature Conservancy. You can become a member by sharing with us that you have named the Conservancy in your will or estate plan, or by making a life income gift. Membership is voluntary and without obligation: it is our way of recognizing remarkable contributions made by individuals to The Nature Conservancy of Kentucky. For more information, contact Diane Davis, Director of Philanthropy, (859) 259-9655 x 22.

Mr. & Mrs. Irvin Abell
Ms. Ilene C. Angel
Mr. Charles R. Arterburn
Ms. Mary Bill Bauer
Ms. Susan S. Beard
Mrs. Jayne L. BecVar
Mr. George R. Bell
Ms. Betty Beshoar
Mr. Eric Blow
Ms. Ann Blum
Mr. & Mrs. Erich Boehm
Dr. Mollie Bowers
Mrs. Bonnie Brady
Mr. Joseph W. Brill
Mr. Dewett L. Brown
Mr. & Mrs. Charles Buck
Mr. Harold G. Campbell
Ms. Janice E. Cantrell
Ms. Diane Carlin
Col. Howard Carter Jr.
Ms. Kathy Carter
Mrs. Elizabeth Cauley
Mr. Bob Chasteen
Rev. Thomas A. Cooper
Ms. Kathleen D. Corneil
Ms. Roxie G. Covington
Mr. & Mrs. S. Gordon Dabney
Mr. Christopher W. Davenport
Mrs. Janna Donovan
Ms. Fay R. Dorval
Mrs. Weesie Douglass
Ms. Frances S. Dyer
Mr. George E. Egger
Caryl Fallert
Ms. Sandra Fayers
Mr. Kerry B. Fitzpatrick
Preston Forsythe
Troy Freeman

Mr. & Mrs. Ladell Futch
Ms. Jean Givens
Mrs. Mary Louise Gorman
Mr. & Mrs. Gregg Hale
Michael F. Hamm
Clay Hancock
Mr. John R. Hart
Mr. Walter A. Hehl
Ms. Valina K. Hurt
Ms. Lavonne Jaeger
Dr. Hunt B. Jones
Ms. Laura Kamperman
Mr. Kenneth L. Karem
Ms. Wendy S. Katz
Dr. Arba L. Kenner
Ms. Judy H. Kirby
Mr. & Mrs. Rudy Klapheke
Ms. Lydia Kowalski
Mr. Don W. Lacy
Mr. Baylor Landrum Jr.
Ms. Joanne Luyster
Mr. & Mrs. Thomas Lyne
Ms. Carolyn Browne Malkin
Mr. & Mrs. Fred Mansmith
Mr. Hugh McCarty
Ms. Colleen McKinley
Dr. & Mrs. Duane Miksch
Ms. Krista Mills
Dr. Judith Moffett
Ms. Lorenia Moore
Mrs. Robert W. Moore
Ms. Arlene M. Morton
Ms. Kathryn U. Mowery
Mr. Brian C. Myres
Ms. Anne E. Nash
Mr. Thomas Newton
Ms. Carol Nussbaum
Mrs. Barbara A. O’Connor

Mr. & Mrs. Gary Orendorff
Mr. Carl Petersen
Gayle M. Pille
Mr. R. M. Richards
Mrs. Ellen Rieveschl
Dr. George Rieveschl, Jr.
Mr. Mark Roberts
Dr. Gerald A. Rosenthal
Mrs. Diane Schroten
Ms. Helga Schutte
Mr. Jeff Scott
Mr. John G. Scott
Mr. Bill Scroggins
Ms. Isabel W. Silverman
Ms. Cathy L. Smith
Mr. T. F. Smith
Ms. Theresa Smith
Ms. Gennine Sorrentino
Mr. & Mrs. Edward Sprague
Mr. & Mrs. William Stilwell
Dr. Carol J. Swarts
Mr. Bruce H. Thompson
Miss Susan J. Urt
Clara D. Verst
Mrs. Dorothy Vick
Louise R. Wall
Ms. Karoline Warford
Mr. & Mrs. Fred Warren
Mr. Jim Watson
Ms. Linda White
Dr. Pam Williams
Mr. Michael O. Willson
Mr. & Mrs. Tom Wilson
Mr. Tom Wilson
Mr. William Webb
Mrs. Emily W. Wolfson
Ms. Ann Yeargin
Mr. Greg Zahradnik

