



FNHA's Green Infrastructure Now Part of City of Fayetteville's 2030 Plan

A major endorsement of the Fayetteville Natural Heritage Association's Green Infrastructure Plan came with its recent incorporation into Fayetteville's City Plan 2030.

FNHA President Bob Caulk recalled that "When we began the Green Infrastructure Planning (GIP) project, the question most frequently asked was 'How can we afford to implement the plan?' People were thinking only of buying land. It is possible, but often very expensive, to acquire land or purchase development rights (conservation easements) to add to the green infrastructure network. Sources of funding do exist, but they are limited and should be focused on critical resources. Fortunately there are other very effective implementation tools that can be used.

The GIP's Land Use Working Group addressed the critical issue of incorporating green infrastructure into the local land use planning process. Their research showed that effective land use planning begins with a community's goals for green infrastructure, to be followed, over time, by zoning and other supportive ordinances. Code tools such as a tree ordinance, a riparian buffer ordinance or a conservation subdivision ordinance can build parts of a green infrastructure network. Non-regulatory tools involve education on land management "best practices" and public involvement in applying them. Often a volunteer group or landowner can partner with an agency (e.g., the Cooperative Extension Service, the Forestry Commission, a Water District) to implement a green infrastructure improvement. In the long run, only public involvement can generate and sustain the political will necessary for success in implementing the Green Infrastructure vision.

Fayetteville's City Plan 2030 (Future Land Use and Framework: Goals, Objectives and Actions), which was being updated as we finished our project, adopted FNHA's GIP to define natural areas, the Enduring Green Network and to provide tools to assemble the Network. The FNHA GIP "will be used as one of the many tools to inform planners on land use decisions, park planners during parkland acquisition process, and a guide for planning future trail corridors, as well as a resource for policy makers to prioritize land for preservation or conservation."

A good Land Use Plan will influence future development. Green infrastructure can link communities and guide regional development; we are pleased that our results have been incorporated in the development of the Northwest Arkansas Regional Planning Commission's Active Transportation Plan for a trail to link the four communities covered by our project. (see page 2)



Mark Your Calendar!

**Friday June 1, Certified
Community Wildlife
Habitat celebration,
3-5 pm, Gulley Park
gazebo.**

Members Buzzing About FNHA Annual Meeting

"I had no idea that bumblebees could be so fascinating!" That was one of many remarks heard after the FNHA Annual Meeting on January 29 in the Fayetteville Public Library.

Members and guests enjoyed FNHA's legendary refreshments as they listened to Amber Tripodi, a doctoral candidate in the Department of Entomology at the University of Arkansas, give an illustrated talk on her research on bee populations and habitats, especially in prairie restoration sites in Fayetteville. She compared the bee populations at various times of the year in the Lake Fay-

etteville, Paul Noland, Woolsey Wetland, and World Peace prairies, all of which are areas of interest to FNHA.

Although Amber's focus is on various species of bumblebees and the plants that support them, she also studies carpenter bees and honey bees. AND she's a great speaker!

During the business part of the meeting, Terri Lane was elected to the Board, replacing Steve Hatfield, who has moved to Missouri. Other members of the Board and officers were elected to another term.

FNHA's Green Infrastructure Now Part of City of Fayetteville's 2030 Plan (from page 1)

All who participated in the Green Infrastructure Planning - Linking Arkansas Communities should be proud of their contributions. We have gained regional and national recognition for our volunteer efforts. Most important, we have helped create a vision for a Fayetteville that recognizes the importance of natural areas to the social and economic health of the community. We continue to work to develop the opportunity to expand the GI Plan to more of Northwest Arkansas. **[The figures below are from Fayetteville's City Plan 2030; the full plan is available at: www.accessfayetteville.org/government/planning/City_Plan_2030.]**

12.1.2 Future Land Use Map Designations

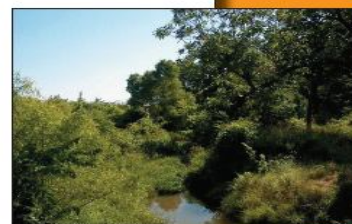


Natural Areas:

