



# Fayetteville Natural Heritage Association

J O I N T O D A Y ! , I N D I V I D U A L M E M B E R S H I P I S \$ 2 0 . S E N D  
P O B O X 3 6 3 5 W I T H Y O U R N A M E A N D A D D R E S S .

FNHA  
NEWSLETTER

### THE FNHA

WOULD LIKE  
YOUR OPINION  
ON HOW YOU  
RECEIVE FNHA  
NEWS.

WOULD YOU  
PREFER AN E-  
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STEAD OF A  
PAPER COPY?

PLEASE E-MAIL  
THE EDITOR  
AND LET US  
KNOW

YOU CAN  
REACH STEVE  
HATFIELD AT

shatfieldrla@aol.com

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## TRAIL PARTNERS

### FNHA ADOPTS SCULL CREEK TRAIL

Pre-Grand Opening Clean-  
Up Scheduled for October  
10, 2008

A new link in the Scull  
Creek Trail has been  
'adopted' by the Fayetteville  
Natural Heritage Associa-  
tion. The 1.2 mile segment  
connects Futrall Road with  
Steele Crossing Boulevard  
by way of underpasses at

bridge near  
Steel Creek  
Boulevard.

To kick-off  
FNHA's  
sponsor-  
ship, a pre-  
opening  
clean-up of  
this section  
is sched-  
uled for  
October 10, starting at 2  
p.m. Gloves and bags will



Underpass on New Section of Skull Creek Trail

be supplied to  
volunteers by  
the City Parks  
Department.  
Volunteers are  
encouraged to  
wear comfort-  
able clothes,  
suitable to a  
wooded area  
along the trail.  
All FNHA mem-  
bers are invited

Roads.

FNHA Chairman Bob Caulk  
comments, "FNHA's adop-  
tion of part of the Scull  
Creek Trail network demon-  
strates its commitment to  
continuing active protection  
of our area's environment.  
Everyone can enjoy the Scull  
Creek Trail for walking, bik-  
ing, rollerblading, etc. for  
recreation or as an alternate  
to autos for travel in Fayette-  
ville. We are proud to help  
maintain this community  
asset."

For more information, contact  
Mike Adelman, 571-1488.

and encouraged to partici-  
pate. Parking will be avail-  
able at the new parking  
area at Futrall and Appleby



Underpass on New Section of Skull Creek Trail

Van Asche Boulevard and  
under the Fulbright Ex-  
pressway, plus a new

## GREEN INFRASTRUCTURE GRANT UPDATE

Fayetteville Natural  
Heritage Association, in  
partnership with the  
Beaver Water District,  
has received a \$25,000  
matching grant from the

Arkansas Forestry Com-  
mission's Urban Forestry  
Program and the USDA  
Forest Service to produce  
a regional strategic con-  
servation plan using the

Green Infrastructure  
approach.

We have had an initial  
stakeholder meeting on  
August 21 attended by



the New Pavilion is nearing completion,  
-Pete Hienzemann reports that only  
three small rocks remain to be  
placed in the floor.

CHAIRMAN'S CORNER

FNHA's Survey of Fayetteville Registered Voters on Conservation Issues was conducted from July 14-22, 2008 and I would like to share some highlights with you. Four hundred registered voters were interviewed by telephone. Our goal was to determine:

- Can a ballot proposal win that uses a small property tax increase to provide a sustainable funding source for conservation of natural areas

- The community's conservation priority

- Key data to design a conservation ballot measure and a winning campaign.

A property tax based sustainable natural area conservation program has encouraging

dents would definitely or probably vote for the tax increase. This level of baseline support is very encouraging. Engaged citizens (registered voters who belong to at least one community organization, e.g., Chamber of Commerce, Lions, FNHA, Bicycle Coalition) were more likely to support the tax increase (70% total support). When asked about paying additional taxes each year to conserve natural areas, 70% of all respondents and 80% of engaged citizens replied they would be willing to pay additional taxes each year.