Special Charitable Contributions for Certain IRA Owners
If you are 70½ or older, temporary legislation allows you to make cash gifts totaling up to $100,000 per year from your traditional or Roth IRA to qualified charities without incurring income tax on the withdrawal. This option, created in 2006 and recently extended through 2009, is available to eligible IRA owners, regardless of whether they itemize their deductions. To learn more, contact the Conservancy’s gift planning department toll-free at (877) 812-3698.
$100,000+ Level

Mr. & Mrs. Jim Costanzo
Ms. Lisa Estridge
W.L. Lyons Brown Foundation
Mr. & Mrs. Marshall Heuser
Jeff & Kim Mackin
Mr. Tyler Thomas

$25,000+ Level

Anonymous
C.E. & S. Foundation
Mr. Thomas P. Dupree
Kentucky Christian Foundation, Inc.

$15,000+ Level

Anonymous
Mr. & Mrs. Irvin Abell
Glenview Trust Company
Mr. Bruce Orwin
Audrey W. Otto
Mr. Kent Taylor

$10,000+ Level

W.L. Lyons Brown, Jr. Charitable Foundation
Mr. Harold G. Campbell
Crounse Corporation
Hinkle Contracting Corporation
Mr. Jonathan K. Kern & Dr. Monica Kern
Toyota MMNA
Mr. Justin Yandell & Ms. Molly Yandell

$5,000+ Level

Anonymous
Ms. Barbara J. Berman
Mr. & Mrs. William Black
Norman L. & Elizabeth S. Brown Family
Charitable Trust
Mr. & Mrs. Marshall B. Farrer
James N. Gray Company, Inc.
James N. Gray Foundation, Inc.
Margaret M. Holoubek
Mr. & Mrs. David A. Jones, Sr.
Colonel & Mrs. Robert H. Kelley
Kyle Family Foundation
Mr. & Mrs. Allan Lavin
Publishers Printing Company
Spray Foundation, Inc.
Mrs. Laura Lee Brown & Mr. Steve Wilson
Sutherland Foundation, Inc.
Louise R. Wall

$1,000+ Level

Mrs. Edwin P. Abell
Mr. Seth Adams
Mr. Clifton Anderson
Virginia C. Ballard
Mr. & Mrs. Matthew Barzun
Mr. & Mrs. H. Brown
Mr. & Mrs. J. Brown
Ms. Valerie C. Brown
Mr. Alex G. Campbell, Jr.
Citizen’s Bank
Claiborne Farm
Community Foundation of Louisville
Mr. James D. Conner, Jr.
Jenny Cottingham
Mr. & Mrs. Marc Cousoulis
Dr. Richard R. Crutcher
Ms. Francesca Curry

