



June 2, 2008

Dear Conservation Partner:

I am pleased to announce the release of Natural Biodiversity's 2007 Annual Report and am extremely proud of the extraordinary accomplishments described within its pages! The full report is now available online at <http://www.naturalbiodiversity.org/annualreport.shtml>, while a four-page summary is contained within our **NEWS AND EVENTS** page. To those of you who have supported or been involved in our program in some way, thank you - Your involvement is crucial and very much appreciated! To all of you - please ask yourself how you can continue to be involved or form a new partnership with us.

2007 highlights include:

- Leadership of the Southern Alleghenies Weed Control and Wildlife Habitat project, including four workshops with participation by 117 landowners
- Completion of a comprehensive invasive species management plan for the Raystown Branch of the Juniata River, which can be accessed on our website under **RESEARCH**
- Personalized and extensive weed control inventory and technical expertise provided to over 30 agricultural landowners in the Southern Alleghenies region
- Addition of the *Kids' Patch*, an online invasive species and native wildlife habitat resource for kids in grades K-3 and 4-6, parents, and educators: Access online through our website
- Development of 12 BioBullies invasive plant species web pages and downloadable pdfs for 31 species: Go to **RESOURCES**
- Launch of Outdoor Heritage, an environmental education field trip for 1000 elementary students, and April declared Outdoor Heritage Month by the PA House of Representatives and Governor Ed Rendell: Located in **NEWS AND EVENTS**
- Three native planting projects: Park of 1889 in St. Michael; Downtown Johnstown; and Leidy Park in Jackson Township, Cambria County
- Multiple "Weed Whackings" with two new projects, one in Stackhouse Park, Johnstown and another in Canal Basin Park, Hollidaysburg
- Direct involvement of over 500 people in Natural Biodiversity programs, including staff, AmeriCorps members, organizations, donors, and volunteers. Recognition is contained in **full report!**
- A successful first ever donor fundraising drive...and much more!

430 Main Street, 4th Floor ~ Johnstown, PA 15901

Telephone: (814) 532-5049 ~ Fax: 536-5764 ~ Website: www.naturalbiodiversity.org

Our Steering Committee:

Len Hess ~ Mike Makufka ~ Kathy Penrod ~ Robb Piper ~ Melissa Reckner ~ David Sewak ~ David Steele

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This year, Natural Biodiversity and partners will be crafting an in-depth strategic plan, so we need your input! Please go to our website, www.naturalbiodiversity.org to complete our stakeholder survey by June 30, 2008. We will utilize the results to formulate our organizational structure, make decisions on programs, continue projects, increase and diversify government grant and foundation funding, develop income endeavors, design a donor program, and expand our volunteer corps.

We need your input, so please participate in our survey and think of how you can play a role in propelling Natural Biodiversity toward a successful future.

You will also find a donor form and return envelope enclosed, so if you are in a position to donate, we respectfully ask that you consider doing so. Donor benefits include participation in a close-knit member network, easy access to technical resources regarding weed management and conservation of native plants, and a quarterly newsletter e-publication currently under development. Also, recognition will be given within our 2008 annual report and beyond.

Higher level donors will also receive a set number of professional technical service hours, free of further charge. Why pay a consultant to weed and plant your site only for beautification when we will do so with wildlife, your energy savings, and conservation in mind? Why pay a landscaper who deals invasive plants that spread well beyond the intended boundaries? Why pay good money, only to find that a more natural, cost-saving, "green" way is available? Your donation will benefit our many quality civic programs, and your name will be included on our donor list.

Our partner network holds the expertise and know-how, as well as the civic mindedness necessary to provide a better way and to engage people in Constructing a Greener Earth, here in the Allegheny Mountains of Penn's Woods!

Join us now! And, please complete our input survey! We value all contributions, large and small, both donations and volunteer services!

Thank you in advance for your partnership as we head into a brighter, greener future!

Sincerely,



Kristin D. Sewak

Founder and Director, Natural Biodiversity
National Wildlife Federation Habitat Stewards™ Host
Board of Directors, Stonycreek-Conemaugh River Improvement Project
Board of Directors, Mid-Atlantic Exotic Pest Plant Council
2-Year AmeriCorps National Service Alum

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Enclosures

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