



Experience Nature - Experience Life



2007-2008 Annual Report

Donor Listings

Ijams Nature Center would like to thank the following who contributed \$100 or more during the fiscal year July 1, 2007 – June 30, 2008.

\$10,000 and above

Alcoa Foundation
City of Knoxville
Community Shares Inc.
Christine Hayworth
Knox County
Sherri Lee
Longstreet Financial LP
State of Tennessee

\$5,000 to \$9,999

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Knoxville TVA Employees Credit
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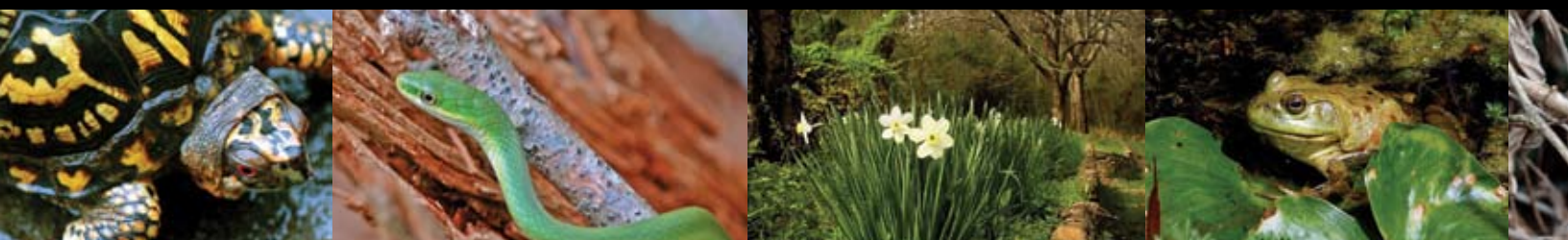
Introduction

This report presents key highlights and accomplishments by Ijams Nature Center during the fiscal year July 1, 2007-June 30, 2008. Ijams built on strategic planning efforts to re-define programmatic priorities and produce a comprehensive facilities master plan to reflect the changing nature of programs and facilities at the park. Certainly, a major milestone was the addition of the abandoned 103-acre Georgia Marble Quarry donated by Imerys, Inc. which will in time increase the Ijams' park to almost 300-acres.

Programmatically, Ijams reached greater numbers of school children through onsite field trips, created a new environmental education initiative, First Child in the Woods, as well as increased the knowledge, understanding and appreciation of the natural world through quality traditional programming, experiences and facilitating life-long connections with the natural world.

Thank you to all our members, donors, volunteers and supporters for helping fulfill the Ijams mission.

Paul James, Executive Director





Mission & Programmatic Themes

Mission

Ijams Nature Center's mission is to develop and maintain the park as a wildlife sanctuary. Ijams seeks to increase knowledge, understanding, and appreciation of the natural world by providing quality environmental educational programs and nature-related experiences for all people.

Priority Themes and Programming

Currently, Ijams Nature Center accomplishes its mission by focusing on the following environmental themes:

I. Conservation & Sustainable Land Management:

Protecting and providing educational and recreational access to park acreage and green spaces through sustainable stewardship, best practices, and horticulture.

II. The Green Earth: Understanding and applying solutions to local, national, and global environmental issues within daily lives, including global climate change, air quality, water quality, alternative energy, and solid waste reduction.

III. Natural History, Earth and Life Science: Discovering the amazing adaptations, behavior and biological diversity of flora & fauna throughout East Tennessee.

IV. Fragile Existences: Understanding endangered species and the stresses affecting critical habitat protection.

V. Natural Connections: Experiencing, appreciating, interpreting, and enjoying the natural world at Ijams and throughout the region.

Mercy Health Partners
Charles and Nicole Montgomery
Moxley Carmichael Communications
Penrose Farm
Prestige Cleaners
Joe Pryse and Sharon Miller-Pryse
Rodgers Cadillac Saab
Safety & Ecology Corporation
Sam's Club East #6572
Scripps Networks
Caesar and Dorothy Stair
Sunlight Gardens
Tennessee Valley Authority
The Trust Company of Knoxville
Vulcan Materials Company
Walmart Store #1320
Douglas and Sara Yoakley

