

## Curriculum Committee

Tracey Williams, Chair

### Hands On

The Jeffers' Bend Curriculum Committee met on September 9, 2014, and scheduled 9 days for schools in the region to visit Jeffers' Bend for hands-on environmental education activities in 2015, four in the spring and five in the fall, to accommodate over 1,000 students.

The 6 to 8 presenters for each field day, will provide 30 to 40 minutes of educational activities in the areas of water quality, soil conservation, recycling, wildlife habitat, birds, insects, Indian Lore, practical math, etc.

The spring schedule will include visits from Sinking Fork Elementary, Christian County High School, Wasson Middle School at Fort Campbell, University Heights Academy, and MLK Elementary. The fall schedule will entail visits from Caldwell County Elementary, Hopkinsville, High School, Sinking Fork Elementary, Saint Peter and Paul School, and 4th graders from Muhlenberg County.

## Trails Committee

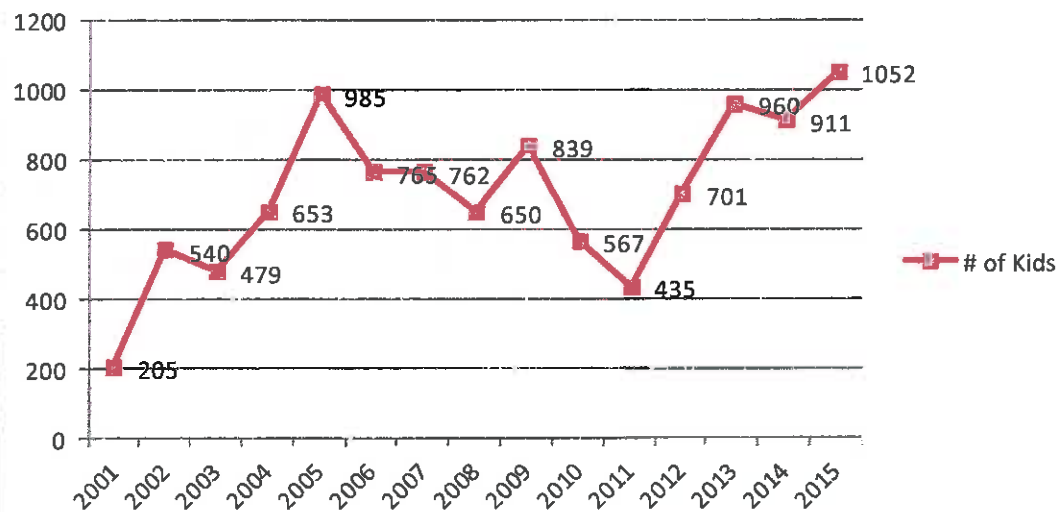
Mark Withers, Chair, Steering Committee

### Experience Nature While You Walk

- Jeffers' Bend has one of the nicest walking trails in our area. It is located in a beautiful setting and easily accessible. It is just off North Main Street, down Metcalfe Lane next to North fork of Little River. It has a special surface made just for walkers. It is soft enough to be easy on the knees, but firm enough to give good footing for "power" walking. It is surrounded by the beautiful grounds of Jeffers' Bend Environmental Center.
- For those into distance walks, accessing the trail at the south entrance to Riverside Cemetery will allow for walking along North Fork of Little River, down to connections with three miles of nature trails at Jeffers Bend.
- For those into team walking, a group can agree to meet at Jeffers' Bend at certain times to walk together. From the pavilion, you follow the river northward passing memorial trees, benches, an amphitheater, along man-made lake, through trees to, bend of river, then east toward Pennyriple Parkway, southwest back to gravel parking area.

So, join us at Jeffers Bend and improve yourself and your life.

### Environmental Education Sessions Attendance Chart 2001-2014



## Dinner by the River

By Maggie Selvidge, Chair

- The *Dinner by the River* event began in June 2008, as a fundraising effort to provide more resources for ongoing operation and maintenance of buildings and grounds at Jeffers Bend.
- Be sure to mark your calendar for Saturday, June 20, 2015, when great music, great food and a good time will await you at the eight annual *Dinner by the River* at Jeffers' Bend. Tickets will be available from Jeffers Bend Steering Committee members or by calling Maggie Selvidge at 270-886-8078 or Charles Turner at 270-885-5600.
- The 2014 event was successful with over 180 people in attendance. The attendees were provided with great pork chops, grilled by Mark Withers, chair, Jeffers Bend Steering Committee. The silent auction continues to be a big hit with items donated by various businesses and individuals.

