



Appalachia-Science in the Public Interest

Working for Healthy Land and Sustainable Communities
in Kentucky and Central Appalachia

Thanksgiving 2011

Dear Friend,

This coming spring it will be 35 years.

On Earth Day 1977 Al Fritsch and a small group of friends took their vision of promoting simple living and environmental sustainability and formed Appalachia - Science in the Public Interest. Their passion for promoting appropriate technology has encouraged and supported countless individuals in Central Appalachia for three and a half decades. As ASPI enters its 35th year, we remain true to that founding philosophy.

We understand that as a supporter of ASPI you share this passion. Each Thanksgiving we invite you to become personally active in this mission by donating to the cause we share.

On the back of this letter we have listed some of ASPI's key accomplishments from 2011. This is the latest chapter of the ongoing commitment we have to our founding principles. As our supporters these are your successes too.

Looking ahead, our continued focus is threefold: 1) Sustainable and Renewable Energy, 2) Education and Demonstration and, 3) our Watersheds and Forests. We plan to further develop our existing programs in these areas. 2012 projects already underway include:

- Furthering passage of **The Kentucky Clean Energy Opportunity Act.**
- Administering an **Appalachian Community Gardening and Food Security Project.**
- Recruiting and training new testers for **The Upper Cumberland Watershed Watch.**
- Reviving the Mary E. Fritsch Nature Center's **Appalachian Forest Ecology Program.**

Your financial support is needed to help us meet these and many other goals.

The most important reason to give is not because ASPI has a need, but because ASPI meets a need. As a donor you are an absolutely essential partner in our endeavor to address our region's environmental and societal challenges.

Thank you for your support - your generosity enables this vital work to continue.

For your convenience we have included a return envelope for you to mail your tax deductible contribution. You may also donate on our website using PayPal. Please tell a friend about ASPI or invite someone to match your donation.

ASPI Main Office
50 Lair St, Mt Vernon, KY 40456
Tel: 606-256-0077
Email: aspi@a-spi.org
www.a-spi.org

ASPI Frankfort Office & Kentucky Solar Partnership Office
306 West Main St, 3rd Floor, Frankfort, KY 40601
Tel: 502-227-4562 or Toll-Free: 888-576-6527
Email: solar@kysolar.org
www.kysolar.org



ASPI Accomplishments for 2011



Sustainable Energy (Kentucky Solar Partnership)

- Achieved over 1,000 tons of reduced carbon emissions, presented 8 educational events about home energy conservation and hosted two events about climate change science and solutions through our Lighten Up Frankfort project.
- Provided consulting and technical support for the installation of solar water heating (SWH) at the Franklin County Cooperative Extension Office and a solar photovoltaic (PV) system for Earth Tools (earthtoolsbcs.com).
- Represented ASPI on the EKPC Demand Side Management Collaborative, working to assist EKPC's expansion of their use of renewable energy and energy efficiency programs.
- Participated in the Governor's Climate Action Plan Council, raising a voice in support of strong actions to reduce carbon emissions and develop renewable energy.
- Organized the Capital Area Solar Tour.
- Provided consulting, coordination and technical support for the installation of solar water heating (SWH) on 17 low income/elderly apartment buildings (68 apartment units) for the Housing Authority of Owensboro reducing annual green house emissions by 20.4 tons CO2 and began a similar project for the Fulton Housing Authority.
- Achieved record attendance for August's Introduction to Solar Photovoltaic (PV) workshop and capacity attendance for our October Advanced workshop (the Advanced workshop was a hands-on PV installation for Kentucky State University's Mobile Classroom Trailer).
- Assisted the Capital Plaza Hotel with development of a lighting retrofit project that will save \$30,000+ per year in energy costs and reduce carbon emissions by over 330 tons.
- Testified before the Interim Joint Committee on Local Government of the Kentucky Legislature on solar energy applications for local governments.



Education & Demonstration

- 📖 Service Learning: Organized and directed 46 college students, working with community partners. Planted trees, performed dump cleaning, litter abatement, elementary school presentations, and exposure to local conditions, music and culture, foods, and geography.
- 📖 Consulted with The Great Saltpetre Cave Committee of Rockcastle Karst Conservancy, Inc on installation of a commercial dry toilet, and collaborated on field trips where area school children from grades 2 and 4 learned about mixed mesophytic forest and karst geology and ecology (Served approximately 500 students).
- 📖 Collaborated with the Rockcastle School District and the Rockcastle Fiscal Court (PRIDE Committee), obtained a PRIDE Educational Liaison who began work in the schools in October.
- 📖 Created and published the 35th edition of the Simple Lifestyle Calendar: *Appalachian Elders*.
- 📖 Started capital improvements and program planning for the Mary E. Fritsch Nature Center.
- 📖 Upgraded Mt. Vernon Solar Hot Water Heater.



Watershed & Forest Program

- 🌲 Participated on the Upper Cumberland Watershed Watch Steering Committee, Rockcastle area representative; recruited and held training for new samplers, co-ordinated 3 sampling events in the Rockcastle Region.
- 🌲 Served on Rockcastle County PRIDE Committee/Solid Waste Board and helped coordinate River Sweep and other similar events.
- 🌲 Collaborated with KY Heartwood and local citizens and officials, reviewed and commented on USFS plan to log and use herbicides on the Crooked Creek Management area in Little Egypt and at Climax. Provided bullet point list of comments for others to use when reviewing and commenting on the Plan.
- 🌲 Collaborated with KEEP, Inc and the Bluegrass Sierra Club, reviewing and commenting on the EKPC permit application for the Cooper Power Station Coal Combustion Waste Landfill Expansion.
- 🌲 Served as the Upper Cumberland representative to the Kentucky Waterways Alliance (KWA) Governing Council. Served on the GovCo's Issues and Policies Committee.