\$500 - \$999

30 Good Leaves
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George Reynolds
Aggregates USA
Beaver Creek Nursery
Dianne Blane
Scott and Amanda Busby
John and Sandra Butler
Peter Claussen
Herb and Karen Cleveland
Townsend and Conni Collins
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Mast General Store
Mountain Commerce Bank
Native Gardens
Dale Nichols
Overhill Gardens
Mike Parish and Susan Kincaid
Parrott Farm
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John and Nancy Stewart
SunCoke Energy, Inc.
Tennessee Operating Partners, LLC
Hiram Tipton
U30 Group
Ed and Christine Winter



\$250 - \$499

A.L. Loftis Elementary School
AAA - East Tennessee
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Joan and Neal Allen
Alfred Beasley
Tom and Aggie Bell
Nancy Biddle
Brian Blind
Rebecca Bryant and Gary Rogers
Chris and Marilyn Burkhart
Wendy Caldwell
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Elizabeth Dorsey
Jamie Dunn
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James and Elizabeth Wall
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Todd Witcher
Jerri L. Yates
Ed Yost and Shaney Palmer
Donna Young



Living Clean & Green & Air Quality

*L*iving Clean & Green's series of programs are designed to mobilize citizen groups to both reconnect with nature and empower them to help protect, restore, and use our natural resources sustainably. The scope of the series has now been substantially expanded to reflect changes in the local, national and global environment, particularly addressing key issues relating to air quality.

Due to tighter Federal regulations regarding air quality and particle matter, air quality education now forms a critical part of the Living Clean & Green curriculum. Therefore, this series plus other Ijams programs all incorporate air quality education components. Information packets are also distributed to teachers, parents and chaperones during field trips. Program impacts and outcomes have also been measured in several ways. A University of Tennessee doctoral candidate, Carolyn Reilly-Sheehan, developed and implemented a participant survey including pre- and post-program surveys and observations to determine knowledge, skills, and changes in behavior. Results showed that more than 50% of participants utilized program materials and 75% changed behaviors as a direct result.

During the past year, Ijams educated 4,737 adults and students through 117 Living Clean & Green programs throughout Knox, Blount, Anderson, Loudon, Roane, Jefferson, and Grainger counties.





Earth Flag

The way society understands and appreciates the natural world is critical to changing beliefs and behaviors that impact the state of the environment. Likewise, reducing, recycling, and composting what we consume each day is vital to the environmental, social and economic health of our community. This philosophy forms the core of Ijams' Earth Flag program, which produces measurable results that directly impact the levels of solid waste produced within 75 Knox County Schools. The program's five goals (reduce/reuse, recycle, restore/sustainability, compost and community) and four levels of commitment embody this renowned environmental education initiative.

Earth Flag is directly supported in 24 Knox County schools by six CAC/AmeriCorps members who work with students, teachers, administrators, custodians, and parents to increase awareness of recycling and sustainable practices as well as measurably increase recycling levels at schools. The program's annual statistics of the 24 AmeriCorps-involved schools speak volumes about the impact of this initiative:

- 2,294 student volunteer hours
- 21,542 lbs of compost diverted from landfills
- 932 class-based tutorials
- 10, 230 direct student educational experiences

Special mention goes to Gresham Middle School, Shannondale Elementary, Fountain City Elementary, and Adrian Burnett Elementary schools who are still maintaining Level IV status - the pinnacle Earth Flag achievement representing superior environmental commitment.

\$100 - \$249

Harry and Debra Anderson
 Walter and Jane Anen
 Barbara Apking
 Jacki Arthur
 Thomas and Midge Ayres
 Back Room Gallery
 John Bain
 Sherry Bain and David Creed
 Lyn Bales
 Gregory and Beverly Barker
 Midori and Ronald Barstow
 Doug and Angela Bataille
 Ted and Geniece Bays
 Patricia Bell
 Tom and Laura Benton
 Bertelkamp Automation
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 Christine Boake
 David Bolt
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 Mark Campen
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 Jim and Kay Clayton
 Bill Cobble
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 John and Sally Fisher
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 Louis and Kate Hartley
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 James and Natalie Haslam
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 Cheryl Holcombe
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 Honey Rock Herb Farm
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 Brent Howell
 John and Sharon Howell
 Clark Huffman
 Burch Hutchinson
 Geurt and Carol Jacobs
 Mickey and Lori Johnson
 Sidney Johnson
 James and Deborah Jones
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 John and Tommye Jordan
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 Cynthia Kendrick
 Donna Kerr
 Karen and Kenneth Kidner
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 Garden Clubs
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 George Krisle
 Charles and Marjorie Krull
 Brad and Meredith Kuester
 Robert Large
 David and Judith Lee
 Jim and Jane Lester
 Bettie Levy
 Patricia Lewis
 Jim and Lee Ley
 Kenneth Lister and Georgia Lewis
 Sandra Long
 Pierce and Irene Mahony
 Jack and Cathy Maples