E-mail Charles Turner at [turner1224@gmail.com](mailto:turner1224@gmail.com).



Above—Over 180 people gather for Dinner by the River.

## Garden Committee News

Thanks to the leadership of David and Susan Chiles and help from Altria Employee Community Fund, Hands on Nashville, Anne Casey, Christian County Master Gardeners, the Jeffers' Bend Garden Committee and other volunteers; the flowers and garden beds were improved in 2014. The Altria contribution involved providing funds for mulch, an iron grill, various plants, a tree, etc. along with labor. The 2014 activities, involved work on herb garden, rain garden, butterfly garden, children's garden, and several beds with native plantings.

The butterfly garden has been certified as a Monarch Butterfly Way Station. This garden is a great focal point during the spring and fall months, particularly at Naturefest in which hundreds of pictures are taken.



## Christmas at the Bend

Diane Cronney Turner, Chair

On December 6, 2014, from 1:00—3:00 p.m., the Jeffers Bend Steering Committee and Pennyriple RC&D Area Council, Inc. hosted Christmas at the Bend, in which hundreds of young people, parents, grandparents and friends visited Jeffers' Bend to take photos with Santa Claus. The participants also had the opportunity to enjoy apple cider, hot chocolate, and cookies; and make crafts and Christmas Cards for nursing homes.



Above—Boys and girls meet with Santa Claus.

JEFFERS BEND Environmental Center  
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## JEFFERS' BEND NEWS

January 2015

### Upcoming Events at Jeffers Bend

- Field trips for schools—4/16, 4/24, 5/1 and 5/8/2015.
- Take Kids Fishing—5/23/2015.
- Dinner by the River—6/20/2015.
- Field trips for schools—9/4, 9/11, 9/18, 9/24 and 10/2/2015.
- Naturefest—9/19/2015.
- Christmas at the Bend—12/5/2015.

### Naturefest 2014

Linda Wood, chair, Naturefest, says “the 2014 event was very successful with over 1400 people in attendance and the opportunity to interact with over 40 presenters.” The presentations involved recycling, energy efficiency, wildlife habitat, nature games, canoeing, archery, gardening, learning scouting skills, etc.



Above—Large crowd gather for pumpkin painting.

### Jeffers Bend Capital Campaign

Don Atwood, chair, Jeffers Bend Long Range Planning committee is working with various community leaders in a capital campaign to raise funds over three years to:

- ◆ Make repairs on buildings.
- ◆ Install heating/cooling system in three buildings.
- ◆ Convert concrete clarifier into an amphitheater.
- ◆ Repair lake for Take Kids Fishing, etc.
- ◆ Expand gardens.
- ◆ Expand nature trails, etc.

Note, the attached brochure.



Above—J B Raccoon, the mascot for Jeffers

### Let's Go Fishing!

The North Fork Little River Committee in cooperation with Pennyriple Resource Conservation and Development (RC&D) Area Council, Inc., and Jeffers' Bend Steering Committee will host the 17th annual **Take Kids Fishing Day** on Saturday, May 23, 2015, 9:00 a.m. to 12:00 p.m. at the Jeffers' Bend Environmental Center and Botanical Gardens on Metcalfe Lane here in Hopkinsville, Kentucky.



The fishing event is supported by 60 plus sponsors, including Pennyriple RC&D Area Council, City of Hopkinsville, Hutson Implement Company, Christian County Conservation District, BB&T Bank, Fort Campbell Federal Credit Union, Heritage Bank, Pennyriple Allied Community Services, United Southern Bank, Christian County Fiscal Court, Kentucky Department of Fish and Wildlife Resources, Housing Authority of Hopkinsville, Hopkinsville Water Environment Authority, Pioneers, Inc., etc.



Above—Cooking Crew from Atmos Energy.

The 2015 fishing event will involve about 650 kids and 550 adults coming together at Jeffers' Bend in Hopkinsville for three hours of family fun in which youngsters ages 3 to 15 fish for prizes. The prizes will be awarded in the four age groups of 3-5, 6-8, 9-11 and 12-15 for the smallest, largest and most fish caught. The prizes will include 22 new bicycles, fishing equipment, outdoor chairs, etc.



Above—Transportation provided by Hutson Implement Company (tractors) and City of Hopkinsville (wagons).