Natural Areas consist of lands approximating or reverting to a wilderness condition, including those with limited development potential due to topography, hydrology, vegetation or value as an environmental resource. These resources can include stream and wildlife corridors, as well as natural hubs and cores, as identified in the FNHA study, many of which make up the backbone of the enduring green network. A **Natural Area** designation would encourage a development pattern that requires conservation and preservation, prevents degradation of these areas, and would utilize the principles of low impact development for all construction.

Guiding Policies:

- Preserve a network of habitat and open space, protecting biodiversity and enhancing the City's quality of life.
- Preserve native vegetation and meet the habitat needs of multiple species.
- Encourage recreational and educational opportunities in appropriate areas to enhance appreciation for existing environmental resources.
- Identify areas of environmental concern and protect and preserve environmental resources.
- Conserve open space and protect areas of significant riparian benefit, tree canopy and other environmental resources through cluster development provisions, density controls, protective easements and/or other development tools.



Clabber Creek



Lake Wilson



12-3

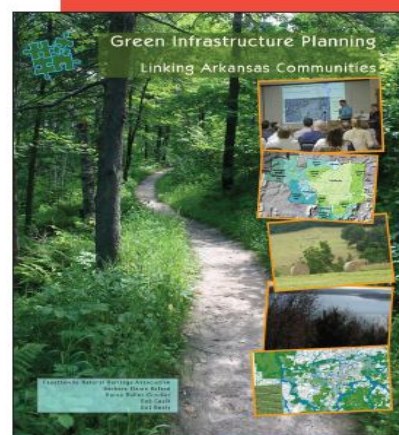
www.accessfayetteville.org/government/planning/City_Plan_2030

Goal 5: We will assemble an enduring green network.

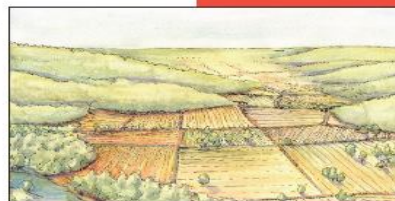
"The Enduring Green Network connects people and nature through a mapped system of trails and green infrastructure. This network recognizes and assembles the ecological assets in Fayetteville that need to be preserved while providing a lasting connected corridor for wildlife. The strength, function and appreciation of the Enduring Green Network will develop over time as our community experiences these natural areas and distinct ecosystems." (Description based on public feedback during City Plan 2030 public input sessions.)

The natural environment, and connections with the environment, is part of what makes Fayetteville special. Residents treasure the quality of life associated with living in a place that offers magnificent views and a variety of recreational opportunities. The natural environment of Fayetteville needs to be properly preserved and enhanced. The City of Fayetteville community needs to increase efforts to protect the natural landscape, increase parks and trails, and preserve long views across open green spaces.

A green network helps maintain the community character and quality of life that makes Fayetteville the great city that it is today, and contributes to the economic success and stability of the City. Fayetteville must compete with other cities in the region for population, jobs, and retail sales. It has a number of assets unavailable to the other cities including the University of Arkansas, the Walton Arts Center, Dickson Street, and an intact city core area that is improving and strengthening. One of Fayetteville's overwhelming differences from other cities is the character and quality of the environmental setting. As such, nurturing this setting is of economic benefit to the city, as a quality environment confers value and attracts residents who all get to share in the common amenity. If the City chooses unregulated development that strips away the natural setting or reserves pieces of it for only a select few, it will lose one of its advantages in the regional economic competition. Since this environment is one of the advantages that distinguish Fayetteville from other cities, it can be an important factor in marketing the unique quality of life to future residents and employers.