Water Quality

Ijams Nature Center acts as the fiscal agent for the Knoxville Water Forum which works to protect and improve water quality in Knox County including Farragut and the City of Knoxville. Key projects include extensive watershed assessment and protection along Beaver Creek and Stock Creek. In 2008, Ijams hosted the Water Quality Forum's First Annual Rainy Day Brush-Off to raise awareness about water conservation and water pollution by auctioning rain barrels designed by local artists. Two signature events are also coordinated by Ijams in conjunction with the Water Quality Forum: River Rescue and WaterFest.

In April, the 19th Annual River Rescue was the most successful ever, attracting a record-breaking 1,004 community volunteers who helped improve shoreline wildlife habitat and water quality throughout 45 sites along the banks of the Tennessee River.

In May, the 13th Annual Water Fest educated 930 elementary school students from Knox and surrounding counties about the importance of water and maintaining healthy watersheds. In addition, 150 students entered the annual art and poetry contest based on the theme, "Don't Drought the Power of Water." The winning entry in each category was featured on a t-shirt given to each child who participated in Water Fest.





Georgia Marble Quarry

During the fall of 2007, Ijams received a spectacular gift of land—103 acres adjacent to Mead's Quarry. The property features stunning natural scenery with sheer man-made cliffs dramatically enhancing the natural ambience of the disused quarry gorge. In places, large boulders covered with moss punctuate this former industrial site that once extracted Tennessee Marble.

Initially donated by Imerys, Inc. the property will be deeded to the City of Knoxville. In addition to the land donation Imerys also donated funds towards restoration efforts, which have already facilitated the demolition of derelict lime kiln structures. Once restored, the quarry will be incorporated into the Ijams' wildlife sanctuary thereby increasing park acreage to 275-acres.

During the summer, a major conservation project was undertaken to secure three cave entrances. Funded through the Tennessee Landowner Incentive Grant Program and coordinated by Cory Holliday, Cave and Karst Program Manager with The Nature Conservancy of Tennessee, the gates now improve visitor safety as well as protect critical habitat for the Berry cave salamander, a species designated as rare and threatened by the State of Tennessee. Efforts to develop multi-use trails for hikers and mountain bikers will take place in 2009.

Special thanks to Legacy Parks Foundation for assisting with this special land donation.

Thomas and Melissa McAdams
Tom and Diane McClain
William and Melinada McCoy
Mike McKinney
James and Terri McLean
Charles and Clara McNutt
Anne and Terrell McWhirter
Melinda Meador and Milton McNally
Kelly and Beverly Milam
Robert Minge and Karen Petrey
George and Carol Montgomery
George Moore
T.E. and Ellen Morgan
Barbara Muhlbeier
Rick and Gracie Murphree
Frank Myers
Matt and Erika Nadaud
Nature's Pantry
John and Mary Neely
Russell and Libby Nellis
Imogene Newton and Alice
Kaserman
North Hills Garden Club
North Knoxville Rotary Club
Cliff and Sue Nunley
Roger and Ginger O'Brien
Steve Ollard
Operation Migration
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Sara Phillips
Carl and Jean Rapp
John and Nancy Ray
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Rajesh and Hemal Tailor
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Tellico Village Garden Club
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David and Helen Traver
H. Blair Trimble
Monroe and Sandra Trout
Frank and Mary Alice Tucker
Mark and Florence Turner
Bob and Joyce Underwood
University Eye Surgeons, P.C.
Jean E. Vestal
Park and Margaret Vestal
Steve Watts and Linda Christensen



Thomas Wheeler
Chalmers Wilson
Doug and Rhonda Wilson
Paul and Sheila Wittke
Gail Wood
William and Betsy Wright
Pat Wurth
Amy Yancey
James and Linda Yates

