



January 2008

# THE LICKING LEDGER

*A Joint Publication of the Licking River Watershed Watch and the Sierra Club Northern Kentucky Water Sentinels  
Serving the Entire Licking River Region*

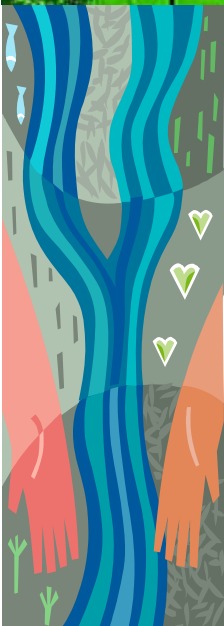
## We Need You at the Protection Conference

We'll have some fun (free food & drink Friday), we'll review our progress from 2007, we'll elect a Steering Committee, we'll do some training, we'll educate ourselves on a variety of timely and pertinent issues and we'll plan for 2008 and beyond. And we can't do it without

you. Please make every effort to attend this year's conference. It promises to be one of the best ever. Remember there is no charge for the Conference except if you stay Friday night (and we hope you do). Refer to the box below for registration and room reservation informa-

tion.

We'll also have some surprises for you that aren't on the program. So please mark your calendars and do your best to attend the Protection Conference. The Licking River Watershed is counting on your participation to keep us moving forward.



**What:** The Licking River Watershed Watch Annual Protection Conference

Register for the Conference online at: <http://www.lickingriver.org/>

**When:** Friday Evening February 22nd & All Day Saturday February 23rd

**Where:** Blue Lick Battlefield State Resort Park

Highway 68

Olivet, KY 41064

**(800) 443-7800** When making your reservation, tell them you are with the Licking River Watershed Watch to receive the special rate.

## Protection Conference Schedule of Events

### Friday February 22

5:00 pm—??? Celebrate with Good Food, Drink & Company

### Saturday February 23

9:00 Welcome and Introductions —Yvonne Meichtry

#### Summary of 2007 Sampling Data

- **Introduction:** Dr. Brian Reeder, Morehead State University
- **Field Chemistry Data:** Dr. Chris Lorentz, Thomas More College and Dr. Rebecca Evans, Northern Kentucky University
- **Pathogen Data:** Rita Wright & Dr. Ted Pass, Morehead State University and Mindy Scott, Sanitation District No. 1 (SDI)
- **Nutrient Sampling,** Dr. Rebecca Evans
- **Habitat & Biological Sampling,** Dr. Chris Lorentz

#### SDI State Environmental Projects (STEP) Funding

- **Overview:** Mindy Scott, SDI
- **LRWW Projects:** Yvonne Meichtry, LRWW Chair

**What's Shakin' in the Basin:** Barry Toning, Tetra Tech & Lajuanda Haight Maybriar, Licking River Basin Coordinator

#### Volunteer Recognition

12:30 Lunch  
Conductivity training – new training and two year recertification

1:30 Election of Steering Committee and Officers  
Licking River Watershed Restoration Projects  
U.S. Forest Service, Jon Walker  
KY Fish & Wildlife Resources, Dr. Monte McGregor

#### Watershed Handbook

Kentucky Waterways Alliance: Katie Holmes, Watershed Program Director  
Future Directions for LRWW

4:30 Adjourn

## Conference Highlights Two Experts Presenting Restoration Projects

By Tim Guilfoile

The upcoming LRWW Annual Protection Conference will feature two scientific experts that will present information on some fascinating restoration projects that directly effect the Licking River watershed.

### Monte McGregor, PhD

Dr. McGregor heads the Kentucky Department of Fish & Wildlife Resources Center for Mollusk Conservation. Dr. McGregor will present his plans for restoring endangered mussel species in the Licking River.

Dr. McGregor has been doing pioneering research on endangered fresh water mussel populations in Kentucky. He has actually developed systems to raise endangered mussel species at the Center located on the Elkhorn Creek near Frankfort. This is the only research facility of its kind in the United States.

Dr. McGregor is a native of West-

ern Kentucky. He received his PhD from Auburn University in Aquatic Ecology. He spent 6 years with the Virginia Department of Game & Fish as a malacologist (a branch of zoology dealing with mollusks) and nongame inverte-

brate biologist before joining the Kentucky Department of Fish & Wildlife Resources in 2002.

The Licking River was a treasure of mussel diversity and Dr. McGregor's efforts to restore this endangered population is a story worth hearing.

### Jon Walker, USFS Hydrologist

John Walker is a Hydrologist with the U.S. Forest Service in the Daniel Boone National Forest. Mr.

Walker has extensive experience on stream restoration projects. He will be discussing the Stonecoal Creek / Slab Camp Creek Stream Restoration Project which is one of his current priorities.



Mr. Walker has been with the U.S. Forest Service for 24 years and 17 of those years have been in the Daniel Boone National Forest. Prior to joining the Daniel Boone National Forest he was a Hydrologist with the Gifford Pinchot National Forest in Washington State. He received his Bachelors Degree in Forestry and his Masters Degree in Forest Hydrology from Southern Illinois University.

