

An aerial photograph of Northwest Arkansas, overlaid with a color-coded map. The map features a network of orange lines representing waterways or infrastructure, green patches representing parks or green spaces, and blue areas representing water bodies. The background is a grayscale aerial view of the terrain.

# What is Green Infrastructure?

Northwest Arkansas  
2009 Calendar



# January

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
 <p>West Fork of White River Photo Credit: Melissa Terry</p>	<p><b>Green Infrastructure</b> is the natural system necessary for optimal environmental, social, and economic health. It is the ecological framework formed from interconnected water and land networks at every scale. <b>Green Infrastructure Planning</b> is a conservation planning strategy that focuses on the interaction of lands to be developed and conserved and optimizes land use to meet the needs of both people and nature.</p>			1  New Year's Day	2	3
4	5	6	7	8	9	10
11	12	13	14	15	16	17
18	19  Martin Luther King Jr. Day	20	21	22	23	24
25	26	27	28	29	30	31



Beaver Lake  
Photo Credit: Barbara Boland

# February

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
8	9	10	11	12	13	14 Valentine's Day
15	16 Presidents' Day	17	18	19	20	21
22	23	24	25	26	27	28



Brooks Hummel Conservation Area  
Photo Credit: Duane Woltjen

**Green Infrastructure** provides ecological services that save local governments and state agencies millions of dollars by offering alternatives to engineered structures. Examples include:

- Clean drinking water
- Drought and flood mitigation
- Timber production
- Air pollutant removal
- Groundwater recharge
- Food and fiber production
- Carbon storage

Reducing stormwater runoff, sediment and pollutants before water reaches Beaver Lake can result in less water treatment needed for Northwest Arkansas' primary source of drinking water.



Lake Sequoyah Area  
Photo Credit: Duane Woltjen



Great Blue Heron at Lake Sequoyah  
Photo Credit: David Oakley

# March

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
8  DST Begins	9	10	11	12	13	14
15	16	17  St. Patrick's Day	18	19	20	21
22	23	24	25	26	27	28
29	30	31	 <p>Box Turtle Photo Credit: Mary Bess Muholland</p> <p>Nature functions as a complex interdependent system of water and land made up of many features - rivers, forests, rocks, soils, prairies, and many others. By protecting contiguous forestlands, native natural areas, farmlands, and key linkages between them at the broader landscape scale, the complex web of nature is better able to function effectively. Maintaining these connections also supports native wildlife populations, their migration corridors, and the habitats they depend on for survival.</p>			



Lake Fayetteville Spillway Bridge  
Photo Credit: City of Fayetteville

# April

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
 <p>Frisco Trail Photo Credit: Julie McQuade</p>	<p>The <b>Green Infrastructure</b> network is formed by connecting significant sites and natural hubs through corridors, such as trails. Trails, linkages and corridors provide easy access to outdoor recreation and support activities that improve physical and mental health while helping residents and visitors re-connect with nature.</p>		1	2	3	4
5	6	7	8	9	10	11
12  Easter Sunday	13	14	15	16	17	18
19	20	21	22  Earth Day	23	24  Arbor Day	25
26	27	28	29	30	 <p>Wilson Park Photo Credit: City of Fayetteville</p>	<p>Trails, parks, landscaped medians and borders can be integrated into areas of higher density development.</p>



Charleston Place Retention Pond  
Photo Credit: Julie McQuade

# May

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday	
 <p>Canadian Geese at Woolsey Wet Prairie - Fayetteville, AR Photo Credit: Bruce Shackelford</p>	<p><b>Green Infrastructure</b> elements are extremely effective and natural tools for stormwater management. Significant wetland conservation, preserved riparian buffer zones, and retention and detention ponds reduce the need for conventional engineered stormwater measures. They can be preserved in a natural state or developed as a recreational attraction for the area. The Charleston Place retention pond (above) was built to be enjoyed by the subdivision's residents and provides habitat for wildlife. The Woolsey Wet Prairie (left) is frequented by various wildlife and has become known as a great site for bird watching.</p>					1	2
3	4	5	6	7	8	9	
10 Mother's Day	11	12	13	14	15	16	
17	18	19	20	21	22	23	
24 31	25 Memorial Day	26	27	28	29	30	