In-Kind Contributions

\$5,000 to \$9,999

Poland Creek Nursery
Spectra Energy

\$2,500 to \$4,999

Greenway Products, Inc.
Christine Hayworth
Bill and Heidi Kouns
The Orangerie
Phillips & Jordan
SSC Service Solutions
Christopher Terry

\$1,000 to \$2,499

Denton's Hardwood Flooring
Dewey and Barbara Hillard
Parker and Colleen Lee
Mediapulse
The Lord Lindsey
Sophia's Salon

\$500 to \$999

Aggregates USA
Stephen Barron and Karen Eberle
Mike Caldwell
Carr's Rug Cleaning
Mary Costa
Dancing Bear Lodge
Maureen Dunn
Fontana Village Resort
Junk Bee Gone
Knoxville News Sentinel
Knoxville Symphony Orchestra
The Lodge at Buckberry Creek
Memories Portraits
Natural Resources Recovery
Oakes Daylilies
Peacock Advertising
Regas Makeup and Skincare
Caesar and Dorothy Stair
University of Tennessee
Athletics Department

\$250 to \$499

91.9 FM WUOT
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B & T Distributing Company
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Big Fatty's Catering
Regis Borsari
Bravo!
Calhoun's Microbrewery
Chariots of Hire
Louise Conrad
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Critter Barn Central
George Dinwiddie Distributing Co.
Hanson Gallery
Paul and Julie James



First Child in the Woods

Inspired by the seminal text, *Last Child in the Woods* by Richard Louv (2005), *First Child in the Woods* merges the philosophy of creating lasting outdoor connections with the Ijams model of learning into a new and unique educational feeder series that introduces young children to the wonders of nature and earth science from ages two through fourteen. Building on past successes including nature Preschool and Junior Naturalists, the series introduces a revamped Wee Ones component for toddlers, plus Elementary Explorers for the 6-8 year old set. All classes provide parent-child interaction and are filled with age appropriate animal visits, hikes, activities, crafts and games.

Wee Ones (2 & 3-year-olds with an adult partner)

Nature Pre-school: (4 & 5-year-olds with an adult partner)

Elementary Explorers (6 to 8-year-olds with an adult partner)

Junior Naturalists (9 to 14-year-olds)

In addition, Ijams series of Family Public Programs (Nature's Yuckiest, Owl Prowls Night Lights, Bug Nights, etc) completes *First Child in the Woods*. All programs are fee-based or free for all Ijams members at the family level or higher.





Natural History and Earth/Life Science Education

At the core of Ijams' environmental education programming is school-based education. Both onsite field trips and classroom-based outreach program curriculums are specifically designed to enhance student experiences and also fulfill teaching objectives for state curriculum science units. The philosophy of outdoor connections embedded in First Child in the Woods is particularly strong in school field trips at Ijams and is critical to the education and development of young children where they can witness the pages of their science textbooks come to life while participating in stimulating outdoor activities. Ijams completed a strong fulfilling school year by educating and informing 4,583 students – an increase of 1,200 students over the previous year.

Out in the schools, Ijams' Educational Outreach programs provided 5,555 student experiences through engaging, hands-on, age-specific activities, media presentations, games and live native animal presentations featuring a diverse array of non-releasable amphibians, reptiles, mammals, and birds.

Scouts

Embraced by the Ijams Family, scouting has been a part of the Ijams tradition for more than seventy years. In 1932, H.P. & Alice Ijams designated a portion of their land to create Camp Mary Ijams in memory of their young daughter. Scouting continues to flourish at Ijams and during the past year, 581 Girl and Boy Scouts participated in 28 badge workshops and earned badges across a broad range of topics including, Eco-Action, Earth and Sky, Forester, Geologist, and Sharing Your World with Wildlife.

Jumpity Jump
Junk Bee Gone
Markman's Diamonds and
Fine Jewelry
Mercy Health Partners
Mountain View Farms
Velma Pressly
Smoky Mountain Quilters
Michael Talley and Linden Craig
Tates School of Discovery
Tennessee BBQ Company, LLC
Three Ridges Golf Course
Kevin Zirkle

\$100 to \$249

A Touch of Nature
Actors Co-Op Inc.
All State Trailers
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Burger King - Tennessee
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Camel Custom Canvas Shop
Mark Campen
Carpe Librum Booksellers
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Karen Claussen-Bishop
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Dick Dickenson
Nancy Fitzpatrick
Fay Portables
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Impromptu Home & Garden
Accessories
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Knoxville Flight Training Center
Knoxville Glove
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Sanrio
Southern Shores
John Shubzda
David Stair
Stanley's Greenhouse
Bear Stephenson
Pat Summitt
TDEC
TVA
Three Rivers Rambler
The Tomato Head
The Total Works
UT Physical Plant
United Rentals
Waste Management
Webb School of Knoxville

Every effort has been made to ensure this list is accurate. If you find an error, please accept our sincerest apology and bring it to our attention by calling 865-577-4717 ext. 17.





