Greetings,
In an effort to keep you updated on KTnB activities, I would like to share with you the following information.

**Outreach Efforts**

**Time with TDEC**

On January 16th I spent some time with Brooke Barrett, Regional Director for External Affairs in Memphis for the Tennessee Department of Environment and Conservation and her colleague Vaughn Cassidy from TDEC’s Office of Sustainability in Jackson. We shared the missions of our organizations and brainstormed ways that we can work together on various community projects. Mr. Cassidy recently contributed to an article in the Tennessee Municipal League’s Public Works publication highlighting our affiliate Keep McMinn Beautiful (KMB). Great job KMB! You can view the article on page 10 of the following link: [www.tml1.org/pdf/up/2014_Jan_20.pdf](http://www.tml1.org/pdf/up/2014_Jan_20.pdf).

**Cleanup with Memphis City Beautiful on MLK Day**

KTnB team member, Stine Moss Cooperwood, joined one of our affiliates, Memphis City Beautiful, members of the Memphis Police Department, and Vance Middle School principal Taurin Hardy, along with some of his staff, students, and parents for a neighborhood cleanup on Monday, January 20, in commemoration of Dr. Martin Luther King Day. This Day of Service also brought a couple from as far away as Tupelo, Mississippi, (90 miles SE) who made this cleanup a memorable first date. One father from Arlington, read about the cleanup in the paper, was inspired to come and brought both of his daughters so they could experience true community involvement. Teams were sent to strategic areas around the Vance Ave., Walnut St., and MLK Drive community.

**Informative Trip to Fayette County**

On January 23, Howard Cobbs and I traveled to Fayette County to meet with the Board of Mayors to share the benefits of becoming an affiliate. Special thanks to Fayette County Mayor Rhea (Skip) Taylor, Town of Somerville Mayor Robert Turner and Town of La Grange Mayor William (Bill) Cowan for giving Keep Tennessee Beautiful space on the agenda for our presentation.

**Visits With Affiliates**

**Keep Sevier Beautiful Board Retreat**
January 21, I had the honor to serve as the guest speaker for the Keep Sevier Beautiful Board Retreat. I enjoyed spending the entire day with the KSB Board and learning more about all the great programs they sponsor as well as discussing ideas for new projects with their various committees. Thank you, Laura Howard for your hospitality!

**Notes and Reminders**

**Register for the Keep America Beautiful Conference**
Registration is open for the 2014 KAB National Conference in Charlotte, North Carolina. It will be held February 3-6, 2014. Click [HERE](#) for more information. Click [HERE](#) to register.

Congratulations to all award winners from Tennessee that will be recognized at the KAB Conference. You can view all winners by clicking [HERE](#).

**Register for the Tennessee Recycling Coalition Conference**
Join professionals from across Tennessee and throughout the Southeast at the Tennessee Recycling Coalition's 25th Annual Conference and Exhibition Feb. 10-12, 2014, in Franklin. For registration and information click [HERE](#).

**2014 Great American Cleanup in Tennessee**
The 2014 Great American Cleanup (GAC) in Tennessee is right around the corner, officially beginning March 1, 2014. Affiliates: If you have not done so, register for GAC at KAB's Re-TRAC site by clicking [HERE](#), to make sure that you have banners, bags, and other materials provided by Keep America Beautiful for your GAC events.

**2014 KTnB KAB Affiliate Directors Retreat**
The 2014 Keep Tennessee Beautiful KAB Affiliate Directors' Retreat will take place March 18 - March 20, 2014, in Memphis. We will participate in a river cleanup in Memphis on Chad Pregracke's, 2013 CNN Hero of the Year, barge on March 19th. Please clear your calendars and plan to attend. We will send more details soon.

**Nominations Open for TDEC's Governor's 2014 Environmental Stewardship Awards**
The Department of Environment and Conservation is inviting Tennesseans to submit nominations for the Governor's 2014 Environmental Stewardship Awards. The awards recognize Tennesseans who go above and beyond to protect the state's diverse environment.

The Governor's Environmental Stewardship Awards cover 10 categories: Building Green; Clean Air; Energy and Renewable Resources; Educational Outreach (business
category); Environmental Education and Outreach (school category); Land Use; Materials Management; Natural Heritage; Sustainable Performance and Lifetime Achievement. Any individual, business, organization, educational institution or agency is eligible, provided they are located in Tennessee and projects were completed during the 2013 calendar year.

All nominees must have a minimum of three consecutive years in overall environmental compliance with the Department of Environment and Conservation. Self-nominations are encouraged. For more information about each category, judging criteria and nomination forms, visit TDEC's website at www.tn.gov/environment/gov-awards.html.

Willingham is New Assistant Director of KTnB

Please join us in congratulating and welcoming our KTnB team member Pamela Willingham in her new role as the Assistant Director for Keep Tennessee Beautiful! Willingham has been a part of the KTnB team since 2009, in past roles as Administrative Assistant and Recycling Programs Coordinator. She looks forward to continued success in her new role as Assistant Director.

Meet KTnB Advisory Board Member: Shawn Bible

Shawn Bible

Shawn Bible is the coordinator of the Beautification Office for the Tennessee Department of Transportation. The Beautification Office manages a wide variety of environmentally oriented programs and community outreach services such as Adopt-A-Highway, Litter Grant, Tennessee Roadscapes and the Scenic Byways Program. The Beautification Office also provides control and regulation for outdoor advertising and junkyards statewide. Ms. Bible came to TDOT from Nashville's Keep America Beautiful affiliate, Metro Beautification & Environment. She has more than twenty years experience working with community litter prevention and urban forestry programs. While at Metro Beautification & Environment, Ms. Bible helped with many tree planting and litter education projects. She also provided technical expertise for the Metro Tree advisory Committee and served as the chair of the Tennessee Urban Forestry Council.

Ms. Bible has a degree in forestry from the University of the South in Sewanee Tennessee. She lives with her husband in the historic Richland West End neighborhood in Nashville Tennessee.

Why is keeping Tennessee beautiful important to me?

Keeping Tennessee beautiful is important to me because I believe that the respite and relaxation provided by nature is the closest that we can be to God. I have loved the out of doors my entire life and see how fleeting natural beauty can be. Once lost it is very hard to reclaim. I want to be a part of keeping Tennessee beautiful for Tennessee's future generations.

Contact

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