Terry Property  
Photo Credit: Melissa Terry

# June

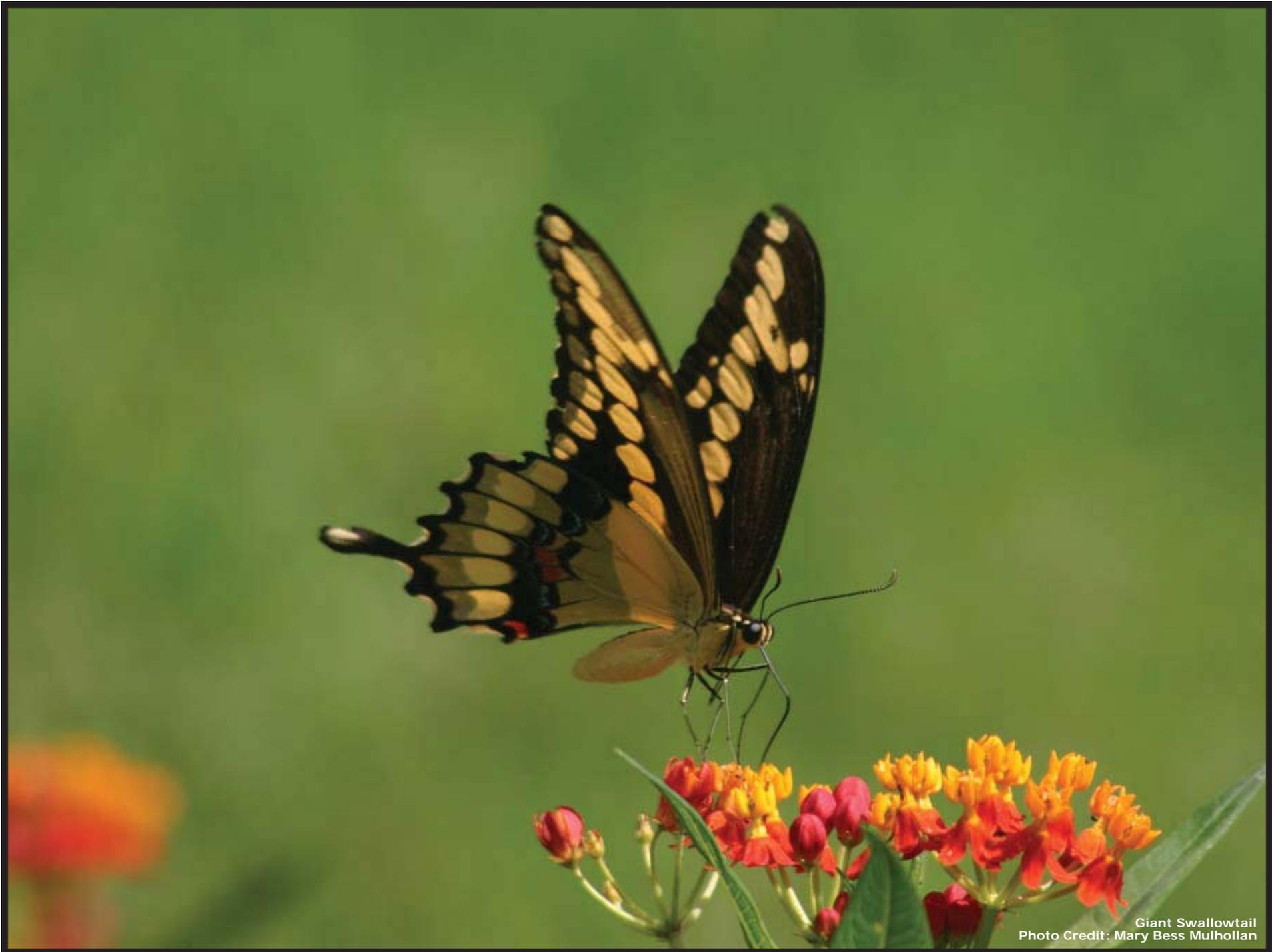
Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
 <p>Landscaped Business Yard Photo Credit: City of Fayetteville</p>	1	2	3	4	5	6
7	8	9	10	11	12	13
14	15	16	17	18	19	20
Flag Day						
21	22	23	24	25	26	27
Father's Day						
28	29	30	 <p>Purple Milkweed Photo Credit: Mary Bess Mulhollan</p>	<p><b>Backyards.</b> Everyone can contribute to the green infrastructure of our region in small ways. Plant a few native plants like redbud, dogwood, and viburnum for nectar, pollen and seeds in the backyard. Plant evergreens as shelter for wildlife. In the fall, let the flowers form seed heads for the birds.</p>		 <p>Zebra Swallowtail Photo Credit: Mary Bess Mulhollan</p>