Mr. & Mrs. S. Gordon Dabney, Sr.
Dr. & Mrs. Lisle Dalton
Dr. & Mrs. Wayne H. Davis
Mr. & Mrs. Rigdon Dees
Mrs. Weesie Douglass
Dr. & Mrs. David Dorman
Caryl Fallert
Mr. Billy A. Forbess
Mrs. Jean W. Frazier
Ms. Virginia S. Frazier
Ms. JoAnn Griffin
J. David and Mallerie Grissom
Michael F. Hamm
Mr. Ian Y. Henderson
Mrs. Barbara W. Hendricks
Chuck Hendricks
Mr. Henry V. Heuser, Jr.
Henry Vogt Foundation, Inc.
Mrs. Louise F. Hickox
Jayne Hollander
Dr. Randall Holley
Honorable Order of Kentucky Colonels
Mr. & Mrs. Robert Horner
Mr. William G. Howard
Mr. & Mrs. John Huneke
Kurt & Carla Jaenicke
James Marine, Inc.
Mrs. Jean R. James
Mr. Ronald James
Mr. A. H. Keach, Jr. &
Mrs. Lowry Ingleheart-Keach
Mr. & Mrs. James G. Kenan, III
Kentucky American Water Company
Henry & Kim Knight
La Grange Animal Hospital, P.S.C.
Mr. Baylor Landrum Jr.
Dr. & Mrs. A. Lavin
Portia Leatherman
Lexmark International, Inc.
Louisville Christian Foundation
Mr. Boyce F. Martin III
Mr. & Mrs. Robert Martin
Mr. Grady E. Clay & Ms. Judith McCandless
MacLean Foundation, Inc.
Mr. Josh Ederington & Ms. Jenny Minier
Mr. & Mrs. Jack Morris
Ms. Joanna E. Morse
Mr. & Mrs. W. Austin Musselman, Jr.
Owensboro Brown Charitable Trust
Mr. & Mrs. Dale Lee Ralston
Mr. & Mrs. Brian Rieneau
Ms. Molly Rowan
Sandford Family Fund
Ms. Michelle Saunders
Mr. Bill Scroggins
Paul & Lydia Self
Dr. & Mrs. Roger Shott
Ms. Caroline C. Simmons
Southern Star Central Gas Pipeline
Mr. Chris Stephens
Mr. & Mrs. James Stites
William K. Stubbbs & Dace B. Stubbbs
Mr. George Sullivan
Mr. & Mrs. Carl Swope
Ms. Julia R. Swords
Carroll & Doris Tichenor
Mr. & Mrs. Isaac Van Meter
Mr. & Mrs. Robert Wade
Ms. Janet L. Walker
Mr. & Mrs. W. P. Wiseman, Jr.
Mr. & Mrs. Stephen Zamansky

$500+ Level

Ms. Susan M. Adams
Dr. & Mrs. A. C. Asbury
Carol Bastian
Bear Farms
Mr. & Mrs. Jerry Brown
Mr. & Mrs. Randolph Brown
Ms. Wendy Burt
Mr. & Mrs. Rutherford Campbell
David & Karma Cassidy
Ms. Susan K. Covert
Dr. Vicki Crampton
Mrs. Marie A. Cull
Ms. Laura J. Dunbar
Dr. & Mrs. Richard Fellows
Ms. Sandra Frazier
Gardner Foundation, Inc.
Dr. Paul Gerard
Dr. & Mrs. John Greene
Ms. Waddell Hancock II
Ms. Jamie Haworth
Steven A. Hoffmann
Beth J. Jurek
Ms. Isabelle Kagan
Mr. & Mrs. Fred M. Keller, Jr
Mr. & Mrs. Robert Kulp
Liza Levy
Ms. Debra B. Lichtenfels
Mr. Sam Long
Mr. & Mrs. Jackson McReynolds
Mr. Neil Mellen
Mr. Cyrus L. Miller
Mr. Richard Miller
Mr. & Mrs. David K. Mills
Ms. Jane Newton
Mr. & Mrs. Robert Pfeiffer
Ms. Katherine Robinson
Mr. Warren W. Rosenthal
Drs. Robert & Shawn Ross
Mr. & Mrs. Bob Rounsavall
John Clay Stites & Charlotte Gay Stites
Dr. Carol J. Swarts
Charles & Carol Teague
Vulcan Materials
Ms. Porter Watkins & Mr. George Bailey
Mr. Joseph C. Martin &
  Mrs. Kathleen J. Laurin-Martin

Any inaccuracies on this list should be shared by calling (859) 259-9655.
New Acres Protected In FY08
Conservation Easements – 51.1
Assists – 2,122
Co-ops – 29.96
Total Acres Protected – 41,785