Fayetteville Natural Heritage Association
Green Infrastructure Study



10-23

www.accessfayetteville.org/government/planning/City_Plan_2030

New Signs Dedicated at Mt. Sequoyah Woods

On April 11, several FNHA members participated in a ribbon-cutting ceremony held by the Fayetteville Parks and Recreation Department to dedicate the new map and kiosk at the southeast entrance to Mt. Sequoyah Woods. Mayor Jordan spoke at the event. The new sign has an improved trail map, a site elevation chart and information about plants and animals commonly found in the Woods.



FNHA members join the mayor and Fayetteville city officials at a ribbon-cutting for the new kiosk at Mt. Sequoyah Woods. From left to right, those pictured are David Whitaker, Doug James, Barbara Taylor, Bob Caulk, Carole Jones, Jason Kindall, Pete Heinzelmann, Duane Woltjen, Dot Neely, Karen Crocker, Mayor Lionel Jordan, and Judy Woltjen

FNHA Newsletter Reduces Carbon Footprint, Goes Green

As part of its effort to live more lightly on the planet, the Fayetteville Natural Heritage Association has transitioned to an electronically-distributed newsletter. You will receive your copies via e-mail rather than as paper issues sent through the mail as part of our sustainability initiative. The planet and FNHA thank you!



Recycle

Fayetteville Now Certified Community Wildlife Habitat

FNHA has been part of a two-year effort to have Fayetteville recognized as the first *Certified Community Wildlife Habitat*™ in the state of Arkansas. The initiative, known as the Fayetteville Community Wildlife Habitat™ Project, has recently successfully satisfied all requirements set forth by the National Wildlife Federation®. Now it's time to celebrate!

The goal of the project, which has been led by members of the Fayetteville Environmental Action Committee and FNHA, in collaboration with city staff and other community groups, is to educate and inspire Fayetteville residents to protect local biodiversity by providing for wildlife populations on their own properties. Residents can create critical habitat and increase the city's inventory of native plants and trees, one yard at a time.

To qualify, participating properties must provide food, water, shelter and nesting sites for local wildlife populations. Examples include planting milkweed for Monarch butterflies, installing native pollinator beds, reducing turf grass, planting native trees that provide forage, installing frog ponds and rain gardens, creating rock or brush piles for shelter, and reducing chemical usage, to name a few.

To date, certified properties in Fayetteville include over 200 homes, as well as 24 parks and trails, 9 schools, several businesses, churches and even a cemetery. And as awareness spreads, the list is growing. To certify your property, go to www.nwf.org/gardenforwildlife and click "certify". (Your property will automatically be credited toward the Fayetteville effort based on the zip code listed on your application.)

To celebrate Fayetteville's accomplishment, please join us Friday, June 1, 3-5pm at the Guley Park Gazebo. Activities will include a 30-minute guided "Habitat Hike" around the park, a kids' wildlife activity table, and a presentation of our certification to Mayor Jordan and the Habitat Team by representatives of the National Wildlife Federation®.

For more information, contact Terri Lane at treehugger-lane@cox.net.

Article by Terri Lane

Mt. Kessler Greenways Publishes New Brochure

For the past several years, property owners on Mt. Kessler have met informally to discuss their collective interest in the mountain's future development. Mt. Kessler Greenways is an advocacy group whose members want to help maintain the natural character of the area. They intend to participate in planning for development and to maintain trail corridors for wildlife habitat and movement as well as for human uses that will respect the natural areas throughout the site.

FNHA supports their effort. Just imagine having significant natural areas on the east (Mt. Sequoyah Woods), on the west (Mt. Kessler Greenways), on the north (Lake Fayetteville) and on the south (Lake Sequoyah) of our community for the enjoyment of current and future residents. Find a scanned copy of the new Mt. Kessler Greenways brochure on pages 7 and 8, or download a copy at www.fayettevillenatural.org.

National Park Service Considers Butterfield Overland Trail for National Historic Trail Status

Representatives of the National Park Service visited Fayetteville on April 11, as part of their study to determine whether the Butterfield Overland Trail should be designated a National Historic Trail. The public meeting was one of 13 held in communities along the 2,800-mile length of the Trail. Several FNHA members spoke in support of the designation because official National Historic Trail status will help in conservation of natural areas along the route.