How is Ijams Funded?

Funding Source Notes:

City of Knoxville Management Contract: A large portion of total park acreage is owned by the City of Knoxville and Ijams receives an annual management contribution through City Parks & Recreational to assist with operations.

Grants & Donations

Individuals, corporations, and foundations provide critical funding through annual grants, donations and program, event and trail sponsorships.

Program Fees

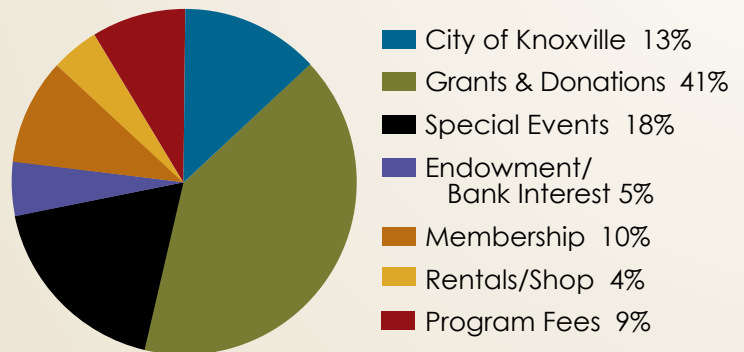
Ijams strives to maintain affordable fees where possible to allow citizens to participate in programs, as well as visit the park for free, regardless of income level. Program fees have been subsidized by grants from the City of Knoxville, and the Cornerstone Foundation of Knoxville to allow Ijams to offer formal scholarship opportunities to children on free or reduced school lunch programs.

Membership

Ijams is a member-supported organization with approximately 1,000 members. Typical membership categories range from \$20 for students and seniors, \$30 for individuals, \$50 for families, and \$100 and upwards for donors wishing to support Ijams at higher levels.

Special Events

Symphony in the Park, plant sales and a yard sale provide valuable income for Ijams.





Statement of Activities June 30, 2008

	Unrestricted	Temporarily Restricted	Total
Support and revenue:			
Public support:			
Contributions	\$151,261	23,772	175,033
Memberships	\$76,850	-	76,850
Management Fee	\$95,000	-	95,000
Local governments	\$ 63,780	-	63,780
Corporate, foundation and club grants	\$104,020	4,929	108,949
Memorials and honorariums	\$4,040	-	4,040
Special events and fundraising	\$124,027	3,900	127,927
Program fees	\$145,944	29,3631	75,307
Gift Shop Sales	\$21,434	-	21,434
Investment return	\$67,125	201	67,326
Building rentals	\$9,445	-	9,445
Miscellaneous	\$6,162	-	6,162
Donations in-kind	\$5,415	1,076	6,491
Realized and unrealized investment gains and losses	\$(81,557)	(1,062)	(82,619)
Net assets released from restrictions	\$57,313	(57,313)	-
Total support and revenue	\$850,259	4,866	855,125
Expenses:			
Program activities	\$630,935	-	630,935
General and administrative	\$215,406	-	215,406
Special events and fundraising	\$91,507	-	91,507
Total expenses	\$937,848	-	937,848
Increase in net assets	\$(87,589)	4,866	(82,723)
Net assets at beginning of year	\$3,859,790	93,237	3,953,027
Net assets at end of year	\$ 3,772,201	98,103	3,870,304

Financial statement extracted by Independent Auditors Report by HG&A Associates, P.C.



Experience Nature ~ Experience Life



2915 Island Home Avenue
Knoxville, TN 37920

For information call

(865) 577-4717

or visit our website at www.ijams.org

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Front cover photo taken by Stephen Lyn Bales. Other photographs Ijams Nature Center/Jim Logan. Salamander photo on page 7 by Matthew L. Niemiller.