Field Offices

**Headquarters**
(859) 259-9655

**Buck Creek**
John Burnett
(606) 678-4842 x113

**Central Kentucky Grasslands**
Tom Edwards
(859) 200-8717

**Grand Rivers**
Shelly Morris
(270) 748-0259

**Green River**
Jeffery Sole
(270) 526-0067
Steven Fields
(270) 932-1812

**Licking River**
Christopher Minor
(606) 780-4092

**Obion Creek/Bayou du Chien**
Nathan Hicklin
(859) 259-9655

**Rockcastle River**
Jim Hays
(859) 259-9655

**South Fork of the Licking River**
Jestin Clark
(859) 576-0755
**BALANCE SHEET**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>As of 06/30/08</th>
<th>As of 06/30/07</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>CASH - OPERATING FUND</td>
<td>$ 403,720</td>
<td>$ 141,240</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>CASH - LAND ACQUISITION FUND</td>
<td>1,687,498</td>
<td>395,370</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>LAND PRESERVATION FUND (LPF) (1)</td>
<td>752,466</td>
<td>752,466</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>GOVERNMENT GRANTS RECEIVABLE</td>
<td>318,138</td>
<td>345,959</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ENDOWMENT FUNDS (2)</td>
<td>3,194,488</td>
<td>3,445,071</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>CONSERVATION LANDS (3)</td>
<td>11,460,198</td>
<td>11,407,383</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>OTHER ASSETS (4)</td>
<td>2,000</td>
<td>100,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>TOTAL ASSETS</strong></td>
<td><strong>$ 17,818,508</strong></td>
<td><strong>$ 16,584,789</strong></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

|                      |                  |                  |
| INTERNAL LPF LOANS  | $ 4,674,353      | $ 6,734,750      |
| EXTERNAL NOTES/MORTGAGES PAYABLE | 17,389 | 32,894 |
| OTHER LIABILITIES (5) | 126,736 | 83,777 |
| **TOTAL LIABILITIES** | **$ 4,818,478**  | **$ 6,851,421**  |

|                      |                  |                  |
| NET ASSETS (equity in land, cash & endow) | 13,000,030 | 9,736,068 |
| **TOTAL LIABILITIES AND NET ASSETS** | **17,818,508**  | **16,584,789**  |

|                      |                  |                  |
| NET VALUE OF CONSERVATION LAND (6) | $ 6,768,456 | $ 4,639,739 |

**Sources of Operating Funds**
- Fundraising 14%
- Conservation Activities 72%
- General and Administration 14%
- Other Income 2%
- Government Grants 28%
- Dues & Contributions 63%
- Investment Income 7%

**Uses of Operating Funds**
- Personnel 58%
- Communications 3%
- Travel 3%
- Supplies & Equipment 13%
- Occupancy 3%
- Other 5%
- Contractual 14%

**Dues & Contributions by Type**
- Individuals 58%
- Foundations 18%
- Corporations 22%
- Other 2%

**NOTES:**
(1) Revolving fund for borrowing for land acquisition, provides interest income for operations
(2) Fair market value at previous month’s end
(3) Book value at time of land purchase
(4) Notes or accounts receivable, deposits paid on land, etc.
(5) Taxes or accounts payable, etc.
(6) Book value at time of land purchase minus current loan balance

**Financial Summary**
(for the fiscal year ending June 30, 2008)
Leave a Legacy for Future Generations

What better legacy is there to leave than your commitment to protecting the Earth for generations to come? Whether you are taking those first important steps toward planning your estate or are in the process of updating your estate plan, The Nature Conservancy is here to help. Don’t let another day pass by.

Contact The Nature Conservancy today.

CONTACT: Diane Davis
PHONE: (859) 259-9655 ext. 22
E-MAIL: diane_davis@tnc.org
WEB: nature.org/kentucky

Please consult a qualified financial advisor before making a gift.