

THE CURRENT

Newsletter of River Fields, Inc.

November 2024

PRESIDENT AND CEO'S MESSAGE: WELCOMING AUTUMN AT RIVER FIELDS

What's your season of beginning? For me, it's always been not spring but fall because, just when school is starting up, nature has so many lessons to offer for a little mental fall cleaning and starting over with a blank slate. I was thrilled with our recent Fall Tree Walk with Renee Frith, which sold out two sessions with a waitlist. We know our public wants more River Fields programming, so please check riverfields.org for new program listings, including an upcoming winter tree ID walk, January 19. Sign up today at riverfields.org.



IMAGE BY OWEN RONALD

If you consider it, fall offers many thoughtful lessons for us as human beings. The equinox's equal division of days is a reminder that balance is everything. It's an eloquent reminder to accept and embrace darkness along with the light and appreciate the gift of the shadows along with the sunbeams. Autumn tells us that a thing can be more beautiful and worthy of celebration because it is fleeting. It's a reminder from the trees to appreciate and cherish the ephemeral joys in life. Get out and walk through the woods,

paying attention to what birds you do and don't hear – the summer orchestra has been replaced with a quieter chamber ensemble by now. Consider the cycle of nature – the leaves fall and gradually break down to become part of the soil, which then gives life to new leaves the following spring. Take comfort in the circular nature of things and patiently, thoughtfully prepare for winter. Enjoy! And while you're at it, try out this fun interactive national fall color map to tell you when we're reaching peak color this year. <https://smokymountains.com/fall-foliage-map>

In gratitude,

--Kristin Faurest, Ph.D., President and CEO, River Fields

Always happy to hear from you at: kristin@riverfields.org



SUPPORT THE RIVER, ITS LANDS, AND THE PEOPLE

who depend upon them with a contribution to River Fields! We are an independent nonprofit that receives no taxpayer funding, and we rely on our generous supporters to continue our work of advocating, preserving, and educating. It's our 65th anniversary this year – we invite you to help us commemorate it poetically with a gift of \$65, \$650 or \$6500 – whatever your budget allows.



YOU CAN MAKE A TAX-DEDUCTIBLE CONTRIBUTION HERE:

<https://riverfields.org/donate/>

OUT IN THE FIELDS

GARVIN BROWN PRESERVE

We recently installed signage at Garvin Brown Preserve so that our preserve's thousands of annual visitors can know who stewards this beautiful land. Garvin Brown is open every day of the year and offers fantastic opportunities for river views, birding, wildflower identification, meditation, dog walking, and other great nature activities. While we're talking about Garvin Brown, enjoy these images by Jim Moyer of a September monarch tagging event!



GARVIN BROWN PRESERVE IMAGES BY JIM MOYER



OUT IN THE FIELDS CONTINUED

KERTIS CREATIVE

River Fields and Kertis Creative recently partnered to co-create a short film telling the organization's story. You can find a link to it on our Facebook page and at riverfields.org



IMAGE BY KERTIS CREATIVE

JOHN NATION

We also collaborated with John Nation -- one of the most gifted photographers around and also a devoted river steward and paddler -- to document our beautiful lands. You already saw a few of his images in our September newsletter of Fairview and Wolf Pen Branch Mill Farm.



GARVIN BROWN PRESERVE IMAGES BY JOHN NATION

Here you can see some of the last breaths of summer at Garvin Brown. More photos are on riverfields.org and our Facebook page.

FAIRVIEW SCENIC VIEWPOINT

If you enjoy the sumptuous views of the river and downtown from our Fairview scenic viewpoint, you're going to love them even more now that we've cleared a lot of overgrown vegetation and invasives. This view belongs to everyone, a gift courtesy of River Fields.

SIX MILE ISLAND FACILITY

Last spring River Fields helped lead the fight against an ill-conceived proposal to create a barge repair facility at the foot of Six Mile Island. We're glad to report -- in case you missed the Courier-Journal's article on it -- that the proposal has been withdrawn. River Fields is grateful to all of our supporters who helped us call attention to what could have been a massive source of noise and light pollution for wildlife, not to mention a threat to the safety of our water.



FAIRVIEW SCENIC VIEWPOINT ON RIVER ROAD, LOUISVILLE KY

FOLLOW RIVER FIELDS ON FACEBOOK

Please like and follow us on Facebook for fun, educational, and important updates every week, and tell your friends! <https://www.facebook.com/riverfieldsky>





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RIVERFIELDS.ORG



THANKS TO ALL OF YOU WHO GAVE TO RIVER FIELDS FOR GIVE FOR GOOD LOUISVILLE!



This year's Give for Good Louisville brought a huge showing of community support for River Fields. Our final total was \$25,444 – by far an alltime record for us and great

advocating – 95% of our donations come from individual supporters like you. Thank you to our community for providing critical operations

testimony to the generosity and trust of our supporters. We rely on your support to continue stewarding, preserving, educating, and

dollars so we can continue making our mission reality! Please visit riverfields.org for updates, like us on Facebook, and sign up for e-mail updates, and you'll never miss our important news!