Fayetteville mayor Lioneld Jordon expresses his strong support of recognizing the Butterfield Overland Trail as a National Historic Trail to National Park Service representatives during a public comment session at City Hall.

???

Do you know
the difference between
a **National Heritage Trail**
and
a **National Scenic Trail**?

???

See page 5 for the answer

Lake Fayetteville Prairie Restoration Area Controlled Burn

By mid-March, FNHA volunteers had completed preparation of the Lake Fayetteville Prairie Restoration Area for the City of Fayetteville Parks and Recreation Department's restorative controlled burn. The successful burn will promote the return of plants and animals that were present when the first settlers came to this area.

Decades of fire suppression have contributed to significant decline in native plants and animals by allowing aggressive aliens to overtake the natural habitat required by our heritage species to survive.



Members of the Chloeta Fire, LLC crew, from Oklahoma City, set a backfire during the controlled burn at the Lake Fayetteville Prairie

What's the Difference Between a National Scenic Trail and a National Historic Trail?

In 1968, Congress established the National Trails System and designated the first national trails. The Bureau of Land Management is one of several agencies responsible for management of National **Historic** or **Scenic** Trails.

National Historic Trails are extended trails that closely follow a historic trail or route of travel of national significance. Designation identifies and protects historic routes, historic remnants, and artifacts for public use and enjoyment. The Bureau of Land Management is responsible for over 5,343 miles of 11 National Historic Trails. **National Historic Trails** commemorate historic or pre-historic travel routes that are of significance to the entire Nation. To qualify for designation as a national historic trail, a trail must meet the following criteria:

- have been established by a historic use and have historical significance as a result of that use,
- have historic use of the trail that has had a far and reaching effect on broad patterns of American culture, and
- have significant potential for public recreational or historical interest.

A designated trail should generally follow the route of the historic trail but may deviate if necessary.

National Scenic Trails are extended trails that provide maximum outdoor recreation potential and for the conservation and enjoyment of the various qualities – scenic, historical, natural, and cultural – of the areas they pass through. The Bureau of Land Management is responsible for over 668 miles of the **Continental Divide, Pacific Crest, Potomac Heritage, Arizona, and Pacific Northwest** National Scenic Trails. **National Scenic Trails** are continuous trails over 100 miles long that provide outstanding non-motorized recreation opportunities.

For more info on this program see http://www.blm.gov/wo/st/en/prog/blm_special_areas/NLCS/Trails.html

FNHA annual memberships are due in January of each year. You will receive a renewal reminder near the end of the year. Memberships at the Landmark level and above are Lifetime memberships. Since 2003, with support from so many levels, FNHA has been able to preserve natural areas, start an education endowment for children, influence land use and conservation policy, and in doing so we have gained national support and recognition. None of this would have been possible without you, our amazing members, and we hope you will continue to support FNHA as we continue to preserve our natural heritage. Thank you!

**Have a question?
Need more info?
Want to Comment?**

**Fill out the contact form at
www.fayettevillenatural.org**

or contact us directly

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Help us to continue making exemplary natural areas accessible to everyone by supporting our conservation, stewardship, policy, and education efforts.

Please join FNHA or renew your membership today

Annual dues are:
(☒ Please check one)

Membership is for the calendar year,
and dues are payable January 1, 2012

- | | | |
|---|--|---|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Landmark \$1000 | <input type="checkbox"/> Steward \$500 | <input type="checkbox"/> Sustaining \$250 |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Supporting \$100 | <input type="checkbox"/> Family \$40 | <input type="checkbox"/> Single \$20 |

Use your PayPal account on the web at www.fayettevillenatural.org "Join Us"

or

Make your check payable to **Fayetteville Natural Heritage Association (FNHA)**

and mail to **PO Box 3635, Fayetteville, AR 72702-3635**

Please Print

Name _____

Address _____

City _____ ST _____ ZIP _____

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FNHA is a 501(c)3 nonprofit corporation comprised of a group of citizens dedicated to conserving the natural areas of Fayetteville and its environs for the benefit of present and future generations

Volunteers plant native trees and shrubs as final step in steambank stabilization project



Several volunteers from FNHA and other community organizations spent the morning of April 14 along the newly stabilized streambank of the White River east of the Noland Water Treatment Plant.