Yellow Warbler at Woolsey Wet Prairie  
Photo Credit: Bruce Shackelford

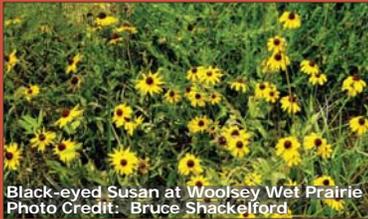
# July

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
 <p>Barn Swallow at Woolsey Wet Prairie Photo Credit: Bruce Shackelford</p>	<p>Natural systems, wildlife and plants don't pay attention to municipal boundaries – they must be protected, managed, and restored on the landscape level. This can only be accomplished by communities throughout the region working together.</p>		1	2	3	4  Independence Day
5	6	7	8	9	10	11
12	13	14	15	16	17	18
19	20	21	22	23	24	25
26	27	28	29	30	31	 <p>Sweet Gum at Brooks Hummel Photo Credit: Karen Pollet-Crocker</p>



Giant Swallowtail  
Photo Credit: Mary Bess Mulhollan

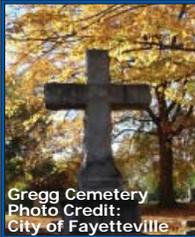
# August

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
 <p>Black-eyed Susan at Woolsey Wet Prairie Photo Credit: Bruce Shackelford</p>	<p>Open space conservation is often the cheapest way to safeguard drinking water, clean the air, and achieve other environmental goals. Communities are realizing that keeping water clean is almost always cheaper than cleaning it up. The purchase and protection of watershed lands can provide clean drinking water without constructing an expensive treatment plant. We lose approximately 6,000 acres of open space each day in the US.</p>				 <p>Ox-eye Daisy at Beaver Lake Photo Credit: Karen Rollet Crocker</p>	1
2	3	4	5	6	7	8
9	10	11	12	13	14	15
16	17	18	19	20	21	22
<u>23</u> 30	<u>24</u> 31	25	26	27	28	29



Downtown Fayetteville Fall Foliage  
Photo Credit: City of Fayetteville

# September

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
 <p>Roadside View Photo Credit: Fayetteville Natural Heritage Association</p>		1	2	3	4	5
6	7  Labor Day	8	9	10	11	12
13	14	15	16	17	18	19
20	21	22	23	24	25	26
27	28	29	30	 <p>Gregg Cemetery Photo Credit: City of Fayetteville</p>	<p>Significant cultural, historic and natural heritage sites include cemeteries, battlegrounds, and other sites. Locally they include the Confederate Cemetery, Gregg Cemetery, various historic homesteads, arboretums, the Trail of Tears and Heritage Trails. These become crucial elements to Green Infrastructure when preserved and linked through green corridors, in addition to increasing tourism.</p>	