His story of the stream restoration projects right in our backyard in the Daniel Boone National Forest is a fascinating undertaking sure to keep you thinking.

Please join us at the Annual Protection Conference for these two and many other outstanding presentations.



## Ken Cooke Retires; Leaves Notable Legacy

By Tim Guilfoile

He's that guy that always has his head buried in his laptop and knows exactly what's going on in every meeting because he's frantically taking notes. And although that's the picture we often conjure up, he's contributed more than most will ever know to volunteer water quality monitoring in the Commonwealth of Kentucky.

Ken Cooke retired from the Division of Water at the end of December and although he assures us that he will remain interested and involved in water quality issues, he will be sorely missed as the Watershed Watch Program Coordinator.

Ken held the position of Watershed

Watch Program Coordinator for 23 years and anyone who has been involved in the Program can attest to his fundamental commitment to promoting citizen involvement in water quality issues. In addition

to influencing and assisting every Watershed Watch program in Kentucky, Ken also developed the Clean Water Relays, spearheaded the promotion of volunteer water quality monitoring at the State level and was instrumental in developing



school base water quality programs.

Please join me in congratulating Ken on his well deserved retirement. Please also join me in thanking Ken for his tireless commitment to the cause of water quality.

## 2008 Testing Dates Set

By Tim Guilfoile

The Steering Committee has established testing dates for the 2008 season. This year we are departing a bit from past years traditions as a few dates have moved so please note them on your calendars.

The May event is on the same Saturday as usual. We have moved the July event back one weekend due to the 4th of July holiday. We have also moved the Fall sampling event to the second Saturday of October

and this year we will be testing for nutrients as well as E.coli at this low flow sampling event.

We are also emphasizing the need to do biological and habitat assessments. As you are aware, very few of these are done every year and they are extremely important. So please try to do these assessments during the

LRWW/Water Sentinels 2008 Testing Dates	
May 10	Field chemistry & E.coli
June First two weeks	Biological & habitat Assessment
July 12	Field chemistry & E.coli
October 11	Field chemistry, E.coli & nutrients

first two weeks of June if at all possible. However, do them whenever you can if this time frame is not possible.

## Training & Retraining—What’s the Drill?

By **Tim Guilfoile**

We announced the training dates for volunteers in last month's issue of the Licking Ledger. But that begs the question...Who needs training?

It goes without saying that new volunteers must go through training for chemical, biological and habitat assessment. But volunteers who have already been trained must take a refresher course in grab sample technique every two years.

The Inter-Basin Coordination Committee established this retraining requirement as a part of its Standard Operation Procedure (SOP) and it is important that we comply so that if and when we file a Quality Assurance Program Plan we are in compliance with the SOP.

It is important to note that the requirement for retraining is only for grab sample collection and this only

takes about 1/2 hour. We will set aside time at the beginning of each of our Spring training sessions to retrain volunteers in grab sample collection. We'll announce the precise time for this closer to the actual date.

It should also be noted that current volunteers who wish to get a refresher course in chemical testing are welcome and encouraged to attend one of the Spring training programs. Bring your test kits and get refresher chemicals as well as review the chemical testing processes.

Again, our Spring training schedule is as follows:

### **Morehead, Kentucky:**

April 5, 2008  
9:00 am until 1:00 pm  
Morehead State University  
Lapin Hall 243



### **Northern Kentucky:**

April 12, 2008  
9:00 am until 1:00 pm  
Boone County Extension Office  
Rouse Room  
6028 Camp Ernst Road  
Burlington, KY 41005

### **Paris, Kentucky:**

April 12, 2008  
9:00 am until 1:00 pm  
Bourbon County Extension Office  
603 Millersburg, Rd.  
Paris, KY 40361

Look forward to seeing you at one of our training sessions.



## KRWW Protection Conference January 26

Our sister organization, the Kentucky River Watershed Watch is holding their Annual Protection Conference at Midway College in Midway, Kentucky from 9:00 am until 5:00 pm on Saturday January 26, 2008.

You can register for this confer-

ence online by going to:

<http://www.kywater.org/watch/ky.htm>

The KRWW has put together a great program and all are encouraged to attend. Contact Hank Graddy with questions at (859) 846-4905.

### **Licking Ledger Editor:**

Tim Guilfoile  
3078 Elmwood Dr.  
Edgewood, KY 41017  
(859) 331-0565  
tim.guilfoile@sierraclub.org



January 2008

# THE LICKING LEDGER

*A Joint Publication of the Licking River Watershed Watch and the Sierra Club Northern Kentucky Water Sentinels  
Serving the Entire Licking River Region*

---

**Mark Your Calendars !**

**LRWW Annual Protection Conference**

**February 22-5:00-10:00 PM Social Networking  
(Plus free food & drink)**

**February 23-9:00 AM-4:30 PM Conference**

**Blue Licks Battlefield State Park**