The Water Conservation Resource Center, in partnership with the city of Fayetteville, has restored 1000 feet of streambank on the White River. Once mature the trees and shrubs will provide a riparian habitat that will improve the water quality as the river flows to Beaver Lake. Most plants were nurtured in pots before being moved to their new home along in the riparian area

Adopt A Trail Scull Creek Cleanup volunteers gather at Wilson Park

After filling several trash bags with trash and learning who claimed bragging rights for the best "find" - a titanium frame bicycle recovered from the stream near Wilson Park - hungry volunteers line up for door prizes, t-shirts and a PIZZA DINNER! The April 23 event was organized by FNHA, Arkansas Canoe Club, Watershed Conservation Resource Center and the UofA Cooperative Extension Service. Special thanks to Arkansas Stream Team's John Pennington for his exceptional organizing skills, former FNHA Board member Mike Adelman for manning the FNHA/Environmental Action Committee Habitat Project sign-in table, and to the local sponsors of the event.





KESSLER MOUNTAIN Washington County, Arkansas

John Rieff purchased 20 acres atop Kessler Mountain on October 22, 1838 for \$35.00.

In 1951, after a hike atop Kessler Mountain, Miss Jobelle Holcombe wrote:*

As I looked out over the surrounding picturesque hills at the distant mountains against the blue sky with its gray clouds, and at the valleys between the rolling hills, I could well understand why John and Hannah (Rieff - the first pioneers of Kessler Mountain) would settle here to hew out of the wilderness an abiding place for the generations to come."



Rock City

KESSLER'S WINERY

Phillip Kessler was born to a wine making family in Germany, and was brought to Springfield, Missouri at a young age. He married Kate, who was also born in Germany, and they soon had a daughter, Clara Elizabeth. The Kesslers arrived in Fayetteville in 1866 "in a brand new survey with four beautiful horses and \$11,000 in gold"**.

The Kesslers purchased thirteen acres on top of the mountain, because it reminded them of stories they were told about Germany. They built a house, dug a well and wine cellar and established probably the first vineyard and winery in the State of Arkansas. The wine business was in full operation by 1869.

KESSLER'S VINEYARD

The vineyard at the top of Kessler Mountain, Fayetteville, Ark. had 400 vines in 1869.

Native Grape Wine

BLACKBERRY WINE
VINTAGE 1869
A NEW METHOD OF PREPARATION

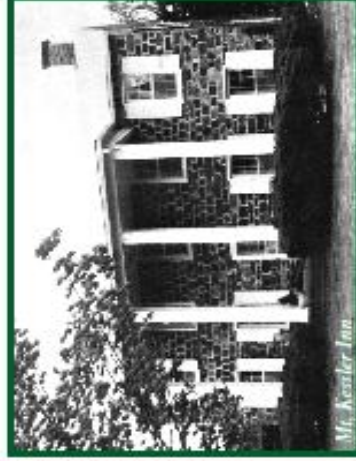
ORDER
CIDER

The quality is guaranteed.
For orders, contact the Kessler's
Bakery, located at the corner of
Main and 1st Streets, Fayetteville, Ark.
1869-1870.