Wilson Park Neighborhood Fall Foliage  
Photo Credit: City of Fayetteville

# October

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
 <p>Washington Country Road Photo Credit: Duane Woltjen</p>	Protecting agricultural lands safeguards the future of farming economies and communities. <b>Green Infrastructure</b> sustains lands for forestry and agriculture that provide resource-based livelihoods, local food and resource production, opportunities for agri-tourism and maintains the rural character of our region. Farmland in NWA has decreased by over 35% from 1997 to 2002			1	2	3
	4	5	6	7	8	9
11	12  Columbus Day	13	14	15	16	17
18	19	20	21	22	23	24
25	26	27	28	29	30	31  Halloween



Male Gold Finch  
Photo Credit: Miranda Viney

# November

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
1  DST Ends	2	3	4	5	6	7
8	9	10	11  Veteran's Day	12	13	14
15	16	17	18	19	20	21
22	23	24	25	26  Thanksgiving Day	27	28
29	30	 <p>Photo Credit: Duane Woltjen</p>		<p>Support of <b>Green Infrastructure</b> planning with networks of trails, watersheds and natural and cultural landscapes will result in year-round opportunities for recreation and improved health. These opportunities include physical activity for youth and adults to prevent obesity and connecting with nature. 'Free ranging' childhood experiences of exploration lead to enjoyment of the out of doors, stress release, and respect for our environment.</p>		 <p>Photo Credit: Duane Woltjen</p>



Female Cardinal  
Photo Credit: Miranda Viney

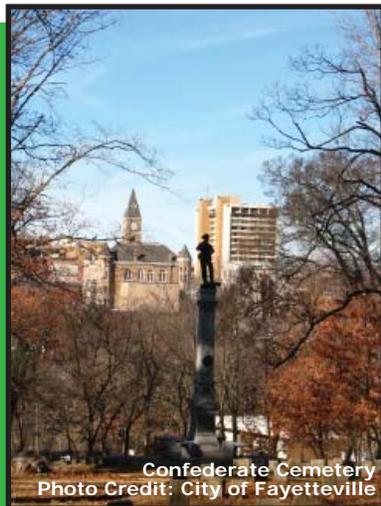
Holly Tree in the snow  
Photo Credit: Rod Jacobs

# December

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
<b>Wildlife and Biodiversity.</b> The Ozarks has its own unique eco-system. Native insects need native plants to eat. Insects provide critical protein that allows birds and fish to reproduce. A mother wren needs 500 insects a day to feed her young. Fish feed on aquatic insects. Acorns, nuts, and berries provide food for a variety of wildlife.		1	2	3	4	5
6	7	8	9	10	11	12
13	14	15	16	17	18	19
20	21	22	23	24	25	26
					Christmas Day	
27	28	29	30	31	 <p>Red-Winged Blackbird at Woolsey Wet Prairie Photo Credit: Bruce Shackelford</p>	

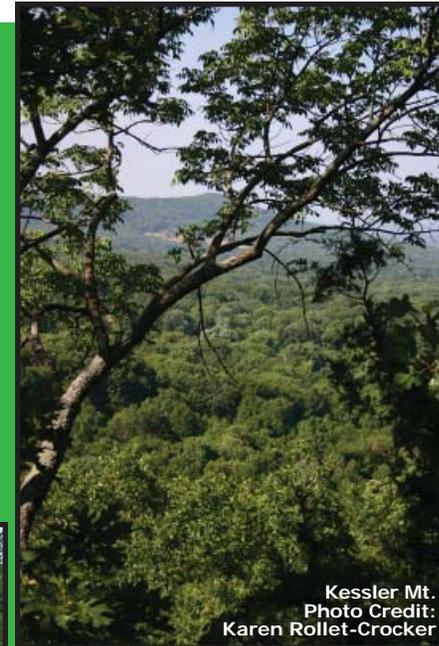


West Fork of the White River Pump House  
Photo Credit: Melissa Terry



Confederate Cemetery  
Photo Credit: City of Fayetteville

A Green Infrastructure network can consist of natural areas, wetlands, farmlands, conserved open space, trails, parks, private or developed properties, rivers, streams, and ecological corridors.