All seven conservation objectives and seven conservation projects mentioned were supported by a majority of

wildlife habitat, hill-sides and Fayetteville's natural beauty were also notable priorities.

A number of arguments for and argu-



ments against were tested. Over 75% of respondents found all five arguments **for** very convincing or somewhat convincing. Two arguments **against** (there are greater priorities such as schools and roads and bad economic times) had 60 to 65% of respondents agree strongly or agree somewhat with the argument.

begin development of program details and model a plan after the successful program of Washtenaw County Michigan, that includes Ann Arbor which is listed by AARP as America's Healthiest City ([www.aarpmagazine.org/lifestyles/healthiest\\_hometowns.html](http://www.aarpmagazine.org/lifestyles/healthiest_hometowns.html)) Our campaign will emphasize involving and mobilizing engaged citizen like you. An election in early 2009, if the proposition passes, would allow a sustainable natural area conservation program to begin in 2010. There is lots of work to be done and I hope you will get involved. Email me ([bobcaulk@cox.net](mailto:bobcaulk@cox.net) or call me @ 973-2968 if you would like more information or have questions.

Bob

IN ORDER TO REMAIN SUCCESSFUL IN SAVING OUR IRREPLACEABLE NATURAL HERITAGE, FNHA NEEDS YOUR CONTINUED SUPPORT.

PLEASE RENEW YOUR MEMBERSHIP TODAY.

YOU WILL FIND THE STATUS OF YOUR MEMBERSHIP ABOVE YOUR NAME ON THIS NEWSLETTER'S MAILING LABEL.

support. When asked if they would vote for or against a one mill property tax increase for ten years to fund the purchase of natural areas or conservation easements on natural areas, 60% of respon-

respondents. Water (watershed protection, conservation of riparian areas or springs) was the highest priority with over 75% of respondents indicating water issues to be very important or important. Preservation of

The FNHA Board's assessment is that a ballot proposal for a property tax increase to provide a sustainable funding source for a natural area conservation program can win in Fayetteville. We will

over 115 people. At the meeting, approximately 60 individuals from a broad spectrum of the community signed on to form a Design Team. We will commence with the first Design Team meeting on October 2. Public meetings in the Study Area communities are planned for November and December (see <http://www.fayettevillenatural.org/whats-happening.php> for the Study Area).

Project deliverables include a Green Infrastructure Network Map and a survey of conservation implementation strategies that will be presented to Study Area jurisdictions for adoption and will serve as a prototype for future Green Infrastructure

projects in the state of Arkansas and the SE Region of the USDA Forest Service.

Hallmarks of the Green Infrastructure approach are that it is highly collaborative, long-term, science based, and employs GIS analysis to develop recognition of existing natural resources of environmental, social, and economic value. Mapped elements of a Green Infrastructure Network may include, among other elements, parks, trails, historic and cultural sites, and natural and working lands that provide environmental benefits, such as farms with woodlands, wetlands, and riparian zones. Green Infrastructure planning considers development and conservation hand-in-hand as

essential future activities; and as a reflection of what a community values, a Green Infrastructure Network Map can provide guidance for appropriate placement of both future developments and conservation efforts.

The project has four phases on the following timeline:

Phase I-Training, Organization, Gathering Participants-April – September 2008

Phase II-Working Group Activity-October 2008-January 2009

Gathering public and expert input to develop network maps

Reporting on Working Group activity

Phase III-Integration-February – April 2009

Integrate public and expert maps into one

Green Infrastructure Network Map

Integrate Working Group activity reports

Phase IV-Presentation-April – November 2009

Present to Study Area jurisdictions for adoption

Present to surrounding communities within Illinois and Beaver Lake Watersheds

Present to municipalities/counties within MSA

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Article by: Barbara Boland

**W H O D O Y O U C A L L ?**

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**Advisory Board**

*"The challenge goes on. There are other lands and rivers, other wilderness areas to save and to share with all. I challenge you to step forward to protect and care for the wild places you love best." Dr. Neil Compton 1919-1999*

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