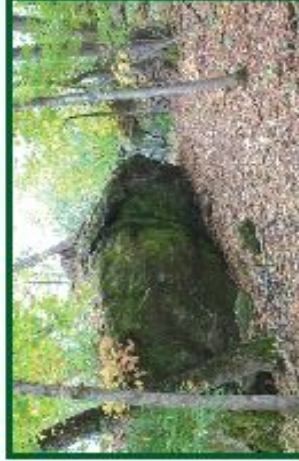
Kessler's Vineyard Advertisement, 1869
from: JOURNAL OF THE AMERICAN VINTAGE, 1869

Between 1869 and 1873, notices in local papers advertised a "full supply of native grape wines and celebrated Champaign Cider. The trade supplied for sale at Dorman's Bakery." Kessler's Wine Halle opened, on West Center Street in Fayetteville, featuring "Kessler's celebrated wines and peach and apple brandies... drinks ten cents or three for twenty-five cents." The local paper described the Wine Halle as "where bad little boys of town congregate at nights and shove billiards."

Nothing remains of the Kessler house and winery, except the hand-dug well and wine cellar, adjacent to the beautiful, two-story, stone, Mount Kessler Inn.*



Phillip Kessler is buried in the Rieff Chapel Cemetery, on the south end of Kessler Mountain, surrounded by the Johnson Pear Farm.



Scenic Path Along Moss Covered Boulders



Morgan and Steve Lomede
International Mountain Bicycling Association
www.imba.com

*See Washington County Historical Association's FLASHBACK November 1951, Volume 1 Number 6, Page 7

** WCHA'S FLASHBACK, February 1984, page 24



MT. KESSLER GREENWAYS

- An advocacy group to help maintain the natural character of the mountains, its woods, trails, wildlife and other natural features.
- To protect the value of property owned by neighbors on the mountains.
- To participate in municipal and county planning to see that development on the mountains is compatible with existing uses.
- To work to obtain funding (Forest Legacy and other grants, green space ordinances, watershed protection money, etc.) to enable purchase (or placement of agricultural / conservation easements) on ecologically important pieces of property as they come up for sale.
- To maintain trail corridors for hikers and bikers - wide enough for wildlife habitation and migration.

For more information contact:

Frank Sharp

KesslerGreenways@pgtc.com

479-957-4069



8 1/2 Miles Of Hiking / Biking / Running Trails

MOUNT KESSLER GREENWAYS now includes about 1,500 acres, a thousand of which lie within the limits of the *City of Fayetteville*. The land is mainly privately owned, but about 200 acres are owned by the *City of Fayetteville* and are dedicated as a regional city park.

RECREATION

The 200 acre regional park will contain soccer fields as well as space for other team sports.

There are about 8 1/2 miles of hiking/mountain biking/running trails on Mt. Kessler, constructed primarily by the *Ozark Off Road Cyclists*, a mountain biking club.



Ozark Off-Road Cyclists

AGRICULTURE

Johnson Pear Farm - On the south end of Mt. Kessler, about 170 acres were put into a conservation easement by the late Ben Johnson, which is held by the *Ozark Regional Land Trust*.

Presently the *Greenhouse Grille* has a garden on the property.

WOODLANDS / WILDLIFE

Presently most of the 1500 acres is in urban forest.

Barbara Moorman has put 86 acres into a conservation easement held by the *National Wildlife Federation*. The *Sharpbridge Trust* has 20 acres in a conservation easement held by the *City of Fayetteville* and monitored by the *Fayetteville Natural Heritage Association*.

About half of the 900 acres *Southpass* property, owned by **Chambers Bank**, is in urban forest.

Anne Prichard has several acres of woodland on the south end of Mt. Kessler. Her property, part of the old *Johnson Pear Farm*, next to the historic *Rieff Chapel Cemetery*.



Rock City

EDUCATION

The *National Center for Appropriate Technology* is looking at conducting educational workshops on sustainable energy and farming.

TOURISM

Deepwood House is a lodging located on Finger Road. It is in the midst of 40 acres of woods and is adjacent to the trails of Mt. Kessler. For more information see: www.deepwoodhouse.com or call 479-571-3224.

RESIDENTIAL / COMMERCIAL

Chambers Bank is studying the highest and best development of the land off Cato Springs Road.

(April 2012)