Kessler Mt.  
Photo Credit:  
Karen Rollet-Crocker



Scull Creek Trail Bridge  
Photo Credit: City of Fayetteville

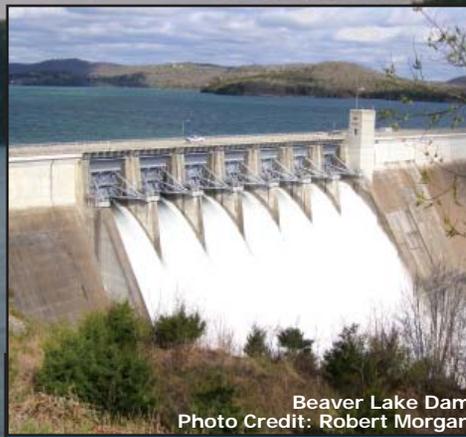
Sites

Hubs

Corridors



Beaver Lake  
Photo Credit: Barbara Boland



Beaver Lake Dam  
Photo Credit: Robert Morgan

Beaver Lake provides drinking water for 1 out of 8 people in Arkansas.

## **PROJECT OVERVIEW**

A grant in the amount of \$25,000 has been given by the USDA Forest Service to the Arkansas Forestry Commission Urban and Community Forestry Program to develop a Plan for Green Infrastructure-Linking Arkansas Communities, 2008-09. Fayetteville Natural Heritage Association and the Beaver Water District are partners. We will collaborate with elected officials, planners, businesses, economic development groups, landowners and other stakeholders in Farmington, Johnson, Greenland, Fayetteville and surrounding areas of Washington County. The plan is one of four Green Infrastructure pilot studies supported by the Southeast Region of the National Forest Service.

Green Infrastructure Planning identifies a network of working landscapes, trails, watersheds and natural and historic areas. These areas support the health of our communities.

1 in 8 people in Arkansas drinks water from the watershed of Beaver Lake. We have an opportunity to insure the availability of abundant clean water.

Our children will thank us for our effort to plan for the future. Active children, connected to nature, will be healthier and less obese.

The planning effort will:

- Respect the needs of communities for economic development and growth
- Encourage social benefits such as recreation and health
- Increase property values, support local businesses and attract tourism
- Increase corporate retention and relocation
- Reduce long term costs for services

The result will be a comprehensive map of our most valuable natural and cultural resources, using GIS mapping with science based goals and objectives.

## **SUMMARY**

The Green Infrastructure Plan will take a strategic approach to provide a rational, scientific, and predictable planning tool for coordinating both conservation of natural resources and encouragement of growth.

The final Green Infrastructure Plan will be a blueprint for our future that combines economic, social, and environmental concerns to link protection of our land and water resources with our future growth.



## PLAN FOR GREEN INFRASTRUCTURE - LINKING ARKANSAS COMMUNITIES 2008-09

A grant given by the USDA Forest Service to Arkansas Forestry Commission Urban Forestry Program in partnership with Fayetteville Natural Heritage Association (FNHA) and Beaver Water District



### Contacts:

Bob Caulk  
(479) 973-2968  
Chairman, FNHA

bobcaulk@cox.net

Karen Rollet-Crocker,  
(479) 442-9360  
Vice-Chairman, FNHA

krollet@uark.edu

Barbara Boland  
(479) 387-6724

Project Coordinator, FNHA

barbaraboland@hotmail.com

For project information please visit our website at: <http://www.fayettevillenatural.org/whats-happening.php>